

ALVORD PEAK FIRE
REHABILITATION PLAN
AND
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
EA OR-026-00-83

Bureau of Land Management
Burns District Office
HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West
Hines, OR 97738

NOVEMBER 2000

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ALVORD PEAK FIRE
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I. INTRODUCTION

The Alvord Peak Fire started on August 3, 2000, and was controlled on August 5, 2000. This fire burned along the east side of Alvord Peak, consuming 1,680 acres of public land and 20 acres of private land within the Alvord Peak Wilderness Study Area (WSA), 2-83. The project area is located approximately 7 miles north of Fields on the west side of the county road. The Alvord Peak WSA has recently been designated as part of the Steens Mountain Wilderness. The Alvord Peak WSA name will be used in this document to help delineate and locate the general area. Wilderness characteristics for the area are derived from the Alvord Peak WSA description found in the 1989 Final Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement.

II. PURPOSE AND NEED

A. Purpose

The purpose for this proposal is to rehabilitate and stabilize approximately 60 acres of streambank within the Scoubes Creek drainage following a wildfire.

A. Need

The Alvord Peak Fire (M-303) burned within several ecological sites on and east of Alvord Peak which, for the most part, will recover with natural vegetation if rest from grazing is provided. However, approximately 60 acres of riparian vegetation burned in the fire within the Scoubes Creek drainage and the absence of diverse plant species makes the site vulnerable to noxious weed invasion. Those portions of the riparian plant community which burned (mostly coyote willow) will resprout and recover naturally. However, sediment from the basin above the stream could impact the riparian community if the basin above is not seeded and check dams are not placed on the intermittent drainages which flow into Scoubes Creek. Reestablishing a native perennial plant community and stabilizing the soils would enhance and protect wilderness values within the Alvord Peak WSA.

Seeding of approximately 60 acres would be required to reestablish native perennial vegetation in three ephemeral streams and the spring areas in the Scoubes Creek drainage. This would increase soil stability on this site, reducing downstream deposition while minimizing impacts to wilderness values.

Straw bale check dams would be placed along intermittent drainages flowing into Scoubes Creek to help prevent the loss of soil and the subsequent downstream deposition (see map for placement location).

C. Conformance

This proposal is in conformance with The Wilderness Act of 1964, 1989 Final Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement, Volume III. The 1982 Andrews Management Framework Plan (MFP) is the current land use plan for this area. Currently, there is no Wilderness Management Plan in place. The basic objectives of wilderness are to provide for human values and benefits and preserve wilderness characteristics. References include Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Handbooks 8560, 8560-1 and the Emergency Fire Rehabilitation Handbook.

III. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

A. Proposed Action

The burned area is mostly within the Alvord Peak WSA (2-83), where a primary goal is to perpetuate natural systems and their characteristics. This alternative is being proposed to conform to wilderness guidelines. The proposed action would be to close the pasture to livestock grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons to allow for rehabilitation of the burned area. In an attempt to minimize erosion, 60 acres in the upland area would be seeded immediately adjacent to Scoubes Creek and three tributaries which flow into Scoubes Creek. The proposed native perennial species to be seeded are western wheatgrass at 4 pounds per acre, sodar streambank wheatgrass at 2 pounds per acre, basin wildrye at 1-pound per acre, and Lewis flax at .5-pound per acre. Seed would be hand broadcast and also hand raked.

Monitoring would be established to determine when the rehabilitation objectives have been met. The area would be monitored for three growing seasons to determine establishment of seeded species as well as response in any unseeded areas that were burned. Current erosion and occurrence of noxious weeds would also be monitored.

A Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) assessment would be conducted on Scoubes Creek prior to continuing grazing in this pasture. If stream conditions are found to have declined below their current condition, grazing would be postponed.

Rangeland monitoring would include upland trend, utilization studies, and use supervision. Additional photo trend points and trend monitoring would be implemented to evaluate if emergency fire rehabilitation objectives are met.

Grazing in this pasture would continue after two growing seasons, if monitoring indicates rehabilitation objectives have been met.

Straw bales, used to construct check dams, would be carried in by hand and placed in three ephemeral channels flowing into Scoubes Creek. The check dams would be constructed using one bale and two steel posts to hold them in place and would limit soil erosion, slow streamflow, and capture sediment. Basin wildrye, western wheatgrass, and sodar streambank wheatgrass would be broadcast seeded on the first terrace in this area.

A culvert, 3 feet in diameter, would be installed where Scoubes Creek crosses the road (approximately .75-mile west of the county road). Rock and fill dirt would be brought in from a nearby source so the surrounding area would be disturbed as little as possible. Scoubes Creek is a perennial stream which was flowing during fire suppression activities. Fire vehicles repeatedly crossing the creek increased the depth and width of the creek channel at the crossing.

