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

Date of Report:8/4/2006

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: Scott (Mt. Pinos Lightning Complex) B. Fire Number: CA-LPF-001475

C. State: California D. County: Kern

E. Region: Pacific Southwest Region (R5) F. Forest: Los Padres

G. District: Mount Pinos H. Fire Incident Job Code: P5C08U

I. Date Fire Started:July 23, 2006 J. Date Fire Contained:July 29, 2006

K. Suppression Cost: est. $4,000,000

L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds
1. Fireline waterbarred (miles):0.0 miles (waterbarring on hold until soil moist increases)
2. Fireline seeded (miles): 0 acres
3. Other (identify): Approx. 2.8 miles of dozer lines and 5.4 miles of hand lines constructed

M. Watershed Number: HUC 5: 1803000304 (Buena Vista Lakebed)
HUC 6: 180300030401 (Castac Lake) and 180300030403 (Tecuya Creek)

N. Total Acres Burned: 751 acres
NFS Acres(726) Other Federal (0) State (0) Private (25)

O. Vegetation Types:Jeffrey pine (south aspect), Jeffrey pine/white fir (north aspect), sagebrush/rabbitbrush, and mixed single-leaf pinyon pine/scrub oak.

P. Dominant Soils: Kilburn-Wrentham-Supan Families association, 10-30% slopes;
Kilburn-Wrentham-Supan Families association, 30-60% slopes;

Lodo-Modjeska-Botella Families association, 10-70% slopes;
Los Gatos-Kilburn-Panamint Families association, 10-30% slopes;
Los Gatos-Kilburn-Panamint Families association, 30-60% slopes;
Orthents-Fluvents complex, 0 -15% slopes.

Q. Geologic Types: Quartz Monzonite (qm); Alluvial fan gravel (Qf); and Marble (ml)

R. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class: Perennial: 0.0 miles; Intermittent: 2.0 miles

S. Transportation System

Trails: 1.4 miles Roads: 1.0 miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): 270 (low) 227 (moderate) 254 (high)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): 254

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres):
0 (low) 300 (moderate) 451 (high)

D. Erosion Potential: 13.0 tons/acre

E. Sediment Potential: 4,860 cubic yards / square mile

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years): 5

B. Design Chance of Success, (percent): 80

C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval, (years): 2

D. Design Storm Duration, (hours): 24

E. Design Storm Magnitude, (inches): 2.43

F. Design Flow, (cubic feet / second/ square mile): 13.3

G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration, (percent): 33

H. Adjusted Design Flow, (cfs per square mile): 32.6

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

A. Describe Critical Values/Resources and Threats:

1. Threats to Human Life And Property:

a. Human Life and Property – The west end of the community of Frazer Park is directly down stream and down slope of the Scott Fire. There is also isolated private homes located west of Frazer Park in the Elephant Acres subwatershed. There are three buildings also located at the west end of Frazer

Park, the Kern County building inspector's office, the Kern County Fire Station, and District 4 Supervisor Raymond Watson's field office which are on NFS land and under special-use permits. The US Forest Service and Kern County are currently in the process of a land exchange for the land and the buildings. Two Kern County roads, Frazer Mountain Park Way and Mt. Pinos Way, along with numerous local roads are also located down stream and down slope of the burn area.

The BAER Team briefed Kern County District 4 Supervisor Raymond Watson as to the findings and recommendations of the BAER assessment and informed the Supervisor of potential values at risk on non-federal land, specifically private homes, transportation systems, and the public welfare..

The Scott Fire BAER team has made contact with Mark Davis from the Natural Resouce Conservation Survey (NRCS) and conducted a field review of BAER identified potential values at risk on non-federal land. The BAER team also reviewed the potential threats to the county roads and associated drainage structures with the Kern County Roads Dept. personnel. Mount Pinos Ranger District personnel will work with NRCS, State, County and Local agencies to inform the public of the potential for increased stream/debris flows during precipitation events. Due to the steep, rocky slopes and alluvial fan topograghy, no effective land or channel treatments are proposed to treat the burn area.

