

INTRODUCTION

As a California resident, you know the feeling of the seemingly endless fire season. Every year, wildfires are growing in size and claim more victims as climate change is impacting all fronts of fire.⁴



A wide range of people are now—with increasing frequency—moving into harm's way as they are forced out of city centers and into the wildland urban interface (WUI) due to rapidly increasing housing prices.³

DATA AND FINDINGS

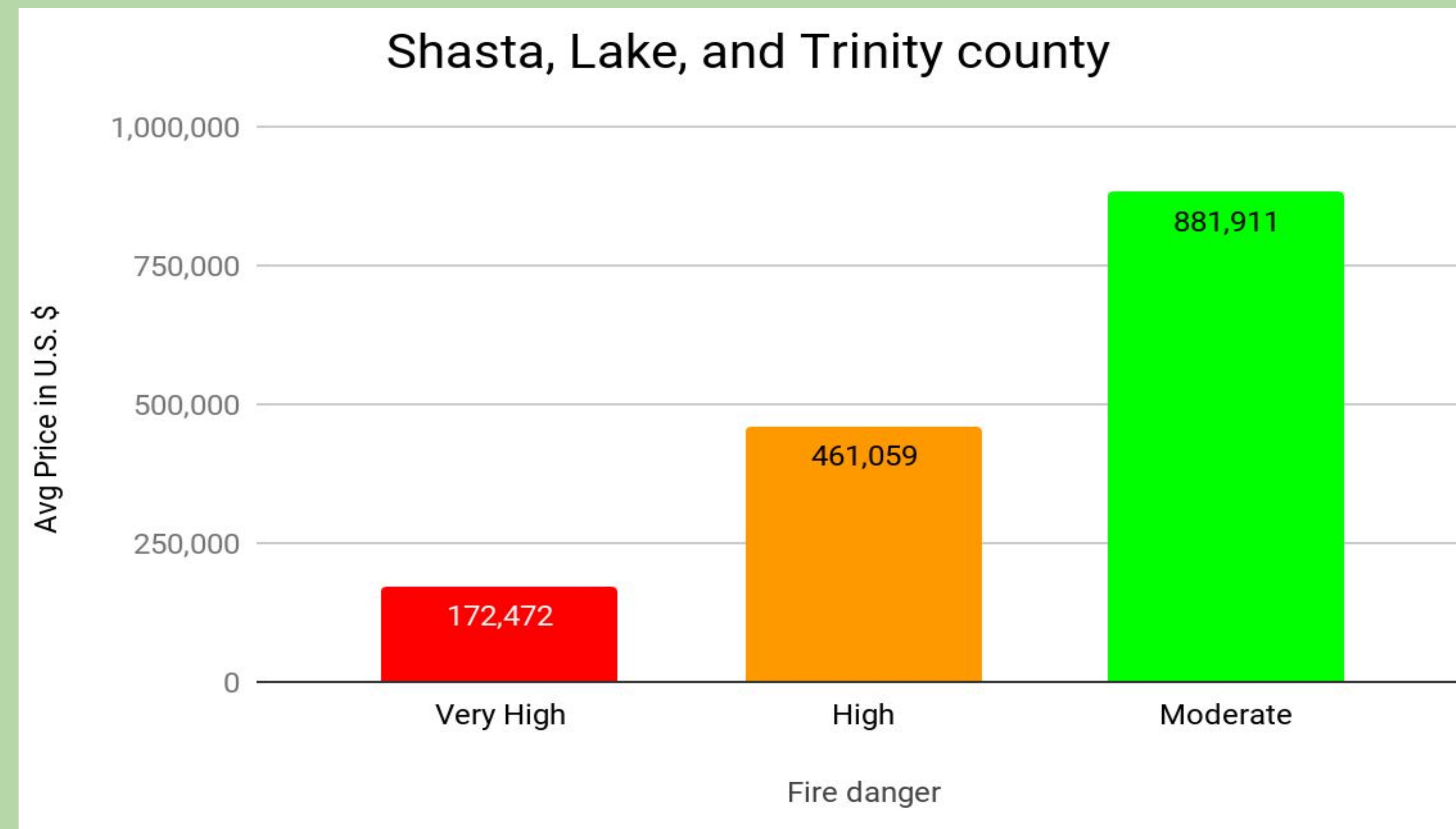
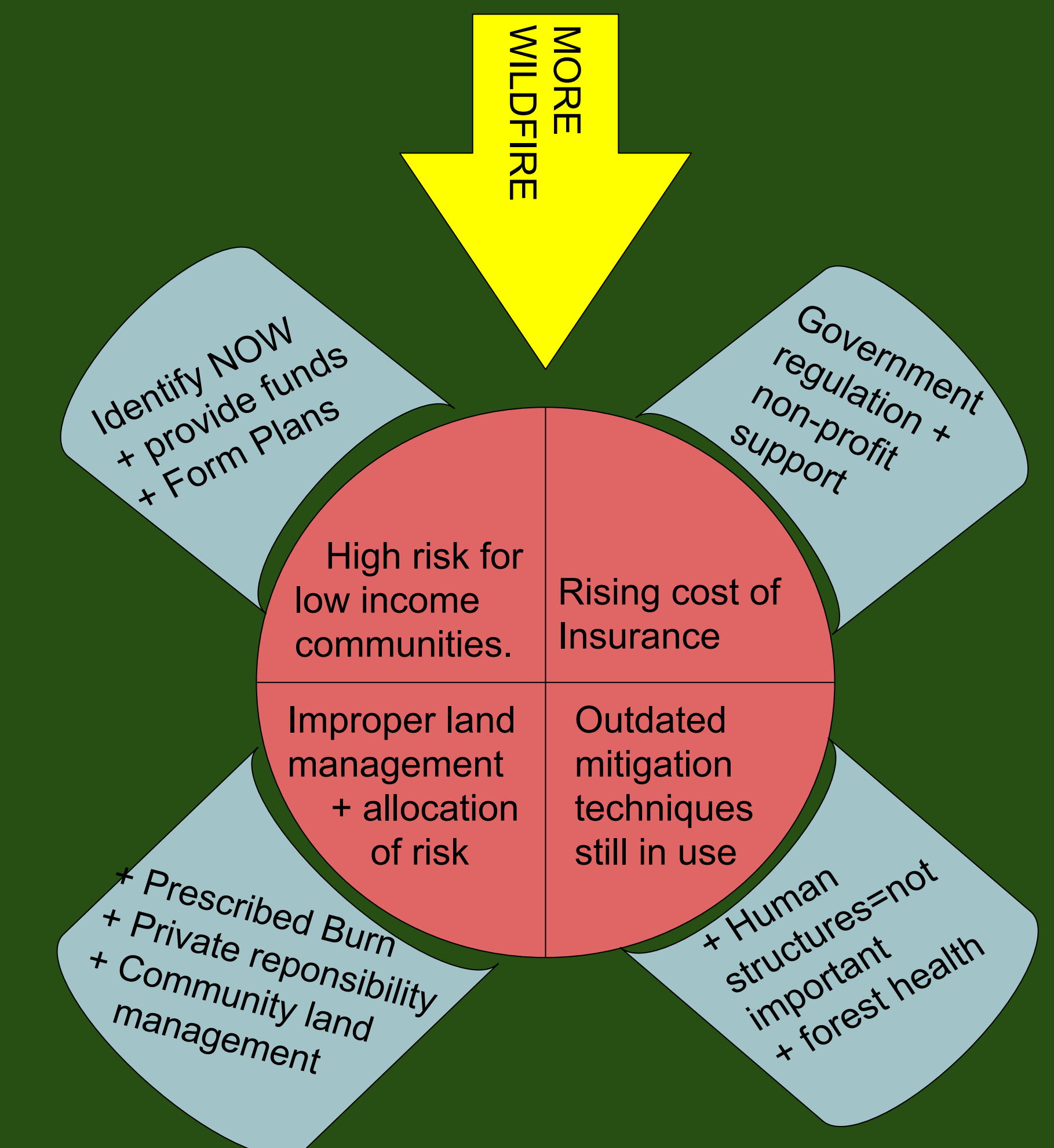


