



WILDFIRES AS A CIVIL PROTECTION EVENT: A RISKY APPROACH FOR WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT POLICIES



IN RECENT YEARS IT IS BECOMING MORE COMMON TO HEAR AND CATALOG WILDFIRE EVENTS AS CIVIL PROTECTION EMERGENCIES

The reality is that the number of wildfires with an impact in civil protection (affection to population/properties) is **very low**. In Spain it represents **around 1%**. But despite this, those wildfire events have a big social media impact that creates alarm on the population and policy makers. Just some of those wildfires have tragic consequences.

The separation of prevention and suppression policies (actions) supposes:

- the **break of the wildfire management cycle** that should include all related phases: prevention, preparedness, suppression and recovery
- the **lack of coordination** among fully related policies (actions)
- the gain of **prominence of response and defensive strategies**
- the **loose of capital knowledge and experience** of forestry based managers



WILDFIRES ARE A FORESTRY ISSUE, WHICH NEED TO BE FACED IN THE CONTEXT OF AN INTEGRATED FORESTRY STRATEGY AND NOT ONLY FROM THE CIVIL PROTECTION POINT OF VIEW