BLM IDAHO POST-FIRE RECOVERY PLAN
EMERGENCY STABILIZATION AND BURNED AREA REHABILITATION
2013 PLAN

POINT FIRE

BLM/TWIN FALLS DISTRICT/BURLEY FIELD OFFICE
IDAHO STATE OFFICE

FIRE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Fire Name	**Point**
Fire Number	**HM3G**
District/Field Office	**Twin Falls/Burley**
Admin Number	**LLIDT02000**
State	**Idaho**
County(s)	**Twin Falls**
Ignition Date/Cause	**7/1/2013/Lightning**
Date Contained	**7/4//2013**

Jurisdiction	**Acres**
BLM	2,782
State	159
Private	7
Other	0

Total Acres	2,948
Total Costs	$715,000
Costs to LF20000ES (2822)	$639,000
Costs to LF32000BR (2881)	$76,000

Status of Plan Submission (check one box below)

X	Initial Submission of Complete Plan
	Amendment
	Updating or Revising the Initial Submission

PART 1 - PLAN SUMMARY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE FIRE

The Point Fire started as a lightning strike on July 1, 2013. The Fire grew rapidly due to erratic winds, steep and inaccessible terrain. The Fire burned a total of 2,948 acres in Twin Falls County approximately eight miles south of Rogerson, Idaho. Of those burned acres, 2,782 acres occurred on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The Fire burned portions of Three Mile, North Rabbit Springs, Hole In The Wall and U & I grazing pastures in the Point Ranch allotment (1005 acres), a portion of Pasture Number 2 of the Ridge allotment (1814 acres) and a portion of Pasture Mc 1 of the Mule Creek PVGA allotment (129 acres). The elevation throughout the Fire varied between 5,500 to 6,500 feet. A large portion of the burned area is inaccessible because of the steep slopes and cliff areas. The burned area's topography is characterized as rocky steep slopes, steep draws and ridges. In some areas of the burn, slopes range from 30-60 percent.

The Fire burned within a variety of vegetation communities; mid to late seral sagebrush (Mountain and Wyoming big sagebrush, low sagebrush and Antelope bitterbrush) steppe communities. Past fires on the same mountain range have demonstrated the potential conditions if rehabilitated and not rehabilitated. The Fire burned quickly with highest severity in steep draws of sagebrush and bitterbrush.

The area burned by the Point Fire is mule deer winter range for one of Idaho's premier deer herds. Also, the burned area is a high priority for stabilization and rehabilitation because of the Greater sage-grouse *(Centrocercus urophasianus)*. The majority of the burned area was mapped as sage-grouse Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) in 2012. Of the 2,782 acres of BLM-managed land, all the burned acres are classified as PPH (100% PPH). The PPH comprises areas that have been identified as having the highest conservation value to maintain sustainable sage-grouse populations. To best minimize habitat loss in PPH, the Instruction Memorandum No. 2012-043 states that ES and BAR treatments are to be utilized to: 1). Maintain and enhance unburned intact sagebrush habitat when at risk from adjacent threats; 2). Stabilize soils; 3). Re-establish hydrologic function; 4). Maintain and enhance biological integrity; 5). Promote plant resiliency; 6). Limit expansion or dominance or invasive species; and 7). Re-establish native species.

The proposed treatments also address conservation measures identified in the 2006 Conservation Plan for the Greater sage-grouse in Idaho, which recommended seeding or planting the appropriate species and subspecies of sagebrush as part of restoration or burned area rehabilitation treatments (pp. 4-19 through 4-20), re-establishing sagebrush in seeded perennial grasslands (pp. 4-85 through 4-87), and noxious weed control in burned areas (p. 4-20).

LAND USE PLAN CONSISTENCY

The following treatments are proposed under this Emergency Stabilization (ES) and Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) plan.

Emergency Stabilization

S2 Ground Seeding
S3 Aerial Seeding

S5 Noxious Weeds
S7 Temporary Protective Fence,
S12 Closures (Livestock)

Burned Area Rehabilitation
R4 Seedling Planting
R5 Noxious Weeds
R7 Permanent Fence

The applicable Land Use Plan for the ES and BAR project area is the Twin Falls Management Framework Plan (MFP) September 16, 1982. The Twin Falls MFP was amended in 2008 by the Fire, Fuels and Related Vegetation Management Direction Plan Amendment (FMDA). The treatments outlined in this plan are also consistent with the treatment analyzed in the Burley/Shoshone Field Office Normal Fire Rehabilitation Plan and Environmental Assessment #ID-077-2004-008.

Ground Seeding/S2: Objectives and management actions from the FMDA state (page 17) that objective 1 is to make progress towards desired future conditions (DFC) in low-elevation, perennial grass and invasive annual grass areas. Strategically place treatments on a landscape scale to reduce the likelihood of fire spreading into important sagebrush steppe habitat. In addition, management actions for objective 2 states that following a wildland fire the use of chemical, mechanical, and seeding treatments will be used to stabilize sites and prevent dominance of invasive annual vegetation and noxious weeds in order to maintain, protect and enhance sage grouse habitat. Therefore, the planning for treatments and activities that meet these objectives are in conformance with the MFP as amended by the FMDA.

Aerial Seeding/S3: Objective 2 of the FMDA's objective and management actions is to maintain, protect, and expand sage grouse source habitats. Following wildland fire, use seeding treatments with appropriate plant materials to attempt to stabilize sites and prevent dominance of invasive, annual vegetation, and noxious weeds. Therefore, aerial seeding sagebrush meets this objective and is in conformance with the MFP as amended by the FMDA.

Seedling Planting/R4: Again, the objective and management action from the FMDA state (p. 17) that objective 2 is to maintain, protect, and expand sage grouse habitats. Following wildland fire, use seeding treatments with appropriate plant materials to attempt to stabilize sites and prevent dominance of invasive, annual vegetation, and noxious weeds. Planting bitterbrush seedlings is in conformance with the MFP as amended by the FMDA.

Noxious Weeds/S5/R5: Management actions for objective 1 states that to achieve DFC the use of chemical, mechanical and seeding treatments will be used. Therefore, the planning for weed treatments and activities that meet these objectives are in conformance with the MFP as amended by the FMDA.

Fence/ S7/R7: Existing pasture and allotment fences will be repaired to ensure that livestock remain within their area of authorized use and off the burned areas until resource objective are met. Also, temporary protection fence will be constructed to protect the treatment area and allow

grazing to continue on the unburned portions of the pasture and allotment. The FMDA states on page 31 that all treatment areas would be rested from livestock grazing until project-specific monitoring identified in site-specific project plans and/or NEPA documents show that resource objectives have been met. Resumption of grazing would be determined on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, fence treatments that ensure livestock will be excluded from the burn area until the vegetation recovers are in conformance with the MFP as amended by the FMDA.

Closures (livestock)/S12: The management restrictions, conservation measures and guidelines for livestock grazing on page 31 states that all burn areas would be rested from livestock grazing until project/site-specific monitoring identified in site-specific project plans and/or resource objectives have been met. The resumption of grazing would be determined on case-by-case basis. Therefore, closing the burned area under the rehabilitation plan to grazing would ensure that the area recovers and is in conformance with the MFP as amended by the FMDA.

COST SUMMARY TABLES

Emergency Stabilization (LF2200000):

Action/ Spec. #	Planned Action	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	Totals by Spec.
S1	Planning (Project Mgmt)	WM's	1		$0	$10,000	$10,000	$10,000	$30,000
S2	Ground Seeding/Harrowing	Acres	2,000	$55.00	$50,000	$60,000	$0	$0	$110,000
S3	Aerial Seeding	Acres	2,782	$76.56	$364,000	$62,000	$0	$0	$426,000
S5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2,782	$1.80	$0	$5,000	$0	$0	$5,000
S7	Temporary Protective Fence	Miles	6	$8,333.33	$0	$41,000	$0	$9,000	$50,000
S12	Closures (area, OHV, livestock)	#	1	$0.00	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
S13	Monitoring	Acres	2,782	$2.16	$0	$6,000	$6,000	$6,000	$18,000
	TOTAL COSTS (LF2200000)				**$414,000**	**$184,000**	**$16,000**	**$25,000**	**$639,000**

Burned Area Rehabilitation (LF3200000):

Action/ Spec. #	Planned Action	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	FY14	FY15	FY16	Totals by Spec.
R1	Planning (Project Mgmt)	WM's	1		$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	$6,000
R4	Seedling Planting	#	30,000	$1.77	$23,000	$30,000	$0	$53,000
R5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2,782	$2.16	$0	$6,000	$6,000	$12,000
R7	Permanent Fence	Mile	1	$5,000.00	$5,000	$0	$0	$5,000
	TOTAL COSTS (LF3200000)				**$30,000**	**$38,000**	**$8,000**	**$76,000**

PART 2 – POST-FIRE RECOVERY ISSUES AND TREATMENTS

Issues relate to resource problems caused by the wildfire and include both the immediate wildfire effects as well as effects predicted to occur as a result of the wildfire. Determining the appropriate funding code must be based on the scope of the issue, purpose of the treatment, and the availability of funds.

