

ALERTCalifornia — the UC San Diego-CAL FIRE Camera Network Giving Early Warning Ahead of 911 Calls

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 80/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

UC San Diego's ALERTCalifornia network of 1,200+ AI-monitored cameras helped CAL FIRE respond to roughly 3,600 wildfire incidents in 2025; in over half of documented dispatches, officials were alerted before any 911 call came in, and six fires were kept under an acre.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Scalability beyond pilot	3/3
Evidence of impact / measured public value	3/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-07-30

CAL FIRE (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection) with UC San Diego's ALERTCalifornia programme — accessed 2026-07-30

ALERTCalifornia programme (UC San Diego) — accessed 2026-07-30

Route Fifty - What California has learned from an AI-enabled early wildfire detection system — accessed 2026-07-30

Cite this — Evidoria. *ALERTCalifornia — the UC San Diego-CAL FIRE Camera Network Giving Early Warning Ahead of 911 Calls*. Persistent ID: 634bb0a1-646e-4d29-92bb-688ac339ce0b.