FORM 1310-20 (INITIAL EMERGENCY STABILIZATION PLAN)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

PROJECT/SUBPROJECT NUMBER ASSIGNMENT AND INFORMATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE

□ **For Real Property and Software Project, Route to BC-653**
□ **For All Other Projects, Route to BC-612**

1. Submission: □ Original □ Revision	2. Program(s) Subactivity) _2822 2881_	3. Project Number: _DR62___	4. Subproject Number: _____	5. Real Property Number (if needed): R_____
6. Case File Number:	7. Submission Date: ___ / ___ / ___	8. Project Name: _Murphy Complex Fire Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Projects Subproject Name: _____		9. Land Purchase? □ Yes □ No

10. Description of Project: SEE "ATTACHMENT 1" FOR BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIRE AND ANTICIPATED EMERGENCY STABILIZATION PROJECT.

11. Applicant/Vendor's Name: __N/A BLM Initiated project
_____
Applicant's Address:
_____
_____
Applicant's Phone Number:
_____

12. Organization Code of Lead Office: _ID210____
13. Organization Codes of Other Offices Charging to the Project/Subproject: ID931 ID204 ID202 ID120_ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ ___

14a. Estimated Start Date: ___ / ___ / ___	14b. Estimated Completion Date: ___ / ___ / ___	15. Estimated Project Total Cost: $	16. Estimated Subproject Total Cost: $

17. Project Manager's Name: Scott Uhrig
Project Manager's Phone Number: 208-732-7232
Project Manager's Organization Code: ID-202
Jarbidge Field Office Contact: Jennifer Mata
Field Office Phone Number: _208-736-2366
Bruneau Field Office Contact: Jon Haupt
Field Office Phone Number: 208-384-3371

TRUST FUND PROJECTS (Program 7122) MAY BE AUTHORIZED AN INDIRECT COST RATE OTHER THAN THE ANNUAL PREVAILING RATE

18. Exception Indirect Cost Rate: _____% 19. Under the authority of: _____
20. Approving Officer's Name (Print): _____
21. Approving Officer's Signature: _____
22. Title: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / ____

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23. Tables: □ IWPT □ PROJ □ FPCA □ PROJEDIT
24. Vendor Number: _____
25. Agreement Number: _____
26. RA Document Number: _____
27. Input by: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / ___

28 Retained by: requesting Office, State/Washington Office Budget

INITIAL EMERGENCY STABILIZATION PLAN
Continuation of Form 1310-20

PART 1 – FIRE SUMMARY

Fire Name	Murphy Complex
Fire Number	DR6Z
District/Field Office	Twin Falls District / Jarbidge Field Office Boise District / Bruneau Field Office
Admin Number	ID-210, ID120
State	Idaho
County(s)	Owyhee, Twin Falls
Ignition Date/Cause	7/16/07 Lightning
Date Contained	8/02/07
Jurisdiction	*Acres*
BLM	428,051 Jarbidge Field Office 8,700 Bruneau Field Office
State	25,984
Private	41,947
USFS	88,866
Military	1
Total Acres	**593,549**
Estimated Costs: Below $50,000; Between $50,000 and $100,000; or Above $100,000	Above $100,000

PART 2 - CRITICAL RESOURCE CONCERNS

Briefly describe applicable issues related to Emergency Stabilization.

Human Life and Safety: The Bruneau River is known for its white water rafting opportunities. The fire burned trees along the canyon that can become a hazard to rafters. The portions of the trees that are within open water will need to be removed in order to allow for safe passage by rafters.

Soil/Water Stabilization:

As a result of the amount of upland vegetation lost within the burn, several sections of road may need enlarged culverts as well as culvert maintenance in order to handle the expected increase in runoff.

Portions of the Jarbidge and Bruneau Canyons as well as other small tributaries (Columbet, Deadwood and Dorsey Creeks) were burnt as a result of this fire. Several drainages within the burn perimeter may require structures or shrub plantings to limit debris flow.

Seeding of perennial grasses within the burn area will be required to help stabilize soils. Signs of wind erosion are already present throughout portions of the burn area.

Designated Critical Habitat for Federal/State Listed, Proposed, or Candidate Species:

Portions of the Jarbidge canyons which were affected by the fire, include proposed critical habitat for bull trout. The affected reaches are located in the Jarbidge Canyon below the confluences if the East and West Forks of the Jarbidge River and provide over wintering habitats for six subpopulations of bull trout.

Columbia Spotted Frog Habitat: Columbia spotted frog is a Candidate species. The fire burned uplands and portions of the riparian zone where this species had been documented in the past.

Habitat for BLM Sensitive Species

Although not a species with federal status, portions of the slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*) management area were also affected by the fire. The burn area also contained known populations of the special status plants, Bruneau River Phlox and Davis Peppergrass.

Greater sage-grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, mountain quail, California bighorn sheep, ferruginous hawk, pygmy rabbit, loggerhead shrike, sage sparrow, and Brewer's sparrow were all present within the burned area. The biggest impact is likely to nesting habitat for sage grouse. According to Idaho Dept. Fish & Game data over 70 sage grouse leks are within the fire perimeter, however, this includes several leks that have not been active for over 15 years. Over 70% of the sage grouse nesting habitat that was available in the spring of 2007 burned in the fire. Nearly 50% of the occupied California bighorn sheep habitat burned, including areas that were known to have substantial numbers of bighorn. Some of the bighorn are likely to concentrate in the remaining habitat. Over 80% of the known occupied pygmy rabbit was burned in the fire. About 70% of the nesting habitat for Brewer's sparrow, sage sparrow, and loggerhead shrike burned. Shrub steppe habitat around 17 ferruginous hawk nests burned. Initial inventory indicates that 3 nest trees were burned down. However, the fire altered habitat for the prey base used by ferruginous hawks as well as eliminated shrubs used as nesting material for this species. The majority of the known occupied Columbian sharp-tailed grouse and mountain quail burned in the fire.

