

**BLM IDAHO POST-FIRE RECOVERY PLAN
EMERGENCY STABILIZATION AND BURNED AREA
REHABILITATION**

**PLAN TEMPLATE 2010
GRASSHOPPER FIRE (G5H7)**

**BLM Boise District Office
IDAHO STATE OFFICE**

FIRE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Fire Name	Grasshopper
Fire Number	G5H7
District/Field Office	Boise District Office
Admin Number	LLIDB00000
State	IDAHO
County(s)	OWYHEE
Ignition Date/Cause	08/08/2012 Lightning
Date Contained	08/19/2012
Jurisdiction	<i>Acres</i>
Private	115
BLM	2614
Total Acres	2729
Total Costs	\$140,000
Costs to LF20000ES (2822)	\$119,000
Costs to LF32000BR (2881)	\$21,000

Status of Plan Submission (check one box below)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Initial Submission of Complete Plan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Updating or Revising the Initial Submission
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amendment

PART 1 - PLAN SUMMARY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON FIRE.

The Grasshopper fire was ignited by lightning on August 8, 2012 at 1921 hours, and was contained on August 19, at 1400 hours. The fire burned approximately 115 acres of private land and 2,614 acres of public land administered by the Owyhee Field Office of the BLM, for a total of 2,730 acres. An estimated 500 acres of the burned public land was within the North Fork Owyhee Wilderness, to the east of the North Fork Crossing Campground. Boise district fire records show no other fires have occurred within the fire perimeter. The area is classified as preliminary general habitat (PGH) for Greater sage-grouse and supports a number of BLM special status animal species including redband trout, sage sparrow, Brewer's sparrow, Western toad, and several species of bats and neotropical migratory birds as well as other wildlife including California bighorn sheep, mule deer, elk, and pronghorn antelope. BLM special status plant species in the area include Bacigalupi's downingia, dimeresia, water-thread pondweed, one-flowered goldenweed, and short-lobed beardtongue.

The fire burned mostly (98%) within the Trout Springs grazing allotment, and a very small portion of M Stanford Fenced Federal Range (FFR) allotment. Private land associated with the M Stanford FFR allotment was recently acquired by the BLM subsequent to the Wilderness designation.

Soil survey data (NRCS SSURGO) classifies 70 percent of the burned area as a Loamy 13-16" ecological site with mountain big sagebrush with bluebunch wheatgrass and Idaho fescue, 23 percent of the area is classified as a Very Shallow Stony Loam 10-14" ecological site with low sagebrush and Sandbergs bluegrass and bluebunch wheatgrass. Other plant species on site include; bulbous bluegrass, lupine, bottlebrush squirreltail, antelope bitterbrush, and Western juniper. The plant communities in the area have experienced an increase of western juniper, with juniper densities within the fire perimeter varying between an estimated 10 to 200 trees per acre. In spite of the expanding seral juniper, much of the burned area contains an adequate perennial grass understory which is expected to have high potential for natural recovery, and respond positively to the reduction of juniper competition. Overall, the fire burned spotty, leaving large areas unburned, and with small areas of higher intensity. Noxious weeds in close proximity to the burned area being monitored and treated by the BLM weed program include Scotch thistle, leafy spurge, Canada thistle, Russian knapweed, and whitetop. There is a potential for these weeds to spread following the disturbance associated with the fire, therefore increased monitoring and treatment will be conducted in the burned area. Invasive annual grasses, including medusahead, cheatgrass, and ventenata and other invasive species including sulphur cinquefoil, occur along the Mud Flat Road and have the potential to expand into the burned area and will be included in inventories and treatments.

LAND USE PLAN CONSISTENCY

S5 - Noxious Weeds

The proposed treatments are in conformance with the Owyhee RMP and associated Record of Decision dated December 30, 1999, as stated in the following management actions.

- Apply approved noxious weed control methods (VEGE 1, pp. 12-13).

