



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Tonto National Forest

2324 E. McDowell Rd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
Phone: 602.225.5200  
Fax: 602.225.5295  
V/TTY: 602.225.5395

File Code: 1920-2-4

Date: June 18, 2009

Dear Friend of the Tonto National Forest:

I have updated the Tonto National Forest Plan to include some recent changes in fire management terminology. The glossary of terms and definitions is enclosed.

None of the corrections make any changes to the intent of existing Forest Plan direction.

The corrected Forest Plan is available for download on our website at:  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto/plan-revision/tonto-plan-index.shtml>

You may request a paper copy of the complete Forest Plan, as corrected, or just the corrected pages by contacting the Tonto National Forest at 602-225-5200 or [mailroom\\_r3\\_tonto@fs.fed.us](mailto:mailroom_r3_tonto@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

GENE BLANKENBAKER  
Forest Supervisor



## **Glossary**

**APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE (AMR)** - is any specific action suitable to meet Fire Management Unit (FMU) objectives. Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical options (from monitoring to intensive management actions). The AMR is developed by using FMU strategies and objectives identified in the Fire Management Plan. This term has been replaced by Response to Wildland Fire

**ESCAPED PRESCRIBED FIRE** - a prescribed fire that has exceeded or is expected to exceed prescription parameters or otherwise meets the criteria for conversion to a wildfire. Criteria is specified in "Interagency Prescribed Fire - Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference

**ESCAPED WILDLAND FIRE:** a wildland fire that exceeds the size objective for the Geographic Area or Land Use Zone; appropriate management response is determined by a WFSA.

**FIRE FOR RESOURCE BENEFIT** - management of either wildfire or prescribed fire to meet resource objectives specified in Land/Resource Management Plans.

**FIRE MANAGEMENT AREA** - One or more parcels of land with clearly defined boundaries and with established fire management direction which is responsive to land and resource management goals and objectives.

**FIRE MANAGEMENT UNIT** – Same as Fire Management Area

**FIRE USE** - The combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire application to meet resource objectives. The Forest Service no longer uses this term for describing these actions.

**INITIAL ACTION** - the actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire.

**PLANNED IGNITION** -the intentional initiation of a wildland fire by hand-held, mechanical or aerial device where the distance and timing between ignition lines or points and the sequence of igniting them is determined by environmental conditions (weather, fuel, topography), firing technique, and other factors which influence fire behavior and fire effects (see prescribed fire).

**RESPONSE TO WILDLAND FIRE** - the mobilization of the necessary services and responders to a fire based on ecological, social, and legal consequences, the circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected.

**UNPLANNED IGNITION** - the initiation of a wildland fire by lightning, volcanoes, unauthorized and accidental human-caused fires (see wildfire).

**WILDLAND FIRE** Any nonstructure fire that occurs in the wildland. Wildland Fires are categorized into two distinct types:

- **Wildfire:** Unplanned ignitions and planned ignitions that are declared wildfires. The wildfire term is to be applied to all unplanned ignitions, including events formally termed wildland fire use.
- **Prescribed Fire:** A planned ignition of a fire to meet specific objectives. A written, approved prescribed fire plan must exist, and NEPA requirements (where applicable) must be met prior to ignition.

**WILDLAND FIRE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (WFIP)** - A progressively developed assessment and operational management plan that documents the analysis and describes the appropriate management response for a wildland fire. WFIP has been replaced by WFDSS and supports the Federal Wildland Fire Policy implementation guidance update (2009)

**WILDLAND FIRE SITUATION ANALYSIS (WFSA)** - A decision-making process that evaluates alternative wildfire suppression strategies against selected environmental, social, political, and economic criteria, and provides a record of those decisions. WFSA has been replaced by WFDSS and supports the Federal Wildland Fire Policy implementation guidance update (2009).

**WILDLAND FIRE USE:** The application of the appropriate management response to naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in predefined designated areas outlined in the fire management plans. This term is no longer used in fire management and applicable Land/Resource Management Plans.

**WILD FIRE DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM (WFDSS)** – is the current analysis system to support agency administrators and fire managers in making improved fire management decisions. It is designed to: 1) support the Federal Wildland Fire Policy implementation guidance update (2009) and 2) replace three current decision analysis processes - the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis, the Wildland Fire Implementation Plan, and the Long-Term Implementation Plan.

**WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI)** - The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetation fuels. Typically these areas are within or adjacent to an at-risk community that is identified in a community wildfire protection plan. However, if a community wildfire protection plan does not exist, the wildland urban interface is defined as:

- The area .5 mile from the boundary of an at-risk community; or
- The area within 1.5 miles of the boundary of an at-risk community if;
  - There is a sustained steep slope,
  - There is a nearby road or ridge top that could be incorporated into a fuel break,
  - The area contains an emergency exit route for safe evacuations.