
ALERTCalifornia launches public safety program providing 1,000 + wildfire monitoring cameras

May 22, 2023



The University of California San Diego has launched ALERTCalifornia, formerly part of ALERTWildfire.

This public safety program uses novel technology and research to prepare for, respond to, and recover from wildfires and other natural disasters by managing more than 1,000 pan-tilt-zoom monitoring cameras and sensors arrays that collect data and provide live information.

This collaborative public safety program will contribute to the development of effective, time-critical plans for natural disaster prevention, response, and mitigation.

A new, mobile friendly website features a collection of camera views targeting areas of interest along with panoramas that show high-resolution 360-degree views. Each camera can view as far as 60 miles on a clear

day and 120 miles on a clear night. The ALERTCalifornia cameras can be viewed 24 hours a day at ALERTCalifornia.org.

With these tools, emergency responders can rapidly confirm fire ignition, scale, and behavior. Most importantly, this increased situational awareness supports timely evacuations while enhancing firefighting efforts and safety.

“Data acquired in the highest fire-threat regions will significantly empower firefighters, first responders, legislators, city planners, and scientists for years to come,” says Neal Driscoll, director of ALERTCalifornia and geoscientist at UC San Diego’s Scripps Institution of Oceanography.