

PD Field Descriptions

FIREMON PLOT DESCRIPTION (PD) FIELD DESCRIPTIONS

Required PD Fields – Database key

Registration Code. The Registration Code is a 4-character code determined by you or assigned to you. All four characters must be used.

Project Code. The Project Code is an 8-character code used to identify project work that is done within the group. You are not required to use all eight characters.

Plot Number. Identifier that corresponds to the site where sampling methods are applied. Integer value.

Sampling Date. 8-digit number in the MM/DD/YYYY format where MM is the month number, DD is the day of the month and YYYY is the current year.

Organization Codes

Field 1: **Organization Code 1.** 4-character field used to identify part of the agency location code.

Field 2: **Organization Code 2.** 2-character field used to identify part of the agency location code.

Field 3: **Organization Code 3.** 2-character field used to identify part of the agency location code.

Field 4: **Organization Code 4.** 2-character field used to identify part of the agency location code.

Plot Information Fields

Field 5: **Examiner Name.** 8-character field used to identify the crew boss or lead examiner.

Field 6: **Units.** (E/M). Units of measure use on the plot – English or Metric.

Field 7: **Plot Radius.** (ft/m). Radius of the macroplot. If the macroplot is rectangular, plot length.

Field 8: **Plot Width.** (ft/m). Width of the plot if it is rectangular. Enter 0 (zero) or blank if the plot is circular.

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Sampling information

Field 9: **Plot Type**. (M/C). Plot type - Monitoring or Control.

Field 10: **Sampling Event**. (Pn/Rn/IV). Treatment relative sampling identification. Valid codes are in table PD-2 of the sampling method.

Linking Fields

Field 11: **Fire ID**. Fire ID of up to 15 characters. The ID number or name that relates the fire that burned this plot to the same fire described in the Fire Behavior (FB) table.

Field 12: **Metadata ID**. Metadata ID of up to 15-characters that links the plot data to the MD table.

Georeferenced Plot Positions

Field 13: **Coordinate System**. Identifies whether lat-long or UTM coordinates were used. This field is automatically filled based on the data entered in Fields 14 to 21. The user does not see this field.

Field 14: **Latitude**. Latitude. Precision: ± 0.000001 decimal degree.

Field 15: **Longitude**. Longitude. Precision: ± 0.000001 decimal degree.

Field 16: **Northing**. UTM northing. Precision: ± 1 m.

Field 17: **Easting**. UTM easting. Precision: ± 1 m.

Field 18: **Datum**. Datum used in conjunction with the UTM coordinates.

Field 19: **Position Error**. Position error value provided by the GPS unit.

Field 20: **Error Units** (E/M). Enter the units associated with the GPS error. May be different than the units listed in Field 6.

Field 21: **Zone**. UTM zone of the plot center.

Biophysical Setting Fields

Topography

Field 22: **Elevation** (ft/m). Plot elevation. Precision: ± 100 ft/30 m.

Field 23: **Plot Aspect** (degrees). Aspect measured in degrees true north. Precision: ± 5 degrees.

Field 24: **Slope**. (percent). Average plot slope. Precision: ± 5 percent.

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Field 25: **Landform**. 4-letter landform code. Valid codes are in table PD-3 of the sampling method.

Field 26: **Vertical Slope Shape**. 2-letter slope shape code. Valid codes are in table PD-4 of the sampling method.

Field 27: **Horizontal Slope Shape**. 2-letter slope shape code. Valid codes are in table PD-4 of the sampling method.

Geology and Soils Fields

Field 28: **Primary Surficial Geology**. 4-letter code describing the geological rock type composing the parent material. Valid codes are in table PD-5 of the sampling method.

Field 29: **Secondary Surficial Geology**. 4-letter code describing the secondary geological rock type composing the parent material. Use this field only if you have coded a primary surficial geology type. Valid codes are in table PD-6 of the sampling method. Table PD-6 is an abridged list of common surficial types. A complete list is included in the Lithology Appendix.

Field 30: **Soil Texture Class**. Up to 4-letter code that describes the soil texture. Valid codes are in table PD-7 of the sampling method.

Field 31: **Erosion Type**. 1-letter code describing the erosion on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-8 of the sampling method.

Field 32: **Erosion Severity**. 1-number code describing the severity of the soils erosion. Valid codes are in table PD-9 of the sampling method.

Vegetation Fields

Vegetation – Trees

Field 33: **Total Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all the trees on the macroplot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 34: **Seedling Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all trees that are less than 4.5 feet (1.4 meters) tall. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: 1 class.

