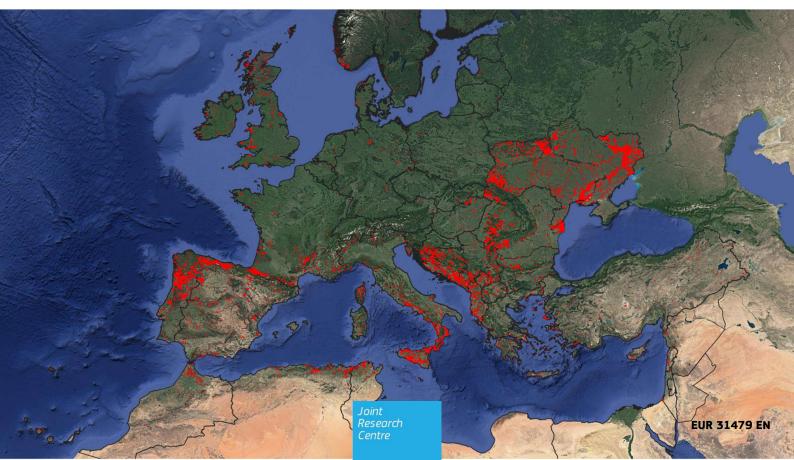


# JRC TECHNICAL REPORT

# Advance report on Forest Fires in Europe, Middle East and North Africa 2022

2023



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Cover image: EFFIS – Distribution of burnt areas mapped in 2022.

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## 1 Executive summary

This advance report on wildfires in Europe, Middle East and North Africa 2022 presents results on the evolution of the wildfire campaign in that region on the basis of the data recorded in the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS).

The 2022 was the second worst year in the Europe in terms of burnt areas and number of fires since 2006, according to the data available in EFFIS. The season was slightly milder in North African and Middle East countries. The burnt area in the European Union (EU) was the second highest ever, only behind the year 2017. The area mapped in EFFIS for the EU was 837 212 ha, which corresponds to an estimated burnt area of 881 275 ha, as EFFIS maps approximately 95% of the total burnt areas reported by the countries.

Of special concern are the results on the impact caused by fires to the areas protected within the Natura2000 network, as they include habitats of especial interest which are home for endangered plant and animal species. Burnt areas mapped within the Natura2000 network of protected sites amounted to 365 308 ha, which corresponds to approximately 44% of the total burnt areas in the EU.

In terms of affected land cover, those most affected by wildfires were Other Natural Land (29%) and Forests (27%). Preliminary analysis of economic damage by fires in the EU estimate losses of around 2.5 Billion Euro.

The European Commission and the European Commission Expert Group on Forest Fires (EGFF) will publish a comprehensive analysis of the wildfire 2022 campaign in October 2023. This will include the national reports by the countries in the EGFF Network, now comprised of 43 countries in Europe, Middle East and North Africa.

## 2 The European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS)

The European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) has been established jointly by the European Commission services (DG ENV and JRC) and the relevant fire services in the EU Member States and European countries (Forest Services and Civil Protection services). Research activities for the development of the system initiated at JRC in 1998 and the first EFFIS operations were in the year 2000.

In 2003, EFFIS was embedded in the new Regulation (EC) No 2152/2003 (Forest Focus) of the European Council and Parliament on monitoring of forests and environmental interactions until it expired in 2006. Since then, EFFIS operated as a voluntary system of information on wildfires until the end of 2015, when it became part of the EU Copernicus program, under the Emergency Management Services.

Acting as the focal point of information on forest fires, EFFIS supports the national services in charge of wildfire management. Currently, the EFFIS network is made up of 43 countries in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. EFFIS provides specific support to the Emergency Response Centre (ERCC) (formerly Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC)) of Civil Protection as regards near-real time information on wildfires during the fire campaigns, and assists other DGs through the provision both pre-fire and post-fire information on wildfire regimes and impacts. It provides information that supports the needs of the European Parliament with regards to wildfire management, impact in natural protected areas and harmonized information on forest fires in the EU.

EFFIS also centralises the national fire data that the countries collect through their national forest fire programmes in the so-called EFFIS Fire Database. The EFFIS web services<sup>1</sup> allow users to access near-real time and historical information on wildfires in Europe, Middle East and North Africa.

EFFIS provides a continuous monitoring of the fire situation in Europe and the Mediterranean area, and regularly sends updates to EC services during the main fire season. The information about the on-going fire season is continuously updated on the EFFIS web site (up to 8 times, daily), which can be interactively queried<sup>2</sup>. EFFIS provides daily meteorological fire danger maps and forecasts of fire danger up to 9 days in advance, updated maps of the latest active fires, wildfire perimeters and post-fire evaluation of damage.

The EFFIS module for the assessment of meteorological forest fire danger is the EFFIS Danger Forecast. This module forecasts forest fire danger in Europe, part of North Africa and the Middle East, on the basis of the Canadian Fire Weather Index (FWI), allowing a harmonized evaluation to be made of the forest fire danger situation throughout Europe and neighbouring countries.

The damage caused by forest fires in Europe and neighbouring countries is estimated using the EFFIS Rapid Damage Assessment (RDA) module. Since 2000, cartography of the burnt areas is produced every year through the processing of satellite imagery. After 2003 the processing chain was further automated to process MODIS data in near-real time. Daily, two full image mosaics of the European territory are processed in EFFIS to derive burnt area maps, every day. Additionally, since 2018, Sentinel-2 imagery is used to map fires, which allows the mapping of fires smaller than 30 ha and refining the final perimeters of those fires initially mapped from MODIS 250 m imagery. The burnt area mapped by EFFIS corresponds, on average, to around 95% of the total area burnt in Europe each year. Further to the mapping of burnt areas, the analysis of which types of land cover classes are affected by fires is performed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://effis.jrc.ec.europa.eu

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> see http://effis.jrc.ec.europa.eu/current-situation

## 2.1 EFFIS Danger Forecast: 2022 results

The EFFIS Danger Forecast was developed to support the Commission's Directorate-General for the Environment and the forest fire-fighting services in the EU Member States. From 2002, at the request of the Member States, operation of the EFFIS Danger Forecast was extended to six months starting on 1 May and ending on 31 October, and in 2006 to nine months, from 1 February to 31 October. From 2008 the EFFIS Danger Forecast system has run continuously throughout the year without interruption.

The geographic extent has been enlarged over the years from the initial extent that covered only the Mediterranean region. Now the system covers the whole of Europe and MENA (Middle East & North Africa) countries.

The meteorological data used to run the model has also changed during the years. At the beginning the system started using forecasted data provided by MeteoFrance with a spatial resolution of around 50 km. Then over time other providers were included, such as DWD (Deutscher Wetterdienst) and ECMWF (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecast) and the resolution has improved. Now the system runs with three different data sets from three providers: ECMWF (the primary), Meteo France and DWD; with a spatial resolution in a range from around 10 km to 25 km.

In this chapter the fire danger trends assessed by EFFIS in the different countries during the 2022 fire season are presented, comparing them with long term trends. To make this analysis we use the Fwi calculated on the base of the ECMWF ERA5 reanalysis dataset. The link can be found here: https://cds.climate.copernicus.eu/cdsapp#!/dataset/cems-fire-historical?tab=overview

Through the Danger Forecast module of EFFIS the situation has been continuously monitored and the risk level analysed and mapped.

The following figures show fire danger throughout 2022 as determined by the average FWI values assessed in the individual countries.

In the following charts we present fire weather index data for the current year, showing how it compares against the long-term minimum and maximum, the 10-90 percentiles, and the long-term average (measured from 1980-2021). This makes it possible to see whether and when extreme conditions occur in the current year.

In these reports we have used two different methodologies to calculate the statistics. The first was used until 2021 and the second has been adopted since the year 2022. The first methodology started from the calculation of the FWI statistics (min, max, average, the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile) - based on the raster data and the full time series, then the values were calculated for each country. The current methodology is based on the calculation of the FWI of each country day by day for the whole time series. Then for each country we calculate the statistics - min, max, average, the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile. Therefore, the calculated long term min and max levels are slightly different from those reported in previous reports.

The countries analysed are those participating in the EFFIS network for which data are available, presented in alphabetic order within the two groups (European countries and MENA countries) in the graphs that follow.

#### How to read the charts

The red area encloses the most extreme values seen in the 41 year period from 1980-2021.

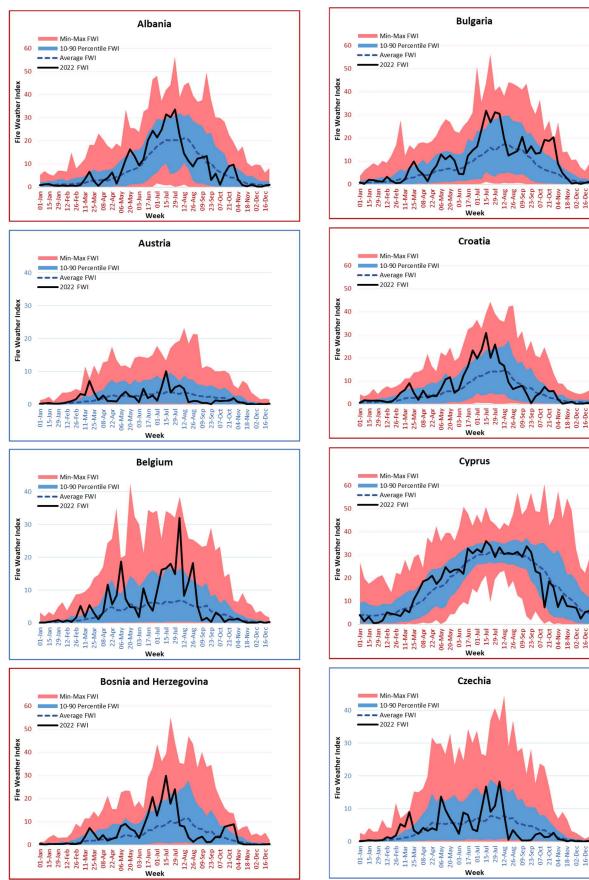
The blue area encloses the 10-90<sup>th</sup> percentiles: i.e. 80% of observations fall within this band.

The dotted line signifies the 41-year average.

The solid black line shows the current year (2022).

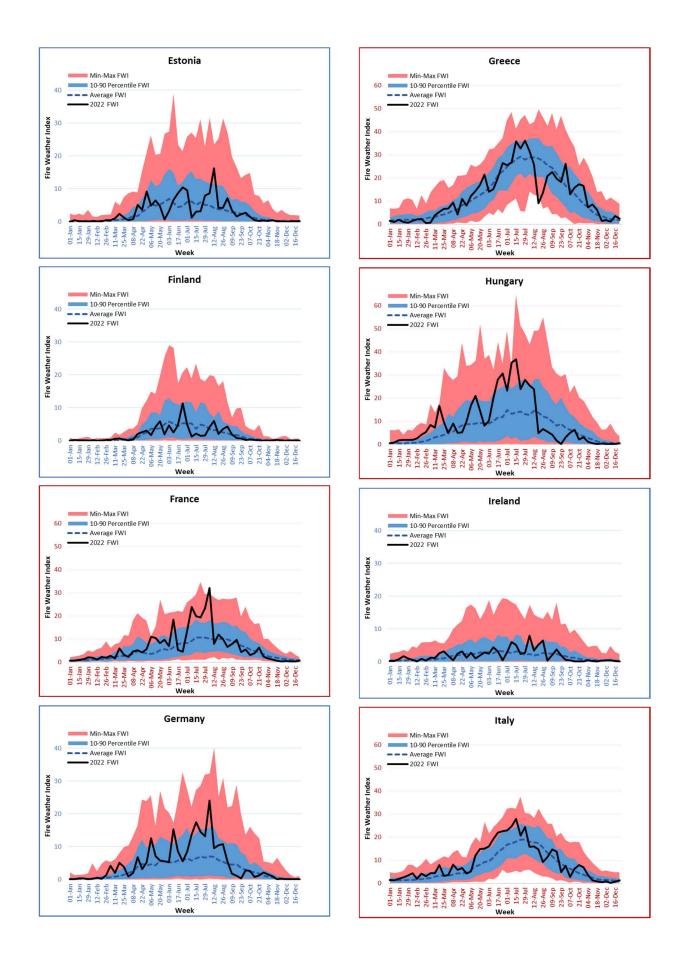
<u>NOTE</u>: Three colour-coded scales have been used to present the FWI: **0-45** for the most northern countries where fire danger rarely reaches high levels; **0-65** for central countries, Mediterranean and Turkey, and **0-120** for the MENA countries.