b. Roads and Trails –There are three designated OHV system routes within the burn area, Tecuya Timber Sale 4WD Road (#115), Cold Springs Trail (#116), and the East Tecuya Trail (#117). The Tecuya Timber Sale Road is designated for motorcycles, ATVs, and 4-wheel drive vehicles. The Cold Springs Trail and East Tecuya Trail are designated for motorcycles and ATVs only. The Cold Springs Trail is located in the southwest portion of the burn and was lightly impacted. The Tecuya Timber Sale Road and East Tecuya Trail traverse through the middle of the burned area with moderate to high burn severity. These routes are mainly on ridge tops and access the flats at the top of Tecuya Mountain. The use for all three routes ranges from low to moderate depending on time of year. Use also includes non-motorized recreation such as hiking and mountain biking. There exists a significant threat to the recreational user's life and property due to changed conditions resulting from the Scott Fire. Falling dead trees and branches pose a danger to recreationists traveling through the burn area on any of the OHV routes. Even though the OHV users are restricted to the designated routes, there is the possibility of some users traveling off the designated routes into the burn area. The threat of falling tree and branches also exists off the designated routes, along with stump holes and unstable ground. Users venturing off the designated routes have the potential to create unnatural channels and nick-points which could become rills and gullies channelling water and debris and impeding the natural vegetative recovery of the burn area.

2. Threats to Water Quality:

There is no municipal or domestic use of surface water within or down slope of the burn area.

3. Threats to Long Term Soil Productivity:

There are no threats to long term soil productivity due to the Scott Fire.

4. Threats of Noxious Weeds and Invasive Weed Invasion:

It is unknown whether or not all fire suppression equipment used on the Scott Fire was weed free prior to arrival at the incident. Equipment such as trucks, passenger vehicles, dozers, and aviation equipment have the potential to transport noxious weeds and were used within the Scott Fire burned area. A known infestation of dalmation toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia*), rated as an "A" pest on the State Noxious Weed List, occurs within Section 26 Township 9 North Range 20 West, within a portion of the Scott Fire burned area. This population was treated by hand pulling in May of 2006 and has been treated by this method for several years. It is unlikely that any mature seeds were present on dalmation toadflax shoots during the fire. This plant reproduces by seed and vegetatively by creeping lateral roots. No other noxious weed species are known to occur within the Scott Fire burned area; but if dormant seeds of other noxious weeds (previously undetected) are present it is possible that fire effects to soils and ground cover could promote post-fire germination.

5. Threats to Wildlife Resources:

The Scott Fire burned within the Condor fly way. There is no known adverse effects to the Condor as a result of the Scott Fire.

6. Threats to Botanical Resources:
There are no known Threatened & Endangered plant species within the Scott Fire burn area.

7. Threats to Archaeological Resources:
There are no known Archaeological resources within the Scott Fire burn area.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

To protect life and property associated with the public use of the OHV travel routes within the Scott Fire, the BAER Assessment Team recommends the temporary, seasonal closure of the burn area to all recreational users. The closures will be accomplished by installing three gates at strategic locations at route access points outside the fire perimeter which will effectively close off the burn area. Short segments of temporary fencing (aproximate total of 200 feet) will accompany the gates to help seal-off the entry points. Information boards with closure signs will be installed at the gate locations. Additional closure signs will be installed at strategic route locations leading to the burn area to give users an early advisory of conditions ahead. The temporary closure of the OHV routes, in conjunction with suppression rehab efforts will give the burned slopes a chance to establish a vegetative cover without the potential for disturbance by recreation use in the burn area.

To determine if the fire has enabled the establishment and spread of noxious weeds, and to detect such establishment and spread as early as possible, the BAER team recommends noxious weed detection surveys be conducted. Early detection dramatically increases the likelihood of successful treatment.

The BAER Team recommends maintaining communications with State, County, and Local governmental agencies and adjacent private landowners regarding the inherent watershed reponse to impending precipitation events.

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

Land n/a % Channel n/a % Roads/Trails n/a % Protection/Safety 80 %

D. Probability of Treatment Success

	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land	90%	90%	n/a
Channel	n/a	n/a	n/a
Roads/Trails	n/a	n/a	n/a
Protection/Safety	90%	90%	n/a

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss): $1,200,000

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss): $202,070

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

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

Team Leader: Tim Biddinger (Forest BAER contact is Donna Toth – Los Padres NF)

Email: tbiddinger@fs.fed.us Phone: 530-478-6249 FAX:

