

Summary of Changes to the Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology

PMS 205

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On the following pages, on the left directly under a term, a one-word code indicates the type of change that was made for the entry. There are three possible changes:

| Code | Description |
|-------------------------|--|
| Added | New entry added to this version of the glossary. The new entry may be a new term and definition, or may be a new definition added to a term already present in the glossary. |
| Changed | Changes were made to a definition that was already present in the glossary. The updated version of the definition is shown in this report. |
| Deleted | The definition has been deleted from the new edition of the glossary. If the deleted definition was the only definition for the term, the term has also been deleted. |

- A -

After Action Review (AAR)

Changed 1 A structured review or de-brief process of an event, focused on performance standards, that enables participants to discover for themselves what happened, why it happened, and how to sustain strengths and improve on weaknesses. After action reviews, informal or formal, follow the same general format, involve the exchange of ideas and observations, and focus on improving performance.

Agency

Changed 1 An administrative division of a government with a specific function, or a non-governmental organization (e.g., private contractor, business, etc.) that offers a particular kind of assistance. A federal, tribal, state or local agency that has direct fire management or land management responsibilities or that has programs and activities that support fire management activities.

see also: Assisting Agency
Cooperating Agency
Supporting Agency

Agency Administrator

Changed 1 The official responsible for the management of a geographic unit or functional area. The managing officer of an agency, division thereof, or jurisdiction having statutory responsibility for incident mitigation and management. Examples: NPS Park Superintendent, BIA Agency Superintendent, USFS Forest Supervisor, BLM District Manager, FWS Refuge Manager, State Forest Officer, Tribal Chairperson, Fire Chief, Police Chief.

see also: Line Officer

Appropriate Management Response (AMR)

Changed 1 Any specific action suitable to meet fire management objectives. Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical options (from monitoring to intensive management actions). The response action is based on an evaluation of risks to firefighter and public safety, the circumstances under which the fire occurs, including weather and fuel conditions, natural and cultural resource management objectives, protection priorities, and values to be protected. The evaluation must also include an analysis of the context of the specific fire within the overall local, geographic area, or national wildland fire situation.

see also: Fire Management Objective
Fire Management Plan

- B -

Benefits

Added 1 Something that represents, promotes or enhances a desired outcome, being of positive value and contributing to the attainment of organizational goals. Benefits represent one end of the spectrum of outcomes from fire, with the opposite end being harm, loss or damage.

see also: Fire Benefits

Burned Area Rehabilitation

Added 1 The post-fire activities prescribed and implemented to rehabilitate and restore fire damaged lands.

see also: Rehabilitation

- C -

Cooperator

- Added** 1 A federal, tribal, state, or local agency that participates with another agency(s) in planning and conducting fire or emergency management projects and activities.
- see also:* Agency
Agency Representative
Assisting Agency
Cooperating Agency
Supporting Agency

- E -

Ecosystem Sustainability

- Changed** 1 The capacity to maintain ecosystem health, productivity, diversity, and overall integrity, for the long term, in the context of human activity and use.

Escaped Prescribed Fire

- Added** 1 Prescribed fire that has exceeded or is expected to exceed prescription parameters or otherwise meets the criteria for conversion to wildfire. A state in which a prescribed fire is no longer doing what was expected.
- see also:* Escaped Fire

Evaluate

- Added** 1 To review and compare outcomes with management and incident objectives desired for a wildland fire. One of the six component activities in an adaptive management process that may lead to adjusting future actions.

Extended Attack

- Changed** 1 Actions taken on a wildfire that has exceeded the initial response.
- see also:* Extended Attack Incident

Extended Attack Incident

- Changed** 1 An incident that exceeds the capability of the initial attack resources and/or organization to successfully manage the incident to conclusion.
- see also:* Extended Attack

- F -

Federal Fire Policy

- Added** 1 Principles and policies providing a common approach to wildland fire for federal agencies. The primary, interagency wildland fire policy document is the "Review and Update of the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy" (January 2001). Implementation of that policy is through the "Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy" (February 2009).

Fire Management

- Changed** 1 All activities for the management of wildland fires to meet land management objectives. Fire management includes the entire scope of activities from planning, prevention, fuels or vegetation modification, prescribed fire, hazard mitigation, fire response, rehabilitation, monitoring and evaluation.

Fire Management Plan (FMP)

Changed 1 A plan that identifies and integrates all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of approved land/resource management plans. A fire management plan defines a program to manage wildland fires (wildfire and prescribed fire). The plan is supplemented by operational plans, including but not limited to preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire burn plans, and prevention plans. Fire management plans assure that wildland fire management goals and components are coordinated.

Fire Management Unit (FMU)

Changed 1 A land area definable by specified management objectives, constraints, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regime groups, and other defined elements that set it apart from an adjacent area. The primary purpose of developing Fire Management Units in fire management planning is to assist in organizing information in complex landscapes. A fire management unit may have dominant management objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives.

Fire Type

Added 1 A management distinction, made to satisfy legal and budget constraints, based on whether the ignition source was planned or unplanned. Under the implementation guidance, only two types of wildland fire – wildfire and prescribed fire – are recognized.

- G -**Geographic Area Coordinating Group (GACG)**

Added 1 An interagency body of fire management representatives from each federal and state land management agency within a nationally recognized regional area that provides leadership and support to facilitate safe and efficient fire management activities. Working collaboratively, a GACG's mission is not only for wildland fire emergencies, but for other emergency incidents, as necessary.

Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC)

Changed 1 The physical location of an interagency, regional operation center for the effective coordination, mobilization and demobilization of emergency management resources. A coordination center serves federal, state and local wildland fire agencies through logistical coordination of resources throughout the geographic area, and with other geographic areas, as well. Listings of geographic coordination centers and their respective geographic coordinating areas can be found within the National Interagency Mobilization Guide.

see also: Geographic Area
Geographic Coordinating Area

- I -**Ignition Source**

Added 1 Any process or event capable of causing a fire.

see also: Fire Cause
Ignition Method

Initial Action

Deleted 1 The actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire or wildland fire use incident. Initial actions may be size up, patrolling, monitoring, holding action or aggressive initial attack.

Initial Attack (IA)

Changed 1 A preplanned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential. Initial attack may include size up, patrolling, monitoring, holding action or suppression.

Initial Response

Changed 1 The initial decisions and actions taken in reaction to a reported incident.

- M -**Management Requirements**

Added 1 The technical and scientific specifications for management activities or potential actions mandated by the agency administrator and defined in land/resource management plans. Management requirements are derived from land/resource management plan and fire management plan standards and guidelines information.

Maximum Manageable Area (MMA)

Changed 1 The maximum geographic limits of spread within which a wildland fire is allowed to spread.

Mitigation

Deleted 1 Those activities implemented prior to, during, or after an incident which are designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property that lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the general public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury and are often informed by lessons learned from prior incidents.

Mitigation Actions

Changed 1 Actions that are implemented to reduce or eliminate (mitigate) risks to persons, property or natural resources. These actions can include mechanical and physical tasks, specific fire applications, and limited suppression actions. Mitigation actions may include: fireline construction, fuel treatments and reductions, fuel breaks or barriers around critical or sensitive sites or resources, and creating "black lines" through the use of controlled burnouts to limit fire spread and behavior.

Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (MAC Group)

Added 1 A national, regional, or local management group for interagency planning, coordination, and operations leadership for incidents. Provides an essential management mechanism for strategic coordination to ensure incident resources are efficiently and appropriately managed in a cost effective manner.

- N -**National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG)**

Changed 1 An intergovernmental body that provides national leadership to develop, maintain and communicate standards, guidelines, qualifications, training, and other capabilities that enable interoperable operations among federal and non-federal entities for wildland fire program management.

see also: NWCG Standard

- P -**Planned Ignition**

Added 1 The intentional initiation of a wildland fire by management actions to meet specific objectives.

see also: Prescribed Fire

Prescribed Fire

Changed 1 Any fire intentionally ignited by management actions in accordance with applicable laws, policies, and regulations to meet specific objectives.

see also: Wildfire

Wildland Fire

Prescribed Fire Module

- Added** 1 A team of skilled and mobile personnel dedicated primarily to prescribed fire management that can ignite, hold and monitor prescribed fires.
see also: Wildland Fire Module

Prescribed Fire Plan

- Added** 1 A plan for each prescribed fire, prepared by qualified personnel, approved by the agency administrator, which includes criteria for the conditions under which the fire will be conducted (a prescription).
synonym: Prescribed Fire Burn Plan

Prescription

- Changed** 1 In the context of wildland fire, a prescription is measurable criteria that define conditions under which a prescribed fire may be ignited. Prescriptions may also be used to guide selection of management responses to wildfire to define conditions under which management actions are most likely to achieve incident management objectives. Prescription criteria typically describe environmental conditions such as temperature, humidity and fuel moisture, but may also include safety, economic, public health, geographic, administrative, social, or legal considerations.

Protection

- Changed** 1 The actions taken to mitigate the adverse effects of fire on environmental, social, political, economic, and community values at risk.

- R -**Response**

- Deleted** 1 Movement of an individual firefighting resource from its assigned standby location to another location or to an incident in reaction to dispatch orders or to a reported alarm.

- S -**Strategic Objective**

- Added** 1 A broad statement, specified in a land/resource management or fire management plan that identifies change in water, soil, air, or vegetation from the present to proposed conditions, or describes an existing resource condition that should be maintained. Strategic objectives deal with large areas over long time periods and project intended outcomes of management activities that contribute to the maintenance or achievement of desired conditions.

Suppression

- Changed** 1 Management action to extinguish a fire or confine fire spread beginning with its discovery.

- U -**Unplanned Ignition**

- Added** 1 The initiation of a wildland fire that was unplanned, regardless of cause.
see also: Wildfire

Use of Wildland Fire

- Added** 1 Management of wildfire or prescribed fire to meet resource objectives specified in land/resource management plans.
see also: Prescribed Fire
Wildland Fire

- V -

Values To Be Protected

- Changed** 1 Include property, structures, physical improvements, natural and cultural resources, community infrastructure, and economic, environmental, and social values.

- W -

Wildland Fire

- Changed** 1 Any non-structure fire that occurs in vegetation or natural fuels. Wildland fire includes prescribed fire and wildfire.
see also: Prescribed Fire
Wildfire

Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP)

- Deleted** 1 A progressively developed assessment and operational management plan that documents the analysis and describes the appropriate management response for a wildland fire.
see: Implementation Plan

Wildland Fire Module

- Added** 1 A group of 7-10 highly skilled personnel specifically associated with the planning and implementation of planned and unplanned wildland fire and hazardous fuels treatments. Maybe classified as a Type 1 or Type 2 dependent on qualifications and experience.

Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA)

- Deleted** 1 A decision-making process that evaluates alternative wildfire suppression strategies against selected environmental, social, political, and economic criteria, and provides a record of those decisions.
see: Implementation Plan

Wildland Fire Use

- Deleted** 1 The application of the appropriate management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in pre-defined designated areas outlined in Fire Management Plans. Operational management is described in the Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP).
see also: Prescribed Fire
Use of Wildland Fire
Wildland Fire

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

- Changed** 1 The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. Describes an area within or adjacent to private and public property where mitigation actions can prevent damage or loss from wildfire.
see also: I-Zone