BURNED-AREA REPORT
(Reference FSH 2509.13)

PART I - TYPE OF REQUEST

A. Type of Report

[X] 1. Funding request for estimated emergency stabilization funds
[ ] 2. Accomplishment Report
[ ] 3. No Treatment Recommendation

B. Type of Action

[X] 1. Initial Request (Best estimate of funds needed to complete eligible stabilization measures)
[ ] 2. Interim Report (###)
    [ ] Updating the initial funding request based on more accurate site data or design analysis
    [ ] Status of accomplishments to date
[ ] 3. Final Report (following completion of work)

PART II - BURNED-AREA DESCRIPTION

A. Fire Name: Whitehawk Complex

B. Fire Number: ID-BOF-000814

C. State: Idaho

D. County: Valley

E. Region: 04 - Intermountain

F. Forest: Boise

G. District: Lowman

H. Fire Incident Job Code: P4FTU6

I. Date Fire Started: August 26, 2010

J. Date Fire Contained: October 26, 2010

K. Suppression Cost: $2,220,000 (from October 27, 2010 ICS-209)

L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds
1. Fireline waterbarred (miles): 11.6
2. Fireline seeded (miles): None.
3. Other (identify): 1 helispot, 5 drop points, and blade/smooth ruts or washboard conditions resulting from fire suppression activities and traffic on about 15 miles of roads. Note: rehabilitation of the incident base camp, helibase, and equipment wash station are included under the Little Beaver Complex.

M. Watershed Number: 170602050803 – Cache;
170602050804 – Upper Bear Valley.

N. Total Acres Burned: 1,485
NFS (1,485) Other Federal (NA) State (NA) Private (NA)

O. Vegetation Types: 51% Warm, Dry Subalpine Fir and 33% Persistent Lodgepole Pine.

P. Dominant Soils: Typic Cryochrepts, coarse loamy mixed; Lithic Cryumbrepts, loamy skeletal mixed; and Lithic Cryorthents, sandy skeletal mixed.

Q. Geologic Types: Idaho batholith (calcareous-alkaline intrusive granitics).

R. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class (from NHD):
Perennial: 5.4 Intermittent: 0.0

S. Transportation System (miles)
Roads: 2.3 Trails: 0.5 miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): 564 low 488 moderate 16 high (417 unburned)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): NA

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres): NA

D. Erosion Potential: NA

E. Sediment Potential: NA

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period (years): 2-3

B. Design Chance of Success (percent): NA

C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval (years): NA

D. Design Storm Duration (hours): NA

E. Design Storm Magnitude (inches): NA

F. Design Flow (cubic feet / second/ square mile): NA

G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration (percent): NA

H. Adjusted Design Flow (cfs per square mile): NA

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Background: To date, the Whitehawk Complex (Whitehawk and Casner Fires) has burned about 1,485 acres of NFS lands. The fire burned predominantly in a forested setting (subalpine fir and lodgepole pine), mostly at moderate and low intensity with low to moderate soil burn severity (SBS). The fire behavior can be characterized as single tree or group torching with spotting,

resulting in an incomplete burn with large patches of tree mortality mixed with unburned islands. High SBS was observed where reburning of preheated and dried fuels increased fire residence time, and in locations with increased concentrations of downed woody debris. The fire intensity and burn severity did not result in emergency watershed conditions with increased risks to human life and safety, property, or critical cultural resources. With respect to natural resources, there are no immediate threats to soil and water resources or federally listed TES species. The eminent threat is burned areas and areas disturbed by fire suppression activities now have greater susceptibility to infestations of invasive and noxious plant species. Infestations of noxious weeds have been successfully controlled in the Bear Valley watershed area surrounding the fire and are not known to exist within the burned area – although individual plants have been observed at developed and dispersed recreation sites, and along existing travel routes. Travel routes, camps, and drop points are key locations used during fire suppression operations having high concern for potential noxious weed infestations.

A. Describe Critical Values/Resources and Threats (narrative):
(edited to incorporate "Critical Values" from ID 2520-2120-1, effective August 25, 2010)

1. Human Life and Safety: No threats.

2. Property: No threats.

3. Natural Resources: No immediate threats to water supply/water use, soil productivity/hydrologic function, or federally listed TES species. Potential threats exist to native plant communities on NFS lands where invasive species or noxious weeds are currently absent or present in only minor amounts.