Figure 1: Comparing fires risk with average price of a property in High Fire Danger Zone (HFDZ)

- Many very cheap houses were in fire zones deemed “Very High” by Cal-fire
- Rental properties were not included but are important
- Those only able to afford cheap houses likely do not possess the capability to combat fire or practice land management₂

IMPLICATIONS & NEXT STEPS

Climate Change
 + Rising temperature
 + increased vegetation
 + Drought die off
 + Communities spreading into WUI



RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

Gap: Many neglect the price disparity between homes suited for the fire zone and those lacking the proper preparations for fire.

1. Using Google Maps, collect a random sample of houses (12 from each county)
2. Relate that address with the “zestamante” or previous house sale price
3. Looking at both the photos on Zillow and aerial+street photography from Google Maps, find the true fire danger of the property by assessing fuel load and topographical features.
4. Finally, enter data into Google Sheets for interpretation.



CONCLUSIONS AND ANALYSIS

Overall: Fire is a natural part of chaparral and wooded areas of California. Extended periods of fuel buildup are creating more unpredictability, especially with changing climate systems and the past decade of fire suppression. ₁

So: This has led to a new era of fire, taking the combined effort of the executive, state, and local governments spearheaded by landowners to fully reduce fire risk and lessen the impact.₅

Now: With this information, I have prepared a wildfire checklist and preparedness document. The purpose of this document is to consolidate all the information a landowner needs to safely mitigate fire danger and formulate a plan for the event of fire, prompting those in the WUI to think about the system they are living within. Respect and cooperation are what will allow for smooth interaction with wildfire.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / REFERENCES

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