BAER completes field work for a portion of the August Complex South Zone

WILLOWS, Calif. — Oct. 7, 2020 — Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) specialists from the U.S. Forest Service recently completed their data gathering and field work of the August Complex Fire burn area. Their focus was to verify and finalize the soil burn severity map. Soil burn severity is classified into levels between unburned and high.

Due to the size of the fire, its activity, and the team’s inability to visit the northern portion of the fire, the BAER team assessed the southern portion of the fire, an area 521,000 acres in size. The northern portion will be evaluated at a future date once activity drops and the specialists are allowed into the burned area.

BAER specialists will now use the soil burn severity data to identify if there are areas or features of concern where increased soil erosion, accelerated surface water run-off, and debris flows have the potential to impact human life and safety, property, and critical natural and cultural resources from rain events.

For more incident information please see InciWeb: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6983/ For BAER information see: https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7228/