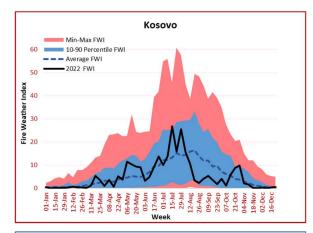
#### **European countries**

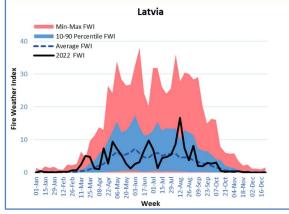


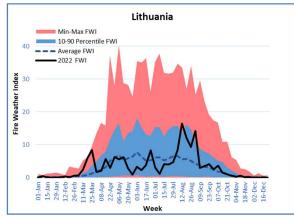
02-Dec 16-Dec

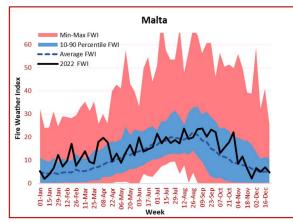
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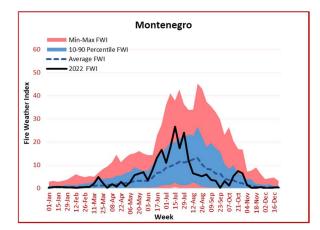




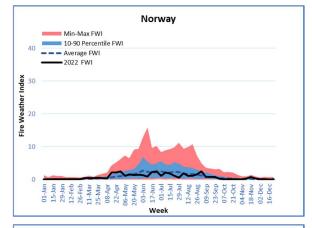


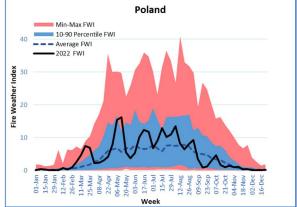


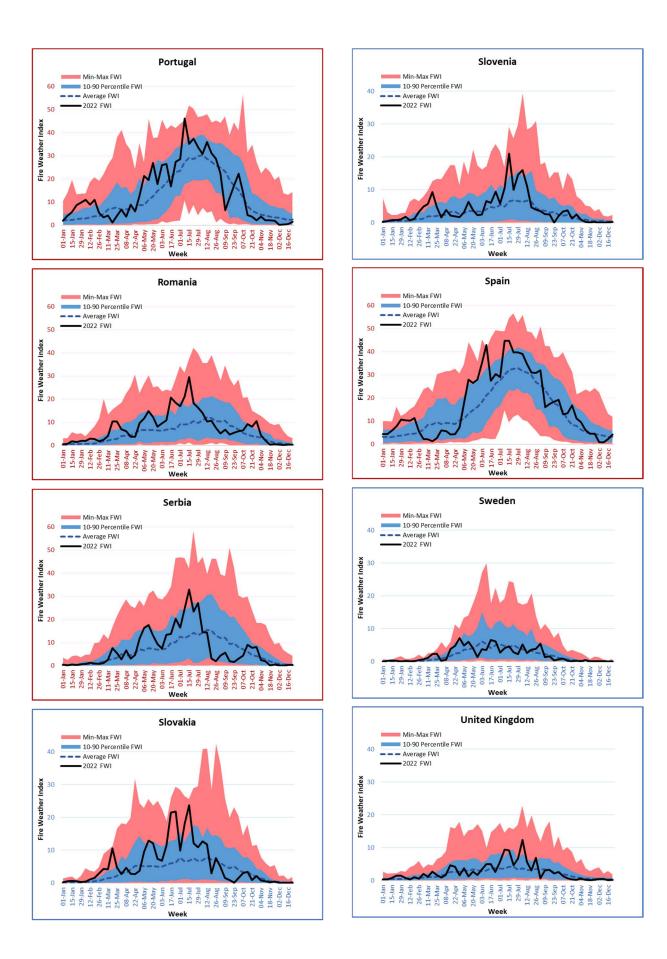


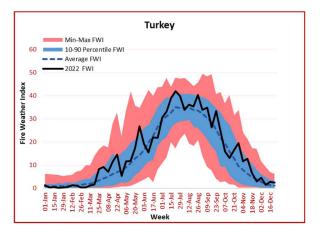


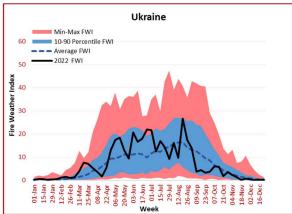
Netherlands Min-Max FWI 10-90 Percentile FWI 40 Average FWI Fire Weather Index 30 10 15-Jan 29-Jan 12-Feb 01-Jul 15-Jul 29-Jul 12-Aug 09-Sep 09-Sep 07-Oct 23-Sep 07-Oct 18-Nov 02-Dec 02-Dec 02-Dec 26-Feb 11-Mar 25-Mar 01-Jan 17-Jun Week

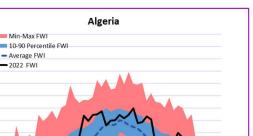




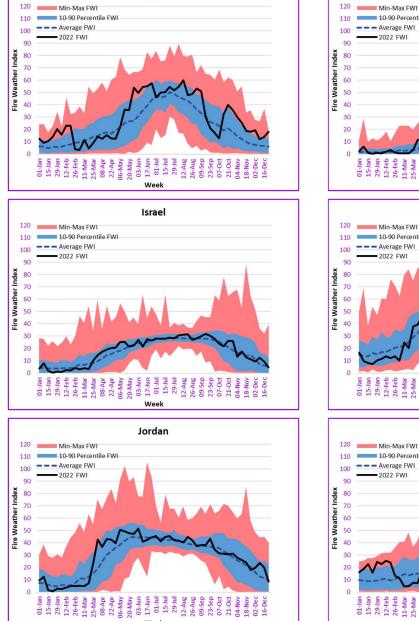




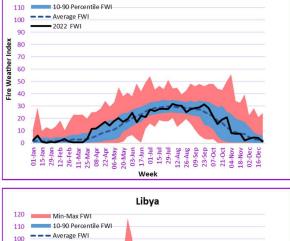




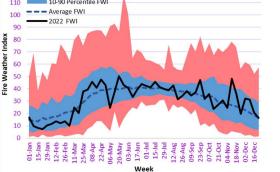


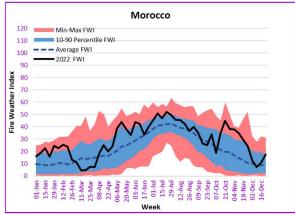


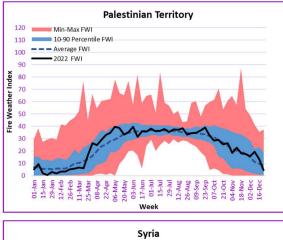
Week

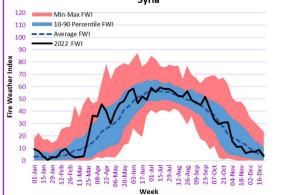


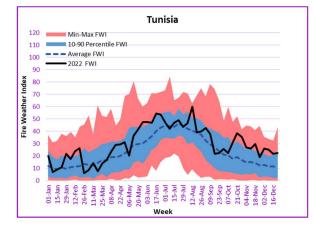
Lebanon

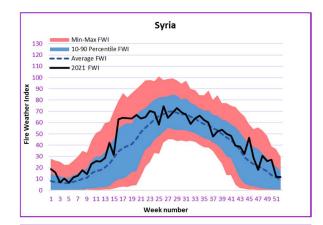


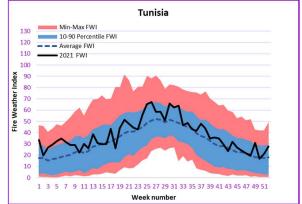












# 2.2 EFFIS Rapid Damage Assessment: 2022 results

The Rapid Damage Assessment module of EFFIS was set up to provide reliable and harmonized estimates of the areas affected by wildfires during the fire season. The methodology and the spatial resolution of the satellite sensor data used for this purpose, from the MODIS sensor, at 250 metre spatial resolution, allowed fires of about 30 ha or larger to be mapped. This methodology was enhanced in 2018 through the use of Sentinel 2 imagery, at 20 metre spatial resolution, which allowed the mapping of fires of about 5 ha or larger. In order to maintain the comparability of the area burnt nowadays with the area mapped prior to 2018, only the number and the area burnt by fires above 30 ha is used for the purpose of comparison of 2022 results with those of previous years.

Although the number of fires mapped in EFFIS is only a fraction of the total number of fires in the countries, the area burned by these fires represent approximately 95% of the total burnt area reported by the countries.

The fires mapped in EFFIS include all those fires that burned natural land. Only fires that burn agricultural land are excluded from the statistics published in the system. Accordingly, fires that burn grassland, shrub land and other wooded land are included in the EFFIS statistics. Agricultural or urban areas that may be affected by the fires are included in the total burnt areas. Information on each type of land cover that is affected by the fires mapped in EFFIS is provided for each fire event. However, total figures of burnt areas may not correspond with national statistics that consider only areas burned in forest areas.

In order to obtain the statistics of the burnt area by land cover type, the data from the European CORINE Land Cover database were used. Therefore, the mapped burnt areas were overlaid with the CLC data, making it possible to derive damage assessment results comparable for all the EU countries.

The results for each of the countries affected by forest fires are given in the following paragraphs in alphabetical order, followed by a section on the MENA countries.

The total area burned in 2022, as shown by the analysis of satellite imagery, is shown in Table 1.

Figure 1 below shows the scars caused by forest fires during the 2022 season. In 2022, fires were mapped in 45 countries and a total burnt area of 1 624 381 ha was mapped, significantly more than in 2021, although when the Ukraine totals are excluded, the figures become comparable. Table 1. Areas mapped in 2022 estimated from satellite imagery.

imagery.			
Country	Area (Ha)	Number of Fires	
Albania	19591	307	
Algeria	53148	157	
Austria	1034	8	
Belgium	428	7	
Bosnia	76473	578	
Bulgaria	15461	150	
Croatia	34818	290	
Cyprus	2650	23	
Czechia	1438	2	
Denmark	510	30	
Egypt	2163	13	
Estonia	2	1	
Finland	372	33	
France	74654	1089	
Germany	5117	115	
Greece	23942	230	
Hungary	7960	92	
Ireland	3409	69	
Israel	239	5	
Italy	68510	1426	
Kosovo	4430	98	
Latvia	238	14	
Lebanon	249	22	
Libya	207	9	
Lithuania	34	7	
Malta	23	2	
Montenegro	26332	260	
Morocco	32680	103	
Netherlands	331	15	
North Macedonia	4261	74	
Norway	2867	84	
Poland	675	39	
Portugal	112063	1236	
Romania	162518	1432	
Serbia	13292	235	
Slovakia	374	10	
Slovenia	4431	7	
Spain	315705	1490	
Sweden	515	37	
Switzerland	235	2	
Syria	596	21	
Tunisia	11745	155	
Türkiye	17055	195	
UK	22895	460	
Ukraine	498711	6309	

Summary	Total Area (Ha)
EU27	837212
Other European countries	686142
Middle East and North Africa	101027
Natura2000 sites	365308

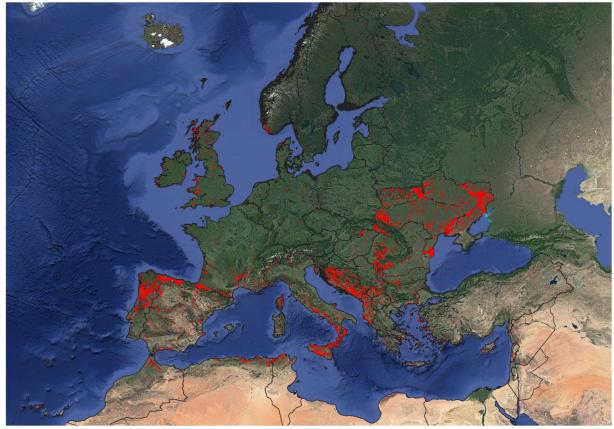
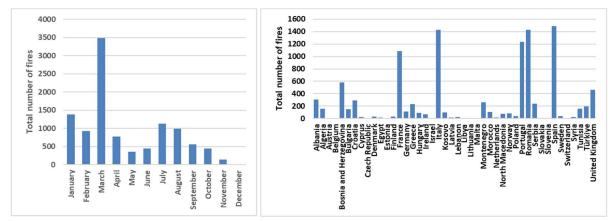
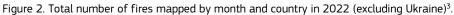


Figure 1. Burnt scars produced by forest fires during the 2022 fire season.





