USDA-FOREST SERVICE FS-2500-8 (6/06)

Date of report:07/30/2010

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: Mono

B. Fire Number: CA-INF-934

C. State: CA

D. County: Mono

E. Region: 05

F. Forest: Inyo

G. District: Lee_vining_

H. Fire Incident Job Code:95FM9U

I. Date Fire Started: 7/26/10

J. Date Fire Contained: 7/29/2010

K. Suppression Cost: $750,000

L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds
1. Fireline waterbarred (miles):
2. Fireline seeded (miles):
3. Other (identify): 3 miles of dozer and hand line rehabilitated by pulling the berm back and scattering cut vegetation.

M. Watershed Number: 180901010204 (Rush creek HUC 6)

N. Total Acres Burned: 1205
NFS Acres(650) Other Federal () State () Private () LADWP (555)

O. Vegetation Types: Sage and bitterbrush, Jeffery Pine

P. Dominant Soils:

Q. Geologic Types: Pumice and ash, obsidian

R. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class: Ephemeral,

S. Transportation System

Trails: miles Roads: miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): 201(18%) (low) 903 (75%) (moderate) _(high) _91 (7%)__(unburned)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres):

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

D. Erosion Potential: __tons/acre (2 yrs) (wind erosion was observed and will continue until vegetation has stabilized the site)

E. Sediment Potential: __cubic yards / square mile

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years):	3-5 yrs Brush community
B. Design Chance of Success, (percent):	90
C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval, (years):	25
D. Design Storm Duration, (hours):	.5
E. Design Storm Magnitude, (inches):	1.23
F. Design Flow, (cubic feet / second/ square mile):	3.8
G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration, (percent):	30
H. Adjusted Design Flow, (cfs per square mile):	4.9

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

A. Describe Critical Values/Resources and Threats:

Background: The Mono Fire started on July 25,2010. The fire is located in the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic area. The Scenic Area was congressionally designated in 1984. It spread quickly driven by wind during the 2nd burning period burning approximately 1,205 acres on LA Department of Water and Power Lands (DWP) and National Forest lands. The Mono Fire is located between U.S. Hwy 395 and the Mono Craters, south of State Route 120.

Threats to life and property

State Highway 120: The fire burned right up to the edge of the highway in several places. The highway served as the northern control line for the fire. In the level areas the fire burned with a moderate severity up to the edge of the highway. In the steeper areas the fire burned in a mosiac of low to unburned to the edge of the highway with some moderate severity upslope with a green vegetative buffer between the moderate and the highway. The shoulder is wide enough in most areas to capture ash and sediment coming off the burned area. There is a slight risk of mostly nuisance sediment and ash reaching the highway in mostly the level areas west of the mono craters during a large runoff producing storm event. In the steeper areas the combination of mosiac fire and moderate severity fire with an unburned buffer should mitigate risk of ash and sediment on the highway during a runoff producing storm. There is also a risk of ash and sediment from wind erosion temporarily limiting visiblity on the road during high wind events until the vegetation recovers. Caltrans is informed of our findings.

Threats to Water Quality

- There is one ephemeral drainage that drains into Rush Creek that goes through the fire area. This drainage is not noticable in the field and is on slopes less than 5%. It is approximatley 2 miles from the fire boundary to Rush Creek. The team determined that there is no risk that ash and sediment can reach Rush Creek and degrade water quality.

Threats to Ecosystem Stability/Soil Productivity

Noxious/Invasive weeds, OHV incursions pose risks to Ecosystem stability and soil productivity. In addition, these risks can prolong the increased watershed response expected from this fire.

- Noxious Weeds

  Reducing the introduction and spread of non-native invasive species and noxious weeds is a goal of the Forest Service and identified in the FEIS for the Mono Basin Scenic Area (1990). A several mile long dozer line was put in mostly on LADWP lands. The dozer was a local resource, however it is uncertain whether is was inspected or cleaned prior to operations. The southern portion of the dozer line intersections national Forest lands. No noxious weeds were identified in or adjacent to the fire area so the risk of infestation is small. Several plant vectors such as roads, wind, and waterways occur within the fire area. In addition, seed could have been transported into the burn on suppression equipment and supplies. Fire is known to enhance the establishment of all weed species present.

- OHV Incursions

  The Mono Basin national Scenic area receives approximately 350,000 visitors a year. Designated roads are located within and around the fire area that are popular for OHV's to view Mono Lake and the surrounding geology. In the past, unauthorized and user created roads were blocked and signed. The combination of blocking, signing and vegetation kept most users on designated roads. The loss of vegetation now makes the closed roads visible, in some cases barriers and signs burned. This along with the level terrain in the western part of the fire makes the fire area highly vulnerable to OHV incursions. This could compromise the scenic value of the Mono Basin area, spread noxious/invasive weeds and retard native plant community recovery. The BAER assessment Team observed OHV activity in the Mono Fire area immediately after the fire was contained. area. Illegal OHV activity can adversely affect native vegetation recovery, spread noxious/invasive weeds, negatively affect soil productivity and prolong watershed recovery. This area is part of the Mono Basin OHV area.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

- Reduce the risk of degradation to ecosystem function and soil productivity; provide for rapid watershed recovery.
- Minimize the occurance of OHV incrusion into the fire area.

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

Land **n/a** % Channel **n/a** % Roads/Trails **90** % Protection/Safety **90** %

D. Probability of Treatment Success

	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land			
Channel			
Roads/Trails	80	90	100
Protection/Safety	85	95	100

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss): $125,000

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss): $113,721

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

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

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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.)

