

**Table 1**  
**Use categories and associated service conditions**

Use category	Service conditions	Use environment	Common agent(s) of deterioration	Typical application(s)
UC1	Interior construction — above ground — dry	Protected against weather and other sources of moisture	Insects	Interior construction and furnishings
UC2	Interior construction — above ground — damp	Protected against weather, but can be exposed to moisture	Decay fungi and insects	Interior construction
UC3.1	Exterior construction — above ground — coated and rapid water run off	Protected against weather by coating or cladding and not subject to prolonged wetting	Decay fungi, disfiguring fungi, and insects	Coated millwork, siding, and trim
UC3.2	Exterior construction — above ground — uncoated or poor water run off	Exposed to all weather cycles, including prolonged wetting	Decay fungi, disfiguring fungi, soft-rot fungi, and insects	Decking, deck joists, railings, fence pickets, and uncoated millwork
UC4.1	Ground contact or freshwater — non-critical components	Exposed to all weather cycles; normal exposure conditions, including salt water splash*	Decay fungi, disfiguring fungi, soft-rot fungi, and insects	Fence, deck, and guardrail posts, crossties, and utility poles (low-decay areas)
UC4.2	Ground contact or freshwater — critical structural components or difficult replacement	Exposed to all weather cycles; high potential for decay	Decay fungi, disfiguring fungi, soft-rot fungi, and insects (with increased potential for biodeterioration)	Land, freshwater, and foundation piles, permanent wood foundations, building poles, horticultural posts, crossties, and utility poles (high-decay areas)
UC5A	Coastal waters — brackish water or salt water and adjacent mud zone	Continuous salt water exposure	Salt water organisms	Piles, bulkheads, and bracing
UCF.1	Fire protection as required by codes — interior construction — above ground	Protected against weather and other sources of moisture	Fire	Roof sheathing, roof trusses, studs, joists, and panelling

\*In AWPA Standards, salt water splash is included in UC4.2.