EMERGENCY STABILIZATION ISSUES AND TREATMENTS

Emergency Stabilization Objectives: "Determine the need for and to prescribe and implement emergency treatments to minimize threats to life or property or to stabilize and prevent unacceptable degradation to natural and cultural resources resulting from the effects of a fire." 620DM3.4

Emergency Stabilization Priorities: 1). Human Life and Safety, and 2). Property and unique biological (designated Critical Habitat for Federal and State listed, proposed or candidate threatened and endangered species) and significant heritage sites. 620DM3.7

ES Issue 1 - Human Life and Safety.

Not Applicable

ES Issue 2 - Soil/Water Stabilization.

Fire Intensity and Vegetation

The Fire removed the vegetation cover across the majority of the burn and was characterized as moderate to high fire intensity. Due to a combination of topography and terrain, extremely low fuel moisture and hot and dry weather conditions, the Fire grew and spread rapidly. The majority of the burned area had not burned for 80-100 years. The vegetation in the Fire area was varied from late seral sagebrush mix with an understory of native understory grasses to mountain shrubs and traces of cheatgrass. Areas with a dense canopy-cover of late seral sagebrush or shrub steppe

had higher fire intensity and removed most of the plant cover. Throughout the Fire, traces of cheatgrass were observed and in areas that had burned in the past more cheatgreass was observed. There is a high potential of the burned area to be encroached by cheatgrass because of the previous existence of the invasive annual. With the combination of the high fire severity and presence of cheatgrass, there is a great possibility of the area being invaded. The burned area is vulnerable to accelerated soil erosion through wind and water. Also, the area is a major concern to the expansion of noxious weeds.

Closures (Livestock)

Three allotments were affected by the Fire. Of the three affected allotments, Ridge will be temporarily closed because of the number of AUM's that burned. The remaining two allotments can be managed according to their permit that will allow grazing on unburned portions by construction of temporary protection fences. However, appropriate rest will be applied to the burned portions of the allotments from livestock under the ES&R plan. This will allow newly seeded species to become established. Closure on the burned areas would be implemented by the Range program to ensure that the area meets objectives (see monitoring section) for the resumption of livestock grazing. All allotments are fenced and burned fences will be restored to their original working structure to keep livestock out of burned areas.

Allotment Name	Allotment Number	Acres	Acres Burned	% Acres Burned	AUMs Burned	% AUMs Burned
Point Ranch	04034	37,442	1,005	3	114	3
Ridge	04119	7,895	1,814	23	302	23
Mule Creek PVGA	04041	10,129	129	1	17	1
Total			2,948		433	

Treatment/Activity: S12 Closures (Livestock)

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *The burned portions of the allotments affected by the Point Fire would be rested from livestock grazing until monitoring shows that ES treatment objectives have been met or it is determined to be a failure.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damages or changes caused by the fire? *The Fire burned most of the existing vegetation within the burn perimeter so the remnant vegetation and soil surface are highly susceptible to further damage if livestock were allowed to continue grazing within the burn area. The purpose of this treatment is to rest the burn area from livestock grazing to provide the opportunity for existing vegetation resources and seeding efforts to stabilize the burn area. Establishment of a perennial plant community would reduce or inhibit the expansion of annual vegetation and stabilize soil resources.*

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *No cost under ES is associated with closures. It is a reasonable method for attaining vegetation objectives, as compared to implementation of other aspects of the ES plan.*

Temporary Protective Fence

Approximately six miles of temporary protective fence will need to be constructed to ensure livestock are kept out of the burned area. This will ensure that objectives are being met and allow livestock to graze the portions of the pastures that were not burned. The Point Ranch will have temporary protective fence built across the allotment. This will allow grazing under the permit to continue with no adjustments. Pastures on the Ridge allotment that were burned will be closed to allow for seeding treatments a chance to establish. Fences would be constructed according to wildfire friendly specifications that are consistent with BLM Fence handbook H-1741-1. All temporary protective fences will be marked to minimize potential collision risk to sage-grouse.

Treatment/Activity: S7 Fence

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *Approximately six miles of temporary protective fence would be constructed on the burn to help protect seeded portions of the burn and areas left for natural recovery without grazing disturbance.* ***Wherever possible, temporary protective fence would be built using existing materials removed from areas burned in 2011 and 2012.*** *This will also allow grazing on the unburned portion. The fence would be constructed to BLM fence standards. Temporary protective fence will be mainly in the Point Ranch allotment. All fences will be tied into existing BLM interior fence or natural barriers.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damages or changes caused by the fire? *The temporary protective fence associated with the livestock management of the affected allotments. Construction of six miles of temporary protective fence would maintain the future integrity of the existing livestock grazing systems.*

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *Most of the burned area is already protected by existing fences. Since only 3% of the Point Ranch allotment was affected and only 1% of the Mule Creek PVGA allotment was affected, the six miles of protective fence will allow grazing on the remaining 97% and 99% of the allotment. This is reasonable and cost effective.*

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

Wildlife Habitat

Threatened, Endangered, and/or Candidate species:
Greater sage-grouse (a Candidate species) inhabits the area during spring, summer and fall.

Greater Sage-grouse

The Point Fire negatively impacted Greater sage-grouse PPH habitat. The landscape within the burned area was known to provide breeding, brood-rearing, and potential winter habitat for sage-grouse. IDFG telemetry data corroborates this. There are no known sage-grouse leks within the burned area. However, there are 16 leks within four miles of the fire perimeter: 6 occupied, 7 undetermined, 2 unoccupied, and 1 not verified (IDFG 2012).

A total of 2,948 acres of preliminary priority sage-grouse habitat burned in the Point Fire, refer to **Table 1**. Of the acres burned the most adverse negative impacts to Greater sage-grouse would be the loss of the approximately 2,689 acres of intact sagebrush habitat.

The Point Fire negatively impacted sage-grouse habitat of "greater relative importance" for sage-grouse in management zone IV, as represented in the Landscape Importance Model (Major, 2011). Successful restoration of preliminary priority sage-grouse habitat, particularly those areas of greater relative importance, would be fundamental to the persistence of sage-grouse in the region.

Table 1. Approximate acreage of Preliminary Priority Habitat burned.

PRELIMINARY PRIORITY SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT	CATEGORIES	TOTAL ACRES	BLM ADMINISTERED ACRES
	Perennial grassland	259	259
	Sagebrush	2,689	2,667
	Total	**2,948**	**2,926**

There are no federally listed threatened or endangered terrestrial fauna within Twin Falls County (WS, 2013)

Ecological Site(s):

Shallow Claypan 12-16" Low sagebrush/Idaho Fescue – 34% of burned area

Loamy 13-16" Mountain big sagebrush/Bluebunch Wheatgrass-Idaho Fescue – 26% of burned area

South Slope Stony 10-13" Wyoming big sagebrush/ Bluebunch Wheatgrass – 17% of burned area

Loamy 10-16" Wyoming big sagebrush/Bluebunch Wheatgrass – 17% of burned area

Shallow Stony 8-12" Wyoming big sagebrush/Bluebunch Wheatgrass – 1% of burned area

The following is a list of common pre-burn vegetation. The list was developed using field surveys of unburned islands of vegetation and range management trend monitoring plot data. This list is for vegetation determined to be in the burn areas not previously treated.

Common Pre-burn Vegetation:

Antelope bitterbrush, *Purshia tridentate*
Wyoming big sagebrush, *Artemisia tridentata ssp. Wyomingensis*
Mountain big sagebrush, *Artemisia tridentata*
Little sagebrush, *Artemisia arbuscula*

Serviceberry, *Amelanchier alnifolia*
Bluebunch Wheatgrass, *Pseudoroegneria spicata*
Idaho fescue, *Festuca idahoensis*
Sandberg bluegrass, *Poa secunda*
Indian Ricegrass, *Achnatherum hymenoides*
Cheatgrass, *Bromus tectorum*
Crested wheatgrass, *Agropyron cristatum*

The majority of the burned area is capable of deep rooted grass species with the exception of the rocky outcroppings. This is demonstrated by data and photos collected from past Stabilization and Rehabilitation projects north of the burned area on the same soil type (2011 Pointe Fire ESR Monitoring Plan). This data validates that the area is capable of sustaining the proposed grass seed species. Forbs were considered in the seed mix but were left out because of the high amount of natural recovery of forbs observed during monitoring and the expert knowledge of the Specialist in the Field Office. Also, there is a viable seed source for natural recovery from the surrounding unburned area and in small islands of unburned vegetation within the Fire perimeter. The Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development Instruction Memorandum No. ID200-2008-003 was used in the process of developing the proposed seed mix.