Waterbars would be placed in two areas of the road, using a bull dozer, to help reduce soil erosion during spring runoff.

B. No Action

The pasture would be rested for two growing seasons. The burned area would be allowed to revegetate naturally. Straw bale check dams would not be placed in the creek. Waterbars would not be constructed and a culvert would not be placed across the road.

C. Other Alternatives Considered but not Analyzed

In order to decrease erosion and subsequent degradation of the site, seeding 167 acres in the Scoubes Creek basin was considered. It was felt that, until a management plan was in place to identify wilderness objectives, the minimum would be done to preserve stream conditions and protect sensitive fish species downstream from the burned area. This alternative would also include the installation of check dams, waterbars, and a culvert.

IV. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

A. Topography and Climate

The burned area is below the east slope of Alvord Peak. Slopes range from 5 to 85 percent. The elevation ranges from 4,600 to 6,600 feet. The area receives from 10 to 16 inches of precipitation with most occurring in the winter in the form of snow.

A. Soils

The basin soils are moderately deep to deep, 40 to 60 inches deep to bedrock, well-drained, gravelly clay textured subsoils to 16 inches, with gravelly loam from 0 to 4 inches. The upland soils are predominately 20 to 40 inches deep to bedrock, well-drained, gravelly clay textured subsoils to 16 inches, with gravelly loam from 0 to 4 inches.

C. Vegetation

Ecological Site Inventory (ESI) data indicate the slope below Alvord Peak was in late seral condition with low sage, Idaho fescue, and bluebunch wheatgrass as the dominant species. Prior to the fire, the toe-slope was comprised of Wyoming big sagebrush, Thurber needlegrass, and bluebunch wheatgrass in a mid-seral condition. The lower elevations, which were found to be in early to mid-seral, with Wyoming big sagebrush/Thurber needlegrass. These lower elevations were also found to contain bitterbrush, bottlebrush squirreltail, Sandberg bluegrass, and cheatgrass. The riparian vegetation contained mostly sedges, basin wildrye, Kentucky bluegrass, wild rose, and coyote willow.

Current botanical inventories do not indicate the presence of sensitive plants or Special Status plant sites.

D. Watershed

The burn area is located approximately 2 miles west of Alvord Lake. One perennial stream and several dry ephemeral channels may be affected. Scoubes Creek was assessed for PFC in 1999, and reaches were found to be functioning at-risk in a downward trend and nonfunctional. There is severe erosion in several areas where 3 to 4-foot headcuts exist. In one area of about 60 feet, the fire burned across the channel and burned the willows, wild rose, forbs, and aquatic vegetation. The majority of the riparian vegetation was singed and partially burned. Forbs, grasses, and rushes were mostly dormant at the time of the fire.

Root systems are intact and aboveground growth will begin from dormant, subterranean buds next spring. These areas still maintain adequate in-channel vegetation. The remaining pre-burn vegetation has already captured several inches of sediment, which will increase in upcoming storms; until the upland vegetation has recovered. The surrounding area was completely burned and without protective upland ground cover and riparian vegetation there is a severe soil erosion hazard and a high potential for channel streambank erosion and streambed deposition.

Scoubes Creek is a very unstable channel. There is a 4-foot headcut immediately downstream of the road. This puts the road crossing and stream at risk of failure. Headcut remediation is needed.

E. Fish and Wildlife

The area is used primarily during spring and summer by mule deer and antelope. The area also provides good habitat yearlong for California bighorn sheep, chukar, valley quail, sage grouse, golden eagles, prairie falcons, American kestrels, coyotes, and small mammals.

The steeper slopes are designated as a bighorn sheep habitat management area with California bighorn sheep being a Bureau-sensitive species. The area was designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) in 1983 to enhance bighorn habitat. Sage grouse are a Bureau sensitive species.

Some streams and springs in the Alvord Basin are habitat for the Alvord chub (*Gila alvordensis*) which is a Bureau Species of Concern. However, this species is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

F. Livestock Grazing Management

The Alvord Peak Fire (M-303) burned in the Bone Creek Pasture No. 01, of the Miner's Field Allotment, No. 6028. This fire will temporarily remove 325 AUMs from grazing in the allotment.

Currently, the allotment is being grazed, on a temporary nonrenewable basis, by the Roaring Springs Ranch, Inc., in conjunction with the Catlow Conservation Agreement. The authorized use is 800 cows from approximately April 16 to May 15 with 789 AUMs. Another permittee grazing in the allotment is authorized 210 AUMs. One cancelled permit has 807 AUMs. A total of 1,552 AUMs are authorized in the allotment.

