

GLOSSARY

ARSON – Fires started willfully and maliciously.

BUILDING – Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering, use or occupancy that is defined in the California Building Code, 1994 Amendments, Chapter 2.

CAMPFIRE – Fires started from a campfire. A “campfire” is “a fire used for cooking, warmth, lighting, ceremonial or aesthetic purposes, not within a building, mobile home, or living accommodation mounted on a motor vehicle”, Public Resources Code (PRC) §4103.5. In addition to the traditional type of open campfires, this category includes lanterns, and cooking and warming stoves used in camping or ceremonial activity, etc. when outside a building, mobile home, or living accommodation mounted on a motor vehicle.

CONTRACT COUNTIES – Contract Counties (CAL FIRE contracts with local government for services) PRC §4133 and Section 55607 of the Government Code permit the CAL FIRE Director to contract with counties for protection of State Responsibility Area (SRA). In California, six counties provide fire-protection and prevention services in SRA under contract with the state. The counties of Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, Santa Barbara and Ventura are contract counties.

DEBRIS BURNING – Fires started by burning refuse, slash, trash, or rangeland.

Dooryard – Fires started by burning a trash pile, incinerator, etc., usually with a dooryard-burning permit, Form LE-62.

Other Burning – Fires started by a project, contract, slash or other burning, usually with a Project Permit Form LE-7, or application and burning permit, Form LE-5.

DIRECT PROTECTION AREA (DPA) – The area for which a particular fire protection organization has the primary responsibility for attacking an uncontrolled fire and for directing the suppression activities. Such responsibility may develop through law or contract.

EQUIPMENT USE – Fires started by the use of mechanical or electrical equipment.

Stationary Equipment – Fires started by any mechanical equipment that is stationary (not normally portable).

Portable Equipment – Fires started by any mechanical equipment or tool that is portable (not normally stationary).

Other Equipment – Fires started by any equipment not listed above.

FOREST FIRE – A fire burning uncontrolled on lands covered wholly or in part by timber, brush, grass, grain or other flammable vegetation.

INCENDIARY – Fire that is intentionally ignited under circumstances in which the person knows that the fire should not be ignited.

LIGHTNING – Fire started by lightning.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT – A fire department, especially of a municipal government, whose purpose is preventing and extinguishing fires.

MISCELLANEOUS – Fire started by events or activities that are not classified as arson, campfire, debris burning, equipment use, lightning, playing with fire, powerline, railroad, smoking, vehicle, or undetermined.

PLAYING WITH FIRE (P-W-F) – Fires started without malicious intent by children playing or experimenting with fire or fire-causing agents. Includes fires started unintentionally while playing with fireworks, toys, models and other fire-causing devices.

POWERLINE – Fire started by electrical distribution or transmission.

RAILROAD – Fire started by railroad rolling stock, such as speeder, locomotive, or rail car.

SCHEDULE A – PRC 4142 allows CAL FIRE to provide fire protection/emergency services to local governments under contracts. CAL FIRE provides fire protection services to many California citizens through the administration of 146 cooperative fire protection agreements in 35 of the State's 58 counties.

SCHEDULE B – State personnel and resources, performing the State (CAL FIRE) mission, using State funding.

SMOKING – Fires started from smoking tobacco or other material; includes matches and other heat sources used in smoking.

STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA (SRA) – Areas of the State in which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires has been determined by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, to be primarily the responsibility of the State, PRC 4102.

UNCONTROLLED FIRE – Any fire which threatens to destroy life, property, or resources and either: (1) is unattended by any person; (2) is attended by persons unable to prevent its unrestricted spread; and (3) is burning with such velocity or intensity that it could not be readily controlled with those ordinary tools available to private persons at the fire scene.

UNDETERMINED – Fires that have not yet been investigated or those that have been investigated, or are under investigation, and have insufficient information to classify further.

VEHICLE – Fires started by a motorized transportation vehicle.

WILDFIRE – As defined in PRC §4103 and 4104 wildfire is any uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels that threatens to destroy life, property, or resources.

WILDLAND EXPOSURE – A combination of radiant heat, convective heat, direct flame contact and/or burning embers being projected by a vegetation fire to a structure and its immediate environment.

WILDLAND FIRE – Any fire occurring on undeveloped land. Specific to the CAIRS statistic in this report wildland fire includes: fires in natural vegetation, forests, woods, brush, or brush-and-grass mixture, grass, and cultivated vegetation.

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE – A geographical area identified by the State as a "Fire Hazard Severity Zone" in accordance with the PRC §4201 through 4204 and Government Code §51175 through 51189, or other areas designed to be at a significant risk from wildfires.