Treatment/Activity: S2 Ground Seeding/Dixie Harrow

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *Approximately 2,000 acres within the burned area were identified as ES to be Dixie harrowed following the aerial seeding application to aid in covering the seed. The areas that will be Dixie harrow are identified on a map. This will aid in covering the seed for a better soil to seed contact and help for future growth. A portion (500 acres) of the Dixie harrowed area will be ground seeded with Antelope bitterbrush shrub species in conjunction with the Dixie harrow effort. Because of the rough ground, steepness of slopes it is inaccessible for drills; the seed will be applied using a seed dribbler attached to a dozer pulling the Dixie harrow. The seed will fall in front of the dozer track which will then get run over by the track to make a good seed to soil contact. In addition to the tracks assisting with a good seed to soil contact, the Dixie Harrow will provide additional coverage to fully cover the seed. In past treatments where a seed dribbler and Dixie harrow have been used to plant Antelope bitterbrush, monitoring has shown successful results (2011 Pointe Fire ESR Monitoring Report). This is proposed to be accomplished in late FY13 or early FY14. Appropriate wildlife and cultural resource inventories/surveys will be completed prior to implementing these specific projects.*

Point Ground Seed Mix 500 Acres	
Species and Variety	**Seed Rate Lbs/Acres**
Shrub Mix	
1. Antelope bitterbrush	1.0

B. How does the treatment relate to damages or changes caused by the fire? *This treatment will aid in the establishment of a desirable perennial shrub community and assist with the*

establishment of the perennial grass community. This area is identified as mule deer winter range and sage-grouse PPH. Mule deer are identified as one of Idaho's species of management concerns and the greater sage-grouse are identified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service as a candidate species. Antelope bitterbrush along with other shrub species provides vital habitat components for sage-grouse (Connelly et al. 2004). Sage-grouse nests are typically located under sagebrush shrubs, but can also be under other common steppe shrubs such as Antelope bitterbrush. The high intensity wildfire removed the majority of existing shrub cover and likely killed the majority of the remnant seed bank making the burn area less likely to support mule deer and sage-grouse due to lack of cover and forage.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *This treatment and activity is reasonable for the type of issues found on the site. Past monitoring and field observations have shown a good success rate with the seeding of Antelope bitterbrush using the method of a seed dribbler. Also, the Dixie harrow has shown a high success rate in establishing the aerial applied grass seed. The cost of this treatment is relatively less expensive than drill seeding because this treatment will be implemented using in-house equipment (tractor dozer, seed dribbler and Dixie harrow). Also, the use of a tractor dozer will be used in conjunction with the Dixie harrow and seed dribbler treatment. Because these treatments will occur simultaneously it will be a cost effective treatment.*

Treatment/Activity: S3 Aerial Seeding

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *The majority of the burned BLM land was identified to be aerial seeded with Mountain big sagebrush and a native perennial grass mix in two separate applications. The perennial grass mix is proposed to be accomplished first in late FY13 or early FY14. The Mountain big sagebrush is proposed to be aerial seeded in early FY14 after the perennial grass mix has been applied and covered with a Dixie harrow and there is adequate moisture on the ground (snow cover). Appropriate wildlife inventories/surveys will be complete prior to implementing these specific projects.*

Point Fire Aerial Seed Mix 2,782 Acres	
Species and Variety	**Seed Rate Lbs/Acres**
Grass/Shrub Mix	
1. Idaho Fescue	5.00
2. Anatone Bluebunch Wheatgrass	4.00
4. Sherman Big Bluegrass	0.50
5. Mountain big sagebrush	0.50

B. How does the treatment relate to damages or changes caused by the fire? *The objective of this treatment is to re-establish a desirable sagebrush and perennial grass that more closely matches the structural and species composition and diversity of the native plant community to help achieve a healthy functioning rangeland. Establishment of a perennial plant community would inhibit the expansion of annual vegetation and noxious weeds (USDA Forest Service, 2004). Accelerating the rate of re-establishment of sagebrush and native grasses is important to*

maintaining the value of the area as sage-grouse and mule deer winter habitat. The wildfire intensity impacted existing sagebrush and grass cover which would not recover naturally without providing an additional seed source.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *The treatment and activities are reasonable for the type of issues found on the site. Qualitative monitoring in the Burley Field Office in areas similar to the Point Fire that have not been treated has shown a higher chance of dominance by noxious weed and invasive plants such as cheatgrass (2011 Pointe Fire ESR Monitoring Report). This dominance could alter fire regimes and result in landscape scale changes in vegetation composition and structure. This change would have a higher economic cost of controlling noxious weeds and invasive plants as opposed to treating the Fire with emergency stabilization and rehabilitation funds. Contracting costs for aerial application are typical for the Burley Field Office area. The cost of seed can vary from year to year dependent on availability.*

ES Issue 4 - Critical Heritage Resources.

Not Applicable

ES Issue 5 - Invasive Plants and Weeds.

Noxious Weeds

Russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed, and black henbane are the primary weeds of concern with high potential to increase within the burned area and surrounding rangeland. These weeds were documented during the Fire reconnaissance and in field visits prior to the Fire. The current state of the infestation is treatable if done within the next three growing seasons. Without a noxious weed control effort, Russian knapweed and diffuse knapweed will significantly increase, negatively affecting sage-grouse PPH, mule deer winter range and livestock forage capabilities. If an emergency treatment is not implemented the economic impact to natural resources and the local economy will be significant. All 2,782 acres of the burned public land will be inventoried and treated as needed for noxious weeds in FY14. The objective of this treatment is to identify and control the expected noxious weed increase using spot herbicide spraying and biological control. This would be proposed under the stabilization to suppress the expansion of these weeds. Weed control would be conducted the first year under ES.

Treatment Activity: S5 Noxious Weeds
A. Treatment/Activity Description. *Over eight species of noxious weeds have been identified and recorded within or around the burned area. The primary weeds of concern are Russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed and black henbane. Noxious weed inventory and control within the burned area would be done in the first year following the Fire to directly treat the expected weeds. Areas where weeds have been treated in the past will be inventoried first. The weeds will be treated with the BLM approved chemicals.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? *The objective of this treatment is to identify and control the expected noxious weed increase using spot herbicide*

application of the burn area. In addition, biological control agents for knapweed may be utilized in areas not easily accessible to spraying equipment (rocky outcrops). It is expected that noxious weeds will increase due to the removal of existing plant cover by the wildfire which has opened up bare ground for the weeds to invade. Treatments would be conducted for the first year under ES.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *Weed treatments in the Burley Field Office typically run about $1.80 per acre. Field work would be combined with other weed treatments in the area for cost efficiency.*

BURNED AREA REHABILITATION ISSUES AND TREATMENTS

Burned Area Rehabilitation Objectives. 1) To evaluate actual and potential long-term post-fire impacts to critical cultural and natural resources and identify those areas unlikely to recover naturally from severe wildland fire damage; 2) To develop and implement cost-effective plans to emulate historical or pre-fire ecosystem structure, function, diversity, and dynamics consistent with approved land management plans, or if that is infeasible, then to restore or establish a healthy, stable ecosystem in which native species are well represented; and 3) To repair or replace minor facilities damaged by wildland fire. 620DM3.4

Burned Area Rehabilitation Priorities. 1) To repair or improve lands damaged directly by a wildland fire; and 2) To rehabilitate or establish healthy, stable ecosystems in the burned area. 620DM3.8

BAR Issue 1 - Lands Unlikely to Recover Naturally.

Antelope bitterbrush Seedling Planting

Without rehabilitation actions of Antelope bitterbrush seedling plantings being implemented, the probability of the area recovering on its own is low. In addition, the natural re-establishment of bitterbrush is not expected to occur within the next 20-40 years without seedling establishment onto the burn area. The area is identified as sage-grouse PPH and wintering mule deer habitat. Mule deer winter range habitat conditions are not optimum due to the lack of winter browse and cover. Observations from past fires on similar sites indicate that habitat conditions are not expected to recover naturally without a seeding or planting effort.

Special Status Species:

The Point Fire also negatively impacted a variety of other special status species, particularly sagebrush obligate species. Special status species expected to inhabit BLM land within the burned area include the following: Golden eagle, ferruginous hawk, Brewer's sparrow, loggerhead shrike, sage sparrow, and green tailed towhee. The aforementioned species would be expected to inhabit the area for breeding and foraging. The loss of intact sagebrush would negatively impact these species due to a loss of breeding and foraging habitat.