S7 - Fence/Gate/Cattleguard

Although the proposed treatment is not specifically identified in the land use plan, it is in conformance with the spirit and intent of the Owyhee Resource Management Plan (ORMP) and associated Record of Decision dated December 30, 1999.

S12 - Closures (area, OHV, livestock)

The proposed treatments are in conformance with the Owyhee RMP and associated Record of Decision dated December 30, 1999, as stated in the following management actions.

- Provide a minimum of two growing seasons rest from livestock grazing and other watershed disturbing activities following fires (SOIL 1 pp. 9-10, VEGE 1 pp. 12-13).
- Decrease soil erosion and sediment yield, restore forage values, and restore upland habitat values and riparian values using fire rehabilitation procedures following a wildfire (FIRE 2 pp. 25-28).

S13 - Monitoring

The proposed treatments are in conformance with the Owyhee RMP and associated Record of Decision dated December 30, 1999, as stated in the following management actions.

- Improve unsatisfactory and maintain satisfactory watershed health/condition on all areas (SOIL 1 pp. 9-10).
 - Provide a minimum of two growing seasons rest from livestock grazing and other watershed disturbing activities following fires (SOIL 1 pp. 9-10, VEGE 1 pp. 12-13).
- Improve unsatisfactory and maintain satisfactory vegetation health/condition on all areas (VEGE 1 pp. 12-13).
- Maintain or enhance the condition, abundance, structural stage and distribution of plant communities and special habitat features to support a high diversity and desired populations of wildlife (WDLF 1 pp. 15-17).
- Decrease soil erosion and sediment yield, restore forage values, and restore upland habitat values and riparian values using fire rehabilitation procedures following a wildfire (FIRE 2 pp. 25-28).
- Protect and enhance habitat for a diversity of special status species through implementation of management actions identified in objectives SOIL 1 and 2, WATR 1 and 2, VEGE 1, RIPN 1, FORS 1 and 2, WDLF 1, FISH 1 and 2, RECT 3, WNES 1 and 2, HAZM 1, and ACEC 1 (SPSS 1 pp. 20-21).
- Apply approved noxious weed control methods (VEGE 1, pp. 12-13).

R5 - Noxious Weeds

See S5 Noxious Weed section.

R11 - Facilities

Although sign replacement isn't specifically addressed in the Owyhee Resource Management Plan (ORMP) and associated Record of Decision dated December 30, 1999, the action is in compliance with the spirit and intent of the plan.

COST SUMMARY TABLES

Emergency Stabilization (LF20000ES)

Action/ Spec #	Planned Action	Unit (Acres, WMs, Number)	# Units	Unit Cost (If Appl.)	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Totals by Spec.
S1	Planning (Project Management)				\$ 0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
S2	Ground Seeding								
S3	Aerial Seeding								
S4	Seedling Planting								
S5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2,614	\$ 2.68	\$ 0	\$7,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$7,000
S6	Soil Stabilization (Other than seedling, planting)								
S7	Fence/Gate/Cattleguard	Miles	4	\$10,250.00	\$ 0	\$41,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$41,000
S8	Road/Trail Water Diversion								
S9	Cultural Protection (Stabilization/Patrol)								
S10	Tree Hazard Removal								
S11	Facilities								
S12	Closures (area, OHV, livestock)	#	2,500	\$ 0.00	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
S13	Monitoring	Acres	2,614	\$ 15.68	\$ 0	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$13,000	\$41,000
S14	Other Treatments								
	TOTAL COSTS (LF20000ES)				\$0	\$72,000	\$24,000	\$23,000	\$119,000
OTHER FUND CODE TOTALS:									
	TOTAL COSTS (???)								
	TOTAL COSTS (???)								
	TOTAL COSTS (???)								

