

## DEFINITIONS

### User notes:

**About this chapter:** *Codes, by their very nature, are technical documents. Every word, term and punctuation mark can add to or change the meaning*

*of a technical requirement. It is necessary to maintain a consensus on the specific meaning of each term contained in the code.*

*Chapter 2 performs this function by stating clearly what specific terms mean for the purpose of the code.*

### SECTION 201—GENERAL

**201.1 Scope.** Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings

shown in this chapter.

**201.2 Interchangeability.** Words stated in the present tense include the future; words stated in the masculine gender include the

feminine and neuter; and the singular number includes the plural and the plural the singular.

**201.3 Terms defined in other codes.** Where terms are not defined in this code and are defined in other International Codes, such

terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them as in those codes.

**201.4 Terms not defined.** Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have their

ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

### SECTION 202—DEFINITIONS

**ACCESSORY STRUCTURE.** A building or structure used to shelter or support any material, equipment, chattel or occupancy other than a habitable building.

**[A] APPROVED.** Acceptable to the *code official*.

**[A] APPROVED AGENCY.** An established and recognized organization that is regularly engaged in conducting

tests, furnishing inspection services or furnishing product evaluation or certification where such organization

has been approved by the code official.

**[A] BUILDING.** Any structure intended for supporting or sheltering any occupancy.

**[A] BUILDING OFFICIAL.** The officer or other designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement

of the *International Building Code*, or the building official's duly authorized representative.

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION.** Written documentation that the project or work for which a permit was issued has been completed

in conformance with requirements of this code.

**[A] CODE OFFICIAL.** The official designated by the jurisdiction to interpret and enforce this code, or the code official's authorized

representative.

**CRITICAL FIRE WEATHER.** A set of weather conditions (usually a combination of low relative humidity and wind) whose effects on fire

behavior make control difficult and threaten firefighter safety.

**DEFENSIBLE SPACE.** An area either natural or man-made, where material capable of allowing a fire to spread unchecked has been

treated, cleared or modified to slow the rate and intensity of an advancing wildfire and to create an area for fire suppression operations

to occur.

**DRIVEWAY.** A vehicular ingress and egress route that serves no more than two buildings or structures, not including accessory structures,

or more than five dwelling units.

**[BG] DWELLING.** A building that contains one or two dwelling units used, intended or designed to be used, rented, leased, let or hired

out to be occupied for living purposes.

**[F] FIRE CHIEF.** The chief officer or the chief officer's authorized representative of the fire department serving the jurisdiction.

**FIRE FLOW CALCULATION AREA.** The floor area, in square feet (square meters), used to determine the adequate water supply.

**FIRE PROTECTION PLAN.** A document prepared for a specific project or development proposed for the *wildland-urban interface area*.

It describes ways to minimize and mitigate the fire problems created by the project or development, with the purpose of reducing

impact on the community's fire protection delivery system.

**FIRE WEATHER.** Weather conditions favorable to the ignition and rapid spread of fire. In wildfires, this generally includes high

temperatures combined with strong winds and low humidity. See "*Critical fire weather*."

**FIRE-RESISTANCE-RATED CONSTRUCTION.** The use of materials and systems in the design and construction of a building or structure

to safeguard against the spread of fire within a building or structure and the spread of fire to or from buildings or structures to

the *wildland-urban interface area*.

**FIRE RESISTIVE VEGETATION** is those plants that burn at a relatively low intensity, slow rates of spread, and with short flame lengths. Characteristics include:

1. Growth with little or no accumulation of dead vegetation (either on the ground or standing upright)
2. Non-resinous plants (ex: flowers or aspen trees)
3. Low volume of total vegetation (ex: grass vs. brush)
4. Plants with high live fuel moisture (large amount of water in relation to their dry weight)
5. Drought tolerant plants
6. Stands without ladder fuels (plants without small, fine branches and limbs or adjacent shorter plants that create a ready-avenue for fire to move upward from the ground to the top of the vegetation)
7. Plants requiring little maintenance
8. Plants with woody stems and branches that require prolonged heating to ignite

**[BG] FLAME SPREAD INDEX.** A comparative measure, expressed as a dimensionless number, derived from visual measurements of

the spread of flame versus time for a material tested in accordance with ASTM E84.

**FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN** is a comprehensive management plan that is applied to all lands within the city boundary, as well as any parcels or areas served by an emergency response/suppression contract.

**FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN** applies to subdivisions, multi-family residential, commercial, and industrial development both inside and outside the Resource Protection Overlay. It does not apply to individual hazard tree removal or individual single family residential parcels. Specific determination of need will be made by Staff.

- When a Forest Stewardship Plan is required, it must include both narrative and descriptive maps documenting how existing forest conditions will be modified to align with the desired conditions and tree density as stated in the Forest Management Plan.
- The Forest Stewardship Plan is in addition to the Flagstaff Zoning Code standards.
- If a parcel falls within the Resource Protection Overlay, a Forest Stewardship Plan must be reviewed and approved prior to the submittal of the Natural Resource Protection Plan that aligns with the Resource Protection Standards (10-50.90).

**FUEL, HEAVY.** Vegetation consisting of round wood 3 to 8 inches (76 to 203 mm) in diameter. See Fuel Models G, I, J, K and U described

in Appendix D.

**FUEL, LIGHT.** Vegetation consisting of herbaceous plants and round wood less than 1/4 inch (6.4 mm) in diameter. See Fuel Models A,

C, E, L, N, P, R and S described in Appendix D.

**FUEL, MEDIUM.** Vegetation consisting of round wood 1/4 to 3 inches (6.4 mm to 76 mm) in diameter. See Fuel Models B, D, F, H, O, Q

and T described in Appendix D.

**FUEL BREAK.** An area, strategically located for fighting anticipated fires, where the native vegetation has been permanently modified

or replaced so that fires burning into it can be more easily controlled. Fuel breaks divide fire-prone areas into smaller areas for easier

fire control and to provide access for firefighting.

**FUEL MODIFICATION.** A method of modifying fuel load by reducing the amount of nonfire-resistive vegetation or altering the type of

vegetation to reduce the fuel load.

**FUEL MOSAIC.** A *fuel modification* system that provides for the creation of islands and irregular boundaries to reduce the visual and

ecological impact of *fuel modification*.

**FUEL-LOADING.** The oven-dry weight of fuels in a given area, usually expressed in pounds per acre (lb/a) (kg/ha). Fuel-loading may

be referenced to fuel size or time-lag categories, and may include surface fuels or total fuels.

**GREEN BELT.** A *fuel break* designated for a use other than fire protection.

**(2006) HAZARDOUS FUELS** are weeds, grass, needles, straw, brush, trees, vines, wood chips, firewood, or other vegetation - living or dead - that a) if ignited, will present a risk to life or property, or b) if left in its current or natural state, will create an impediment to access, pose a threat to improvements, infrastructure, or public safety, or may cause a fire to ignite.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** As defined in the *International Fire Code*.

**HEAVY TIMBER CONSTRUCTION.** As described in the *International Building Code*.

**IGNITION-RESISTANT BUILDING MATERIAL.** A type of building material that resists ignition or sustained flaming combustion sufficiently

so as to reduce losses from wildfire exposure of burning embers and small flames.

**IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION, CLASS 1.** A schedule of additional requirements for construction in *wildland-urban interface*

*areas* based on extreme fire hazard.

**IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION, CLASS 2.** A schedule of additional requirements for construction in *wildland-urban interface*

*areas* based on high fire hazard.

**IGNITION-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION, CLASS 3.** A schedule of additional requirements for construction in *wildland-urban interface*

*areas* based on moderate fire hazard.

**LOG WALL CONSTRUCTION.** A type of construction in which exterior walls are constructed of solid wood members and where the

smallest horizontal dimension of each solid wood member is not less than 6 inches (152 mm).

