

Hi, I'm Patty Champ.

I'm a research economist in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The collaborative project I wanted to talk about is we call ourselves WiRE [phonetic], which stands for wildfire research.

It's a collaborative project that involves several different players,

What is your research

So what we're trying to do in the broad sense is facilitate development of communities that are adapted to wildfires.

So there will be wildfire on the land, but we'll see fewer homes destroyed.

And we'll see communities that are more resilient to the wildfire issue.

How are you collecting data

So we're systematically collecting data within communities at the parcel level.

So we're collecting information about what the parcel looks like with respect to wildfire risk,

as well as information about who lives there and what do they know about wildfire, what's their experience, what are they willing to do to help mitigate the problem.

How are you using the data

So then we can use this information to better understand the context in which these wildfire programs are going to be administered.

So we can move away from anecdotes that may be aren't founded in data to a better description

of what's really happening in a community.

I think one of the most interesting aspects of this program has been to see how people respond to the social data.

It really changes the discourse.

I'm amazed with how interested fire chiefs are in the responses that their residents may give to a survey.

They're interested in knowing what they really think about the topic.

