

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

**Full Force and Effect
Decision Record
For the
Big Draw Fire (FP9M) Sagebrush Planting Project
NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T010-2012-0005-DNA**

I. DECISION

I have decided to implement the Big Draw Fire Sagebrush Planting Project. This project will supplement treatments described in the Big Draw Fire (FP9M) Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) Plan (NEPA No. DOI-BLM-ID-T010-2010-0010-DNA). I have reviewed the proposed action for conformance with the Jarbidge Resource Management Plan (RMP) and NEPA compliance record. I have determined that this project is in conformance with the Jarbidge RMP and that no further environmental analysis is required.

The Big Draw Fire occurred in August, 2010. Wyoming big sagebrush was aeri ally seeded in strips over the burned area in December, 2010, as part of the ESR treatments. Treatment monitoring performed in summer 2011 detected sagebrush seedlings primarily in open areas lacking perennial grass cover. However, seedlings were not detected in areas dominated by previously-established crested wheatgrass seedings. This supplemental planting is proposed to re-establish Wyoming big sagebrush in areas where shrub seeding was not successful due to competition from existing plant cover. The proposed project area is adjacent to key sage-grouse habitat and identified as restoration habitat.

II. PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW

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

III. EXISTING NEPA REVIEW

The proposed actions are addressed in the Boise District and Jarbidge Field Office Normal Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan (NFRP), Boise District Office and Jarbidge Field Office (EA# ID-090-2004-050).

The following criteria have been reviewed and determined to adequately address the proposed action as described in the Determination of NEPA Adequacy for the Big Draw Fire Sagebrush Planting Project:

1. The proposed action is a feature of, or essentially the same as, the alternative selected and analyzed in the existing document.
2. The range of alternatives analyzed in the existing EA is appropriate to this project.
3. The existing analysis is still valid and there has been no new information or circumstances that would substantially change the analysis.
4. The direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the proposed action are similar to those identified in the existing document.
5. Public involvement in the previous analysis is adequate for the proposed action.

IV. APPEALS

This wildland fire management decision is issued using Full Force and Effect (FFE) authority granted under 43 CFR 4190.1 and is effective immediately. The BLM has made the determination that sage-grouse habitat on public lands within the burned area is at risk due to recent wildfire. Thus, notwithstanding the provisions of 43 CFR 4.21 (a) (1), filing a notice of appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 does not automatically suspend the effect of the decision. The Interior Board of Land Appeals must decide an appeal of this decision within 60 days after all pleadings have been filed, and within 180 days after the appeal was filed (43 CFR 4.416).

My rationale for issuing this decision under the FFE authority is that the treatment requires immediate implementation to mitigate the effects of wildland fire on sage-grouse habitat.

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

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

Steve Jakubowics, Committee for the High Desert, P.O. Box 2863, Boise, ID 83701
Jim Desmond, Owyhee County Board of Commissioners, P.O. Box 128, Murphy, ID
83650

Ron Kay, Idaho Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 790, Boise, ID 83701

Jeff Cook, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-
0065

Nevada Cattlemen's Association, P.O. Box 310, Elko, NV 89803-0310

Chet Brackett, Friends of the Jarbidge, Box 111, Rogerson, ID 83302

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Suite 368, Boise, ID 83709