

Boreal Forest and Wildfires

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August 2015





Polar



**North
America**

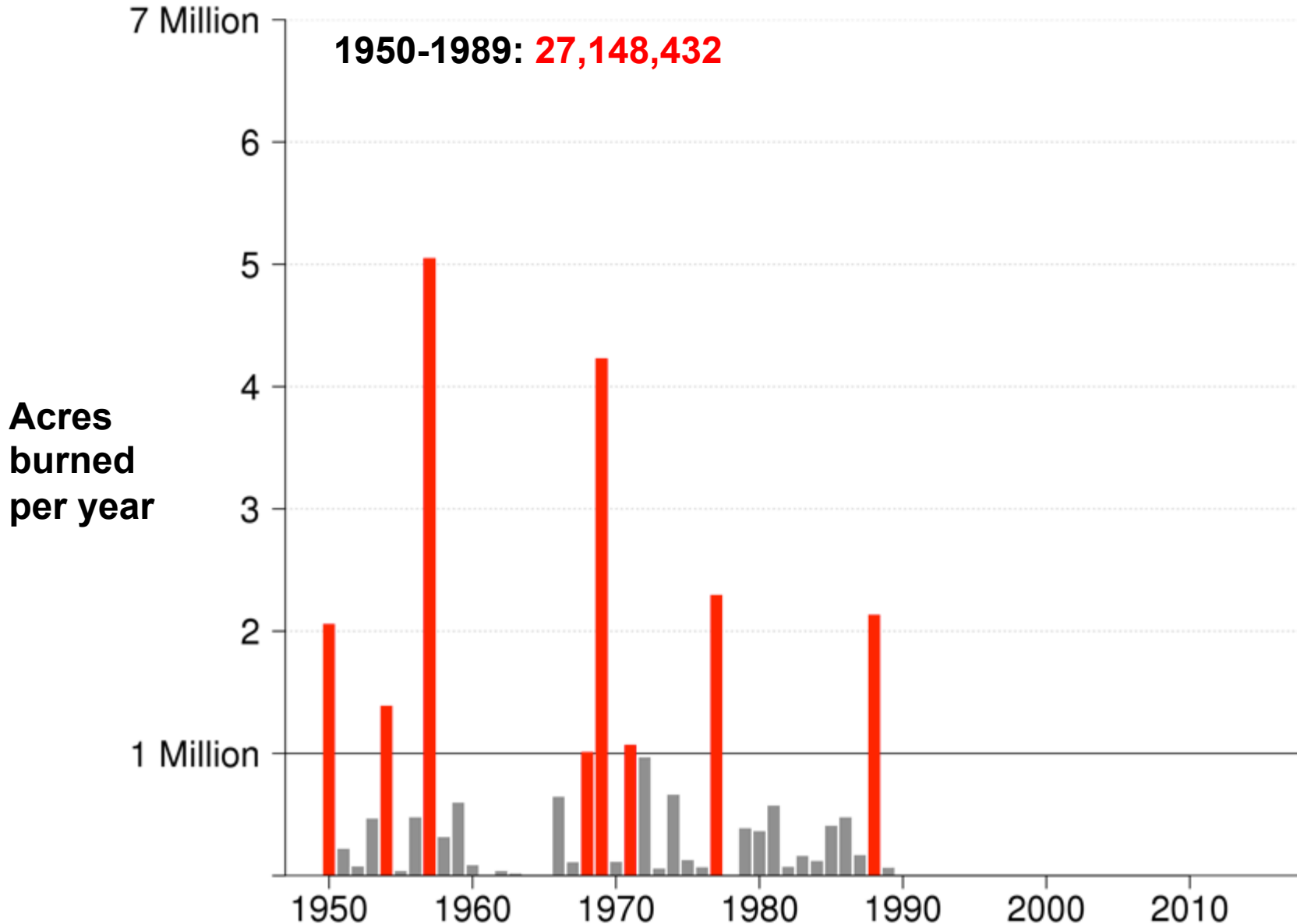
**246 communities
are in Alaska's
boreal forest.**

