

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
TWIN FALLS DISTRICT
JARBIDGE FIELD OFFICE
2536 Kimberly Road
Twin Falls, ID 83301**

**Full Force and Effect
Decision Record
For the Kinyon Road Fire (G1CH)
Emergency Stabilization and Burned Area Rehabilitation (ES&BAR) Project
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T010-2012-0020-DNA**

I. PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action is to implement the Kinyon Road (G1CH) ES&BAR plan as prescribed by the Boise District and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA, #ID-090-2004-050), approved May 12, 2005. Treatments and associated design features and monitoring are detailed in the Kinyon Road Fire ES&BAR plan. The proposed action includes the following treatments:

- Drill seed about 22,701 acres using three mixes – Bruneau River Overlook Drill Seed Mix (native grass/forb mix; 1,728 acres); Drill Seed Mix #1 (native grass, native/non-native forb mix; 16,809 acres); Drill Seed Mix #2 (native/non-native grass/forb mix; 4,164 acres).
- Aerial seed about 500 acres along the boundary of Bruneau-Jarbidge Rivers Wilderness with a native grass mix.
- Aerial seed Wyoming big sagebrush on 98,000 acres at a rate of 1 lb (bulk)/acre during fall/winter 2012/2013.
- Aerial seed and cultipack 45 miles of 600-ft wide fuel breaks using a forage kochia/blue flax/alfalfa seed mix.
- Plant up to 200,000 containerized or bare-root Wyoming big sagebrush seedlings if monitoring indicates that plant recruitment from aerial seeding is not adequate for re-establishment of shrub patches.
- Inventory and treat 172,335 acres for noxious weeds for 3 years.
- Repair 8 feet of protective railing at the Bruneau River Canyon scenic overlook.
- Install straw wattles and/or apply wood straw to 1 acre or less and place water bars within the Bruneau-Jarbidge Rivers Wilderness at the head of the Roberson Trail.
- Build about 16 miles of temporary protection fence.
- Repair or replace up to 351 miles of burned livestock management fence.
- Replace one directional sign and 12 fiberglass markers for the Idaho Centennial Trail.

- Close the burned area to grazing until resource objectives for the burned area have been met.

II. PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

The proposed action is subject to, and in conformance with, the Jarbidge Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved March 23, 1987. The proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with the plan (43 CFR 1610.5). The proposed action was designed in conformance with all Bureau standards and incorporates appropriate guidelines for specific required and desired conditions relevant to project activities.

III. EXISTING NEPA REVIEW

A Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) worksheet was completed for the Kinyon Road ES&BAR plan (DOI-BLM-ID-T010-2012-0020-DNA). As discussed in the DNA, the activities included in this proposed action were adequately analyzed in the Boise District and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA #ID-090-2004-050), the Boise District and Jarbidge Field Office Noxious and Invasive Weed Treatment EA (#ID-100-2005-265), and the Jarbidge Field Office Shrub Planting EA (#ID-201-2008-EA-359). In addition, BLM performed Section 7 conference for proposed fuel breaks. Conference was concluded with receipt of a Conference Opinion (01EIFW00-2012-F-0406) on August 27, 2012. Proposed treatments that would occur in the Bruneau-Jarbidge Rivers Wilderness are consistent with BLM Manual 6340 – Management of Designated Wilderness Areas (Public):

- Reseeding or planting of native species may be undertaken following wildfire or other natural disaster if natural seed sources are not adequate to compete with non-native vegetation or substantial unnatural soil loss is expected [BLM Manual 6340 1.6(C)(15)(f)(i)].

In addition, a Minimum Requirements Decision Guide (MRDG) Worksheet was completed on August 15, 2012, documenting potential effects of the proposed action to Wilderness values.

The following criteria have been reviewed and determined to adequately address the proposed action as described in the DNA worksheet for the Kinyon Road ES&BAR plan:

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?
2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, or updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

IV. DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Kinyon Road (G1CH) ES&BAR plan. I have reviewed the Kinyon Road ES&BAR plan for conformance with the 1987 Jarbidge RMP and NEPA compliance record. I have determined that this project is in conformance with the 1987 Jarbidge RMP and that no further environmental analysis is required.

Appeals

This wildland fire management decision is issued using Full Force and Effect (FFE) authority granted under 43 CFR 4190.1, and according to Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2003-232, and is effective immediately. Thus, notwithstanding the provisions of 43 CFR 4.21 (a) (1), filing a notice of appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 does not automatically suspend the effect of the decision. The Interior Board of Land Appeals must decide an appeal of this decision within 60 days after all pleadings have been filed, and within 180 days after the appeal was filed (43 CFR 4.416).

My rationale for issuing this decision under the FFE authority is that the burned area stabilization and rehabilitation treatments outlined in the Kinyon Road ES&BAR plan require immediate implementation to mitigate the effects of wildland fire on the soil and vegetation resources, habitat for special status species, and Wilderness values.

If an appeal is made, your notice of appeal must be filed in writing as a hard copy via United States Postal Service or other recognized letter carrier. The appeal must arrive within 30 days of the date of service of this decision and be addressed to the Jarbidge Field Office, 2536 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision is adverse to you and is in error.

If you wish to file a petition pursuant to regulation 43 CFR 4.21 for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied;
2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits;
3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted; and
4. Whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

In the event a request for stay or an appeal is filed, the person/party requesting the stay or filing the appeal must serve a copy of the appeal on any person named [43 CFR 4.421 (h)] in the decision and the Office of the Solicitor, University Plaza, 960 Broadway Avenue, Suite 400, Boise, ID 83706.

/s/ Brian W. Davis
Brian W. Davis
Jarbidge Field Office Manager

August 29, 2012
Date