Burned Area Rehabilitation (LF32000BR)

Action/ Spec #	Planned Action	Unit (Acres, WMs, Number)	# Units	Unit Cost (If Appl.)	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Totals by Spec.
R1	Planning (Project Mgmt)								
R2	Ground Seeding								
R3	Aerial Seeding								
R4	Seedling Planting								
R5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2,614	\$ 7.27	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$10,000	\$9,000	\$19,000
R6	Soil Stabilization (Other than seedling, planting)								
R7	Fence/Gate/Cattleguard								
R8	Road/Trail Water Diversion								
R9	Cultural Protection (Stabilization/Patrol)								
R10	Tree Hazard Removal								
R11	Facilities	#	10	\$ 200.00	\$ 0	\$2,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$2,000
R12	Closures (area, OHV, livestock)								
R13	Monitoring								
R14	Additional Treatments								
	TOTAL COSTS (LF32000BR)				\$0	\$2,000	\$10,000	\$9,000	\$21,000
OTHER FUND CODE TOTALS:									
	TOTAL COSTS (???)								
	TOTAL COSTS (???)								
	TOTAL COSTS (???)								

PART 2 - POST-FIRE RECOVERY ISSUES

EMERGENCY STABILIZATION ISSUES

1 - Human Life and Safety

N/A

2 - Soil/Water Stabilization

The potential for soil damage is moderate to high in a large portion of burned area (NRCS, Soil Data Mart). Although the plant community is expected to recover and stabilize these areas, reducing livestock grazing and restricting access into the burned area during recovery will expedite the recovery process and promote soil stabilization.

Several miles of pasture and allotment boundary fences were burned during the wildfire. The majority of fence posts were wood, and therefore are no longer functioning for their intended purpose. Fence repair will be necessary to restrict livestock access into the burned area.

3 - Habitat for Federal/State Listed, Proposed, or Candidate Species

N/A

4 - Critical Heritage Resources

N/A

5 - Invasive Plants and Weeds

Noxious weeds known to occur in close proximity to the burned area include Scotch thistle, leafy spurge, Canada thistle, Russian knapweed, and whitetop. There is a potential for these weeds to spread into the burned area therefore increased inventories and treatment are planned

Invasive annual grasses; medusahead, cheatgrass, and ventenata occur along the fire perimeter on the edge of Mud Flat Road and have the potential to spread into the burned area also requiring inventory and treatment.

BURNED AREA RECOVERY ISSUES

1 - Lands Unlikely to Recover Naturally

N/A

2 - Weed Treatments

Noxious weeds known to occur in close proximity to the burned area include Scotch thistle, leafy spurge, Canada thistle, Russian knapweed, and whitetop. There is a potential for these weeds to spread into the burned area therefore increased inventories and treatment are planned.

Invasive annual grasses; medusahead, cheatgrass, and ventenata occur along the fire perimeter on the edge of Mud Flat Road and have the potential to spread into the burned area also requiring inventory and treatment.

3 - Tree Planting

N/A

4 - Repair/Replace Fire Damage to Minor Facilities

Several miles of pasture and allotment boundary fences were burned during the wildfire. Much of the fence post were wood, and therefore are no longer functioning for their intended purpose.

Carsonite posts and associated stickers to identify the wilderness boundary with the regulations prohibiting motorized or mechanized use were burned during the wildfire.

PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF TREATMENTS

Issue 2 - Soil/Water Stabilization

S7 Fence/Gate/Cattleguard

A. Treatment/Activity Description

Approximately 4 miles of allotment and pasture boundary fence burned in the fire and is in need of repair to restore the functionality of the fence to restrict livestock access into the burned area and also to control the movement of livestock between pastures after livestock grazing resumes. RIPS numbers for the affected fences are; #015780 for the allotment boundary fence and #015779 for the pasture division fence in the interior of the fire.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?

The fire burned existing livestock management fencing, which served as divisions for grazing allotments and pastures within allotments. These fences are essential for managing livestock movement between pastures and separating livestock by ownership. Without repair/replacement, livestock will have access into the burned area during the recovery and stabilization period.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?

This treatment is reasonable and cost effective since these fences need to be repaired to prevent livestock from accessing the burned area.

S12 Closures (area, OHV, livestock)

A. Treatment/Activity Description

The burned BLM acres will be closed to livestock grazing until plan objectives have been achieved.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?

