

Review Report

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Invited Perspective: Four reasons DRR does not work as intended-lessons from the 2025 California wildfires and beyond

The revised manuscript demonstrates substantial improvement and addresses the major concerns raised previously. The authors have significantly strengthened the scientific grounding, clarified the scope and positioning as an Invited Perspective, and expanded the use of peer-reviewed literature. The manuscript now provides a clearer articulation of constraints related to awareness, capacity, incentives, and governance that interact to hinder disaster risk reduction implementation, and it improves the integration of relevant institutional insights for the 2025 California wildfires. The manuscript now better reflects its intended function as a perspective, balancing conceptual reflection with empirically grounded perceptions. For these reasons, I recommend acceptance, subject only to minor refinement as detailed below:

- i. While the paper is conceptually sound, the added value of this Perspective could be more clearly stated. A short paragraph, perhaps in the introduction or conclusion, highlighting the specific theoretical or integrative contribution (beyond existing literature) would enhance the manuscript's distinctiveness and impact.
- ii. Discussion of the institutional and regulatory landscape in California remains somewhat dispersed across sections. A brief, coherent summary explaining the core governance actors, regulatory structures, and known systemic bottlenecks would help anchor the case more firmly and directly address the concerns about contextual grounding.