

# 2020 Holiday Farm Fire

## Burned Area Emergency Response Plan

Upper Willamette Field Office – Northwest Oregon  
District

Bureau of Land Management



Springfield, OR

October 2020

Interagency BAER Team



**Burned Area Emergency Response Plan**  
**2020 Holiday Farm Fire**

Agency/Unit: Upper Willamette Field Office – Northwest Oregon  
District, Bureau of Land Management

Location: Springfield, Oregon

Date: October 19, 2020

Prepared By: Interagency Burned Area Emergency  
Response Team (K. Griggs)



Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_

**Kenneth Griggs, BAER Team Leader – Salem, OR**

**Date**

**Unit Summary Information**

<b>Unit Name</b>	Upper Willamette Field Office
<b>Unit Identifier</b>	CFO
<b>Region</b>	Northwest

**Fire Summary Information**

<b>Fire Name</b>	Holiday Farm	
<b>Fire Number</b>	OR-WIF-200504 (NKJ5)	
<b>Fire Code</b>	NKJ5	
<b>Detection Date/Cause</b>	September 7, 2020 / unknown	
<b>Date Contained</b>	estimated October 31, 2020	
<b>Acreage</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Acres</b>
	Private	121,665
	USFS	30,973
	BLM	18,528
	County	2,009
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>173,175</b>

<b>Fund</b>	21X
<b>Cost Center</b>	LLORN05000
<b>Functional Area</b>	LFE2200000 LF3200000
<b>WBS</b>	Holiday Farm: LFESNKJ50000 LFBRNKJ50000

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Emergency Stabilization (ES)

- Hazard, Safety, Mile Marker Signs (ES –1)
- Storm Prep – inventory, clean culverts (ES –2)
- Storm Patrol (ES –3)
- Hazard Tree Assessment/Removal @ Recreation Sites & WUI (ES –4)
- Securing Hazardous Materials at GoodPasture Road (ES-5)
- Repair Instream Structures (ES – 6)
- Early Detection/Treatment of Priority Noxious Plants (ES- 7)
- NHPA Section 106 Compliance (ES –8)
- Project Implementation (ES –9)

Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR)

- Storm Patrol (BAR – 1)
- Early Detection/Treatment of Priority Noxious Plants (BAR – 2)
- Repair/Replace Minor Facilities (BAR – 3)
- NSO Shrub Planting (BAR –4)
- Project Implementation (BAR – 5)

Appendix I – Resource Assessments

Appendix II – Environmental Compliance

Appendix III – Maps

Appendix IV – Supporting Documents

# **Burned Area Emergency Response Plan**

## **2020 Holiday Farm Fire**

### **Executive Summary**

#### **Introduction**

This plan addresses Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation of potential detrimental effects resulting from the Holiday Farm Fire that burned on lands managed by the Upper Willamette Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This plan has been prepared in accordance with the Department of Interior policy and guidance, including the U.S. Department of the Interior, Departmental Manual, Part 620, Chapter 7 (Wildland Fire Management, Post-Wildfire Recovery 2017), Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response Guidebook (February 2006), and Interagency Burned Area Rehabilitation Guidebook (October 2006).

#### **Background**

Unusually high east west winds and prolonged dry climate caused rapid expansion of multiple wildfires throughout the state of Oregon over Labor Day weekend 2020, prompting up significant evacuations of communities and campgrounds.

The Holiday Farm Fire started August 16, 2020 along Highway 126 west of McKenzie Bridge to Vida, Oregon. The communities of McKenzie River Valley, Rainbow, and Blue River were impacted by this fire. Late on the night of September 7, 2020, a significant east-west wind event caused downed powerlines and a series of additional merging fires propelled rapid fire growth. The fire burned through mixed conifer, grass and shrub. Forests consist of old growth timber, second growth-stands, and reproduction. Previous management and multiple ownership contribute to many fuel type changes. While the fire burned across a total of 173, 286 acres of privately-owned land, Willamette National Forest, BLM, and county land; this plan specifically focuses on the 18,528 acres that burned on the BLM acreage. Estimated containment for the Holiday Farm Fire is October 29, 2020.

#### **BAER Program**

The primary objective of the BAER program is to conduct a rapid assessment of post-fire changes to values at risk and prescribe cost effective post-fire stabilization measures necessary to protect human life, property, and critical natural and cultural resources. The scope of BAER is to address imminent (<1 year) threats caused by wildfire; not long-term management or pre-fire conditions.