Core Team
Tim Biddinger (Team Leader – Tahoe NF)
Rick Weaver (Co-Team Leader, Hydrologist – Tahoe NF)
John Madden (Biologist – Los Padres NF)
Pat Likins (Archaeologist – Los Padres NF)
Don Bedford (GIS – Los Padres NF)
Karen McKinley (District Recreation and Lands Officer – Los Padres NF)
John Kelly (District Resource Officer – Los Padres NF)

H. **Treatment Narrative:**

Land Treatments: To determine if the fire has enabled the establishment and spread of noxious weeds, and to detect such establishment and spread as early as possible, the BAER team recommends noxious weed detection surveys be conducted. Early detection dramatically increases the likelihood of successful treatment. A detailed weed detection survey plan is found in Appendix A attached. The total cost for the noxious weed detection survey will be $1,435 for the first year after the fire.

Channel Treatments: N/A

Roads and Trail Treatments: N/A

Protection/Safety Treatments: To protect life and property associated with the public use of the OHV travel routes within the Scott Fire, the BAER Assessment Team recommends the temporary, seasonal closure of the burn area to all recreational users. The closures will be accomplished by installing three gates at strategic locations at route access points outside the fire perimeter which will effectively close off the burn area. Short segments of temporary fencing (aproximate total of 200 feet) will accompany the gates to help seal-off the entry points. Information boards with closure signs will be installed at the gate locations. Additional closure signs will be installed at strategic route locations leading to the burn area to give users an early advisory of conditions ahead. The temporary closure of the OHV routes, in conjunction with suppression rehab efforts will give the burned slopes a chance to establish a vegetative cover without the potential for disturbance by recreation use in the burn area. A detailed treatment plan and estimated cost breakdown can be found in Appendix B attached.

I. **Monitoring Narrative:**

The OHV travel routes closure area is adjacent to the mountain communities of Frazier Park, Lake of the Woods, and Lebec. Monitoring of the gates, information boards, and trespass prevention into the fire area should occur on a weekly basis to maintain closure integrity. There are additional monitoring needs associated with the Scott Fire since no land or channel treatment are proposed.

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										
Weed Survey:				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Saleries	days	325	4	$1,300	$0		$0		$0	$1,300
Vehicle	miles	0.45	300	$135	$0		$0		$0	$135
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$1,435	$0		$0		$0	$1,435
B. Channel Treatments										
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Channel Treat.				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
C. Road and Trails										
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Road & Trails				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
D. Protection/Safety										
Closure Gates	gate	4000	3	$12,000	$0		$0		$0	$12,000
Closure Signs	sign	700	18	$12,600	$0		$0		$0	$12,600
Information Board	board	425	6	$2,550	$0		$0		$0	$2,550
Vehicles	miles	0.5	1600	$800	$0		$0		$0	$800
Specialist Support	days	316	5	$1,580			$0		$0	$1,580
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Structures				$29,530	$0		$0		$0	$29,530
E. BAER Evaluation										
Salaries	days	600	23	$13,800	$0		$0		$0	$13,800
Per diem	days	160	14	$2,240	$0		$0		$0	$2,240
Vehicles	miles	0.5	2000	$1,000	$0		$0		$0	$1,000
				---			$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				---	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				$17,040	$0		$0		$0	$17,040
F. Monitoring										
Patrol Closure	days	180	48	$8,640	$0		$0		$0	$8,640
Repair material	items	1000	1	$1,000	$0		$0		$0	$1,000
Vehicles	miles	0.5	4800	$2,400	$0		$0		$0	$2,400
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0		$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Monitoring				$12,040	$0		$0		$0	$12,040
G. Totals				$60,045	$0		**$0**		**$0**	**$60,045**
Previously approved										
Total for this request				**$60,045**						

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. /s/ *Gloria D. Brown* 8/9/2006
   Forest Supervisor (signature) Date

2. /s/ Beth Pendleton (for) 8/15/2006
   Regional Forester (signature) Date

Appendix A

Scott Fire noxious weeds and invasive plants report

Month/Year: July-August/2006
Author Name(s): John Madden
Author Title: Assistant Resource Officer
Author Duty Station: Mount Pinos Ranger District, Los Padres National Forest

I. Resource Condition Assessment

A. Initial Concerns

It is unknown whether or not all fire suppression equipment used on the Scott Fire was weed free prior to arrival at the incident. Equipment such as trucks, passenger vehicles, dozers, and aviation equipment have the potential to transport noxious weeds and were used within the Scott Fire burned area.

