

**BLM IDAHO POST-FIRE RECOVERY PLAN
EMERGENCY STABILIZATION AND BURNED AREA REHABILITATION
2011 PLAN TEMPLATE**

BUCK FLAT FIRE

**BLM/TWIN FALLS DISTRICT/JARBIDGE FIELD OFFICE
IDAHO STATE OFFICE**

FIRE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Fire Name	Buck Flat Fire
Fire Number	HS95
District/Field Office	Twin Falls/Jarbridge
Admin Number	LLIDT01000
State	Idaho
County(s)	Owyhee
Ignition Date/Cause	07/31/2013/Lightning
Date Contained	08/01/2013

Jurisdiction	Acres
BLM	558
State	79

Total Acres	637
Total Costs	\$64,000
Costs to LF2200000	\$43,000
Costs to LF3200000	\$12,000
Costs to LF3100000	
Costs to Other Funding	\$9,000

Status of Plan Submission (check one box below)

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

PART 1 - PLAN SUMMARY

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE FIRE

The Buck Flat Fire ignited on the west side of Horse Butte in the central Jarbidge Field Office on July 31, 2013. Fire cause was lightning. The fire was contained on August 1 and controlled on August 2. The fire burned 558 acres of public land administered by the BLM and 79 acres of state land. This fire burned adjacent to and overlapped 24 acres of the 2013 Horse Butte 2 Fire, which burned in mid-July (Map 1).

The fire burned 637 acres of Sage-grouse Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) (558 acres BLM; 79 acres State). Within the Sage-grouse PPH, 31 BLM acres were classified as key habitat dominated by sagebrush communities and 606 acres (527 BLM, 79 State) were R1 restoration habitat dominated by perennial grasslands (Map 2). Eighteen of the 31 acres of key habitat burned in the overlap area with the Horse Butte 2 Fire; the remainder occurred on a steep rocky slope and drainage. One active lek occurs within the boundary of the burned area; there are three additional leks about 1, 1.5, and 2 miles south of the burned area. These same leks are also in close proximity to the 2013 Horse Butte 2 Fire. The burned area was showing good recovery of sagebrush following the 1999 Doe Fire and is adjacent to a large block of unburned key habitat that is considered to be some of the most important remaining sage-grouse habitat in the Jarbidge Field Office area.

The burned area also contains 158 acres of slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*) potential habitat (Map 3).

The fire burned portions of the following allotment and pasture:

Allotment	Pasture	BLM Acres Burned	BLM Acres in Pasture	% of BLM Acres in Pasture Burned	AUMs Potentially Affected by Fire
Juniper Ranch	#6*	576	6,545	9	471

*1,144 acres of Pasture #6 burned in the 2013 Horse Butte 2 Fire (16% of BLM acres). The result of both fires will be closure of the entire pasture, affecting a total of 471 AUMs.

Digital soil survey data (SSURGO 2008) indicate that the entire burned area occurs on the Loamy 8-12 Wyoming Big Sagebrush/Bluebunch Wheatgrass-Thurbers Needlegrass ecological site. Previous to the fire, this area was occupied by a 'Secar' Snake River wheatgrass seeding implemented in 1999 following the Doe Fire. This seeded area had sagebrush scattered throughout. A small area at the southern end of the fire had a Wyoming big sagebrush communities with Sandberg bluegrass, bottlebrush squirreltail, Thurber's needlegrass, and bluebunch wheatgrass in the understory. About half of this area burned in the Horse Butte 2 Fire and is proposed for treatment under that ES&BAR plan. The remainder of the sagebrush area burned on a steep, rocky slope and drainage and cannot be drill seeded.

The Buck Flat Fire removed grass crowns and burned sagebrush within the fire perimeter. The existing seeding is expected to be resilient and should recover to pre-burn condition. However, most Wyoming big sagebrush plants within the fire perimeter were burned. Natural regeneration is not possible as sagebrush seed does not persist in the soil and plants in the area had not yet

produced seed this year. In addition, fire intensity was hot enough that it is unlikely that seed would have survived.

LAND USE PLAN CONSISTENCY

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

Emergency Stabilization

- S3 Aerial Seeding
- S5 Weed Control
- S12 Closure (Livestock)
- S13 Monitoring

Burned Area Rehabilitation

- R4 Seedling Planting (non-ES&BAR funds)
- R5 Weed Control
- R12 Closure (Livestock)

The applicable land use plan for the ES&BAR project area is the Jarbidge Resource Management Plan (RMP) and associated Record of Decision (ROD) dated March 23, 1987. The burned area is located in the West Devil Multiple Use Area (MUA-12).

Resource management objectives for the affected MUAs:

- Improve sage-grouse habitat (p. II-48).
- Manage big game habitat to support mule deer and antelope (p. II-48).

Management guidelines contained in the RMP are identified for affected resources under each treatment discussed below.

The treatments outlined in this plan are also consistent with the treatments analyzed in the Boise District Office and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan (NFRP) and Environmental Assessment (EA, #ID-090-2004-050), the Noxious and Invasive Weed Treatment EA (Noxious Weed EA, #ID100-2005-EA-265) for the Boise District and Jarbidge Field Office, and the Jarbidge Field Office Programmatic Shrub Planting EA (#ID-201-2008-EA-359).

Sage-grouse Habitat Conservation and Restoration

Proposed treatments are consistent with current Bureau policy (Instruction Memorandum No. 2012-043) for enhancement and restoration of Sage-grouse PPH, specifically:

- Evaluate land treatments in a landscape-scale context to address habitat fragmentation, effective patch size, invasive species presence, and protection of intact sagebrush communities. Coordinate land treatments with adjacent land owners to avoid any unintended negative landscape effects to sage-grouse.
- Coordinate plan, design, and implement treatments and associated effectiveness monitoring between Resources, Fuels Management, Emergency Stabilization, and

Burned Area Rehabilitation programs to:

- Promote the maintenance of large intact sagebrush communities;
 - Limit the expansion of invasive species, including cheatgrass;
 - Maintain or improve soil site stability, hydrologic function, and biological integrity; and
 - Enhance the native plant community, including the native shrub reference state in the *State and Transition Model*, with appropriate shrub, grass, and forb composition identified in the applicable Ecological Site Descriptions (ESDs) where available.
- Pursue short-term objectives that include maintaining soil stability and hydrological function of the disturbed site so a resilient plant community can be established.
 - Pursue a long-term objective to maintain resilient native plant communities. Choose native plant species outlined in ESDs, where available, to revegetate sites.
 - Meet vegetation management objectives that have been set for seeding projects prior to returning the area to authorized uses, specifically livestock grazing. This generally takes a minimum of two growing seasons.
 - In Emergency Stabilization and Burned Area Rehabilitation plans, prioritize re-vegetation projects to (1) maintain and enhance unburned intact sagebrush habitat when at risk from adjacent threats; (2) stabilize soils; (3) reestablish hydrologic function; (4) maintain and enhance biological integrity; (5) promote plant resiliency; (6) limit expansion or dominance of invasive species; and (7) reestablish native species.

