



WILDFIRES,

CLIMATE CHANGE & THE GREEN NEW DEAL

TOPIC BRIEF

- Fires have consumed the Western coast of the United States, and calls for a Green New Deal have been reignited with new vigor.
- Governors Newsom and Brown of California and Oregon, respectively, have been thrown into the inferno. Newsom has been on a Twitter spree, recognizing Climate Change as a real threat, yet he approved 12 new fracking permits in early June. Newsom has allowed for 36 new fracking permits in California since the coronavirus pandemic began.
- Fracking is a resource intensive practice, using up more than 3.6 million gallons of water each time a well is used. Furthermore, it contaminates our drinking water with toxic chemicals and has a direct connection to an increase of earthquakes.
- While the California and Oregon fires have dominated the United States' news cycle, the Global South has also been ablaze.
- Since the year's start, Brazil has seen more than 74,000 wildfires compared to the 41,000 of the US. NASA reports that 70% of the average day's wildfires take place in Africa, with Angola almost tripling Brazil in number of fires in August.

QUESTIONS

1. What does the Green New Deal entail?
2. How can we raise awareness towards the wildfires in Brazil and Angola?
3. How is the Coronavirus Pandemic going to affect the aftermath of the wildfire?

CASE STUDY

The California wildfire was initiated by a smoke-generating pyrotechnic device at a gender reveal party. However, climate change is an underlying cause to this wildfire. How does climate change tie into this situation?



CHAPTER ACTION ITEMS

OCTOBER - SEPTEMBER

- Video (anywhere between 10 seconds and 2 minutes long) with your name, location, and what you wish you had learned in school! Example video ideas include: how to be anti-racist, how to register to vote, the climate crisis, etc. We will then compile resources to answer your questions and share our findings on IGTV & as infographics!
 - send the video to operations@redefy.org or DM us on Instagram (@weredefy)
- Get involved with local groups fighting for climate justice. Posting and calling is great, but direct action is necessary if we want to fix the Climate Crisis before the damage is irreversible. If you don't know a group in your area, DM us (@weredefy), we will help you find one!