

# Storms, Sensors & Strategy:

## How Midwest Risk Managers Take Back Control of Property Risk

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# The Midwest is No Longer a Stable Property Market



# What You'll Walk Away With



- Understand **evolving property risks** across the Midwest.
- Integrate **data, sensors, and strategy** into risk programs.
- Identify **actionable tools** for better insurance outcomes.

# Secondary Perils Are Now Driving Your Losses



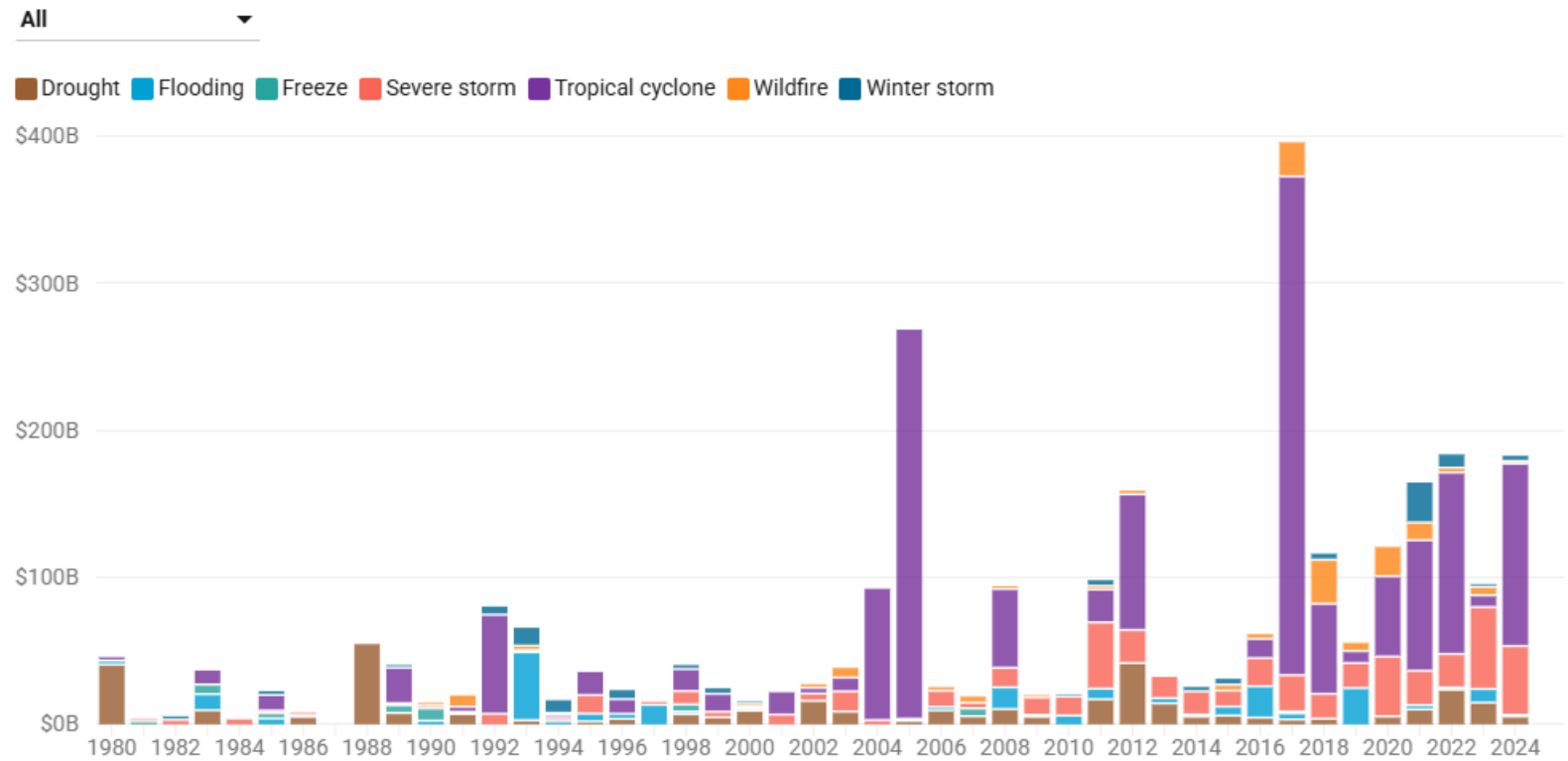
Billion-dollar Natural  
Disasters are Increasing!

**Hail, flood, wildfire,  
freeze, SCS/wind.**

Emergence of Secondary  
Perils as loss drivers.

## Costs of billion-dollar disasters are increasing

U.S. billion-dollar disaster events by (CPI-adjusted) cost and type, 1980–2024



Use menu to filter by disaster event type.

Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, "U.S. Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters (2025)" (last accessed February 2025).

Chart: Center for American Progress

# Carriers Don't Just Raise Rates . . . They've Changed the Rules

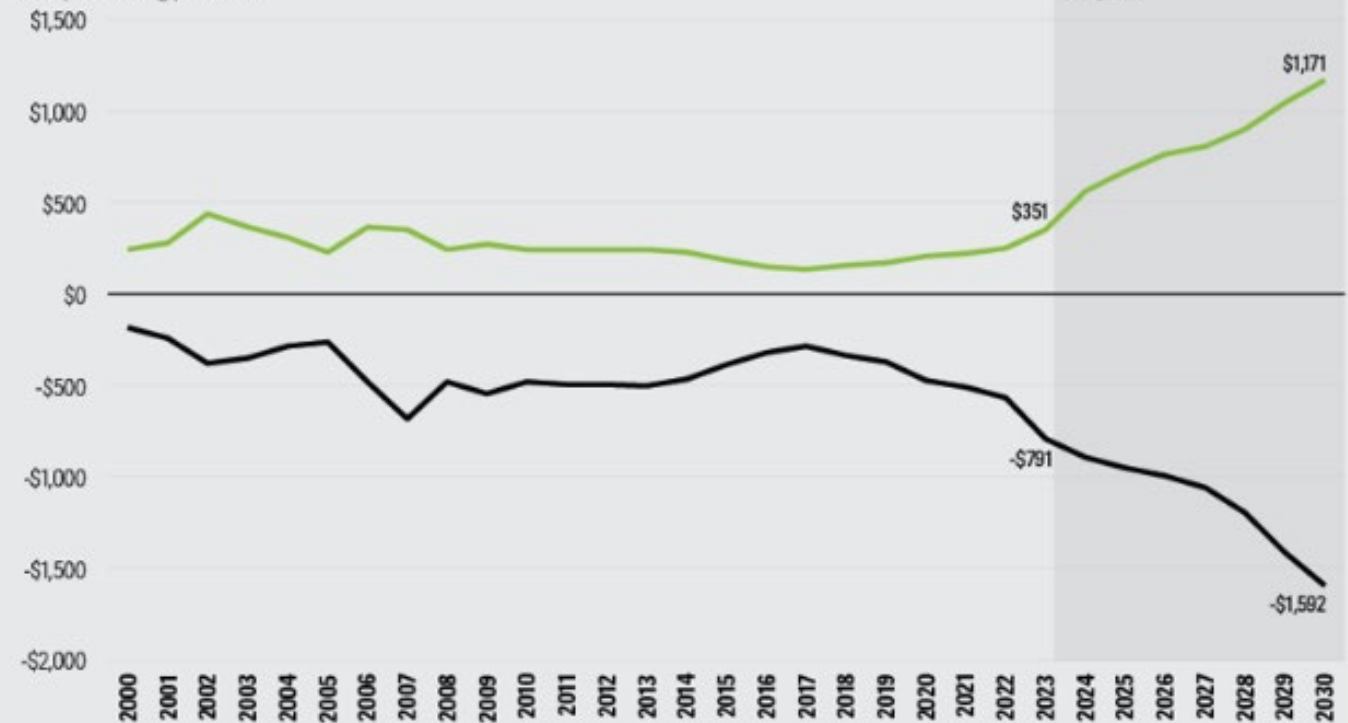
Lower Capacity.  
Higher Deductibles.  
Peril-specific Sublimits.  
Exclusionary wording.