The proposed treatments also address applicable conservation measures identified in the 2006 Conservation Plan for the Greater Sage-grouse in Idaho, which included rehabilitation and restoration actions. Specifically,

Restoration and Burned Area Rehabilitation Conservation Measures (pp. 4-19 through 4-20):

- Emphasize the use of native plant materials to the greatest extent possible, and as appropriate for site conditions. Seeds should be certified weed free.
- Use proper site-preparation techniques (e.g., seedbed preparation, control of invasives, weed-control), seeding techniques, and seed mixes in designing restoration and burned area rehabilitation plans. For example, the restoration of annual grasslands may require preparatory chemical treatments and/or an exotic/native seed mix.
- When planting or reseeding sagebrush, favor the sagebrush species, subspecies, that are appropriate for the ecological site. Source identified seed is preferable. To maximize the likelihood of establishment, consider multiple approaches, such as aerial seeding, ground broadcast seeding with harrow or roller, and planting of seedlings in strategic patches or strips. Avoid seeding sagebrush or other shrubs near road margins if the road and road margin might otherwise serve as a fuel break in the event of future fire.
- Provide for noxious weed control in burned area rehabilitation projects.

Existing Consultations for Slickspot Peppergrass

Slickspot peppergrass was listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) on October 8, 2009 (50 CFR Part 17 52014-52064). Following the listing, Idaho Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter, the Idaho Office of Species Conservation, and private individuals, brought action against the Secretary of the Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) challenging

the listing under the Administrative Procedures Act and the ESA. On August 8, 2012, Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Candy W. Dale, U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho, ordered that the Secretary of the Interior's Final Rule listing slickspot peppergrass as a threatened species under the ESA be vacated and remanded the matter for further consideration consistent with the Court's decision. Slickspot peppergrass is currently proposed for listing under the ESA. BLM will follow conservation measures developed through existing consultations to ensure ongoing conservation of the species and its habitat.

Programmatic conference reports were prepared in 2006 by the Boise District Office for Noxious and Invasive Weed Treatment (144-2006-IC-0918) and Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (14420-2006-IC-0975) programmatic actions. These programmatic actions were developed to include all field offices in the Boise District, which, at that point in time, included the Jarbidge Field Office. These Conference Reports were confirmed December 15, 2009 (14420-2010-TA-0103), following the listing decision.

BLM also consulted with the Service regarding programmatic shrub planting activities and received a letter of concurrence on January 27, 2012. The concurrence memorandum for Programmatic Shrub Planting – Jarbidge Field Office – Elmore, Owyhee, and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho and Elko County, Nevada (01EIFW00-2012-I-0084) stated that planting shrubs utilizing hand planting methods and design features included below is not likely to adversely affect slickspot peppergrass (Concurrence Memorandum, p. 5). In addition, the concurrence memorandum states that shrub plantings would have long-term beneficial effects for slickspot peppergrass and its habitat by accelerating native shrub re-establishment and decreasing habitat fragmentation (Concurrence Memorandum, p. 6).

The burned area does not contain known occupied habitat for slickspot peppergrass. However, the burned area contains 158 acres of potential habitat. Examination of the area on August 2, 2013, revealed that slickspot microsites are present. However, no plants were observed in a cursory examination of slickspots.

Since slickspot peppergrass habitat is located in portions of the burned area, project design features that address conservation measures are included to: 1) allow rest from grazing to promote vegetation recovery, 2) reduce the potential for introduction and spread of noxious weeds, and 3) restore sagebrush cover within the burned area.

Specific programmatic conservation measures addressed in this plan are:

- 1) Implement Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ES&R) activities to consider slickspot peppergrass habitat rehabilitation (ES&R Conference Report pp. 2-3).
 - a. All wildfires within slickspot peppergrass habitat will be evaluated for ES&R treatments, regardless of size.
 - b. As needed, protect disturbed and recovering areas using temporary closures or other measures. BLM will continue to rest areas from land use activities to meet ES&R objectives, defined through the ES&R plans.
 - c. BLM will initiate and complete ES&R efforts for slickspot peppergrass, such as planting shrubs and forbs, within slickspot peppergrass habitat.

- 2) Although non-chemical methods will be the preferred approach in occupied habitat, when appropriate, projects involving the application of pesticides (including herbicides, fungicides, and other related chemicals) in slickspot peppergrass habitat and potential habitat that may affect the species will be analyzed at the project level and designed such that pesticide applications will support conservation and minimize risks of exposure (LUP BO pp. 70-71).
 - a. Apply appropriate spatial and temporal buffers to avoid species' exposure to harmful chemicals.
 - b. Implement appropriate revegetation and weed control measures to reduce risks of non-native invasive plant infestations following ground/soil disturbing actions in slickspot peppergrass habitat.

Land Use Plan and Policy Consistency for Proposed Treatments

Aerial Seeding/S3: The proposed aerial seeding treatment addresses the RMP objectives to improve lands in poor ecological condition and manage and improve big game and sage-grouse habitat cited above. In addition, the proposed treatment addresses the following RMP Resource Management Guidelines:

- Terrestrial Wildlife (pp. II-83 – II-84)
 - Manage all ecological sites on mule deer, pronghorn, elk, bighorn sheep and sage-grouse habitat currently in fair or poor ecological condition, for good ecological condition.
 - Protect and enhance endangered, threatened, and sensitive species habitats in order to maintain or enhance existing and potential populations within the planning area.
 - Manage all wildlife habitat within the resource area to provide a diversity of vegetation and habitats.
 - Seed mixtures for range improvement projects and fire rehabilitation projects will include a mixture of grasses, forbs, and shrubs that benefit sage-grouse.
- Fire Management (p. II-89): Seedings will include appropriate seed mixtures to replace wildlife habitat that is burned.

Aerial seeding sagebrush over the entire burned area would re-establish shrub cover important for sage-grouse and other sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife, slickspot peppergrass, big game, and upland game birds. The proposed treatment is in conformance with the Jarbidge RMP and consistent with existing policy direction and conservation measures for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.

Shrub Planting/R4: The proposed shrub planting treatment would address RMP objectives and Resource Management Guidelines listed above for the aerial seeding treatment. This proposed treatment is in conformance with the Jarbidge RMP, and consistent with existing policy direction and conservation measures for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.

