United States Department of Agriculture | **Forest Service** | **Cleveland National Forest** | **10845 Rancho Bernardo Road Suite 200 San Diego, CA 92127**

File Code: 2520/6520 **Date:** January 11, 2001
Route To:

Subject: Viejas Fire Initial BAER Report

To: Regional Forester

Enclosed is the Initial Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Report (Form FS-2500-8) for the Viejas Fire, located on the Descanso Ranger District. The initial request for WFSU funds totals $20,266 for BAER Team evaluation and administrative support costs.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Kirsten Winter at 858-674-2956.

/s/ Rich Hawkins
Acting for
ANNE S. FEGE
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc:
gschmitt@fs.fed.us

AUTHOR: kwinter,01/11/01

USDA Forest Service FS-2500-8 (1/00) Date Of Report: January 11, 2001

BURNED-AREA REPORT

(Reference FSH 2509.13)

Part I - Type of Request

A. Type of Report:

[XX] 1. Funding Request for Estimated WFSU-FW22 Funds

[ ] 2. Accomplishment Report

[ ] 3. No Treatment Recommendation

B. Type of Action:

[XX] 1. Initial Request (Best estimate of funds needed to complete eligible rehabilitation measures).

[ ] 2. Interim Report:

[] Updating 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: Viejas

B. Fire Number: CNF-00012

C. State: California

D. County: San Diego

E. Region: Pacific Southwest (R-5)

F. Forest: Cleveland NF (02)

G. District: Descanso

H. Date Fire Started: January 3, 2001

I. Date Fire Controlled: January 8, 2001

J. Suppression Cost: $7,600,000

K. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with WFSU-PF12 Funds:

1. Firelines waterbarred (miles): 25
2. Firelines seeded (miles): 0
3. Other (identify): 1 mile fence repair

L. Watershed Number(s): 1807030404, 1807030408

M. Total Acres Burned: 10,353

NFS [4393] BLM [38] Private [5734]
Sycuan Reservation [176] Viejas Reservation [12]

N. Vegetation Types: southern mixed chaparral, northern mixed chaparral, chamise chaparral; coastal sage scrub; coast live oak riparian woodland

O. Dominant Soils: Xerorthents (Cienaba family), Haploxeralfs (Las Posas family)

P. Geologic Types: Igneous Rocks (Tonalite, Undifferentiated Granitic Rocks, and Gabbro)

Q. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class:
1st order: 20.4 miles
2nd order: 3.1 miles
3rd order: 2.6 miles
4th order: 9.6 miles
reservoir: 3.6 miles

R. Transportation System (Forest Service):

Road: 0 Miles Trail: 0 Miles

Part III - Watershed Condition

A. Fire Severity (acres): Unburned: 0

Low: 2583

Moderate: 7797

High: 0

B. Water-repellent Soil Acres: 1559

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres):

Low:	2621
Moderate:	7369
High:	390

D. Erosion Potential (tons per acre): 90

E. Sediment Potential (cubic yards / square mile): 2751

Part IV - Hydrologic Design Factors

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period (years):	3
B. Chance of Success (percent):	65
C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval (years):	10
D. Design Storm Duration (hours):	24
E. Design Storm Magnitude (inches):	5
F. Design Flow (cubic feet / second / square mile):	104
G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration (percent):	15
H. Adjusted Design Flow (cfs per square mile):	96

Part V – Summary of Analysis

A. Describe Watershed Emergency:

The Viejas Incident involved a large number of jurisdictions and ownerships. Because of this complexity, an interdepartmental Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation Team was convened with representation from the USDA Forest Service, USDI Bureau of Indian Affairs, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, San Miguel Fire Department, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, San Diego County Flood Control, Sweetwater Authority Water District, and California Department of Fish and Game. The team worked across ownership/jurisdictional boundaries to consider the potential effects of the fire within the fire boundary and downstream from the burn.

The following emergencies exist in the Viejas Fire. Unless otherwise noted, these emergencies are on private lands.

1. Threats to Human Life: Public safety is at risk from washouts of crossings in the Sloan and Lawson sub-watersheds from increased peak flows and debris flows as a result of the fire. This could result in the loss of life and stranding of residents. The crossing locations of concern are on the Sloan Canyon Road in Sections 19 and 20.

2. Threats to Property: Property is at risk from washout and accelerated erosion due to increased peak flows and or debris flows brought about by the fire. The road locations include those listed under "threats to human life". A total of 15.5 miles of road with associated fill slopes, road surfaces, drainage and crossing structures are at risk. The roads identified include portions of Sloan Canyon Road, Sloan Canyon to Dam Spur Road, Lawson Creek Road, West Boundary Truck Trail, Montiel Truck Trail, Japatul – Dehesa Road, Taylor Creek Road. Water moving downstream on the east side of Palo Verde Estates (Palo Verde Lago Street) may divert out of defined drainage ways and on to the road surface if culverts are plugged and cause damage or loss of property to 3 structures. Approximately 18 structures along Taylor Creek and 1 structure in Lawson Creek could result in property damage or loss as a result of flooding or debris inundation.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

Protect life and property downstream from the burned area from the 25-year recurrence interval run-off event.

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

Probabilities are low due to the late timing of the fire and length of time before any major damaging storms. Access to do the proposed treatments is good.