**The delta between commercial real estate insurance costs in higher-risk states vs. lower-risk states for extreme weather expected to continue to widen**

*In US dollars*

● Higher-risk premium ● Lower-risk discount

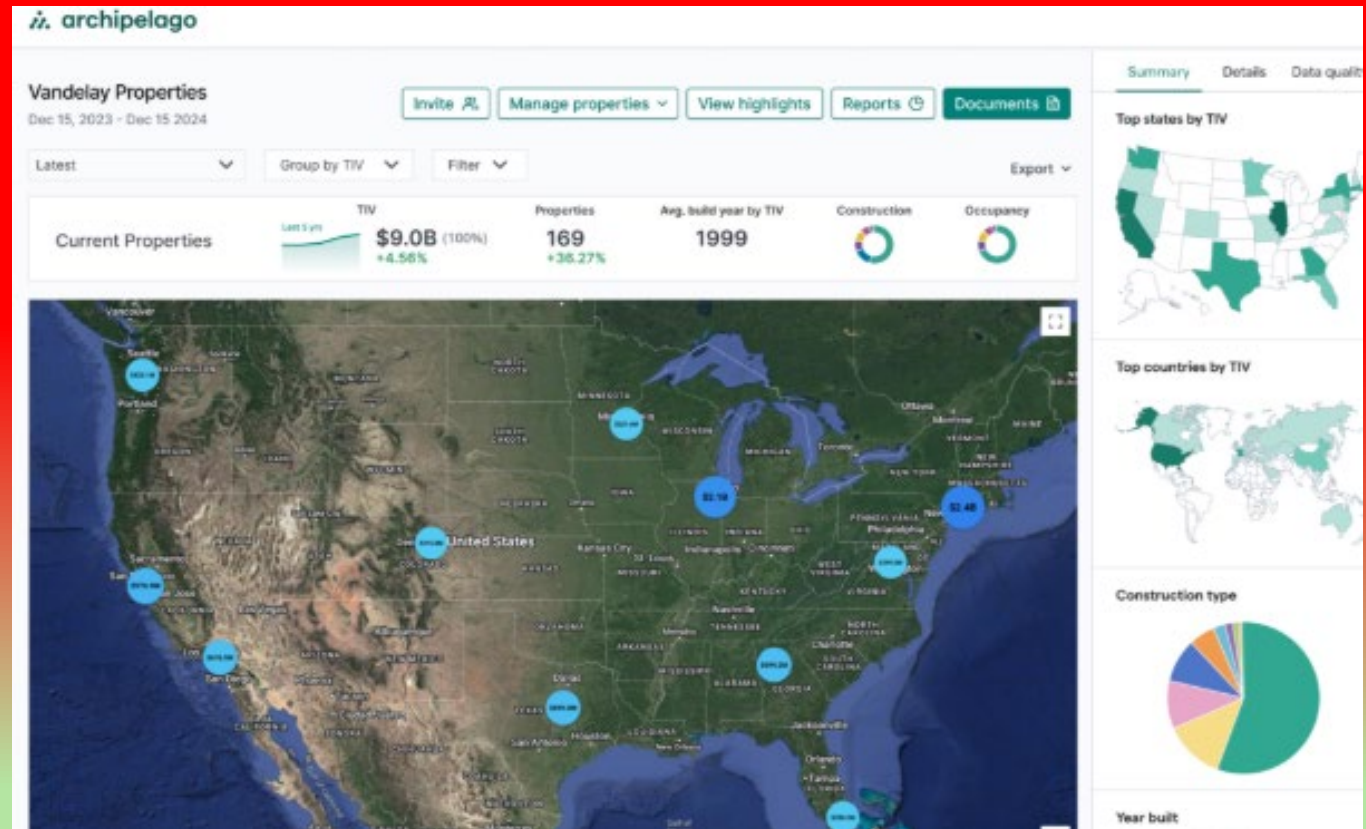
Cost per building per month



Source: Deloitte Center for Financial Services analysis of NCREIF data.

# Underwriters Are Getting Smarter & Faster Than Ever

**Predictive Analysis.**  
**CAT Modeling.**  
**Satellite Imagery.**  
**Artificial Intelligence.**  
**Real-Time Risk Scoring.**



# You Can No Longer Transfer Your Way Out of This

*How has the Hard Property Market been for you?*

- Climate volatility + aging infrastructure = capacity crunch.
- Shift: Insurance as strategy tool, not safety net.

