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

Pagari Fire

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

FIRE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Fire Name	Pagari
Fire Number	H7DB
District/Field Office	Twin Falls/Shoshone
Admin Number	LLIDT03000
State	Idaho
County(s)	Lincoln
Ignition Date/Cause	7-5-2014/Human
Date Contained	7-6-2014

Jurisdiction	**Acres**
BLM	4,372
State	639
Private	0
Other	0

Total Acres	5,011
Total Costs	$101,000
Costs to LF2200000	$0
Costs to LF3200000	$101,000

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 Pagari fire started as a human start along the north side of State Highway 93, approximately 5 miles east of Richfield, Idaho. The fire jumped the highway to the south and burned across the Little Wood River and proceeded into the Wildhorse grazing allotment. The Wildhorse and Pagari grazing allotments were ultimately affected. The fire burned a total of 5,011 acres in Lincoln County. Of those acres that burned 4,372 were on BLM administered land and 639 acres on Idaho State land.

The fire burned in low-elevation basin big and Wyoming big sagebrush potential habitat. The burn area provided year round habitat for sage grouse and winter range for mule deer and pronghorn. Fire intensities were moderate to high over most of the burn area. The fire burned approximately 3,828 acres of sage-grouse Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH).

Fire intensities were highest along the Little Wood River riparian habitats. River birch (*Betula occidentalis*) was the dominant tree species negatively affected by the fire (see photo below). Based on the high severity, the river birch community is not expected to fully recover without planting intervention. The likelihood of survival and post fire sprouting appears to decrease with increasing fire severity (Gucker, 2012).

River Birch and High Fire Intensity

The Wildhorse and Pagari allotments have a long history of large wildfires. The Pagari area has burned in the past, most recently in the 2006 Richfield South fire. The Wildhorse and Pagari grazing allotments have been treated by seeding but the area is extremely vulnerable to noxious weed expansion.

The fire burned within the Pagari, Wildhorse, Richfield, and Riverwood allotments. The primary grazing loss impact will be to the Pagari and Wildhorse allotments. The loss of AUM's due to the fire would affect the Pagari grazing allotment. Approximately 200 AUM's may not be available in the spring for recovery of burned vegetation. The overall Wildhorse sheep allotment AUM's will not be affected, but sheep trailing across the burn would be affected (See Table 1).

Table 1-Grazing Allotment Acres and AUM's

Allotment	Acres Burned	Acres Unavailable	AUM's Unavailable
Pagari	2,138	2,138	200 (Spring 2015)
Wildhorse	2,117	2,117	0 (No Trailing)
Richfield	53	0	0
Riverwood	64	0	0

LAND USE PLAN CONSISTENCY
The following treatments are proposed under this ES and BAR plan.

Emergency Stabilization
S12 Livestock Closure

Burned Area Rehabilitation
R1 Planning (Project Management)
R4 Seedling Planting
R5 Weed Control
R7 Fence/Gate/Cattleguard
R13 Monitoring

The applicable land use plan for the ES and BAR project area is the 1985 Monument Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The Monument RMP states that lands administered by the BLM in this area will be managed in order to:

1) Maintain or improve wildlife habitat for crucial mule deer winter range;
2) Improve poor or fair condition rangeland;
3) Maintain, improve, protect, and restore watershed conditions; and
4) Control the spread of noxious weeds on public lands and eradicate them where possible and economically feasible.

The project is also in conformance with the analysis of Alternative E, the selected alternative, in the 2008 Final Fire, Fuels and Related Vegetation Management Direction Plan Amendment (FMDA) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Final FMDA/EIS amends all Land Use Plans for the Shoshone Field Office except the Craters Management Plan, to provide direction and guidance for fire/fuels and related vegetation management.

The treatments outlined in this plan are also consistent with the treatments analyzed in the 2013 Twin Falls District Programmatic Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan and EA (#DOI-BLM-ID-T000-2011-0001-EA).

