

Beaver Creek Fire



Beaver Creek BAER



BAER Process



Burned Area
Conditions



Values at
Risk



Treatments

Critical Values at Risk Identify and Describe

National Forest System Lands:

- Extensive Inventory and Detailed Descriptions
- Risk Assessment
- Leads to BAER Treatment or Action

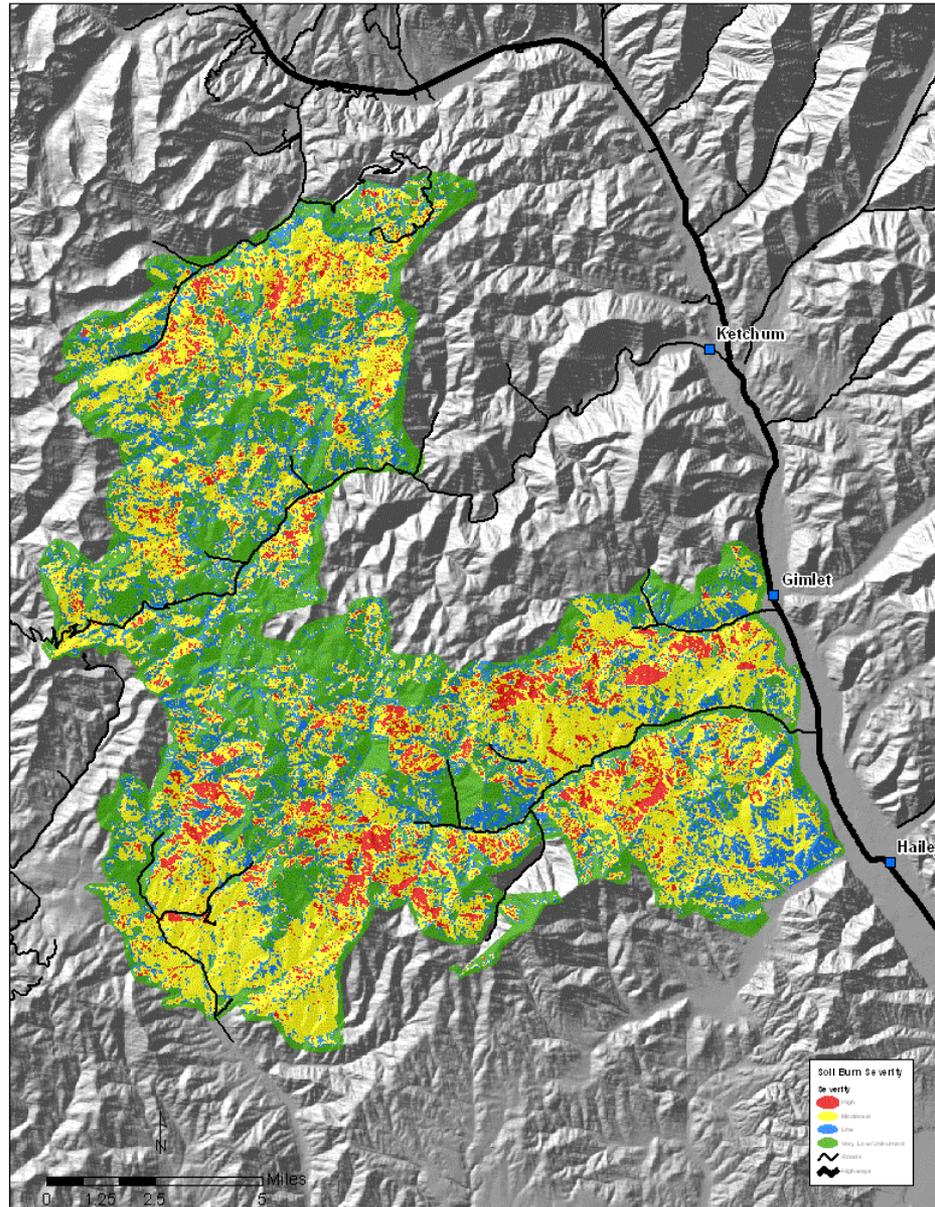
Other Lands:

- Downstream Values Considered
- Coordination with other Agencies
 - Information Sharing
 - Additional Opportunities for Treatments/Actions

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Soil Burn Severity



Burn Severity

Class	USFS		BLM		State		Private	
	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
Very Low	28,194	30%	1,972	22%	180	13%	2,677	21%
Low	13,437	14%	1,324	15%	183	13%	1,968	16%
Moderate	43,325	47%	5,104	57%	910	67%	7,380	58%
High	8,175	9%	508	6%	88	6%	668	5%

Soil Erosion Hazard

Soil Erosion Hazard Rating	Acres	
	Pre-fire	Post-fire
High	545	8,465
Moderate	87,460	82,603
Low	5,127	2,064