Land n/a %	Channel n/a%	Roads 10 % (Private Lands)	Other 20% (Notifications)

D. Probability of Treatment Success:

	<----------Years after treatment-------->		
	1	3	5
Land	n/a		
Channel	n/a		
Roads	50%	100%	100%
Other	50%	100%	100%

E. Cost of No Action (including loss): $2,023,500

F. Cost of Selected Alternative, (including loss): $901,723

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

[X] Hydrology	[X] Soil	[X] Geology	[ ] Range
[X] Forestry	[X] Wildlife	[X] Fire Mgmt.	[ ] Engineering
[] Contracting	[X] Ecology	[X] Botany	[X] Archaeology
[X] Fisheries	[X] Information Officer		[X] GIS

Team Leader: Kirsten Winter

Phone: 858-674-2956 E-mail:kwinter@fs.fed.us Fax 858-673-6192

BAER Survey Team:

US Forest Service:
Kirsten Winter, Team Leader/Biologist
Mike McCorison, Hydrologist
Ron Wright, Soil Scientist
Corey Ferguson, GIS
Cari VerPlanck Archaeologist
Linh Hoang, Botanist

Jeff Wells, Biologist
Artie Colson, FIO

San Diego County Flood Control
George Wilkins

San Miguel Fire Dept.
Andy Menshek, FIO

Bureau of Indian Affairs:
Gerald Jones, Fire Management

Natural Resources Conservation Svc.
Jason Jackson

Calif. Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection
Thom Porter, Forester

California Dept. Fish and Game
Terri Stewart, Biologist

Sweetwater Authority
Pete Famolaro, Biologist
Steve Parker, Reservoir Manager
Mary Ann Mann, Water Quality Specialist

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 rational.

The team considered preventive hillslope and in-channel control treatments in the upper watershed. Effectiveness of all potential treatments in the upper watershed were considered extremely low due to steep slopes, shallow rocky soils, climatic variables, channel cross-sections and configurations, and inaccessibility. Treatments considered but eliminated included seeding, check-dams, mulching, large area coverage of silt fences or wattles, and debris flow retention basins.

The following treatments have been proposed to mitigate the threat to life, property, loss of site productivity and water quality.

Land Treatments:
None

Channel Treatments:
None

Roads Treatments:

Risks to Roads

Identified Roads

Sloan Ranch Road -- Pvt./Public	miles
Sloan Ranch Road to Dam Spur – Pvt.	miles
West Boundary Truck Trail (Montiel Truck Trail) -- Public/Pvt.	miles
Japatul – Dehesa Highway --	miles
Taylor Creek Road -- Pvt.	miles
*Palo Verde Lago -- Residential Street	miles

Total Private roads -- 15.55 miles

Risks

a. Potential washouts @ crossing
b. Exacerbated Surface Drainage problems on unpaved roads > 5%.
c. *Blocked/plugged culverts and subsequent loss of water control

Potential Treatments

Flood patrol
Storm Alert network – county
Stage equipment
Notification to residences and users
** Culvert clearing and upgrades
** Drop inlets and Arizona type crossings

* Palo Verde Lago – problem is loss of water control, once culverts-inlets/outlets are plugged or dammed.
** Further Options

Other Treatments:

Notification Letters:

Obtain owner addresses and allotment residents, draft and mail letter to all landowners within and indirectly downstream from burned area. Since most of these areas are on private property, NRCS will be the lead federal agency for the treatment.

Part VI – Emergency Rehabilitation Treatments and Source of Funds by Land Ownership

A. LAND TREATMENTS – None

B . CHANNEL TREATMENTS – None

C. ROADS AND TRAILS

				Private Lands	75%	25%	Other Lands		
Line No.	**Line Items**	**Units**	**Unit Cost $**	**Number Of Units**	**EWP $**	**Other $**	**Number of Units**	**EFR $**	**Other $**
	Storm Alert Network	Each	10,000				1	10,000	
	Culvert Clearing and upgrades	Each	833				20	16,660	
	Warning Signs	Each	200				8	1600	
O-2	Flood Patrol	Year	13,500				3	40,500	
	TOTALS				**$0**			**$68,760**	

C. ROADS AND TRAILS TOTAL = $68,760

D. STRUCTURES - None

E. MONITOR - None

				Private Lands	75%	25%	Other Lands		
Line No.	**Line Items**	**Units**	**Unit Cost $**	**Number Of Units**	**EWP $**	**Other $**	**Number of Units**	**EFR $**	**Other $**

F. OTHER

	Notification Letters	Pk	2,000	1	1,500	500			
	Contacts with residents	Ea	100	40	4000				
	TOTALS				**$5,500**	**$500**			

F. OTHER TOTAL = $ 6,000

				NFS Lands			Other Lands		
Line No.	**Line Items**	**Units**	**Unit Cost $**	**Number Of Units**	**WFSU $**	**Other $**	**Number of Units**	**EFR $**	**Other $**
G. BAER EVALUATION/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT									
G-1	Salary	Days	378	45	17,010				
G-2	Travel	Days	145	10	1,450				
G-3	Vehicles	Days	43	42	1,806				
G-5	Helicopter	Each	0	8	Paid by	Incident			
G-6	Meeting Room	Days	0	11	Paid by	CNF			
G-7	Copier/Fax/ Phones	Days	0	5	Paid by	CNF			
G-8	Supplies	Each	0	1	Paid by	Incident			
	TOTALS				**$20,266**				

G. BAER EVALUATION/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TOTAL = $ 20,266

Part VII – Approvals

1. Rich Hawkins/acting for Anne S. Fege — 1/11/01
FOREST SUPERVISOR — **DATE**

2. _____ — _____
REGIONAL FORESTER — **DATE**