

FUEL MODEL DESCRIPTIONS - GRASS GROUP

FUEL MODELS	DESCRIPTION	COMMON TYPES/SPECIES	FIRE BEHAVIOR
#1 SHORT GRASS (1 FOOT)	Fire spread governed by the fine herbaceous fuels that have cured or are nearly cured. Very little, if any, shrubs or timber is present, generally less than one-third of the area.	Best fits grasslands that are not grazed. Also consider savanna types, stubble, grass with scattered shrubs, and grass-tundra or low tussock with grasses, lichens, and mosses.	Surface fires that can burn very rapidly.
#2 TIMBER (GRASS AND UNDERSTORY)	Fire spread is primarily through fine herbaceous fuels, either curing or dead. In addition litter and dead-down stemwood from open shrub or timber overstory contributes to fire intensity. Shrub or tree cover is approximately one-third to two-thirds of the area.	Best fits open pine/grassy understory, wiregrass/scrub oak associations, but can be used for timber/sage-brush/grass associations, some pinyon-juniper stands, and southern pine clearcut slash.	Surface fires can spread easily. Clumps of fuels that generate higher intensities may produce firebrands.
#3 TALL GRASS (2 1/2 FEET)	Fire spread is in tall stands of grass averaging about 3 feet where one-third or more of stand is considered dead or cured. Fire may be carried by wind through the upper heights of grasses standing in water.	Best fits tall sawgrasses, fountain grass (Hawaii), eastern marsh vegetation, and other grasses such as bluebunch wheatgrass, blue-stem, broomsedge, and panic-grass. Also consider wild or cultivated grains that haven't been harvested, and tall tussock/tundra/grass situations.	Fires in this fuel are the most intense of the grass group and display high rates of spread under the influence of wind.