

8.1 GLOSSARY AND TERMS

All Hazards: Refers to a policy or program that is designed to deal with a variety of natural and man-made hazards.

Annex: A document that supplements a Plan, which provides further planning information for a specific aspect of the plan.

Appendix: A separate portion of the Plan that contains guidance and information specific to actions required in the plan.

Biological Agents: Living organisms or the materials derived from them that cause disease in or harm to humans, animals, or plants or cause deterioration of material. Biological agents may consist of liquid droplets, aerosols, or dry powders.

Biomass: 1. The total mass of living matter within a given unit of environmental area. 2. Plant material, vegetation, or agricultural waste used as a fuel or energy.

Chemical Agent: A chemical substance that is intended to kill, seriously injure, or incapacitate people through physiological effects, generally separated by severity of effect: lethal, blister, and incapacitating.

Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan: A document required by state regulation that consists of a Basic Plan, Appendices, Supplemental Annexes, and Standard Operating Procedures for the purpose of providing effective mitigation, response to and recovery from disasters.

Cooperators: An associate in an activity or endeavor or sphere of common interest.

Damage Assessment: The appraisal or determination of the actual damage resulting from a disaster.

Decontamination: The process of making people, objects, or areas safe by absorbing, destroying, neutralizing, making harmless, or removing the HazMat.

Deed Restriction: Restrictions placed within a deed that control the use of the property. Restrictions travel with the deed, and cannot generally be removed by new owners.

Disaster Declaration: A document executed by an elected government for the purpose of obtaining response, recovery and mitigation assistance from a higher level of government.

Disaster: The occurrence of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or manmade cause including fire, flood, earthquake, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, hostile military or paramilitary action, and other public calamity requiring emergency action.

Drill: A supervised instruction period aimed at testing, developing, and maintaining skills in a particular operation. A drill is often a component of an exercise.

Emergency Alert System: A program of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to coordinate the dissemination of emergency information via commercial broadcasters.

Emergency Coordinator: A position called for in an emergency organization to direct daily emergency management functions at the local level.

Emergency Manager: A position called for in an emergency organization to administer the implementation of the local Emergency Management Plan.

Emergency Operations Center: A centralized location where individuals responsible for responding to a large scale emergency can have immediate communication with each other and with local government management for the purpose of enhancing coordination in exercising direction and control of emergency response and recovery efforts.

Emergency Powers: Special authority granted to a chief state or local official during times of emergency.

Emergency: An event, the effects of which cause loss of life, human suffering, property damage (both public and private), and severe economic and social disruption.

Fuels: In the wildfire fighting field, vegetation that could ignite.

Interface Condition : One of the conditions of WUI where structures abut wildland fuels. There is a clear line of demarcation between the structures and the wildland fuels along roads or back fences. Wildland fuels do not continue into the developed area. The development density for an interface condition is usually 3+ structures per acre.

Intermix Condition: A WUI condition where structures are scattered throughout a wildland area. There is no clear line of demarcation; the wildland fuels are continuous outside of and within the developed area. The development density in the intermix ranges from structures very close together to one structure per 40 acres.

Lead Agency: The federal or state department or agency assigned lead responsibility under U.S. law to manage and coordinate the response in a specific functional area. The FBI is the lead agency for crisis management and FEMA is the lead agency for consequence management

Lead Federal Agency (LFA): The agency designated by the President to lead and coordinate the overall Federal response is referred to as the LFA and is determined by the type of emergency. In general, an LFA establishes operational structures and procedures to assemble and work with agencies providing direct support to the LFA in order to provide an initial assessment of the situation, develop an action plan, monitor and update operational priorities, and ensure each agency exercises its concurrent and distinct authorities under U.S. law and supports the LFA in carrying out the President's relevant policy. Specific responsibilities of an LFA vary according to the agency's unique statutory authorities.

Local Emergency Responder: Safety services provided by agencies, such as police, fire, medical or rescue services.

Mitigation In the emergency management field, this is the phase for site-specific action to minimize hazards and reduce the potential for injury or damage in an emergency.

Mitigation: Actions taken to reduce the exposure to and detrimental effects of a natural hazard or a man-made incident.

Occluded Condition: AWUI situation normally within a city, where structures abut an island of wildland fuels (park or open space). There is a clear line of demarcation between the structures and the wildland fuels along roads or back fences. The development density for an occluded condition is usually similar to those found in the interface condition and the occluded area is usually less than 1,000 acres in size.

Preparedness Phase: Phase of emergency management for employee in-service training in emergency responsibilities, such as prevention of injuries and property damage, first-aid and other response and rescue operations, and for acquisition of adequate supplies and equipment required to respond to an emergency.

Project: Any planned piece of work that is undertaken or attempted.

Radiation: High-energy particles or gamma rays that are emitted by an atom as the substance undergoes radioactive decay. Such particles can be either charged alpha or beta particles or neutral neutron or gamma rays.

Recovery: In the emergency management field, the phase of the cycle when short-range and long-range recovery plans are implemented at each affected to facilitate the return to normal operations following an emergency.

Resource: A source of aid or support that may be drawn upon when needed.

Response: In the emergency management field, the phase of the cycle in which the emergency plan is put into action by assigning individuals to one of the emergency response functions.

Rural Condition: A WUI situation where scattered small clusters of structures (ranches, farms, resorts, or summer cabins) are exposed to wildland fuels. There may be miles between these clusters.

State and Local Assistance: Funding to maintain state and local government plans, facilities, equipments, training, and exercising. For state and local emergency service organizations.

Surficial Geology: Surficial geology is concerned with the description of the types and distributions of unconsolidated sediments across the landscape. This information is collected and maintained primarily in maps and databases. It is useful to mineral explorationists, sand and gravel production, hazard assessment, and landuse planning.

Terrorism: The unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives. Domestic terrorism involves groups or individuals who are based and operate entirely within the United States and U.S. territories without foreign direction and whose acts are directed at elements of the U.S. government or population.

Toxicity: A quantitative measure of the harmful effects produced by a given amount of a specific toxin on a living organism.

Weapons of Mass Destruction: means any weapon or device that is intended, or has the capability, to cause death or serious bodily injury to a significant number of people through the release, dissemination, or impact of **(A)** toxic or poisonous chemicals or their precursors; **(B)** a disease organism; or **(C)** radiation or radioactivity.

Wildland / Urban Interface (WUI): areas where human development meets or intermixes with wildland fuels. This definition was developed and adopted by the Western States Fire Managers, a sub-committee of the Council of Western States Foresters for the purposes of planning and the application of strategies for wildland fire hazard mitigation.

Woody Biomass: *biomass* from trees, bushes and shrubs.

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