

DNR Wildfire Hazard and Risk Mapping – Glossary of Terms

STEERING COMMITTEE Recommended Definitions

SB 6120 Section 4. (3) The department [DNR] shall establish and maintain a **statewide wildfire hazard map and a base-level wildfire risk map** for each county of the state based upon criteria established in coordination with the state fire marshal office. The **hazard map shall** be made available on the department's website and **shall designate areas as low, moderate, high, and very high wildfire hazard**. The **risk map shall** be made available on the department's website and **designate vulnerable resources or assets based on their exposure and susceptibility to a wildfire hazard**. The department **shall establish a method by which local governments may update the wildfire hazard map and wildfire risk map based on local assessments** and approved by the jurisdiction's fire marshal. The department **shall make publicly available the criteria and analysis utilized** in assessing the wildfire hazard and risk.

Glossary of Terms

TERM	STEERING COMMITTEE DEFINITION
Wildfire Hazard and Risk Maps	One interactive, ArcGIS online tool, with distinct layers to represent wildfire hazard and another layer to represent wildfire risk. These layers can be viewed independently from one another. The tool will be maintained by DNR and periodically updated based on local assessments and input from counties and cities. The tool will include clear communications about the components and methodology to develop the maps.
Hazard Map	The hazard map will represent both burn probability (likelihood of wildfire) and intensity (predicted flame height) of a wildfire occurring in a specific area. The model will use FSim data, specifically from more recent years to better reflect conditions in the current climate. The map will be periodically updated based on local input from counties/cities to smooth or edit units indicating hazard ratings to minimize barriers for WUI code enforcement.
Base-level Risk Map	The combination of wildfire hazard and vulnerability of high value resources and assets. “Base-level” represents the default statewide DNR created risk map for all counties. The base-level risk map will periodically be updated by DNR based on local risk assessments provided by counties.

Wildfire Risk	The chance that wildfire will ignite, spread, and cause negative impacts to assets such as homes or infrastructure.												
Wildfire Hazard Classes	<p>Fire Probability - Quantifies the average burn probability period between fires, in years, evaluated under the areas historical fire regime. 50-year Fire Probability would be classified as very high hazard, and 75-year FRI as high hazard.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Hazard Classes</th> <th>Fire Probability (Return Interval in Years)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Very Low</td> <td>> 2000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Low</td> <td>500-2000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Moderate</td> <td>100-500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High</td> <td>50-100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Very High</td> <td>< 50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Hazard Classes	Fire Probability (Return Interval in Years)	Very Low	> 2000	Low	500-2000	Moderate	100-500	High	50-100	Very High	< 50
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High Value Resources and Assets (HVRAs)	<p>Built structures and associated infrastructure that are vulnerable to wildfire. These may include homes, businesses, utilities, water supply systems, transportation networks, cultural landmarks, and other built assets. HVRAs are evaluated based on their exposure and susceptibility to fire, and the potential consequences of fire.</p> <p>[Note: DNR wants to emphasize the focus on structure and community]</p>												
Local Risk Assessment	Assessments performed by counties or cities to review and document the conditions of an area that impacts a HVRAs wildfire resistance accounting for any modifications such as fuel reduction projects, defensible space, and ignition resistant building construction. These assessments will be conducted at a scale appropriate for that county such as with existing WUI assessments. The information collected from these assessments will be provided to DNR at regular intervals in a unified format to update the risk layer of the statewide map.												

Wildland Urban Interface	That geographic area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland and vegetative fuels.
Community Aggregation Unit	A polygon boundary that will be used to aggregate and average the underlying values from the wildfire hazard raster grid. The resulting average wildfire hazard value is then assigned to all land located within the boundary. Community Aggregation Units should attempt to group areas with similar characteristics.