Noxious Weeds/S5/R5: The proposed noxious weed treatments address the RMP objectives cited above to improve sage-grouse habitat and manage big game habitat. Noxious weed control

treatments would enhance sagebrush seeding success by reducing the potential for noxious weed competition with newly seeded plants. They also address RMP Resource Management Guidelines to control the spread of noxious weeds on public lands where possible, where economically feasible, and to the extent that funds are prioritized for that purpose (p. II-94). Therefore, the proposed noxious weed treatments are in conformance to the Jarbidge RMP. Proposed noxious weed treatments are also consistent with the treatments analyzed in the NFRP and Noxious Weed EA. Design features are included consistent with existing conservation measures for slickspot peppergrass. These include training weed treatment staff to detect slickspots and slickspot peppergrass, and implementation of treatment buffers should occupied slickspots be found. Noxious weed treatments are also consistent with existing policy direction and conservation measures for sage-grouse.

Closures (Livestock)/S12/R12: The Jarbidge RMP (p. II-89) states under the Fire Management Section that, “all grazing licenses issued that include areas recently burned and/or seeded will include a statement concerning the amount of rest needed in the seedings or burned area. Normally two years of rest will be necessary to protect these areas. This rested area may include remnant stands of desirable species that survived the fire.” The NFRP states that livestock grazing would be deferred for at least two growing seasons, or until resource objectives are met, through the closure of pastures, resting whole allotments, or construction or reconstruction of protective fences as needed (NFRP, pp. 17 and 19). The BLM ES&BAR Handbook (H-1732-1) states that livestock are to be excluded from burned areas until monitoring results, documented in writing, show ES&BAR objectives have been met (H-1742-1, p. 35). Therefore, the proposed treatment conforms to the Jarbidge RMP, NFRP, and current BLM policy. Livestock grazing closure is also consistent with policy direction and conservation measures for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.

In addition, the allotment in the burned area is subject to court-ordered conditions. The Juniper Ranch allotment is subject to Chief Judge Winmill’s Decision and Order of February 26, 2009. The order directed BLM to adjust livestock grazing to maintain and enhance sage-grouse, pygmy rabbit, and slickspot peppergrass habitat.

The ES&BAR team developed objectives and treatments which respond to the identified issues and concerns. The BLM would evaluate this plan based on the success or failure in meeting these objectives.

COST SUMMARY TABLES

Emergency Stabilization (LF2200000):

Action/ Spec. #	Planned Action	Unit	# Units	Unit Cost	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	Total Cost
S1	Planning (Project Mangt)	WM's	1			\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$9,000
S3	Aerial Seeding	Acres	534	\$33.71	\$12,500	\$5,500	\$0	\$0	\$18,000
S5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	534	\$7.49		\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$4,000
S12	Closures	No.	1	\$0.00		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
S13	Monitoring	Acres	534	\$7.49		\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$12,000
TOTAL COSTS					\$12,500	\$16,500	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$43,000

Burned Area Rehabilitation (LF3200000):

Action/ Spec. #	Planned Action	Unit	# Units	Unit Cost	FY14	FY15	FY16	Total Cost
R1	Planning (Project Mangt)	WM's	1		\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
R5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	534	\$7.49	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$8,000
TOTAL COSTS					\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$12,000

OTHER FUNDING TOTAL COST		Shrub Planting	2,500		\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$9,000
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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. N/A

ES Issue 2 - Soil/Water Stabilization.

The burned area is vulnerable to soil loss and spread of noxious weeds and invasive plants due to vegetation removal. Proposed livestock closure would address this issue by reducing impacts associated with livestock, including trampling of bare soil, removal or resprouting vegetation, and weed spread. This would allow for natural recovery and sagebrush establishment to occur. Immediate and continued closure until ESR objectives are met is critical to treatment success and stabilization of the burned area.

Treatment/Activity: *S12/R12 Livestock Closure*

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *The Buck Flat burned area would be rested from livestock grazing until monitoring shows that ES&BAR objectives have been met. Rest would be accomplished through pasture closure. Closure of the burned area would be documented through annual grazing agreements.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? *The purpose of this treatment is to provide the opportunity for natural recovery and sagebrush seeding establishment. Recovery of perennial plant communities would inhibit expansion of noxious weeds and invasive plants, stabilize soils, and reestablish important wildlife habitat in the burned area.*

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *No costs under ES are associated with livestock closures. Closure is consistent with policy direction and conservation measures for stabilization and restoration of sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass habitat.*

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

The entire burned area is mapped as Sage-grouse PPH and most of the area was identified as R1 sage-grouse restoration habitat prior to burning. R1 restoration habitat consists of perennial grasslands where reestablishment of sagebrush cover is needed. The burned area was in the process of reestablishing sagebrush cover following the 1999 Doe Fire. The burned area is adjacent to a large block of unburned key habitat that is considered to be some of the most important remaining sage-grouse habitat in the Jarbidge Field Office area. Fire intensities were high enough to burn existing sagebrush plants. The fire likely impacted seed banks that would facilitate natural recovery. Therefore, an aerial sagebrush seeding treatment is proposed to accelerate recovery of sagebrush habitats.

The fire burned over sage-grouse lek 2O-833. The burned area is within 2 miles of two leks that were occupied in 2012 (2O-698 – 1 mile and 2O-145 – 2 miles). A satellite lek (20153) occurs within 1.5 mile. Leks are considered occupied if there has been documented sage-grouse activity within the past five years. Most sage-grouse nesting occurs within 3 miles of leks in this area; nesting was documented in the remaining unburned sagebrush adjacent to this fire in 2012.

Treatment/Activity: *S3 Aerial Seeding*

Proposed aerial seeding of sagebrush is based on analysis contained in the Boise District Office and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan (NFRP) and Environmental Assessment (EA, #ID-090-2004-050), species specific information contained in technical references (USDA 2004), and the Twin Falls District Instruction Memorandum No. ID200-2008-003 for Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development.