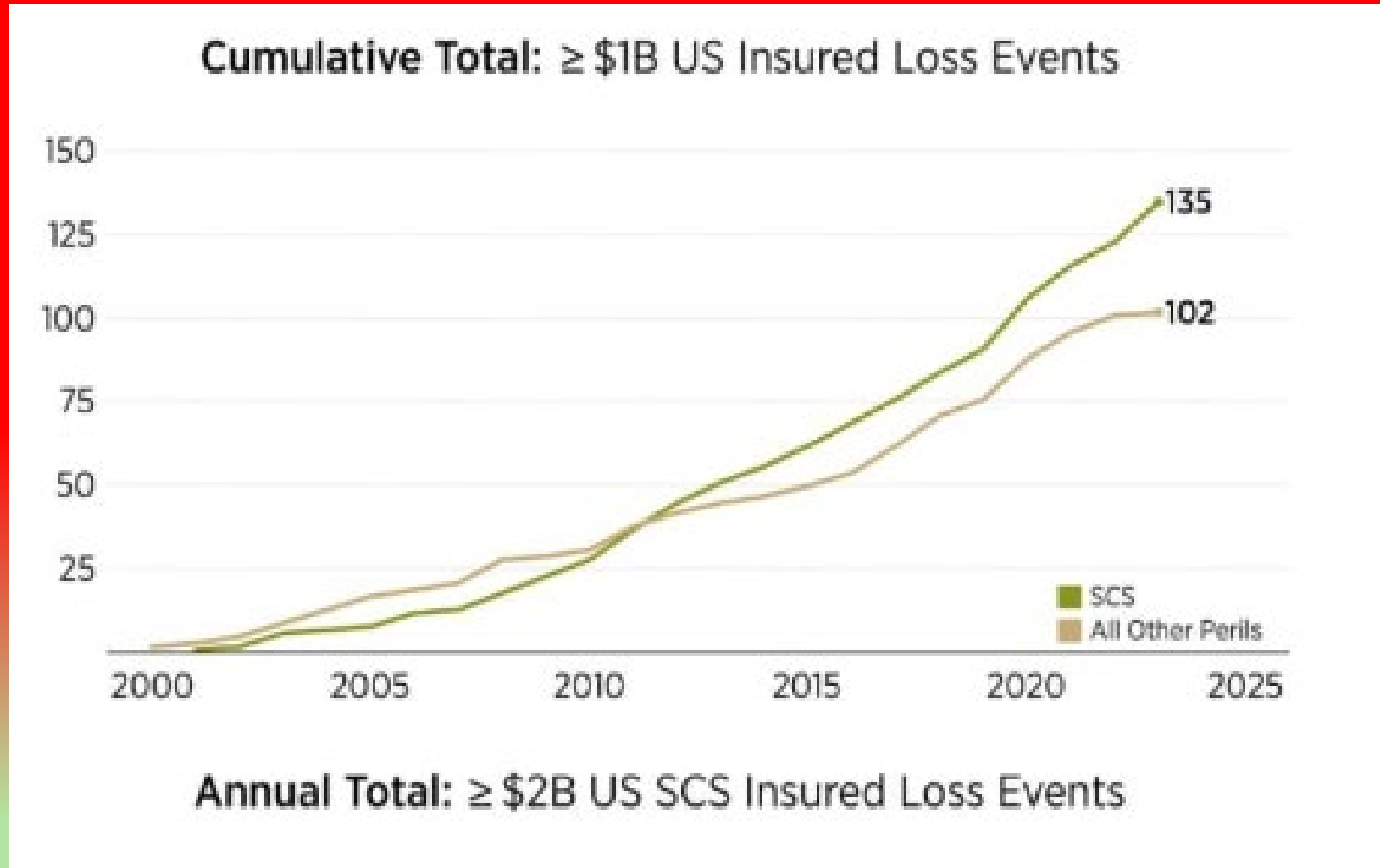


OH, HAIL NO!!!!!!