The rest period is necessary to allow for sufficient plant recovery before livestock grazing resumes. Plant regrowth following fire attracts wildlife and livestock to the new lush growth. The closure will reduce the risk of soil degradation and loss by restricting livestock grazing and trampling of bare soil until the plant community recovers and provides soil protection and cover. Restricting livestock access into the burned area will reduce the overall amount of herbivory and allow adequate re-establishment of these plants to withstand grazing. Closure for a minimum of two growing seasons will allow for a healthy shrub-steppe ecosystem to establish, therefore contributing to progress being made towards meeting the standards for rangeland health.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?

While wildlife use cannot be controlled on wildlands, permitted livestock use in burned areas would cause an additive level of use that would result in a longer recovery to pre-burn conditions and exacerbate existing erosion issues. No costs are associated with the livestock closure, however the closure can potentially cause a temporary economic hardship to the permitted operator in the short-term, but provide long-term benefits with a

healthy ecosystem.

S13 Monitoring

A. Treatment/Activity Description

Monitoring will be conducted on treatments and is described in detail in the Monitoring section of this plan.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?

Monitoring will provide valuable information that will be used to improve techniques and management.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?

Monitoring will provide valuable insight into how and/or why treatments worked or were necessary.

Issue 5 - Invasive Plants and Weeds

S5 Noxious Weeds

A. Treatment/Activity Description

Noxious weed inventory and spot herbicide treatment would occur during the first year following the fire within the burned area. Noxious weeds would be treated with BLM approved chemicals in accordance with the Noxious Weed EA and Record of Decision for Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on Bureau of Land Management Lands in 17 Western States, approved September 29, 2007 (Vegetation Treatment EIS). Appendix B of the Record of Decision includes a list of Standard Operating Procedures that would be strictly adhered to for vegetation treatments using herbicides.

The local weed coordinating group will monitor and treat noxious and invasive weeds along the Mud Flat Road which will help to reduce the likelihood of spread into the burned area.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?

Noxious weeds known to occur in close proximity to the burned area include Scotch thistle, leafy spurge, Canada thistle, Russian knapweed, and whitetop. Disturbance associated with wildland fire and wildland fire suppression, including the use of heavy equipment, increases the potential for weed expansion during vegetation recovery and reestablishment, therefore requiring noxious weed surveys and treatments where needed.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?

Inventory and treatment of new or small populations of noxious weed is more time and cost-effective than waiting until the populations establish and spread. Field work would be combined with other noxious weed treatments for cost efficiency.

Issue 2 - Weed Treatments

R5 Noxious Weeds

A. Treatment/Activity Description

The description under S5 Noxious Weeds is the same as for R5, with the extension of noxious weed inventory and spot herbicide treatment occurring during the second and third years following the fire within the burned area.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?

See the dialogue under S5 Noxious Weeds.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?

See the dialogue under S5 Noxious Weeds.

Issue 4 - Repair/Replace Fire Damage to Minor Facilities

R11 Facilities

A. Treatment/Activity Description

Replace the carsonite posts and associated stickers that identify the wilderness boundary that were burned or destroyed in the wildfire.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?

The fire burned several of the carsonite signs that mark the wilderness boundary to the point that they do not convey the necessary information to public land users.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?

Replacement of wilderness boundary signs is necessary to provide public land users the needed information to restrict the type of activities that are not allowed in the wilderness. Costs associated with replacing the carsonite signs will be far outweighed by the benefit to the resources and maintaining an untrammelled wilderness experience.