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *The burned area would be aerially seeded with Wyoming big sagebrush seed at a rate of 1.0 lb/acre (bulk). Seeding would occur during winter 2013/2014, over snow, if possible. This seeding treatment is consistent with policy direction and conservation measures that address stabilization and habitat restoration for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.*

Buck Flat Fire Sagebrush Aerial Seed Mix 534 acres	
Species and Variety	Seed Rate in Lbs/Acre (bulk)
Shrubs	
Wyoming Big Sagebrush♦	1.00
♦ Wildland Collected	

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? *The fire removed most sagebrush cover and likely damaged any viable sagebrush seed bank in the burned area. The July 2013 Horse Butte 2 Fire burned sagebrush stands adjacent to this fire. Therefore, natural seed sources in the vicinity have been further reduced. The objective of the aerial seed treatment is to reestablish sagebrush cover within the burned area. Accelerating the rate of*

sagebrush establishment is critical to habitat restoration for sage-grouse and other sagebrush obligate wildlife species, as well as slickspot peppergrass potential habitat.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? *The proposed treatment is consistent with current policy for sage-grouse habitat management and existing conservation measures for slickspot peppergrass. Prior to the fire the area proposed for treatment contained recovering sagebrush communities that provided habitat for breeding sage-grouse and other sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife. Since most sagebrush plants within the fire perimeter were burned, natural seed sources for sagebrush were likely lost. In addition, sagebrush seed does not persist in the soil, and plants had not yet produced seed this year. Sagebrush cover in the burned area is not expected to recover naturally without supplemental seeding. In addition, effects of this fire are compounded by the adjacent Horse Butte 2 Fire, which burned in mid-July 2013. Sagebrush seeding has been extremely successful following past fires in similar locations, including the 2005 Clover Fire, 2006 Sailor Cap Fire, 2007 Murphy Complex Fire, and 2010 Big Draw, Saylor Creek, and Long Butte fires. Contracting costs for aerial application are typical for the Jarbidge Field Office area. Sagebrush seed costs can vary from year to year dependent on availability, but generally average about \$10/acre.*

ES Issue 4 - Critical Heritage Resources. N/A

ES Issue 5 - Invasive Plants and Weeds.

Scotch thistle, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed, and rush skeletonweed are noxious weeds that have potential for introduction and spread in the burned area. These weeds have a greater potential for spread in the burned area due to vegetation removal. This would result in degradation of the burned area and adjacent Sage-grouse PPH. Immediate and continued treatment is critical to reducing the potential for this to occur.

Treatment/Activity: *S5 Noxious Weeds*

A. Treatment/Activity Description. *Scotch thistle, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed, and rush skeletonweed are noxious weeds that have potential for introduction and spread in the burned area. Noxious weed inventory and spot herbicide treatment would occur the first year following the fire within the burned area under ES. Noxious weeds would be treated with the BLM-approved chemicals in accordance with the Noxious Weed EA and the 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 used for vegetation treatments using herbicides. Noxious weed control is consistent with policy direction and conservation measures that address stabilization and habitat restoration for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.*

Design features for weed treatments:

Slickspot peppergrass potential habitat

- *Weed treatment staff will be trained to identify slickspots and slickspot peppergrass.*
- *Should slickspots containing slickspot peppergrass (aka, occupied slickspots) be located within the burned area, weed treatment staff will notify the Jarbidge Field Office Botanist to map the population area.*
 - *Within an element occurrence (EO), herbicide application will use only hand sprayers. A 10-foot no-herbicide treatment buffer will be established around occupied slickspots. Within the buffer zone, weeds will be treated using hand-pulling or cutting and bagging.*
 - *Herbicide applications will be implemented in a manner to avoid off-site movement of herbicides either through the air, soil, or along the soil surface. Project site terrain, soil type, and vegetation will be taken into consideration when selecting herbicide type, application method, and application timing. Weed treatments using persistent herbicides will not occur within 150 feet of slickspot peppergrass EOs to avoid potential adverse impacts to the species associated with movement of persistent herbicides into slickspot habitat through wind or water erosion.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? *Disturbance associated with the fire and fire suppression, including use of heavy equipment to create dozer lines, increases the potential for invasion and spread of noxious weeds due to vegetation removal and soil surface disturbance.*

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

The fire burned recovering habitat adjacent the July 2013 Horse Butte 2 Fire. The burned area contains Sage-grouse PPH, slickspot peppergrass habitat, and habitat for sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife and is adjacent to remaining sagebrush communities. The fire burned sagebrush plants within the fire perimeter and likely damaged the seed bank. Therefore, shrub seedling planting using non-ESR funds is proposed to supplement sagebrush seeding to accelerate recovery of sage-grouse PPH.

BLM Sensitive Wildlife

Ferruginous hawks, a Type 3 BLM sensitive species, are known to nest in isolated junipers in the Buck Flat draw. The Buck Flat draw was surveyed for raptors on the 24 and 25 of June, 2013. The fire burned two ferruginous hawk nest trees. In addition, three Swainson's hawk nest trees were also burned. The fire also burned prey habitat for these species.

Brewer's sparrow (Type 3), loggerhead shrike (Type 3), sage sparrow (Type 3), sage thrasher (Type 5), and pygmy rabbits (Type 2) have also been documented to occur in the area. The fire burned habitat for these species.

Treatment Activity: *R4 Seedling Planting*

A. Treatment/Activity Description. **Funding for this treatment would be from non-ES&BAR sources.** *The objective of the seedling planting treatment is to reestablish shrub patches in the interior of the burned area by supplementing seeding and natural recruitment, if necessary. Up to 2,500 containerized or bare-root Wyoming big sagebrush seedlings would be hand planted within the burned area in late fall. If possible, plants would be contract grown using seed collected from a local source. This treatment is consistent with policy direction and conservation measures that address habitat restoration for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.*

Design Features for Shrub Planting:

Shrub seedlings would be planted in patches of about 200-500 plants throughout the burned area. Patches would generally be oriented in a north-south arrangement to facilitate natural dispersal of seed by wind. Shrub seedlings would be spaced no closer than 3 feet from each other, and placed at least 3 feet from existing, live mature or seedling shrubs. Shrubs could be placed less than 3 feet from dead sagebrush for sun and wind protection and to access soil nutrients and mycorrhizal fungi that are associated with areas under sagebrush canopies.

Vehicles would be restricted to existing roads. Planting would not occur within 0.25 mile of livestock water or supplement locations, within 50 feet of any two-track road or fence line, or during saturated soil conditions. Planting would not occur in slickspot microsites, but should occur adjacent to these areas. Under agreement between the Bureau and the State Historic Preservation Officer, cultural resource inventory is not required for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for hand planting projects. However, the Jarbidge Field Office Archeologist would be notified immediately should artifacts be found during

implementation of the planting project. Fuels program specialists would be on-site the first day of planting to provide guidance to the contractor regarding planting restrictions.

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? Most of the burned area was recovering sage-grouse habitat within Sage-grouse PPH and contains slickspot peppergrass potential habitat. Sagebrush recovery can take decades to return to a pre-burn level. The proposed plantings would supplement seeding, if necessary, and provide additional seed sources in the burned area to speed habitat recovery for sage-grouse and other sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife, slickspot peppergrass, and big-game.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? Monitoring of sagebrush plantings in the Jarbidge Field Office following recent fires has determined that these projects are effective in re-establishing scattered shrub patches to assist in natural recruitment and spread. Planting shrubs in patches in locations selected to maximize potential for dispersal reduces the number of seedlings required to cover the burned area. Shrub planting is an accepted conservation measure for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass habitat restoration and consistent with current policy direction for sage-grouse.

