

File Code: 2520-3

Date: August 23, 2006

Route To:

Subject: Burned Area Report – Lightning Fire

To: Regional Forester

Enclosed is the initial Lightning Fire Burned Area Report Funding request for estimated WFSU-SULT funds. The request for National Forest lands is \$17,100 primarily for BAER evaluation, 36 acres of weed treatments, and a small monitoring component.

Please contact Marci Nielsen-Gerhardt, Hydrologist/Forest BAER Coordinator at 208-983-1950 Ext. 4214 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter. She will gladly assist you.

/s/ Steve A. Williams for
JANE COTTRELL
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

Cc:
Bruce Sims, Northern Regional Office
Marci Nielsen-Gerhardt, Nez Perce National Forest

Date of Report: August 23, 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
☐ 3. No Treatment Recommendation

B. Type of Action

☒ 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: <u>Lightning Fire</u> | B. Fire Number: <u>ID-NPF-000102</u> |
| C. State: <u>Idaho</u> | D. County: <u>Idaho</u> |
| E. Region: <u>1</u> | F. Forest: <u>Nez Perce</u> |
| G. District: <u>Salmon River Ranger District</u> | H. Fire Incident Job Code: <u>P1C3T0</u> |
| I. Date Fire Started: <u>8-11-06</u> | J. Date Fire Contained: <u>8-18-2006</u> |
| K. Suppression Cost: <u>\$1,276,778</u> | |
| L. Fire Suppression Damages Repaired with Suppression Funds | |

1. Fireline waterbarred (miles): 4.5 miles
2. Fireline seeded (miles): none
3. Other (identify): road maintenance 11 miles, helispot, waterdrafting sites, fence and sheep pen restored

M. Watershed Number: 17060209-17 (Little Berg Creek) 17060209-99 (Salmon River Face Composite Watershed)

N. Total Acres Burned: 1968
NFS Acres (1288) Other Federal () State () Private (680)

O. Vegetation Types: Douglas fir/shrub and Ponderosa pine/grassland/annual weeds/shrubs

P. Dominant Soils: Ultic haploxerolls, with mixed volcanic as surface layers

Q. Geologic Types: Fiddle Creek and Lightning Creek schist

R. Miles of Stream Channels by Order or Class:
6.3 miles first order, 2 miles second order

S. Transportation System

Trails: .81 miles miles Roads: 4.1 miles

PART III - WATERSHED CONDITION

A. Burn Severity (acres): 1278 (low) 455 (moderate) 89 (high) 146 (unburned)

B. Water-Repellent Soil (acres): 373 acres

C. Soil Erosion Hazard Rating (acres):
-0- (low) 1455 (moderate) 513 (high)

D. Erosion Potential: .02 tons/acre

E. Sediment Potential: 26.4 tons/sq mile delivered and routed to the mouth (range depends on watershed)

PART IV - HYDROLOGIC DESIGN FACTORS

A. Estimated Vegetative Recovery Period, (years): 2

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

C. Equivalent Design Recurrence Interval, (years):	<u>10</u>
D. Design Storm Duration, (hours):	<u>6</u>
E. Design Storm Magnitude, (inches):	<u>1.3</u>
F. Design Flow, (cubic feet / second/ square mile):	<u>17</u>
G. Estimated Reduction in Infiltration, (percent):	<u>19</u>
H. Adjusted Design Flow, (cfs per square mile):	<u>56</u>

PART V - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

A. Describe Critical Values/Resources and Threats:

Theat to Ecosystem Integrity

Approximately 90 percent of the Lightning Creek Fire area on National Forest land is classified as high susceptibility to invasive weeds. Highly susceptible lands, which total 1250 acres, risk loss of ecological integrity from further spread of invasive weeds. Recent weed inventories conducted along the Salmon River River Canyon have identified a number of Idaho noxious and invasive *satellite communities* occurring within the perimeter of the Lightning Creek fire (*rush skeleton weed is on fireline 2-3 acre site partially burned*). Inventories have found Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*), Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*) and Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*) *within the fire perimeter*. Most of the weed infested sites within the fire were either burned or occur adjacent to burned areas. The warm and dry habitats within the Lightning Creek fire contain known infestations of Rush skeleton weed and Scotch thistle. Small spot infestations of spotted knapweed are scattered along forest road # 263 which runs through the fire perimeter. Other discrete or small populations continue to be identified along roads leading into the burned area. Spotted knapweed, rush skeletonweed and Scotch thistle are invasive weeds that can readily out compete native plants and dominate disturbed sites. Without immediate control, these satellite communities could spread throughout the fire area.

