USDA-FOREST SERVICE FS-2500-8 (7/00)

Date of Report: August 5, 2010

BURNED-AREA REPORT
(Reference FSH 2509.13)

GENERALLY THIS SHORT FORM CAN BE USED FOR SMALL FIRES (300-500 ACRES OR LESS) AND THERE IS A NO TREATMENT DECISION AND/OR THE ONLY PROPOSED TREATMENT IS NOXIOUS WEED DETECTION SURVEY- as a minimum fill out the yellow highlighted sections
August 25, 2009 BR

PART I - TYPE OF REQUEST

I. Type of Report

[ ] 1. Funding request for estimated WFSU-SULT funds
[ ] 2. Accomplishment Report
[X] 3. No Treatment Recommendation – **funding is requested for noxious weed survey**

I. Type of Action

[X] 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: Constantia Fire B. Fire Number: PNF-670

C. State: CA D. County: Lassen

E. Region: 5 F. Forest: Plumas

G. District: Beckwourth

H. Date Fire Started: July 24, 2010 I. Date Fire Contained: July 29, 2010

J. Suppression Cost: approximately $2,000,000

K. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds:
1. Fireline waterbarred (miles): **4.5 miles of dozer line, 4.75 miles of hand line**
2. Fireline seeded (miles): **none**
3. Other (identify):

L. Watershed Number: HUC5 is Long Valley Creek (Great Basin): #1808000307

M. Total Acres Burned: 1,369
NFS Acres (339) Other Federal (BLM - 280) State ( ) Private (750)

N. Vegetation Types: Grass, Bitter Brush, Mixed Conifers, Sagebrush

O. Dominant Soils: Coarse-loamy, mesic Typic Xerochrepts, Lithic Xeropsamments, Ultic Haploxerolls

P. Geologic Types: Slightly to highly weathered granodiorite, rock outcrops and rubble land

Q. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class: **Item Q is not pertinent to the proposed BAER treatment**

I. Transportation System **- No Forest Service system roads or trails exist within the fire perimeter**

Trails: _ miles Roads: _ miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (Forest Service acres only): 150 (low) 159 (moderate) 30 (high)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): **less than 30 acres (on Forest Service land)**

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres): **Items C, D, and E are not pertinent to the proposed BAER treatment**

___ (low) ___ (moderate) ___ (high)

D. Erosion Potential: ____ tons/acre

E. Sediment Potential: ____ cubic yards / square mile

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

Part IV is not pertinent to the proposed BAER treatment

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years): 3

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): ____

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

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

A. Describe Watershed Emergency: **State whether or not Values At Risk were identified and the degree or level of threats to them.**
Several potential values at risk were considered:

- **Homes located along Constantia Road could be impacted by increased flood and debris flows from the burned area.**
- **A spring box in SW ¼, Sec 11, T 24N, R17E serves as the domestic water source for a private landowner that resides in NE ¼, Sec 11. Water is delivered from the spring box to the residence via a 4" PVC pipeline.**
- **There are no Forest Service system roads within the burned area. There are several miles of motorized vehicle tracks within the fire perimeter. Some of these tracks were used for fire suppression.**
- **There is a risk to native and naturalized plant communities on Forest Service lands due to introduction of invasive species during fire suppression activities.**

Provide justification why NO TREATMENT was chosen.

- **Homes along Constantia Road are located well above the channels and associated floodplains of burned watersheds. The probability of increased runoff and sedimentation due to the burned area impacting structures located at those higher elevations is very low. Further, burned ground on Forest Service land does not drain to the streams that flow near the homes along Constantia Road.**
- **Contact was made in the field on August 2, 2010 with Dennis Charly, the landowner and operator of the spring box and pipeline, and Ceci Dale-Cesmat, the District Conservationist with USDA – NRCS. The spring box is a concrete structure located adjacent to a primary stream channel but several feet above channel grade. While much of the burned Forest Service land drains to this channel, both Mr Charly and Ms Cesmat stated that they had never observed flow in that channel above the spring box. A road crossing just upstream of the spring box is an un-armored ford and indicates very little flow in past years. Further, the pipeline is elevated on stout piers approximately 6 feet above the channel grade. Even with an extreme precipitation or runoff event, the probability of damage or loss of the spring box or pipeline is unlikely.**
- **Increased sedimentation from the non-system roads utilized during fire suppression is expected during runoff events in the near future due to fine soils on the road surface being loosened by traffic. It was technically and economically impractical for suppression rehabilitation actions to return compaction of the road surfaces to the same pre-fire condition. However, the risk of increases in sedimentation affecting downstream property is very low, due to the elevated proximity of property to nearby stream channels and the relatively low expected sediment input from the roads.**
- **Tall whitetop (*Lepidium latifolium*), a B-rated noxious weed in California, is known to exist along Constantia Road immediately adjacent to the fire perimeter and along Long Valley Creek. Long Valley Creek was used as a dipping hole to fill buckets used for aerial water drops. Tall whitetop was found at the dipping hole. Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*), an A-rated noxious weed, was also found within the fire area and at the fire camp. Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*), a B-rated noxious weed, was found at fire camp. Each of these weeds are managed by the Plumas NF. There is a very high risk of increased infestation of thise invasive species due to the heavy disturbance of fire and fire suppression activities.**

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

To identify noxious weed locations and treat if practical. Additionally, to augment the suppression of invasive cheatgrass, which is the objective of the seeding treatment planned by BLM BAER coordinator Ryan Elliott for the 280 acres of BLM land burned (estimated BLM treatment costs are listed below in Section VI).

C. Probability of Completing Treatment Prior to First Major Damage-Producing Storm: **not applicable**

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

D. Probability of Treatment Success **Item D is not pertinent to the proposed BAER treatment**

	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land			
Channel			
Roads			
Other			

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss): **Item E is not pertinent to the proposed BAER treatment**

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss): **Item F is not pertinent to the proposed BAER treatment**

I. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

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

Team Leader: Joe Hoffman

Email: jahoffman@fs.fed.us Phone: (530) 283-7868 FAX:

I. **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 survey for two years (to occur in summer 2011 and 2012). Survey cost is $2500 per year ($5,000 total). Any noxious weed population found will be mapped with GPS and an occurrence report will be completed. If practical the weeds will be hand pulled before they produce seed and left on the ground at the site.

Channel Treatments: **not applicable**

Roads and Trail Treatments: **not applicable**

Structures: **not applicable**

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										
noxious weed survey	season	2500	2	$5,000	$0		$0		$0	$5,000
BLM seeding	acre	30		$0	$0	280	$8,400		$0	$8,400
BLM follow-up	season	18000		$0	$0	2	######		$0	$36,000
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$5,000	$0		######		$0	$49,400
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
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Road & Trails				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
D. Structures										
				$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 Structures				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
E. BAER Evaluation										
	team	3000	1	$3,000	$0		$0		$0	$3,000
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				$3,000	$0		$0		$0	$3,000
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				**$8,000**	**$0**		######		**$0**	**$52,400**

If NO TREATMENT AND NO FUNDING REQUEST- then

Forest Coordinator or Team Leader (signature) _ Date_____

IF NO TREATMENT **EXCEPT** FUNDING REQUEST FOR NOXIOUS WEED DETECTION SURVEY, then

Forest Supervisor (signature) __*/s/ Maria T. Garcia*____ Date__August 5, 2010_____

Regional Forester (signature) _*/s/ Gilbert Zepeda (for)*_ Date__*8/10/2010*_____