In the summer of 1999, the Long Hollow Fire occurred in the same allotment which temporarily closed 377 AUMs to grazing in the O'Keefe field. This, combined with the Alvord Peak Fire will limit grazing to the remaining two pastures in the allotment: 1) Field's Seeding - 262 AUMs, 2) Miner's Field - 588 AUMs.

The allotment will have 850 AUMs available in the spring of 2001. As early as fall 2001 or spring of 2002, 1,227 AUMs may be available for use. All pastures should be available to grazing in the spring of 2003.

G. Wilderness

Most of the burn occurred in the Alvord Peak WSA (2-83). There are 15,700 acres of public land located within this WSA. Wilderness values include:

1. Naturalness:

The Alvord Peak WSA is in a relatively natural condition. This portion of the WSA contains a ridgeline with a series of 10 peaks, with rock outcroppings and numerous drainages and hills. The most outstanding natural features found in the wilderness are the geology, wildlife, and associated wildlife habitat. There is a power line and road running along the east boundary of the WSA.

2. Solitude

Outstanding opportunities for solitude are available in the Alvord Peak WSA, primarily because of topographic screening provided by the ridgeline, peaks, rock outcroppings, and numerous drainages and hills located in the western portion of the WSA. The eastern portion of the WSA, where the fire rehabilitation is being proposed, is less conducive to solitude. The WSA contains no vegetative screening which would enhance the opportunities for solitude.

3. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The area provides outstanding opportunities for hiking, hunting, observing wildlife, sightseeing, and photography.

4. Supplemental Wilderness Values

Special features adding to the value of the study area include the geologic, wildlife, vegetative, and scenic features.

H. Recreation and Visual Resources

The project area is public land and is used primarily for dispersed recreation activities such as hunting and, to a lesser degree, sightseeing. The Alvord Peak WSA is categorized as a Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class I. This class provides for natural ecological changes, and it allows limited management activity. The objective of this classification is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to landscape characteristics should be very low and must not attract attention. Class I is assigned to those areas where a management decision has been made to preserve a natural landscape.

I. Cultural Resources

Existing cultural site inventories indicate that there are no known resources in the proposed project area. Based on topography and land features, it has been presumed that a high potential for prehistoric, as well as historic sites, does occur in the area.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

A. Analysis of the Critical Elements

The following critical elements of the human environment are either not present or will not be adversely impacted by the proposed action: air quality, cultural or historic resource values, floodplains, noxious weeds, prime or unique farmlands, American Indian religious concerns, hazardous or solid wastes, and special management areas, (i.e., Wilderness and ACECs).

B. Proposed Action

1. Soils

The alluvial soils would have the best potential for producing a more diverse vegetative community as a result of seeding. The steeper slopes of the burn would be allowed to recover naturally. Two growing seasons of protection from livestock grazing would lessen the hazard of accelerated soil erosion.

Waterbars would be placed in the road to reduce deterioration of the road and decrease soil erosion and deposition of sediment into Scoubes Creek.

1. Vegetation

The majority of the ecological sites burned in this fire had adequate native plant cover, so approximately 1,640 acres would be allowed to recover naturally. The alluvial areas above the project area contain sufficient perennial vegetative cover to protect the soil surface, and recent rains have brought on significant regrowth of perennial plants. This diverse plant community has varied root systems (fibrous and tap roots) which provide for stable soil conditions.

The upland areas and ephemeral channels are being proposed for seeding to ensure stabilization of streambanks and reduction of both soil erosion and the risk of noxious weed establishment on these sites. The 60 acres of upland vegetation, being proposed for seeding, contained mostly Wyoming big sagebrush, basin wildrye, and Kentucky bluegrass.

Rest from livestock grazing would occur the first two growing seasons (2001 and 2002), to allow for recovery of these areas.

1. Watershed

The two growing seasons of protection from livestock grazing should allow adequate recovery of the vegetative cover. The risk of accelerated erosion would be reduced by allowing vegetation to regrow after the burn.

Straw bale check dams would be placed along three ephemeral channels flowing into Scoubes Creek and the area around these dams would also be seeded in order to accelerate recovery. The check dams would be installed in an effort to capture large amounts of silt. Over time, vegetation should grow through the silt; however, in the first year plants would probably be buried.

During fire suppression activities, the Scoubes Creek crossing was used several times causing severe bank damage. One culvert would be placed in Scoubes Creek to bring the road back to standard and prevent further degradation.

1. Livestock Grazing Management

The burned area would be rested for a minimum of two growing seasons, which would allow the new seeding to become established, and provide for natural reestablishment in those areas not seeded.

