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

Date of Report: 10/30/2006

BURNED-AREA REPORT
(Reference FSH 2509.13)

PART I - TYPE OF REQUEST

A. Type of Report

[ ] 1. Funding request for estimated emergency stabilization funds
[ ] 2. Accomplishment Report
[x] 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: Uncles Complex (Hancock+Uncles Fires)

B. Fire Number: CA-KNF-003497

C. State: CA

D. County: Siskiyou

E. Region: 5

F. Forest: Klamath

G. District: Salmon River (54)

H. Fire Incident Job Code: P5C04X

I. Date Fire Started: July 23, 2006

J. Date Fire Contained: October 23, 2006

K. Suppression Cost: $14,900,000

L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds
1. Fireline waterbarred (miles): 18 miles
2. Fireline seeded (miles): 0
3. Other (identify): 3 miles road grading, low water crossing repair;

M. Watershed Number: 1801021104 and 1801021002

N. Total Acres Burned: 25,476 acres
NFS Acres(25,476) Other Federal ( ) State ( ) Private ( )

O. Vegetation Types: Red fir, white fir mixed conifer at higher elevations and Douglas fir mixed conifer at lower elevations with small area of ponderosa pine and white oak at bottom of fire area.

P. Dominant Soils: Chaix, Dome, Chawanakee, Rogue, Goodwin, Jayar, Neuns, Woodseye, Smokey, Kindig

Q. Geologic Types: Granitic and metasedimentary

R. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class: Order 1: 15 miles; Order 2: 6 miles; Order 3: 10.8 miles; Order 4: 7.0 miles

S. Transportation System

Trails: 8 miles Roads: 0 miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): 20,096 (unburned+low) 3,960 (moderate) 1,420 (high)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): 2,085

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres) (Uncles + Hancock):
19,391 (low) 4,593 (moderate) 1,331 (high) 226 (very high)

D. Erosion Potential: Uncles: 5.5 tons/acre Hancock: 3.81 tons/acre

E. Sediment Potential: Uncles: 410 cubic yards / square mile; Hancock: 220 cubic yards / square mile

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years):	10 (prefire erosion potential) 25 for post-fire runoff
B. Design Chance of Success, (percent):	NA
C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval, (years):	25 yr.
D. Design Storm Duration, (hours):	1 hr
E. Design Storm Magnitude, (inches):	5 inches
F. Design Flow, (cubic feet / second/ square mile):	Wooley: 18,160 cfs; Uncles: 1735 cfs NF Headwaters: 3425 cfs
G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration, (percent):	Wooley: 3%; Uncles:58% NF Headwaters: 2%
H. Adjusted Design Flow, (cfs per square mile):	Wooley: 18,730 cfs; Uncles: 2745 cfs NF Headwaters: 3500 cfs

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

A. Describe Critical Values/Resources and Threats:

On July 23, 2006 lightening caused fires started in Hancock and Uncles Creeks within the Marble Mountain Wilderness. The initial attack personnel were not able to contain these lightening fires. The Handcock Fire spread NW towards Wooley Creek and west towards the Main Stem of the Salmon River. The Uncles Fire spread eastward and southward. Both of these fires drain into the Salmon River which has a high value anadromous fisheries including a spring chinook salmon run.

Threat to watershed values: Intense rainfall events are not uncommon in this part of the Forest. Flashy runoff peaks due to the higher runoff efficiency associated with cover loss and increased hydrophobicity in the high and moderate burn severity areas have the potential to increase rill and shallow debris torrent erosion. This material, plus any generated by potential fire induced debris slides, would be delivered fairly efficiently to Wooley Creek and the Little North Fork.

Threat to Private property: There are no threats to private property or roads.

