

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to provide consistent and effective procedures in Wildland Firefighting Incident Operations and Safety. Wildland firefighting is very challenging; adding lives, structures and other improvements into the equation greatly increases the complexity and risk to safety. Over the last several decades an expansion of communities, homes and other improvements into wildland areas has created a significant challenge for the fire service agencies responsible for providing fire protection in these areas. Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fires often overtax the local fire agency resulting in the activation of mutual aid and automatic aid agreements to augment jurisdictional resources. Nearly every WUI fire includes responses from a variety of wildland and municipal fire agencies resulting in the need for clear text and common terminology among emergency responders.

**Policy:**

All San Diego County Fire Agencies operating on wildland fire incidents within San Diego County will adopt, train and utilize the Firescope Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Structure Protection Guidelines. The link below identified under the Reference section of this policy will provide further details of the WUI document.

**Definition:**

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fires often overtax the local fire agency resulting in the activation of mutual aid and automatic aid agreements to augment jurisdictional resources. Nearly every WUI fire includes responses from a variety of wildland and municipal fire agencies resulting in the need for clear text and common terminology among emergency responders. This policy on WUI operations and structure protection is designed to provide common terminology and operating principles for statewide responders. It also includes guidelines and checklists to complement first responders differing levels of training and experience.

**Reference:**

See attached WUI Document.

The link below will provide further details of the WUI document:

<http://www.firescope.org/ics-guides-and-terms/WUI-SP.pdf>

**Procedure:**

All San Diego Operational Area Fire Agencies will ensure that their personnel are familiar with the WUI document and associated procedures.