5. Wilderness

a. Naturalness:

Native grass species would be used which should have no effect on the naturalness on wilderness characteristics. Some lines may remain for a short time after hand raking and seeding. Straw bale check dams would be an unnatural sight but would breakdown after approximately 3 years.

b. Solitude:

The wilderness value of solitude would be affected during the rehabilitation work. To minimize the effects to solitude, work would be accomplished throughout periods of minimal use; during daylight hours and during the week when public use is at its lowest.

c. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The proposed project would have short-term impacts and limit primitive recreational opportunities during project implementation, but it should have no impacts on unconfined recreation. To minimize the effects to primitive and unconfined recreation, work would be accomplished throughout periods of minimal use; during daylight hours and during the week when public use is at its lowest.

d. Supplemental Wilderness Values:

The wilderness values of geologic, scenic features would not be affected. Vegetative features may be affected through the lack of diverse plant communities which give an uneven appearance to the landscape. The lack of vegetative diversity may also affect wildlife through the lack of shrub species that provide cover.

1. Recreation and Visual Resources

Although, the proposed project would have no affect on hunting or sightseeing; the presence of the straw bale check dams may impact visual resources slightly. The check dams may only be seen if visitors to the area travel off the main road and are standing in close proximity to these dams.

The culvert, which is outside the Class I VRM area, would create impacts to visual resources but should go unnoticed after the riparian area has revegetated.

1. Fish and Wildlife

It will take several years for upland shrub species to recover which would impact some species cover in the long term; however, the relatively deep soils adjacent to the stream should see the fastest recovery on riparian species. Natural revegetation will occur in most of the area, allowing the native plant communities to reestablish with associated wildlife habitat.

Successful seeding would provide additional forage for antelope and small mammals. A successful seeding would also reduce erosion and subsequent deposition into Alvord Lake which, in turn, would reduce effects on the Alvord chub. There would be some temporary disturbance to big game due to seeding activities. There would be no impacts to bald eagles and peregrine falcon.

1. Cultural Resources

There would be no impacts to cultural resources, as impacts to significant sites would be avoided or otherwise mitigated. A cultural resources inventory would be conducted to determine the existence of prehistoric and historic sites not previously identified. Any modifications necessary to avoid impacts may decrease the size or change the area to be seeded slightly. If any artifacts are encountered during project implementation, work would stop until further examinations can be conducted

C. No Action Alternative

1. Soils

There would be no seeding of the 1,700 acres which burned. Natural revegetation may allow much of the lower burn to be dominated by annual vegetative cover. Waterbars would not be constructed which would promote soil erosion and create greater deposition into the stream. These ecological sites would revert to exotic annuals such as cheatgrass. Rooting systems would not hold soil in place resulting in accelerated erosion. No check dams would result in accelerated erosion and sediment deposition into Scoubes Creek. The absence of a culvert may continue the degradation of the stream crossing and possibly close the road and limit upland access to recreationists.

2. Vegetation

The area would not be seeded. Perennial vegetation on the slopes may be slower to recover. The lower alluvial areas would revegetate with mostly cheatgrass and Sandberg bluegrass and some perennial grasses. Noxious weeds and other exotic species could also invade the area and fire frequency would increase.

3. Watershed

Recovery of native vegetative cover on the sloped areas would be at risk without initial protection from livestock grazing. Natural revegetation of the lower alluvial sites may result in a cheatgrass/Sandberg bluegrass cover. The lower areas are prone to frequent burns which could result in the removal of perennial plant species. Overall, the watershed would be less stable and subject to future storm and fire events with the no action alternative.

4. Livestock Grazing Management

The burned area would be rested from grazing for two growing seasons to allow for recovery of the burned area.

5. Wilderness

a. Naturalness:

The area would not be seeded which may allow cheatgrass to become the predominant species. This would give the area a very uniform appearance in height and color, affecting the naturalness of the area. The lack of vegetative cover along the streambanks would cause severe erosion, leading to an unnatural appearance.

b. Solitude:

The wilderness value of solitude would not be affected.

c. Primitive and Unconfined Recreation:

The wilderness value of primitive and unconfined recreation would not be affected.

d. Supplemental Wilderness Values:

The wilderness values of geologic, wildlife, scenic features would not be affected. Vegetative features may be affected through the lack of diverse plant communities which give an uneven appearance to the landscape.

6. Recreation and Visual Resources

Depletion of natural vegetation on uplands and establishment of exotic annual vegetation would detract from the visual resources of the area. Recreational opportunities could be impacted by increased fire frequency, and less desirable areas for hiking and horseback riding.

7. Wildlife

It will take several years for upland shrub species to recover which would impact cover for some species in the long term; however, the relatively deep soils adjacent to the stream should see the fastest recovery on riparian species. Natural revegetation will occur in most of the area which will allow the native plant communities to reestablish with associated wildlife habitat.