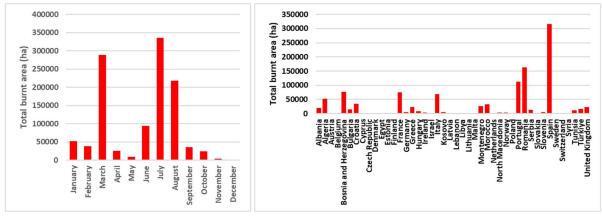


Figure 3. Total burnt area of fires mapped by month and country in 2022 (excluding Ukraine).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ukraine: Number of fires mapped: ~6300; Burnt area mapped ~50000 ha

#### Damage to Natura2000 sites

Of particular interest is the analysis of the damage caused by fires to the areas protected within the Natura2000 network, as they include habitats of especial interest which are home for endangered plant and animal species.

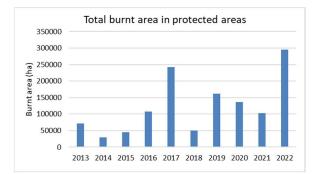
The category of Natura2000 areas only exists in the countries of the European Union. The area burnt within the Natura2000 sites is presented below.

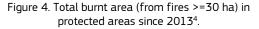
Country	Area (Ha)	% of Natura2000 Area	Number of Fires
Austria	1033	0.06752	7
Belgium	430	0.17938	7
Bulgaria	6135	0.01745	80
Croatia	12014	0.02607	125
Cyprus	92	0.09443	6
Czechia	1436	0.06888	1
Denmark	476	0.03286	26
France	23527	0.00324	583
Germany	4065	0.00914	103
Greece	9778	0.01424	133
Finland	11	0.01957	3
Hungary	4297	0.03888	46
Ireland	1352	0.04507	31
Italy	17914	0.01094	453
Latvia	155	0.08727	11
Lithuania	2	0.07612	1
The Netherlands	329	0.03858	15
Poland	543	0.01143	15
Portugal	41089	0.01478	441
Romania	102659	0.01211	686
Slovakia	112	0.05362	4
Slovenia	4396	0.08816	5
Spain	133329	0.00377	532
Sweden	135	0.01307	9
EU27 total	365308		3324

Fires were mapped in 24 of the 27 EU member states (all except Estonia, Luxembourg and Estonia).

The total burnt area in protected areas in 2022 was 365 308 ha, the highest amount mapped in the last 10 years (Figure 4).

The damage was particularly concentrated in two countries, Spain and Romania, which between them accounted for two thirds of the total area burnt in protected areas in 2022 (Figure 5, Figure 6).





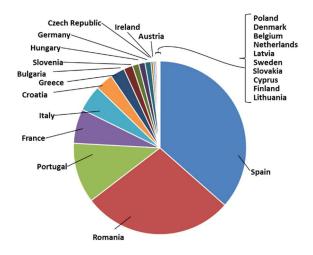


Figure 5. Total area burnt in Natura2000 sites in 2022.

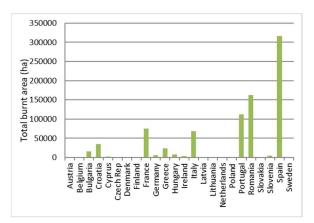


Figure 6. Total mapped burnt area in Natura2000 sites in 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For comparisons with previous years, a filter is applied to restrict data to fires >=30 ha, to ensure consistency over time.

#### Affected land cover types

[N.B. Totals from Ukraine are excluded from this section because a different protocol was used for mapping burnt areas, leading to an increased proportion in Agricultural Land compared with other countries. Ukraine figures are discussed separately in section 2.2.35 on page 39].

In 2022, excluding figures from Ukraine, 29% of the total burnt area occurred in Other Natural Land as identified by the 2018 CORINE Land Cover Type classification system and the 2019 Copernicus Globcover classification in regions where Corine was not available. A further 27% was mapped in forest (Broadleaf, Conifer or Mixed). (Figure 7, Figure 8).

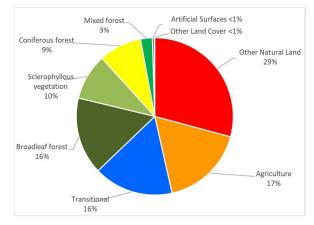


Figure 7. Proportions of land cover types affected in 2022 (*excluding Ukraine*).

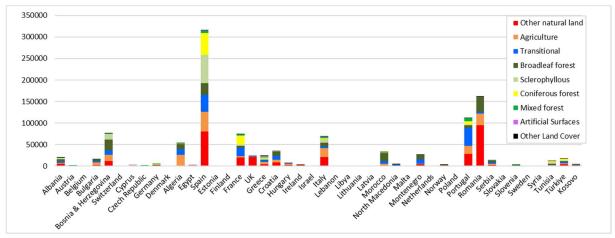


Figure 8. Burnt area in each country in 2022 by CORINE land class (excluding Ukraine).

#### **European countries**

In 2022, fires were mapped in 26 of the EU27 countries (all except Luxembourg), burning 837 212 ha in total. This is well above the amount recorded in 2021 (449 342 ha).

There were two main peaks in the year: a first one in March when a very high number of fires occurred in almost every country, and a second larger peak in July from fewer but larger fires.

Of this total, 365 308 ha occurred on Natura2000 sites, three times the amount mapped in 2021. This is equivalent to around 44% of the total burnt area in these countries. Three quarters of the damage to protected areas came from three countries (Spain, Romania and Portugal).

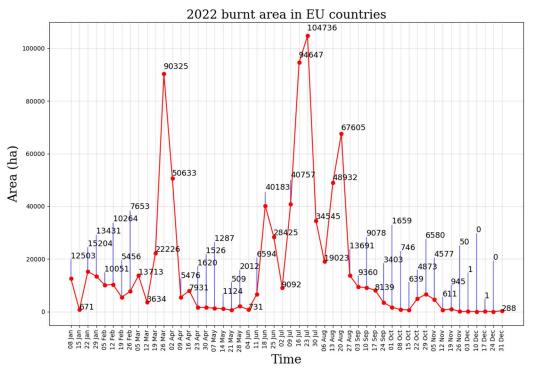


Figure 9. Burnt area weekly evolution in EU27 countries in 2022.

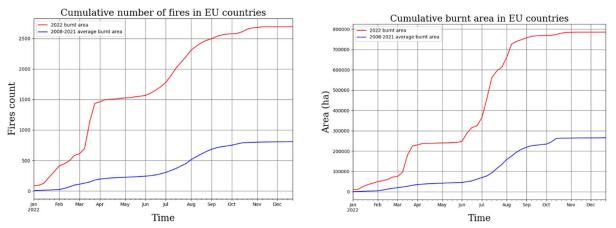


Figure 10. Cumulative number of fires and burnt area in 2022 in EU27 countries (red line) compared with 2008-2021 average (blue line). Fires are filtered to include only those >=30 ha to allow the comparison with previous years.

#### Mapped burnt area by country

The following section details the burnt areas mapped in each country in 2022.

European countries (EU and non-EU) are listed alphabetically, followed by the MENA countries.

Burnt areas are split into different land cover types using the CLC 2018 database unless otherwise specified.

The figures may also include agricultural and urban areas that were burned during the wildfires, or prescribed fires, which may not strictly be considered forest fires in the countries concerned. The breakdown of totals into the different land cover types gives some ideas of the different areas affected.

#### <u>NOTE</u>

In 2022, fires smaller than 30 ha were also mapped. These figures are displayed in the tables of land cover types and the charts of monthly numbers of fires/burnt areas.

However, when comparing the latest data with the historic records of previous years, a filter has been applied excluding fires under 30 ha, in order to make consistent comparisons. This applies to the charts showing the annual time series of mapped numbers of fires/burnt areas.

It is also worth noting, however, that almost all damage comes from fires larger than 30 ha.

#### 2.2.1 Albania

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307 fires were mapped in Albania, resulting in a total burnt area of 19 591 ha. Around one half of the total was mapped in Broadleaf Forest or Other Natural Land (Table 2). There were two peaks in the season: one in March and the other over the summer months (Figure 12). The largest fire of the year occurred at the end of July in Dropull i Poshtëm province and affected 1 633 ha, and there were five other fires over 500 ha during the season. Mapped locations of the fires in 2022 can be seen in Figure 19 on page 17 below.

Table 2. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Albania by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	5182	26.5
Coniferous forest	208	1.1
Mixed forest	268	1.4
Other Natural Land	5651	28.8
Sclerophyllous vegetation	3484	17.8
Transitional	3143	16.0
Agriculture	1622	8.3
Artificial Surfaces	24	0.1
Other Land Cover	9	0.1
TOTAL	19591	100

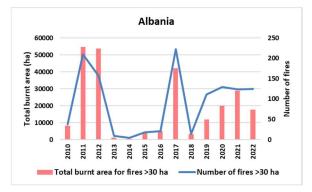


Figure 11. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Albania.

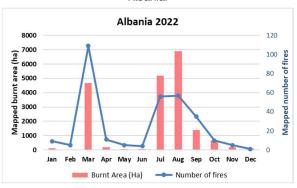


Figure 12. Monthly numbers of fires and burnt area in Albania in 2022.

#### 2.2.2 Austria

It was the worst year in Austria for a decade. Eight large fires were mapped, the largest one (332 ha) in February. Practically all the total of 1 034 ha occurred on Natura2000 sites, with Coniferous Forest and Agricultural land the most affected (Table 3).

Table 3. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Austria by land cover types in 2022.

/1		
 Land cover	Area burned	% of total
 Coniferous forest	420	40.6
Mixed forest	55	5.3
Other Natural Land	97	9.4
Transitional	29	2.8
Agriculture	433	41.9
TOTAL	1034	100

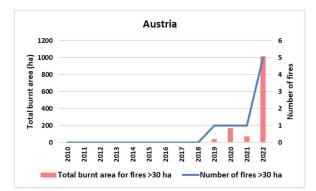


Figure 13. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Austria.

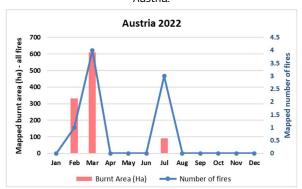


Figure 14. Monthly numbers of fires and burnt area in Austria in 2022.

## 2.2.3 Belgium

Seven fires were mapped in Belgium, all in March on Natura2000 sites, representing 0.179% of the protected area in the country. Almost all of the 428 ha total burnt area occurred on Other Natural Land (Table 4).

Table 4. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Belgium by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Other Natural Land	423	98.8
Transitional	4	0.9
Artificial Surfaces	1	0.2
TOTAL	428	100

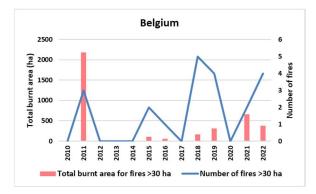


Figure 15. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Belgium.