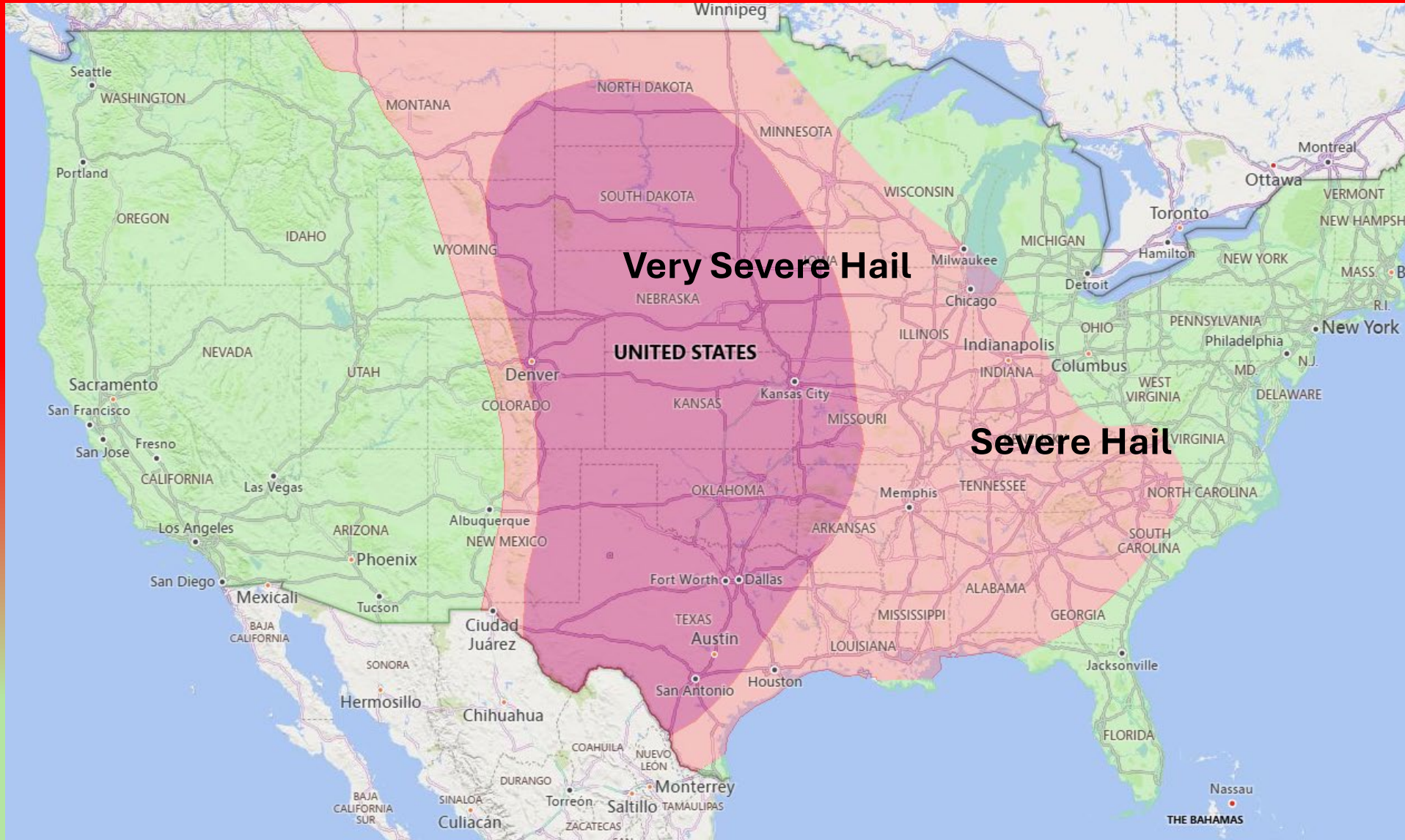


Your #1 Midwest Property Driver

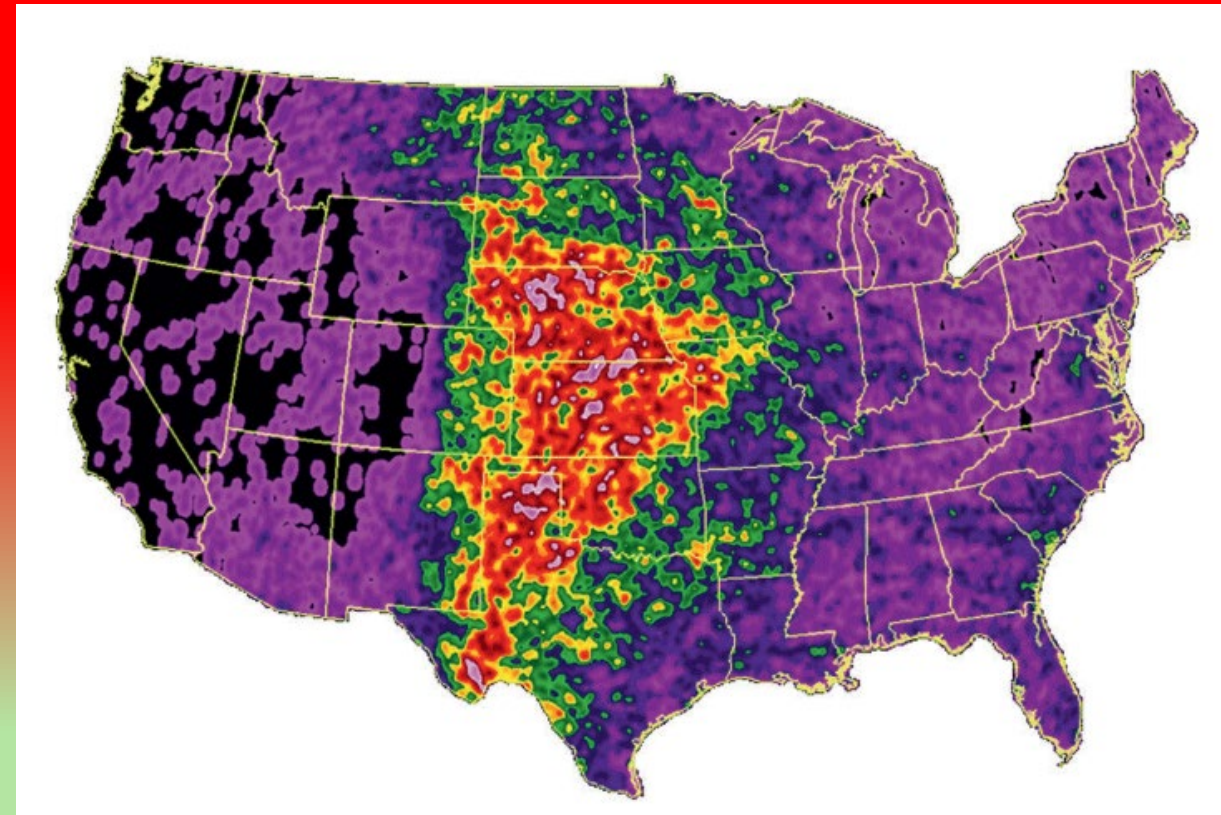
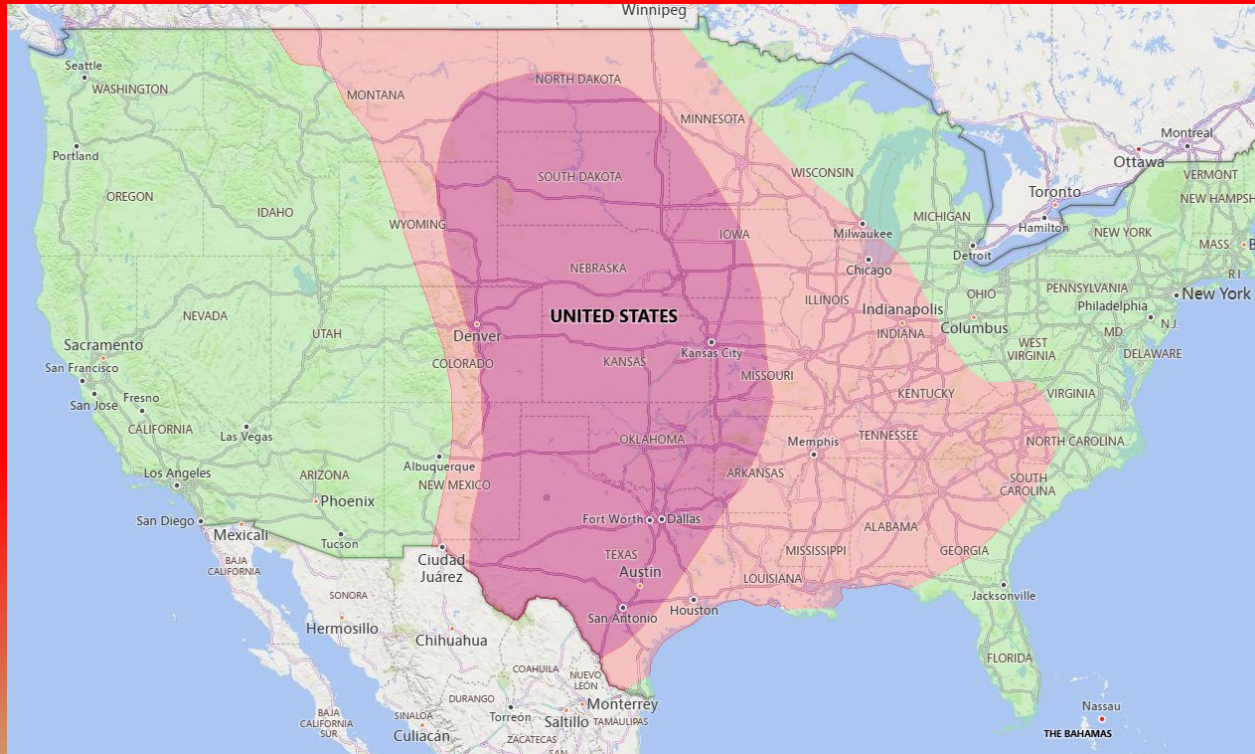
# Oh, Hail No! – A Midwest Challenge



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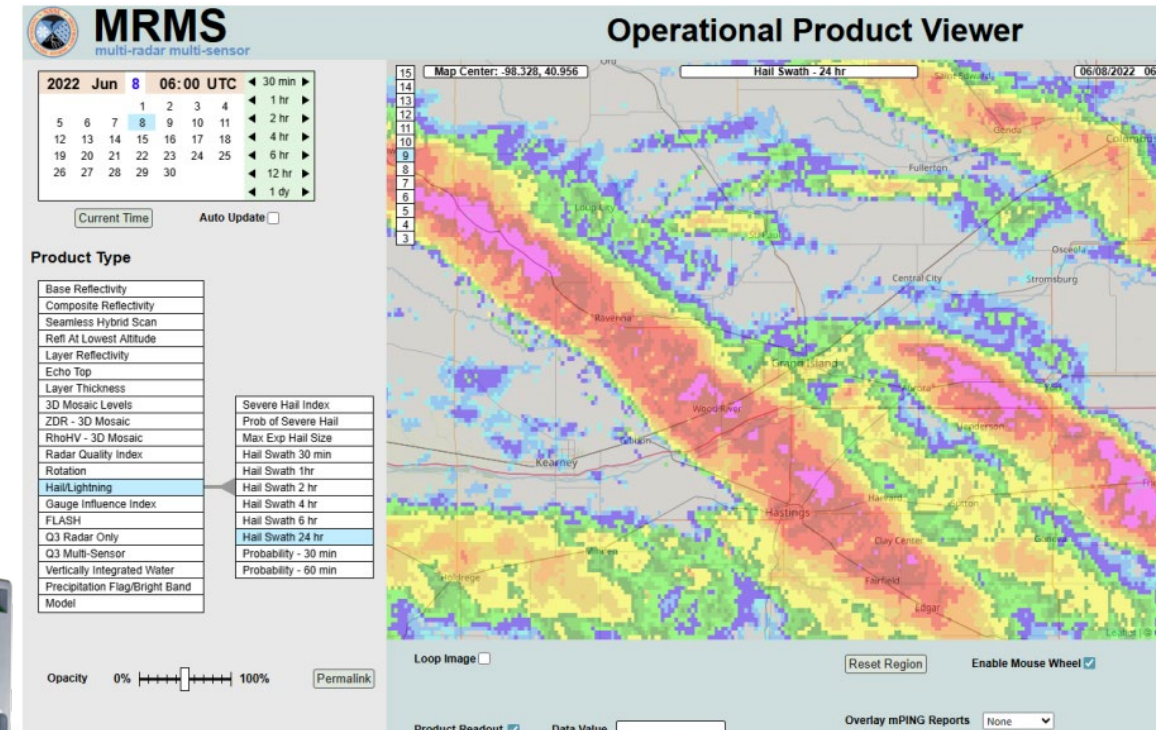
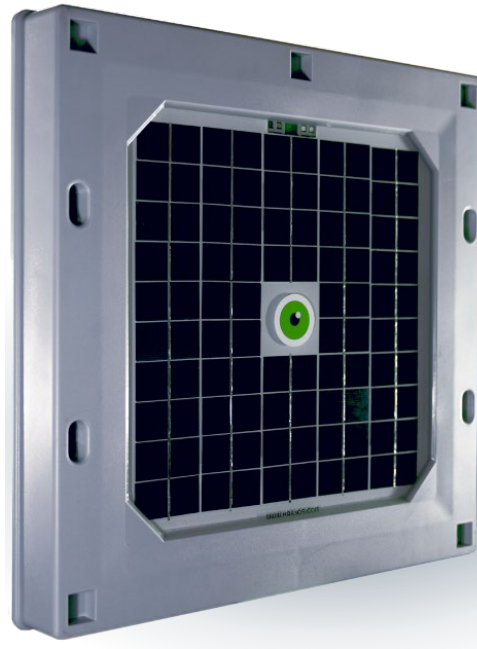


