

# PLUMAS COUNTY FIRE RETURN INTERVAL DEPARTURE (FRID)

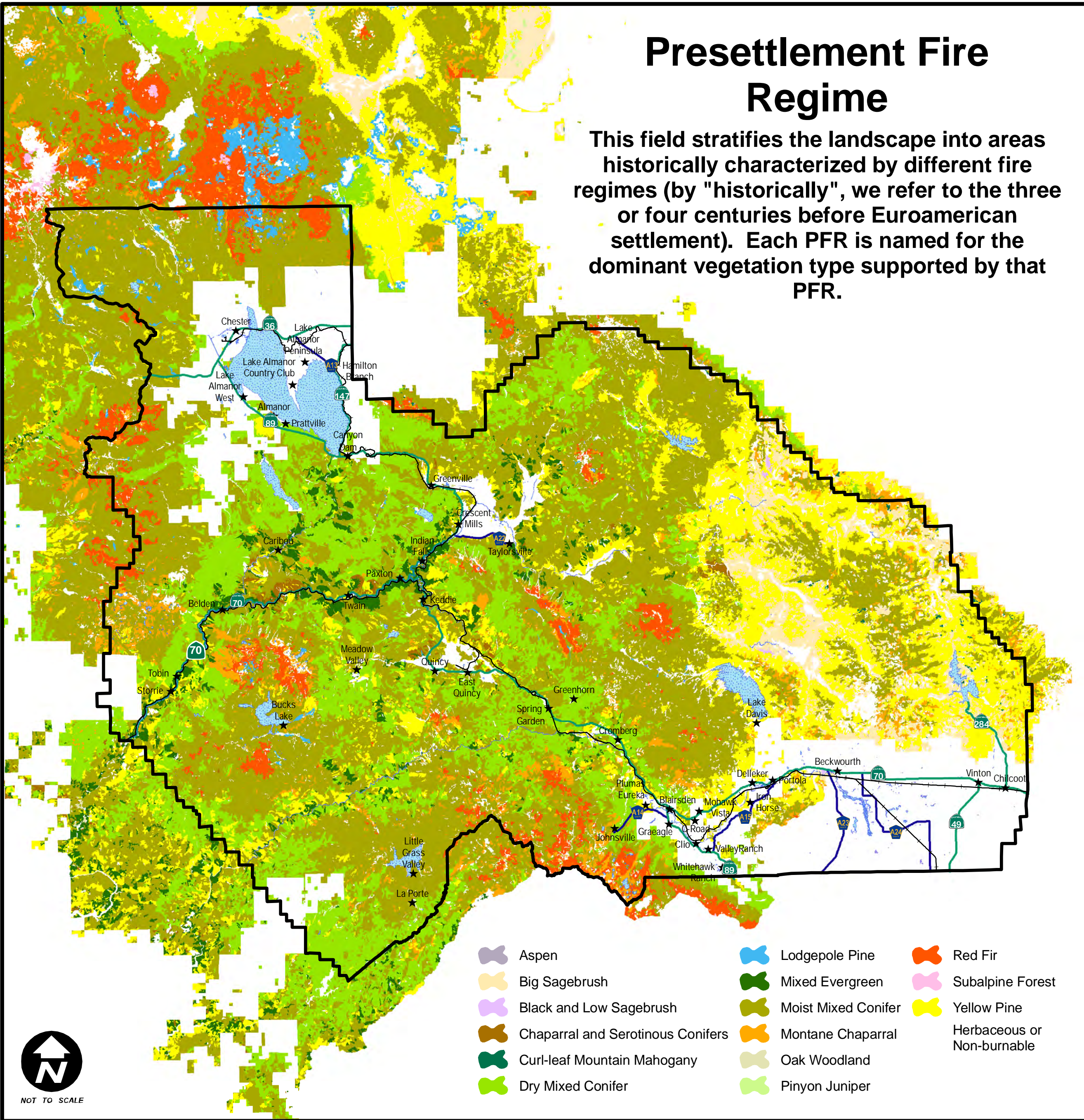
**Abstract:**  
This map consists of information compiled about fire return intervals for major vegetation types on the Plumas and Lassen National Forests in California. Comparisons are made between preEuroamerican settlement and contemporary fire return intervals (FRIs). Current departures from the pre-Euroamerican settlement FRIs are calculated based on mean, median, minimum, and maximum FRI values.



**Plumas County GIS**  
Map Duplicated from USFS Sources for Plumas County  
Map Prepared by: Becky Osborn, GIS Planner  
Source: Plumas\_FRID\_Overview.mxd  
Date Created: January 25, 2012  
  
Cite: Safford, H.D., K. van de Water, and D. Schmidt. 2011.  
California Fire Return Interval Departure (FRID) map, 2010 version.  
USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region  
and The Nature Conservancy-California.  
URL: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/rs/clearinghouse/r5gis/frid/>

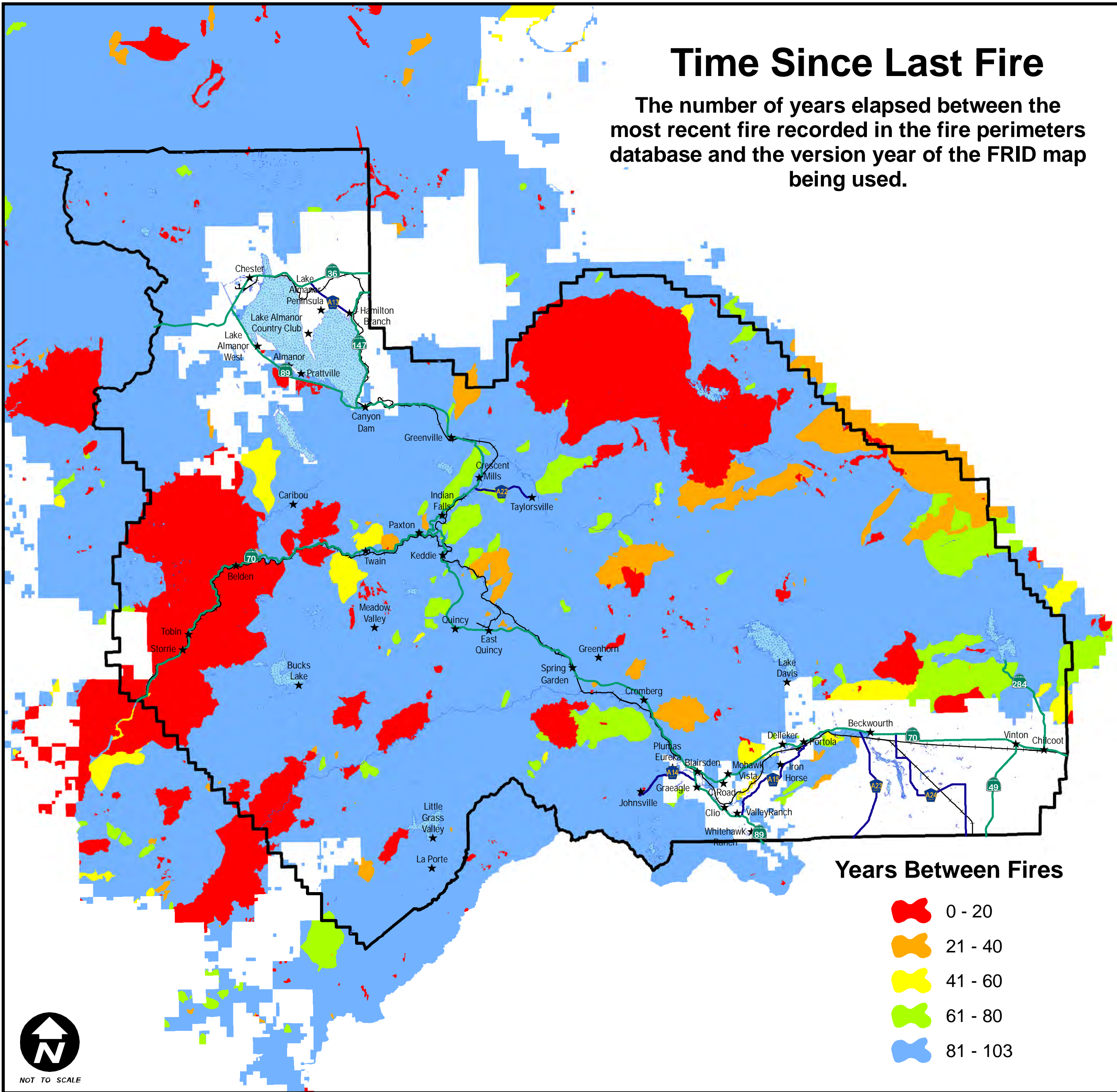
## Presettlement Fire Regime

This field stratifies the landscape into areas historically characterized by different fire regimes (by "historically", we refer to the three or four centuries before Euroamerican settlement). Each PFR is named for the dominant vegetation type supported by that PFR.