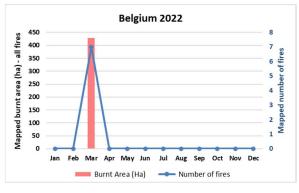


Figure 16. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Belgium in 2022.

#### 2.2.4 Bosnia and Herzegovina

The fire season in Bosnia was similar to that of 2021, at least in terms of total burnt area. However, unlike 2021, when there were two peaks in the season (spring and summer), in 2022 almost all of the damage occurred in March (Figure 18). A total of 578 fires were mapped, covering 76 473 ha. The country's five largest fires were all over 2 000 ha with a further ten over 1 000 ha and 11 others over 500 ha. Fires affected several different land cover types, but the most affected type was Broadleaf Forest, which accounted for a third of the total. Figure 19 shows the locations of the large fires in 2022.

Table 5. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Bosnia-
Herzegovina by land cover types in 2022.

5 /	/1	
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	25224	33.0
Coniferous forest	594	0.8
Mixed forest	873	1.1
Other Natural Land	11620	15.2
Sclerophyllous vegetation	13456	17.6
Transitional	10312	13.5
Agriculture	14387	18.8
Artificial Surfaces	4	0.0
Other Land Cover	2	0.0
TOTAL	76473	100

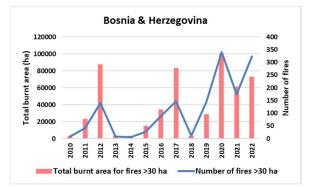


Figure 17. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

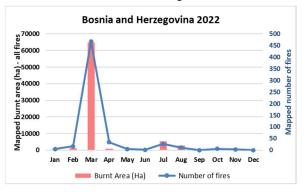


Figure 18. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Bosnia & Herzegovina in 2022.

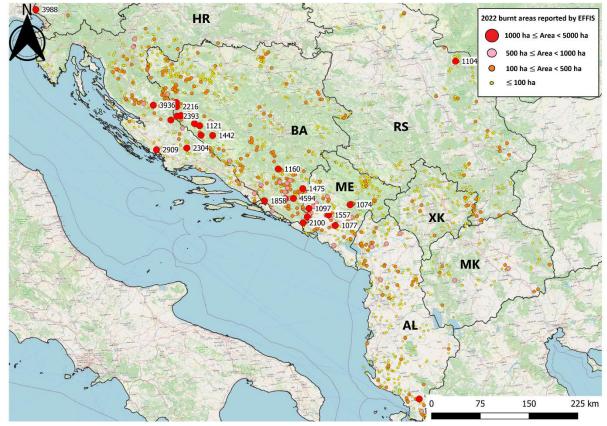


Figure 19. Locations of mapped fires in the Balkans in 2022. Largest fires are indicated in ha. AL=Albania; BA=Bosnia & Herzegovina; HR=Croatia; XK=Kosovo under UNSCR 1244; ME=Montenegro; MK=North Macedonia; RS=Serbia.

#### 2.2.5 Bulgaria

The 2022 fire season in Bulgaria was among the worst of recent years. Similar to other countries, there was a major peak of activity in March, followed by a second peak in the summer (Figure 21). A total of 150 fires were mapped, burning 15 461 ha. The March peak was mainly caused by a fire of over 1 000 ha in Vidin province, while the August peak included three fires over 500 ha. Of the annual total, around 40% (6 135 ha) occurred on Natura2000 sites, which amounts to 0.068% of the total Natura2000 land in Bulgaria. The locations of the fires mapped in 2022 are shown in Figure 22.

Table 6. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Bulgaria by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total		
Broadleaf forest	3131	20.3		
Coniferous forest	316	2.0		
Mixed forest	411	2.7		
Other Natural Land	2611	16.9		
Transitional	2997	19.4		
Agriculture	5916	38.3		
Artificial Surfaces	71	0.5		
Other Land Cover	7	0.1		
TOTAL	15461	100		

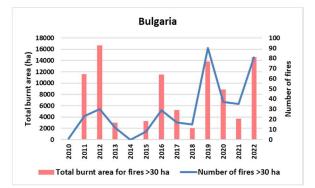


Figure 20. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Bulgaria.

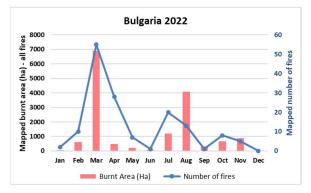


Figure 21. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Bulgaria in 2022.

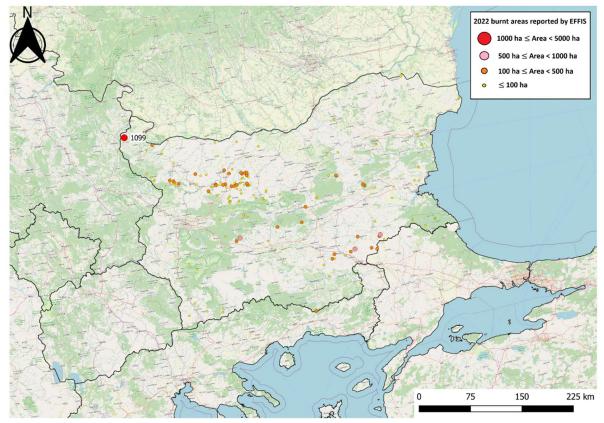


Figure 22. Locations of the mapped fires in Bulgaria in 2022.

#### 2.2.6 Croatia

The total mapped burnt area in Croatia was 34 818 ha, around three times that recorded in 2021, although significantly lighter than the country's worst year in 2017. However, the number of fires mapped (even after applying a filter to exclude fires <30 ha) was the highest recorded in the last decade (Figure 23). Over three-quarters of the damage occurred in March, including Croatia's two largest fires of the year which were both in Gračac municipality and around 4 000 ha in size. Two other fires exceeded 2 000 ha and a further six were over 500 ha. Of the total, 12 014 ha (around a third) occurred on Natura2000 sites, amounting to 0.026% of the protected areas in the country. The locations of these mapped fires can be seen in Figure 19 above.

Table 7. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Croatia by land cover types in 2022.

<i>,</i> ,		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	9321	26.8
Coniferous forest	145	0.4
Mixed forest	218	0.6
Other Natural Land	8099	23.3
Sclerophyllous vegetation	803	2.3
Transitional	9065	26.0
Agriculture	7074	20.3
Artificial Surfaces	86	0.3
Other Land Cover	6	0.0
TOTAL	34818	100

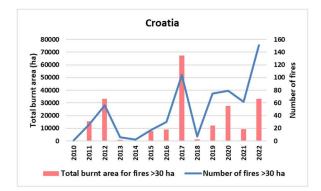


Figure 23. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Croatia.

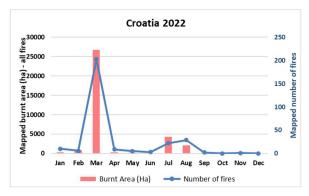


Figure 24. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Croatia in 2022.

#### 2.2.7 Cyprus

The 2022 fire season in Cyprus was somewhat better than the previous two years. 23 fires were mapped, burning a total of 2 650 ha. Two thirds of this total came from a single large fire of 1 793 ha in the north of the country in June. Natura2000 land was relatively unaffected, accounting for only 92 ha (3.5% of the total) and 0.094% of the total protected land of the country.

Table 8. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Cyprus by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	5	0.2
Coniferous forest	805	30.4
Other Natural Land	159	6.0
Sclerophyllous vegetation	938	35.4
Transitional	556	21.0
Agriculture	179	6.8
Artificial Surfaces	7	0.3
TOTAL	2650	100

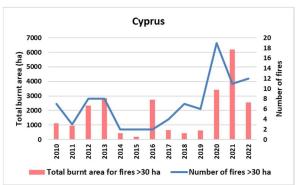


Figure 25. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Cyprus.



Figure 26. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Cyprus in 2022.



Figure 27. Locations of the mapped fires in Cyprus 2022.

#### 2.2.8 Czechia

It was the worst season for fires in Czechia for at least a decade, because of a single very large fire that occurred in Hřensko province in July, burning 1 436 ha, all on Natura2000 land and amounting to 0.069% of the protected land in the country. The total burnt area mapped was 1 438 ha and was virtually all in forest lands (Broadleaf, Conifer or Mixed, Table 9). Figure 40 on page 23 below shows the location of this fire.

Table 9. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Czechia by land
cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	22	1.5
Coniferous forest	1062	73.9
Mixed forest	353	24.5
Agriculture	1	0.1
TOTAL	1438	100

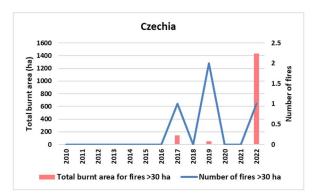


Figure 28. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Czechia.



Figure 29. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Czechia in 2022.

### 2.2.9 Denmark

In 2022, 30 fires were mapped in Denmark, mostly early in the season in March. A total of 510 ha was mapped, the majority in Other Natural Land. Over 90% of the annual total (476 ha) was on Natura2000 sites, amounting to 0.033% of the total protected area in the country.

Table 10. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Denmark by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Coniferous forest	3	0.6
Other Natural Land	470	92.2
Transitional	37	7.3
TOTAL	510	100

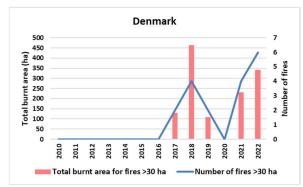
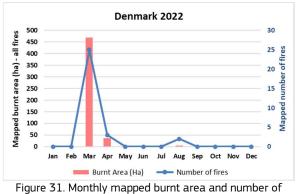


Figure 30. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Denmark.



fires in Denmark in 2022.

## 2.2.10 Finland

After a bad year in 2021, the 2022 fire season in Finland was light. A total burnt area of 372 ha was mapped from 33 fires, of which only 11 ha was on Natura2000 land. The 2022 fire season ran from May to August (Figure 33).

Table 11. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Finland by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Coniferous forest	298	80.1
Mixed forest	23	6.2
Other Natural Land	32	8.6
Transitional	19	5.1
TOTAL	372	100

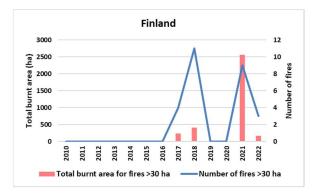


Figure 32. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Finland.

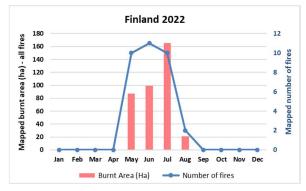


Figure 33. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Finland in 2022.

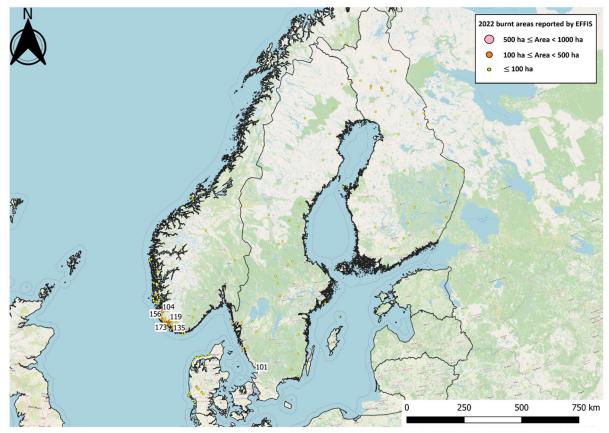


Figure 34. Locations of mapped fires in Scandinavia in 2022.

## 2.2.11 France

It was the worst fire season for France for over a decade (Figure 35). 1 089 fires were mapped, affecting a total of 74 654 ha, twice the amount recorded in 2021. Fires were mapped in every month except December, starting with a large number of relatively small fires in January. During the summer, the Gironde was affected by the country's four largest fires, including one in Louchats municipality which covered over 13 000 ha. Two of the others were over 5 000 ha and there were a further seven fires mapped at over 1 000 ha. (Figure 37). 23 527 ha of the annual total occurred on Natura2000 sites, which corresponds to 31% of the total area burned and 0.003% of the total Natura2000 areas in the country.

