Date of Report: 09/26/2011

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: Mint

B. Fire Number: CA-ANF-4969

C. State: CA

D. County: Los Angeles

E. Region: 05

F. Forest: Angeles National Forest

G. District: 53

H. Fire Incident Job Code: XXXX

I. Date Fire Started: 09/18/2011

J. Date Fire Contained: 09/19/2011

K. Suppression Cost: $ XXXX

L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds
1. **Fireline waterbarred (miles):** 3
2. **Fireline seeded (miles):** 0
3. **Other (identify):** 0

M. Watershed Number:

N. Total Acres Burned:
[650] NFS Acres [ ] Other Federal [ ] State [ ] Private

O. Vegetation Types: Chamise Chaparral, Mixed Chaparral, Coast Live Oak/Cottonwood Riparian Forest

P. Dominant Soils: XXX

Q. Geologic Types: XXX

R. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class: XXX

S. Transportation System

Trails: XXX **miles** **Roads:** XXX **miles**

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): 30 **(low)** 600 **(moderate)** 20 **(high)** estimate

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): XXX

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres): XXX **(low)** XXX **(moderate)** XXX **(high)**

D. Erosion Potential: XXX **tons/acre**

E. Sediment Potential: XXX **cubic yards / square mile**

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years): XXX

B. Design Chance of Success, (percent): XXX

C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval, (years): XXX

D. Design Storm Duration, (hours): XXX

E. Design Storm Magnitude, (inches): XXX

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

G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration, (percent): XXX

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

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

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

Threats to Vegetative Recovery-
An emergency exists with respect to vegetative recovery as a result of the threat of post-fire weed introduction and spread. The unknowing introduction and dispersal of invasive weeds into areas disturbed by fire suppression and rehabilitation has the potential to establish large and persistent weed populations. Prior to the fire the Mint burn area had relatively few non-native plants, mostly weedy grasses scattered along OHV routes. The Mint fire area was also one of the few areas remaining in the local geographic area that had not burned in the last 10 years. As witnessed in the surrounding recently burned areas, new weed populations could affect the structure and habitat function of native plant communities within the burn area, possibly even leading to vegetation type conversion in some areas. It is expected that most native vegetation would recover if weed invasions are minimized. In addition, there are approximately three miles of recently bladed dozerline within the burn perimeter. There is concern that these new dozerlines will facilitate unauthorized OHV use in the burn area. Increased use of this area by horseback riders, mountain bikers, and unauthorized vehicles may facilitate the spread of invasive weeds. Additionally, the erosion and soil compaction caused by these types of uses may also inhibit the recovery of native plant populations. As a result, horseback and illegal vehicle use may contribute to increased density and distribution of invasive weeds. An increase in invasive weeds can contribute to type conversion and overall reduction in the density and distribution of native plants.

Threats to Ecosystem Stability/Soil Productivity-
With the combustion of the shrub overstory, there is little impediment to expanded Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) and equestrian use. Soil crusts can disintegrate under these disturbances and lose all protective properties; gully initiation and propagation through the disturbed soil surface can be expected.

Vegetative growth is expected after the first soil wetting rains. However, there is a concern that some of the green-up will be non-native grasses. Although these grasses offer short term erosion mitigation, they out compete establishing native shrubs, have less soil cover value than native shrubs, and are decadent when the first storms arrive. Therefore, if non-native grasses establish and displace the native shrub communities, long-term soil productivity is threatened with increased long-term erosion risk.

Threats to Cultural Resources
Background research of archaeological site and survey records revealed seven previously identified Cultural Resources within or within close proximity to the burn area, while initial investigation revealed five newly identified Cultural Resources. Of these twelve sites, two are at risk from damage or vandalism, primarily from illegal motorized vehicle use, due to burned vegetation which has increased visibility and access. OHV barriers/fencing would block motorized access to the sites and decrease the chances of damage and/or vandalism.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives (narrative):

Noxious Weeds - Reduce the potential for impaired vegetative recovery and introduction/spread of noxious weeds.

Trail (PCT)Treatment –Improve trail drainage to protect the trail system. Reduce erosion from the trail surface and sediment delivery to stream channels. Reduce the threat to life and safety for trail users.

Unauthorized Off-Road Vehicles- Limit loss of soil productivity and vegetative recovery due to unmanaged OHV use.

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

Land XXX% **Channel** XXX% **Roads/Trails** XXX% **Protection/Safety** XXX%

D. Probability of Treatment Success

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

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss): XXX

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss): XXX

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

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

Team Leader: Katie VinZant

Email: kvinzant@fs.fed.us **Phone**: XXX **FAX**: XXX

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:

Noxious Weed Detection Surveys
Surveys will begin in 2012 during the flowering periods of most high priority weed species. Completion of surveys in riparian areas would be the first priority. The second survey priorities would be along roads, dozerlines, handlines, and staging areas. Surveys of the general habitats in the burned area would be the lowest priority.