Forest Service Critical BAER Values at Risk

(Post fire Issues/Concerns)

- Human Life and Safety
- Property
- Natural Resources
- Cultural and Heritage Resources

Human Life and Safety and Property

- **Very high** risk to campers in **Deer Creek, Warm Springs and Baker Creek** Designated Dispersed Sites due to potential for flooding, debris flow and loss of egress
- **High Risk** to forest users in **Greenhorn Day Use Area and Trailhead** due to damage and loss of facilities including footbridges
- **High to Very High** Risk to forest users on **most trails** due to unstable trail treads, high potential for debris flow and soil movement and hazard trees

Alden Gulch Dispersed Site Baker Creek



Greenhorn Trail



Proposed Treatments

- **Closure** of Deer Creek, Warm Springs and Baker Creek Designated **Dispersed Sites** until flood and debris flow risk abated
- **Closure** of the following **trails** until hazards are removed and trails are stabilized:
 - Kinsey Creek Trail #319
 - Deer Creek Trail #158
 - Curran/Kinsey Connector #318
 - N. FK Deer Creek Trail #157
 - Osberg Ridgeline Trail #147
 - Greenhorn Gulch Trail #156
 - S. FK. Warm Springs Trail #151
 - Middle FK of South FK Warm Springs Trail #199
 - Wolftone-Curran Trail #160
 - Alden Gulch Trail #144
 - Howards Trail #331
 - Lick Creek Trail #218
 - Imperial Gulch Trail #315
 - Placer Creek Trail #141
 - Castle Creek Trail #140
- **Trail drainage improvement** in moderate and high severity area
- **Storm proofing and storm patrols**
- **Installation of trail warning signs**

Human Life and Safety, and Property

- **High to Very high risk** to **bridge infrastructure** due to potential for clogging by post-fire debris, overtopping, and erosion of road surface and materials around bridge abutments at the Wolftone, Warm Springs #7, Warm Springs #8, and Baker Creek bridges
- **High to Very High risk** to **road infrastructure** in the Willow Creek, Deer Creek, North Fork Deer Creek, Wolftone, Greenhorn Creek, Warm Springs, Baker Creek, and East Fork Baker Creek drainages due to an increased threat of damage from flooding, debris flows and sediment
- **High risk** to forest visitors and Forest Service employees at the **Greenhorn Guard Station** due to physical and chemical hazards

Warm Springs Bridge



Warm Springs Road



Baker Creek Drainage



Proposed Treatments

- **Stabilize and enforce bridge abutments** at Wolftone and Warm Springs Bridges #7 and #8
- **Closure of Upper Baker road** until conditions have stabilized and **installation of closure gates** on Baker Creek, Deer Creek and Warm Springs roads for **temporary closures** as needed
- **Construct rolling dips** to allow surface flows to run off road
- **Construct leadoff and/ or roadside ditches** to divert stormwater away from road surface
- **Remove or replace damaged and/or undersized culverts** and install armored crossings where culverts are removed
- **Reshape road template** through in-sloping and removal of berms to shed flows quickly
- **Recondition drainage features** including removal of silt and debris that direct flows onto the road surface
- **Signing, storm proofing and patrols**
- **Remove hazardous materials** and place sandbags at outhouse at Greenhorn Guard Station

Natural Resources

- **High and moderate risk** to **soil productivity and function** due to the threat of increased soil erosion in the areas burned at moderate to high severity
- **Very high risk** to water quality due to the increased threat of sediment and nutrient delivery from the burned area
- **High to Very High Risk** to **soil productivity and water quality** at Buttercup Mine Area due to destabilized tailings and excessive run-off and erosion hazard
- **Very high risk** to **hydrologic function** due to the increased threat of mass erosion and debris flows that scour channels
- **Very high risk** to **native plant communities** due to the threat from the spread of noxious weeds and invasive plant species

Badger Gulch



Beaver Creek



Imperial Gulch



Proposed Treatments

- **Aerial mulching** approximately **1,500 acres** to provide immediate ground cover and protect soil from erosion and nutrient loss on select areas with slopes up to 55% that are not prone to excessively high winds
- **Aerial and broadcast seeding** on approximately **12,500 acres** in Greenhorn, Deer Creek and Willow Creek drainages, to accelerate re-establishment of native plant communities and reduce potential for further loss of soil productivity and hydrologic function and reduce the potential for soil erosion and debris flows
- **Survey, monitor and treat noxious weed infestations** on NFS lands associated with suppression activities and BAER treatments
- **Recontour and seed and mulch** burned hill-slope above **Buttercup Mine** to reduce runoff to tailings pile
- **Install log grade control structures to stabilize erosion** in head-cut gully, mulching and seeding to stabilize soils and reduce erosion potential at **Greenhorn Day Use area**