Table 12. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in France by land cover types in 2022.

/1		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	4246	5.7
Coniferous forest	20435	27.4
Mixed forest	3672	4.9
Other Natural Land	20142	27.0
Sclerophyllous vegetation	3324	4.5
Transitional	19042	25.5
Agriculture	3293	4.4
Artificial Surfaces	452	0.6
Other Land Cover	46	0.1
TOTAL	74654	100

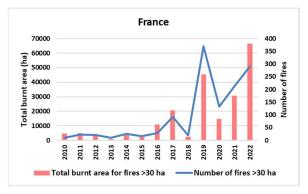


Figure 35. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in France.



Figure 36. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in France in 2022.

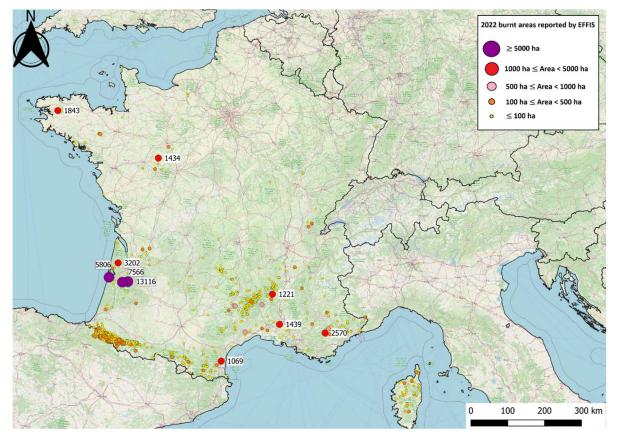


Figure 37. Location of mapped fires in France in 2022.

#### 2.2.12 Germany

The 2022 fire season on Germany was the worst for more than a decade (Figure 38). Like many other countries, there was a first peak in activity in March, followed by a second one in the summer (Figure 39). A total of 5 117 ha was mapped from 115 fires, including two over 800 ha (one in Bavaria in March and the other in Elbe-Elster in June). Of the annual total, over three quarters (4 065 ha) occurred in Natura2000 sites, amounting to 0.009% of the Natura2000 area in the country.

Table 13. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Germany by land cover types in 2022.

····· //		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	232	4.5
Coniferous forest	1423	27.8
Mixed forest	175	3.4
Other Natural Land	2715	53.0
Transitional	508	9.9
Agriculture	64	1.3
TOTAL	5117	100

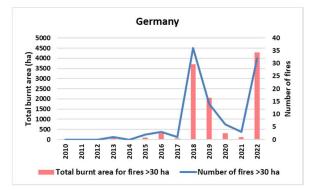


Figure 38. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Germany

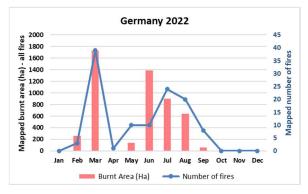


Figure 39. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Germany in 2022.

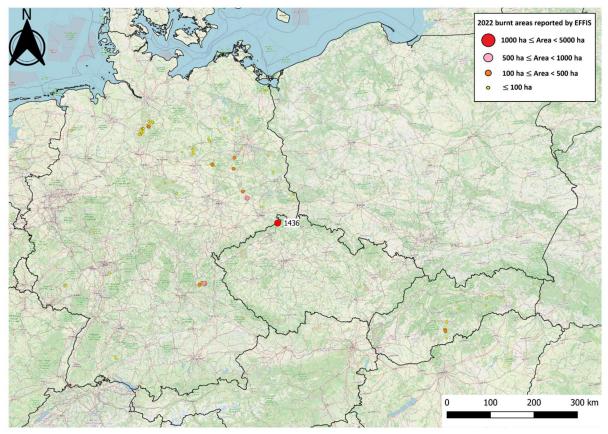


Figure 40. Location of fires in Germany, Czechia and Slovakia in 2022.

## 2.2.13 Greece

After an extreme year in 2021, the fire season in Greece reverted to an average level (Figure 41). A total of 23 942 ha was mapped from 230 fires. Most of these occurred in July, including the largest one of the season in Evros province at just over 4 000 ha. A further five fires were over 1 000 ha (Figure 43).

Of the total, 9 778 ha occurred on Natura2000 sites, amounting to 41% of the total and 0.014% of the total Natura2000 area of Greece. Table 14 presents the distribution of the mapped burnt area by land cover type.

Table 14. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Greece by land cover types in 2022.

//		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	1098	4.6
Coniferous forest	1421	5.9
Mixed forest	2812	11.7
Other Natural Land	4556	19.0
Sclerophyllous vegetation	3798	15.9
Transitional	3418	14.3
Agriculture	5447	22.8
Artificial Surfaces	1365	5.7
Other Land Cover	25	0.1
TOTAL	23942	100

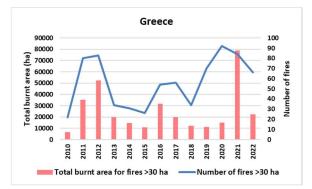


Figure 41. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Greece.

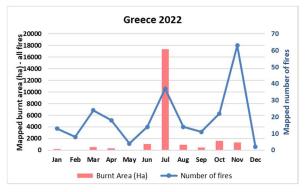


Figure 42. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Greece in 2022.

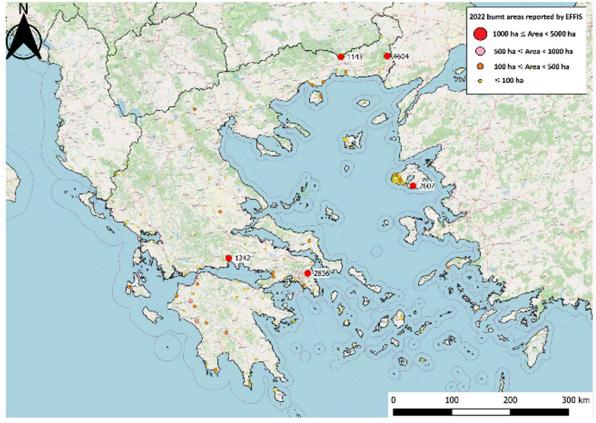


Figure 43. Locations of mapped fires in Greece in 2022.

#### 2.2.14 Hungary

2022 was the worst fire season in Hungary by some margin (Figure 44). 92 fires burned 7 960 ha, more than ten times the average of the last decade. In common with several other countries, there was an early peak in March, followed by a second one in the summer months. In Hungary most of the damage occurred during the March peak, although the two largest fires (both over 700 ha) were mapped in July and August (Figure 48).

4 297 ha of the total was in Natura2000 sites, amounting to half of the total and 0.039% of the Natura2000 area in the country.

Table 15. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Hungary by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	1432	18.0
Coniferous forest	25	0.3
Mixed forest	115	1.5
Other Natural Land	2607	32.8
Transitional	883	11.1
Agriculture	2880	36.2
Artificial Surfaces	17	0.2
TOTAL	7960	100



Figure 44. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Hungary.

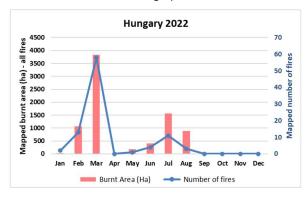


Figure 45. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Hungary in 2022.

## 2.2.15 Ireland

The total burnt area of 3 409 ha from 69 fires mapped in Ireland was close to the average of the last few years. As is usual in Ireland, the main peak of activity was in March and April. Around 40% of the burnt area (1 352 ha) was recorded in Natura2000 sites, which corresponds to 0.045% of the total Natura2000 land in the country. The most affected land type in 2022 was Other Natural Land, as shown in Table 16.

Table 16. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Ireland by land
cover types in 2022.

cover types in 2022.		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Coniferous forest	7	0.2
Mixed forest	20	0.6
Other Natural Land	3128	91.8
Transitional	216	6.3
Agriculture	38	1.1
TOTAL	3409	100

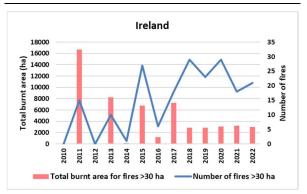


Figure 46. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Ireland.

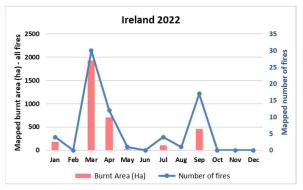


Figure 47. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Ireland in 2022.



Figure 48. Locations of mapped fires in Hungary in 2022.

## 2.2.16 Italy

After a very hard season in 2021, the total mapped in Italy in 2022 settled at an average level. Most of the annual total of 68 510 ha from 1 426 fires occurred between June and September (Figure 50), with 10% of the total from two fires over 1 000 ha and a further 6 over 500 ha in Sicily (Figure 51). 17 914 ha of the total occurred on Natura2000 sites, corresponding to 26% of the total and 0.011% of the Natura2000 land in Italy.

Table 17. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Italy by land cover types in 2022.

/1		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	8010	11.7
Coniferous forest	3002	4.4
Mixed forest	2921	4.3
Other Natural Land	20868	30.5
Sclerophyllous vegetation	7740	11.3
Transitional	4801	7.0
Agriculture	20754	30.3
Artificial Surfaces	321	0.5
Other Land Cover	91	0.1
TOTAL	68510	100

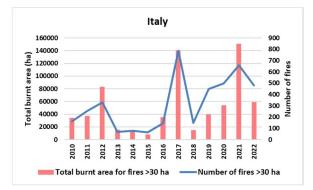


Figure 49. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Italy.

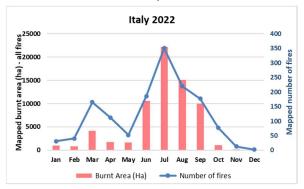


Figure 50. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Italy in 2022.

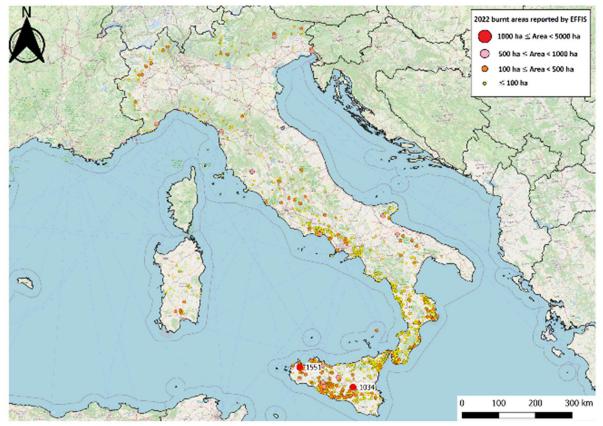


Figure 51. Locations of mapped fires in Italy in 2022.

## 2.2.17 Kosovo under UNSCR 1244

It was a relatively good year in Kosovo, with a total burnt area mapped of 4 430 ha from 98 fires, around half that of the previous two years. As in several other countries, the worst month was March, when around three-quarters of the damage occurred. Broadleaf Forest was the most affected land cover type, accounting for more than half of the total (Table 18).

Table 18. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Kosovo by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	2521	56.9
Coniferous forest	91	2.1
Mixed forest	17	0.4
Other Natural Land	287	6.5
Sclerophyllous vegetation	8	0.2
Transitional	1044	23.6
Agriculture	461	10.4
Artificial Surfaces	1	0.0
TOTAL	4430	100

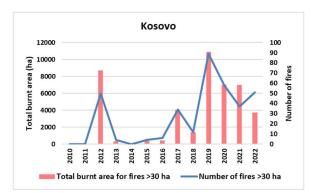


Figure 52. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Kosovo.

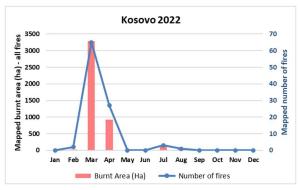


Figure 53. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Kosovo in 2022.

## 2.2.18 Latvia

238 ha were mapped in Latvia from 14 fires in 2022, around 30% less than in 2021. The damage occurred in April and May, including Latvia's largest fire of 113 ha.

155 ha of this total occurred in Natura2000 sites, corresponding to 65% of the total burnt area and 0.087% of the total protected area in the country.

