

****11/4/03 DRAFT****

**Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) Interagency Handbook
Reference Conditions**

Modeler: Kelly Pohl

Date: 8/11/03 **PNVG Code:** CAME

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: California Mixed Evergreen.

Geographic Area: Northern California Coast Range and Klamath Mountains

Description: PNVG occurs on dry foothills, lower slopes, and canyons, and is most abundant on south and east-facing slopes, all aspects. Species composition is determined by steep environmental gradients, including site topography and complex geology. Codominants include Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), tanoak (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*), coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), and California bay (*Umbellularia californica*).

Fire Regime Description: Fire Regime Group I, primarily frequent (e.g., <20 yr) mixed severity- and surface fires.

Vegetation Type and Structure

Class	Percent of Landscape	Description
A: post replacement	5	Openings within forest that have dense sproutings of madrone, tanoak, or other hardwoods. Minor shrub and understory components.
B: mid-development closed	30	Dense (>60%) cover of early-mature madrone or tanoak. Little shrub or understory.
C: mid- open	30	Mid-mature open (<60%) cover of madrone or tanoak with significant shrub component. Occasional Douglas-fir in canopy.
D: late- open	10	Late-mature madrone and/or tanoak in sub-canopy with open (<60%) canopy of mature Douglas-firs. Minor shrub component.
E: late- closed	25	Dense (>60%) canopy of Douglas-fir with subcanopy of tanoak, madrone, and/or coast or canyon live oak. Little shrub or understory.
Total	100	

Fire Frequency and Severity

Fire Frequency-Severity	Modeled Probability	Pct, All Fires	Description
Replacement Fire	.01	17	Occasional replacement fires, mostly in B and E.
Non-Replacement Fire	.05	83	Frequent mosaic fires (85%) with some surface fires. Mosaic fires maintain madrone and tanoak stands.
All Fire Frequency*	.06	100	

*Sum of replacement fire and non-replacement fire probabilities.

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