USDA United States Department of Agriculture | Forest Service | Angeles National Forest SO | 701 N. Santa Anita Ave. Arcadia, CA 91006-2725 626-574-1613 Voice 800-735-2922 CRS

File Code: 2520 **Date:** October 2, 2012
Route To: (2520)

Subject:

To: Regional Forester

Attached please find the signed FS 2500-8 form with our initial funding request for the Mesa View Fire, which started on the Angeles National Forest on September 22, 2012. The funding request summarizes the expected impacts of the Mesa View Fire and the proposed treatments necessary to address those resource impacts.

Should you have any questions please contact Arturo Delgado, Acting Forest Resource Officer at (626) 574-5258.

THOMAS A. CONTRERAS
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Jeff D TenPas
Wilburn M Blount
Katie VinZant
Maria Holguin
Diane H McCombs
Arturo Delgado
Mike McCorison

Date of Report: 06/13/2012

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: Mesa View

B. Fire Number: CA-ANF-5129

C. State: CA

D. County: Los Angeles

E. Region: 05

F. Forest: Angeles National Forest

G. District: 53

H. Fire Incident Job Code: P5G8Q0

I. Date Fire Started: 09/22/2012

J. Date Fire Contained: 09/25/2012

K. Suppression Cost: $ XXXX

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

M. Watershed Number:

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

O. **Vegetation Types**: Chamise Chaparral and Mixed Chaparral

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)**: 0 **(low)** 30 **(moderate)** 0 **(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 and suppression activity 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 Mesa View burn area had relatively few non-native plants, only weedy grasses scattered along roadsides. The Mesa View 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 is approximately two miles of recently bladed dozerline on the perimeter of the burn area. There is a concern that these new dozerlines will facilitate unauthorized Off-Highway Vehicle (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.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives (narrative):

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

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:

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

Team Leader: Katie VinZant

Email: kvinzant@fs.fed.us **Phone**: 626-383-1626 **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.)

Implementation Team
To provide for logistics and tracking of treatment implementation.

Estimated Cost:

Implementation Team Leader ($350/day x 3 days)	$1050
TOTAL	$1050

Land Treatments:

Noxious Weed Detection Surveys
Surveys will begin in 2013 during the flowering periods of most high priority weed species.

The survey priorities will be along dozerlines, handlines, and staging areas associated with the fire.

Weed detection surveys to determine whether ground disturbing activities related to the Mesa View 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 three 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:	
1 GS-11 botanist ($400/day x 1 day)	$ 400.00
2 GS-5 botanists ($150/day x 3 days)	$ 900.00
Vehicle mileage (450 miles @0.55/mile)	$ 248.00
TOTAL	**$ 1548.00**

Channel Treatments: none

Roads and Trail Treatments: none

Protection/Safety Treatments:

Signage and Patrol 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 in the Mesa View fire and dozerline areas. 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: 1) install slash and vertical mulching at the western and eastern entrances to the dozerlines created during the fire that have a very high potential for unauthorized OHV use; 2) signs are placed to show dozerlines are not designated trails; 3) patrolling and maintenance of barriers is conducted. Slashing and vertical mulching of the dozerline will be completed using suppression funding. A no-dig barrier along the eastern side of the dozerline will be installed using OHV grant funding. The main funding requested from this treatment is for signage, maintenance and patrolling.

Estimated Cost for OHV Barriers and Patrol

Line Items	*UOM*	*Cost per UOM ($)*	*# Units*	*BAER $*
Carsonite posts	Each	10	20	$200
Carsonite signs	Each	5	20	$100
Patrol/Maintenance of Barriers	Days	275	18	$4950
TOTAL				**$5,250**

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

Line Items	Units	Cost	Units	BAER $	$	units	$	Units	$	$
A. Land Treatments										
Implementation	ea	1050	1	$1,050						
Noxious Weed Detection Survey	ea	1548	1	$1,548	$0		$0		$0	$1,548
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$2,598	$0		$0		$0	$2,598
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. Protection/Safety										
OHV Signs/Patrol	ea	5,250	1	$5,250	$0		$0		$0	$5,250
					$0		$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Structures				$5,250	$0		$0		$0	$5,250
E. BAER Evaluation										
BAER Assessment	hours	40	2	$80			$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				—	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				$80	$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				$7,848	$0		$0		$0	$7,848
Previously approved										
Total for this request				$7,848						

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. Forest Supervisor (signature) — Date: 10/3/2012

2. for Regional Forester (signature) — Date: 10/5/12