**MULTILAYERED GLAZED PANELS.** Window or door assemblies that consist of two or more independently glazed panels installed

parallel to each other, having a sealed air gap in between, within a frame designed to fill completely the window or door opening in

which the assembly is intended to be installed.

**NONCOMBUSTIBLE.** As applied to building construction material means a material that, in the form in which it is used, is either one

of the following:

1. Material of which no part will ignite and burn when subjected to fire. Any material conforming to ASTM E136 shall be considered

noncombustible within the meaning of this section.

2. Material having a structural base of noncombustible material as defined in Item 1 above, with a surfacing material not over

1/8 inch (3.2 mm) thick, which has a flame spread index of 50 or less. Flame spread index as used herein refers to a flame

spread index obtained according to tests conducted as specified in ASTM E84 or UL 723.

“Noncombustible” does not apply to surface finish materials. Material required to be noncombustible for reduced clearances to

flues, heating appliances or other sources of high temperature shall refer to material conforming to Item 1. No material shall be classified

as noncombustible that is subject to increase in combustibility or flame spread index, beyond the limits herein established,

through the effects of age, moisture or other atmospheric condition.

**NONCOMBUSTIBLE ROOF COVERING.** A roof covering consisting of any of the following:

1. Cement shingles or sheets.
2. Exposed concrete slab roof.
3. Ferrous or copper shingles or sheets.
4. Slate shingles.
5. Clay or concrete roofing tile.
6. *Approved roof covering of noncombustible material.*

**[A] PEER REVIEW.** An independent and objective technical review conducted by an approved third party.

**[A] REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL.** An architect or engineer, registered or licensed to practice professional architecture or engineering, as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the state in which the project is to be constructed.

**ROOF ASSEMBLY.** A system designed to provide weather protection and resistance to design loads. The system consists of a *roof covering* and *roof deck* or a single component serving as both the *roof covering* and the *roof deck*. A roof assembly can include an underlayment, thermal barrier, ignition barrier, insulation or a vapor retarder.

**ROOF COVERING.** The covering applied to the *roof deck* for weather resistance, fire classification or appearance.

**ROOF COVERING SYSTEM.** See "*Roof assembly.*"

**ROOF DECK.** The flat or sloped surface not including its supporting members or vertical supports.

**SLOPE.** The variation of terrain from the horizontal; the number of feet (meters) rise or fall per 100 feet (30 480 mm) measured horizontally,

expressed as a percentage.

**[A] STRUCTURE.** That which is built or constructed.

**[Z] SUBDIVISION.** The division of a tract, lot or parcel of land into two or more lots, plats, sites or other divisions of land.

**TREE CROWN.** The primary and secondary branches growing out from the main stem, together with twigs and foliage.

**UNENCLOSED ACCESSORY STRUCTURE.** An accessory structure without a complete exterior wall system enclosing the area under roof or floor above.

**(2006) VEGETATION MANAGEMENT** is a plan or operational activity, described below, that is undertaken by property owners at their own discretion or directed/approved by the Code Official designed or required to reduce wildfire threat, promote environmental sustainability, public welfare, and/or community well-being.

1. **Debris Disposal** - Removal of cut, dead, dying, and/or downed vegetation or other combustible materials, including flammable landscaping plants.
2. **Marking** - Designating trees or other vegetation, by location, paint, flagging, or other identification system, that are to be either removed or retained.
3. **Prescribed Fire** - The planned use of fire under specific environmental conditions to achieve forest management or community protection objectives. Used to reduce hazardous fuel levels, control unwanted vegetation, recycle nutrients, favor desired vegetation, and improve visibility and wildlife habitat.
4. **Selective Tree Thinning** - The periodic removal of individual trees or groups of trees to reduce threat of wildfire, improve individual tree vigor and forest health, or achieve other desired objectives.

**WILDFIRE.** An uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels, exposing and possibly consuming structures.

**WILDLAND.** An area in which development is essentially nonexistent, except for roads, railroads, power lines and similar facilities.

**WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE AREA.** That geographical area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels.