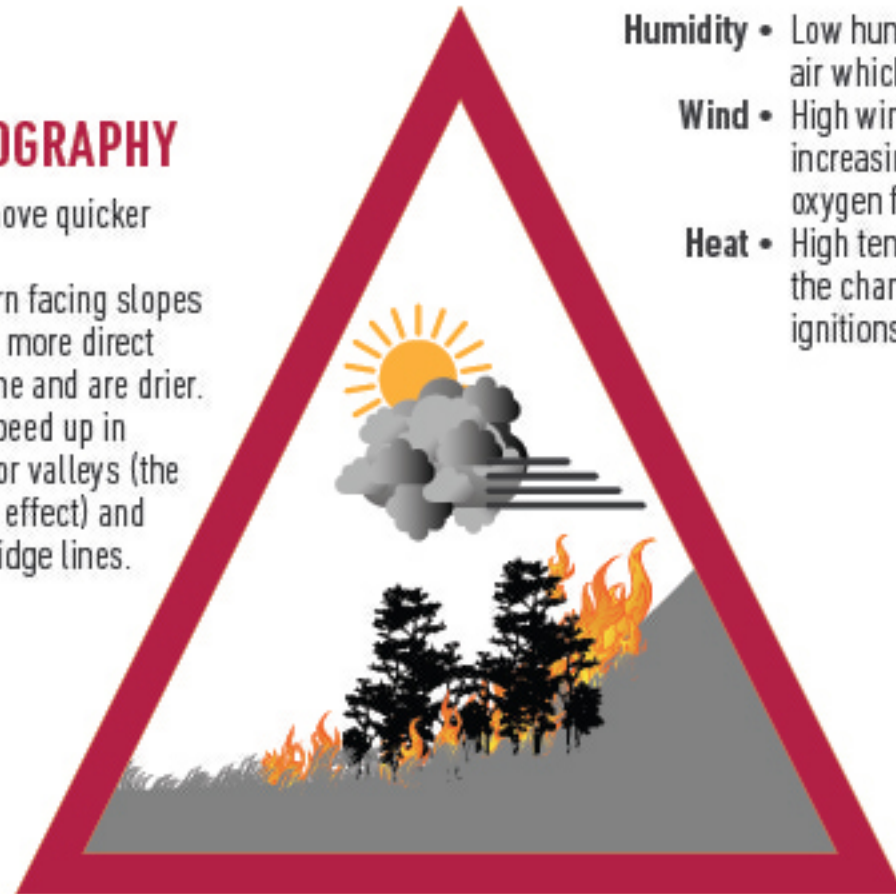


# WILDFIRE READY: FIRE BEHAVIOUR

There are three primary factors that have an effect on the Rate of Spread (ROS) of wildfire, these are the 1) Weather 2) Fuel and 3) Topography.

## TOPOGRAPHY

- Slopes** • Fires move quicker uphill.
- Aspect** • Northern facing slopes receive more direct sunshine and are drier.
- Features** • Fires speed up in kloofs or valleys (the venturi effect) and along ridge lines.



## WEATHER

- Humidity** • Low humidity means drier air which aids easy ignition.
- Wind** • High winds fan flames increasing the amount of oxygen fed into the fire.
- Heat** • High temperatures increase the chances of easy ignitions.

## FUEL

- Moisture** • When vegetation is drier, such as in the afternoon or during a drought period.
- Continuity** • Where vegetation is dense or compact.
- Fine or Heavy** • Grasses and Fynbos carry fire easily; whereas trees may take longer to ignite but will burn hotter and for longer.

Understanding what Influences a Wildfire is vital for your Safety.



# Wildfire is Coming Are you #WildfireReady?