COST SUMMARY TABLES

Emergency Stabilization (LF2200000):

Action/ Spec. #	Planned Action	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	FY15	FY16	FY17	Totals by Spec.
S12	**Closures (area, OHV, livestock)**	**No.**	1	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
	TOTAL COSTS (LF2200000)				**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Burned Area Rehabilitation (LF3200000):

Action/ Spec. #	Planned Action	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Unit Cost (If Applicable)	FY15	FY16	FY17	Totals by Spec.
R1	**Planning (Project Mgmt.)**	**WM's**	1	$3,000	$3,000	$3,000	$3,000	$9,000
R4	**Seedling Planting**	**#**	1,000	$5.00	$5,000	$0	$0	$5,000
R5	**Noxious Weeds**	**Acres**	4,372	$3.66	$16,000	$16,000	$16,000	$48,000
R7	**Fence/Gate/Cattleguard**	**Miles**	7.0	$4,714.29	$33,000	$0	$0	$33,000
R13	**Monitoring**	**Acres**	4,372	$0.46	$2,000	$2,000	$2,000	$6,000
	TOTAL COSTS (LF3200000)				**$59,000**	**$21,000**	**$21,000**	**$101,000**
	OTHER FUND CODE TOTALS:							

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.

Livestock Closure

The Pagari fire completely removed vegetation cover and negatively impacted forage resources. The Pagari burn area would be rested from livestock grazing until monitoring shows that rehabilitation and vegetation recovery objectives have been met. This rest would provide the opportunity for existing vegetation resources to stabilize the burn area. The burn area affected the Wildhorse and Pagari grazing allotments.

Treatment/Activity: S12 Livestock Closure

A. *Treatment Activity Description.* The Pagari burn area would be rested from livestock grazing until monitoring shows that ES/BAR rehabilitation objectives have been met.

B. *How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?* The purpose of this treatment is to rest the burn area from livestock grazing to provide the opportunity for existing vegetation resources to stabilize the burn area.

C. *Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?* No costs under ES are associated with the livestock closures.

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

See BAR Issue 2/Weed Treatments/Wildlife Habitat discussion.

ES Issue 4 – Critical Heritage Resources.

Not Applicable.

ES Issue 5 – Invasive Plants and Weeds.

See BAR Issue 2/Weed Treatments/Noxious Weeds and Fire Intensity and Vegetation discussion.

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.

Not Applicable.

BAR Issue 2 – Weed Treatments.

The following is a list of common pre-burn vegetation in order of dominance. 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 area not previously treated and in poor to fair ecological condition.

Common Rangeland Pre-burn Vegetation in Order of Dominance:
Crested Wheatgrass, *Agropyron cristatum*
Sandberg bluegrass, *Poa secunda*
Cheatgrass, *Bromus tectorum*
Bottlebrush Squirreltail, *Elymus elymoides*
Indian Ricegrass, *Achnatherum hymenoides*
Needle and Thread, *Hesperostipa comata*
Rush skeletonweed, *Chondrilla juncea*

Diffuse knapweed, *Centuara diffusa*
Russian knapweed, *Acroptilon repens*
Leafy Spurge, *Euphorbia esula*
Wyoming Big sagebrush, *Artemisia tridentata ssp. wyomingensis*
Basin Big Sagebrush, *Artemisia tridentata ssp. tridentata*

Ecological Site(s):
Sandy 8-10 Basin Big/Wyoming Big Sagebrush/Indian Ricegrass

Soil-vegetation correlation information indicates that the burn area is located primarily on a sandy 8-10" basin big sagebrush/Indian ricegrass ecological site. The potential natural plant communities on these sites would be comprised of a big sagebrush shrub overstory with principal understory plants dominated by needle and thread grass and Indian ricegrass.

Fire Intensity and Vegetation

The majority of the fire was characterized by moderate to high fire intensity. Vegetation across the burn area was composed of perennial grass and forb seedings, annual invasive vegetation, noxious weeds, and scattered native perennial grasses and forbs. Areas with an overstory of sagebrush and habitat along the Little Wood River had higher intensities. The higher intensity burn areas removed most of the plant cover and have exposed soils to accelerated soil erosion. The burn area is a major concern due to wind erosion and the expansion of annual invasive vegetation and noxious weeds.