BAR Issue 2 - Weed Treatments.

Scotch thistle, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed, and rush skeletonweed are noxious weeds that have potential for introduction and spread in the burned area. These weeds have a greater potential for spread in the burned area due to vegetation removal. This would result in degradation of the burned area and adjacent Sage-grouse PPH. Immediate and continued treatment is critical to reducing the potential for this to occur.

Treatment/Activity: *R5 Noxious Weeds*

A. Treatment/Activity Description. Scotch thistle, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed, and rush skeletonweed are noxious weeds that have potential for introduction and spread in the burned area. Noxious weed inventory and spot herbicide treatment would occur the second and third years following the fire within the burned area under BAR. Noxious weeds would be treated with the BLM-approved chemicals in accordance with the Noxious Weed EA and the 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 used for vegetation treatments using herbicides. Noxious weed treatment is consistent with policy direction and conservation measures that address habitat restoration for sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass.

Design features for weed treatments:

Slickspot peppergrass potential habitat

- *Weed treatment staff will be trained to identify slickspots and slickspot peppergrass.*
- *Should slickspots containing slickspot peppergrass (aka, occupied slickspots) be located within the burned area, weed treatment staff will notify the Jarbidge Field Office Botanist to map the population area.*
 - *Within an element occurrence (EO), herbicide application will use only hand sprayers. A 10-foot no-herbicide treatment buffer will be established around occupied slickspots. Within the buffer zone, weeds will be treated using hand-pulling or cutting and bagging.*
 - *Herbicide applications will be implemented in a manner to avoid off-site movement of herbicides either through the air, soil, or along the soil surface. Project site terrain, soil type, and vegetation will be taken into consideration when selecting herbicide type, application method, and application timing. Weed treatments using persistent herbicides will not occur within 150 feet of slickspot peppergrass EOs to avoid potential adverse impacts to the species associated with movement of persistent herbicides into slickspot habitat through wind or water erosion.*

B. How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire? Disturbance associated with the fire and fire suppression, including use of heavy equipment to create dozer lines, increases the potential for invasion and spread of noxious weeds due to vegetation removal and soil surface disturbance. Potential for invasion and spread of noxious weeds remains high in years immediately following fire during vegetation recovery.

C. Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective? 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 noxious weed treatments for cost efficiency.

BAR Issue 3 - Tree Planting. *N/A*

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

PART 3 – DETAILED TREATMENT COST TABLE

Emergency Stabilization		Units	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	Total Costs
S1	Planning (Plan Prep/Project Mangt)						
	Project Management Field Office	WM's		3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
	Total			3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
S3	Aerial Seeding						
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		500			500
	Contract	Total		3,000			3,000
	Contract Administration	WM's		2,000			2,000
	Seed	Total	12,500				12,500
	Total		12,500	5,500	0	0	18,000
S5	Noxious Weeds						
	Labor	Acres		3,000			3,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		500			500
	Supplies/Materials	Total		500			500
	Total			4,000	0	0	4,000
S13	Monitoring						
	Labor	WM's		3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
	Total			4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
	EMERGENCY STABILIZATION TOTALS		\$12,500	\$16,500	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$43,000

Rehabilitation		Units	FY14	FY15	FY16	Total Costs
R1	Planning (Plan Prep/Project Mangt)					
	Project Management Field Office	WM's		2,000	2,000	4,000
	Total		0	2,000	2,000	4,000
R5	Noxious Weeds					
	Labor	WM's		3,000	3,000	6,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total		500	500	1,000
	Supplies/Materials	Total		500	500	1,000
	Total		0	4,000	4,000	8,000
	BURNED AREA REHABILITATION TOTALS		\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$12,000

R4	Seedling Planting (Shrub/Tree)					
	Seedling Cost	Total	3,000			3,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total	500			500
	Contract	Total	3,500			3,500
	Contract Administration	WM's	2,000			2,000
	OTHER FUNDED TOTALS		9,000	0	0	9,000

PART 4 – SEED LISTS

	% PLS	Seeds/lb. (bulk)	Total Seeds/Acre (bulk)	PLS Seeds/ac.	PLS Seeds/sq. ft.	Aerial Seeding (acres)	Lbs/Acre	Total Pounds	Cost per lb	Total Costs
Species										
Wyoming Sage	0.12	2,500,000	2,500,000	300,000	6.89	534	1.0	520	24.00	12,480.00
TOTALS					6.89		1.0	520		12,480.00

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 is adapted to the ecological site within the proposed seeding area. Selection of all native plant materials is based on analysis contained in the Boise District Office and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan (NFRP) and Environmental Assessment (EA, #ID-090-2004-050), species specific information contained in technical references (USDA 2004), and the Twin Falls District Instruction Memorandum No. ID200-2008-003 for Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development. The native taxon selected from the low-elevation zone (8-10” average annual precipitation) species list contained in the Twin Falls District IM. These lists were developed utilizing field experience within the Twin Falls District management area. This species has been successfully utilized in similar ecological sites within the Jarbidge Field Office area for at least 20 years.*

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

Yes Rationale: *The proposed native seed is generally available in the required quantities. The aerial seeding treatment would not occur until winter 2013/2014, which should allow seed quantities to increase following this year’s collection.*

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 utilized extensively in recent years for stabilization, rehabilitation, and restoration projects. The proposed aerial seed area contains habitat for several special status species, including sage-grouse and other sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife, and slickspot peppergrass. The seeding treatment is designed specifically to address current policy direction and*

conservation measures for stabilization and restoration of sage-grouse and slickspot peppergrass habitats.

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 was selected from the low-elevation (8-10 inches average annual precipitation) 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 proposed seeding area will receive rest from livestock grazing until monitoring shows that ES&BAR objectives have been met. The current livestock management system should maintain the plant community over the long term. This would be consistent with meeting Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and requirements of current court orders.*

B. Proposed Non-native Plants in Seed Mixture (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?

N/A 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?