8. Cultural Resources

There would be no impacts to cultural resources.

VI. PREPARERS AND REVIEWERS

Manuel Berain, Range Technician
Jim Buchanan, Range Management Specialist
Carolyn Chad, Range Management Specialist
Mary Emerick, Wilderness Specialist
Rick Hall, Natural Resource Specialist
Matt Obradovich, Wildlife Biologist
Jeff Rose, Fire Ecologist
Ellie Sippel, Hydrologist
Cam Swisher, Environmental Protection Specialist
Scott Thomas, Archaeologist
Evelyn Treiman, Outdoor Recreation Planner

VII. MONITORING

This area will be monitored for three growing seasons to determine if rehabilitation objectives are being met. Monitoring will be conducted to determine establishment and success of native seeding and also response in natural revegetation areas that were burned. A PFC assessment would be conducted to ensure stream conditions were not deteriorating. The PFC assessment would be conducted prior to resuming grazing in the pasture.

VIII. ANNUAL WORK PLAN SECTION

See Section XIV.

IX. MAPS

See Attachment 2.

X. COST/RISK ASSESSMENT

<u>Treatment</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Revegetation (60 acres)	\$ 8,155
Straw Bale (15) and Check Dam Installation (15)	\$ 15,000
Other (Administration Clearances, Monitoring, etc.)	\$ 7,500
TOTAL =	\$ 30,655

Probability of Rehabilitation Treatments Successfully Meeting Emergency Fire Rehabilitation Objectives

Treatments	Units	NA	%
Revegetation (overall rating) broadcasting and raking	60 acres		90
Check Dams, straw	15		80
Waterbars	8		75
Culvert, 3-foot diameter	1		95

XI. RISK OF RESOURCE VALUE LOSS OR DAMAGE

Proposed Action - Treatment Successfully Implemented

Resource Value	NA	None	Low	Mid	High
Unacceptable Loss of Topsoil				X	
Weed Invasion				X	
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Diversity				X	
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Structure				X	

No Action - Treatment Not Implemented, two growing seasons of rest from grazing

Resource Value	NA	None	Low	Mid	High
Unacceptable Loss of Topsoil					X
Weed Invasion					X
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Diversity					X
Unacceptable Loss of Vegetation Structure					X

XII. NATIVE/NONNATIVE WORKSHEET

Nonnative plants are not proposed for seeding.

Proposed Native Plants in Seed Mixture

1. Are the native plants proposed for seeding adapted to the ecological sites in the burned area?
 Yes Rationale: The proposed seed mix should establish quickly to protect soils.

2. Is seed or seedlings of native plants available in sufficient quantity for the proposed project?
 Yes Rationale: Seed sources have been located both locally and in nearby states.

3. Is the cost and quality of the native seed reasonable given the size and objectives of the proposed project?

Yes Rationale: Native seed is more expensive, but are being used to protect wilderness values. Naturalized species may be used in a wilderness area but are not being proposed.

4. Will the native plants establish and survive given the environmental conditions and the current or future competition from other species in the seed mix or from exotic plants?

Yes Rationale: Precipitation is adequate with favorable soil depths and surface textures.

5. Will the current or proposed livestock management after the grazing exclusion period maintain the seeded native plants in the seed mixture?

Yes Rationale: Early season grazing with periodic growing season rest will allow plants to grow and reproduce.

A "no" response requires additional analysis in the EA or selection of an alternate species in the seed mixture. List the natives and nonnatives proposed to be used below.

PROPOSED SEED MIXTURE

Nonnative Plants

Native Plants

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

- 1. Western wheatgrass - Arriba
- 2. Basin wildrye - Trailhead
- 3. Streambank wheatgrass - Sodar
- 4. Lewis flax - Appar

XIII. SUMMARY

1. Are the risks to natural and private resources unacceptable if the rehabilitation treatments (proposed action and/or alternatives) are not implemented?

Yes

Rationale: Fire frequency in the area is high. This area has burned before and revegetated with annuals. The current fire hazard, risk of accelerated soil erosion, loss of plant diversity and ecological values in a wilderness, and threat to adjacent structures and high value resources is unacceptable.

2. Is the probability of success of the proposed treatments (proposed action and/or alternatives) acceptable given their costs?

Yes

Rational: Due to risk of accelerated soil erosion and the possible effects on sensitive species downstream. The loss of plant diversity through streambank erosion would also affect ecological values in a wilderness area. The cost of reestablishing perennial vegetation is justified.

1. Which approach will cost-effectively and successfully attain the emergency fire rehabilitation objectives and, therefore, is recommended for implementation?

The proposed action.