Noxious Weeds

Rush skeletonweed, diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, and leafy spurge are the primary noxious weeds of concern with high potential to increase within and outside the burned area to adjacent rangeland. These weeds were documented during the fire reconnaissance surveys. The entire burn area is dominated by rush skeletonweed with occurrences of diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed and leafy spurge along the Little Wood River. Control of invasive plants and noxious weeds would reduce the competition with existing native perennial vegetation (USDA FS 2004).

The expected outcome of the proposed weed treatment is a significant reduction in invasive annual plants and noxious weeds. This reduction in annual invasive plants and noxious weeds will allow existing native perennials to establish a competitive edge against future invasive plant and noxious weed invasions (USDA FS 2004). Fire frequency would decrease with a reduction in invasive plants and noxious weeds. Proposed sagebrush plantings would provide further long term competition against noxious weeds (USDA FS 2004).

Wildlife Habitat

A portion (3,828 acres) of the Pagari fire is within sage grouse PPH. Noxious weeds are common across the burn area and are expected to negatively impact sage grouse habitat. Noxious weeds are also expected to negatively affect big game habitat. Rush skeletonweed is the primary

noxious weed of concern because of its ability to increase and expand its range across large landscapes, especially after fire (Jacobs 2009 and Kinter 2007). Due to the wildfire impacts and noxious weed infestation, current conditions are not optimum for sage grouse or big game habitat. Habitat conditions within and outside the burn area are expected to further decline unless a treatment of noxious weeds is implemented.

Spot herbicide spraying and biological control would be proposed under rehabilitation to suppress the further expansion of these weeds. Helicopter survey of the burn area for leafy spurge control would also be conducted. This aerial survey and treatment for leafy spurge would be coordinated with the yearly control effort that occurs in the same area.

The proposed treatments will be implemented over the next three growing seasons. Without noxious weed control treatments, noxious weeds will significantly increase negatively affecting sage grouse PPH, big game habitat and livestock forage capabilities. If an emergency treatment is not implemented the economic impact to natural resources and the local economy will be significant. The costs to suppress noxious weeds after a significant expansion has occurred increases exponentially.

Climate Change

A primary objective of ES and BAR is to restore structure and function to fire damaged ecosystems. Carbon sequestration is one of many ecological functions provided by healthy diverse plant communities.

Left untreated, the burned area would become dominated by invasive annuals and noxious weeds. The minimal root systems of these annuals accumulate little if any organic matter into the soil profile. Additionally, their flammability substantially increases fire frequency, thereby moving carbon from the soil profile into the atmosphere.

Conversely, reestablishing perennial vegetation through natural recovery and noxious weed treatments within the burned area will have a positive benefit to climate change by the ability of these plants to sequester carbon. Deep rooted grasses in particular contribute substantial organic material into the soil profile both from their extensive root systems and recycle approximately ½ of their root mass annually, thereby moving carbon from the atmosphere into the soil profile, providing long term carbon storage.

Treatment Activity: R5 Noxious Weeds

A. *Treatment/Activity Description.* Noxious weed inventory and control within the burned area would be done for three years after the fire to directly treat the expected weeds. All actions would be in accordance with the Shoshone District Noxious Weed Management Plan, Environmental Assessment #ID050-EA-92031. Diffuse knapweed, rush skeletonweed, Russian knapweed and leafy spurge are the primary noxious weeds targeted.

   In addition to the noxious weed control efforts, fall hand planting of big sagebrush would be implemented with non-ESR funding.

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 on the burned area. In addition, biological control agents for knapweed and rush skeletonweed would be utilized in areas not easily accessible to spraying equipment (rocky outcrops). Noxious weed infestations are present in the burn area and are expected to increase due to the removal of existing plant cover by the wildfire. Noxious weed control would be conducted for three years under BAR.
C. *Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?* Weed treatments in this Field Office typically run about $3.21 per acre. Field work would be combined with other weed treatments in the area for cost efficiency. The proposed treatment is consistent with current policy for fuels management and sage-grouse habitat management.

BAR Issue 3 – Tree Planting.

Little Wood River Riparian Habitat

Fire intensities were high along riparian habitats (1.8 miles) of the Little Wood River. Predicted mortality of mature river birch (*Betula occidentalis*) is high. The river birch community along this section of the Little Wood River is important to wildlife and fisheries habitat.

