

Burned-Area Emergency Rehabilitation Report

Collins Fire

Clearwater National Forest

The Collins Fire burned 375 acres on the North Fork Ranger District of the Clearwater National Forest. It started from lightning strikes August 24, 2000. The fire burned in a Recommended Wilderness Management Area (B2) and a confinement suppression strategy was used. The fire was declared 100% contained October 10, 2000.

A Burned-Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) team consisting of Jim Mital – team leader and Forest Soil Scientist/Ecologist; Pat Murphy – Forest Fisheries Biologist; Mike Lubke – North Fork District AFMO; Tam White – North Fork District NEPA Forester; and Stephanie Grubb – North Fork District GIS Specialist was formed to determine if a flooding, erosion, or life and property emergency existed. Additional information came from Rick Parker – North Fork District FMO.

Our finding was that *No Emergency Exists* and emergency funding is *not* requested.



The Collins Fire started in the Collins Creek watershed that flows into Skull Creek and eventually into the North Fork Clearwater River. The fire was south of the boundary of the St. Joe National Forest, part of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests. The fire burned primarily lodgepole pine, grand fir, Douglas-fir, Engelmann spruce, and subalpine fir.

The watershed and burned area are located in an undeveloped portion of the forest recommended for wilderness designation in the Clearwater Forest Plan. No logging or road construction has occurred in this area. The fire burned in stream breaklands and headwalls, extending up into frost-churned ridges. The streams support westslope cutthroat trout and possibly bull trout. The watershed inherent sensitivity is considered to be high, watershed disturbance has been low, and the riparian areas are essentially intact. Water quality supports beneficial uses; but the overall watershed condition (the status of its functions and processes based on its inherent sensitivity and disturbance history) is considered to be functioning

The burn intensities for the Collins Fire :

Low: 280 acres (75.9%) Moderate: 85 acres (23.0%) High: 4 acres (1.1%)

Within each of the three different area, vegetation recovery is expected as follows:

Low intensity Burn Areas: In areas where the burn intensity was non-existent to low, recovery would be expected to occur within one growing season. Vegetative Recovery is considered to be any vegetation which providing more than 80% cover which effectively intercepts rainfall and provides an extensive root mass as defined on page II-26 of the Clearwater National Forest Plan. These low intensity burn areas are expected to maintain adequate live tree stocking levels in most cases. Perennial grasses, forbs, and shrubs generally will resprout after low intensity burns and a duff/litter layer will reform within several years. Vegetative recovery will vary from 0 to 5 years.

Moderate Intensity Burn Areas: In areas where the burn intensity was moderate an average of 50% of the trees are expected to die as a direct result of the fire. Continuing mortality should be expected for up to ten years due to root scarring, insect attack, and increased susceptibility to the pathogenic effects of native root diseases. Vegetative recovery will vary from 3-15 years. Some of the larger areas that burned at moderate intensity are a greater distance from surviving seed sources. This will slow the recovery time. Existing seed of shrubs and forbs, stored deeper in the soil, should provide some vegetation regeneration in these areas

High Intensity Burn Areas: In areas where the burn intensity was high, nearly all of the trees were killed or are expected to die as a direct result of the fire. Vegetative recovery will vary from 3-20 years. The largest areas that burned at high intensity are surrounded by medium intensity burn areas and thus are at a greater distance from seed sources. This will slow the vegetative recovery time. The heat produced in the high intensity burning in these areas has destroyed much of the existing seed stored in the soil.

The Team anticipates no emergency watershed emergency from the Collins Fire. The pre-burn watershed conditions were good and fire induced tree mortality and burn intensities were generally low. We expect small amounts of the burn-ash and surface soil to erode and be transported short distances downslope. However, most of this eroded material along with the surface runoff will be contained by and infiltrated into unburned areas on the slopes and in the green buffer strips along the stream channel riparian areas. The stream system has sufficient energy to easily manage the burn-ash and sediment that might enter Collins Creek as a result of the fire. No exaggerated stream channel adjustments, or sustained reduction in water quality are anticipated; and there is little likelihood that fish or aquatic organisms will be adversely affected.