Raptors

The Point Fire encompasses a known golden eagle territory (ID-R4-TWI-072-01). The Fire also encompasses a known ferruginous hawk territory. Both territories are located on BLM administered land. Other unidentified raptor nests may occur within the burned area as well. Golden eagles and ferruginous hawks are a migratory bird of conservation concern. Golden eagles are known to predominately forage in sagebrush habitats in the region. Reclamation efforts to re-establish shrub communities within the burned area would be crucial to provide suitable foraging habitat for golden eagles. Rehabilitation efforts must avoid disturbing identified nesting territories and eagles.

Big Game:

Mule Deer

Mule Deer inhabit the Point Fire area. The Point Fire area provides all types of seasonal habitat, including fawning and critical winter range habitat. A total of 915 acres of mule deer winter range administered by BLM were negatively impacted by the Point Fire. Winter range is a limiting factor for mule deer in the region. The loss of intact shrub communities (*Artemisia tridentate ssp. wyomingensis, Artemisia tridentata ssp. vaseyana, Purshia tridentatae, and Amelanchier ssp.)* will have negative long-term impacts to mule deer (IDFG, 2010). The successful restoration of seasonal habitats will be crucial for the viability of mule deer in the region.

Treatment/Activity: R4 Seedling Planting

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *Areas of Antelope bitterbrush will be hand planted with augers and/or hand planting spades where mature stands existed before the Point Fire. Not all of the Fire will be able to be ground seeded with Antelope bitterbrush seed because of rock and steep terrain. Hand planting bitterbrush will commence in areas that are not ground seeded. With the implementation of two different seeding methods (ground seeding and seedling planting), this will increase the chances that a higher probability of bitterbrush recruitment occurs. Bitterbrush seed will be collected in areas that best represent the burn area in the fall of 2013 (FY2014). The seed will be sent to a nursery for about 18 months to be grown into viable bitterbrush plugs. The plugs would be hand planted in the fall of FY15 or spring of FY15. The plugs will be placed in areas where existing bitterbrush stands occurred. Appropriate wildlife and cultural resource inventories/surveys will be complete prior to implementing these specific projects.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damages or changes caused by the fire? *This Fire removed mature bitterbrush in a well-established stand. Previous attempts to plant bitterbrush in similar areas have been successful. Because of the importance of this area for sage-grouse and wintering mule deer habitat and the success rate for previous bitterbrush re-establishment treatments, it is important to aid the process of bitterbrush recruitment. Mule deer are identified as one of Idaho's species of management concerns and the greater sage-grouse are identified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service as a candidate species. Antelope bitterbrush along with other*

shrub species provides vital habitat components for sage-grouse (Connelly et al. 2004). Sage-grouse nests are typically located under sagebrush shrubs, but can also be under other common steppe shrubs such as Antelope bitterbrush.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *Planting seedlings is already a major part of the Twin Falls District work load. Most plantings are accomplished by crews within the district. Under the FMDA it states to restore bitterbrush steppe with an aggressive bitterbrush seeding effort, using the appropriate bitterbrush subspecies for the treatment area. Hand planted seedlings provides an additional future seed source in case of failure from ground seeding efforts and the inability for natural recovery. This treatment typically costs$1.77 per seedling to be grown and planted.*

BAR Issue 2 - Weed Treatments.

Noxious Weeds

Russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed, and black henbane are the primary weeds of concern with high potential to increase within the burned area and surrounding rangeland. These weeds were documented during the Fire reconnaissance and in field visits prior to the Fire. The current state of the infestation is treatable if done within the next three growing seasons. Without a noxious weed control effort, Russian knapweed and diffuse knapweed will significantly increase negatively affecting sage-grouse PPH, mule deer winter range and livestock forage capabilities. If an emergency treatment is not implemented the economic impact to natural resources and the local economy will be significant. All 2,782 acres of the burned public land will be re-inventoried and treated as needed for noxious weeds in FY2014 – 2015. The objective of this treatment is to identify and control the expected noxious weed increase using spot herbicide spraying and biological control. This would be proposed under the rehabilitation to suppress the expansion of these weeds. Weed control would be conducted the second and third years under BAR.

Treatment Activity: R5 Noxious Weeds

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *Over eight species of noxious weeds have been identified and recorded within or around the burned area. The primary weeds of concern are Russian knapweed, diffuse knapweed and black henbane. Noxious weed inventory and control within the burned area would be done in the first year following the Fire to directly treat the expected weeds. Areas where weeds have been treated in the past will be inventoried first. The weeds will be treated with the BLM approved chemicals.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? *The objective of this treatment is to identify and control the expected noxious weed increase using spot herbicide application of the burn area. In addition, biological control agents for knapweed would be utilized in areas not easily accessible to spraying equipment (rocky outcrops). It is expected that noxious weeds will increase due to the removal of existing plant cover by the wildfire which has opened up bare ground for the weeds to invade. Treatments would be conducted for the second and third year under BAR.*

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *Weed treatments in the Burley Field Office typically run about $1.80 per acre. Inventory and treatment of new noxious weed populations is more cost-effective than waiting until the population has had opportunity to establish and spread. Field work would be combined with other weed treatments in the area for cost efficiency.*

BAR Issue 3 - Tree Planting.

Not Applicable

BAR Issue 4 - Repair/Replace Fire Damage to Minor Facilities.

Livestock Management Fences

Approximately one mile of interior pasture fence and 300 feet of an enclosure fence were damaged or destroyed by the Fire. Damaged wire, corners, and braces would be repaired or replaced by steel posts. The repairs would be needed to maintain the integrity of the grazing system and keep adjacent livestock grazing from entering the burn area during the rest period. Where possible, materials will be used from previous fences that were salvaged or material that was left over from previous projects.
East Boundary Fence (BLM project # 320869), Rabbit Springs Division Fence (BLM project # 0871), Three Mile Enclosure (BLM project # 5154).

Treatment/Activity: R7 Fence/Gate

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *The objective of this treatment is to repair and/or replace approximately one mile of interior livestock management fence and 300 feet of enclosure fence damaged by the Fire. Damaged wood corners and braces would be replaced with galvanized steel posts. Damaged wire would also be repaired. The management fences would be constructed to BLM fence standards.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? *The wildfire damaged fences associated with the livestock management of the affected allotments. Reconstruction and repair of management fences damaged by the Fire would maintain the future integrity of the existing livestock grazing systems. Repair of damaged management fences would also help to manage vegetation recovery.*

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *Fence repair contracts typically run $5,000 per mile. This cost is typically lower than new fence construction. This treatment is reasonable and cost effective because it would utilize fences and gates to the greatest extent possible, while allowing unburned areas to be available to grazing. Damaged wood stretch points and corners would be replaced with galvanized steel pipe thus increasing the longevity of the structures and resistance of future wildfire damages. The 300 feet of enclosure fence would be repaired using existing BLM materials and internal labor forces. This would have no cost affect to the ES&R plan.*

PART 3 – DETAILED TREATMENT COST TABLE

Emergency Stabilization		Units	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	Total Costs
S1	***Planning (Plan Prep/Project Management)***						
	Project Management Field Office	WM's		5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
	Project Management State Office	WM's		5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000
	Total		0	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
S2	***Ground Seeding (Dixie harrow)***						
	Equipment/Rental	Total		20,000			20,000
	Equipment Mobilization	Total		5,000			5,000
	Contract/Labor	Total		20,000			20,000
	Seed	Total		15,000			15,000
cultural	Clearances	Total	50,000				50,000
	Total		50,000	60,000	0	0	110,000
S3	***Aerial Seeding***						
grass	Contract	Total	42,000				42,000
	Contract Administration	WM's		2,000			2,000
	Seed	Total	322,000				322,000
	Vehicle			1,000			1,000
sage	Contract	Total		23,000			23,000
	Contract Administration	WM's		1,000			1,000
	Seed	Total		35,000			35,000
	Total		364,000	62,000	0	0	426,000
S5	***Noxious Weeds***						
	Labor	Acres		4,000			4,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		500			500
	Supplies/Materials	Total		500			500
	Total		0	5,000	0	0	5,000
S7	***Protective Fence/Gate***						
	Fence Removal	Total				9,000	9,000
	Fence Material	Total		18,000			18,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		1,000			1,000
	Contract	Total		18,000			18,000
	Contract Administration	WM's		4,000			4,000
	Total		0	41,000	0	9,000	50,000
S13	***Monitoring***						
	Labor	WM's		5,500	5,500	5,500	16,500
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		500	500	500	1,500
	Total		0	6,000	6,000	6,000	18,000
	EMERGENCY STABILIZATION TOTALS		$414,000	$184,000	$16,000	$25,000	$639,000