Infestations of Spotted knapweed and Canada thistle have been successfully treated on NFS lands in the vicinity of the burned area. Noxious weeds currently exist as individual plants scattered along the 60 miles of authorized travel routes in the Upper Bear Valley area surrounding the fire perimeter. Although an equipment washing station was used by the Incident Management Team (IMT), there is a high probability that noxious weed seeds – either from the immediate vicinity or from some off-Forest location - were transported into the area via personnel, equipment, and vehicles used in support of the fire suppression operations. Priority areas of concern include travel routes used for transporting fire suppression personnel and supplies to and from the incident base camp, control lines, and specific locations (i.e. drop points, spike camps, and roadside water drafting points) heavily impacted by fire suppression activities that are now lacking desired vegetation that would normally out-compete noxious weeds. The level of undesirable impact makes these locations (approximately 158 acres) more susceptible for invasion of noxious weeds. It is the Forest's expectation there is a "Likely" (50-90 percent) chance for noxious weeds to invade areas where they did not previously exist; and "Moderate" consequences to the existing native vegetation if early detection and rapid response (EDRR) efforts are not pursued. This would equate to a "High" level risk based on the interim BAER direction.

4. Cultural and Heritage Resources: No threats.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

- Prevent the spread of noxious plant species into previously unoccupied locations.

C. Probability of Completing Treatment Prior to Damaging Storm or Event:

Land NA % Channel NA % Roads/Trails NA % Protection/Safety NA %

D. Probability of Treatment Success

Treatment	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land			
Channel			
Roads/Trails			
Protection/Safety			

Does Not Apply

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss): $33,960

The values at risk under No-Action includes potential loss of native communities and degraded ecological conditions that cause further departure from natural disturbance regimes, including continued loss of soil productivity over the long term. No action assumes the fire and fire suppression activities would result in new infestations of noxious weed species in burned areas and other locations where they were absent or in minor amounts prior to the fire. The level of disturbance combined with a high probability for transport of noxious weed seeds makes these areas highly susceptible to noxious weed infestations. If the noxious weeds are not immediately controlled, these undesirable species could become established within 1 year. The average cost to treat noxious plants that have become established is $120/acre. The total Cost of No-Action is estimated to be $33,960. This estimate is the result of adding the first year treatment of the initial 158 acres, with follow-up treatments for 2 subsequent years of 75 and 50 acres. This assumes the initial treatment is 30 percent successful in eradicating potential invasion(s).

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss): $18,960

Degraded ecological status from the loss of native plant communities contributes to departure from natural disturbance regimes. These conditions cause long-term loss of soil productivity as erosion rates are increased from sites dominated by noxious weeds and invasive species.

- The proposed Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) approach is predicted to be 80 percent effective in treating the invasion of noxious weeds at disturbed sites, promoting recovery of native plant species and maintaining more natural erosion rates from the burned and disturbed areas in the short and long term. The EDRR would require less time and material costs in the initial emergency period compared to the costs for treating established noxious weed infestations. The estimated cost for the EDRR under the BAER authority is $6,320 (158 acres @ $40/acre; $20/acre is the estimated cost per visit, the cost is pro-rated up from $16/acres to account for the remote location and need for 2 site visits per season).
- Additional EDRR treatments will be needed in year 2 and 3 to increase the likelihood of achieving treatment objectives at a similar cost of $6,320 per year. These treatments would be implemented using non-BAER funds.

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team: No "Team" was assembled, resource specialists from the following disciplines were consulted during preparation of this report.

[X] Hydrology	[X] Soils	[ ] Geology	[X] Range	[ ]
[ ] Forestry	[ ] Wildlife	[ ] Fire Mgmt.	[ ] Engineering	[ ]
[ ] Contracting	[ ] Ecology	[ ] Botany	[ ] Archaeology	[ ]
[ ] Fisheries	[ ] Research	[ ] GIS	[ ] Landscape Arch	

Team Leader: Terry Hardy

Email: thardy@fs.fed.us Phone: 208-373-4235 FAX: 208-373-4111

Consultations:

Kari Grover-Wier, Hydrologist, Lowman Ranger District, Boise National Forest (Lead Resource Advisor assigned to the incident).
John Thornton, Forest Hydrologist, Boise National Forest.
Monte Miller, Rangeland Specialist, Boise National Forest.