Table 19. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Latvia by land cover types in 2022.

11		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	2	0.8
Coniferous forest	8	3.5
Other Natural Land	228	95.7
TOTAL	238	100

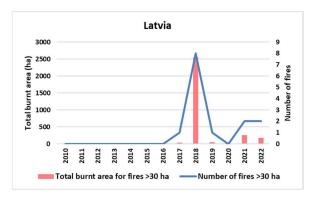


Figure 54. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Latvia.

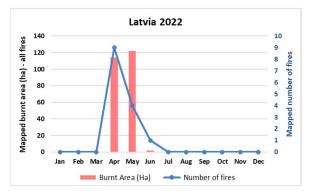


Figure 55. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Latvia in 2022.

## 2.2.19 Lithuania

The 2022 fire season in Lithuania was light. Seven fires were mapped burning a total of 34 ha, mostly in Other Natural Land. Very little (2 ha) Natura2000 land was affected.

Table 20. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Lithuania by
land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Coniferous forest	5	14.7
Other Natural Land	26	76.5
Transitional	2	5.9
Agriculture	1	2.9
TOTAL	34	100

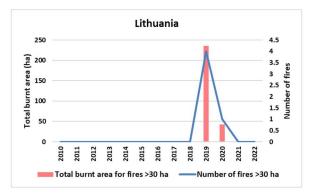


Figure 56. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Lithuania.

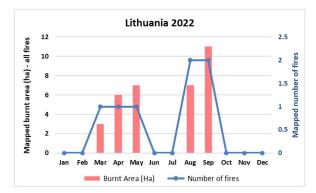


Figure 57. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Lithuania in 2022.

#### 2.2.20 Montenegro

The fire season in Montenegro was relatively light compared to the previous two years. 26 332 ha were mapped from 260 fires. In common with other countries, March was the worst month, accounting for two thirds of the annual total (Figure 59). Four fires exceeded 1 000 ha, and a further 11 were over 500 ha. Figure 19 on page 17 above shows the locations of these fires.

Table 21. [	Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Montenegro by
	land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	10417	39.6
Coniferous forest	4	0.0
Mixed forest	80	0.3
Other Natural Land	3912	14.9
Sclerophyllous vegetation	68	0.3
Transitional	10622	40.3
Agriculture	1213	4.6
Artificial Surfaces	10	0.0
Other Land Cover	6	0.0
TOTAL	26332	100

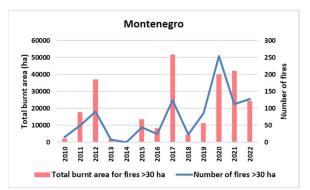


Figure 58. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Montenegro.

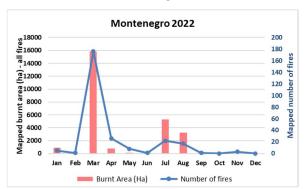


Figure 59. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Montenegro in 2022.

## 2.2.21 The Netherlands

A total of 15 fires were mapped in the Netherlands between February and August, resulting in a total burnt area of 331 ha, practically all of which occurred on Other Natural Land on Natura2000 sites, amounting to 0.039% of the total protected area of the country.

Table 22. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in the Netherlands by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	1	0.3
Other Natural Land	330	99.7
TOTAL	331	100

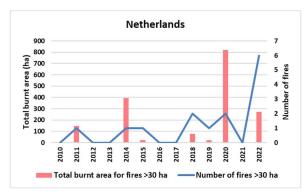


Figure 60. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in the Netherlands.

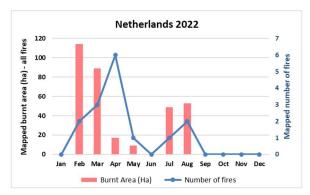


Figure 61. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in the Netherlands in 2022.

#### 2.2.22 North Macedonia

After a hard year in 2021, the 2022 season was relatively quiet in North Macedonia. 74 fires were mapped, burning a total of 4 261 ha, around one fifth of the amount mapped in 2021 (Figure 62). Fires were mapped in almost every month of the year, including two exceeding 500 ha in July and October. Figure 19 on page 17 above shows the locations of these fires.

Table 23. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in North Macedonia by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	1259	29.6
Coniferous forest	6	0.1
Mixed forest	4	0.1
Other Natural Land	982	23.0
Sclerophyllous vegetation	84	2.0
Transitional	1129	26.5
Agriculture	795	18.7
Other Land Cover	1	0.0
TOTAL	4261	100

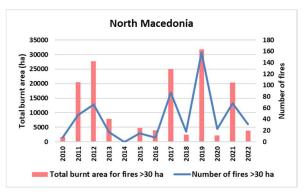


Figure 62. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in North Macedonia.

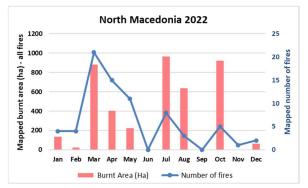


Figure 63. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in North Macedonia in 2022.

#### 2.2.23 Norway

The fire season in Norway resulted in 2 867 ha mapped from 84 fires. As was the case in several other countries, March was the worst month, when two-thirds of the fires and three-quarters of the damage was recorded. The summer, by contrast, was very quiet (Figure 65). Other Natural Land was the most affected land cover type. The locations of the mapped fires can be seen in Figure 34 on page 21 above.

Table 24. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Norway by land cover types in 2022.

71		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	305	10.6
Coniferous forest	57	2.0
Mixed forest	34	1.2
Other Natural Land	2157	75.2
Agriculture	311	10.9
Other Land Cover	3	0.1
TOTAL	2867	100

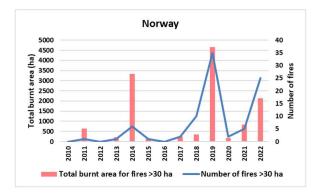


Figure 64. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Norway.



Figure 65. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Norway in 2022.

## 2.2.24 Poland

39 fires were mapped in Poland, resulting in 675 ha of burnt area, almost half of which was in Agricultural Land (Table 25). The worst affected month was March, although fires were mapped until the summer, with very little activity after July (Figure 67). 543 ha (80%) of this total was on Natura2000 land, amounting to 0.011% of the Natura2000 area of the country.

Table 25. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Poland by land
cover types in 2022.

/1		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	13	1.9
Coniferous forest	113	16.7
Mixed forest	6	0.9
Other Natural Land	157	23.2
Transitional	78	11.6
Agriculture	304	45.0
Artificial Surfaces	1	0.2
Other Land Cover	3	0.4
TOTAL	675	100



Figure 66. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Poland.

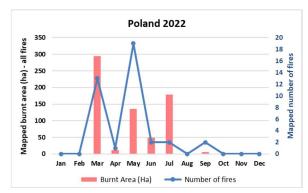


Figure 67. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Poland in 2022.

#### 2.2.25 Portugal

It was the worst fire season in Portugal since 2017 and it was the third most affected EU country, although the total mapped burnt area of 112 063 ha from 1 236 fires was still only a fraction of the damage occurring in 2017 (Figure 68). Unlike many other countries, March was a quiet month, and almost all of the damage occurred in the summer months of July and August (Figure 69). However, the highest number of fires was observed in January, although they were generally small, so the burnt area was low. During the summer there were several very large fires, including two in Beiras e Serra da Estrela province in August that covered over 15 000 and 10 000 ha respectively (Figure 70). A further 13 fires over 1 000 ha were recorded, and 14 more exceeded 500 ha. 41 089 ha of the mapped total occurred on Natura2000 sites, corresponding to 37% of the total area burnt, and 0.015 % of the total Natura2000 areas in Portugal.

Table 26. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Portugal by
land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	6381	5.7
Coniferous forest	7661	6.8
Mixed forest	7028	6.3
Other Natural Land	28198	25.2
Sclerophyllous vegetation	1734	1.5
Transitional	41442	37.0
Agriculture	18945	16.9
Artificial Surfaces	656	0.6
Other Land Cover	18	0.0
TOTAL	112063	100



Figure 68. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Portugal.



Figure 69. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Portugal in 2022.

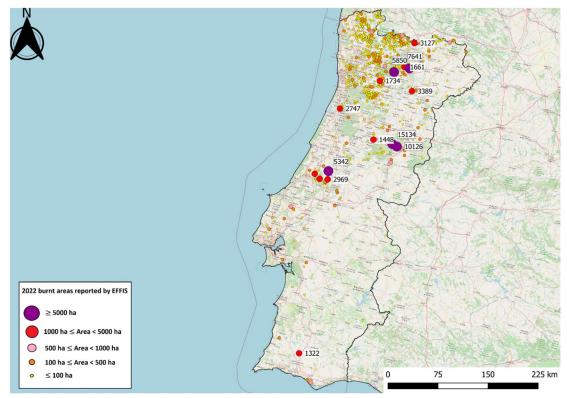


Figure 70. Location of mapped fires in Portugal in 2022.

#### 2.2.26 Romania

The 2022 fire season in Romania was the worst in over a decade, with a total mapped burnt area of 162 518 ha from 1 432 fires, making it also the second most affected EU country after Spain. Over two-thirds of this damage occurred in a single month (March) and also included Romania's three largest fires, which were all in Tulcea province in the east of the country, and which were all more than 5 000 ha (Figure 73). 20 other fires were larger than 1 000 ha and a further 28 exceeded 500 ha. Over 50% of the burnt area occurred in Other Natural Land (Table 27).

In total, 102 659 ha (63%) of the mapped burnt area was on Natura2000 sites, representing 0.012% of the total Natura2000 area of Romania.

Table 27. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Romania by land cover types in 2022.

/1		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	34892	21.5
Coniferous forest	15	0.0
Mixed forest	238	0.1
Other Natural Land	95038	58.5
Transitional	4752	2.9
Agriculture	26729	16.4
Artificial Surfaces	83	0.1
Other Land Cover	771	0.5
TOTAL	162518	100

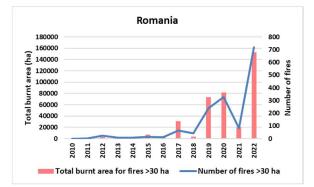


Figure 71. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Romania.

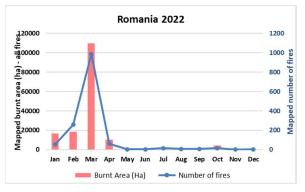


Figure 72. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Romania in 2022.

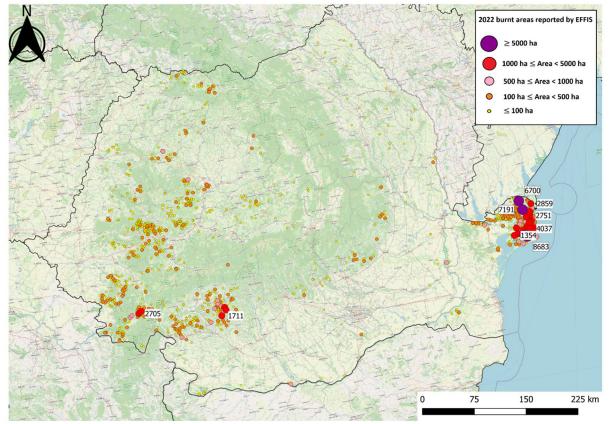


Figure 73. Locations of mapped fires in Romania in 2022.

The fire season in Serbia was the second worst in recent years (after 2019, Figure 74). A total of 235 fires were mapped, burning 13 292 ha. Most of the damage occurred in March (Figure 74), including one fire of over 1 000 ha and another over 500 ha. Figure 19 on page 17 above shows the locations of these fires.

Table 28. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Serbia by land cover type in 2022.

11		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	4430	33.3
Coniferous forest	151	1.1
Mixed forest	27	0.2
Other Natural Land	2368	17.8
Transitional	2988	22.5
Agriculture	3311	24.9
Artificial Surfaces	18	0.1
TOTAL	13292	100



Figure 74. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Serbia.



Figure 75. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Serbia by land cover types in 2022.