The Bureau of Land Management Northwest Oregon District (NWOD) Office, requested assistance from the Department of Interior's National Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team to assess post fire values at risk and recommend stabilization and rehabilitation treatments for BLM managed lands. A BAER Team with expertise in hydrology, soils, geology, roads engineering, recreation, botany, cultural resources and archaeology, GIS, and

environmental regulatory compliance assembled October 4, 2020. The BAER Team held an initial briefing with the Northwest Oregon District Manager, Upper Willamette and Cascades Field Office Managers, local Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ESR) leads, and other local cultural and natural resource specialists at the District Office in Salem, Oregon on October 5, 2020. The briefing served as an overview of the BAER process and a request was made for a list of local important values at risk. On Friday October 16, 2020, the BAER Team shared findings and recommendations with managers and specialists at a close out presentation. The initial Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation plan identified 14 specifications totaling \$2,055,618.

### **Assessment Process**

Following field reconnaissance and consultation with Field Office Managers, District Managers, Natural and Cultural Resource Specialists, the BAER team identified the following values most at risk as a result of the Holiday Farm Fire. Note, not all issues result in recommendation for stabilization or rehabilitation treatments.

- **Safety Risks to Public and Increased Ecological Damage in Burned Areas** - Burned vegetation that blocked public access to previously inaccessible areas now expose the public to hazards within the burned area, including falling trees and branches, stump holes, and loose footing. Increased public traffic could degrade the recovery of these areas. Burned warning and regulatory signs along roadways and within recreation sites also creates safety risks to the public.
- **Municipal Watersheds** – Multiple municipal watersheds were potentially impacted by burned upstream watersheds.
- **Hazardous Materials** - The fire burned recreational vehicles along the GoodPasture Road that has left potentially hazardous waste materials exposed, some of which could potentially enter the McKenzie River.
- **Hazardous Trees** – Tree mortality or damage was widespread throughout the fire, leaving behind many potential hazard trees along roadways, recreation sites, and near structures on adjacent private land.
- **Damage to Recreation Infrastructure** - The fire caused damage to public recreation infrastructure at several locations, including Whitewater Day Use Area, Martin Rapids Overlook, Rennie Boat Landing, and Silver Creek Boat and River Site.
- **Damage to Cultural Sites** - Cultural sites within the fires consist primarily of lithic scatters and a historic railroad. Given most groundcover burned, concerns exist for possible looting of artifacts and post-fire erosion of sites.
- **Road Infrastructure** - Roads are critical infrastructure for BLM lands given the active logging industry and extensive public use on these public lands. Concerns regarding roads and related infrastructure include possible impacts to culvert function, debris in ditches, hazard trees, and debris falling onto roadways.

- **Risk of Noxious Weed Spread in Burned Areas** - Noxious weeds can displace native vegetation, reduce biodiversity, and modify fire behavior and fire return interval. Areas within the fire perimeter are susceptible to invasive noxious weed spread from existing populations and inadvertent spread due to fire suppression operations. Invasive species can be aggressive colonizers of burned lands as well.
- **Wildlife** - Core nesting areas for Northern Spotted Owls and Critical Habitat for listed fish species are found within the fire perimeter, raising concerns for the health and recovery of the habitat. Several Areas of Critical Environmental Concern within the fire perimeter include habitat for these species.
- **Aquatic Instream Restoration** - Instream structures to create or enhance fishery habitat are located on Deer Creek within the fire perimeter and are at risk both due to burn impacts and possible increased water and sediment flows.

In response to the risks described above, the following emergency stabilization and rehabilitation treatments are recommended to lessen post-fire impacts and protect critical natural resources on the Holiday Farm Fire:

**Road Infrastructure, Hazard Trees, and Public Safety:** Several treatment specifications are proposed, as follows:

- Replacement of burned hazard, safety, and mile marker signs
- Storm preparation, to clean culverts and remove roadside debris ahead of fall storms
- Storm patrol, to provide labor and equipment to respond to storm events to remove debris and ensure continued culvert function
- Hazard tree assessment and mitigation at recreational sites and at the urban interface of BLM lands and private property
- Securing of hazardous materials from burned recreational vehicles.

**Biological Resources:** Proposed treatment specifications include:

- Planting of native shrubs important to Northern Spotted Owl prey within core nesting areas
- Noxious weed treatments at existing invasive plant populations, recreation sites, and in suppression damage areas such as dozerlines, helispots, etc
- Repair of instream fish habitat structures in designated Critical Habitat on Deer Creek

**Minor Facilities:** One treatment specification includes:

- Repair or replacement of minor facilities at several recreation sites

**Cultural Resources:** One treatment specification includes:

- Surveys to complete NHPA Section 106 compliance on other treatments that may impact cultural resources.