H. Treatment Narrative:
(Describe the emergency treatments, where and how they will be applied, and what they are intended to do. This information helps to determine qualifying treatments for the appropriate funding authorities. For seeding treatments, include species, application rates and species selection rationale.)

Land Treatments: None recommended.

Channel Treatments: None recommended.

Road and Trail Treatments: None recommended.

Protection/Safety Treatments: None recommended.

I. Monitoring Narrative:
(Describe the monitoring needs, what treatments will be monitored, how they will be monitored, and when monitoring will occur. A detailed monitoring plan must be submitted as a separate document to the Regional BAER coordinator.)

Noxious Weeds – Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)

Purpose of Treatment: Reduce the potential for noxious weeds to become introduced into burned and other detrimentally disturbed areas using EDRR. Consultations with the Resource Advisor indicate there is a high risk for noxious weed invasion. The threat is for noxious weeds to become established in the vicinity of highly susceptible disturbed and burned areas from seeds brought into the area by uncleaned fire suppression equipment from suppression operations (including incident camps, drop points, and water drafting sites).

General Description: The district will monitor and treat, as needed, approximately 158 acres susceptible to noxious weeds within and adjacent to the Whitehawk Complex burned areas that were directly impacted as a result of moderate to high burn severity or from suppression activities (camps, fire suppression control lines, travel corridors, and drop points). Monitoring

utilizing Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) approach is proposed. Any noxious weed found as a result of monitoring will be immediately treated for eradication using appropriate application techniques and approved herbicides. All treatments will take place in accordance with the Forest Noxious Weed Management Plan. Treatment of noxious weeds will be based upon what is found during monitoring within 1 year after the fire. At a minimum, two reconnaissance visits would be needed to appropriately treat weeds given the variable life history characteristics of the noxious weeds that have been successfully treated in the past. The EDRR approach allows for the immediate treatment of known infestations at the appropriate life stage, which is considered to be the most effective eradication method. Over the last 10 years, at least two species of noxious weeds have been successfully treated on lands immediately adjacent to the burned area, with isolated plants occurring along the nearby travel routes.

Location (Suitable) Sites: The following information was compiled from the Whitehawk Complex Wildfire - Suppression Rehabilitation Plan prepared by the Resource Advisor for the IMT.

Drop Points, Access Roads and Trailheads: ~ 8 sites (includes off-road tracks created by 1 or 2 passes of engines/trucks leaving FDRs 569, 502, and 582).
Water Drafting/Pump Sites: 3 sites (water tender and dip sites accessible via existing roads)
Helibase/Helispots: ~ 5 sites
Bruce Meadows ICP
Bruce Meadows Rest Area (Staging Area for Ground Support)
Wyoming Gravel Pit Service Site (equipment wash station, quat station, fuel tender)
Spike Camps (Whitehawk Spike and Cache Spike)
Roads:
FDR 582: ~16 miles (from FDR 502 north to FDR 579)
FDR 502: ~10 miles (from FDR 582 to Cache Spike)
FDR 569C: ~0.6 mile
Note: FDR 579 (about 20 miles, from Highway 21 to FRD 563) was included in the Little Beaver BAER Report.

Design/Construction Specifications: Select herbicide, application rate, and time of application based upon specific weeds being treated, and access to the location of the potential invasion.

Part VI – Emergency Stabilization Treatments and Source of Funds

Interim #

			NFS Lands				Other Lands			All
		Unit	# of		Other	# of	Fed	# of	Non Fed	Total
Line Items	Units	Cost	Units	BAER $	$	units	$	Units	$	$
A. Land Treatments										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
B. Channel Treatments										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Channel Treatments				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
C. Road and Trails										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Road and Trails				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
D. Protection/Safety										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Protection/Safety				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
E. BAER Evaluation										
Initial Assessment	Report	$1,500		---	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				---	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				---	$0		$0		$0	$0
F. Monitoring										
Noxious Weed EDRR	acres	$40	158	$6,320	$0		$0		$0	$6,320
Implementation Plan/Map	days	$400	2	$800	$0		$0		$0	$800
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Monitoring				$7,120	$0		$0		$0	$7,120
G. Totals				$7,120	$0		**$0**		**$0**	**$7,120**
Previously approved										
Total for this request				**$7,120**						

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. /s/ Cecilia R. Seesholtz — 11/10/10
   Forest Supervisor (signature) — Date

2. /s/ William P. LeVere (for) — 11/23/10
   Regional Forester (signature) — Date