**That's over
550,000 people.**

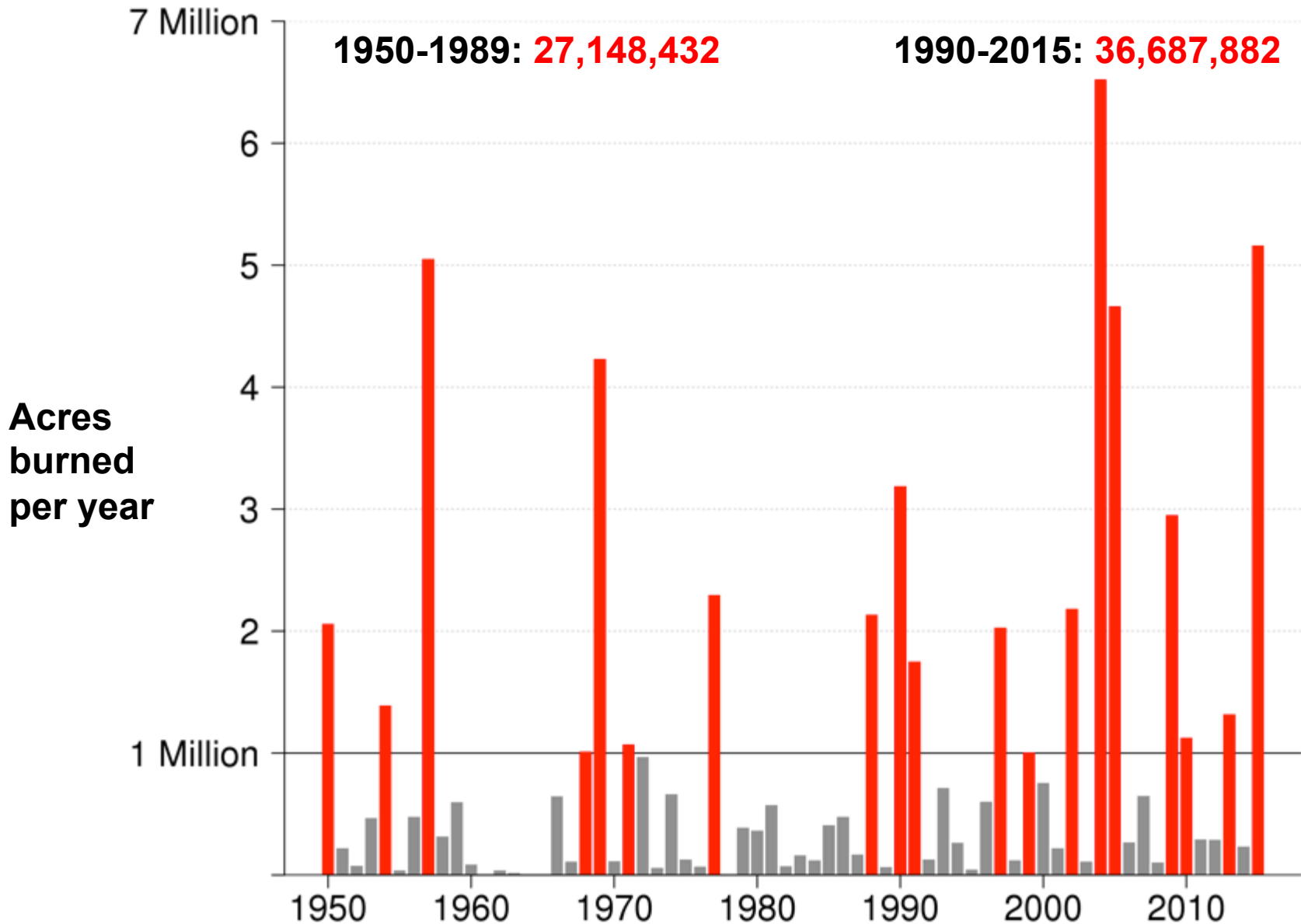


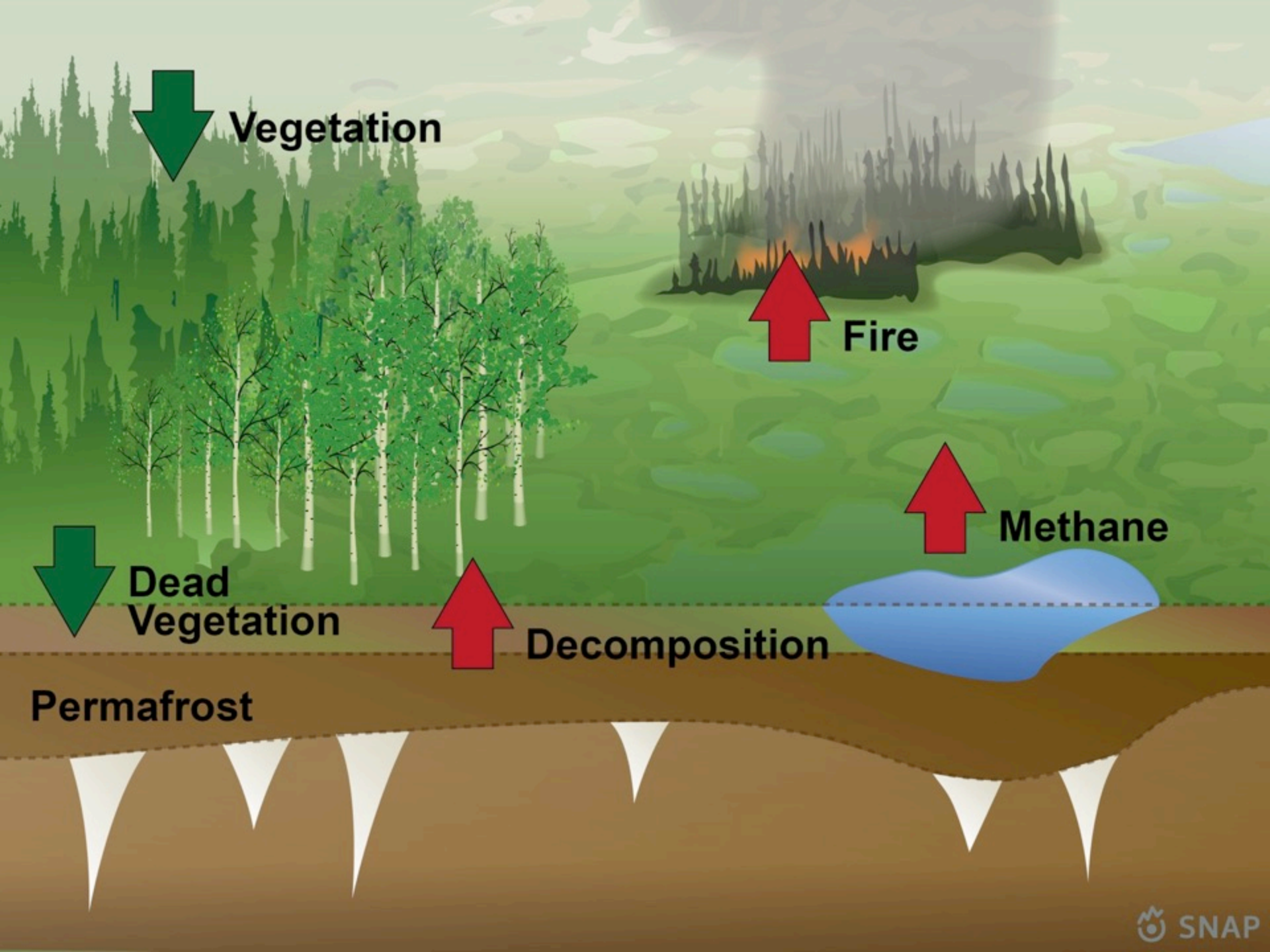
Alaska

Area burned in Alaska 1950–1989