N/A Rationale:

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

N/A Rationale:

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

Native	Non-native
Wyoming Big Sagebrush <i>Artemisia tridentata</i> ssp. <i>wyomingensis</i>	

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
S3	Aerial Seeding	Acres	534		80
S5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	534		90
S12	Closures (OHV, livestock, area)	#	1		100
TOTAL COSTS:					

Action/ Spec. #	Planned BAR Action (LF3200000)	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
R4	Shrub Planting	#	2,500		75
R5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	500		90
R12	Closures (OHV, livestock, area)	#	1		100
TOTAL COSTS:					

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 treatment would reestablish sagebrush plant communities in some of the most important sage-grouse habitat in the Jarbidge Field Office. Noxious weed treatments would further protect the burned area and adjacent key sage-grouse habitat against degradation due to noxious weed expansion.*

No Action No Rationale for answer: *Habitat within and adjacent to the burned area for sage-grouse, other sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife, and slickspot peppergrass would be compromised if treatment did not occur.*

Alternative(s) 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 observations of sagebrush seedlings and recent weed control efforts in similar soils and precipitation zones indicate that success would be high. While exact establishment rates are difficult to quantify, sagebrush establishment from seeding occurs in at least 80% of seeding attempts. This has been particularly apparent in seeding efforts following recent large fires such as the 2005 Clover Fire, 2007 Murphy Complex, and 2010 Long Butte Fire. Due to large fire size, sagebrush was seeded in strips; these strips are now highly visible where seeded. Normal climatic conditions will increase the potential for success.*

No Action No Rationale for answer: *Lack of seeding treatment would result in little or no sagebrush recovery. This would result in loss of functional habitat for sage-grouse and other sagebrush-steppe obligate species. The proposed treatment areas have potential for introduction and spread of noxious weeds and invasive plants. There is also high potential for spread of noxious weeds into adjacent unburned areas. Lack of treatment would also result in long-term habitat degradation.*

Alternative(s) 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: *The proposed action is the approach most likely to reduce the potential for degradation of habitat for sage-grouse and other sagebrush-steppe obligate wildlife and slickspot peppergrass within and adjacent to the burned area.*

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

Treatment/Activity: *S3 Aerial Seeding*

- 1) Treatment Objectives: *The objective of the seeding treatment is to establish sagebrush within 3 years. The following shrub density objectives are based on ecological site potential.*

The aerial sagebrush seed treatment would be considered effective if:

- *Sagebrush seedlings average 0.10 seedlings per square meter across all density plots; or*
- *In qualitative surveys seedlings 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 areas would include field observations, photo plots, and density plot methods. Plots would be randomly established in treated area. Effectiveness monitoring of the aerial seedings would be done for a period of three growing seasons.*

Treatment/Activity: *R4 Seedling Planting*

- 1) Treatment Objectives: *The objective of the seedling planting treatment is to re-establish sagebrush cover within the burned area. The seedling planting treatment would be considered successful if the planted sagebrush seedlings have survival rates of:*

- 1) *40% or greater – fully successful*
- 2) *20-40% -- partially successful*
- 3) *<20% -- poor survival or a failure.*

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 plantings would include field observations, photo plots, and belt transects. Belt transects would record presence/absence and survival. Transects would be randomly established in the treated area.*

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

1) Treatment Objectives: *Scotch thistle, Canada thistle, diffuse knapweed, and rush skeletonweed are noxious weeds that have potential for introduction and spread in the burned area. It is expected that these weeds could expand their range as a result of the fire. Since these weeds 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 burned 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: *Locations of noxious weed populations (by species), treatment type, and the amount of herbicide used would be documented using GPS and GIS.*

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 1, 2, and 3 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: *S12/R12 Livestock Closure*

1) Treatment Objectives: *Exclusion of livestock is critical for vegetation recovery. The burned area would be closed to promote natural recovery and sagebrush establishment until monitoring results, documented in writing, show that ES&BAR objectives 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). Rest would be accomplished through pasture closure. Closure of the burned area would be documented through annual grazing agreements.*

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: *Resumption of livestock grazing would ultimately depend on monitoring and meeting of natural recovery objectives. 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 burned area would be considered recovered and available for grazing when:

- *Recovered herbaceous vegetation is providing sufficient ground cover to protect the site from accelerated erosion and expansion/conversion to annual grasses and noxious weeds. The amount of bare mineral soil (lacking cover of plants, litter, or biological soil crust) is within 10% of what would be expected for early seral stages of the ecological sites found within the burned area. Recommended study methods include line-point intercept or step point cover methods and photo points.*
- *A qualitative visual assessment of the following would also be considered:*
 - *Plant vigor (perennial plants)*
 - *Precipitation information during the non-growing (winter) and growing (spring through early summer) seasons*
 - *Competition with invasive annual plants and noxious weed species*
 - *Seed production*
- *An evaluation of collected monitoring data is completed documenting that reintroducing grazing to the area would not cause a downward trend in vegetation recovery.*

References

Soil Survey Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture. (2008). *Soil Survey Geographic (SSURGO) Database for portions of Elmore, Owyhee, and Twin Falls counties, Idaho*. Available online at <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov>. Accessed July 19, 2013.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. (2004). *Restoring western ranges and wildlands* (General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-136). Fort Collins, CO: Rocky Mountain Research Station.