Field 35: **Sapling Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all trees that are greater than 4.5 feet (1.4 meters) tall and less than 5.0 in (13 cm) DBH. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 36: **Pole Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all trees that are greater than 5 in (13 cm) DBH and less than 9 in (23 cm) DBH. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

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Field 37: **Medium Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all trees that are greater than 9 in (23 cm) DBH up to 21 in (53 cm) DBH. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 38: **Large Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all trees that are greater than 21 in (53 cm) DBH up to 33 in (83 cm) DBH. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 39: **Very Large Tree Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all trees that are greater than 33 in (83 cm) DBH. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Vegetation - Shrubs

Field 40: **Total Shrub Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all shrubs on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 41: **Low Shrub Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all shrubs that are less than 3 feet (1 meter) tall. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 42: **Medium Shrub Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all shrubs that are greater than 3 feet (1 meter) tall and less than 6.5 feet (2 meters) tall. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 43: **Tall Shrub Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all shrubs that are greater than 6.5 feet (2 meters) tall. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Vegetation – Herbaceous

Field 44: **Gramminoid Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all graminoid species on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 45: **Forb Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all forbs on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 46: **Fern Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all ferns on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 47: **Moss and Lichen Cover**. Vertically projected canopy cover of all mosses and lichens on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

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Vegetation – Composition

Field 48: **Upper Dominant Species 1**. Either the NRCS plants species code or the local code of the most dominant species in the upper level stratum (greater than 10 feet (3 m) above ground level). Plant code is either the NRCS plant code or locally defined code.

Field 49: **Upper Dominant Species 2**. Either the NRCS plants species code or the local code of the second most dominant species in the upper level stratum (greater than 10 feet (3 m) above ground level). Code is either the NRCS plant code or locally defined code.

Field 50: **Mid Dominant Species 1**. Either the NRCS plants species code or the local code of the most dominant species in the mid level stratum (greater than 3 feet and less than 10 feet (1 to 3 m) above ground level). Code is either the NRCS plant code or locally defined code.

Field 51: **Mid Dominant Species 2**. Either the NRCS plants species code or the local code of the second most dominant species in the mid level stratum (greater than 3 feet and less than 10 feet (1 to 3 m) above ground level). Code is either the NRCS plant code or locally defined code.

Field 52: **Lower Dominant Species**. Either the NRCS plants species code or the local code of the most dominant species in the lowest level stratum (less than 3 feet (1 m) above ground level).

Field 53: **Lower Dominant Species**. Either the NRCS plants species code or the local code of the second most dominant species in the lowest level stratum (less than 3 feet (1 m) above ground level).

Potential Vegetation

Field 54: **Potential Vegetation Type ID**. 10-character, unstandardized code used to identify locally determined potential vegetation type.

Field 55: **Potential Lifeform**. 2-letter potential lifeform code. Valid codes are in table PD-11 of the sampling method.

Ground Cover Fields

Ground Cover

Field 56: **Bare Soil Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of bare soil. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 57: **Gravel Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of rock. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 58: **Rock Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of rock. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

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Field 59: **Litter and Duff Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of all uncharred litter and duff on the soil surface. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 60: **Wood Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of all uncharred woody material. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 61: **Moss and Lichen Cover**. Percent canopy cover of all mosses and lichens on the plot. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 62: **Charred Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of all *charred organic* material. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 63: **Ash Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of all ash material. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 64: **Basal Vegetation Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of basal vegetation using the codes. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

Field 65: **Water Ground Cover**. Percent ground cover of standing water. Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

General Fuel Characteristics

Field 66: **Surface Fire Behavior Fuel Model**. Fire behavior fuel model from the Anderson 1983 publication, *Aids for Determining Fuel Models for Estimating Fire Behavior*. Or, custom fire behavior fuel model.

Field 67: **Fuel Photo Series ID**. 12-character, unstandardized field to enter a photo guide publication number and photo number that is similar to fuel characteristics seen on the plot.

Field 68: **Stand Height**. (ft/m). Height of the highest stratum that contains at least 10 percent vertically projected canopy cover. Precision: ± 3 ft/1 m.

Field 69: **Canopy Fuel Base Height**. (ft/m). Lowest point above the ground at which there is a sufficient amount of canopy fuel to propagate a fire vertically into the canopy. Precision: ± 1 ft/0.3 m.

Field 70: **Canopy Cover**. Percent canopy cover of the forest canopy above 6 feet (2 meters). Valid codes are in table PD-10 of the sampling method. Precision: ± 1 class.

The Fire Behavior and Effects Fields

Fire Behavior

Field 71: **Flame Length**. (ft/m). Length of the flames from the center of the combustion zone to the end of the continuous flame. Precision: ± 0.5 ft/ 0.2 m.

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Field 72: **Spread Rate.** (ft/min. or m/min.). Average speed of the fire across the macroplot.
Precision: ± 1 ft/min. or 0.3 m/min.

Field 73: **Fire Behavior Picture.** Up to a 15-character filename used to identify the location of a digital photo showing the fire behavior on the plot.

Fire Effects

Field 74: **Fire Severity Code.** 1-number code describing the fire severity on the plot. Range for 1 (heavily burned) to 5 (unburned). Valid codes are in table PD-11 of the sampling method.
Precision: ± 1 class.

Common Fields

Field 75: **North Digital Photo.** Up to a 15-character filename used to identify the location of a digital photo showing general plot conditions facing north.

Field 76: **East Digital Photo.** Up to a 15-character filename used to identify the location of a digital photo showing general plot conditions facing east.

Field 77: **Photo Point 1.** Up to a 15-character filename used to identify the location of a digital photo for general use.

Field 78: **Photo Point 2.** Up to a 15-character filename used to identify the location of a digital photo for general use.

Comments Fields

Local Codes

Field 79: **Local 1.** User designed code that is up to 10 characters in length.

Field 80: **Local 2.** User designed code that is up to 10 characters in length.

Comments

Field 81: **Comments.** 256-character, unstandardized comment field.