Area burned in Alaska 1990–2015





 **Vegetation**

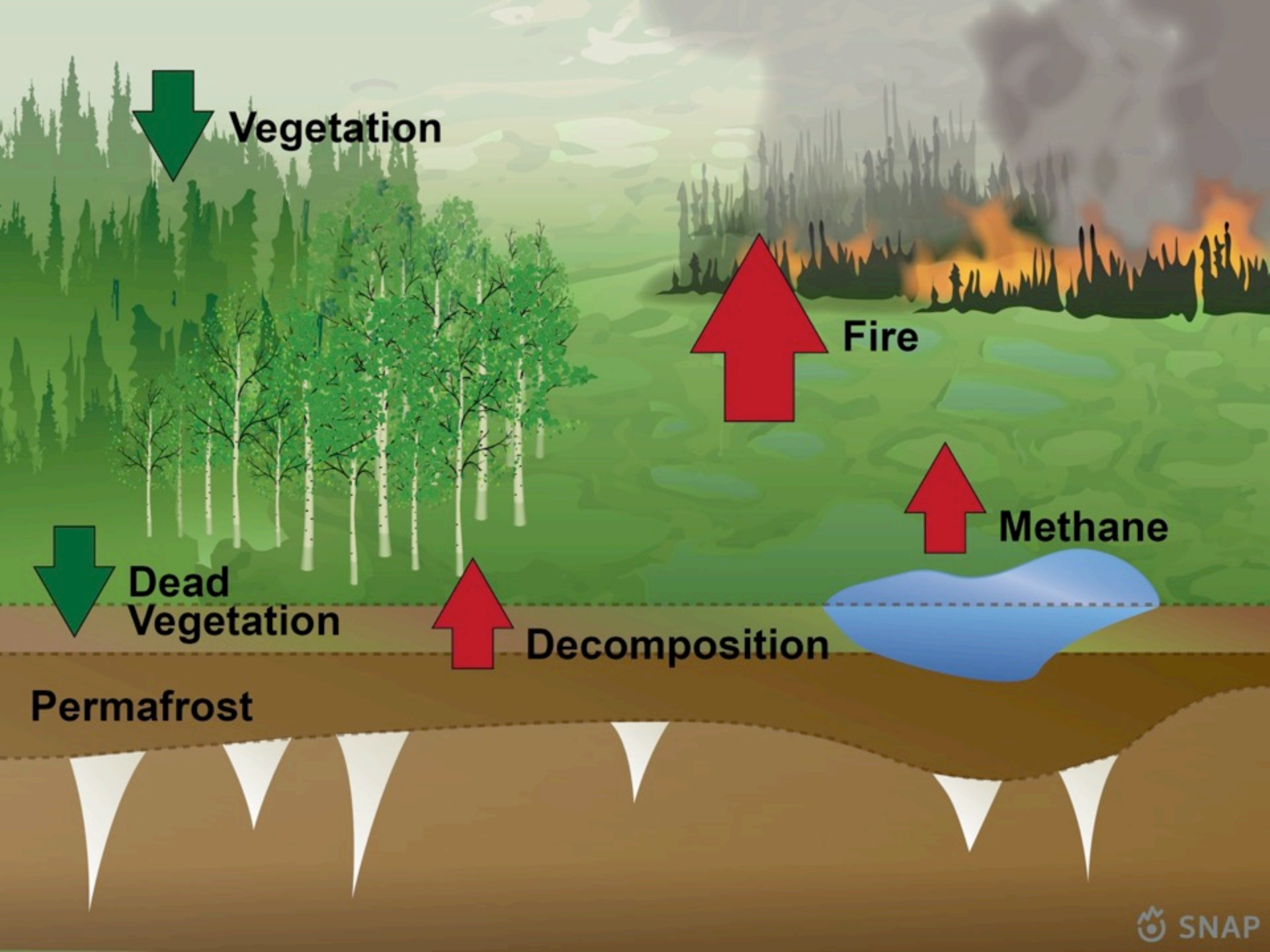
 **Fire**

 **Methane**

 **Dead
Vegetation**

 **Decomposition**

Permafrost



↓
Vegetation

