

TABLE 4. MITIGATION DIFFICULTY CLASSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

Class	Characteristics	Mitigation Discussion
1	Sparsely vegetated, or developed, with potential for ember impact	Barren ground/water/developed/ sparse vegetation or land that lies within potential spotting distance of a wildfire. Mitigation will involve appropriate structure ignition zone and structure construction.
2	Herbaceous on a shallow slope (<15%)	Fires are typically easier to suppress in these areas. However, high winds combined with dry conditions lead to potentially dangerous, fast-moving, high-intensity fires. Mitigation may involve a combination of irrigation, mechanical (mowing) treatment, frequent burning, and fuel breaks in conjunction with appropriate structure ignition zone and structure construction.
3	Herbaceous on moderate slope (≥15 to <30%)	Harder to construct fuel breaks, increased difficulty in mechanical (mowing) treatment, increased potential for erosion, increased rate of spread and intensity may make frequent burning and other mitigation more difficult. Focus should be on appropriate slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.
4	Herbaceous on steep slope (≥ 30%)	Significant challenges in fuel break construction, unlikely option for mechanical (mowing) treatment, significant potential for erosion, high rate of spread and intensity potential may make frequent burning and other mitigation difficult. High winds combined with short-term drying conditions lead to potentially dangerous, fast-moving fires with fire fighter access concerns. Mitigation potential may involve a combination of frequent burning and fuel breaks in conjunction with slope setback, appropriate structure ignition zone, and structure construction.
	Shrub on shallow slope (<15%)	Fires are typically harder to suppress than grassfires in these areas. High winds combined with dry conditions lead to potentially dangerous, fast-moving, high-intensity fires with fire fighter access concerns. Mitigation may involve a combination of frequent burning and fuel breaks in conjunction with appropriate structure ignition zone and structure construction.
5	Shrub on moderate slope (≥15 to <30%)	Harder to construct fuel breaks, increased difficulty in mechanical (mastication) treatment, increased potential for erosion, increased rate of spread and intensity may make prescribed burning more difficult. Focus should be on a combination of appropriate mechanical treatment and burning, slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.

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6	Shrubs on steep ($\geq 30\%$) slopes	Significant challenges in fuel break construction; unlikely option for extensive mechanical (mastication) treatment. Significant potential for erosion or slope instability resulting from treatments is a likely mitigation challenge. Increased rate of spread and significant intensity may make prescribed burning more difficult. Focus should be on a combination of appropriate mechanical treatment and burning, slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.
	Tree on shallow slope ($< 15\%$)	Open canopy must be maintained to prevent increased crown fire potential. Surface fuels must be treated/maintained in a state that reduces the chances of fast-moving surface fires. Mitigation should also include appropriate slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.
7	Tree on moderate slope (≥ 15 to $< 30\%$)	Open canopy must be maintained to prevent increased crown fire potential, which may be more difficult due to the slope. Surface fuels must be treated/maintained in a state that reduces the chances of fast-moving surface fires. Increased potential for erosion or slope instability resulting from treatments can be a mitigation challenge. Mitigation should also include appropriate slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.
	Tree on shallow slope ($< 15\%$) with potential for crown fire	Dense canopy needs to be thinned to reduce crown fire potential. Surface fuels must be treated to reduce risk of fast-moving surface fires. Mitigation should also include appropriate structure ignition zone and structure construction mitigation.
8	Tree on moderate slope with potential for crown fire (≥ 15 to $< 30\%$)	Dense canopy needs to be thinned to reduce crown fire potential, which may be more difficult due to the slope. Surface fuels must be treated to reduce risk of fast-moving surface fires. Increased potential for erosion or slope instability resulting from treatments can be a mitigation challenge. Mitigation should also include appropriate slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.
8	Tree on steep slope ($\geq 30\%$)	Open canopy must be maintained to prevent increased crown fire potential, which can be significantly difficult due to the slope. Surface fuels must be treated/maintained in a state that reduces the chances of fast-moving surface fires. Significant potential for erosion or slope instability resulting from treatments is a likely mitigation challenge. Mitigation should also include appropriate slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.

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9	Tree on steep slope ($\geq 30\%$) with potential for crown fire	Dense canopy needs to be thinned to reduce crown fire potential, which may be extremely difficult if not prohibitive due to the slope. Surface fuels must be treated to reduce risk of fast-moving surface fires. A very high potential for erosion or slope instability resulting from treatments is a likely mitigation challenge. Mitigation should also include appropriate slope setbacks, structure ignition zone, and structure construction mitigation.

Land Use Planning Application: This informs land use planners on the general potential success and challenges of mitigation when aligning with the mitigation requirements of the Wildland-Urban Interface regulatory requirements.