



## WHITE PAPER

July 10, 2025

TO: FIRESCOPE Board of Directors  
23300 Castle Street  
Riverside, CA 92518-2200

FROM: FIRESCOPE Operations Team, Task Force, and Wildland Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Revision and Update of WUI Structure Defense Document

**APPROVAL: The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors approved this White Paper on July 10, 2025**

### SUMMARY

Wildland urban interface (WUI) firefighting is inherently complex and hazardous, demanding a methodical approach to risk mitigation. Currently, information on WUI Structure Defense operations resides in multiple locations including the FIRESCOPE website and the Field Operations Guide (ICS 420-1). To enhance usability for firefighters, we should align these documents into ICS-600 and update Chapter 14 in the FOG, to include a thorough revision and update.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Give direction to the Wildland Subcommittee to revise and update the FIRESCOPE Wildland Urban Interface Structure Defense document, **integrating it into** ICS-600 and update the Field Operations Guide (Chapter 14). WUI operations content is found in multiple places:

- The “Wildland Urban Interface Structure Defense” document on the FIRESCOPE website under “Miscellaneous Documents” – last revised in 2013.
- Chapter 14 of the Firescope FOG – last revised in 2022.

Goals for the document:

- Combine the current FIRESCOPE material on WUI operations, creating ICS-600.
- Revise and update to ensure the current material is relevant and aligned with best practices.
- Update FOG Chapter 14 to be a condensed version of ICS-600, appropriate as a field guide.



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### FISCAL IMPACTS/COST ANALYSIS

Personnel costs associated with subcommittee support.

### IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The Wildland Subcommittee will compose and approve a draft for submittal through the FIRESCOPE decision process.

### FINDINGS

FIRESCOPE's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) material requires consolidation, updating, and alignment. This is crucial for effective interagency operations, as FIRESCOPE has historically provided the common terminology, best practices, and tactics essential for success. Publishing these revised guidelines will benefit all resource types and supervisory levels by establishing a consistent, agreed-upon approach to high-risk tactical operations. When applied correctly, these updated guidelines will significantly reduce risk and serve as a vital model for all WUI operations.

### CONCLUSION

Approving the creation of ICS-600 and its corresponding chapter in the Field Operations Guide is a straightforward, low-cost proposal. It will equip fireline leadership with widely acknowledged best practice guidelines, ensuring that resources involved in WUI operations benefit from the thoughtful and thorough application of these critical tactics.