Rationale: The proposed action, in its scope, may not provide protection to the entire burned area, but it adheres strictly to wilderness guidelines. The alternative considered but not analyzed would achieve more of the rehabilitation objectives by restoring plant communities to ensure soil stabilization, wildlife habitat protection.

XIV. ANNUAL WORK PLAN SUMMARY

ALVORD PEAK FIRE EMERGENCY REHABILITATION PLAN

ITEM	COST/UNIT	UNITS	TOTAL	FY NEEDED
Seeding (hand broadcast)	\$5,000 WM	1 WM	\$ 5,000	2001
Streambank wheatgrass (Sodar)	\$7.00/lb x 2 lb/ac	60 ac	\$ 840	2001
Western wheatgrass (Arriba)	\$ 4.50/lb x 4 lb/ac	60 ac	\$ 1,080	2001
Basin wildrye (Trailhead)	\$22.50/lb x 1 lb/ac	60 ac	\$ 1,350	2001
Lewis Flax	\$ 3.50/lb x .5 lb/ac	60 ac	\$ 105	2001
Seed Testing			\$ 200	2001

ITEM	COST/UNIT	UNITS	TOTAL	FY NEEDED
	Subtotal =		\$ 8,575	
Hand Seeding/Check Dams	\$5,000 WM	2 WM	\$10,000	2001
Archaeological Clearance	\$5,000 WM	.5 WM	\$ 2,500	2001
Project layout/supervision	\$5,000 WM	1 WM	\$ 5,000	2001
Monitoring	\$5,000 WM	.5 WM .5 WM	\$ 2,500 \$ 2,500	2001 2002
	Subtotal =		\$22,500	
TOTAL			\$31,075	

XV. EFR PROJECT SUMMARY

Fire Name: Alvord Peak (M-303)

Fire Control Date: August 5, 2000

Total Acres Burned: 1,700

Acres BLM Burned: 1,680

Start of Rehabilitation: October 2001

Completion of Rehabilitation: October 2001

Miles of New Fence: NA

Miles of Fence Rebuilt: NA

Number of Soil/Watershed Structures: 15 check dams, 8 waterbars

Acres Reforestation: NA

Acres of Revegetation: 60

Acres of Burned Area Protected for Natural Regeneration: 1,640

Total Acres Rehabilitated: 1,700

Estimated Funding FY01: \$26,075

Estimated Funding FY02: \$ 2,500

Estimated Funding FY03: \$ 2,500

XVI. EA DECISION REPORT

Decision Record Rationale

Title: Alvord Peak Fire Emergency Rehabilitation Plan OR-026-00-83

Background: The Alvord Peak Fire located on the east rim of Alvord Peak extending down to the Fields/Folly Farm Road, burned 1,680 acres of BLM-managed land and 20 acres of private land from August 3, 2000 to August 5, 2000.

Decision: After consideration of the analysis of impacts and mitigating measures of the proposed action and alternatives, my decision is to implement the proposed action as follows.

Alvord Peak Fire: Hand broadcast seed over 60 acres. Rake seeded area to cover seed with soil. Native perennial grasses will be used. Straw bales will be placed at three ephemeral drainages of Scoubes Creek to prevent excessive erosion. Waterbars will be placed in the road to prevent erosion and preserve road conditions. The Bone Creek Pasture will be closed to grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons. Total funding requested for the Alvord Peak Fire rehabilitation is \$31,075.

Rationale: The proposed action will improve ecological resources with minimal affects to the wilderness values. The reestablishment of native plant species in the Scoubes Creek drainage would reduce soil erosion, enhance the recovery of the perennial grass which would promote streambank stability, and reduce downstream risks to the Alvord chub.

David E. Blackstun, Acting for (Signature on file)

November 14, 2000

Andrews Resource Area Field Manager

Date

XVII. LIST OF PREPARERS/REVIEWERS

A. Participating BLM Staff

Manuel Berain, Range Technician
Jim Buchanan, Range Management Specialist
Carolyn Chad, Range Management Specialist
Mary Emerick, Wilderness Specialist
Rick Hall, Natural Resource Specialist/Botanist
Matt O'bradovich, Wildlife Biologist
Jeff Rose, Fire Ecologist
Ellie Sippel, Hydrologist
Cam Swisher, Environmental Protection Specialist
Scott Thomas, Archaeologist
Evelyn Treiman, Outdoor Recreation Planner

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

ALVORD PEAK FIRE
EMERGENCY FIRE REHABILITATION PLAN
EA OR-026-00-83

The Burns District, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has analyzed a proposal (and alternatives) for accomplishment of the emergency rehabilitation of burned BLM land in the Alvord Peak Fire (M-303), on the Andrews Resource Area, and supported by the Andrews Management Framework Plan (MFP), August 1982. This document may be reviewed at the Burns District Office or on the Burns District Home Page web site at www.or.blm.gov/Burns.

