

****11/4/03 DRAFT****

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

Modeler: Kelly Pohl

Date: 8/13/03

PNVG Code: LPSC

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: Lodgepole Pine-Subalpine (Calif.)

Geographic Area: California Sierra Nevada.

Description: PNVG generally occurs in upper montane and subalpine sites on moderate to slopes and rocky ridges, sometimes occurring in krummholz form. Sites are typified by xeric conditions, shallow rocky soils, short growing seasons, and intense solar radiation.

Fire Regime Description: Fire Regimes III and IV, primarily moderately long- to long interval (e.g., 80-120 yr) mixed severity- and stand replacement fires.

Vegetation Type and Structure

Class	Percent of Landscape	Description
A: post replacement	20	Bare ground with some grasses and forbs; shrubs emerging (snow bush, bush chinquapin)
B: mid-development closed	10	Sapling and pole sized lodgepole pines at >40% canopy cover; occurring lower in elevation range.
C: mid- open	30	Sapling-pole sized lodgepole pines at <40% cover with little understory; occurring on rockier, higher elevation sites.
D: late- open	30	Uneven aged stands of mature to very large lodgepole pines at <40% cover; gap patches and little understory. White fir emerging at lower elevations; limber pine emerging at higher elevations.
E: late- closed	10	Mature and large lodgepole pines with lower strata of fir; occurring lower in elevation range.
Total	100	

Fire Frequency and Severity

Fire Frequency-Severity	Modeled Probability	Pct, All Fires	Description
Replacement Fire	.003	25	Occasional stand-replacing fire

Non-Replacement Fire	.013	75	where terrain does not provide natural fire breaks. 99% mosaic fire, generally very spotty and small in area, depending on proximity to lightning strike.
All Fire Frequency*	.013	100	

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

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