Weed detection surveys to determine whether ground disturbing activities related to the Mint Incident and the fire itself have resulted in the expansion of noxious weeds is requested for the first year. Estimated costs are based on the assumption that two visits would be necessary because of the unpredictability of flowering times. If timing is such that the target species is detectable in one visit, the actual costs would be lower than displayed below.

Estimated Cost:	
2 GS-11 botanists ($400/day x 5 days)	$ 4000
Vehicle mileage (600 miles @0.55/mile)	$ 330
TOTAL	$ **4330**

Channel Treatments: XXX

Roads and Trail Treatments:

Trail Treatments

The BAER assessment team prescribed treatments for the Pacific Crest Trail to protect the trail infrastructure from failure and increased sediment flow. Prior to implementation of treatments a specialist will survey the trail. The result of the survey will dictate subsequent storm proofing treatment recommendations. These treatments are the minimum necessary trail work activity which wil protect the trail investment in its current state and protect it from the expected seasonal weather. Work will focus on areas where the trail crosses ephemeral drainages and existing constructed drainage features.

Due to a loss of vegetative screening and increased likelihood of OHV incursion on the PCNST, a steel OHV barrier will be installed where the trail meets Forest Road 6N07. The barrier will be constructed with skilled volunteer labor and will be installed with either conservation corps or volunteer labor.

Estimated Cost:	
1 GS-9 Trail Program manager ($267/day x 10 days)	$ 2670
Conservation Corp (1 week)	$ 7000
Materials for steel OHV barrier to PCT	$ 500
Project supplies	$ 330
Vehicle mileage (1000 miles @0.50/mile)	$ 500
TOTAL	**$11,000**

Protection/Safety Treatments:

Fences and Barriers for Unauthorized Off Road Vehicle Use
Unauthorized recreational activity, including operation of off-highway vehicles, horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, and other ground disturbing activities are a threat to National Forest System land. Erosion, spread of invasive species, damage to cultural sites, disturbance to wildlife, destruction of wildlife habitat, impaired water quality, and risks to public safety can result from unauthorized access. Due to the accessibility of the fire perimeter from nearby private land, the current existing signs of off-highway vehicle use in the area, and the LMP focus to protect native vegetation from type conversion, it has been decided that the following treatments are needed: install boulders at the 4 entrances to dozerlines created during the fire that have a very potential for unauthorized OHV use, install a new gate on the Spade Canyon road (unauthorized road) which is a main entrance area for OHV from the southern ANF boundary, install fencing in key locations next to the new gate, old gate on FS road 6N07, and along one mile stretch of dozerline that is adjacent to an existing OHV route, install signs along existing OHV routes that inform public on authorized versus unauthorized routes within and adjacent to the burn, patrol burn area for several hours on the weekends to ensure barriers and signs are properly maintained.

Estimated Cost for OHV Barriers

Line Items	*UOM*	*Cost per UOM ($)*	*# Units*	*BAER $*
Carsonite Posts	Individual	30	30	$900
Carsonite Post Stickers	Individual	2	30	$60
T Posts	Individual	7.5	50	$375
Barbless Wire	Roll (330 ft)	100	1	$100
3 Person Work Crew	Days	750	4	$3,000
Backhoe / Equipment operators (2)	Days	350	16	$5,600
Boulders	Loads	1500	3	$4500
Gate at Spade Canyon (Materials and Installation)	Each	10000	1	$10,000
Archeological/Biological Clearance	Days	350	4	$1,400
Patrol/Maintenance Crew	Days	275	52	$14,300
Dumptruck vehicle mileage	Miles	1.55	100	$155
Vehicle mileage	Miles	.55	3000	$1,650
TOTAL				**$42,040**

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.)

Part VI – Emergency Stabilization Treatments and Source of Funds **Interim #**

Line Items	Units	Cost	Units	BAER $	$	units	$	Units	$	$
A. Land Treatments										
Noxious Weed Detection Survey	ea	4330	1	$4,330	$0		$0		$0	$4,330
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$4,330	$0		$0		$0	$4,330
B. Channel Treatments										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Channel Treat.				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
C. Road and Trails										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Trail Evaluation/impler	ea	11,000	1	$11,000	$0		$0		$0	$11,000
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Road & Trails				$11,000	$0		$0		$0	$11,000
D. Protection/Safety										
OHV Barriers	ea	27,740		$27,740	$0		$0		$0	$27,740
OHV Patrol/Maintenan	ea	14,300		$14,300	$0		$0		$0	$14,300
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Structures				$42,040	$0		$0		$0	$42,040
E. BAER Evaluation										
				---			$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				---	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				---	$0		$0		$0	$0
F. Monitoring										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Monitoring				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
G. Totals				$57,370	$0		**$0**		**$0**	**$57,370**
Previously approved										
Total for this request				**$57,370**						

USDA-FORESTSERVICE
Short Form, July 2009 B.Roath
FS-2500-8 (6/06)

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. _____ 09/30/2011
(for) Forest Supervisor (signature) Date

2. _____ 10/11/2011
For Regional Forester (signature) Date