A known infestation of dalmation toadflax (*Linaria genistifolia*), rated as an "A" pest on the State Noxious Weed List, occurs within Section 26 Township 9 North Range 20 West, within a portion of the Scott Fire burned area. This population was treated by hand pulling in May of 2006 and has been treated by this method for several years. It is unlikely that any mature seeds were present on dalmation toadflax shoots during the fire. This plant reproduces by seed and vegetatively by creeping lateral roots.

No other noxious weed species are known to occur within the Scott Fire burned area; but if dormant seeds of other noxious weeds (previously undetected) are present it is possible that fire effects to soils and ground cover could promote post-fire germination.

B. Findings Of The On-The-Ground Survey

Known information was verified on the ground within the Scott Fire burned area as described above under part A 'initial concerns'. Areas where fire suppression equipment was used were inspected for potential noxious weed risk, from introduction of plant parts and any soil disturbance. No noxious weed plant parts were found at the locations inspected at this time.

II. Emergency Determination

A potential emergency may be caused by the Scott Fire in relation to noxious weeds.

III. Treatments to Mitigate the Emergency

A. Treatment Type: Detection surveys for invasive plants and monitoring of dalmation toadflax.

B. Treatment Objective: To locate any new occurrences of noxious weeds and to monitor the post-fire response of the existing dalmation toadflax infestation.

C Treatment Description: Continued treatment of dalmation toadflax by GPS/mapping of infestation; and detection of any new species occurrences, concentrating efforts along travel routes, dozer lines, and areas where equipment was used. Submit report to Regional BAER Coordinator and evaluate the need for further action.

D. Treatment Cost:

Fiscal Year 2007

GS-11 Botanist:	$400/day x 2 day = $800
GS-09 Asst. Resource Officer:	$300/day x 1 day = $300
GS-05 Forestry Technician:	$200/day x 1 day = $200
Mileage:	300 miles @ $0.45/mile = $135
Total for first year survey:	$1,435

Fiscal Year 2008
(similar expected costs to FY2007)

IV. Discussion/Summary/Recommendations

It is the intent of the Forest Service to prevent or minimize the establishment of noxious weeds and invasive plants within the Scott Fire burned area and adjacent land. It is necessary to conduct monitoring and detection surveys to evaluate the potential spread from the existing infestation of dalmation toadflax and from the fire suppression activities for approximately 2 years to determine the fire's potential impact on weed populations within the burned area. If the monitoring shows an increase in dalmation toadflax or detects any other species of noxious weed as a result of the Scott Fire, there may be the need for further treatment.

Appendix B

TECHNICAL SPECIALIST'S REPORT – BURNED AREA EMERGENCY REHABILITATION

Recreation Resources
Scott Fire July/August 2006

Author: Karen A. McKinley
Title: District Recreation & Lands Officer
Duty Station: Los Padres NF - Mount Pinos Ranger District

I. Resource Condition Assessment

A. Initial Concerns: Fire burned across the east end of the Tecuya OHV route system - a popular area with OHV riders, hikers, and mountain bikers. There is a significant potential threat to recreationists' safety due to inherent characteristics of the area within the perimeter of the Scott Fire. Potential injury from snags, falling trees and branches, stump holes, and unstable ground. Due to the loss of vegetative cover and screening in the fire area, there is a high probability of off route travel within the burn area.

B. Findings of the on-the-ground survey

1. Summary of findings: Initial concerns confirmed by on-site survey of routes through the fire area and off-route locations. Burn severity is high along much of route 117 East Tecuya Trail resulting in loss of vegetation and screening. Potential for off-route travel is high. Potential for injury to recreationists who travel in and through the burn area is high due to snags, stump holes, rolling debris, and potential runoff during rain events.

2. Additional information: There are three designated OHV system routes within the burn area, Tecuya Timber Sale 4WD Road (#115), Cold Springs Trail (#116), and the East Tecuya Trail (#117). ATVs and motorcycles are permitted on all the routes. The Tecuya Timber Sale Road additionally allows the use of 4-wheel drive vehicles. The Cold Springs Trail is located in the southwest portion of the burn and was lightly impacted. The Tecuya Timber Sale Road and East Tecuya Trail traverse through the middle of the burned area with moderate to high burn severity. These routes are mainly on ridge tops and access the flats at the top of Tecuya Mountain.