Rehabilitation		Units	FY14	FY15	FY16	Total Costs
R1	***Planning (Plan Prep/Project Management)***					
	Project Management Field Office	WM's	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
	Total		2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
R4	***Seedling Planting (Shrub)***					
	Seedling Cost	Total	23,000			23,000
	Labor	WM's				0
	Travel/Vehicles	Total				0
	Supplies/Materials	Total				0
	Contract	Total		30,000		30,000
	Contract Administration	WM's				0
	Total		23,000	30,000	0	53,000
R5	***Noxious Weeds***					
	Labor	WM's		5,000	5,000	10,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		500	500	1,000
	Supplies/Materials	Total		500	500	1,000
	Total		0	6,000	6,000	12,000
R7	***Fence/Gate/Cattle Guard***					
	Fence Material	Total	2,000			2,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total	500			500
	Contract	Total	2,500			2,500
	Total		5,000	0	0	5,000
	BURNED AREA REHABILITATION TOTALS		$30,000	$38,000	$8,000	$76,000

PART 4 – SEED LISTS

GROUND SEED

Species	% PLS	PLS Seeds/sq.ft	PLS Seeds/ac.	Seeds/lb (bulk)	PLS Seeds/sq. ft.	Ground Seeding (acres)	Lbs / Acre	Total Lbs.	Cost / Lb.	Total Cost
Antelope Bitterbrush	85%	15,000	15,000	12,750	0.29	500	1	500	30.00	15,000.00
TOTALS					0.29		**1.00**	**500**		**15,000.00**

AERIAL SEED

Species	% PLS	Seed/lb. (bulk)	Total Seeds/Acre (bulk)	PLS Seeds/ac.	PLS Seeds/sq. ft.	Aerial Seeding [Acres]	Lbs / Acre	Total Lbs.	Cost / Lb.	Total Cost
Idaho Fescue	85%	450,000	2,250,000	1,912,500	43.90	2,782	5.0	13,950	10.00	139,500.00
Anatone Bluebunch Wheatgrass	76%	140,000	560,000	425,600	9.77	2,782	4.0	11,150	15.00	167,250.00
Sherman Big Bluegrass	63%	917,000	458,500	288,855	6.63	2,782	0.5	1,400	11.00	15,400.00
TOTALS					**60.31**		**9.50**	**26,500**		**322,150.00**

AERIAL SEED

Species	% PLS	Seed/lb. (bulk)	Total Seeds/Acre (bulk)	PLS Seeds/ac.	PLS Seeds/sq. ft.	Aerial Seeding [Acres]	Lbs / Acre	Total Lbs.	Cost / Lb.	Total Cost
Mountain big sagebrush	12%	2,500,000	1,250,000	150,000	3.44	2,782	0.5	1,400	25.00	35,000.00
TOTALS					**3.44**		**0.5**	**1,400**		**35,000.00**

SEEDLINGS

Seedling Species	Acres of Seedlings Planted	# of Seedlings / Acre	Total # of Seedlings	Cost / Seedling	Total Cost
Antelope Bitterbrush	555	54	30,000	0.75	22,500.00
TOTALS					**22,500.00**

PART 5 - 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 Rationale: *The proposed native species are all adapted to the ecological sites within the proposed treatment areas. The proposed native species were selected utilizing guidance from the Shoshone/Burley Normal Fire Rehabilitation and Environmental Assessment (EA #ID-077-2004-008) and the Twin Falls District Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development Instruction Memorandum (IM #ID200-2008-003). The native taxa were selected from the mid elevation (10-12" ppt.) zone species list. This was developed utilizing field experience and success in similar ecological sites within the Twin Falls District management area.*

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

Yes Rationale: *The native seed proposed for the estimated 2700 acres in the treatment area is generally available in the required quantities. Aerial seeding of the perennial grasses would occur in the fall of FY14 and the aerial seeding of the sagebrush seed would not occur until the winter or spring of FY14 which should allow seed quantities to be more available.*

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 Rationale: *The native seed proposed for use has been increasingly utilized in recent years for stabilization, rehabilitation and restoration. The demand has resulted in increased production and decreased price.*

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 Rationale: *The proposed native species were selected from the mid elevation (10-12" ppt.) zone species list contained in the Twin Falls District Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development Instruction Memorandum (IM #ID200-2008-003). The native taxa provided in the Seed Mixture Development IM have exhibited the ability to establish and persist in similar ecological sites in the Twin Falls District management area.*

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 Rationale: *The areas will be rested from livestock grazing until resource objectives listed in this ES and BAR plan are met. This will help the new herbaceous seeding treatments become established. Prior to the resumption of livestock grazing the treatment areas will have to meet minimum criteria (see monitoring plan) before livestock grazing may resume.*

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

No non-native plants are being proposed in the treatment.

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

Non-native Plants	Native Plants
	Antelope Bitterbrush *Purshia tridentata*
	'Anatone' bluebunch wheatgrass *Psuedoroegneria spicata*
	'Nezpurs' Idaho fescue *Festuca idahoensis*
	'Sherman' big bluegrass *Poa secunda*
	Mountain big sagebrush *Artemisia tridentata ssp. vaseyana*

PART 6. – COST-RISK ANALYSIS

A. Probability of Treatments Successfully Meeting Objectives

Action/ Spec. #	Planned ES Action (LF2200000)	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
S2	Ground Seeding/Dixie Harrow	Acres	2,000	$110,000	80
S3	Aerial Seeding	Acres	2,782	$426,000	90
S5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	2,782	$5,000	90
S7	Temporary Protective Fence	Miles	6.0	$50,000	100
S12	Closures (OHV, livestock, area)	#	1.0	$0	100
S13	Monitoring	WM's	2,782	$18,000	100
			TOTAL COSTS:	$609,000	

Action/ Spec. #	Planned BAR Action (LF3200000)	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
R4	Seedling Planting (shrub)	**#**	30,000	$53,000	75
R5	Noxious Weeds	**Acres**	2,782	$12,000	90
R7	Permanent Fence	**Mile**	1.0	$5,000	100
			TOTAL COSTS:	$70,000	

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* Rationale for answer: *The aerial seeding of perennial grass, shrubs and bitterbrush ground seeding and seedlings will help with the establishment and recruitment of future grass and shrub cover. The noxious weed treatments will help protect adjacent private and BLM lands against further expansion of noxious weeds. The temporary protection fence will ensure no disturbance to the newly seeded area.*

No Action *No* Rationale for answer: *Wildlife habitat on adjacent unburned land would be compromised with the expansion of noxious weeds. The burned area will have a high chance of invasion of cheatgrass and noxious weeds due to the bare soil.*

Alternative(s) 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* Rationale for answer: *Monitoring and observation of recent weed control efforts in similar soils and precipitation zones indicate that success would be high. Normal climatic conditions, the use of competitive adapted species (as outlined in the Twin Falls District Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development Instruction Memorandum/IM #ID200-2008-003 (USDI 2008), the exclusion of livestock grazing for on-site vegetation recovery and establishment, qualitative observations of successful past efforts have contributed to the relatively high probability of seeding treatment success.*

No Action *No* Rationale for answer: *The burned area has a high potential for expansion of noxious weeds and invasive plants. There is high potential for adjacent unburned areas becoming dominated by noxious weeds as well as invasive plants.*

Alternative(s) 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 | X|,
Alternative(s) |__|,
No Action |__|

Comments: None

C. Risk of Resource Value Loss or Damage

No Action - Treatments Not Implemented (check one)

Resource Value	N/A	None	Low	Medium	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 (check one)

Resource Value	N/A	None	Low	Medium	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 7 – MONITORING PLAN

Monitoring and evaluation of ES and BAR treatments would be implemented to ensure that treatments are properly implemented, effective, and maintained. Monitoring methods may be qualitative or quantitative, and would be commensurate with the level of treatment complexity and extent. Monitoring and evaluation information would provide adaptive management feedback to improve ES and BAR treatment performance. Monitoring would be the responsibility of the BLM interdisciplinary team. An annual monitoring summary report would be submitted documenting treatment effectiveness.