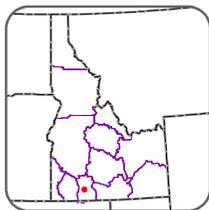
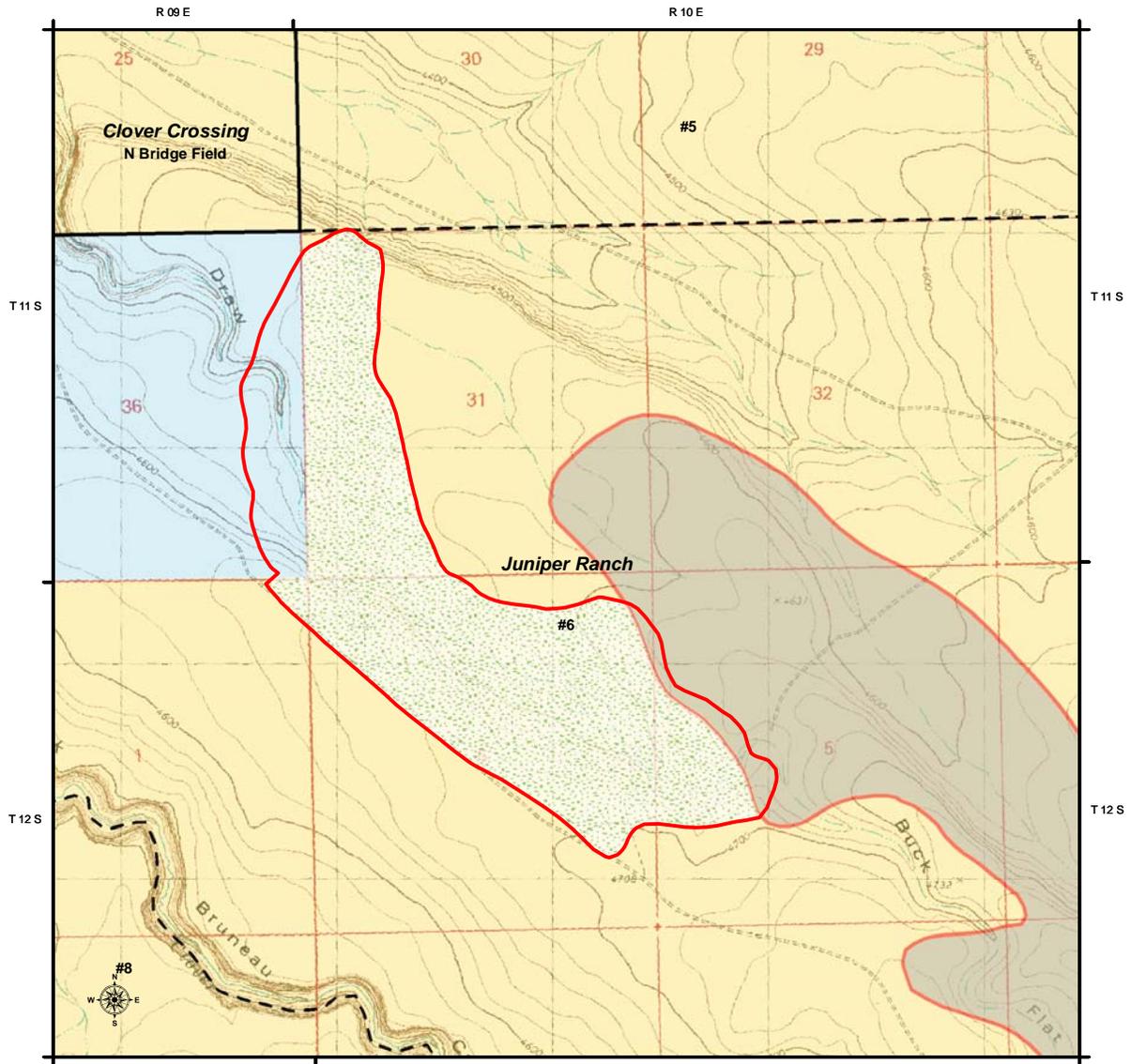
U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management. (2005). *Boise District Office and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Rehabilitation Plan and Environmental Assessment*. Twin Falls, ID: Twin Falls District Office.

U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management. (2008). *Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Seed Mixture Development Instruction Memorandum No. ID200-2008-003*. Twin Falls, ID: Twin Falls District Office.

PART 8 - MAPS

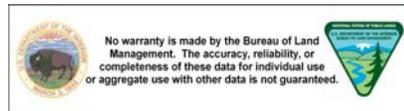
1. Fire Perimeter, Land Status, and Proposed Aerial Sagebrush Seeding
2. Sage-grouse Habitat in the Burned Area
3. Slickspot Peppergrass Potential Habitat in the Burned Area

Map 1. Buck Flat Fire (HS95) - Fire Perimeter, Land Status, and Proposed Aerial Sagebrush Seeding Treatment Area



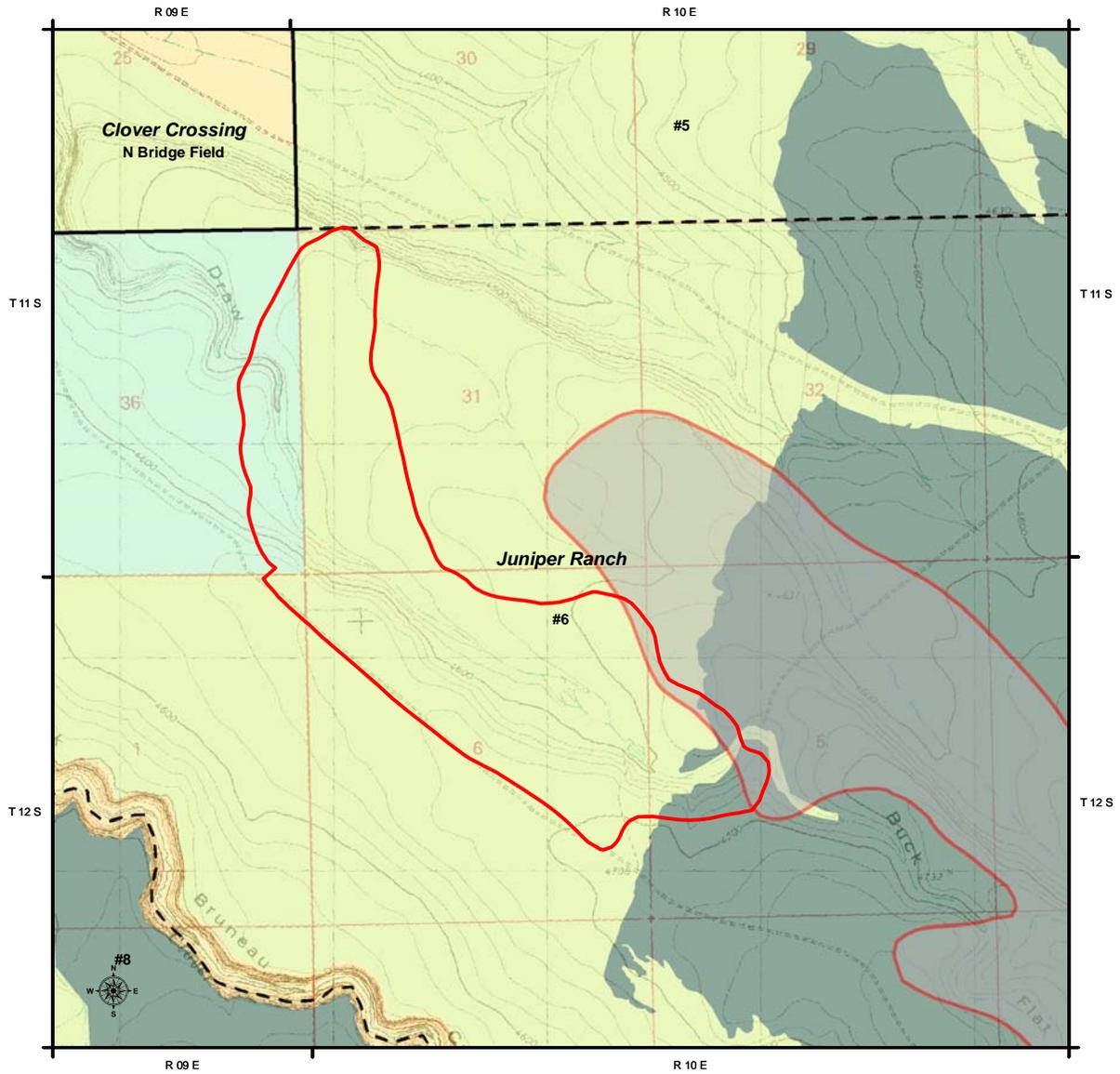
US Depart. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Twin Falls District, Idaho

