

****4/29/04 DRAFT****

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

Modeler: Doug Havlina

Date: 8/13/03

PNVG Code: JUST2

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: Juniper Steppe-Ancient

Geographic Area: Pacific Northwest, Columbia Plateau, Great Basin.

Description: PNVG common on mountain slopes, high plateaus, scablands, and rimrock sites. Soils are shallow, stony, and low in organics. The climate is the most xeric for any tree occurring in the western U.S. Associates may include big sagebrush spp., curlleaf mountain mahogany, bitterbrush, rabbitbrush spp., and a variety of arid land bunchgrasses. Stand development patterns range from savannahs to old-growth individuals on rocky sites.

Fire Regime Description: Fire Regimes III and V; primarily long-interval (e.g., >250 yr) mixed severity- and stand replacement fires.

Vegetation Type and Structure

Class	Percent of Landscape	Description
A: post replacement	4	Post-fire community of scattered forbs and perennial grasses
B: mid-development closed	4	Mid-seral, dense (>40% cover) juniper stands with bare ground and occasional forbs and grasses
C: mid- open	10	Mid-seral, open (<40% cover) juniper stands with perennial grasses and forbs in interspaces
D: late- open	80	Late-seral, open (<40% cover) juniper community with well represented shrub/herbaceous community
E: late- closed	2	Uncommon developmental stage. Late-seral, closed (>40% canopy) juniper community. Depauperate or non-existent shrub and herbaceous community.
Total	100	

Fire Frequency and Severity

Fire Frequency-Severity	Modeled Probability	Pct, All Fires	Description
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Replacement Fire	.0015	43	Stand replacement fire following successive years of high precipitation and fine fuel accumulation
Non-Replacement Fire	.002	57	Surface and mosaic fires in herbaceous layer; occasional single-tree mortality
All Fire Frequency*	.0035	100	

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

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