Treatment/Activity: ***S2/S3 Ground and Aerial Seeding***

1) Treatment Objectives: *The objective of the seeding treatments is to establish a perennial dominated plant community within three years. The results are based on site potential.*

The aerial seed treatment would be considered successful if:

The seeded grass species reach densities of:

1) *Three plants per square meter for grasses.*

The aerial seed treatment would be considered successful if:

1) *Sagebrush seedlings average 0.10 seedlings per square meter across all density plots; or*

2) *In qualitative surveys they are found to be common.*

The ground seed treatment of bitterbrush would be considered effective if:

1) *Bitterbrush seedlings average 0.1 seedlings per square meter across all density plots; or*

2) *In qualitative surveys they are found to be common.*

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: *Implementation is monitored through contract administration. Any changes from the planned implementation would be noted in the project file "as built" discussion.*

3) Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period: *The methods used to monitor the treated area would include field observations, photo plots, and cover transects utilizing the line-point intercept and density plot methods. Plots would be randomly established through the treated area. Effectiveness monitoring of the ground and aerial seeding will be done for a period of three growing seasons.*

Treatment/Activity: ***R4 Seedling Planting***

1) Treatment Objectives: R*e-establish bitterbrush stands lost in the Point Fire.*

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: *The project lead will supervise crews implementing the project and will document work. Planted seedlings will be inspected to ensure proper techniques are used. Plants will also be inspected for health and vigor. An "as-built" will be drafted after completion of the project.*

3) Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period. *The proposed seedling plantings would be monitored for survival. Typically survival of 50% or more of seedlings the first year will be considered successful. Transect points will be selected randomly. Transects will be read as a density belt along the area where the plantings occurred. Live and dead plants will be documented along transects. Photos would also be taken at each transect.*

Treatment/Activity: ***S5/R5 Noxious Weeds Treatments***

1) Treatment Objectives: *Over eight species of noxious weeds have been identified and recorded within the burned area. It is expected that these weeds will expand their range as a result of the Fire. Since these weed species are not uniformly distributed across the burn area, a quantifiable objective cannot be determined until the first year inventory occurs.*

The objective for the first growing season is to conduct an inventory of the burn area. Any noxious weeds detected during the inventory would be treated.

The objective for the second and third years is to decrease the acreage of noxious weeds needing treatment as compared to the first year.

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: *During the first growing season treatment, locations of noxious weed populations (by species), treatment type, and the amount of herbicide used would be documented using GPS and GIS. The second and third year objective would be measured by the number and size of locations sprayed and the amount of herbicide utilized.*

3) Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period. *Size and location of noxious weed populations and needed treatments would be compared between years one, two and three to determine treatment effectiveness. If noxious weed populations remain in the burned area beyond the third year, responsibility would be transferred to the Twin Falls District Noxious Weed Program for ongoing inventory, treatment and monitoring using funding sources other than ES&BAR.*

Treatment/Activity: **S7/R7 Permanent and Temporary Fence**

1) Treatment Objectives: *The objective of this treatment is to repair or replace approximately one mile of existing interior livestock management fence and to build approximately six miles of temporary protection fence. This will help to ensure natural recovery of the burned area with no disturbances and help maintain grazing allotment integrity. The fences would be constructed to BLM fence standards.*

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: *Implementation is monitored through contract administration. Any changes from the planned implementation would be noted in the project file "as built" discussion.*

3) Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period. *Repair and replacement of damaged fences and the temporary protection fence will be monitored through contract administration. Repairs and completion will be documented in a project file "as built" and filed in the project file. Construction of temporary protection fence will be completed within the first year of the Fire. Repairs will be completed within the second or third year of the Fire.*

Treatment/Activity: ***S12 Closures (Livestock grazing)***

1) Treatment Objectives: *Exclusion of livestock is critical for the recovery of burned vegetation or establishment and protection of new seeding. The seed treatment area would be closed to livestock grazing for a minimum period of two growing seasons to promote recovery of burned vegetation and to facilitate the establishment of seeded species as specified in the 2005 Shoshone and Burley Normal Fire Rehabilitation Plan (#ID-077-2004-008).*

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: *Resumption of livestock grazing would ultimately depend on monitoring and meeting of ES&BAR plan seeding and natural recovery objectives. Recovery of the treated area would be monitored for availability to grazing on a yearly basis. The monitoring for grazing availability and recommendations for opening the burned area to livestock would be the responsibility of an interdisciplinary team. Implementation is monitored through rangeland management administration.*

3) Describe how effectiveness will be monitored, how it will be measured, and within what time period: *The seed treatment area would be considered recovered and available for grazing when:*

- *Recommended monitoring would include both qualitative and quantitative methods (e.g. line-point intercept or step point cover methods, density quadrates, photos points).*
- *The amount of bare mineral soil (lacking cover of plants, litter, or biological soil crust) is within 10% of what would be expected for the site.*
- *Desirable herbaceous perennial plants are producing seed.*
- *Desirable perennial vegetation have developed extensive root and shoot systems to provide for soil stabilization and are sustainable under livestock grazing.*

PART 8 - MAPS

1. Fire Perimeter
2. Colored Land Status Map
3. Burned Management Fences
4. Seeding and Seedling Treatment areas
5. Protective Fences and the Adjoining Pasture Fences That They Tie Into
6. Vegetation Communities
7. Threatened and Endangered Species Areas
8. Invasive Species

PART 9 – REVIEW, APPROVALS, and PREPARERS

TEAM MEMBERS

Position	Team Member (Agency/Office)	Initial and Date
Team Leader	Dustin Smith (BLM/Burley)	
Operations	Scott Uhrig (BLM/Shoshone)	
Botanist	Jason Theodozio (BLM/Burley)	
Cultural Resources/Archaeologist	Suzann Henrikson (BLM/Burley)	
Rangeland Mgt. Specialist	Tucker Porter (BLM/Burley)	
Wildlife Biologist	Jesse Rawson (BLM/Burley)	

PLAN APPROVAL

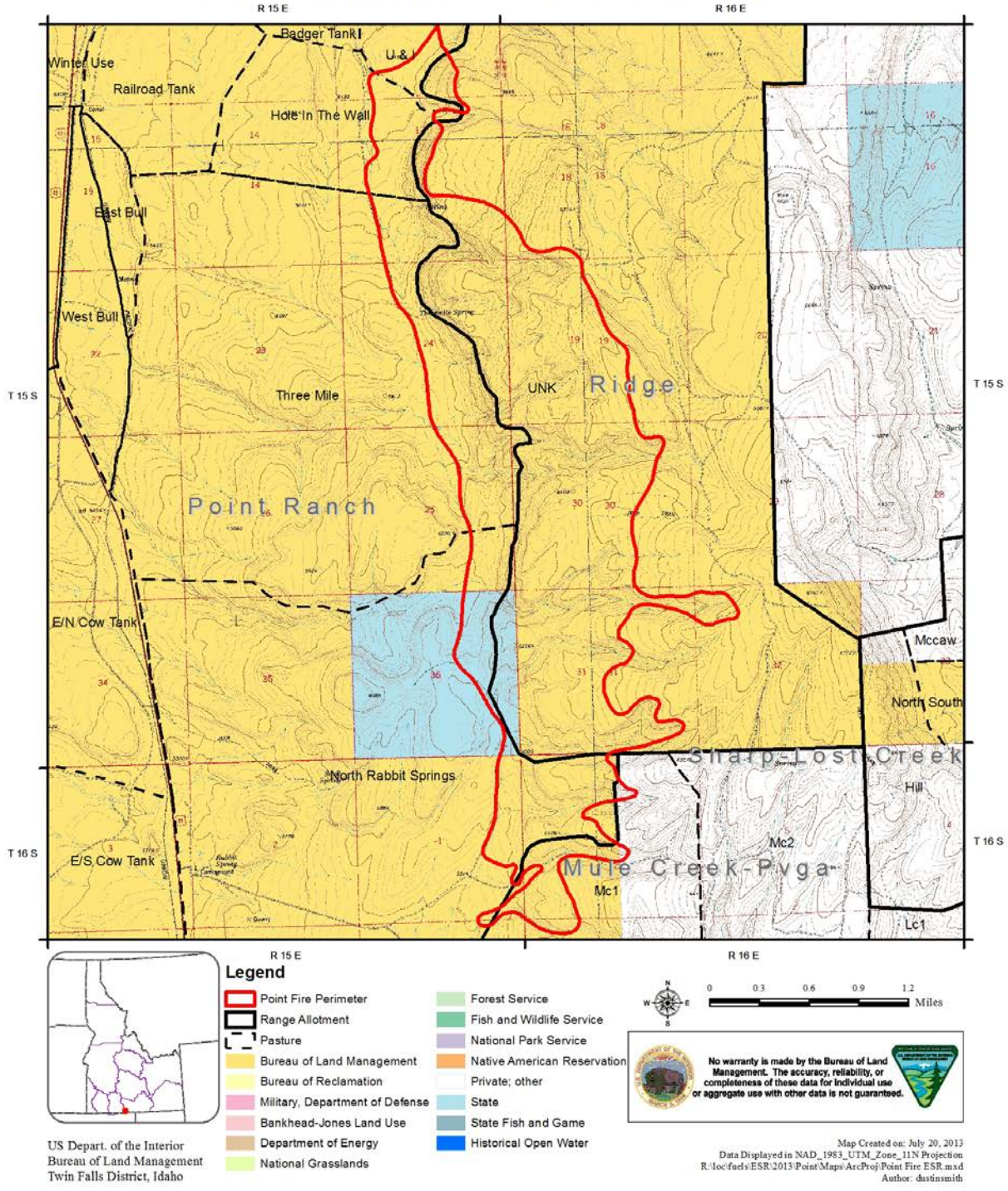
/s/ Jim Tharp for Michael C. Courtney 7/22/2013