Cultural and Heritage Resources

- **High risk** to Warm Springs recreational residences from flooding and debris flows
- **High risk** to Baker Creek recreational residences from flooding
- **High risk** to Warm Spring Mill due to erosion and road stabilization needs

Imperial Gulch Historic Site



Proposed Treatments

- **Removal** of large, downed tree Baker Creek to remove potential for water to be directed to historic cabins
- **Temporary removal** of Baker Creek footbridge to allow debris to pass downstream
- **Relocation** of a short **segment of Warm Springs road** to avoid impacting historic mill site
- **Monitor** historic districts following large rain events and spring runoff

Bureau Of Land Management

Values at Risk

- Human Life and Safety
- Soil/Water Stabilization
- Designated Critical Habitat for Federal/State Listed, Proposed, or Candidate Species
- Critical Heritage Resources
- Invasive Plants

Proposed Treatments

- Little Beaver/Cherry Creek
- Greenhorn Gulch
- Democrat Gulch



Little Beaver Creek



Little Beaver Creek



Little Beaver Creek



Greenhorn Gulch



Democrat Gulch



What's Already Happened FS/BLM

- BAER Team has completed the burned area **assessment** and developed **recommended treatments**
- BAER Team and BLM specialists conducted **joint field reviews** of portions of the burned area
- BAER Team and BLM Resource Specialists met to **review results** of BAER Assessments and burned area severity maps and **discuss treatment options**
- Forest Road Crew has **begun road work, clearing debris and cleaning culverts**
- **Warning signs** cautioning forest visitors that they are entering burned area have been ordered



What's Already Happened - Blaine County

- Blaine County Emergency Services requested assistance from Idaho Homeland Security and the Silver Jackets
- Blaine County reviewed damage in the field with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Blaine County submitted letter to NRCS requesting assistance through the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) for private lands
- Blaine County and United States Geologic Services (USGS) are working jointly on development of a debris flow predictive model
- Blaine County passed an emergency ordinance to create an Emergency Site Alteration Permit process to allow property owners impacted by the Beaver Creek Fire and recent and potential flood events to do necessary work in the Mountain Overlay District (MOD)

What's Next – Forest Service

- 9/13/2013 –Submit Burned Area Report (2500-8) describing values at risk and proposed treatments to Regional Office
- Mid-September –2500-8 is forwarded to Washington Office for approval. Forest receives approval to implement recommended treatments and authorization to expend funds
- Late-September – Forest advertises short term bid solicitations for contract work
- Mid-October – Treatment Implementation begins



What's Next – Bureau of Land Management

- 21 days from date of containment of fire, funding request submitted
- Washington Office Review



What's Next – Blaine County

- Meeting next week with Silver Jackets to further evaluate opportunities to work together and address community/private property issues
- County Emergency Services and Silver Jackets working jointly on early warning systems including weather monitoring and precipitation measuring devices
- County and United States Geologic Services (USGS) working jointly on a development of a debris flow predictive model



NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE – NRCS

AVAILABLE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

EQIP - Environmental Quality Incentives Program

WHIP – Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

- For individuals or entities
- Privately owned range and forest lands
- Eligibility requirements
- Must be registered as landowner with Farm Service Agency
- Take applications continuously
- Resource concerns prioritized and funded until money is gone
- Cost share based upon published payment schedules
- Maximum 10 year contract

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/id/home/>



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

EQIP -

is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers.

Eligible Practices:

- Herbaceous Weed Control
- Fence
- Mulching
- Range Planting
- Critical Area Planting
- Tree & Shrub Establishment
- Firebreaks
- Grade Stabilization



WHIP -

is a is a voluntary program for the development and improvement of **wildlife habitat** on agricultural land, or where ag products have potential to be produced or nonindustrial private forest land.



EWPP - Emergency Watershed Protection Program

Provides financial and technical assistance to sponsors and individuals to address immediate threats to life and property

- Requires a project sponsor (any legal subdivision of State Government)
- Sponsor provides 25% matching funds or in-kind services
- Must be used on private lands
- Funding comes from supplemental appropriations from Congress on an as-needed basis and as-available basis = not guaranteed.
- Assistance must be environmentally, socially, and economically defensible and t

Local contact for NRCS Programs:

SHOSHONE FIELD OFFICE

Lincoln County

217 West F St.

Shoshonet, ID 83352

Patti Hurley – District

Conservationist



BAER Updates and Contact Information

- <http://inciweb.org> – Beaver Creek BAER
- beavercreekbaer@gmail.com – Email BAER Team
- <http://summertrailink.bcrd.org/> - Blaine County Recreation District Website
- www.blainecounty.org – Fire Updates
- <http://www.nfrmp.us/state/factIdaho.cfm> - Silver Jackets



How You Can Help....

If you are interested in future volunteer or donation opportunities, please contact:

Blaine County Recreation District

Janelle Conners

(208)578-2273

or

Ketchum Ranger District

(208) 622-5371