- Buck Flat Fire Perimeter
 - Horse Butte 2 Fire perimeter
 - Aerial Sagebrush Seeding (534 acres)
 - Range Allotment
 - Pasture
- Land Ownership**
- Bureau of Land Management
 - State



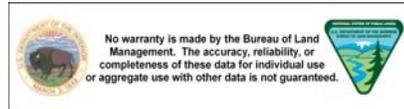
Map Created on August 9, 2013
Map created by: BLM, Jarbidge Field Office
Datum: NAD 1983
Projection: UTM Zone 11N

Map 2. Buck Flat Fire (HS95) - Sage-grouse Habitat



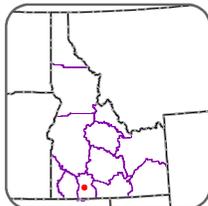
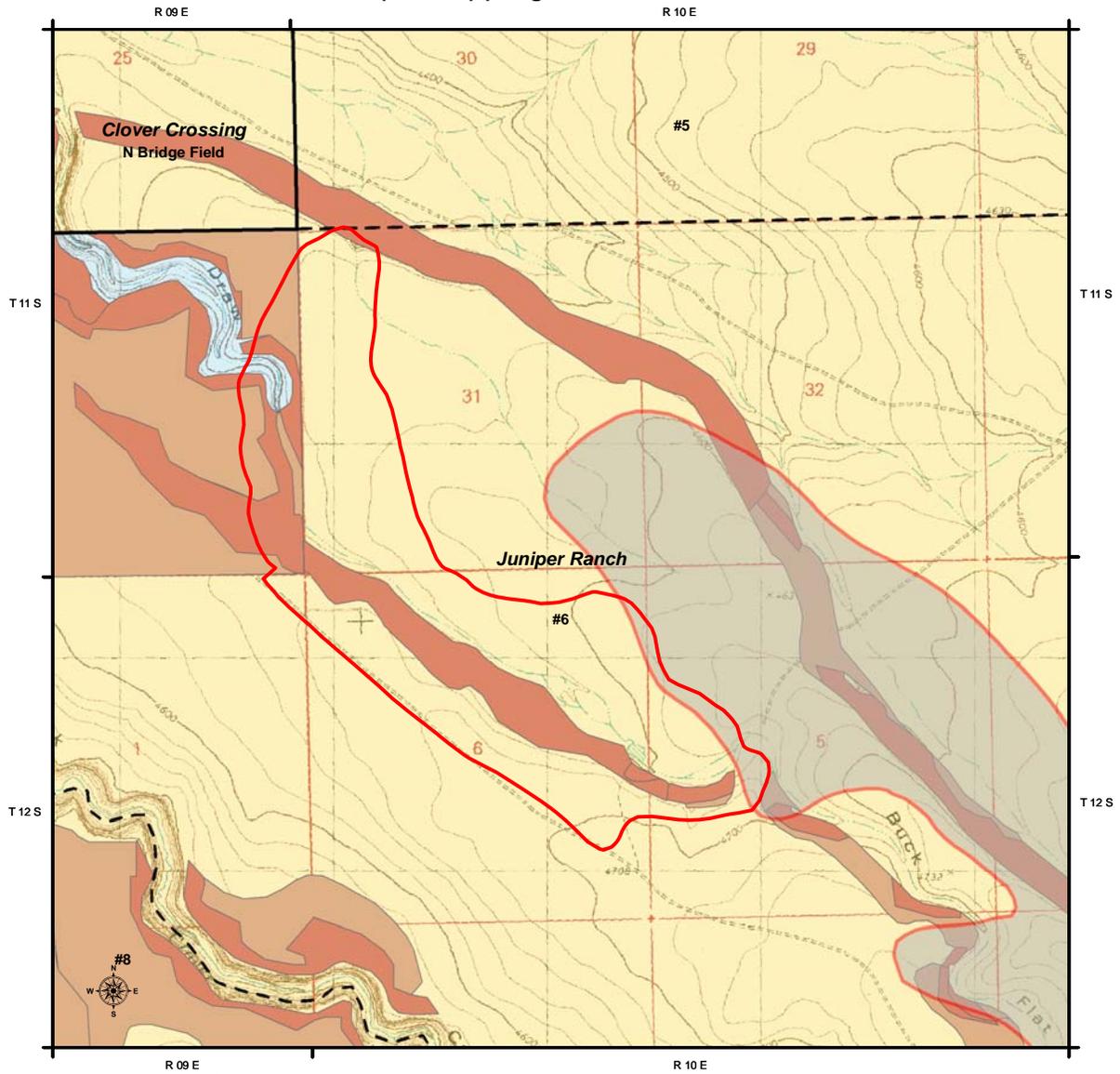
US Dept. of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Twin Falls District, Idaho

- Buck Flat Fire Perimeter
- Horse Butte 2 Fire perimeter
- Idaho Sage-grouse Preliminary Priority Habitat**
- Sagebrush
- Perennial grassland



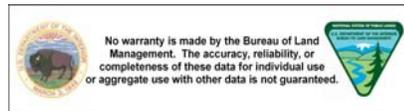
Map Created on August 9, 2013
Map created by: BLM, Jaridge Field Office
Datum: NAD 1983
Projection: UTM Zone 11N

Map 3. Buck Flat Fire (HS95) - Slickspot Peppergrass Potential Habitat



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

- Buck Flat Fire Perimeter
- Horse Butte 2 Fire perimeter
- Slickspot peppergrass potential to occur
 - High Potential Habitat
 - Low Potential Habitat
 - Medium Potential Habitat



Map Created on August 9, 2013
Map created by: BLM, Jarbridge Field Office
Datum: NAD 1983
Projection: UTM Zone 11N

PART 9 – REVIEW, APPROVALS, and PREPARERS

TEAM MEMBERS

Position	Team Member (Agency/Office)	Initial and Date
Team Leader/Fire Ecologist	Julie Hilty (BLM, Jarbidge FO)	JH 8/9/2013
Operations	Scott Uhrig (BLM, Twin Falls DO)	SU 8/11/2013
NEPA Compliance & Planning	Krystle Pehrson (BLM, Jarbidge FO)	KP 08/12/2013
Cultural Resources/Archeologist	Jeff Ross (BLM, Jarbidge FO)	JR 8/9/2013
Rangeland Mgt. Specialist	Dan Strickler (BLM, Jarbidge FO)	DS 8/13/2013
Wildlife Biologist	Jim Klott (BLM, Jarbidge FO)	JK 8/12/2013

PLAN APPROVAL

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



Brian W. Davis
Jarbidge Field Manager

8/22/13

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.