

Santa Barbara County Communities

Wildfire Protection Plan

GLOSSARY



Prescribed burn, target planning block, completed burn, wildfire, and Copter 308 with helitorch attached.

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| Assets | A generic term referring to all facets that can be affected by an impinging fire. Effects can be either positive or negative in terms of the amount of disturbance. |
| Assets at Risk | Assets identified as being at risk from wildland fire. Assets include, but are not limited to, citizen and firefighter safety, watershed and water, timber, wildlife and habitat (including rare and endangered species), unique areas (scenic, cultural and historic), recreation, range, structures and air quality. |

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| Hazardous Fuels | Combustible materials, usually in the form of loose surface litter on the soil surface consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches that have not yet decayed enough to lose their identity; also grasses, forbs, low and medium shrubs, tree seedlings, heavier branchwood, downed logs, and stumps interspersed with or partially replacing the litter. |
| Initial Attack Success | A term given to the process for measuring the protection system for wildland fire and the ability to provide an equal level of protection to lands of similar type. The measured outcome is referred to as "Success Ratio" (see below). |
| Pre-Fire Management | A defined and assessed list of alternatives to protect assets from unacceptable risk of wildland fire damage. The alternatives can become a program of work to provide protection to Assets at Risk. |
| Prescribed Fire | Any fire ignited by management actions under certain, predetermined conditions to meet specific objectives related to hazardous fuels or habitat improvement. A written, approved prescribed fire plan must exist prior to ignition. |
| Stakeholders | Any person, agency or organization with a particular interest, in fire safety and protection of assets from wildland fire. |

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| Success Ratio | A rating, expressed as a percentage, representing the number of incidents where initial attack was successful. The success is that effort which contains the wildland fire to 100 acres or less, the level of resource commitment, acceptable suppression costs and minimal damage to the Assets at Risk. |
| Wildfire | Any nonstructural fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the Wildlands. |
| Wildland Urban Interface | The line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. |