

Date of Report: 07/23/2019**BURNED-AREA REPORT****PART I - TYPE OF REQUEST****A. Type of Report**

- ☐ 1. Funding request for estimated emergency stabilization funds
- ☒ 2. No Treatment Recommendation

PART II - BURNED-AREA DESCRIPTION**A. Fire Name: Gurule****B. Fire Number: NM-CAF-000148****C. State: New Mexico****D. County: Rio Arriba****E. Region: R3****F. Forest: Carson****G. District: El Rito****H. Fire Incident Job Code: P3L99A****I. Date Fire Started: 06/07/2019****J. Date Fire Contained: 07/16/2019****K. Suppression Cost: \$480,000 (current estimate)****L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds (estimates):****1. Fireline repaired (miles):****2. Other (identify):**

- a. Access to FR274G and its spur roads was closed through suppression repair after it was opened for ingress/egress and firefighter safety during the Incident.
- b. FR559 required regrading at the close of the Incident, which was accomplished through suppression repair.
- c. Two sites for water drafting use by pumps and engines were established during the incident in an unnamed drainage immediately southwest of FR559. Both draft sites were dismantled and returned to their original state through suppression repair.

M. Watershed Numbers:*Table 1: Acres Burned by Watershed*

HUC #	Watershed Name	Total Acres	Acres Burned	% of Watershed Burned
13020102110	Headwaters El Rito	33,880	2,364	6.98

N. Total Acres Burned:*Table 2: Total Acres Burned by Ownership*

OWNERSHIP	ACRES
NFS	2,364
OTHER FEDERAL (LIST AGENCY AND ACRES)	0
STATE	0
PRIVATE	0
TOTAL	2,364

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION**A. Burn Severity (acres):***Table 3: Burn Severity Acres by Ownership*

Soil Burn Severity	NFS	Other Federal (List Agency)	State	Private	Total	% within the Fire Perimeter
Unburned	1,994				1,994	84.4
Low	338				338	14.3
Moderate	31				31	1.3
High	.5				.5	.02
Total	2,363.5				2,363.5	100

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS**Introduction/Background**

Originating on Friday June 7th, 2019 at 0403 hours, the Gurule Fire began as a single tree lightning strike with low/moderate potential for growth. Taking into consideration location, fuels, and predicted weather, the Carson National Forest managed the fire to achieve multiple resource benefits in hopes at improving forest health, range land, and wildlife habitat. A combination of aerial ignitions and hand lighting tactics were employed to bring the total acres to 2,364 acres. The Gurule Fire was contained on July 16 at 1630 hours.

A. Describe Critical Values/Resources and Threats (narrative):

The overwhelming majority of the Gurule Fire was either unburned (84.4%, 1,994 acres) or experienced low severity (14.3%, 338 acres) fire in a mosaic pattern. Moderate (1.3%, 31 acres) and high (.02%, .5 acres) severity fire was experienced only upon the Gurule Fire's southeastern aspects in proximity to the point of origin. As such, anticipated post-fire effects to values at risk (VARs) are considered minimal to non-existent. The following VARs were considered for BAER within, adjacent to, or downstream from the Gurule Fire perimeter.



Figure 1. Low to Moderate severity and mosaic pattern near Gurule Fire point of origin.

Engineering:

20.59 miles of Carson National Forest roads lie within or are intersecting/adjacent to the fire perimeter. No post-fire effects are anticipated to these values as a result of the Gurule Fire.

Heritage/Archaeology/Tribal Concerns:

One archaeological site eligible to the National Register of Historical Places (NRHP) intersects with the Gurule Fire perimeter. Site AR-03-02-02-768 is a Civilian Conservation Corps camp also possessing a Native American peeled Ponderosa Pine Tree component; no post-fire effects are anticipated on site. No heritage resources, archaeological sites, or areas of affiliated Tribal concern are anticipated to experience post-fire effects as a result of the Gurule Fire.



Figure 2. Peeled Ponderosa Pine Tree, significant to the contemporary Jicarilla Apache Tribe, at the NRHP-eligible archaeological site AR-03-02-02-768. Note unburned to low severity fire and mosaic patterning in proximity.

Hydrology/Watersheds:

No risk to local streams or associated riparian communities and habitat.

Range:

One range research plot and two sheep pens actively used by range permittees are located within the Gurule Fire perimeter; neither saw fire, and no post-fire effects are anticipated to these values. Livestock allotments and rangeland improvements are not anticipated to experience post-fire effects as a result of the Gurule Fire.

Recreation:

Portions of the Continental Divide Trail, a heavily used interstate trail system of national significance, are shared with roads adjacent to the Gurule Fire. No post-fire effects are anticipated to this value.

Soils:

No risk of accelerated rate of erosion or initiation of debris flows.

Wildlife:

Northern Goshawk foraging habitat is located within the fire area; Northern Goshawk is a Region 3 Forest Service Sensitive wildlife species. Recovery/suitable habitats for the Mexican Spotted Owl and Canada Lynx, federally listed as threatened species, are present within the fire perimeter. The Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout, a Carson National Forest Management Indicator Species, is known to have a core population in the EL Rito Creek, approximately 0.25 miles from the fire perimeter. No negative impact to the EL Rito Creek Watershed is anticipated as the low severity mosaic character of the fire as well as the .25 mile buffer between the fire perimeter and El Rito Creek is projected to minimize and/or eliminate sedimentation.

Given the unburned-low severity, mosaic character of the fire, no post-fire effects are anticipated to known threatened and endangered wildlife species, Region 3 Forest Service Sensitive Species, or USFWS Designated Critical Habitat within, adjacent to, or downstream from the Gurule Fire.

Table 4: Critical Value Matrix

Probability of Damage or Loss	Magnitude of Consequences		
	Major	Moderate	Minor
	RISK		
Very Likely	Very High	Very High	Low
Likely	Very High	High	Low
Possible	High	Intermediate	Low
Unlikely	Intermediate	Low	Very Low

1. **Human Life and Safety (HLS):** *VERY LOW*
2. **Property (P):** *VERY LOW*
3. **Natural Resources (NR):** *VERY LOW*
4. **Cultural and Heritage Resources:** *VERY LOW*

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

- ☒ Soils ☒ Hydrology ☒ Engineering ☒ GIS ☒ Archaeology
☐ Weeds ☐ Recreation ☒ Fisheries ☒ Wildlife
☐ Other:

Team Leader: R. Heath Bailey

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Forest BAER Coordinator: Gregory Miller

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Team Members: *Table 5: BAER Team Members by Skill*

Skill	Team Member Name
<i>Team Lead(s)</i>	R. Heath Bailey
<i>Soils</i>	Greg Miller
<i>Hydrology</i>	John Littlefield
<i>Engineering</i>	Keith Sunshine
<i>GIS</i>	Elaine Elliot
<i>Fisheries/Wildlife</i>	Michael Gatlin
<i>Archaeology</i>	R. Heath Bailey

H. Treatment Narrative:

NO TREATMENT RECOMMENDATION

I. Monitoring Narrative:

NO MONITORING RECCOMENDATION

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. _____
Forest Supervisor Date


Gurule Fire BARC
El Rito Ranger District
Carson National Forest
2019
2,364 acres

Legend


 Gurule Fire Perimeter

BARC 256

 Unburned/Very Low <66 (1994 acres)

 Low 66-105 (338 acres)

 Moderate 106-183 (31 acres)

 High >183 (0.5 acres)

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

