

****11/25/03 DRAFT****

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

Modeler: Steve Barrett

Date: 11/25/03 **PNVG Code:** SPFI2

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: Interior West Upper Subalpine Forest.

Geographic Area: Interior Western U.S.

Description: PNVG occurs in the upper subalpine zone on moderately steep- to steep terrain (e.g., 40-70% slope). Relatively dry sites usually are dominated by whitebark pine (i.e., Pacific Northwest and Northern- to Central Rockies), or limber pine (i.e., Southern Rockies), or bristlecone pine (i.e., Southwest); moist sites usually are dominated by Engelmann spruce and subalpine (or corkbark) fir.

Fire Regime Description: Fire Regimes III-V: Highly variable fire frequency, but trending toward long-interval (e.g., 100-200+ yr) mixed severity- and stand replacement fires.

Vegetation Type and Structure

| Class | Percent of Landscape | Description |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| A: post replacement | 20 | Early succession after moderately long- to long interval replacement fires, and highly variable-interval mixed severity fires |
| B: mid-development closed | 25 | Shade intolerant- and mixed conifer saplings to poles (> 40% canopy cover) |
| C: mid- open | 25 | Primarily shade intolerant saplings to poles (<40% canopy cover) |
| D: late- open | 15 | Pole- to larger diameter shade intolerant- and mixed conifer species (<40% canopy cover) in small- to moderate size patches, generally on southerly aspects |
| E: late- closed | 15 | Pole- to larger diameter shade intolerant- and mixed conifer species (>40% canopy cover), in small- to moderate size patches, esp. on sheltered aspects |
| Total | 100 | |

Fire Frequency and Severity

| Fire Frequency- | Modeled | Pct, All | Description |
|-----------------|---------|----------|-------------|
|-----------------|---------|----------|-------------|

| Severity | Probability | Fires | |
|----------------------|-------------|-------|--|
| Replacement Fire | .004 | 57 | Replacement fires largely in E and D |
| Non-Replacement Fire | .003 | 43 | Small, patchy mixed severity fires, largely in B-D near treeline |
| All Fire Frequency* | .007 | 100 | |

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

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MODELER FIELD REVIEWS

Barrett, Stephen W.; Marias Pass area, Glacier National Park, 2003.

VDDT Results





