

10. Appendix B - Definitions and Acronyms

- i. Back burn, also Backfire Ignition – the setting of a line of fire so that it will burn away from a control line against the wind or downhill.
- ii. Cache – A pre-determined compliment of tools equipment, and/or other supplies stored in a designated location, available for incident use.
- iii. Complex – Two or more individual incidents located in the same general area, which are assigned to the same Incident Commander of to Unified Command.
- iv. Ember Transport – The transfer of heat resulting from firebrands being transported ahead of a fire by the wind.
- v. FireSmart Guidelines – A published guide to decreasing local fire risk.
- vi. Fireguard – a strategically planned barrier, either manually or mechanically contrasted, intended to stop or retard the rate of spread of a fire.
- vii. Fire Hazard – a general term to describe the potential fire behavior, without regard to the state of weather-influenced fuel moisture content.
- viii. Fire History – the study and/or compilation of evidence (e.g. historical documents, fire documents) that records the occurrence and effects of past wildfires for an area.
- ix. Fire Return Interval – the number of years between two successive fire events at a specific site or an area of a specified size.
- x. Fire Risk Occurrence – the probability or chance of a fire starting determined by the presence and activities of causative agents (i.e. potential number of ignition sources).
- xi. Fire Suppression – All activities concerned with controlling and extinguishing a fire following its detection.
- xii. Hazard Reduction – Treatment of living or dead forest fuels to diminish the likelihood of a fire starting, and to lessen the potential rate of spread and resistance to control.
- xiii. Incident Commander (I/C), also Fire Boss– the individual responsible for all incident operations at the incident site.
- xiv. Incident Command System – standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of a single of multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.

- xv. Integrated Response Model – To aid ministries in fulfilling their hazard specific technical responsibilities, the Province designed and developed the integrated response model which draws upon the expertise of a resource pool of pre-selected, trained and experienced provincial staff drawn from all ministries and known as the Temporary Emergency Assignment Management System (TEAMS). TEAMS members are responsible for the management of the overall government response, regardless of the hazard. Ministries continue to provide hazard specific technical expertise.
- xvi. PREOC – Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Center.
- xvii. Relative Humidity – the ratio of the amount of water vapour or moisture in the air expressed as a percentage. Popularly called humidity.
- xviii. Sprinkler Protection Unit - differs by unit, usually a collection of Sprinkler Kits.
- xix. Sprinkler Kit – differs by kit. Usually a small portable set of water thrives, supply hose, sprinkler heads and accessories used to wet fuels along the perimeter of fire, along a fire guard, or in value protection.
- xx. Spotting – A fire producing firebrands beyond the main fire perimeter and by solid Mass or Ember Transport.
- xxi. Structural Protection –preventing fire from igniting structural assets.
- xxii. Structural Firefighting – the suppression or extinguishment of structural fires.
- xxiii. Tactical Resource (also tactical asset) – examples are SPUs, type 4 engines, skidder etc.
- xxiv. Unified Command- A management concept for coordinating a response to emergency incidents by two or more service agencies.
- xxv. Values-at-risk, also Values – the specific or collective set of natural resources and man made improvements/developments that have measurable or intrinsic worth and that could or may be destroyed or otherwise altered by fire in any given area.
- xxvi. Wildfire – an unplanned or unwanted natural or human-caused fire.
- xxvii. Wildland / Urban Interface, also Interface – A popular term used to describe an area where various structures (most notably private homes) and other human developments meet or are intermingled with forest and other vegetative fuel types.
Note: Values at Risk.

11. References

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