Ten fires burning a total of 374 ha were mapped in Slovakia, a heavier year than normal. Most of the damage occurred in March, similar to other countries. Of the total, 30% (112 ha) occurred on Natural2000 sites, amounting to 0.054% of the total protected area of the country.

Table 29. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Slovakia by land cover type in 2022.

tanu cover type in 2022.		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	51	13.7
Coniferous forest	16	4.3
Mixed forest	26	7.0
Other Natural Land	208	55.5
Transitional	21	5.6
Agriculture	45	12.1
Artificial Surfaces	7	1.9
TOTAL	374	100



Figure 76. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Slovakia.

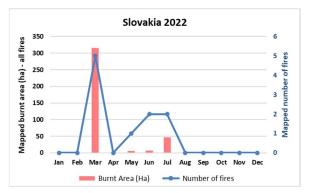


Figure 77. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Slovakia in 2022.

# 2.2.29 Slovenia

It was the worst fire season in Slovenia for over a decade, with 4 431 ha mapped from 7 fires. Almost all the damage came from a single very large fire of around 4 000 ha in Obalno-kraška province in the Karst Plateau in July (Figure 79, Figure 80).

Almost all of the total burnt area (4 396 ha) was on Natura2000 sites and amounted to 0.088% of the Natura2000 area of the country.

Table 30. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Slovenia by land cover types in 2022.

//		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	1942	43.8
Coniferous forest	432	9.7
Mixed forest	583	13.2
Other Natural Land	295	6.7
Transitional	1005	22.7
Agriculture	174	3.9
TOTAL	4431	100



Figure 78. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Slovenia.

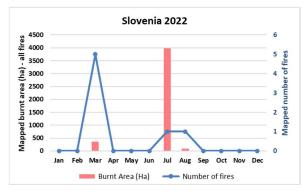


Figure 79. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Slovenia in 2022.

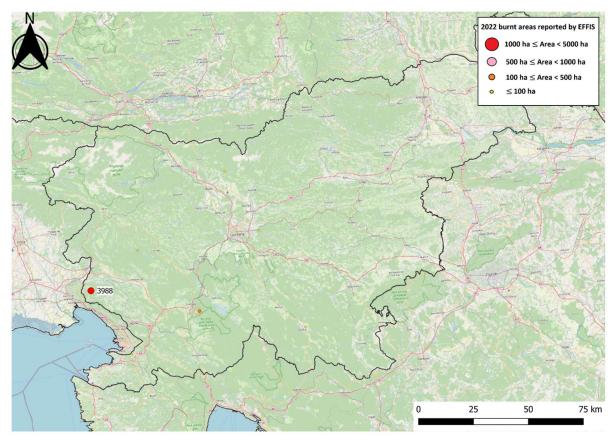


Figure 80. Locations of mapped fires in Slovenia in 2022.

#### 2.2.30 Spain

The 2022 fire season in Spain was the worst in over a decade. Like Portugal, the season was notable for a large number of relatively small fires in January, but the main damage of the year occurred in the summer months. The three largest fires mapped in 2022 across the entire region covered by EFFIS were all in Spain. The largest was in Tábara municipality in Zamora province in July, and covered 32 528 ha. A second fire in Zamora in June was just over 28 000 ha, and the third, mapped in Castellón, was almost 20 000 ha (Figure 83). An additional five fires over 10 000 ha were mapped, 36 exceeded 1 000 ha and 20 others were greater than 500 ha (Table 31).

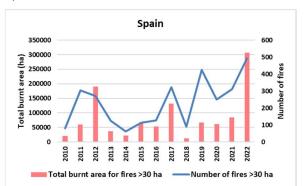
Table 31. Size distribution of fires mapped in Spain in 2022.

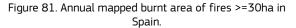
Size Class	Total burnt area	Number of
Size Class	(ha)	fires
>=50 ha but <100	10454	151
>=100 and <500 ha	28303	137
>=500 and <1000 ha	14001	20
>=1000 ha	248515	44

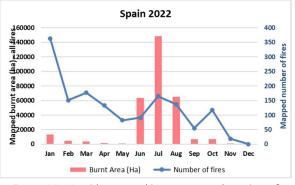
Table 32. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Spain by land cover type in 2022.

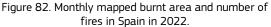
71		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	26936	8.5
Coniferous forest	50947	16.1
Mixed forest	5318	1.7
Other Natural Land	80450	25.5
Sclerophyllous vegetation	66133	20.9
Transitional	39720	12.6
Agriculture	45387	14.4
Artificial Surfaces	644	0.2
Other Land Cover	170	0.1
TOTAL	315705	100

Of the total burnt area of 315 705 ha mapped in 2022, 133 329 ha occurred on Natura2000 sites, the highest amount recorded in any country in 2022, and a third of all the protected land burnt across Europe in 2022. This corresponds to 42% of the total area burned and 0.004% of the Natura2000 areas in Spain.









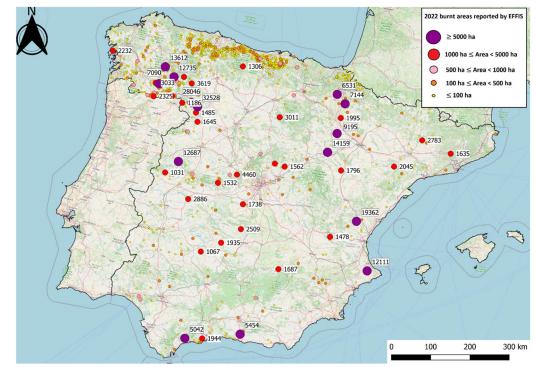


Figure 83. Location of mapped fires in Spain in 2022.

#### 2.2.31 Sweden

Compared with the extreme years of 2014 and 2018 it was a light year for fires in Sweden. 37 fires were mapped in 2022, resulting in a total mapped burnt area of 515 ha, less than half that recorded in 2021. March/April and June were the most affected months, and the damage was equally divided between Coniferous Forest and Other Natural Land (Table 33). Only one fire exceeded 100 ha. Locations of these mapped fires can be seen in Figure 34 on page 21 above. 135 ha (26%) of the total was in Natura2000 sites, amounting to 0.013% of the Natura2000 area of the country.

Table 33. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Sweden by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Coniferous forest	229	44.5
Other Natural Land	247	48.0
Transitional	29	5.7
Agriculture	9	1.8
TOTAL	515	100

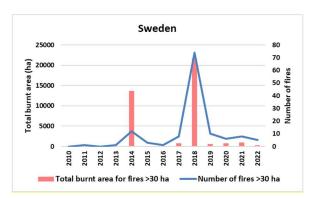


Figure 84. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Sweden.



Figure 85. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Sweden in 2022.

### 2.2.32 Switzerland

Two fires were mapped in Switzerland in January and March, resulting in a total burnt area of 235 ha. Broadleaf Forest and Other Natural Land were the most affected land cover types.

Table 34. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Switzerland by
land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	92	39.2
Coniferous forest	28	11.9
Mixed forest	1	0.4
Other Natural Land	108	46.0
Agriculture	6	2.6
TOTAL	235	100

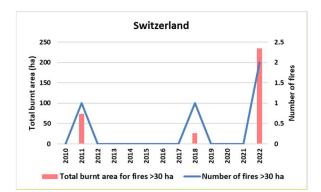


Figure 86. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Switzerland.



Figure 87. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Switzerland in 2022.

#### 2.2.33 Türkiye

After an extreme year in 2021, Türkiye's 2022 fire season was very light. 17 055 ha was mapped from 195 fires, less than 10% of the previous year's total. Fires were mapped in every month of the year, but there was a peak in June, when the largest fire of the year occurred in the west of the country (4 548 ha), and another in September when several other large fires were mapped. Locations of these fires are shown in Figure 90.

Table 35. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Türkiye by land cover types in 2022.

/1		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	148	0.9
Coniferous forest	3871	22.7
Mixed forest	108	0.6
Other Natural Land	4770	28.0
Sclerophyllous vegetation	1633	9.6
Transitional	4628	27.1
Agriculture	1682	9.9
Artificial Surfaces	74	0.4
Other Land Cover	140	0.8
TOTAL	17055	100.0

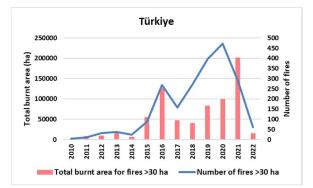


Figure 88. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Türkiye.

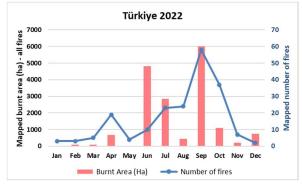


Figure 89. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Türkiye in 2022.

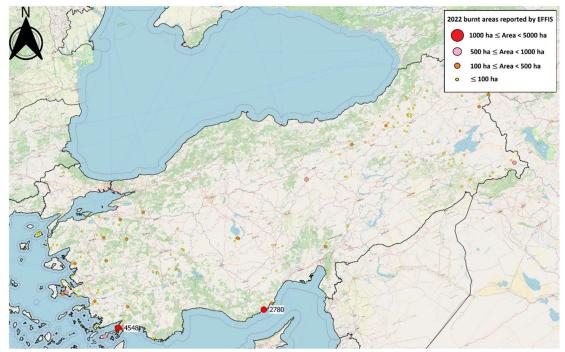


Figure 90. Location of mapped fires in Türkiye in 2022

#### 2.2.34 United Kingdom

The 2022 fire season in the United Kingdom was the worst since 2019. In common with several other countries, March was the most extreme month, when 80% of the annual damage occurred (Figure 92). 40 fires were mapped, with a total burnt area of 22 895 ha, mostly in Other Natural Land (Table 36). This included some large fires over 1 000 ha in Wales and Scotland, and, unusually, also one over 600 ha in the south of the country in Surrey Heath (Figure 93).

Table 36. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in the UK by land cover types in 2022.

/1		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	85	0.4
Coniferous forest	127	0.6
Mixed forest	8	0.0
Other Natural Land	21534	94.1
Transitional	946	4.1
Agriculture	155	0.7
Artificial Surfaces	36	0.2
Other Land Cover	4	0.0
TOTAL	22895	100

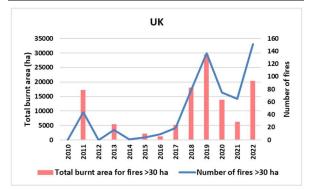


Figure 91. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in the United Kingdom.

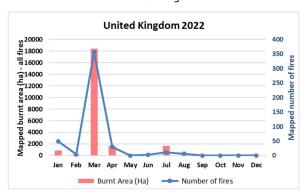


Figure 92. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in the United Kingdom in 2022.

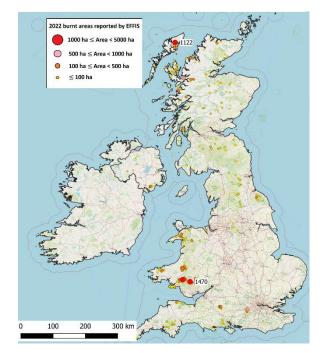


Figure 93. Location of mapped fires in the United Kingdom in 2022

# 2.2.35 Ukraine

On request of the Ukrainian authorities, a different protocol was used to map fires in Ukraine in 2022. All fires were mapped, including agricultural and urban ones, so that these totals cannot be compared directly against those of other countries, since the proportions of land cover affected differs from the average of other countries, and more fires in total were mapped.

The total mapped burnt area in Ukraine was significantly higher than in any other country covered by EFFIS. 6 309 fires were mapped, resulting in a total burnt area of 498 711 ha. Three-quarters of this affected Agricultural Land (Table 37, Figure 94).

133 fires over 500 ha were recorded, the largest two of which exceeded 6 000 ha. Locations of these mapped fires can be seen in Figure 96.

