

****11/4/03 DRAFT****

**Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) Interagency Handbook
Reference Conditions**

Modeler: Doug Havlina

Date: 8/29/03

PNVG Code: WSAG2

Potential Natural Vegetation Group: Warm sagebrush (Wyoming big sagebrush) with Trees.

Geographic Area: Pacific Northwest, Columbia Plateau, Northern Rockies, Central Rockies, Great Basin, California.

Description: Wide-ranging potential natural vegetation group common to Basin and Range province, extending into the Pacific Northwest and east into the central Rockies. Wyoming big sagebrush usually occupies foothills, terraces, slopes and plateaus. Soils are generally shallow and well drained. These relatively arid sites may abut ponderosa pine, juniper species, pinyon species, xeric sagebrush, and grasslands across its range. Pinyon and juniper species are the most common encroaching species, although ponderosa pine may move into some moister Wyoming sage sites. Due to resource limitations, Wyoming big sagebrush communities have fewer understory species relative to other big sagebrush subspecies.

Fire Regime Description: Fire Regime Groups III (35-100+ year, mixed severity), and IV (35-100+, stand replacement).

Vegetation Type and Structure

Class	Percent of Landscape	Description
A: post replacement	15	Post-fire community of forbs and perennial grasses
B: mid-development closed	5	Mid-seral, dense (>15%) canopy cover sagebrush stands with understory of forbs and grasses. Sapling to pole sized encroaching pinyon and/or juniper species present.
C: mid- open	10	Mid-seral, open (<15%) sagebrush community with perennial grasses and forbs in interspaces. Sapling to pole sized encroaching pinyon and/or juniper present.
D: late- open	50	Late-seral, open (<15%) sagebrush community

		with limited shrub/herbaceous community. Scattered mature juniper or pinyon species on safe sites protected from fire.
E: late- closed	20	Late-seral, closed (>15%) sagebrush community, noticeable dead component, with limited shrub/herbaceous community. Scattered mature juniper or pinyon species on safe sites protected from fire.
Total	100	

Fire Frequency and Severity

Fire Frequency- Severity	Modeled Probability	Pct, All Fires	Description
Replacement Fire	.00766	46	Crown fire in stages B and E resetting succession to bunchgrass/forb community
Non-Replacement Fire	.009	54	Mosaic fire in stages B, C and D creating or maintaining open sagebrush structure
All Fire Frequency*	.0166	100	

*Sum of replacement fire and non-replacement fire probabilities.