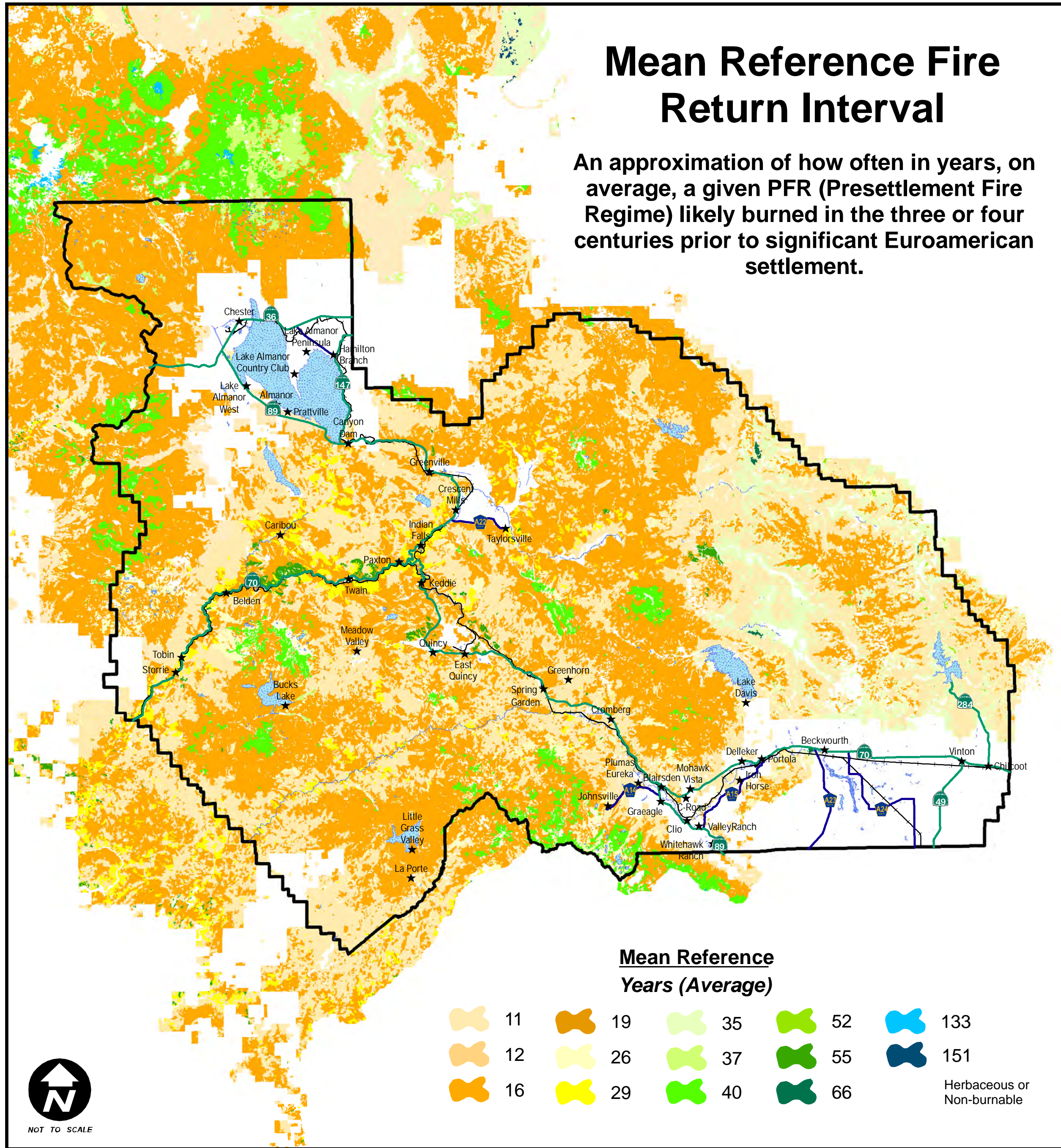
## Time Since Last Fire

The number of years elapsed between the most recent fire recorded in the fire perimeters database and the version year of the FRID map being used.