Table 37. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Ukraine by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	12420	2.5
Coniferous forest	45195	9.1
Mixed forest	2569	0.5
Other Natural Land	48430	9.7
Transitional	9813	2.0
Agriculture	374355	75.1
Artificial Surfaces	3392	0.7
Other Land Cover	2537	0.5
TOTAL	498711	100

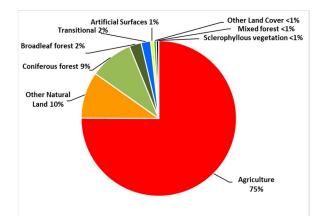


Figure 94. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Ukraine by land cover types in 2022.

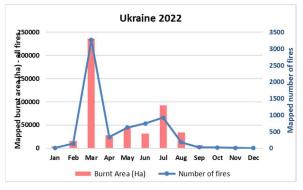


Figure 95. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Ukraine in 2022.

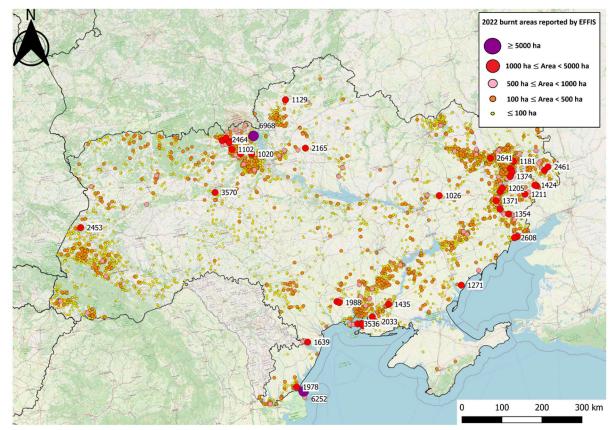


Figure 96. Locations of mapped fires in Ukraine in 2022.

## 2.3 Middle East and North Africa

The total burnt area mapped across North Africa and the Middle East was less than the previous three years and slighter better than the long term average. Most of the individual countries across the region had a relatively good year, apart from Morocco whose total burnt area was significantly worse than in the previous decade.

#### 2.3.1 Algeria

After two bad years in 2020 and 2021, Algeria had a relatively quiet year in 2022 (Figure 97). 157 fires were mapped, giving a total burnt area of 53 148 ha, 80% of which occurred in August.

The two largest fires of the season were both around 6 000 ha, and there were a further 13 fires over 1 000 ha (Figure 99). The Globcover land cover map from ESA was used to split the burnt area into different land type categories, harmonised with CLC terminology, and the distribution of burnt area by these land cover types is given in Table 38.

Table 38. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Algeria by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	11283	21.2
Coniferous forest	1677	3.2
Mixed forest	460	0.9
Other Natural Land	1543	2.9
Transitional	13202	24.8
Agriculture	24793	46.6
Artificial Surfaces	123	0.2
Other Land Cover	66	0.1
TOTAL	53148	100

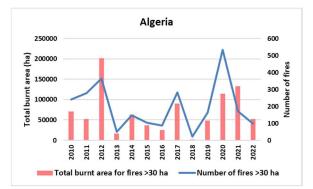


Figure 97. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Algeria.



Figure 98. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Algeria in 2022.

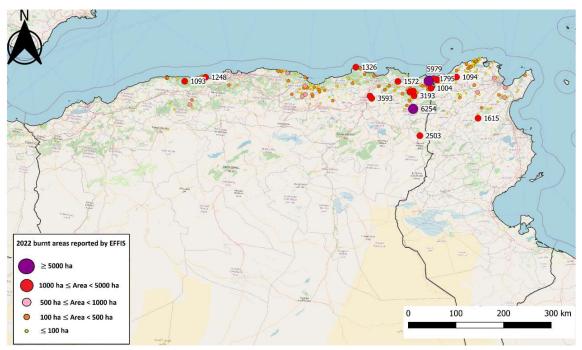


Figure 99. Locations of mapped fires in the north of Algeria and Tunisia in 2022.



Figure 100. Mapped fires in the Middle East in 2022.

#### 2.3.2 Egypt

Thirteen fires were mapped in Egypt in May, June and October, resulting in a total burnt area of 2 163 ha. Over three-quarters of this total came from a single fire of 1 685 ha in May. The Globcover land cover map from ESA was used to split the burnt area into different land type categories, harmonised with CLC terminology The main land cover types affected were divided between Other Natural Land and Agriculture.

Table 39. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Egypt by land cover types in 2022.

 Land cover	Area burned	% of total
 Other Natural Land	1223	56.5
Transitional	2	0.1
Agriculture	920	42.6
Artificial Surfaces	18	0.8
TOTAL	2163	100

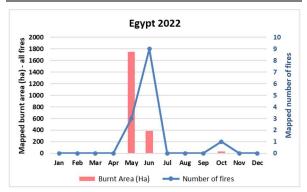


Figure 101. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Egypt in 2022.

# 2.3.3 Israel

After three bad years for fires, the 2022 season in Israel was very quiet (Figure 102). Only five fires were mapped, covering a total of 239 ha. 59% of the total burnt area was in agricultural areas (Table 40).

Table 40. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Israel by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total	
Other Natural Land	13	5.4	
Transitional	86	35.8	
Agriculture	140	58.8	
TOTAL	239	100	

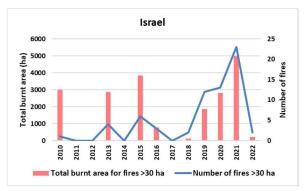


Figure 102. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Israel.

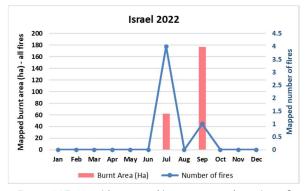


Figure 103. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Israel in 2022.

#### 2.3.4 Lebanon

After three bad years, the 2022 season was very light for fires in Lebanon (Figure 104). The season lasted from July to October, when 22 fires were mapped for a total of 249 ha burnt. Table 41 presents the affected land cover types using the Globcover land cover map, harmonised with CLC.

Table 41. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Lebanon by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Coniferous forest	21	8.5
Other Natural Land	10	4.1
Transitional	132	52.8
Agriculture	86	34.6
TOTAL	249	100

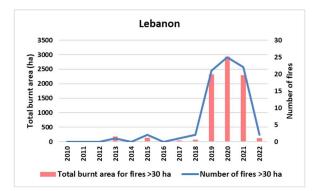


Figure 104. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Lebanon.

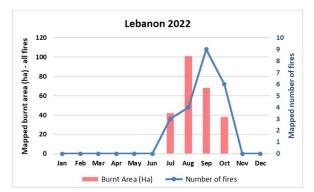


Figure 105. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Lebanon in 2022.

## 2.3.5 Libya

In common with much of the rest of the region , the 2022 fire season in Libya was relatively quiet. Nine fires were mapped, resulting in a total burnt area of 207 ha in May and September. Table 42 presents the distribution of the mapped burnt area by land cover type using the Globcover land cover map, harmonised with CLC.

Table 42. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Libya by land cover types in 2022.

<i>,</i> ,		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Other Natural Land	12	5.8
Transitional	98	47.3
Agriculture	97	46.9
TOTAL	207	100

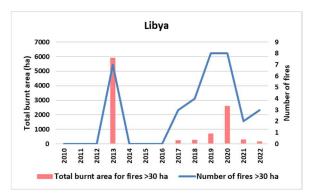


Figure 106. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Libya.

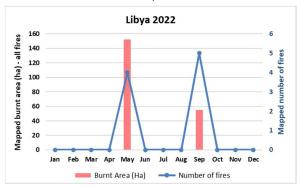


Figure 107. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Libya in 2022.

#### 2.3.6 Morocco

Unlike most of the rest of the region, the fire season in Morocco was significantly worse than any measured in the previous decade (Figure 108). 103 fires were mapped, giving a total burnt area of 32 680 ha. Much of this total came from a single fire in Ksar El Keb province in July that was over 12 000 ha, almost one third of the annual total. A second fire in Larache province, also in July, covered over 8 000 ha, and three others exceeded 1 000 ha (Figure 110). The distribution of burnt area by land cover types, using Morocco's own land cover map but with terminology harmonised with CLC, is given in Table 43.

Table 43. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Morocco by land cover types in 2022.

Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	18660	57.1
Coniferous forest	1231	3.8
Mixed forest	1147	3.5
Other Natural Land	650	2.0
Transitional	6109	18.7
Agriculture	4867	14.9
Other Land Cover	15	0.0
TOTAL	32680	100

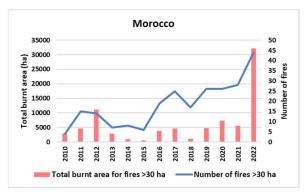
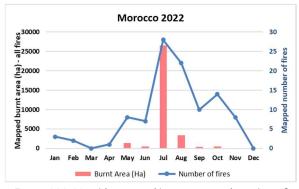
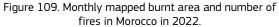


Figure 108. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Morocco.





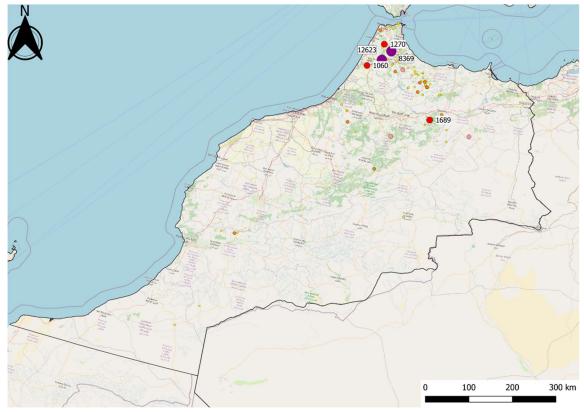


Figure 110. Locations of mapped fires in Morocco in 2022.

#### 2.3.7 Syria

It was an extremely light year for fires in Syria, with the lowest total mapped hectares in the last decade. 21 fires were mapped, giving a total burnt area of 596 ha. There were no fires over 500 ha and only one that exceeded 100 ha.

The Globcover land cover map, harmonised with CLC, was used to split the burnt area into different land type categories (Table 44).

Table 44. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Syria by land
cover types in 2022.

//		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	32	5.4
Coniferous forest	220	36.9
Mixed forest	17	2.9
Other Natural Land	19	3.2
Transitional	80	13.4
Agriculture	228	38.3
TOTAL	596	100

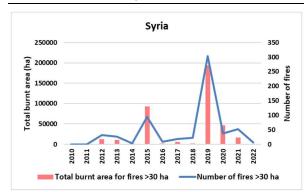


Figure 111. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Syria.

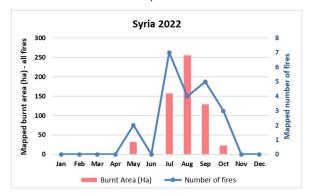


Figure 112. Monthly mapped burnt area and number of fires in Syria in 2022.

#### 2.3.8 Tunisia

After the extreme 2021 fire season in Tunisia, 2022 was closer to an average year. A total of 11 745 ha of burnt area was mapped from 155 fires between June and November (Figure 114). There were two fires over 1 000 ha and a further 4 over 500 ha.

Figure 99 on page 40 shows the burnt scars left by these fires. The distribution of burnt area by land cover types using Tunisia's own land cover map but with terminology harmonised with CLC, is given in Table 45.

Table 45. Distribution of burnt area (ha) in Tunisia by land cover types in 2022.

<i>,</i> ,		
Land cover	Area burned	% of total
Broadleaf forest	1481	12.6
Coniferous forest	2543	21.6
Mixed forest	344	2.9
Other Natural Land	621	5.3
Sclerophyllous vegetation	3533	30.1
Transitional	1522	13.0
Agriculture	1632	13.9
Artificial Surfaces	10	0.1
Other Land Cover	58	0.5
TOTAL	11745	100

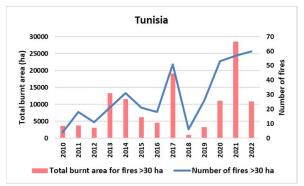


Figure 113. Annual mapped burnt area of fires >=30ha in Tunisia

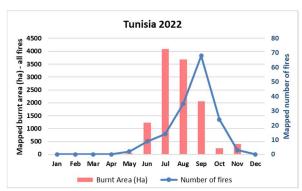


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