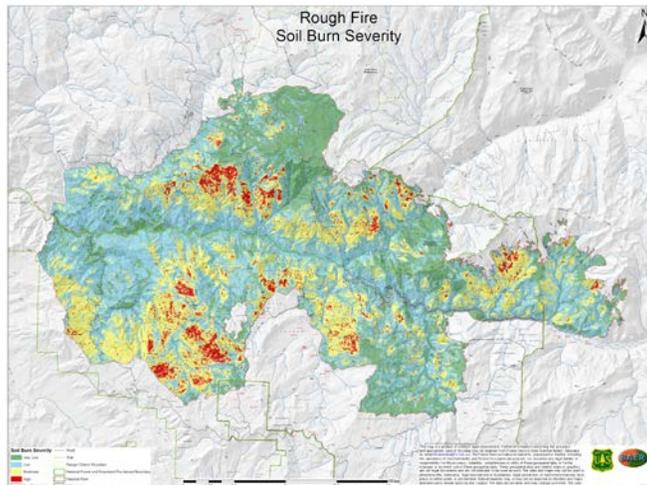


Sequoia and Sierra National Forests  
**Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER)**  
 Post-Fire BAER Assessment



BAER Information: (415) 881-1871

**BAER UPDATE – ROUGH FIRE SOIL BURN SEVERITY MAP RELEASED**



**BAER** specialists are completing their data gathering and verification field work in the North and South Zones of the [Rough Fire](#) burn area. The **Soil Burn Severity** map has been finalized. Soil Burn Severity codes are 1 = Very Low, 2 = Low, 3 = Moderate, and 4 = High.

This map shows that approximately two-thirds (68%) of the 103,128 acres analyzed by the **BAER** team within the perimeter of the **Rough Fire** are either very low to low soil burn severity, while 28% sustained a moderate soil burn severity and 4% burned at high severity.

The assessment team uses the soil burn severity data to identify if there are areas of concern where increased soil erosion, accelerated surface water run-off, and debris flows have the potential to impact human life/safety and property from storm events. The team will then consider emergency stabilization options for those critical resources.

**BAER Team Leader Fletcher Linton** stated, "Erosion and run-off throughout most of the Rough Fire will not be measurably greater as a result of the fire. This is because two-thirds of the Rough Fire experienced very low to low soil burn severity. In specific areas that experienced moderate to high soil burn severity (approximately one-third of the Rough fire), there could be concern for run-off from steep hillslopes and resultant increases in post-fire soil erosion."

The Rough Fire soil burn severity **BAER** map can be downloaded at the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests' "**Rough Post-Fire BAER**" InciWeb site as a JPEG or PDF version under the "maps" tab.

A "**Field Guide for Mapping Post-Fire Soil Burn Severity**" can help with interpreting the map and can be found online at [http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs\\_gtr243.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs_gtr243.pdf).

**SPECIAL NOTE:** *Everyone near and downstream from the **Rough Fire** burned areas should remain alert and stay updated on weather conditions that may result in heavy rains over the burn scar. Flash flooding may occur quickly during heavy rain events. Current weather and emergency notifications can be found at the **National Weather Service, San Joaquin Valley/Hanford Office** ([www.wrh.noaa.gov/hnx/](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/hnx/)) website.*

Rough Post-Fire BAER Assessment information is available at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4625/>.

