Low Soil Burn Severity (SBS) occurs across the 81% of the Haywire Fire. Low SBS occurs from partial consumption of fine fuels (for example, pine needles and grass), where broken limbs, leaves and ground cover are relatively unchanged and intact on the soil surface.

Moderate SBS occurs on 10% of the Haywire Fire. Moderate SBS occurs where 50 to 80 percent of pre-fire soil cover (litter and ground fuels) was consumed by fire. Charring of the mineral soil is patchy or sporadic and plant roots within the soil may be scorched but are rarely consumed.

High SBS occurs on less than 1% of the fire. High SBS sites within the fire are typically the result of high fire severity that corresponds with longer burning time at the soil surface. As a result of the high, longer duration heat, nearly all of the pre-fire soil cover ground fuels have been consumed.