PART 4 DETAILED TREATMENT COST TABLE

PART 5 - SEED LISTS

DRILL SEED

Species	Scientific Name	% PLS	PLS Seeds / sq. ft.	PLS Seeds / ac.	Seeds / lb (bulk)	Total Seeds / Acre (Bulk)	Drill Seedings (Acre)	Lbs / Acre	Total Lbs.	Cost / Lb	Total Cost
TOTALS:			0	0	0	0		0.0		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

AERIAL SEED

Species	Scientific Name	% PLS	PLS Seeds / sq. ft.	PLS Seeds / ac.	Seeds / lb (bulk)	Total Seeds / Acre (Bulk)	Aerial Seedings (Acre)	Lbs / Acre	Total Lbs.	Cost / Lb	Total Cost
TOTALS:			0	0	0	0		0.0		\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

SEEDLINGS

Seedling Species	Scientific Name	Acres of Seedlings planted.	# of Seedlings per Acre	Total # of Seedlings	Cost / Seedling	Total Cost
TOTALS:		0.0	0	0		\$ 0.00

PART 6 - NATIVE/NON-NATIVE PLANT WORKSHEET

A. Proposed Native Plants in Seed Mixtures (Both ES & BAR Treatments)

1. Are the native plants proposed for seeding adapted to the ecological sites in the burned area?

Yes No Rationale:

2. Is seed or seedlings of native plants available in sufficient quantity for the proposed project?

Yes No Rationale:

3. Is the cost and/or quality of the native seed reasonable given the project size and approved field unit management and Plan objectives?

Yes No Rationale:

4. Will the native plants establish and survive given the environmental conditions and the current or future competition from other species in the seed mix or from exotic plants?

Yes No Rationale:

5. Will the existing or proposed land management practices (e.g. wildlife populations, recreation use, livestock, etc.) maintain the seeded native plants in the seed mixture when the burned area is re-opened?

Yes No Rationale:

B. Proposed Non-native Plants in Seed Mixtures (Both ES & BAR Treatments)

1. Is the use of non-native plants necessary to meet objectives, e.g., consistent with applicable approved field unit management plans?

Yes No Rationale:

2. Will non-native plants meet the objective(s) for which they are planted without unacceptably diminishing diversity and disrupting ecological processes (nutrient cycling, water infiltration, energy flow, etc.) in the plant community?

Yes No Rationale:

3. Will non-native plants stay on the site they are seeded and not significantly displace or interbreed with native plants?

Yes No Rationale:

C. Proposed Seed Species - Native & Non-Natives (Both ES & BAR Treatments)

PART 7 - COST-RISK ANALYSIS

A. Probability of Treatments Successfully Meeting Objectives

Action/ Spec #	Planned ES Action (LF20000ES)	Unit (acres, WMs, Number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
S5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2614	\$7,000.00	100%
S7	Fence/Gate/Cattleguard	Miles	4	\$41,000.00	100%
S12	Closures (area, OHV, livestock)	Each	2500	\$ 0.00	100%
S13	Monitoring	Acres	2614	\$41,000.00	100%
				\$89,000.00	

Action/ Spec #	Planned BAR Action (LF32000BR)	Unit (acres, WMs, Number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
R5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2614	\$19,000.00	100%
R11	Facilities	Each	10	\$2,000.00	100%
				\$21,000.00	

B. Cost Risk Summary

1. Are the risks to natural resources and private property acceptable as a result of the fire if the following actions are taken?

Proposed Action Yes No Rationale for Answer:

Following a field assessment of the area after the fire, it was determined that the reduction of junipers in the area will be a positive step in the overall land health. with the additional restriction of livestock use during plant recovery and establishment, it is expected that the native plant community that existed pre-fire was adequate to recover and stabilize the area.

No Action Yes No Rationale for Answer:

Failure to restrict livestock use in the area following the fire would be expected to result in heavy consumption of grasses and forbs during the recovery period. This use when plants are already stressed from the fire would likely result in increased plant mortality and reduced vigor, thereby limiting the potential for achievement of the standards for rangeland health.

Failure to treat noxious weeds in the burned area will undoubtedly result in increased occurrences of the weeds identified in the adjacent areas.

Alternative(s) Yes No Rationale for Answer:

N/A

2. Is the probability of success of the proposed action, alternatives or no action acceptable given their costs?

Proposed Action Yes No Rationale for Answer:

The proposed treatments have high probabilities of achieving their desired results, and very few costs are associated with them.