# Traditional Insurance is Losing Effectiveness

**Traditional Insurance** is shifted to percentage deductible structure.

Subject to minimum deductibles and imposed limits.

**Parametric Insurance** is triggered by the size of the hailstone, measured through radar-sensing or roof mounted sensors.



# Bigger Hail = Exponential Damage

Hail falls from the sky and impacts the roof cover.

Damage can be under the surface or penetrate the cover.

Force = Mass x Acceleration

- The greater the hailstone size, the greater the impact.



**There are factors that can exacerbate losses!!!!**

- **Age**
- **Type of Roof**
- **Roof Condition**
- **Blisters, tears, cracks?**
- **Roof Inspections?**
- **Ponding**



# Most Roof Failures Aren't Storms . . . They're Maintenance

## Things That Drive Loss:

- **Condition**
- **Drainage**
- **Debris**





# Flood and Stormwater

No Longer Just a FEMA Map Problem

# Urban Flooding is Increasing Fast

## Flooding

1980-2019 Billion-Dollar Flooding Disasters (CPI-Adjusted)



Flash flood frequency increasing in urbanized areas.

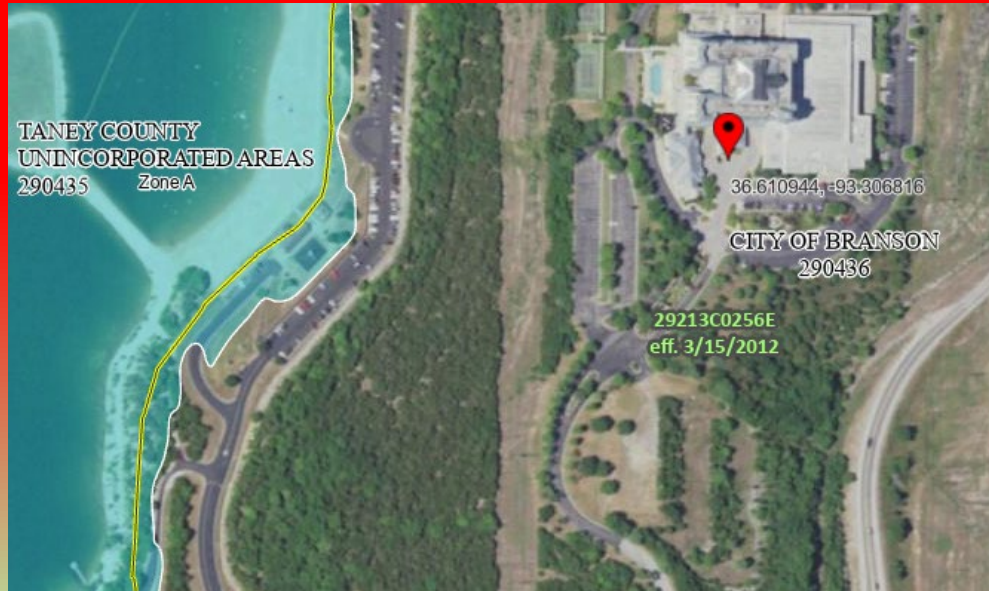
Stormwater systems often outdated or under capacity.

New development everywhere.

# Most Entities Don't Truly Understand Their Flood Exposure



Are you in a flood zone, high hazard zone, low hazard, stormwater concerns?



[www.FEMA.gov](http://www.FEMA.gov)



[www.riskmeter.corelogic.com](http://www.riskmeter.corelogic.com)

# Start With Physical Protection



**Barriers**



**Elevation**

**Relocation**



# Transfer the Risk STRATEGICALLY

## Traditional Flood Insurance

Work to build your narrative

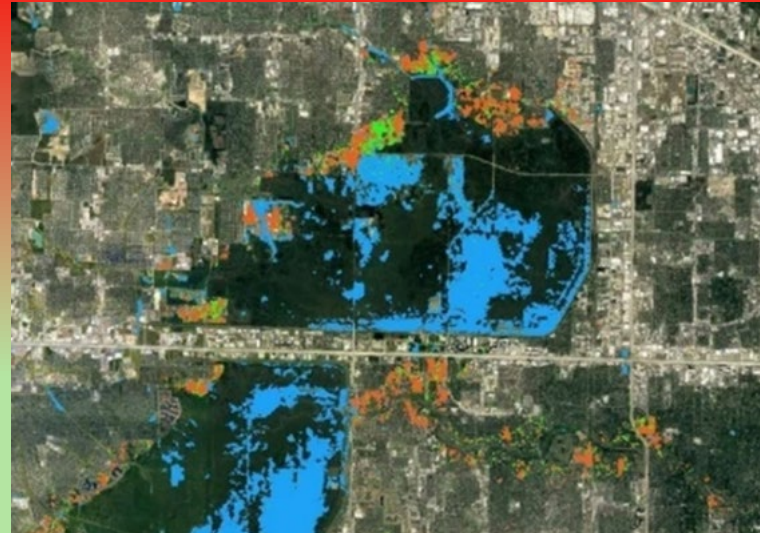


## Sensor-Based Flood Insurance (Parametric Insurance)

Sensor on-location

OR

Satellite Imagery



# Preparation is the Most Overlooked Control



## **Flood Emergency Response Plan → Pre-event & Post-event**

- Training for Pre-flood? Barriers?
- Inspect your flood protection equipment.
- Clear your gutters, ditches, and stormwater drainage equipment.