Implementation Team:
To provide for logistics, and tracking of treatment implementation. For completion of interim/accomplishment reports.

Estimated Costs:
Forest BAER coordinator ($420/day X 3 days) $1,260

Land Treatments:

1. *Noxious weed Detection survey*

Objectives:
To determine if the fire and associated ground disturbing activities have promoted the establishment and spread of noxious weeds to the extent that eradication efforts are necessary. Early detection dramatically increases the likelihood of successful treatment. If weeds are detected, a supplemental request for BAER funds will be made for eradication.

Methods:
Surveys will begin in 2011during the flowering periods of weed species. Because. Completion of surveys in, dozerlines, and known invasive and sensitive plant populations will be the first priority. The second survey priorities will be along roads, handlines, drop points, and staging areas. Surveys of general habitats in the burned area will be the lowest priority. All locations of weed species will be documented and mapped using GPS equipment. Surveys will be completed using the NRIS protocol available at the national website: http://fsweb.ftcol.wo.fs.fed.us/frs/rangelands/index.shtml. Results will be entered into the NRIS database.

Estimated Costs:

GS-9 Botanist ($300day X 2 Days)	$600

Protection/Safety Treatments:

1. OHV Patrol

Objective
Additional patrol will help deter potential off-road use into the burned area. The patroller can rake out new tracks and repair resource damage in a timely manner. They will provide the public with post-fire conservation information and a field presence.

Methods
Provide additional OHV patrols for a total of 10 days, emphasizing high use time such as holiday weekends. This area receives a high amount of OHV use, especially on the weekends during the summer and fall months. The technician will also provide the public with information regarding post-fire recovery and the importance of staying on existing roads throughout the fire area. The Forest has an OHV technician that can perform this work. The technician will document if incursions occur and take corrective action.

Estimated Costs:

1 GS-5 OHV Technician ($150/day X 10 days)	$1500
Mileage, 10 days (500 miles X .55mile)	$ 275
TOTAL	$1,775

2. Advisory Signs

Objective and Methods
This treatment is preventative. Signs will be placed in approximately 4 access points into the fire area 01N11, 2 on 01N25 and 01S62, encouraging visitors to stay on main roads to facilitate native plant recovery, decrease noxious/invasive weed vectors and protect soil productivity. Signs will be durable in nature, have two wooden posts and be in designed to be compatible with the Scenic area objectives.

Estimated Costs:

4 Signs @200/sign	$800
Posts	$200
GS-5 OHV Technician ($150/day X 3 days)	$450

TOTAL	$1,450

3. Road Closure signs

Objective and Methods

These signs will be placed in previously closed areas that are now visible and easily driveable due to the fire consuming vegetation that effectively blocked these roads. There is a need for approximately Mono Basin Scenic Area 4 closure signs.

Estimated Costs:	
4 signs @ $100/sign	$400
Posts	$ 50
GS-5 OHV Technician ($150/day X 2 days)	$300
TOTALS	$750

4 . *Barriers*

Objective:

This treatment is meant to discourage OHV incursions at key access points throughout the fire area to allow for native vegetation recovery, minimize the spread of noxious/invasive weeds and allow recovery of soil productivity.

Method:

Place pumice boulders in areas (roads) previously closed by barriers (two burned), signs and vegetation. There are 4 areas where the vegetation burned that allow easy access onto closed roads and/or level terrain where incursions are likely to occur. The BAER team determined that fencing would not be effective as recreationists can easily drive around fenced areas and it was compatible with Mono Scenic area objectives. The team also considered wooden barriers and logs. The Team thought that the logs would be taken or easily moved.

Estimated Costs:	
240 Pumice Boulders	$10,000
Shipping	$ 2,000
GS-5 OHV Technician (150/day X 5 days)	$ 750
GS-9 Recreation Specialist ($274/day X 10 days)	$ 2,740
GS-11 District Recreation Officer ($276/day X 5 days)	$ 1,380
Bobcat + operator (4 days)	$ 2,400
Volunteers	no cost
TOTAL	$19,270

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	Unit Cost	# of Units	BAER $	Other $	# of units	Fed $	# of Units	Non Fed $	Total $
A. Land Treatments										
Implementation	days	420	3	$1,260	$0		$0		$0	$1,260
NX weed detection	days	300	2	$600	$0		$0		$0	$600
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$1,860	$0		$0		$0	$1,860
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
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Road & Trails				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
D. Protection/Safety										
OHV Patrol	days	177	10	$1,770	$0		$0		$0	$1,770
Barriers	ea	4818	4	$19,272	$1,000		$0		$0	$20,272
Advisory Signs	ea	362	4	$1,448	$0		$0		$0	$1,448
Road Closure Signs	ea	188	4	$752						$752
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Structures				$23,242	$1,000		$0		$0	$24,242
E. BAER Evaluation										
Team costs	days	3	1733	$5,199			$0		$0	$5,199
Insert new items above this line!				---	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				$5,199	$0		$0		$0	$5,199
F. Monitoring										
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Monitoring				$0	$0		$0		$0	
G. Totals				$25,102	$1,000		**$0**		**$0**	**$25,102**
Previously approved										
Total for this request				**$25,102**	1000					$25,102

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. ***/S/ Jim Upchurch*** ***8/2/2010***
   Forest Supervisor (signature) Date

2. ***/s/ James M. Peña (for)*** ***8/3/2010***
   Regional Forester (signature) Date