

## New tech fights fires before they start

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It takes just one spark, and like a monster with an unquenchable appetite, wildfire can burn forests, homes and towns.

That's reason enough for the invention of the brand new Simtable, which is being used at Los Alamos National Lab.

Division leader for security and emergency operations Lyle Cary explains it can determine where fires are most likely to start and how they will behave.

"We can run dozens and dozens of simulations on this table," said Cary.

Using the latest information about past fire behavior and current terrain and weather conditions, the device is used as a preventative tool.

"It allows us to identify areas for treatment and mitigation in advance of an event," said Cary.

The Simtable was developed in New Mexico by a Santa Fe company.

Even though the Simtable is being used at Los Alamos National Lab, it can also be shared with other agencies to fight wildfires in other areas throughout our state.

"We don't exclusively keep that to ourselves. It's a capability that needs to be shared because it's in the public's interest to do that," said Cary.

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