

THE

ECO SYSTEM

IS COLLAPSING

FIRES IN GREECE

Hundreds of forest fires broke out in the summer of 2021 in Greece, most of them in August due to unprecedented heat turning a total of 1,301,239 acres and households into ashes. 3 people got killed and at least 20 got injured.

A historic heatwave record for the country was broken, with the highest temperatures reaching 47.1 °C (116.8 °F). Authorities had to evacuate several residential areas, such as villages and towns, putting the lives of their own in danger. According to BBC News, this was the worst heatwave to be recorded since 1987 in Greece. These fires were the worst fires in Greece since the 2007 Greek forest fires which burnt more than double the area (270,000 hectares) of the 2021 fires (125,000 hectares).

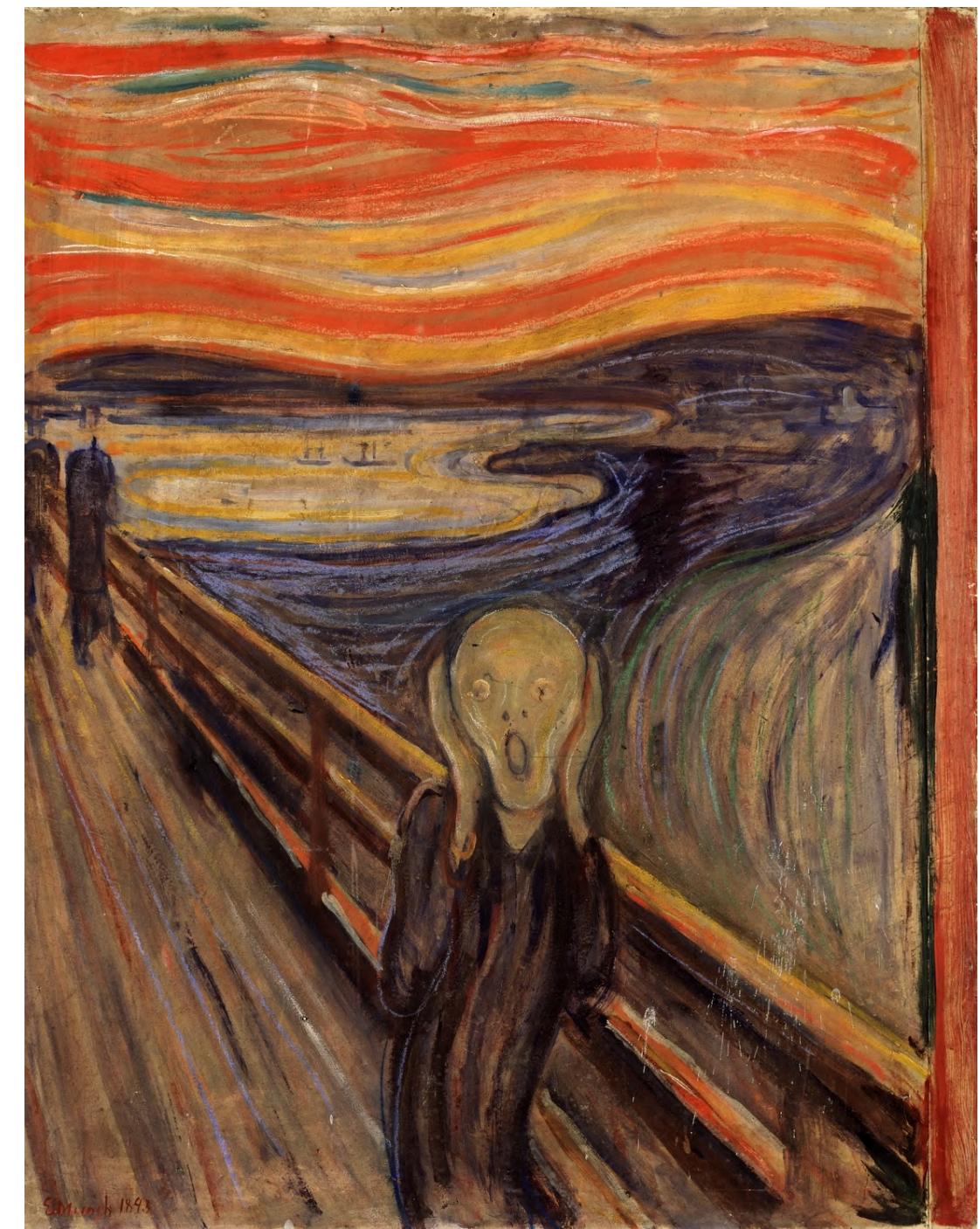


The fire started on August 3 from Central Evia.
For ten consecutive days it burned everything
in its path resulting in more than 512,000 acres of
burned forest.

Records speak of more than 512,000 hectares of
burned forest,
making the disaster the biggest ever in Greece from a
fire.

Residents, volunteers and firefighters fought
the fire non-stop for days,
with their lives constantly in danger.

THE INCIDENT OF EVIA 2021





Ships leaving the Lake Evia for Central Greece, with inhabitants who had no other escape route, sailing in a sea red from the mirage of the fire.

The ramifications of the disaster, mainly for the residents of the area but not only for them, are many.

The consequences were also disastrous for those involved in tourism, since they have started a race to be able to repair the burnt area by the next tourist season.

THE EVENT OF 2007

The 2007 Greek forest fires were a series of massive forest fires that broke out in several areas across Greece throughout the summer of 2007. The most destructive and lethal infernos broke out on 23 August, expanded rapidly and raged out of control until 27 August, until they were finally put out in early September. The fires mainly affected western and southern Peloponnese as well as southern Euboea. The death toll in August alone stood at 67 people. In total 84 people lost their lives because of the fires, including several fire fighters.



Hot temperatures, including three consecutive of over 40 °C (105 °F), and severe drought rendered the 2007 summer unprecedented in modern Greek history. From the end of June to early September, over 3,000 forest fires were recorded across the nation. Nine more people were killed in blazes in June and July.



Total of 2,700 square kilometers (670,000 acres) of forest, olive groves and farmland were destroyed in the fires, which was the worst fire season on record in the past 50 years. Of the total of 2,700 km², 1,500 km² (370,000 acres) were burnt forests in Southern Greece alone which meant that 4% of Greece's total forest area burnt in 2007 alone. Many buildings were also destroyed in the blaze. The fire destroyed 1,000 houses and 1,100 other buildings, and damaged hundreds more.





ATTICA'S 2018 TRAGEDY

A series of wildfires in Greece, during the 2018 European heat wave, began in the coastal areas of Attica in July 2018. 104 people were confirmed dead from the Mati fires (the last died in October 2022, from health problems which was caused because of the fire). The fires were the second-deadliest wildfire event in the 21st century, after the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires in Australia that killed 173.



Over 700 residents were evacuated or rescued, mainly from the seaside settlements located north of the port town of Rafina, namely Kokkino Limanaki and Mati, where rescuers found 26 corpses trapped just metres away from the sea, apparently hugging each other as they died. Boats also recovered corpses from the water, and rescued hundreds of people from beaches and the sea. Two heroic people drowned when the boat rescuing them from a hotel in Mati capsized. More than 4,000 residents were affected by the wildfires.

"THE COUNTRY IS GOING THROUGH AN UNSPEAKABLE TRAGEDY".

The Greek prime minister Alexis Tsipras declared a state of emergency in Attica, and announced a three-day period of national mourning, stating in a televised address

THANK YOU!

Sofia Salvaridou
Ioanna Stavreti

SOURCES: [HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/2021_GREECE_WILDFIRES](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Greece_wildfires)
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