The design features and the recommended mitigation measures identified in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) would assure that no significant adverse impacts would occur to the human environment other than those already addressed in the Andrews MFP. Adverse effects of the proposal are minimal and of short duration with no residual impact. They are as follows:

- a) minimal soil disturbance
- b) minimal disruption to livestock operator's normal operation

Determination

On the basis of the information contained in the EA (comments received on the EA (if applicable), and all other information available to me as is summarized above, it is my determination that none of the alternatives analyzed constitutes a major Federal action affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of supplement to the existing EIS is unnecessary and will not be prepared. This decision is placed in full force and effect in accordance with 43 CFR 4770.3(C) as of the date.

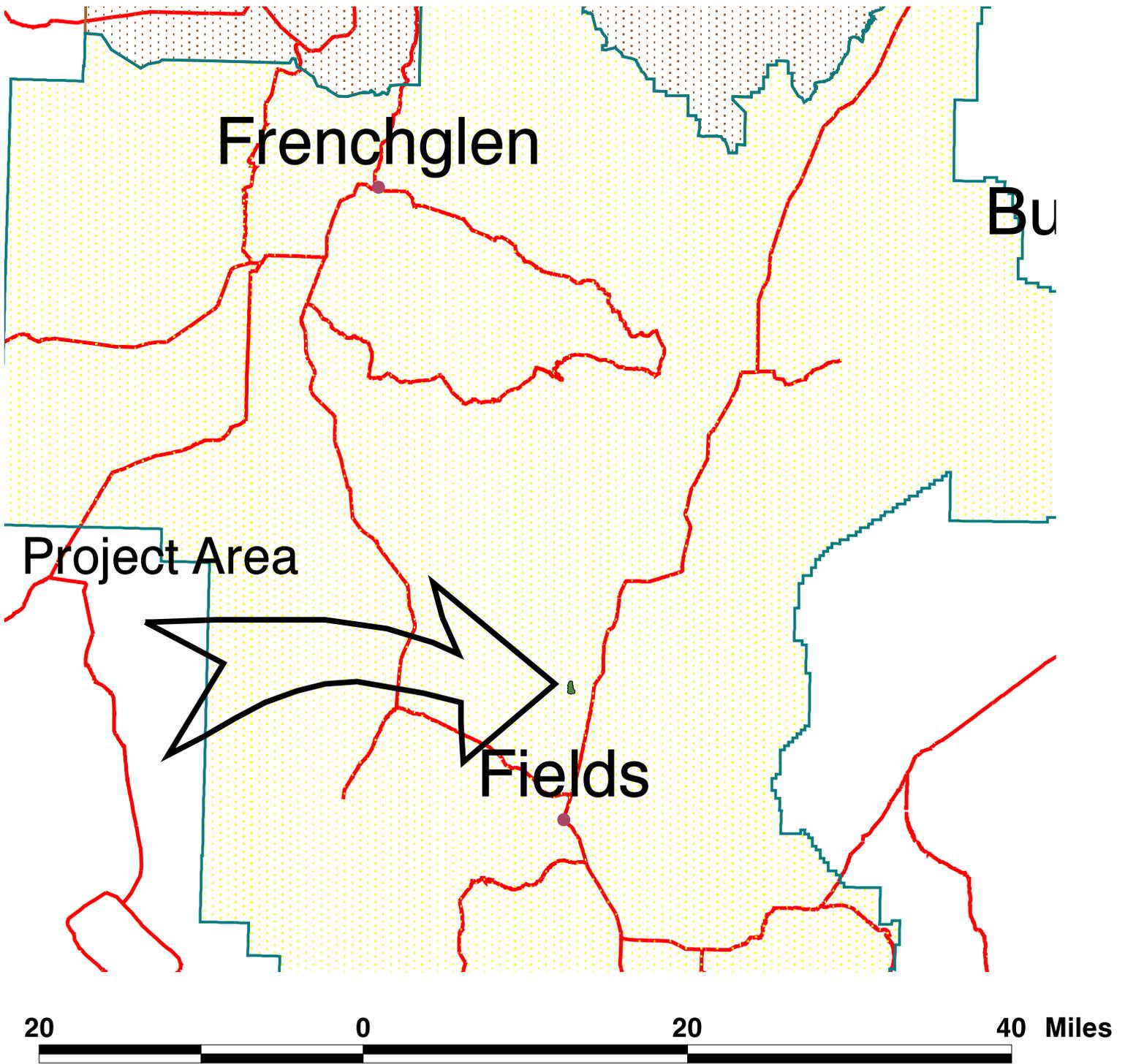
Any person who is adversely affected by this decision may file an appeal within 30 days from receipt of this decision in accordance with 43 CFR, Part 4 (see enclosed Form 1842-1). Any request for a stay of this decision in accordance with CFR 4.21 must be filed with the appeal.