No Action Yes No Rationale for Answer:

Failure to close the area to livestock use, or treat noxious weeds would result in not making progress towards achieving the standards for rangeland health.

Alternative(s) Yes No Rationale for Answer:

N/A

3. Which approach will most cost-effectively and successfully attain the objectives and therefore is recommended for implementation from a Cost/Risk Analysis standpoint?

Proposed Action

Alternative(s)

No Action

Comments:

See rationale and justifications above.

C. Risk of Resource Value Loss or Damage

No Action - Treatments not Implemented

Resource Value	N/A	None	Low	Med	High
Unacceptable Loss of Topsoil				X	
Weed Invasion				X	
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Diversity				X	
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Structure				X	
Unacceptable Disruption of Ecological Processes				X	
Off-site Sediment Damage to Private Property			X		
Off-site Threats to Human Life		X			
Other-loss of Access Road Due to Plugged Culverts		X			

Proposed Action - Treatments Successfully Implemented

Resource Value	N/A	None	Low	Med	High
Unacceptable Loss of Topsoil			X		
Weed Invasion			X		
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Diversity			X		
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Structure			X		
Unacceptable Disruption of Ecological Processes			X		
Off-site Sediment Damage to Private Property		X			
Off-site Threats to Human Life		X			
Other-loss of Access Road Due to Plugged Culverts		X			

PART 8 - MONITORING PLAN

S5 - Noxious Weeds

Identify the objective of the treatment:

The objective of this treatment is to reduce the risk of expansion of noxious weeds into the burned area. During the first year the entire burned area will be inventoried and treated accordingly. During the second and third year treatments inventory and treatments will continue on all existing and new infestations of noxious weeds. If treatments initiated by this project are needed beyond the third year for effective noxious weed control coordination with the noxious weed program will continue to ensure that the investment is not lost. Because weeds are not uniformly distributed across the area a definable objective cannot be determined until site visits and inventories are completed during the first year. New infestations of noxious weeds previously unknown in the area could occur as a result of disturbances associated with the wildfire.

Describe how implementation will be monitored:

Locations of noxious weeds and size of infestations will be recorded by GPS and GIS technology. Treatments will be documented with a Pesticide Application Record for location, method of treatment, and time of treatment.

Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period:

Extent and location of each noxious weed population will be compared to existing data and between years 1, 2 and 3, data and treatments. Noxious weed populations are expected to at least remain the same or be reduced but not expand with treatments. Noxious weed populations remaining in the area after the third year will become the responsibility of the Boise District Noxious weed program. If further treatments are needed they will be completed utilizing other funding but will assist in protecting the investment from the ESR program.

S7 - Fence/Gate/Cattleguard

Identify the objective of the treatment:

The objective of this treatment is to repair or replace existing fences damaged by the fire. Damaged wood corners and braces would be replaced with galvanized steel posts. Damaged wire would also be repaired. The fences would be constructed to BLM fence standards for wildlife.

Describe how implementation will be monitored:

Implementation is monitored through contract administration. Any changes from the planned implementation would be documented in the project file.

Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period:

Repair of existing fence would be monitored through contract administration and documented in the project file. Work would be completed within the first year following the fire.

S12 - Closures (area, OHV, livestock)

Identify the objective of the treatment:

Exclusion of livestock is critical for the recovery of burned vegetation. The burned area would be closed to promote recovery of burned vegetation until monitoring results, documented in writing, show that ES&BAR objective have been met, as specified in the BLM ES&BAR Handbook (H-1732-1) and consistent with the 2005 Boise District Office and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan (#ID-090-2004-050).

Describe how implementation will be monitored:

Site would be visited by Field Office and Operations personnel during grazing season to ensure the method of closure (allotment or pasture closures, protective fences, water sources, and/or mineral/salt placement) is functioning to keep livestock from treatment areas.

Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period:

Site will be monitored annually for three consecutive years by District Operations ESR monitoring staff. The natural recovery areas would be considered recovered and available for grazing when the following criteria are met:

- The amount of bare mineral soil (lacking cover of plants, litter, or biological soil crusts) is within 10% of expected based on the appropriate ecological site guide for the area being monitored
- Greater than 95% of canopy gaps are less than 50cm
- Desirable herbaceous perennial plants are producing seed, and
- Desirable perennial herbaceous vegetation have developed extensive root and shoot systems to provide for soil stabilization and are sustainable under livestock grazing.
- A qualitative assessment with the following information would also be used :
 - Plant vigor (perennial plants)
 - Precipitation data for the dormant (fall/winter) and growing (spring through early summer) seasons
 - Competition stress from invasive annual plants and noxious weed species
 - Seed production
- Other treatments objectives included within the plan have been met.

Monitoring methods will include line-point, step point cover methods, gap analysis, photo plots, and site observations.

An evaluation of collected monitoring data and qualitative assessments by ESR Monitoring staff and Field Office staff will be completed. Operations Monitoring Staff will begin compiling monitoring data in early winter each year, documenting as-built treatments, site precipitation, etc. Field data collection will occur from April to July of each year and ESR Monitoring Report completed by September of each year for three years. A final report will

be completed on the third year after fire containment.

S13 - Monitoring

Identify the objective of the treatment:

See individual sections above.

Describe how implementation will be monitored:

Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period:

R5 - Noxious Weeds

Identify the objective of the treatment:

See S5 Noxious Weeds above.

Describe how implementation will be monitored:

See S5 - Noxious Weeds above.

Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period:

See S5 - Noxious Weeds above.

R11 - Facilities

Identify the objective of the treatment:

To replace signs damaged in the fire that identify the boundary of the North Fork Owyhee Wilderness.

Describe how implementation will be monitored:

Sign placement will be implemented by district wilderness recreation staff to ensure proper placement and distances are adhered to. During normal field visits field office staff will ensure sign installation is functioning appropriately.

Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period:

District and field office staff will patrol the area to ensure compliance with wilderness travel rules occur.

PART 9 - MAPS

1. - S7_Fence_Repair
2. - S5_R5_Noxious_Weeds
3. - Sage_Grouse_Wilderness
4. - Fire_Perimeter_land_status

PART 10 - REVIEW, APPROVALS, and PREPARERS

TEAM MEMBERS

Position	Team Member (Agency/Office)	Initial	Date
Team Leader	Kathi Kershaw (BLM District Fuels)	Initialed	08/30/2012
Operations	Cindy Fritz (BLM District ESR)	Initialed	08/30/2012
Operations	Alex Webb (BLM District ESR)	Initialed	08/30/2012
Botanist	Beth Corbin (BLM Owyhee Field Office)	Initialed	08/30/2012
Rangeland Mgt. Specialist	Tina Ruffing (BLM Owyhee Field Office)		
Wildlife Biologist	Brad Jost (BLM Owyhee Field Office)	Initialed	08/30/2012
Resource Advisor(s) on Fire	Raul Trevino (BLM Owyhee Field Office)	Initialed	08/30/2012
Other Technical Specialists	TJ Clifford (BLM Dist Rec Planner -Wilderness)	Initialed	08/30/2012

PLAN APPROVAL

The Agency Administrator is responsible for developing, implementing, and evaluating emergency stabilizations and rehabilitation plans, treatments and activities. 620 DM 3.5C

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER

DATE

FUNDING APPROVAL

The funding of ES treatments is approved through the appropriate administrative approval level in coordination with the National Office Budget Shop. As funding is available, ES funding requested within a plan that totals below \$100,000 may be approved by the State Director, while ES funding of \$100,000 and above must be approved by the WO. If the ES

funding cap is reached, all ES funding will be approved through the National Office in coordination with State ES&R Coordinators to determine highest priority projects. Funding of all BAR treatments is accomplished through a scoring process and is dependent on accurate entries into NFPORS. All funding is approved and allocated on a year-by-year basis.