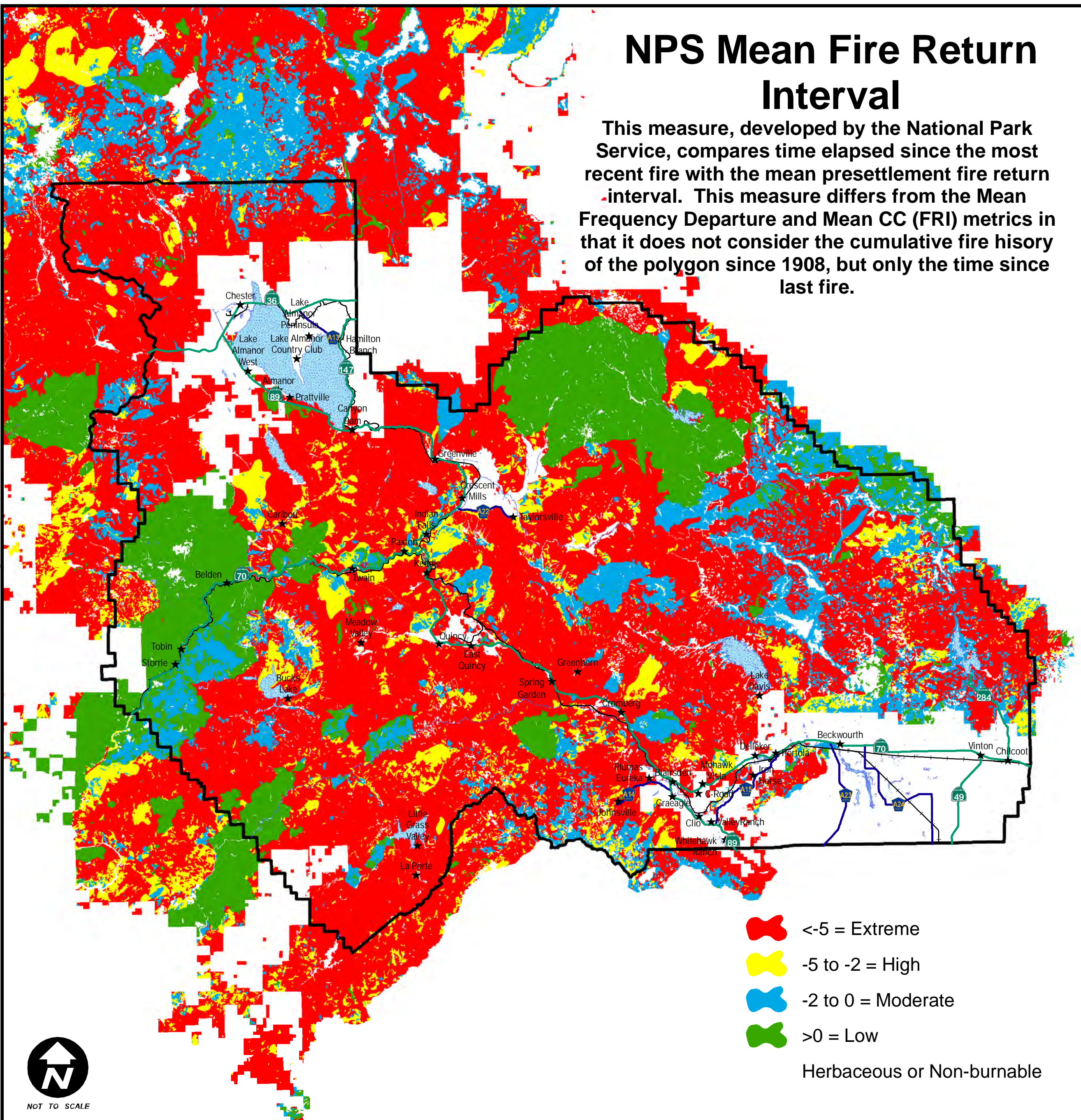
## Mean Reference Fire Return Interval

An approximation of how often in years, on average, a given PFR (Presettlement Fire Regime) likely burned in the three or four centuries prior to significant Euroamerican settlement.