David E. Blackstun, Acting for (Signature on file)

November 14, 2000

Andrews Resource Area Field Manager

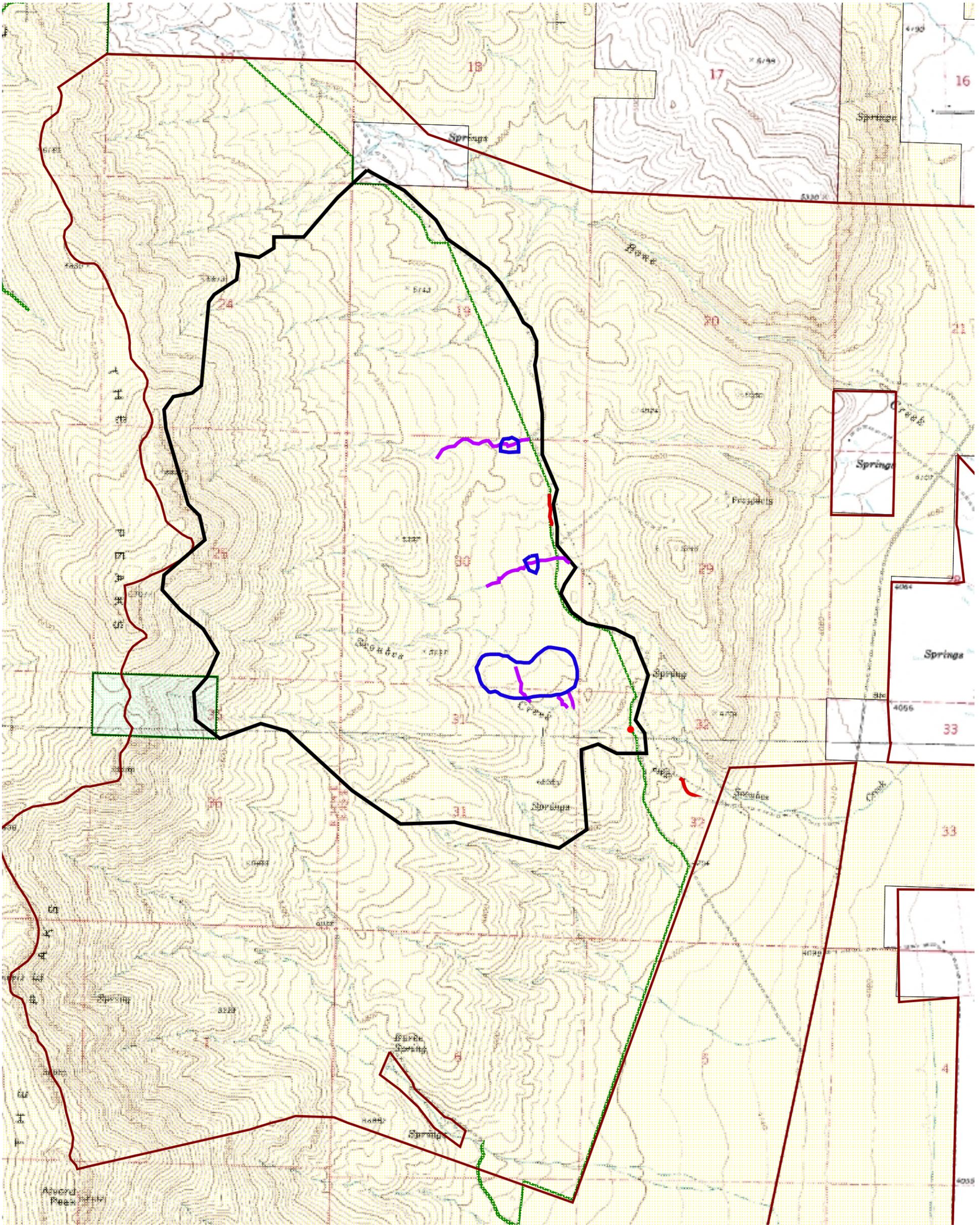
Date



ALVORD PEAK FIRE REHAB

- Apeakrehab.shp
- Cities
- Resource Area Boundaries**
- Andrews Resource Area
- Three Rivers Resource Area
- Roads (major)





Alvord Peak Fire M303

1700 Acres

-  Bone Cr. Past/Miners Field Allot
-  Wilderness Study Area
-  BLM
-  Private
-  Fire Perimeter

REHAB: Proposed Action

-  Seeding (60 acres)
-  Check Dam Location (Approx)
-  Water Bars
-  Culvert

