Appendix J: Glossary/Acronym List

***Glossary***

**Biomass;** for the purpose of this document it is forest woody material (live and dead) that can used as fuel or an energy source.

**Collaboration**; includes diverse groups or organizations working together to achieve common goals and resolve difficult wildfire and environmental issues through a variety of techniques such as wildfire suppression, project planning, training, simulations, negotiation, agreements, project implementation.

**Community at Risk (CAR)**; a group of homes or other improvements (such as utilities or transportation routes) within or adjacent to federal land in which conditions are conducive to a large-scale wildland fire and pose a significant threat to human life or property.

**Community Wildfire Protection Plan:** a plan for at-risk communities identifying and prioritizing areas for hazardous fuels treatments, and recommending methods of treatment.

**Condition Class**

**Conflagration:** A wildfire. Term is often used to describe a fire burning under extreme fire weather that poses a threat to communities. The term is also used when a wildland fire burns into a wildland- urban interface, destroying many structures.

**Cost-Share ;** Funding originating from two separate sources. Typically includes landowner contributions with additional state or federal financial project support.

**Crown Fire:** a fire that advances from treetop to treetop or shrubs independent of a surface fire.

**Defensible Space:** an area or location prepared or designated where;

* fire suppression resources can safely fight a wildfire;
* fire behavior will be modified to improve suppression opportunities;
* structure survivability and protection will be greatly increased

Often includes natural or man-made barriers and/or vegetation treatment areas where combustible material is removed or modified.

**Escape Route:** route away from dangerous areas on a fire and should be pre-planned.

**Evacuation:** the temporary movement of people and their possessions from locations threatened by wildfire.

**Extreme Fire Behavior:** a level of fire behavior characteristics that ordinarily precludes methods of direct control. One or more of the following is usually involved: high rates of speed, prolific crowning and/or spotting, presence of fire whirls, a strong convection column. Predictability is difficult because such fires often exercise some degree of influence on their environments and behave erratically, sometimes dangerously.

**Fire-Adapted Communty**; Human communities consisting of informed and prepared citizens through collaboratively planning and taking action to safely co-exist with wildland fire.

**Fire Behavior:** the manner in which a fire reacts to the influences of fuel, weather and topography.

**Fire Front:** that part of the fire within which continuous flaming combustion is taking place. Unless otherwise specified it is assumed to be the leading edge of the fire perimeter.

**Fire Occurrence Area**; Fire Occurrence Area (FOA) is an area where the probability of each acre igniting is the same.

**Fire Regime**; a method to determine the change after a fire in vegetation and plant community process, fire frequency, and degree of overstory plant mortality after a wildfire (fire severity). It describes the patterns of fires in terms of frequency, size, spatial distribution, intensity and its impacts (severity) to a particular area and its ecosystem.

**Fuel Condition:** relative flammability of fuel as determined by fuel type and environmental conditions.

**Fuel Loading:** the volume of fuel in a given area generally expressed in tons per acre.

**Fuel Modification:** any manipulation or removal of fuels to reduce the likelihood of ignition or the resistance to fire control.

**Fuels:** all combustible material within the wildland-urban interface, including vegetation and structures.

**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 fire fighting.

**Greenbelt:** a fuel break designated for use other than fire protection.

**Ground Fuels:** all combustible materials such as grass, duff, loose surface litter, tree or shrub roots, rotting wood, leaves, peat or sawdust that typically support combustion.

**Hazardous Areas:** those wildland areas where the combination of vegetation, topography, weather and the threat of fire to life and property create difficult and dangerous problems.

**Hazard Reduction (see also Mitigation):** any treatment of living and dead fuels that reduces the threat of ignition and spread of fire.

**Ignition Probability:** chance that a firebrand will cause an ignition when it lands on receptive fuels.

**Initial Attack:** the actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire to protect lives and property, and prevent further extension of the fire.

**Ladder Fuels:** fuels that provide vertical continuity allowing fire to carry from surface fuels into the crowns of trees or shrubs with relative ease.

**Mean Fire Return Interval**; the average period of time, often in years, between successive fires in a specified area under the presumed historical fire regime.

**Middle Ground**; the landscape located between communities and the more distant wildlands. Involves lands away from communities where fires have the potential to develop, move toward homes, and pose a threat to life and property.

**Mitigation:** action that alleviates the severity of a fire threat, fire effects, and/or fire risk as well as actions that increase the ability to actively suppress and/or prepare for a wildfire.