Redband Trout: Redband Trout are a BLM Sensitive species that exist in the perennial tributary streams in the Jarbidge foothills. Several of the streams occupied by redband trout burned and may require stabilization or planting to stabilize the stream channel.

Other Wildlife Resources

Over 60% of the big game winter range burned. Mule deer, some antelope, and elk from Nevada winter in Idaho in this area. This is in addition to big game in Idaho that reside in the area.

Critical Heritage Resources: Two highly significant Native American aboriginal rock art sites are known to occur within the burn area. In both cases, the fire scorched (unknown quantity) artistic images painted on natural rock surfaces. The rock art images are now are at risk to rapid deterioration and loss. Restoration/stabilization may

be possible but it is possible that unrecorded information may be permanently lost. In these instances, intensive recordation of the effected rock art panels is recommended prior to stabilization and restoration efforts (H-1742-1-Burned Area and Stabilization and Rehabilitation Handbook § B5 p. 28; see also BLM Manual 8140 § .11B4).

Several historic structures (homestead cabins, post office, corrals, etc) were affected by the fire and in some cases, were destroyed. However, there remain a few intact structures which are within the immediate proximity of the fire burn and may be affected by further degradation caused by wind and water erosion. In particular, further erosion may undercut the building foundation of some structures causing further structural damage. It is recommended that these sites be assessed and evaluated for damages caused by the fire and appropriate cost-effective stabilization treatments identified and implemented to protect these sites from further structural damages.

Invasive Plants: Seeding of perennial grasses as well as noxious weed detection and treatment will help limit the amount of spread of noxious weeds within the burn area. There are known locations of hoary cress, black henbane, spotted knapweed, Canada thistle, bull thistle, morning-glory, Russian knapweed, Scotch thistle, spotted knapweed, and diffuse knapweed within and adjacent to the burn area. Invasive plants also known to be present include cheatgrass, bur buttercup, clasping-leaf peppergrass, and blue mustard.

Many out of district resources were brought in to assist with the suppression of the fire. A weed wash station was established but even with those mitigation measures in place, the probability of new weed populations within the burn area is higher than normal.

Briefly describe applicable issues related to Rehabilitation.

Lands Unlikely to Recover Naturally: Significant portions of the burn area have been mapped as having a vegetation mortality class of moderate or higher. Within these portions of the burn area it is believed that the native vegetation will not recover on its own. Treatments (including seeding and livestock grazing adjustments) are needed to help regain species diversity and help ensure suitable wildlife habitat within the burn area. The lack of vegetation is also expected to result in an increase in road density, as there are no barriers to off road vehicle travel.

Weed Treatments: The fire eliminated most of the vegetation and the probability of noxious weed invasion has increased as a result. The burn area is also adjacent to many well traveled roads which could serve as a significant source for weed introduction. Approximately 191 miles of dozer line was constructed during suppression operations, which may serve as weed invasion corridors and seed sources. Continued treatment of weeds in the second and third years will help assist with the establishment of desirable native vegetation. Establishing a Cross Country Motorized Vehicle closure within the burn area will also help to eliminate the introduction of noxious weeds.

Tree Planting: None Known

Repair/Replace Fire Damage to Minor Facilities: The fire burned through portions of 44 allotments. The interior and boundary fences that were damaged by the fire need to be repaired in order to properly manage the allotments after the area has recovered and rehabilitation objectives have been met.

The fire also burned many of the administrative signs within the field office.

PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF ANTICIPATED TYPES OF TREATMENTS

Briefly describe the types of treatments that are anticipated to be needed. Include the purpose to be achieved by implementing the treatments.

Emergency Stabilization Treatments

- Removal of hazard trees within the white water rafting portion of the Bruneau River.
- Noxious weeds will be inventoried and treatments made to prevent establishment and spread of noxious weeds within the burn area.
- Protection Fences will be constructed to keep livestock off of the recovering burn area and to protect treatment sites.
- Drill seeding of native perennial grasses to help control the invasion of cheatgrass and other non-natives within the burn area, as well as to help stabilize soils.
- Replacement of culverts within the burn area that are not sufficient enough to handle the additional runoff expected as a result of the fire.
- Straw bale check dams within drainages to slow the additional expected flow.
- Shrub planting along portions of riparian areas with high vegetation mortality to assist with erosion control.
- Cultural resource damage assessment and possible stabilization of historical cabins.
- Monitoring to ensure that all treatments are implemented and to determine success.

Emergency Rehabilitation Treatments

- Repair interior pasture and allotment boundary fences to BLM standards.
- Aerial seeding of brush species to ensure wildlife habitat and ecosystem function.
- Noxious weeds will be inventoried and treatments made to prevent establishment and spread of noxious weeds within the burn area.
- Invasive weeds will be treated where needed to improve establishment success of seeded species and reduce competition with surviving native plants.
- Livestock grazing closure and allotment use adjustment.
- Establishment of a Cross Country Motorized Vehicle Closure area.
- Replacement of administrative signs within the fire perimeter.
- Additional law enforcement patrols to enforce vehicular closure.
- Monitoring of treatments and activities to ensure rehab objectives have been met.