

Organizational Kind/Category Standard

The purpose of this standard is to provide a simplified structure for representing agencies or groups of agencies as they commonly appear in wildland fire reporting systems, statistical summaries, and jurisdictional maps. This is not intended to be a formal organizational ontology or hierarchy. Instead, it blends specific agency names with broad categories to support consistent mapping and reporting. For this use case, maintaining a small number of recognizable categories is essential. For example, this standard treats both “State” and “Bureau of Land Management” as top-level categories. In a formal hierarchy, BLM would be nested under the U.S. Department of the Interior, which itself is part of the Executive Branch of the federal government, while a “State” agency might refer to the Nevada Division of Forestry, under the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Although such hierarchical detail is valuable in systems like the NWCG Unit ID structure, it would introduce unnecessary complexity for mapping and statistical summaries, where a limited and stable set of agency values—far fewer than the hundreds that might be required in a full hierarchy—is more practical and usable. If this standard were implemented as an attribute within an ontology, it could provide cross-compatibility with the Unit ID or similar systems.

Organization Kind		Organization Category	
Kind Code	Kind Name	Category Code	Category Name
Federal	Federal	BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
		BLM	Bureau of Land Management
		BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
		DOD	Department of Defense
		DOE	Department of Energy
		NPS	National Park Service
		USFS	US Forest Service

Organization Kind		Organization Category	
Kind Code	Kind Name	Category Code	Category Name
Federal	Federal	USFWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service
		USWFS	US Wildland Fire Service
		OthFed	Other Gov Agencies including Non-Departmental, Independent Agencies, and Government Corporations (e.g., NASA, TVA, Americorps, US Coast Guard, FAA)
State	State	State	State or equivalent government
Local	Local	City	City Government
		County	County or equivalent government
		OthLocal	Other Local. Use only if city, county does not apply. (e.g., Port/Airport Authority)
Sovereign	Sovereign Government	Tribal	Tribal Government
Foreign	Foreign Government	Foreign	Foreign Government
Private	Private	Private	Individual or Corporation
		ANC	Alaska Native Corporation
Other	Other	Other	Other. The use of "Other" for kind and category should be last resort as detail is always preferred.