Threat to Fishery values: Hancock Fire The Wooley Creek watershed contains coho salmon, fall Chinook, spring Chinook, summer and fall/winter steelhead. Coho salmon is listed as a threatened species under the federal and state Endangered Species Act (ESA), Chinook salmon and steelhead trout have been designated as "Sensitive" in Region 5 of the USFS. Wooley Creek annually contains about 10-30% of the spring Chinook population in the Salmon River. In 2005, the entire Salmon River contained only about 80 spring-run Chinook salmon and in 2006, about 230 spring-run Chinook Salmon were counted--although some reaches were not surveyed in 2006 because of conflicts with river access and fire fighting operations. Coho salmon are estimated to spawn and rear in the lower 1-2 miles of Wooley Creek. It is expected that impacts from increased ash and fine sediment from the Hancock Fire will be within the natural variability from historic (natural) low intensity wildfire to which the various fish species within Wooley Creek (and the Salmon River) are adapted. However, because the run-sizes of spring Chinook are at the low end of historic levels, populations may not be as resilient as in the past. Therefore, reduction of fire-related sediment delivery potential is recommended where feasible to minimize impacts to spawning and rearing habitat in the short term (the first year) and to holding habitat in the long term (after the first year). Stream temperatures are not expected to be significantly affected due to the low amounts of high and moderate severity burn (most streamside canopy is retained).

Uncles Fire The Little North Fork watershed of the North Fork Salmon River contains fall and spring Chinook salmon, summer and fall/winter steelhead. It also contains critical coho salmon habitat that is currently unoccupied. It is expected that impacts from increased ash and fine sediment from the Uncles Fire will be above the natural variability from historic (natural) low intensity wildfire (due to 38% of the fire burning with high and moderate burn severities compared to 28% for the Hancock Fire) to which the various fish species within the Little North Fork (and the Salmon River) are adapted. Stream temperatures are not expected to be significantly affected due to the high and moderate burn severities only burned the riparian areas in the Left hand Fork of Uncles Creek. The high and moderate burn severity areas represent only 7% of the watershed.

Threat to ecosystem integrity: The known noxious weed species that could have been transported by suppression actions include spotted and diffuse knapweed, yellow starthistle, scotch broom, puncture vine and dryer's woad. Since the fire is in wilderness, there has been no vehicle traffic within the burn area. A noxious weed detection survey is needed. A Noxious Weed Detection Survey plan will be sent in with the interim BAER report since this work will occur summer of 2007.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

Due to no treats to life and property and with a small threat to fisheries, wilderness management objectives override the need for emergency treatments. If not for the overriding wilderness management objectives, potential treatments would have been straw mulching, wattles, contour falling, and wood and stone check dams in small intermittent channels in order to reduce sediment reaching Wooley Creek, LNF and Main Stem Salmon River.

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

Land __ % Channel __ % Roads/Trails __ % Protection/Safety __ %

D. Probability of Treatment Success

	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land			
Channel			
Roads/Trails			
Protection/Safety			

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss):

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss):

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

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

Team Leader: Tom Laurent

Email: tlaurent@fs.fed.us Phone: 530 841-4416 FAX: 530 841-4571

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.)

Land Treatments: No treatments proposed

Channel Treatments: No treatments proposed.

Roads and Trail Treatments: No treatments proposed. There are no FS roads within fire perimeter or within downslope affectd area. Fire suppression repaired access road and trail damage.

Protection/Safety Treatments: No treatments proposed. There are no threats to property and public safety. It was determined that public safety on trails was not elevated due to fire.

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.)

No monitoring is proposed.

A weed detection survey will be conducted along roads used by fire fighting equipment and on trails camp sites used by the pack animals. The straw to feed the animals was not necessarily weed free and the potential exists for introduction of noxious weeds.

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

Line Items	Units	Cost	Units	BAER $	$		units	$	Units	$	$
A. Land Treatments											
				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
B. Channel Treatments											
				$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
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Road & Trails				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
D. Protection/Safety											
				$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											
Salary				$4,000				$0		$0	$4,000
Vehicle (mileage)											
Insert new items above this line!				---	$0			$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Evaluation				$4,000	$0			$0		$0	$4,000
F. Monitoring											
Weed Detection Surv.				$6,391	$0			$0		$0	$6,391
Insert new items above this line!				$0	$0			$0		$0	$0
Subtotal Monitoring				$6,391	$0			$0		$0	$6,391
G. Totals				**$10,391**	$0			**$0**		**$0**	**$10,391**
Previously approved											
Total for this request				**$10,391**							**$10,391**

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. /s/Margaret J. Boland — October 30, 2006
   Forest Supervisor (signature) — Date

2. /Beth G. Pendleton — 11/06/2006
   Regional Forester (signature) — Date