

Suppression Repair Plan

North Pelican and Blanket Fires

Fremont-Winema National Forest

15 September, 2017

Background:

The primary goal of wildfire rehabilitation is to mitigate or eliminate environmental resource impacts caused by the fire suppression effort and rehab the area to as natural conditions as possible.

Purpose:

The goal of the following bulleted list is to mitigate the detrimental effects incurred by suppression tactics during fire incidents. The focus of the plan seeks to rehabilitate any damage caused as a result of suppression actions.

Firelines and access trails will not be obliterated until the fire is declared out or until directed by the District Ranger.

Approved by: _____

Heather Berg

Date

Fremont-Winema National Forest, Klamath District Ranger

Approved by: _____

Leland Hunter

Date

Fremont-Winema National Forest, AFMO

Approved by: _____

Incident Commander

Date

- If any suspected cultural resources are found during mop-up or repair, work should cease in that area and the site should be reported to the Cultural Resource Technician or Resource Advisor who will advise mitigating measures before continuing work in the area.

Section 2. Constructed Hand Line Rehabilitation

- After fire spread is secured and declared out, replace dug-out soil and/or duff, as appropriate to site-specific landscapes. Obliterate any berms and leave as appearing natural, i.e. blend in with the landscape contours.
- Begin rehabilitation work from top or bottom of the fire, as appropriate at a site-specific level, in an attempt to avoid walking over newly rehabbed areas.
- Provide some means for drainage, such as shallow-depth water bars or natural materials that will act as sediment dams, to prevent erosion on firelines, existing and created trails that are the result of suppression activities on sloped areas.
- Construct water bars with a skew of 45-55 degrees to prevent the bars from filling with sediment and at distances appropriate for the fireline slope (Table 1).

General Water bar Standards

- Modify spacing to take best advantage of the terrain, rocks, roots, brush, and natural drainage.
- Ensure end of water bar is open and clear of obstructions. If the site allows, place organic debris on the downslope outlet to help dissipate the water.
- These are broad standards subject to site-specific modification based on site-specific conditions. The goal is to minimize erosion; defer to what works best for each particular location with the goal of minimizing water pooling or gulying post fire.
- **After the fire is declared controlled**, scatter cut brush and limbs onto the fireline or impacted area so that material blends with the naturally existing landscape. Scatter obvious, excessive piles and windrows of cut limbs/seedlings/saplings into the black. This will reduce erosion and help with sapling recruitment.

Table 1: Water Bar Construction Guidelines (Hand and Dozer Lines)

Hand line		Dozer Line	
Grade	Distance apart	Grade	Distance apart
<45%	25 to 50 ft.	1-9%	150 ft.
	Cut water bars at least 6 inches deep	10-20%	60 ft.
>45%	10 to 30 ft.	21-40%	30 ft.
	Cut water bars at least 1 foot deep	41-60%*	15 ft.
		Cut water bars at least 6-12" deep	

- Constructing water bars is the preferred erosion control method for all firelines. Dig water bars at a 45° angle to the slope. Direct drainage into the green if it does not create containment issues (transporting burning embers across the line). Table 1 above has spacing guidelines for water bar construction.

Monitoring of water bars has shown constructing a skew of between 45 to 55 degrees will help prevent the bars from filling with sediment. Place organic debris on the down-slope outlet to help dissipate the water, if the site allows. Placement of water bars perpendicular (90 degrees) to the road has proven to create problems and the water bars can act as check dams.

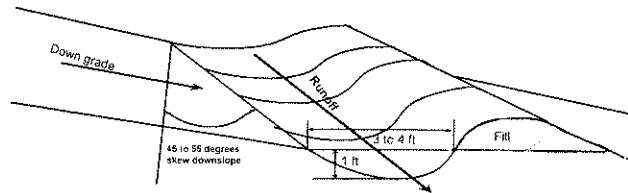


Figure 1. Typical Water bar per Chris Park, RRSNF Hydrologist

Re-vegetation Needs: Dozer Lines

1. In general dozer lines and reopened roads will be seeded with native grasses as needed, to decrease erosion and to visually enhance the disturbed ground.
2. Revegetation will be conducted by KRD Botany program.
3. An S-number will be requested for seed purchase

Section 4. Rehabilitation of other fire suppression activities

Helispots/Medivac

- Scatter all trees and brush cut during heli-spot construction.
- Cover and camouflage all bare soil created by construction of heli-spot.
- Re-contour all areas within heli-spot to natural land contours.

Sling Sites

- If vegetation has been cut, lop and scatter back onto the site to camouflage it. Flush cut all stumps.
- Re-contour site as needed.

Rehabilitation of Contingency lines, Drop Points, Dip Sites, Pump Chances, Heli-well sites and Camps (if applicable)

- Restore any campsites used to pre-use conditions. Fill in sleeping holes and scatter debris and rocks on top to camouflage.
- Ensure that all inlets and outlets of all culverts are free of logs, brush and other debris.

- Repair trails that have been converted to dozerline
- Consult Resource Advisor for specific location of trails.

Contact Resource Advisor or Technical Specialist with questions, concerns, or suggestions.