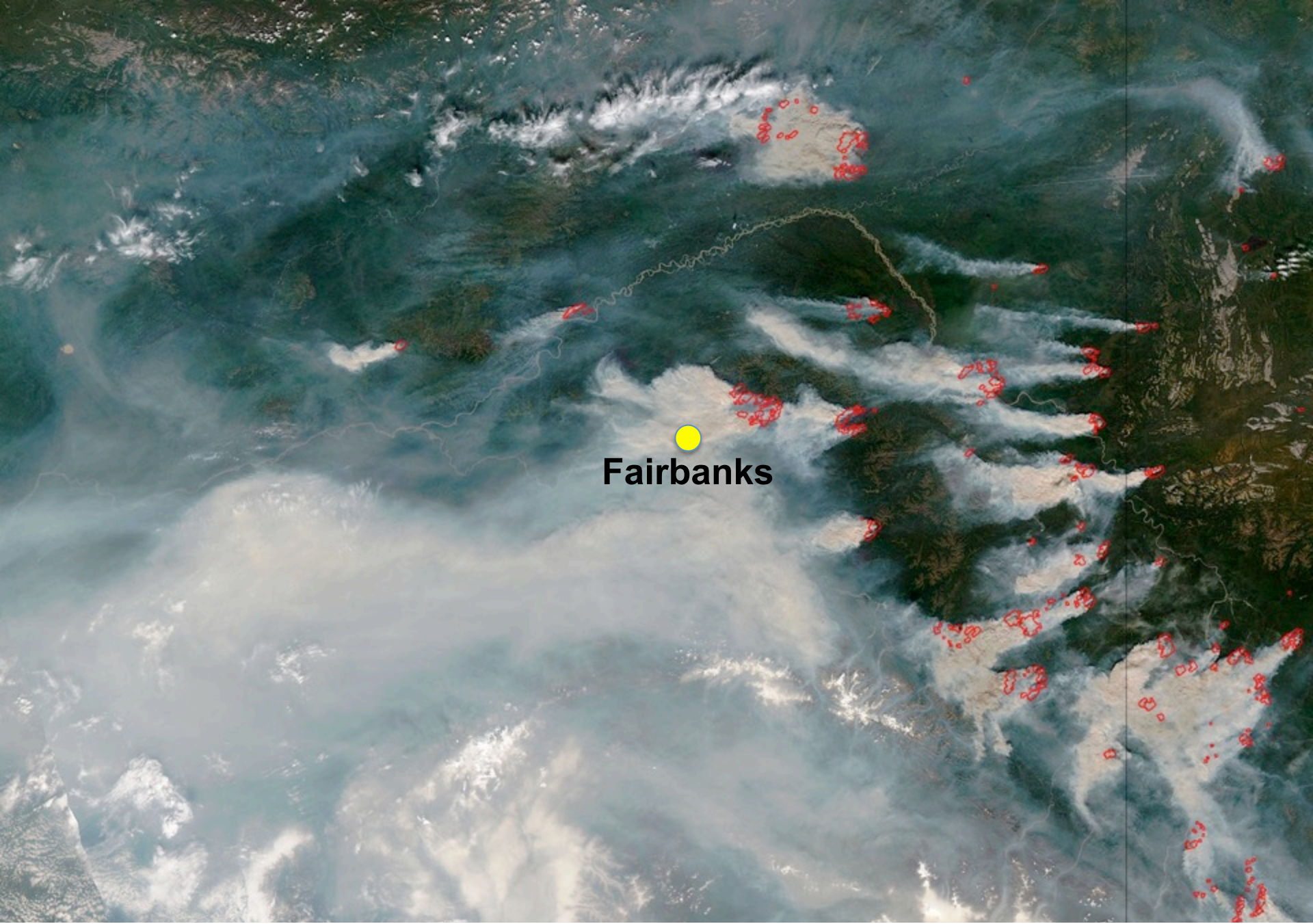
↑
Fire

↑
Methane

↓
**Dead
Vegetation**

↑
Decomposition

Permafrost





Fairbanks, Alaska, engulfed in forest fire smoke (July 2004)



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Number of days Fairbanks met or exceeded the “unhealthy for sensitive groups” air quality level in summer 2015.