The use for all three routes ranges from low to moderate depending on time of year. Use also includes non-motorized recreation such as hiking and mountain biking. There exists a significant threat to the recreational user's life and property due to changed conditions resulting from the Scott Fire. Falling dead trees and branches pose a danger to recreationists traveling through the burn area on any of the OHV routes. Even though the OHV users are restricted to the designated routes, there is the possibility of some users traveling off the designated routes into the burn area.

The threat of falling tree and branches also exists off the designated routes, along with stump holes and unstable ground. Users venturing off the designated routes have the potential to create unnatural channels and nick-points which could become rills and gullies channeling water and debris and impeding the natural vegetative recovery of the burn area.

Potential runoff from denuded slopes during rain events could pose a significant risk to recreationists within the burn area.

Public access points to the burn area include Scott Russell Road on the west, Edison Road on the east, and West End Drive on the south. No access available from the north.

II. Emergency Determination:

Based on the resource condition assessment and findings - a temporary closure (through April 2007) is recommended to protect life and property associated with the public use of the OHV travel routes, and general forest area within the Scott Fire.

III. Treatments to mitigate the emergency:

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TREATMENT TYPE 1 - Physical Closure Activities

A. Treatment Type: Area Closure - gates, fencing, information boards

B. Treatment Objective: The temporary closure of the OHV routes, in conjunction with suppression rehab efforts will give the burned slopes a chance to establish a vegetative cover without the potential for disturbance by recreation use in the burn area.

C. Treatment Description: installation of three gates at strategic locations at route access points outside the fire perimeter which will effectively close off the burn area: 1) intersection of Edison Road and Trail 117; 2) terminus of West End Drive at the Forest Boundary; and 3) intersection of Trail 114 and Cherry Creek Road OR Scott Russell Road at Trail 114. Short segments of temporary fencing (approximate total of 200 feet) will accompany the gates to help seal-off the entry points. Information boards with closure signs will be installed at the gate locations. Additional closure signs will be installed at strategic route locations leading to the burn area to give users an early advisory of conditions ahead.

D. Treatment Cost

3 Los Padres Gates including installation costs	$12,000
6 4'x4' Information Boards including installation costs	$ 2,550
6 sets of closure signs plus 12 replacement sets	$ 9,000
200 ft of 3 strand barbless "T" post fencing w/"H" braces	$ 1,500
GS5 Fence Crew ($525/day x 4 days)	$ 2,100
Vehicle Support (mileage)	$ 300
Total	$27,450

Specialist Review for ground disturbing activities

2 day GS9 Archeologist	$ 550
1 day GS9 Biologist	$ 275
1 day GS12 Archeologist Review	$ 375
1 day GS12 Botanist	$ 380
Specialist Mileage	$ 500
Total `	$ 2,080

Grand Total $29,530

TREATMENT TYPE 2 - Closure Monitoring/Patrol

A. Treatment Type: Patrol of closure area

B. Treatment Objective: Ensure physical closure features (i.e. gates, signs, temporary fencing) are effective.

C. Treatment Description: The closure area is adjacent to the mountain communities of Frazier Park, Lake of the Woods, and Lebec. Monitoring of the gates, information boards, temporary fencing and trespass prevention into the fire area should occur on a regular basis (due to the closure area's proximity to the mountain communities) to maintain closure integrity. Patrol costs are designed to be higher initially (first 8 weeks) tapering off to two four hour patrols a week in the last 20 weeks. Treatment includes

maintenance and/or repair and/or replacement of closure features as needed during the closure order time period (initially 36 weeks)

D. Treatment Cost - over 36 week period

GS5 FPO/Patrol ($180/day) 384 hours	$ 8,640
Misc repair/maintenance materials	$ 1,000
Vehicle Support (mileage) 4800 miles x .50	$ 2,400
	$12,040

IV. Discussion/Summary/Recommendations

The closure area and fire suppression rehab efforts should be monitored after the first significant rainfall to ensure 1) route integrity throughout the burn area, and 2) success of fire suppression rehab efforts (such as wattles around helispot 1, dozer line rehab).

The closure order should be reviewed in April 2007, after winter rains, to determine the need to continue or lift the closure.

Appendix C

Scott Fire Burn Severity Map