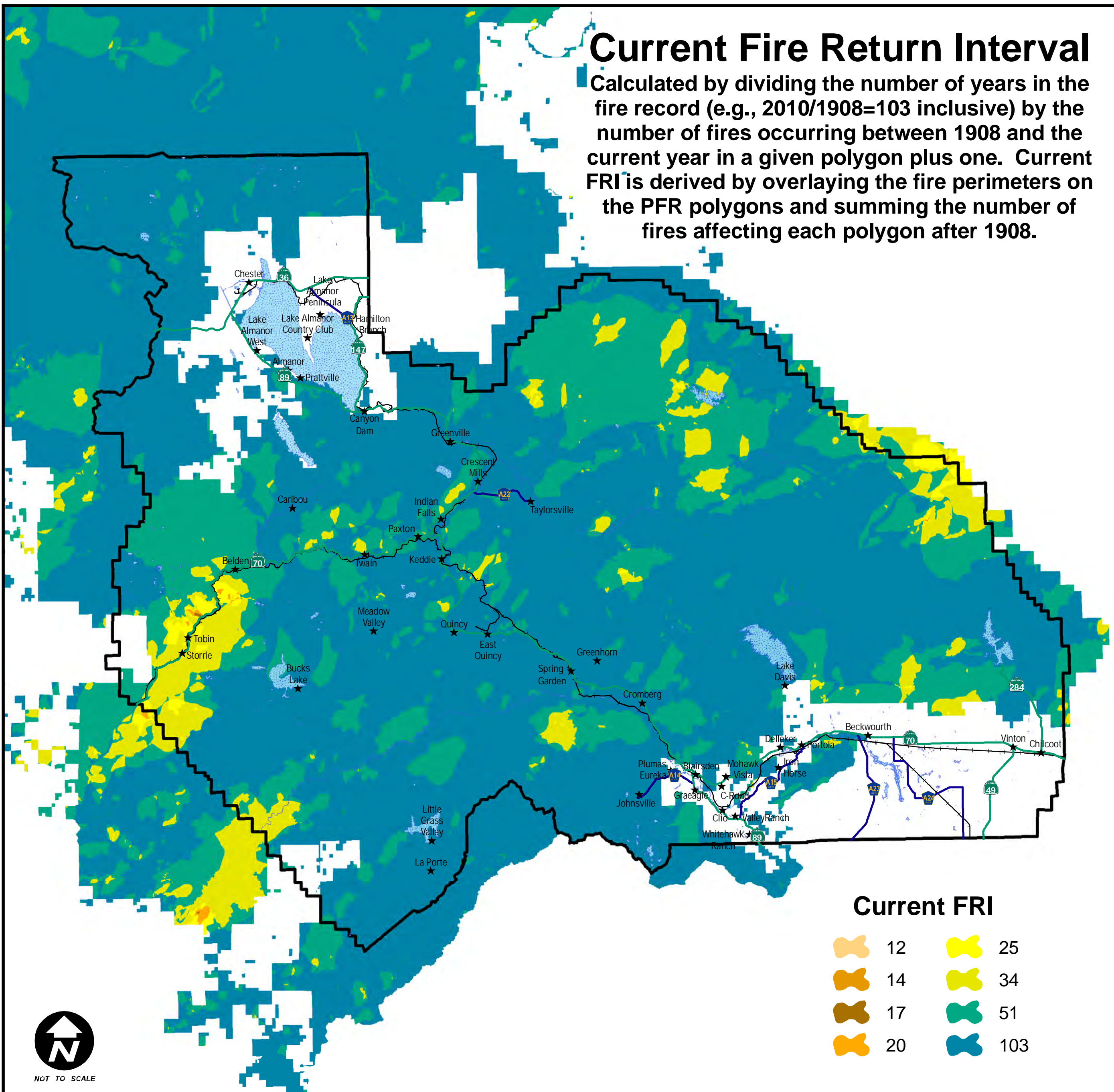
## NPS Mean Fire Return Interval

This measure, developed by the National Park Service, compares time elapsed since the most recent fire with the mean presettlement fire return interval. This measure differs from the Mean Frequency Departure and Mean CC (FRI) metrics in that it does not consider the cumulative fire history of the polygon since 1908, but only the time since last fire.



## Current Fire Return Interval

Calculated by dividing the number of years in the fire record (e.g., 2010/1908=103 inclusive) by the number of fires occurring between 1908 and the current year in a given polygon plus one. Current FRI is derived by overlaying the fire perimeters on the PFR polygons and summing the number of fires affecting each polygon after 1908.



## Mean Condition Class (FRI)

A classified version of the mean frequency departure map, using condition class categories. CC I is within 33% of the mean reference fire return interval (i.e. it is probably within the historical range of variability for mean FRI); CC II and CC-III are considered to be moderately departed from the presettlement range (positive CC refers to area that are burning less often than before Euroamerican settlement, negative CC refers to area that are burning more often). CCIII and CC-III are strongly departed from the presettlement range (with the same relationship between negative and positive CC).