## **Management Direction, Environmental Compliance**

Management direction relevant to Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation treatments proposed in this plan can be found in Appendix II and summarized below:

- Northwestern & Coastal Oregon Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan. Bureau of Land Management, Northwest Oregon DO 2016.
- Aquatic & Riparian Habitat Restoration EA. Bureau of Land Management, Northwest Oregon DO 2020.
- Integrated Invasive Plant Management for the Northwest Oregon District Environmental Assessment. Bureau of Land Management, Northwest Oregon DO 2018.

Compliance with environmental laws, regulations, policies, and local agency planning documents are required for all proposed BAER treatment actions on lands managed by the BLM with respect to the Holiday Farm Fire. All proposed treatments were reviewed and determined to be covered by the National Environmental Policy Act under existing Categorical Exclusions, Environmental Assessments, and Environmental Impact Statements. Some of the proposed treatments (i.e. repairing instream structures and noxious plant treatments) will require completion of Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA) process and Annual Treatment Plan (i.e. noxious plant treatment). Proposed treatment shapefiles to support will be delivered digitally to local ESR Lead. The Northwest Oregon District will complete any required consultation with Tribes; including the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Northwest Oregon District has initiated emergency consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to address impacts of wildfire suppression actions and post-fire emergency stabilization and rehabilitation treatments effects on threatened and endangered species or their habitat.

## **Conclusion**

The burned area on BLM managed lands present risk to critical values identified by BLM staff and BAER Team members. As a result, to reduce these threats and mitigate further damage to resources, this initial Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation plan outlines nine (9) Emergency Stabilization (ES) and five (5) Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) specifications totaling \$2,055,618. These actions may be implemented immediately pending approval of funding and alignment of assets. Any additional actions not already proposed in this plan will require additional planning, collaboration, and environmental compliance review prior to implementation.

## Burned Area Emergency Response Plan

### 2020 Holiday Farm Fire

#### Part A – Fire Location and Background Information

<b>Fire Name</b>	Holiday Farm Fire		
<b>Fire Code</b>	NKJ5		
<b>Incident Number</b>	OR-WIF-200504	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Acres</b>
<b>Agency Unit</b>	Upper Willamette Field Office	Private	121,665
<b>District</b>	Northwest Oregon	USFS	30,973
<b>State</b>	Oregon	BLM	18,528
<b>County</b>	Lane, Linn	County	2,009
<b>Ignition Date / Manner</b>	September 7, 2020 / unknown		
<b>Zone</b>	Northwest		
<b>Date Contained</b>	estimated October 29, 2020	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>173,175</b>

## Burned Area Emergency Response Plan

### 2020 Holiday Farm Fire

#### Part B – Nature of Plan and Stabilization Objectives

##### I. Type of Plan (Check one box below)

	Short-term Emergency Stabilization Plan
	Long-term Rehabilitation
X	Both Long and Short-term Rehabilitation

##### II. Type of Action (Check one box below)

X	Initial Submission
	Updating or Revising the Initial Submission
	Supplying Information for Accomplishment to date on Work Underway
	Different Phase of Project Plan
	Final Report (To Comply with the Closure of the EFR Account)

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**2020 Holiday Farm Fire**

Part C – Team Organization, Resource Advisors and Consultations

**BAER Team Members**

Position	Team Member / Affiliation
<b>Team Leader</b>	Ken Griggs / U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>Deputy Team Leader</b>	Jack Oelfke/ National Park Service
<b>Deputy Team Leader</b>	Danelle Nance/ Bureau of Land Management
<b>Botany</b>	Molly Boyter/Bureau of Land Management
<b>Cultural Resources</b>	Dan Hall/ Bureau of Indian Affairs
<b>Environmental Regulatory Compliance</b>	Michelle Barry / U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>Geographic Information Systems (GIS)</b>	Trisha Johnson/Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
<b>Geographic Information Systems (GIS)</b>	Richard Easterbrook/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>Geologist</b>	Andrew Griffin/ Bureau of Land Management
<b>Hydrologist</b>	Spencer Higginson/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
<b>Hydrologist</b>	Scott Sheppard, Bureau of Land Management
<b>Recreation</b>	Tim Kramer/Bureau of Land Management
<b>Roads engineering</b>	Eric Rhodenbaugh/Bureau of Indian Affairs
<b>Soils Scientist</b>	Jennifer Puttere/ Bureau of Land Management
<b>Roads engineering</b>	Evan Wernecke, Bureau of Land Management

## Resource Advisors

Note: Resource Advisors are individuals who assisted the BAER Team with the preparation of this plan. For consultations, see the individual resource assessments in APPENDIX I, SECTION V, CONSULTATIONS for a list of agencies and individuals who were consulted or otherwise contributed to the development of this plan.