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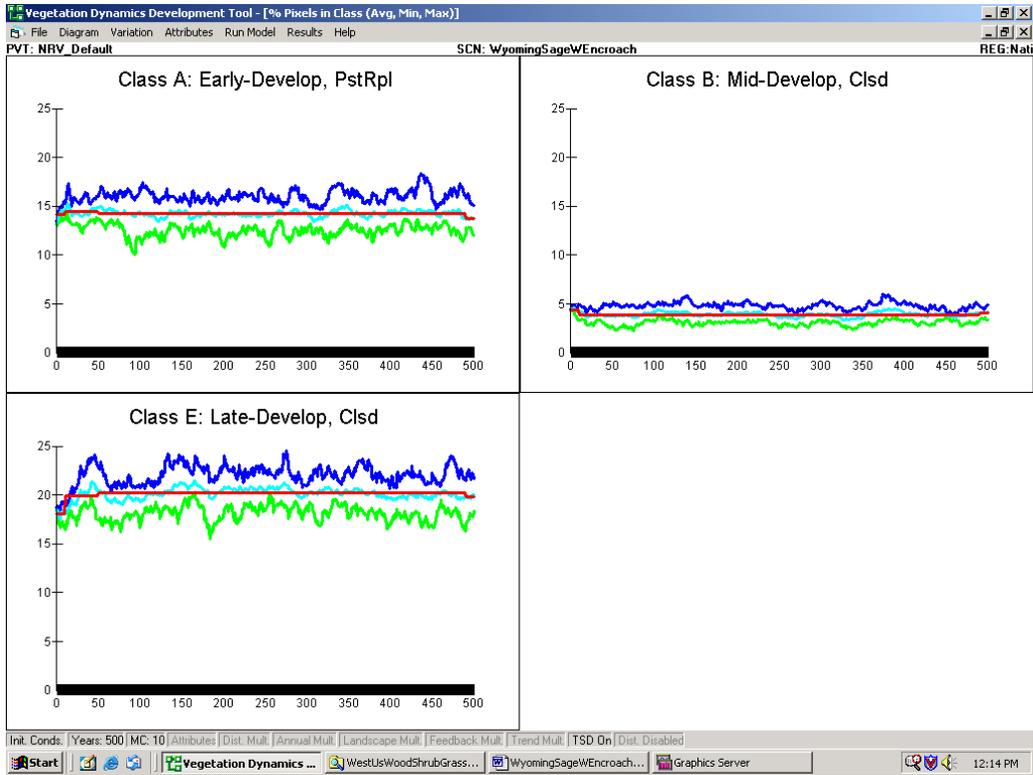
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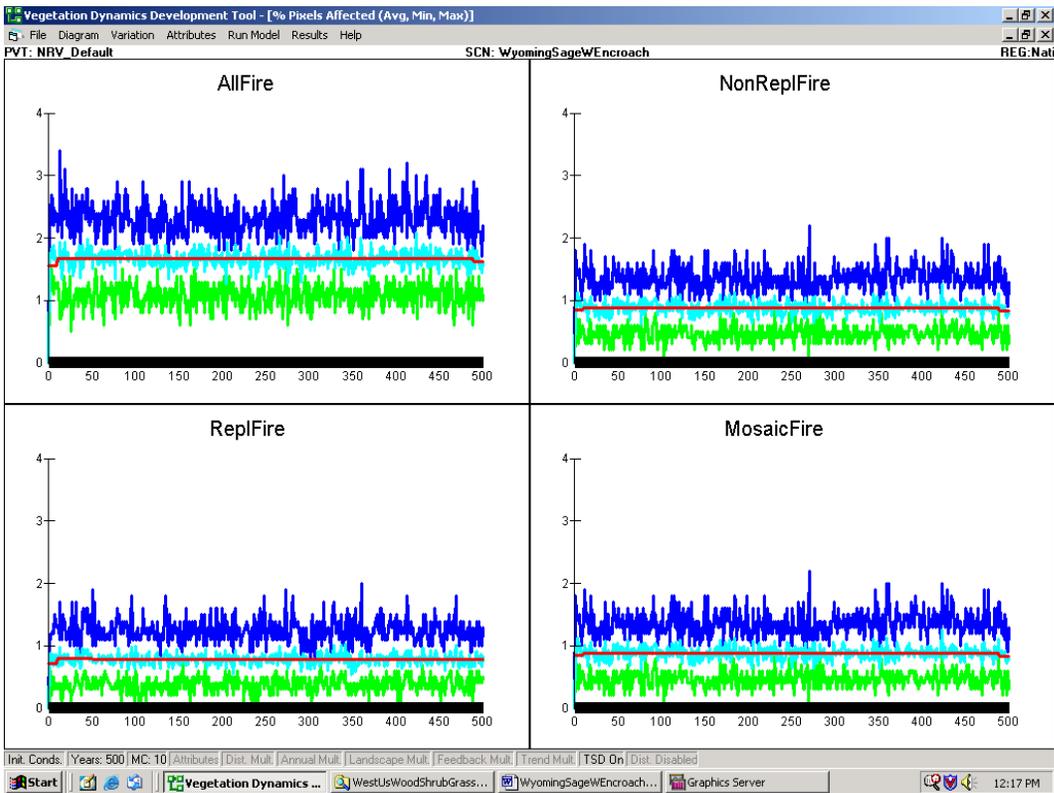
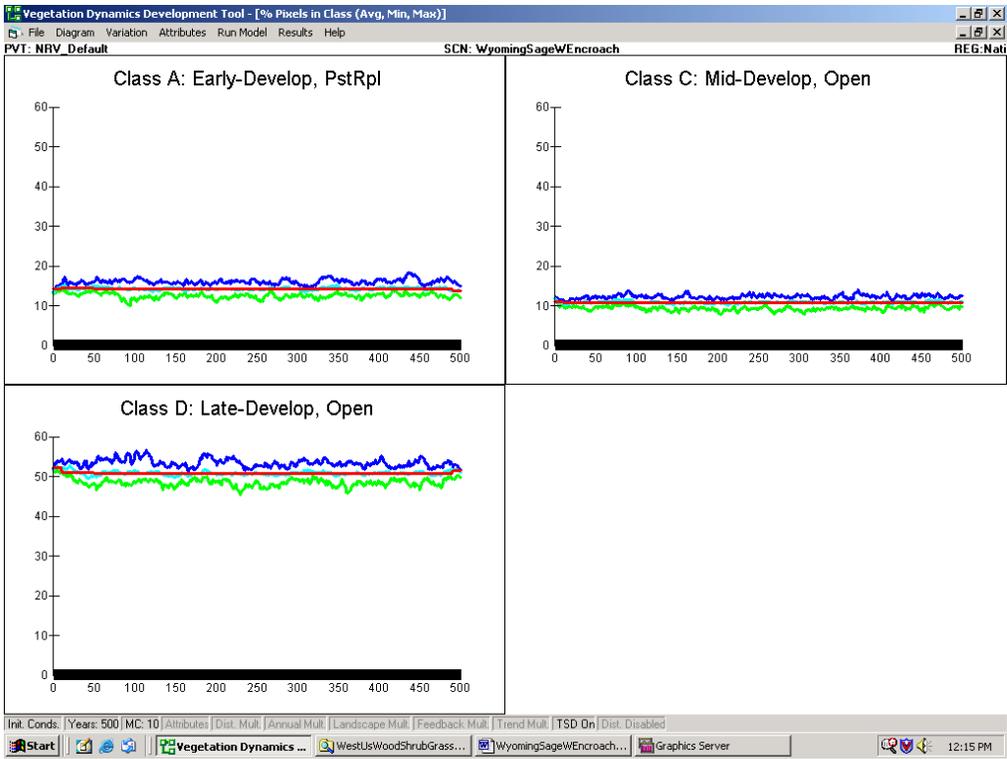
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VDDT Results





Photographs:
Landscape CC1

Landscape CC2

Landscape CC3

Landscape-Current

Landscape-Historical

Class A – Early Development

Class B – Mid-Development Closed

Class C – Mid-Development Open

Class D – Late Development Open

Class E – Late Development Closed