

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

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

Modeler: Doug Havlina

Date: 8/13/03

PNVG Code: JUST1

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: Juniper Steppe-Infrequent

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., curleaf 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 IV; primarily moderately long-to 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	5	Post-fire community of scattered forbs and perennial grasses
B: mid-development closed	5	Mid-seral, dense (>40% cover) juniper stands with bare ground and occasional forbs and grasses
C: mid- open	20	Mid-seral, open (<40% cover) juniper stands with perennial grasses and forbs in interspaces
D: late- open	55	Late-seral, open (<40% cover) juniper community with well represented shrub/herbaceous community
E: late- closed	15	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	.003	35	Stand replacement fire following successive years of high precipitation and fine fuel accumulation
Non-Replacement Fire	.0055	65	Surface and mosaic fires in herbaceous layer; occasional single-tree mortality
All Fire Frequency*	.0085	100	

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

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