Treatment Activity: R4 Seedling Planting

A. *Treatment/Activity Description.* Planting of one year old, 10 cubic inch, containerized river birch seedlings are proposed to supplement recovery. The seedlings would be grown from locally collected seed. The planting would occur in the fall of 2015.

B. *How does the treatment relate to damage or changes caused by the fire?* Mortality of mature river birch along the Little Wood River is high. The recovery of the species in this portion of the river due to the fire is expected to be low. Planting of a local source of river birch would ensure and speed recovery.

C. *Why is the treatment/activity reasonable, within policy, and cost effective?* Recovery of the river birch community is not expected to occur without intervention. Planting seedlings from local stock will ensure long term recovery of the birch community. Proactive plantings of birch have occurred within the last 3 years along the Little Wood River and have documented success.

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

Livestock Management Fences

Approximately 7.0 miles of BLM fences was damaged or destroyed by the fire. Primary damage occurred along the Little Wood River riparian exclosure and the pasture fences in Pagari, Wildhorse and Richfield allotments. Damaged wire, corners and braces would be repaired or replaced. The repairs would be needed to maintain the integrity of the grazing systems and keep

adjacent livestock grazing from entering the burn area during the rest period.

R7 Fence/Gate/Cattleguard

A. *Treatment/Activity Description.* The objective of this treatment is to repair or replace approximately 7.0 miles of BLM livestock management 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 system. 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 construction of new fence. Damaged wood stretch points and corners would be replaced with galvanized steel pipe thus increasing the longevity of the structures and would be resistant to future wildfire damages.

PART 3 – DETAILED TREATMENT COST TABLES

Pagari H7DB- Burned Area Rehabilitation		Units	FY15	FY16	FY17	Total Costs
R1	***Planning (Plan Prep/Project Mgmt.)***					
	Project Management Field Office	WM's	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
	Total		3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
R4	***Seedling Planting***					
	Travel/Vehicles	Total #	1,000	0	0	1,000
	Seedling Cost	Total #	1,000	0	0	1,000
	Contract	Acres	3,000	0	0	3,000
	Total		5,000	0	0	5,000
R5	***Noxious Weeds***					
	Labor	WM's	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
	Supplies/Materials	Total	3,000	3,000	3,000	9,000
	Contract (helicopter spurge)	Total	8,000	8,000	8,000	24,000
	Total		16,000	16,000	16,000	48,000
R7	***Fence/Gate./Cattleguard***					
	Fence Material	Total	12,000	0	0	12,000
	Travel/Vehicles	Total	3,000	0	0	3,000
	Contract	Total	18,000	0	0	18,000
	Total		33,000	0	0	33,000
R13	***Monitoring***					
	Labor	WM's	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
	Total		2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
	BURNED AREA REHABILITATION TOTALS		$59,000	$21,000	$21,000	$101,000

PART 4 – SEED LISTS

Not applicable.

PART 5 – NATIVE/NON-NATIVE PLANT WORKSHEET

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

PART 6–COST-RISK ANALYSIS

C. Probability of Treatments Successfully Meeting Objectives

Action/ Spec. #	Planned ES Action (LF20000ES)	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
S12	Closures (OHV, livestock, area)	#	1	$0	100
			TOTAL COSTS:	$0	

Action/ Spec. #	Planned BAR Action (LF32000BR)	Unit (acres, WMs, number)	# Units	Total Cost	% Probability of Success
R4	Seedling Planting	#	1,000	$5,000	90
R5	Noxious Weeds	Acres	4,372	$48,000	90
R7	Fence, Gate, Cattleguard	Miles	7.0	$33,000	100
R13	Monitoring	Acres	4,372	$6,000	100
			TOTAL COSTS:	$92,000	

