

A Publication of the
**National Wildfire
Coordinating Group**

Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology



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Summary of Changes

Summary of Changes to the Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology

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National Wildfire Coordinating Group
Incident Operations Standards Working Team

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Reference Definitions

Some of the terms within this glossary will be followed by initials or will have references or comments at the end of the definition to help broaden the recognition and understanding of the term. An explanation of those references is as follows:

Also called: means there is another term that may sometimes be in use, but is not defined in this glossary.

Acronym: A name made up of the initial letters of a multi-word term or official title. An acronym appears in parentheses following the term.

See: means there is another, preferred term that should be used instead. In such a case only the preferred term is defined in this glossary.

See Also: means there are one or more related terms that may also be of interest to the glossary user. The related terms are also defined in this glossary.

Synonym: means the term is synonymous with another. The terms have the same, or essentially the same, definition and the terms are interchangeable in their use.

- C -

Closure

- Changed** 1 An administrative action limiting or prohibiting access to a specific geographic or jurisdictional area for the purposes of reducing wildfire or the risk it poses to life, property, and/or resources. Example of use: "Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 261.50 (a) and (b), it is hereby ordered that the prohibitions hereinafter set forth apply to the general forest area of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests until further notice."
see also: Restrictions

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

- Added** 1 A plan developed in the collaborative framework established by the Wildland Fire Leadership Council and agreed to by state, tribal, and local government, local fire department, other stakeholders and federal land management agencies managing land in the vicinity of the planning area. A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment on Federal and non-Federal land that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure and recommends measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at-risk community. A CWPP may address issues such as wildfire response, hazard mitigation, community preparedness, or structure protection – or all of the above.

- F -

Fire Education

- Added** 1 Activities to change behaviors and attitudes about fire ecology, wildland fire and the role of fire in natural resource management. Defines the purposes for actions that provide information about and improve understanding of wildland fire.
see also: Prevention

Fire Prevention

- Changed** 1 Activities such as public education, community outreach, law enforcement, engineering, and reduction of fuel hazards that are intended to reduce the incidence of unwanted human-caused wildfires and the risks they pose to life, property or resources.

- I -

Initial Attack (IA)

- Changed** 1 A planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential fire behavior. The objective of initial attack is to stop the fire and put it out in a manner consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be protected.

- P -

Point of Origin

- Changed** 1 The location where a competent ignition source came into contact with the material first ignited and sustained combustion occurred.

- R -

Railroad Fire

Changed 1 A fire resulting from any operation or activity of a railroad, except smoking.

Restrictions

Changed 1 Measures taken by jurisdictional agencies to impose bans and standards of use on certain human activities that could lead to the cause of wildland fire. Restrictions may be applied to: smoking in designated areas; open flame; mechanical operations in high-risk areas; and off-road use.

see also: Closure