

6.6 APPENDIX H: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Danger tree - A live or dead tree whose trunk, root system or branches have deteriorated or been damaged to such an extent as to be a potential danger to human safety.

Fire danger - A general term used to express an assessment of both fixed and changeable factors of the fire environment that determine the ease of ignition, rate of spread, difficulty of control, and fire impact.

Fire season - The period(s) of the year during which fires are likely to start, spread, and damage values-at-risk sufficient to warrant organized fire suppression; a period of the year set out and commonly referred to in fire prevention legislation.

Fuel - Fuel is any organic matter, living or dead, in the ground, on the ground, or in the air that can ignite and burn.

Available fuel - The quantity of fuel (in a particular fuel type) that would actually be consumed under specified burning conditions.

- *Fine fuels* - Fuels that ignite readily and are consumed rapidly by fire (e.g. cured grass, fallen leaves, needles, small twigs). Dead, fine fuels also dry very quickly.
- *Ground fuels* - All combustible materials below the litter layer of the forest floor that normally support smoldering or glowing combustion associated with ground fires (e.g., duff, roots, buried punky wood, peat).
- *Ladder fuels* - Fuels that provide vertical continuity between the surface fuels and crown fuels in a forest stand, thus contributing to the ease of torching and crowning (e.g., tall shrubs, small-sized trees, bark flakes, tree lichens).
- *Medium fuels* - Fuels too large to be ignited until after the leading edge of the fire front passes, but small enough to be completely consumed.
- *Surface fuels* - All combustible materials lying above the duff layer between the ground and ladder fuels that are responsible for propagating surface fires (e.g., litter, herbaceous vegetation, low and medium shrubs, tree seedlings, stumps, downed-dead roundwood).

Fuel management - Fuel management is the modification of forest structure to reduce forest fuel accumulations available to burn in a wildfire. The main goal of fuel management is improving public safety. This may include treatments such as thinning, spacing and pruning trees, and removal of needles and woody debris from the forest floor.

Fuel type - An identifiable association of fuel elements of distinctive species, form, size, arrangement, and continuity that will exhibit characteristic fire behaviour under defined burning conditions.

High risk activity - As defined in the Wildfire Regulation (s.1)

- a) mechanical brushing;

- b) disk trenching;
- c) preparation or use of explosives;
- d) using fire- or spark-producing tools, including cutting tools;
- e) using or preparing fireworks or pyrotechnics;
- f) grinding, including rail grinding;
- g) mechanical land clearing;
- h) clearing and maintaining rights of way, including grass mowing;
- i) any of the following activities carried out in a cutblock excluding a road, landing, roadside work area or log sort area in the cutblock:
 - i) operating a power saw;
 - ii) mechanical tree felling, woody debris piling or tree processing, including de-limbing;
 - iii) welding;
 - iv) portable wood chipping, milling, processing or manufacturing;
 - v) skidding logs or log forwarding unless it is improbable that the skidding or forwarding will result in the equipment contacting rock;
 - vi) yarding logs using cable systems

Interface fire - Interface fires are fires that have the potential to involve buildings and forest fuel or vegetation simultaneously.

Prescribed fire - The knowledgeable and controlled application of fire to a specific area to accomplish planned resource management objectives. These fires are managed in such a way as to minimize the emission of smoke and maximize the benefits to the site.

Slash - Debris left as a result of forest and other vegetation being altered by forestry practices and other land use activities (e.g., timber harvesting, thinning and pruning, road construction, seismic line clearing). Slash includes material such as logs, splinters or chips, tree branches and tops, uprooted stumps, and broken or uprooted trees and shrubs.

Spot fire - A spot fire is one that is less than 0.01 hectares (10 metres by 10 metres).

Wildfire - An unplanned fire - including unauthorized human-caused fires - occurring on forest or range lands, burning forest vegetation, grass, brush, scrub, peat lands, or a prescribed fire set under regulation which spreads beyond the area authorized for burning.

Wildland urban interface - The wildland urban interface (WUI) is any area where combustible forest fuel is found adjacent to homes, farm structures or other outbuildings. This may occur at the interface, where development and forest fuel (vegetation) meet at a well-defined boundary, or in the intermix, where development and forest fuel intermingle with no clearly defined boundary.