B. Emergency Treatment Objectives:

The weed treatments area designed to minimize the spread of satellite noxious weed communities. Immediate control of these small populations will prevent widespread threat to native plant populations. This weed management strategy is within the Salmon river Basin Weed Management Area.

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

Land 90 % Channel % Roads/Trails % Protection/Safety
%

D. Probability of Treatment Success

	Years after Treatment		
	1	3	5
Land	75	85	95
Channel	NA		
Roads/Trails	NA		
Protection/Safety	NA		

E. Cost of No-Action (Including Loss): **This would include loss of native plant communities to invasive weeds on up to 1200.00 acres. Weed treatment if this should happen for one year would be 250.00 per acre X 1200.00 = \$300.000 per year for weed treatment.**

F. Cost of Selected Alternative (Including Loss):

G. Skills Represented on Burned-Area Survey Team:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soils	<input type="checkbox"/> Geology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Range	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Forestry	<input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Mgmt.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Contracting	<input type="checkbox"/> Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/> Botany	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archaeology	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/> Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Arch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GIS	

Team Leader: **Marci Nielsen-Gerhardt**

Email: **mgerhardt@fs.fed.us**

Phone: **208-983-1950**

EXT: **4214**

FAX:

Team Members

Jim Paradiso-Hydrology

Steve Armstrong-Archeology

John Warofka-Weeds

Marci Nielsen-Gerhardt-Soils

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:

Weed Treatments

Objective:

The purpose of this treatment is to maintain ecosystem integrity by treating sites where fire has exposed soil on burned areas and included nearby roads that act as vectors. Rush skeleton weed, spotted knapweed and Scotch this satellite populations are located within the fireline or on the fireline and close to the disturbed areas which become sites for new infestation of invasive weeds. By reducing the amount of weed seed in the area, and treating new populations, native plant communities can have time to recover, and disturbed sites will have more opportunity to recover with native plants instead of invasive weeds. Weed management strategy within the Salmon Basin Weed Management Area, an interagency cooperative, is currently in place. Concurrence for Noxious Weed Control has been received from Fish and Wildlife Service and is pending from National Fisheries. A current weed EA (1988) covers the weed treatments on NFS lands.

Methods:

Weed control with herbicides, monitoring of weed spread and effectiveness monitoring are recommended for the area affected by the Lightning Creek fire.

- Treat satellite infestations of spotted knapweed along Road 263 leading into the burned area, along with both helispots used during the fire. The knapweed population along the road system is contributing a seed source and the road system is acting as a spread corridor for further expansion into the burned areas.
- Treat the Rush skeletonweed infestation along the upper slope of forest trail #137 which runs down the western fire line. The infestation is still small (approx. 1 acre) which burned after seed set and will contribute viable seed to adjacent burned areas.
- Treat all new invasive weeds within and adjacent to the fire perimeter.

Channel Treatments:

none

Roads and Trail Treatments:

none

Protection/Safety Treatments:

none

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.)

Invasive weed spraying

Objective: Determine if spraying has been effective in reducing invasive weeds in areas within and tributary to the burn area.

Methods: A two person crew will spend three field days, fall 2006 (prespray), mid 2007, and mid 2008 establishing and reading weed frequency and density belt survey transects.

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

		NFS Lands				Other Lands				All
		Unit	# of		Other	# of	Fed	# of	Non Fed	Total
Line Items	Units	Cost	Units	BAER \$	\$	units	\$	Units	\$	\$
A. Land Treatments										
Herbicide weed treatment	acres	250	36	\$9,000	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$9,000
				\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0
				\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0
Insert new items above this line!				\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Land Treatments				\$9,000	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$9,000
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										
				\$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 Structures				\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0
E. BAER Evaluation										
							\$0		\$0	\$4,500
Salary	days	\$300	15	\$4,500	\$4,500					
Insert new items above this line!				---	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Evaluation				---	\$4,500		\$0		\$0	\$4,500
F. Monitoring										
Weed spray effectiveness monitoring	days	400	9	\$3,600	\$3,600		\$0		\$0	\$7,200
Insert new items above this line!				\$0	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$0
Subtotal Monitoring				\$3,600	\$0		\$0		\$0	\$7,200
G. Totals							\$0		\$0	\$17,100
Previously approved										

PART VII - APPROVALS

1. _____
Forest Supervisor (signature)

Date

2. _____
Regional Forester (signature)

Date