**Talk to your brokers, insurance companies, disaster relief companies.**

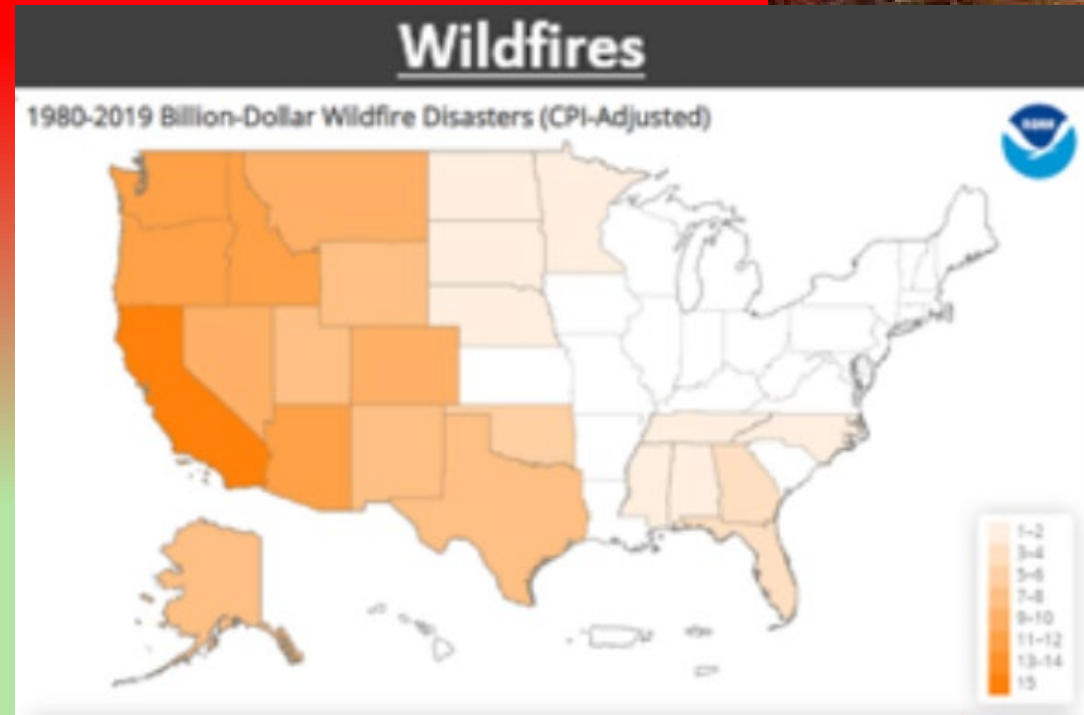
**-Get a plan in place and train for it!!!!**



# Wildfire isn't Just a Western Problem Anymore

Not as prevalent in the Midwest.

Wildfire hazards still exist and capacity is shrinking.



# Wildfire Strategies

**Defensible Space.**  
**Plan and Prepare**

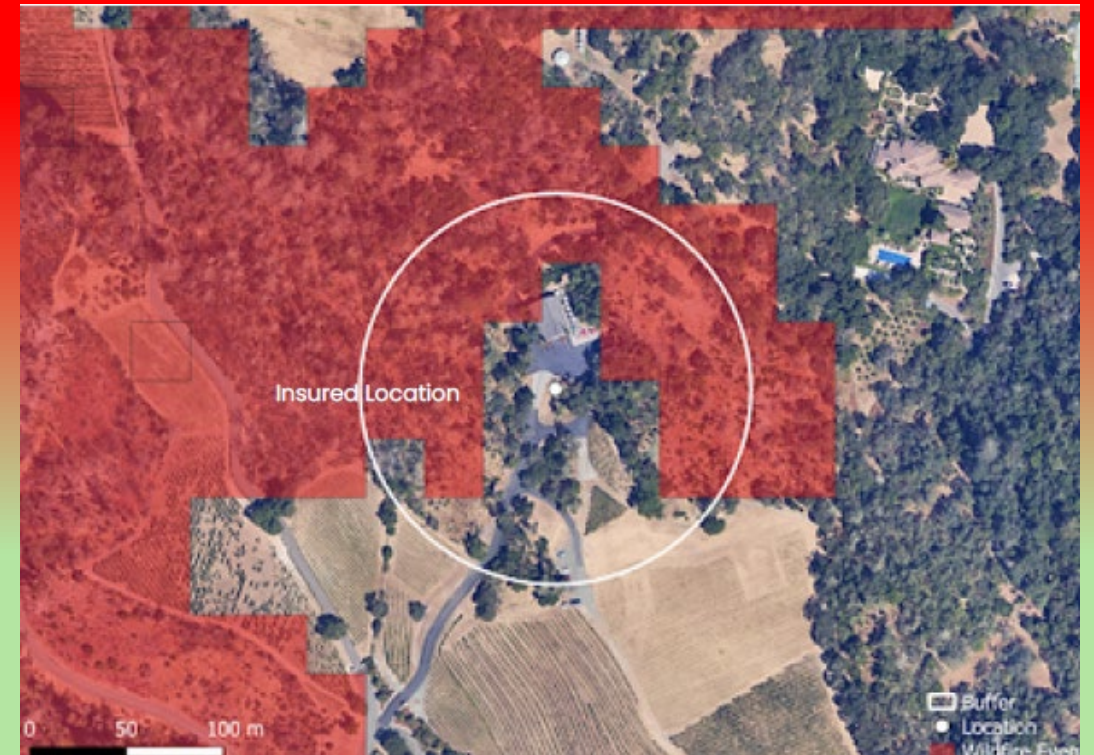
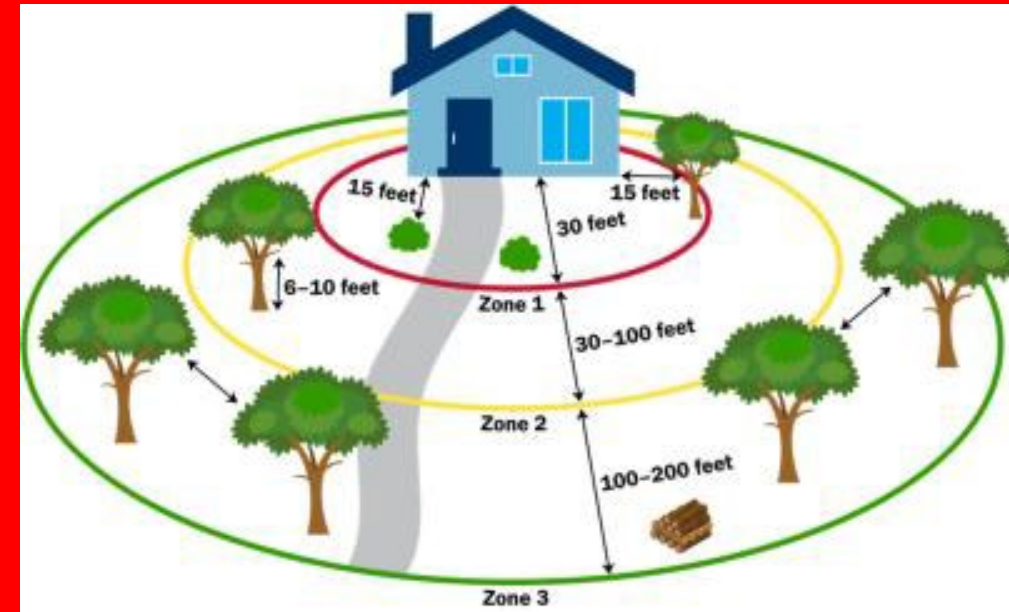
**Transfer the Risk:**