Michael C. Courtney
FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DATE

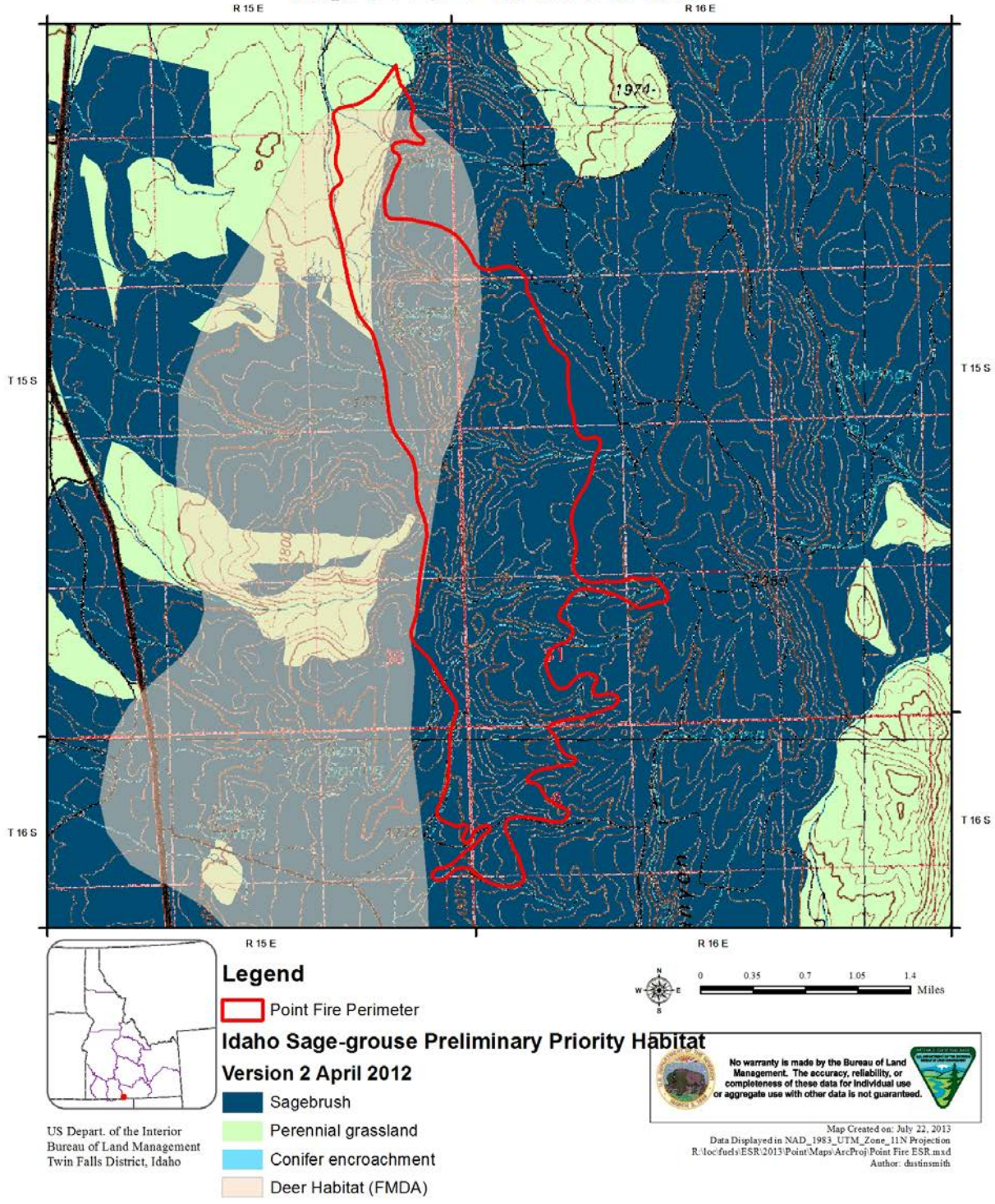
FUNDING APPROVAL

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.

