

# Chetco Bar BAER Implementation Status

## Update November 12, 2017

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The objective of Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER), is to identify imminent post-wildfire threats to human life and safety, property, and critical natural or cultural resources on National Forest System lands and take immediate actions, as appropriate, to manage unacceptable risks. BAER policy includes: undertaking response actions or emergency stabilization only when the analysis shows that planned actions are likely to reduce risks substantially within the first year following containment of the fire, employing measures that provide sufficient protection at the least cost while meeting risk management objectives, and ensuring that approved treatments are expeditiously accomplished before damages or losses are likely to occur and no later than one year after the containment of the fire.

### **Authorized BAER Treatments:**

#### **Noxious Weed EDRR (Early Detection Rapid Response)**

November 3, 2017. Nothing to implement on the ground until next spring. Focus will be: 1) minimizing spread of existing infestations into adjacent highly susceptible areas (moderate-high soil burn severity); 2) assess locations where fire suppression operations had considerable disturbance (control lines, access roads & trails, drop points, etc.). Treatment will begin next spring and implemented with seasonal workforce.

#### **Cultural-Heritage Site Stabilization**

November 3, 2017. Erosion control materials are being ordered to implement site stabilization work this fall.

#### **Trail Storm Proofing/Drainage**

November 3, 2017. Winter planning with spring implementation, work to begin with low elevation/front country trails and progress to higher elevations. Planning involves expanding/establishing partnerships with recreation clubs, local or state programs, and hiring seasonal workforce to begin spring implementation.

#### **Road Storm Proofing/Drainage**

November 12, 2017. Pulling ditches & cleaning culvert inlet basins in areas of moderate and high burn severity. Roads completed include 1983, 1909, 1909-050, 1917, 1107-550, & 1107-553. Anticipate culvert cleaning work to continue the week of 11/13 progressing to other roads according to triage & prioritization. Wet weather conditions are unfavorable for grading, thus no more ditch cleaning is scheduled to occur. Backhoes will spot clean ditches as necessary.

#### **Road Culvert Inlet Protection**

November 12, 2017. Reconnaissance to determine exact treatment locations complete on main arterial roads listed in the assessment report including 1376, 1909, 1917, and 1983. Materials list is being developed to order type of feature (trash rack, debris deflector, riser pipe) appropriate for each site.



### **Culvert Upsizing & Relief Pipes**

November 12, 2017

**Relief Pipes:** Reconnaissance to determine exact relief pipe locations and quantities is complete on roads identified in the assessment report including 1376, 1909, and 1983. Relief pipe installation will begin the week of 11/13 (weather permitting).

**Culvert Upsizing:** Data collection for pipe replacement (upsizing) scheduled for week of 11/13 to facilitate design over winter, with installation next spring.

### **Road Storm Patrol**

November 3, 2017. Incorporating components from Forest FERM (Flood Emergency Road Maintenance Plan). Storm patrols will commence as needed, utilizing district personnel.

### **Road Closure Gates**

November 3, 2017. Emphasize need to differentiate between P-code gates on arterial roads and BAER gates on spur roads. BAER gates to be installed as needed, as closure areas are lifted. The objective of BAER gates, located on spur roads off of arterial roads, are to facilitate *temporary* road closures on specific routes that contain imminent hazards to public safety, such as seasonal risk of debris flows, or a high amount of dangerous snags along the roadway. These gates would be locked open or removed when the imminent hazards are out of season or have been mitigated.

### **Repair Burnout Cavities under NFS Roads**

November 12, 2017. Shoulder burn-out repair complete on NFS roads 1909-050 and 1376. Smaller burn-outs on 1376-080, 1983, and 1107 being repaired by priority.

### **Hazard Tree Mitigation at Road Treatment Locations**

November 12, 2017. Will occur concurrently with road culvert inlet protection, culvert upsizing & relief pipes, and gate installation.

### **Hazard Warning Signs (Roads & Trails/Recreation Sites)**

November 12, 2017.

**Road signs:** "Entering Burned Area..." signs for road locations (8) as well as replacement route marker carsonites will be installed the week of 11/13 by priority. Regulatory signs and object markers will be ordered on 11/13 and installed upon delivery according to priority.

**Recreation Signs:** Chetco River corridor recreation site signs to be installed week of 11/13. Installation at other sites to be completed at priority locations soon to be opened. Sign install at backcountry areas will precede lifting of closure orders.

### **Hazard Tree Mitigations NFS Road 1376**

November 3, 2017. Imminent hazard trees felled up to 30 buffer each side for 2.75 miles adjacent to NFS road 1376. Approximately 0.5 miles along road has had material decked with equipment not reachable from road, roughly 75% still needs yarded. Expect road to be open to public by November 17 to the South Fork Campground.

### **Hazard Tree Mitigation at Recreation Sites**

November 3, 2017. Work completed at Nook Bar, Redwood Bar, and Lower S.F. Campground. Little Red Campground partially removed. Trailheads listed in BAER report still need cleared.



### **Bridge Approach Guardrail Repair**

November 3, 2017. Project needing specialized equipment and materials. Contract quote has been received, expect work to be completed mid-November.

### **Dispersed Recreation Area Barriers**

November 3, 2017. No gates ordered.

### **Vault Pumping and Hazard Cleanup**

November 3, 2017. Pipes (vault stacks) have been capped to prevent flooding (CXTs along Chetco River, Upper Chetco Trailhead, and Packer's Cabin). Working to modify existing contract to pump vaults. CXT Company to inspect integrity of facilities.

### **Non-BAER Treatments**

November 12, 2017. P-Code gates, on main arterial roads that access the fire area: Contractor staged two concrete blocks on site for P-code gates the previous week. Installation tentatively scheduled for week of 11/13.

The objective of temporary P-Code gates are to clearly identify and enforce the Chetco Bar Fire closure order area, and are to be relocated or removed as the closure order area adjusts and gets lifted. Gates are needed over other closures such as barricades, to facilitate access by crews implementing Burned Area Emergency Response treatments.

***The objective for all (P-code and BAER) gates is to make the temporary road closures effective to increase public safety. There is no intent to keep these closures permanent.***