Name	Affiliation	Position
<b>Jonas Parker</b>	Bureau of Land Management	ESR Lead
<b>Joe Krish</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Agency Representative
<b>Emily Erwin</b>	Bureau of Land Management	District Planner
<b>John Klock</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Botanist
<b>Britt Betenson</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Cultural Resources Specialist
<b>Kirk Appleman</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Hazardous Materials Coordinator
<b>Peter Kauss</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Hydrology
<b>Emily Erickson</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Forestry Technician and Noxious Weeds
<b>Damian Hawley-Jones</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Fisheries
<b>Rob Titcomb</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Forestry
<b>Steve Liebhardt</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Fisheries
<b>John DeLuca</b>	Bureau of Land Management	Wildlife Biology
<b>Kyle Wright</b>	U.S. Forest Service – Deschutes NF	USFS BAER
<b>Leah Tai</b>	U.S. Forest Service Siuslaw	USFS BAER
<b>John Chatel</b>	U.S. Forest Service –PNW Region	USFS BAER
<b>Peggy Fisher</b>	U.S. Forest Service – Deschutes/Ochoco	USFS BAER

## Consultations:

Individuals who were consulted or otherwise contributed to the development of this plan.

Name	Affiliation	Position
<b>Jose Lineras</b>	Northwest Oregon District Office	District Manager
<b>Becca Brooke</b>	Upper Willamette Field Office	Field Office Manager
<b>Sharmila Jepsen</b>	Upper Willamette Field Office	Assistant Field Manager
<b>Todd Bush</b>	Upper Willamette Field Office	Assistant Field Manager



## Burned Area Emergency Response Plan

### 2020 Holiday Farm Fire

#### Part D – Treatment Costs by Region and Fire

#### Northwest Region – Oregon

<b>Emergency Stabilization (ES) - Holiday Farm</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Total</b>
ES - 1	Hazard, Safety, Mile Marker signs	\$13,229
ES - 2	Storm Prep – inventory, clean culverts	\$144,998
ES - 3	Storm Patrol	\$415,548
ES - 4	Hazard Tree Assessment/Removal at Recreation Sites/WUI	\$11,477
ES - 5	Securing Hazardous Materials at Good Pasture Road	\$4,096
ES - 6	Repair Instream Structures	\$47,368
ES - 7	Early Detection/Treatment of Priority Noxious Plants	\$54,352
ES - 8	NHPA Section 106 Compliance	\$37,660
ES - 9	Project Implementation	\$17,472
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$746,200</b>

<b>Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) - Holiday Farm</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Total</b>
BAR - 1	Storm patrol	\$522,361
BAR - 2	Early Detection/Treatment of Priority Noxious Plants	\$217,408
BAR - 3	Repair/Replace Minor Infrastructure	\$156,813
BAR - 4	NSO Shrub Planting	\$382,948
BAR - 5	Project Implementation	\$29,888
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,309,418</b>

## Burned Area Emergency Response Plan

### 2020 Holiday Farm Fire

#### Part E – Summary of Stabilization and Rehabilitation Activities

#### Emergency Stabilization (ES) Activities Cost Summary

Northwest Oregon - Holiday Farm								
Treatment Specification	NFPORS Category	Unit	Unit Cost	# of Units	Fiscal year			Total
					2021	2022	2023	
ES - 1 Hazard, Safety, Mile Marker signs	Human Life & Safety	variable	see spec	see spec	\$13,229			\$13,229
ES - 2 Storm Prep – inventory, clean culverts	Roads	mile	\$4,880	29.71 mi	\$144,998			\$144,998
ES - 3 Storm Patrol	Roads	mile	\$34,917	118.84	\$415,548			\$415,548
ES - 4 Hazard Tree Assessment/ Removal at Recreation Sites/WUI	Human Life & Safety	acre	\$358.66	32 acre	\$11,477			\$11,477
ES - 5 Securing Hazardous Materials at GoodPasture Road	Human Life & Safety	tons	205	20 tons	4096			\$4,096
ES - 9 Repair Instream Structures	Asset Repair & Replacement	structures	\$47,368	1 structure	\$47,368			\$47,368
ES -10 Early Detection/ Treatment of Priority Noxious Plants	Invasive Plants & Weeds	acre	\$78.66	691 ac	\$54,352			\$54,352
ES -11 NHPA Section 106 Compliance	Heritage Resources	acre	\$70	538 ac	\$37,660			\$37,660
ES - 12 Project Implementation	Administration				\$17,472			\$17,472
<b>Total</b>								<b>\$746,200</b>