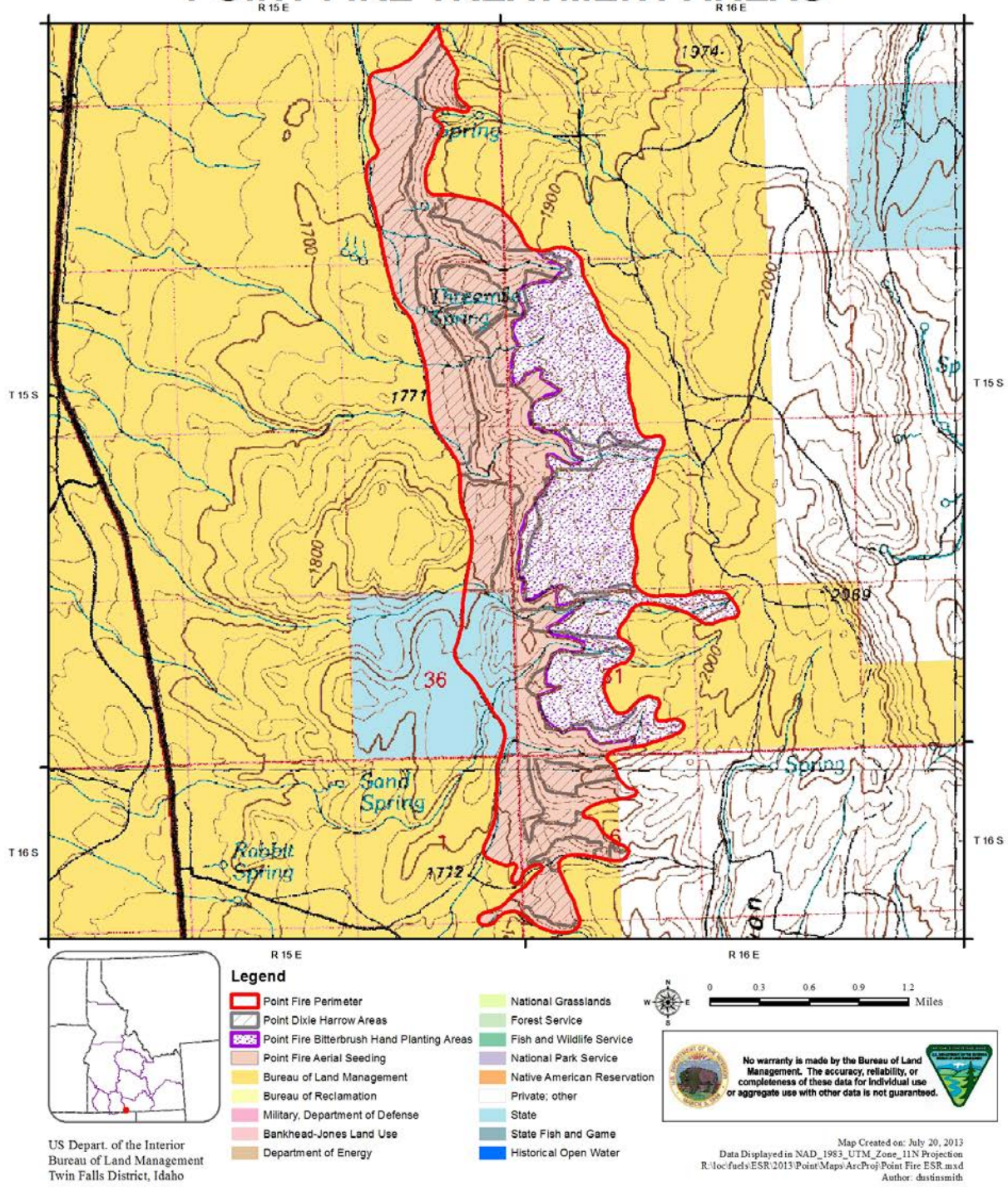
POINT FIRE BURNED RANGE ALLOTMENTS AND PASTURES



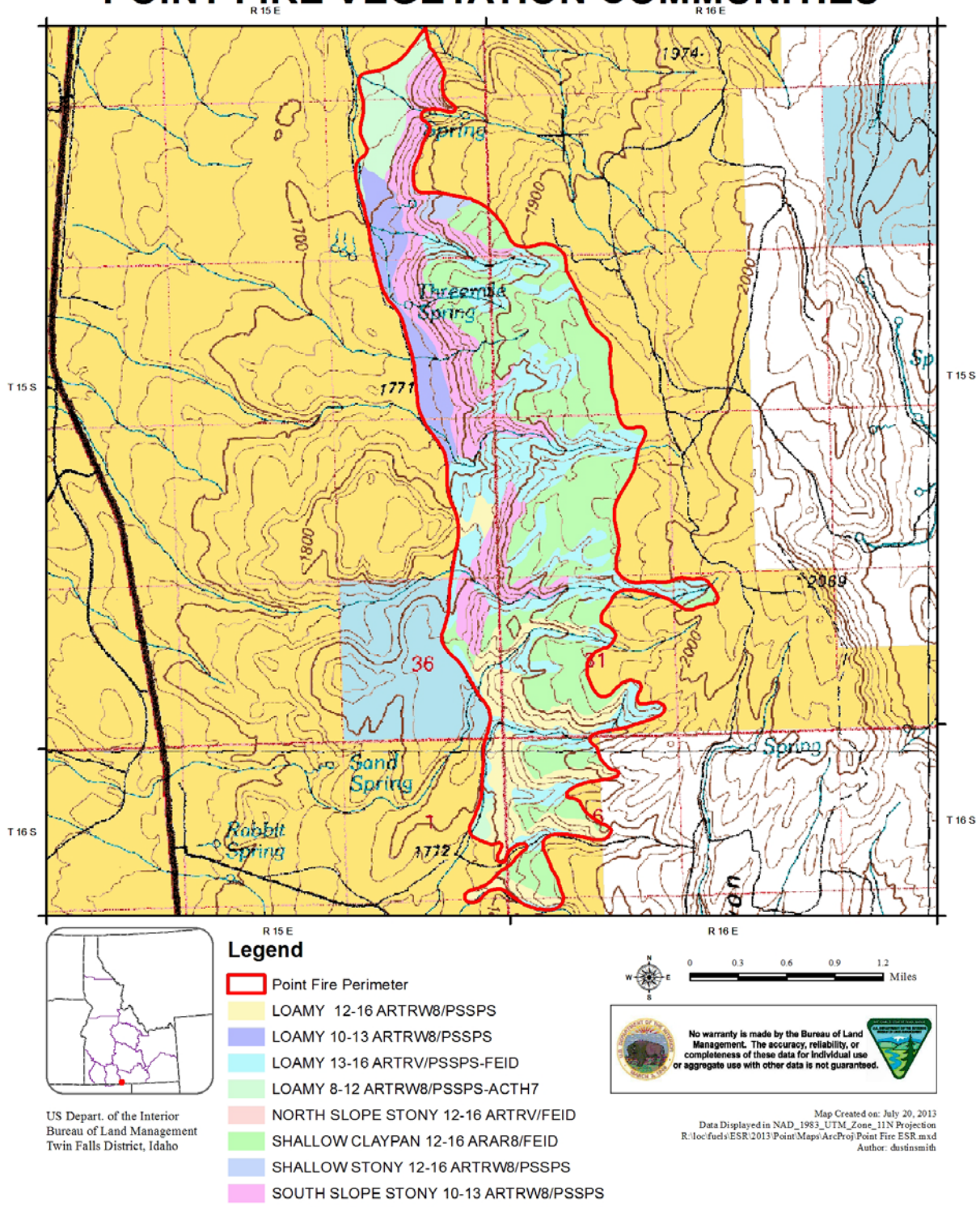
POINT FIRE SAGE-GROUSE PPH AND MULE DEER HABITAT



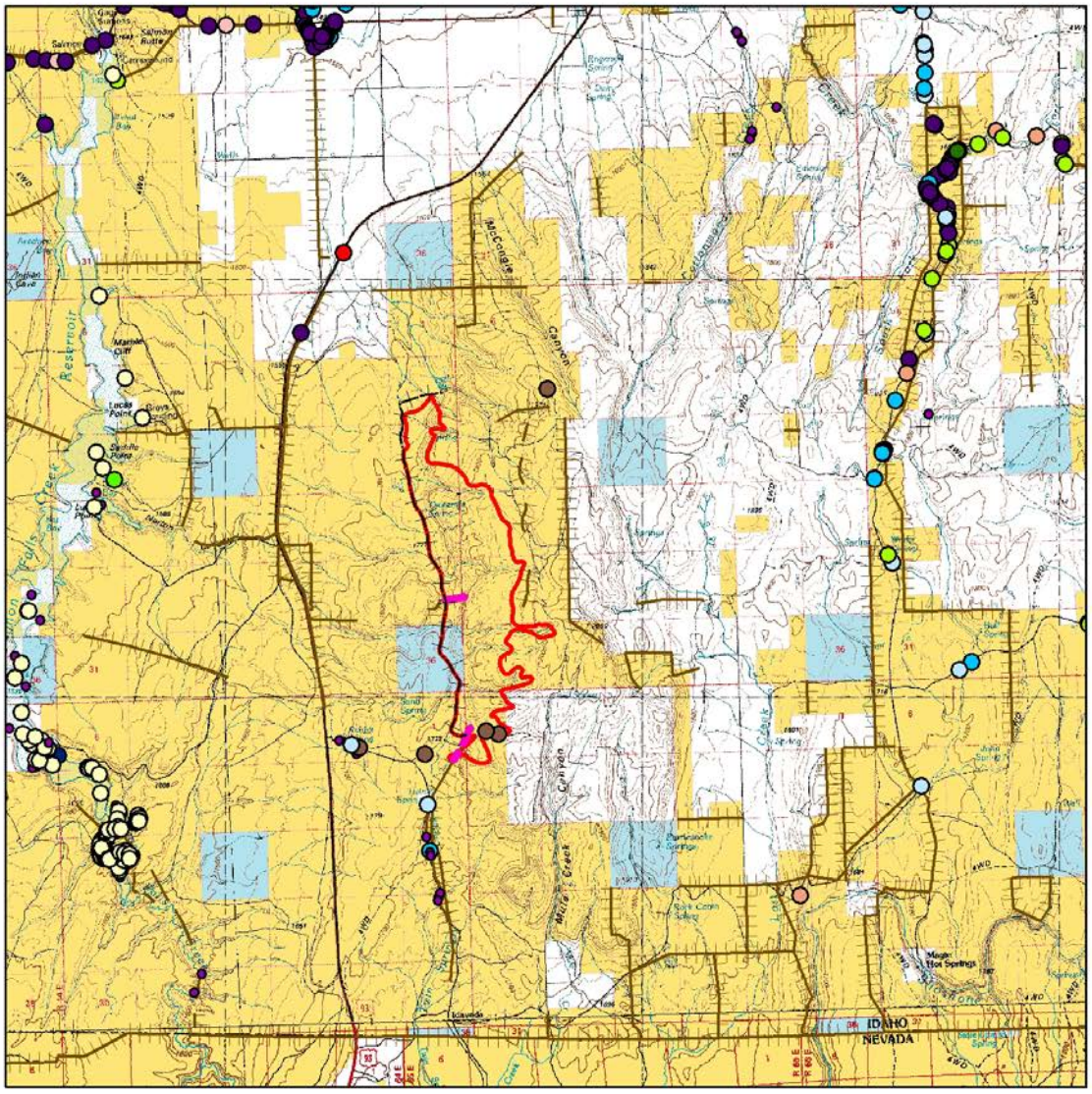
POINT FIRE TREATMENT AREAS



POINT FIRE VEGETATION COMMUNITIES



POINT FIRE FENCES AND INVASIVE SPECIES



Legend

- Point Fire Perimeter
- Everything Else
- Black Henbane
- Canada Thistle
- Diffuse Knapweed
- Dyer's Woad
- Field Bindweed
- Houndstongue
- Jointed Goatgrass
- Leafy Spurge
- Medusahead
- Musk Thistle
- Perrenial Pepperweed
- Poison Hemlock
- Puncturevine
- Purple Loosestrife
- Rush Skeletonweed
- Russian Knapweed
- Salt Cedar
- Scotch Thistle
- Spotted Knapweed
- Whitetop/Hoary Cress
- Point Temporary Fence
- Point Permenant Fence
- FENCE
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private; other
- State

0 0.95 1.9 2.85 3.8 Miles

For internal BLM use only. Review and/or display copy- not for distribution. No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management. The accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data is not guaranteed.

US Depart. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Twin Falls District, Idaho

Map Created on: July 17, 2013
Data Displayed in NAD_1983_UTM_Zone_11N Projection
R:\loc\fuels\ESR\2013\Point\Maps\ArcProj\Point Fire ESR.mxd
Author: dustinsmith