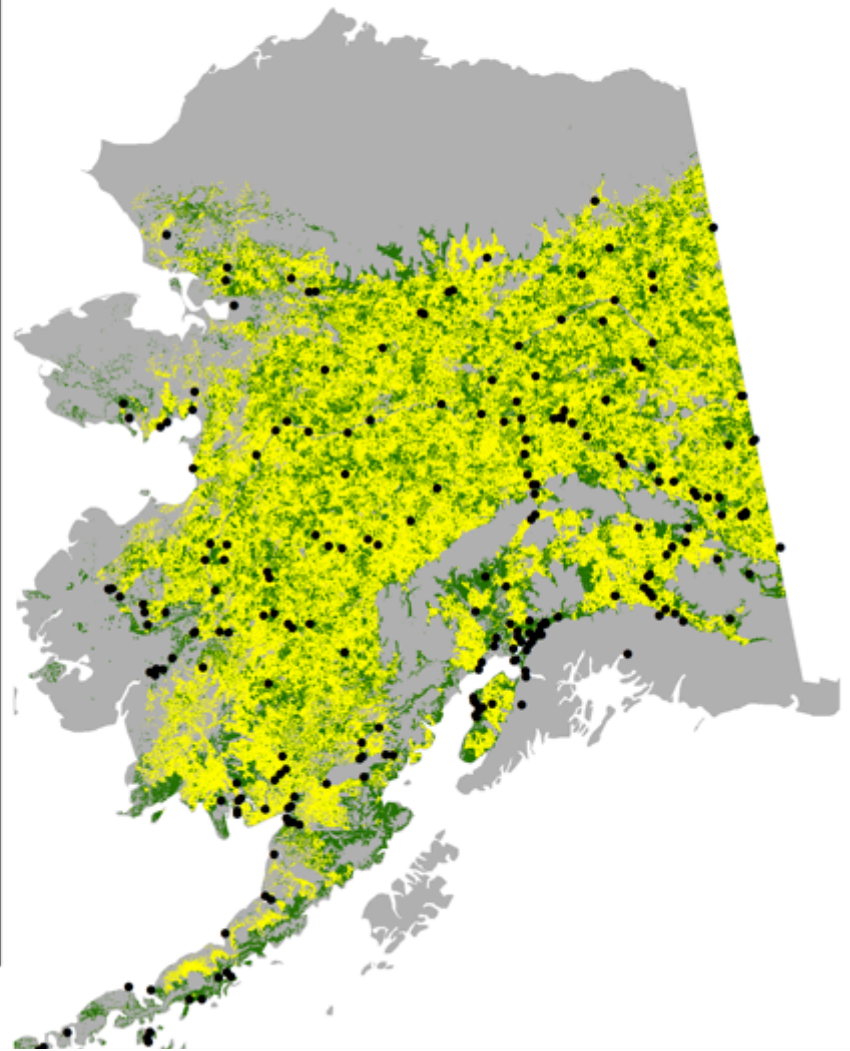
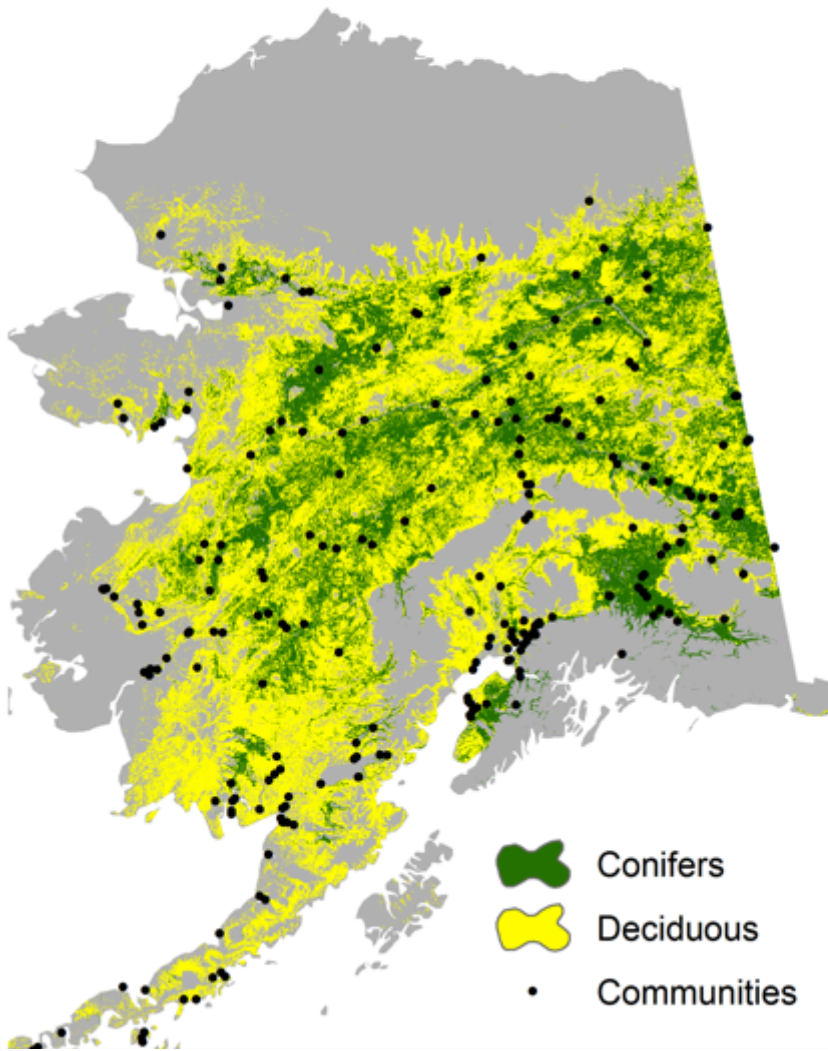
8

Number of those days on which the air quality in Fairbanks was worse than the average air quality in Beijing.

Changing vegetation

2005

2100



-  Conifers
-  Deciduous
-  Communities

Habitat change and subsistence