**Overstory:** that portion of the trees in a forest that forms the upper or uppermost layer.

**Pilot Project**; a initial test/experiment at a small scale as a preliminary study to evaluate the feasibility, time, cost, adverse/positive outcomes, and effect of something prior to a full-scale project.

**Preparedness:** 1) Condition or degree of being ready to cope with a potential fire situation. 2) Mental readiness to recognize changes in fire danger and act promptly when action is appropriate.

**Prescribed Burning:** controlled application of fire to wildland fuels in either their natural or modified state, under specified environmental conditions, which allows the fire to be confined to a predetermined area, and to produce the fire behavior and fire characteristics required to attain planned fire treatment and resource management objectives.

**Resilient**; Referred to in this document as “resilient ecosystems or “resilient landscapes. Landscape environments that survive damage and recover quickly from natural disturbances (wildfire) and human activities.

**Risk:** A situation involving exposure to danger; the possibility that something unpleasant or unwelcome will happen.

**Fire Risk Assessment**; Determining outcomes for the combination of the probability of a fire including possibility of suffering harm or loss combined with the expected potential effects (harm or loss) when a fire actually occurs. Fire Risk elements for this CWPP is displayed in Risk Model Framework located in Appendix D.

**Severity**; indicates the effects of a fire on an ecosystem most often describing the impacts of a fire on soil and mortality of vegetation.

**Structural Fire Agency:** a firefighting organization, usually at the local level, trained and equipped to fight structure fires. Local structural fire agencies may also be trained and equipped to combat wildland fires.

**Suppression:** the most aggressive protection strategy when a wildfire occurs, with a goal of control and total extinguishment of a fire.

**Surface Fuel:** fuels lying on or near the surface of the ground consisting of leaf and needle litter, dead branch material, downed logs, bark, tree cones, and low stature living plants.

**Survivable Space:** the characteristics of a home, its materials and design, in concert with the flammable materials in a home’s immediate surroundings that result in high ignition resistance from flames and firebrands (burning embers). Survivable space characteristics relate to the ignitability of a home without necessarily including the higher thermal vulnerability of firefighters.

**Sustainability**; in terms of both ecosystems and communities, is ability to remain diverse, productive, with the capability to endure disturbances, changes, and processes.

**Tree Crown:** the primary and secondary branches growing out from the main tree bole including with twigs and foliage.

**Understory:** low-growing vegetation under a stand of trees. Also, that portion of trees in a forest stand found below the overstory.

**Wildfire:** an unplanned and uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels, at times involving structures.

**Wildfire Causes:** the general causes of wildland fires are 1) natural, like lightning; 2) human caused – accidental such as debris burning, campfires, etc.; and 3) intentional, like arson.

**Wildland:** an area in which development is essentially non-existent, except for roads, railroads, power lines and similar transportation facilities. Structures, if any, are widely scattered.

**Wildland Fire:** any fire occurring on the wildlands, regardless of ignition source, damages or benefits.

**Wildland Fire Agency:** a firefighting organization, usually at the state or federal level, trained and equipped to fight wildland fires. Typically, wildland fire agencies are not trained and equipped to combat structure fires.

**Wildland-Urban Interface**; an area where houses meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland vegetation and fuels among lands prone to wildland fire. These areas are typically homes near range or forested lands.

**Wildland-Urban Interface Zone:** An area strategically identified that provides effective wildfire defense for communities, infrastructure, and other values at risk that meet or intermingle with wildland fuels and offer opportunities for broadened mitigation measures designed to interrupt wildfire spread and modify wildfire behavior in order to protect social, economic, and environmental interests.

***Acronym List***

**BLM** – Bureau of Land Management

**CAR** – Community at Risk

**CTUIR** – Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

**EOC** – Emergency Operations Center

**EOP** – Emergency Operations Plan

**FEMA** – Federal Emergency Management Agency

**FLAME -**

**HFRA** – Healthy Forests Restoration Act

**NFP** – National Fire Plan

**NOIDC** – Northeast Oregon Interagency Dispatch Center

**ODF** – Oregon Department of Forestry

**ODOT** – Oregon Department of Transportation

**OEM** – Oregon Emergency Management

**OSP** – Oregon State Police

**PLS** – Public Land Survey

**RFPD** – Rural Fire Protection District

**TSI** – Timber Stand Improvement

**UCES** – Union County Emergency Services

**UCZPSO** – Union County Zoning, Partition & Subdivision Ordinance

**USFS** – United States Forest Service

**WUI** – Wildland-Urban Interface

WWRA -

Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement Act of 2009" (FLAME Act of 2009)

CWS

CWPP

MOU Memorandum of Understanding