



BLM News Release

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Bureau of Land Management receives \$974,000 for Fourmile Canyon fire emergency stabilization treatments

CAÑON CITY, Colo. – The Bureau of Land Management received \$974,000 to stabilize natural resources damaged as a result of the Fourmile Canyon Fire through its Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Program (ESR).

About \$907,000 for Emergency Stabilization treatments is available immediately, while \$67,000 for rehabilitation treatments is expected to be available in January or February of next year.

“Getting funding so quickly allows the BLM to move forward with our coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Boulder County on stabilization treatments. Working together to identify post-wildfire emergency rehabilitation needs across jurisdictions and ownerships improve the efficiency and effectiveness of post-wildfire emergency for private landowners,” said Keith Berger, Royal Gorge Field Manager.

BLM Emergency Stabilization priorities are to ensure public safety and restore habitat for wildlife and significant heritage sites.

Treatments on BLM lands include 115 acres of hand seeding, 650 acres of aerial mulching, noxious weed survey, and treatment of critical heritage resources.

BLM Burned Area Rehabilitation Priorities are to repair or improve lands damaged directly by a wildland fire and rehabilitate or establish healthy, stable ecosystems in the burned area. The BLM plans to have these treatments completed in the next three years.

Twenty-two percent of land that was burned by the Fourmile Canyon Fire is on BLM lands. Rehabilitation treatments include ponderosa pine seedling planting, hazard tree removal within seedling planting areas, and treatment effectiveness monitoring.

The Fourmile Fire began on Sept. 6 and destroyed 169 homes west of Boulder making it the most destructive blaze in Colorado history. An initial assessment by the Fourmile Emergency Stabilization (FES) team – consisting of representatives from local and federal agencies – was completed of the burn area. This assessment identified immediate threats from the wildfire impacts to soils, vegetation, hydrologic functions, such as debris flow in drainages and slopes, trees, transportation infrastructure, abandoned mines, cultural resources, and wildlife.