

California wine country tries to get back to business despite wildfire destruction

October 16, 2017 at 6:35 PM EDT



Firefighters are making progress taming the wildfires that have consumed more than 220,000 acres across Northern California and killed at least 41 people. Special correspondent Joanne Jennings reports from Napa County, where crews are battling shifting winds, and owners and workers from wine country return to determine how much damage has been done.

JOANNE JENNINGS: Proprietor Jean-Charles Boisset owns several wineries in California, France and Canada, but like many other people here, he and his family had to evacuate their home when the flames came dangerously close.

Still, he is bullish about the future of the wine industry in this region.

JEAN-CHARLES BOISSET, Boisset Collection: Napa has been one of the most amazing agricultural places in California for a long time, so it will survive those fires. What I love, as a Frenchman here in California, is that amazing American positive attitude.

We will recover. We will walk again, run again, and we will welcome all our guests and give them the dreams of fine wine.

JOANNE JENNINGS: For the PBS NewsHour, I'm Joanne Jennings in Napa Valley, California.