Normal fall rain (some of which are occurring on the date of this report) and the winter snowpack will reduce most of the hydrophobic soil conditions in the surface mineral soil. Surface erosion and soil productivity losses are not a likely result of this burn.

JIM MITAL

Forest Soil Scientist/Ecologist

Date of Report: 8/2/2001

BURNED-AREA REPORT
(Reference FSH 2509.13)**PART I - TYPE OF REQUEST**

A. Type of Report

- ☐ 1. Funding request for estimated WFSU-SULT funds
☐ 2. Accomplishment Report
☒ 3. No Treatment Recommendation

B. Type of Action

- ☐ 1. Initial Request (Best estimate of funds needed to complete eligible rehabilitation 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: Collins Fire B. Fire Number: P10090
C. State: Idaho D. County: Shoshone
E. Region: One F. Forest: Clearwater National Forest
G. District: North Fork Ranger District
H. Date Fire Started: August 24, 2000 I. Date Fire Contained: October 10, 2000
J. Suppression Cost: \$64,200
K. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds
 1. Fireline waterbarred (miles):
 2. Fireline seeded (miles):
 3. Other (identify):
L. Watershed Number: 17060307101080
M. Total Acres Burned: _____
 NFS Acres(375) Other Federal () State () Private ()
N. Vegetation Types: Subalpine fir, lodgepole pine, Engelmann spruce, Douglas-fir, grand fir
O. Dominant Soils: Typic Dystrocryepts, loamy-skeletal, mixed..
P. Geologic Types: Belt Series Metasediments.

Q. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class:

R. Transportation System

Trails: miles Roads: miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): (See attached map)

Low: 280 (75.9%) Moderate: 85 (23.0%) High: 4 (1.1%)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): 32 (8.8%)

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres):

Mass Wasting: Low: 0.0% Moderate: 0.0% High: 4.0% Very High: 96.0%

Debris Avalanche Potential: Low: 2.1% Moderate: 52.7% High: 45.2%

Surface Erosion Potential: Low: 54.8% Moderate: 0.0% High: 45.2%

Sediment Delivery Efficiency: Low: 0.0% Moderate: 2.1% High: 1.9% Very High: 96.0%

D. Erosion Potential: tons/acre

E. Sediment Potential: cubic yards / square mile

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years):

B. Design Chance of Success, (percent):

C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval, (years):

D. Design Storm Duration, (hours):

E. Design Storm Magnitude, (inches):

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

G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration, (percent):

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

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

A. Describe Watershed Emergency:

NONE

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

C. Probability of Completing Treatment Prior to First Major Damage-Producing Storm:

Land ___ % Channel ___ % Roads ___ % Other ___ %

D. Probability of Treatment Success

	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land			
Channel			
Roads			
Other			

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss):_ **\$0**

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss):_ **\$0**

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology	<input type="checkbox"/> Range
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire Mgmt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering
<input type="checkbox"/> Contracting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/> Botany	<input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/> Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Arch	<input type="checkbox"/> GIS

Team Leader:___ James M. Mital

Email:___ jmital@fs.fed.us

Phone:___ 208-476-8348

FAX: 208-476-8329

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:

Channel Treatments:

Roads and Trail Treatments:

Structures:

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 Rehabilitation Treatments and Source of Funds by Land Ownership

			NFS Lands				Other Lands			All	
		Unit	# of	WFSU	Other		# of	Fed	# of	Non Fed	Total
Line Items	Units	Cost	Units	SULT \$	\$		units	\$	Units	\$	\$
A. Land Treatments											
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0			
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
B. Channel Treatments											
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Channel Treat.				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
C. Road and Trails											
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Road & Trails				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
D. Structures											
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Structures				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
E. BAER Evaluation											
Personnel Costs				\$250				\$0		\$0	\$250
				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
F. Monitoring				\$0				\$0		\$0	\$0
G. Totals				\$250				\$0		\$0	\$250

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. /s/ Larry J. Dawson
Forest Supervisor (signature)

8-3-01
Date

2. _____
Regional Forester (signature)

Date