Traditional Insurance

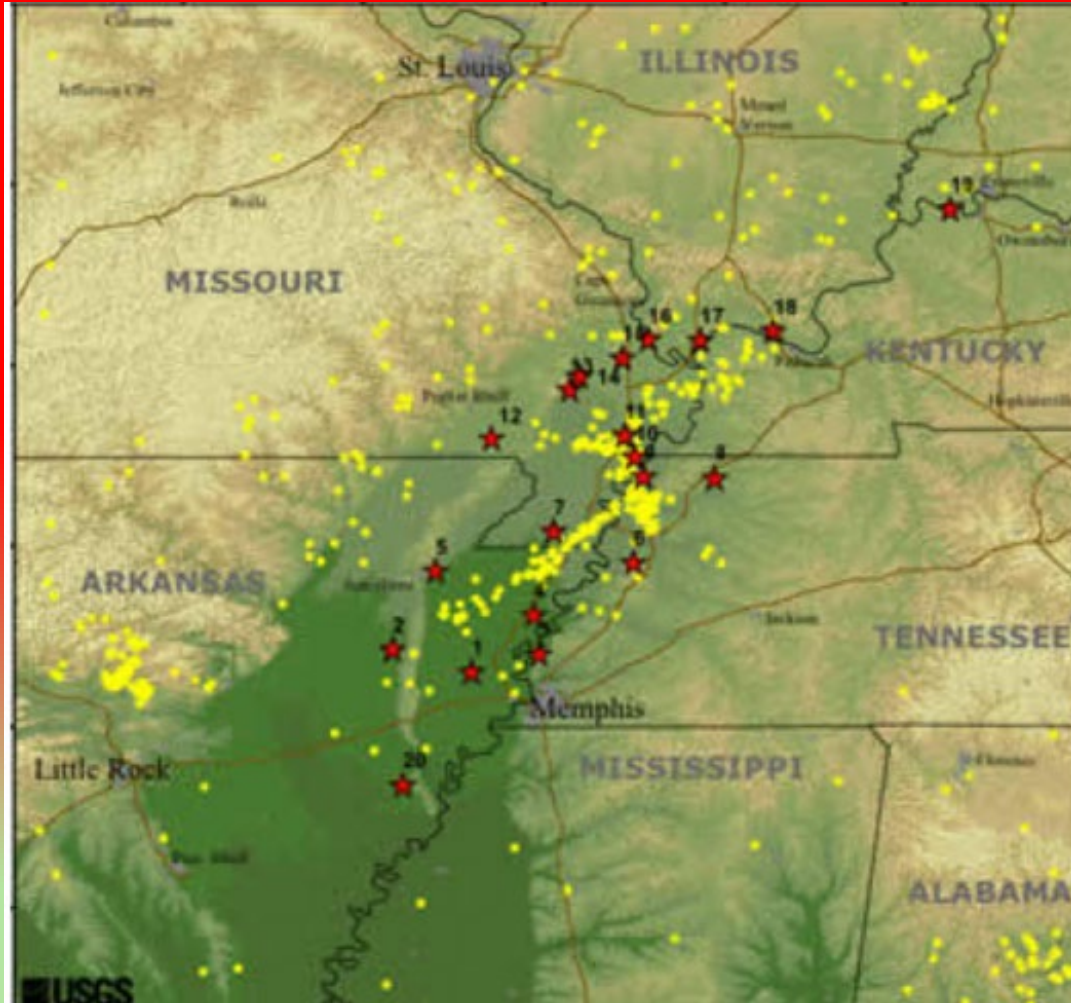
– May be limited, esp. for WF Liability

Parametric Insurance

-Using satellite imagery and data.



# Dormant Doesn't Mean Gone



Historic 1811–1812 earthquakes remain  
high-impact risks  
Low frequency but high severity

**Know Your Risk!**  
**Are You Susceptible to Damages?**

# Earthquake Strategy: Plan & Protect

## Earthquake Emergency Response Planning.

### Property Loss Prevention:

- Seismic Shutoff Valves
- Flexible Gas Hoses
- Sprinkler System Bracing



# Rethinking Risk Transfer

- Traditional coverage:
  - exclusions, SIRs, sublimits
- Parametric Coverage:
  - Pre-determined triggers, faster payout, sensor technology

