

## Northern Region Post-Fire Response Update – December 18, 2017

This update highlights Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER), post-fire harvest, reforestation and outreach efforts throughout the [U.S. Forest Service - Northern Region](#) following the 2017 fire season.

### Post-Fire Harvest

#### Project Status

The information below is provided to show progress on post-fire NEPA projects and is subject to change.

- The following eight fires have areas under consideration for post-fire harvest and would likely be analyzed in an Environmental Assessment (EA):
  - Cub Creek, Sheep Gap, Sunrise, Rice Ridge, West Fork, Caribou, Little Hogback, Meyers
    - The Rexford Ranger District, Kootenai National Forest initiated scoping on 12/16/17 for the Caribou Fire Salvage and Reforestation Project; the public has 30 days to comment.
- The following five fires have areas under consideration for post-fire harvest and would likely be documented using a Categorical Exclusion (CE):
  - Gibraltar Ridge, Liberty, Bluejacket, Tamarack, Moose Peak

<u>2017 Post-Fire Projects</u>	Total Burned Acres	Potential Salvage Acres	Level of Analysis	Potential Emergency Situation Determination (ESD)	Initiated Scoping	Completed Scoping	Initiated 30-DAY Public Comment Period on EA (if applicable)	Completed 30-DAY Public Comment Period on EA (if applicable)	Completed ESD Request (if applicable)	Signed Decision
<b>Bluejacket Project</b> //(Strychnine Fire) Nez Perce-Clearwater NF	1,010	80	CE	N/A	10/20/17	11/20/17	N/A	N/A	N/A	12/01/17
<b>Tamarack Fire Salvage</b> /Kootenai NF	413	199	CE	N/A	09/23/17	10/13/17	N/A	N/A	N/A	11/08/17
<b>Gibraltar Ridge</b> /Kootenai NF	15,357	250	CE	N/A						
<b>Liberty/Lolo NF</b>	33,263	250	CE	N/A						
<b>Moose Peak</b> /Kootenai NF	16,289	250	CE	N/A						
<b>Moose Peak</b> /Lolo NF	16,289	250	CE	N/A						
<b>Little Hogback &amp; Meyers</b> / Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF	39,374 73,316	1,010 174	EA	No						
<b>Cub Creek</b> /Kootenai NF	7,080	2,110	EA	Yes						
<b>Sheep Gap</b> /Lolo NF	27,182	2,152	EA	Yes	10/31/17	12/01/17				
<b>Sunrise</b> /Lolo NF	28,773	2,718	EA	Yes	10/31/17	12/01/17				
<b>Rice Ridge</b> /Lolo NF	180,161	5,000	EA	Yes						
<b>Caribou</b> /Kootenai NF	25,990	5,291	EA	Yes	12/16/17					
<b>West Fork</b> /Kootenai NF	23,107	8,200	EA	Yes						

Potential post-fire harvest acres for the thirteen projects are provided in the table above. Six fires are proposing to harvest 250 acres or less. Environmental analysis will determine the final acreage available for harvest on the remaining seven fires. Reference project locations in the R1 Post-Fire Response Projects [Map](#).

## Technology Corner

High resolution imagery (15 cm) has been acquired for the following fire areas: Caribou, Cub Creek, Deep Creek, Little Hogback, Lolo Peak, Moose Peak, Park Cree, Rice Ridge, Sheep Gap, Sunrise, and West Fork. This imagery will greatly aid land managers as they plan post-fire land management projects.

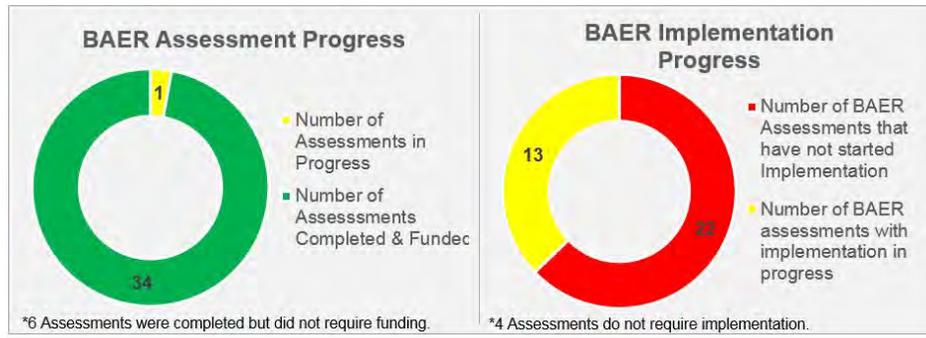
## Reforestation

Nearly every large fire in the Region has been assessed for reforestation needs following the 2017 fire season. These assessments are a preliminary tool which combines remote sensing and local knowledge. Field reconnaissance in 2018 will further refine the reforestation workload resulting from the 2017 fire season.

The National Forest Foundation just released an article in their winter/spring 2018 magazine titled [How the Forest Service Grows Millions of Seedlings each Year](#). Read this fascinating story to learn more about how the Forest Service is growing trees for the future.

## BAER

The charts below show R1 BAER Assessments are nearly complete and Implementation work is making great progress. For a full report on R1 BAER projects, visit the R1 BAER [Inciweb site](#).



## Quick-Links

R1 Post-Fire Response [External Webpage](#)

R1 Post-Fire Response [Sharepoint Site](#)

R1 BAER [Inciweb site](#)

R1 Post-Fire Response [Leader's Intent Video](#)

R1 Post-Fire Response [News Release](#)

R1 Post-Fire Response [Story Map](#)