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 |_X_| No |__| Rationale for answer: The weed control treatments would reduce noxious weeds and would allow the existing perennial plant community to effectively compete against annual invasive plants and noxious weeds. The weed control treatments would protect the burn area and adjacent BLM lands against further expansion of annual invasive plants and noxious weeds. Sagebrush planting would provide further competition against noxious weeds (Jacobs 2009). Rehabilitation of riparian habitat by planting river birch seedlings will ensure recovery.
No Action: Yes |__| No |_X_| Rationale for answer: Wildlife and fisheries habitat and sage grouse PPH on adjacent unburned lands would continue to be compromised with the continual source and expansion of noxious weeds.
Alternative(s): Yes |__| No |_X_| 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 |_X_| No |__| Rationale for answer: Monitoring and observations of recent weed control efforts in similar soils and precipitation zones indicate that success would be high (Clover/FK04/2010 and Dead Horse/F9FT/2011 fire monitoring reports). Normal climatic conditions, the use of competitive adapted species, 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 treatment success.
No Action: Yes |__| No |_X_| Rationale for answer: The burned area has a high potential for expansion of invasive plants and noxious weeds. There is also high potential for invasion of noxious weeds into adjacent unburned areas.
Alternative(s): Yes |__| No |_X_| 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_|,
No Action: |__|
Alternative(s): |__|,
Comments: None

D. 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 ESR 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 ESR 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: S12 Livestock Closure

1) Treatment Objectives: Exclusion of livestock is critical for the recovery of burned vegetation. The burn area would be closed to livestock grazing to promote recovery of burned vegetation as specified in the 2013 Twin Falls District Programmatic Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan and EA (#ID-T000-2011-EA).

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: Resumption of livestock grazing would ultimately depend on monitoring and meeting of natural vegetation 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 burn area to livestock would be the responsibility of an interdisciplinary team.

Implementation is monitored through rangeland management administration. A grazing decision or agreement would be issued closing the burn area to livestock grazing.

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

Natural recovery areas 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 the site. 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.

Treatment/Activity: R4 Seedling Planting

1) Treatment Objectives: The objective of this treatment is to rehabilitate and reestablish river birch along the Little Wood River to speed the recovery of the riparian plant community.

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: Monitoring will be implemented the spring and summer following the fall of 2015 planting. Belt transects will be established to determine success.

Treatment/Activity: R5 Noxious Weed Treatments

1) Treatment Objectives: Rush skeletonweed, diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, and leafy spurge are the primary weeds of concern in the burn area. It is expected that these weeds would 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 and treat any noxious weeds discovered on the burn area.

The objective for the second and third years is to decrease the acreage needing treatment as determined by the first year inventory.

In addition, biological control agents for rush skeletonweed and diffuse knapweed would be utilized in areas not easily accessible to spraying equipment (rocky outcrops).

2) Describe how implementation will be monitored: During the first growing season treatment, a detailed map of location, weeds sprayed, and the amount of herbicide utilized would be documented. 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: At the end of three years of treatment, the herbicide spray and monitoring data would be summarized. If further treatment is required beyond the third year then the responsibility for treatment would be forwarded to the Twin Falls District normal weed spraying program.

Treatment Activity: R7 Fence/Gate/Cattleguard

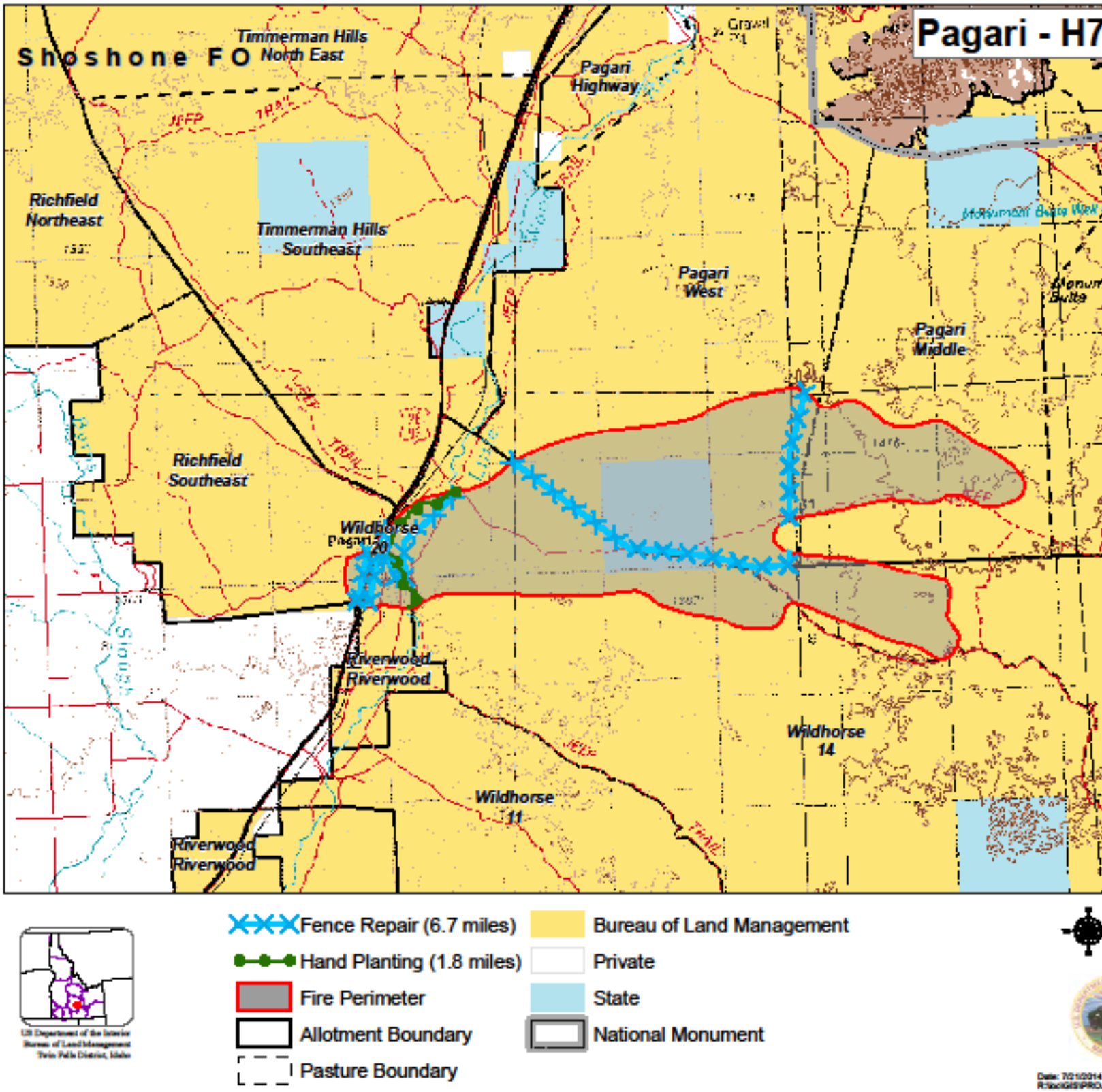
1) Treatment Objectives: The objective of this treatment is to repair or replace approximately 7.0 miles of BLM livestock management fence damaged by the fire. Damaged wood corners and braces would be replaced with galvanized steel posts. Damaged wire would also be repaired. The management fences would be constructed to BLM fence standards.

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 will be monitored through contract administration. Repairs will be documented in a project file "as built" and filed in the project file. Repairs will be completed within the first year of the fire.

PART 8 - MAPS

1. Fire Perimeter/Colored Land Status Map
2. Sage Grouse PPH Map
3. Fire Frequency Map



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PART 9 – REVIEW, APPROVALS, and PREPARERS

TEAM MEMBERS

Position	Team Member (Agency/Office)	Initial and Date
Team Leader	Joe Russell (BLM, Shoshone FO)	JR 7/14/14
Operations	Scott Uhrig (BLM, Twin Falls DO)	SU 7/14/14
NEPA Compliance & Planning	Lisa Cresswell (BLM, Shoshone FO)	LC 7/16/14
Botanist	Danelle Nance (BLM, Shoshone FO)	DN 7/16/14
Cultural Resources/Archeologist	Lisa Cresswell (BLM, Shoshone FO)	LC 7/16/14
Rangeland Mgt. Specialist	Dan Patten (BLM, Shoshone Field FO)	DP 7/14/14
Wildlife Biologist	Tara Barrier (BLM, Shoshone FO)	TB 7/16/14
GIS Specialist	Cassie Mavencamp (BLM, Shoshone FO)	CM 7/16/14

PLAN APPROVAL

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

Beth Maclean 7/16/14

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.