Risk managers must lead  
insurance strategy design  
Talk to Your Brokers



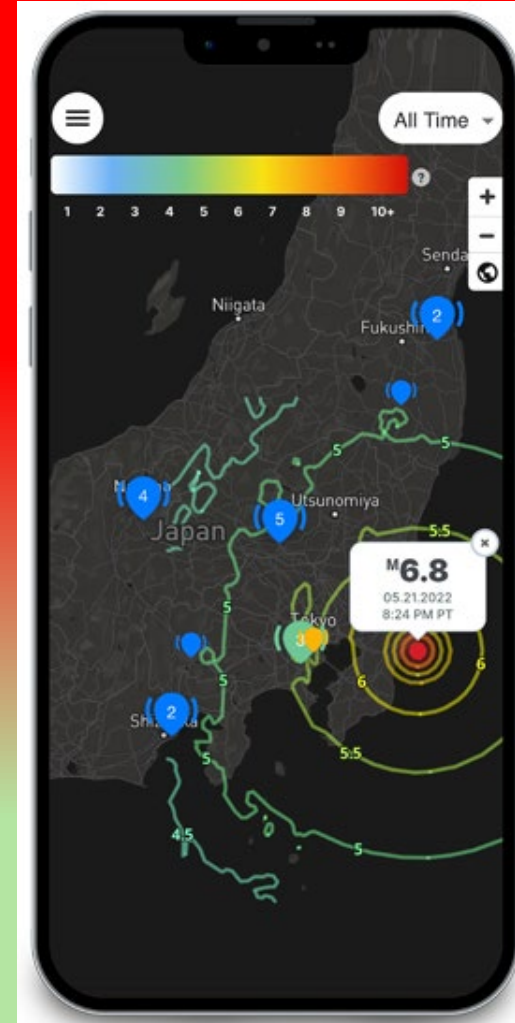
# Sensors Change the Game

## Sensor-Based Earthquake Insurance

**SafeHub** – Installs On-Site Seismic Sensors

Payouts triggered by sensing the Ground Motion

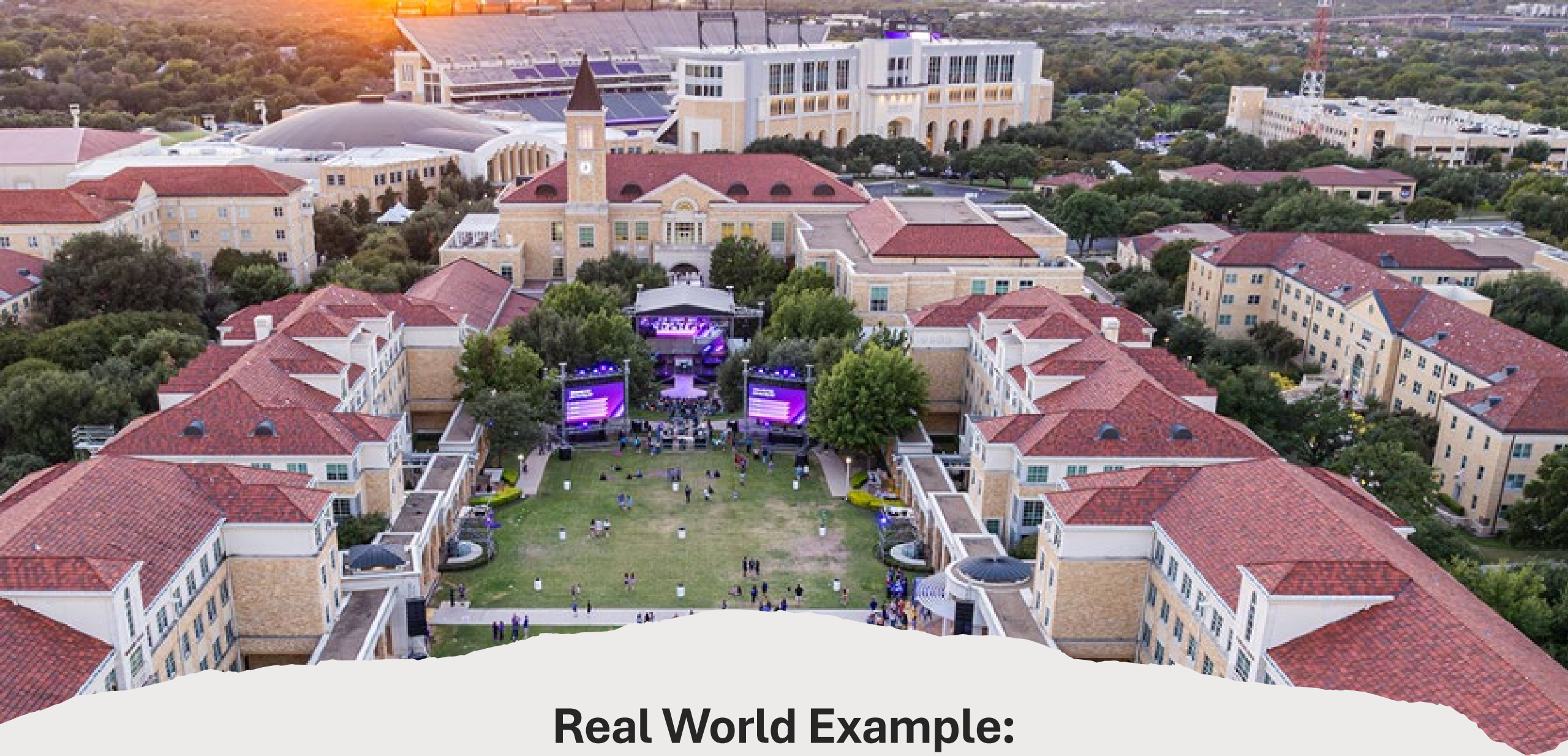
Alerts through App detailing the epicenter, buildings nearest the quake.



# Speed Equals Recovery



- . Pre-event: drills, continuity planning, equipment integrity checks, asset data and inventory
- . Post-event: sensor verification, drone damage scans
- . Use data for rapid claims and restoration response with prioritization.



**Real World Example:  
University Campus in VSH zone**

# The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly



2016 & Prior:

Hail Deductible = \$250,000

Policy Limit on Hail

Carrier Implemented a 3% Hail Deductible

TIV = \$1 Billion

New Deductible = \$30 Million

Limited to \$20 Million



# The Fix: Strategies & Risk Transfer



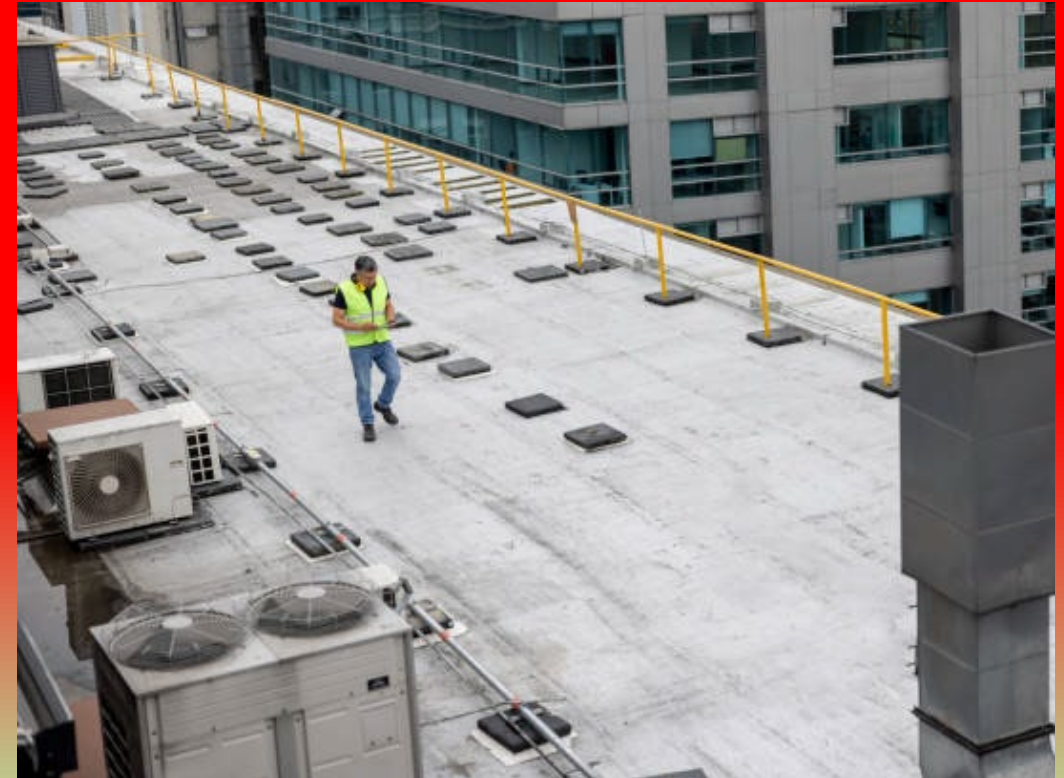
- Strategies Employed:
- Pre& Post Hail-Event Inspections
- Developed and Trained Response Procedures
- Roof Checklist and Database
- Procured Additional Clay Tiles
- Contracts with Disaster Relief Company
- Purchased a Parametric Hail Policy

# Your Midwest Risk Toolkit



- . Roof audit checklists.
- . Parametric trigger guides.
- . Sensor integration.
- . Physical Risk Mitigation Strategies.

Engage Your Broker and Carrier  
Early!



# Take Back Control

Storms are stronger.  
Markets are tighter.

Strategy is Your Lever



# Questions?



Let's discuss your storm risks and strategy gaps.

What's one risk you've seen change the most in 5 years?

# Stay Connected!

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**Thank you!**