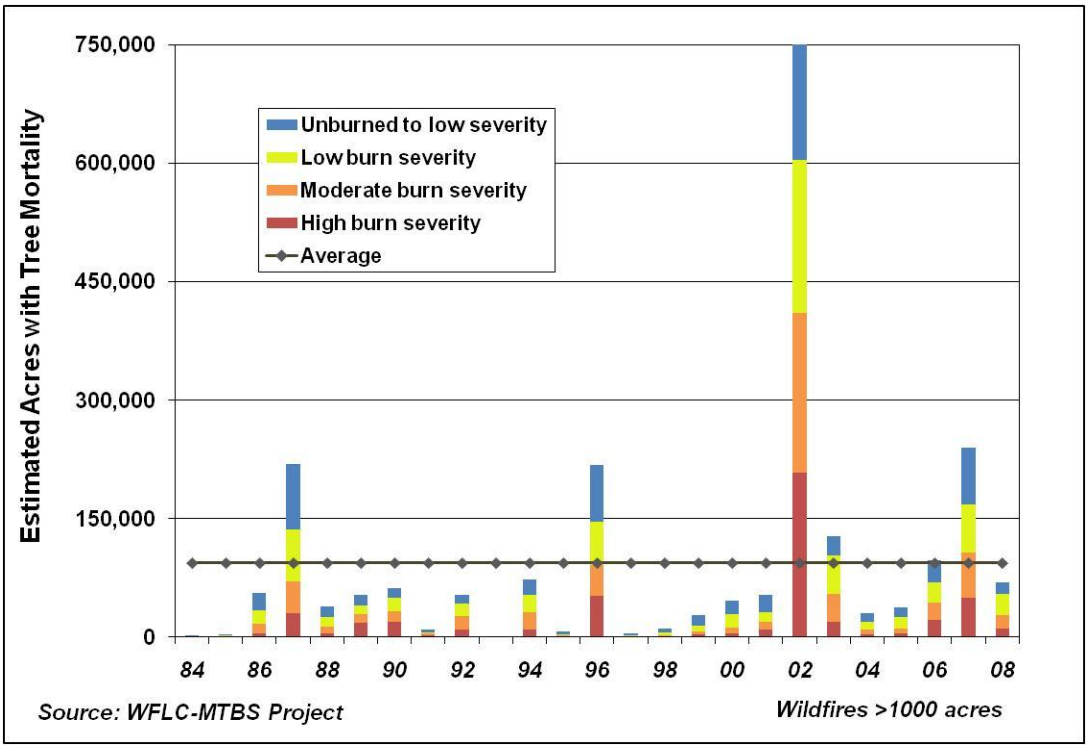
Figure 6: Estimated annual area (acres) burned by large wildfires and the long-term average on Oregon forest lands as assessed by remote-sensing (1984-2008). [1, 2, 3]



[1] Data provided by the Northwest Interagency Coordinating Center's Pacific Northwest Wildfire Coordinating Group (PNWCG) and the Wildland Fire Leadership Council's Monitoring Trends in Burn Severity (MTBS) project. Large wildfires (>1000 acres) accounted for >97% of burned areas over the last decade in the Pacific Northwest.

[2] The remote sensing index used to determine burn severity categories is the differenced Normalized Burn Ratio (dNBR). Classifications were determined from dNBR image patterns, relying on the combined experience and observed performance from previous studies.

[3] The burn severity category descriptions are complex and have many components, but may be described generally in terms of the degree of estimated overstory canopy loss: Unburned to Low (≤25%), Low (>25%), Moderate (>50%), and High (>75%).