

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

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

Modeler: Ayn Shlisky

Date: 8/14/03

PNVG Code: RFCA

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: California Red Fir.

Geographic Area: California.

Description: PNVG generally occurs in high elevation zones (4500 – 9000 ft) below mountain hemlock and above white fir where the growing season is short and snowpack is usually between 10 and 15 feet deep. Generally on deep sandy loams and shallower soils of moraines. Usually on moist, nutrient-rich, coarse, and well-drained soils of all aspects but sometimes on nutrient-poor Entisols or Inceptisols ****SOILS DESCRIP SEEMS CONFUSING**

Fire Regime Description: Fire Regime III, primarily short- to moderately long-interval (e.g., 40-60 yr) mixed severity fires.

Vegetation Type and Structure

Class	Percent of Landscape	Description
A: post replacement	10	Small openings created by fire or insects; large openings created by very infrequent stand replacement fire; largely lodgepole, western white pine or red fir seedlings.
B: mid-development closed	10	>40% cover lodgepole, western white pine or red fir saplings and poles
C: mid- open	5	<40% red fir, western white pine and lodgepole poles
D: late- open	40	<40% large red fir and western white pine; maintained by mortality and low severity fire
E: late- closed	35	>40% multi-layered canopy cover dominated by large red fir over clumps of seedlings, saplings and poles.
Total	100	

Fire Frequency and Severity

Fire Frequency-Severity	Modeled Probability	Pct, All Fires	Description
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Replacement Fire	.0025	10	Rare; creates small openings
Non-Replacement Fire	.02	90	Variable intensity and frequency (range 21-65 years); mostly mosaic fires that create openings for red fir or lodgepole regeneration
All Fire Frequency*	.0225	100	

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

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VDDT RESULTS







