

Erskine Fire Noxious Weed Management BAER Report

Resource Specialty: Noxious Weed Management
Fire Name: Erskine
Month and Year: 06/23/2016 (fire start), 07/11/2016 (date of report)
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I. Potential Values at Risk (identified prior to the on-the-ground survey)

A. Critical Values

Bright Star Wilderness (BLM adjacent)
 Long Canyon Research Natural Area
 Inspiration Point Botanical Special Interest Area
 Pacific Crest Trail Corridor (FS and BLM)
 Adjacent private land values
 Joshua Tree woodland (BLM adjacent)
 Sensitive plant habitat:
 pygmy poppy, Kern (rose-colored) larkspur, (others?)
 Nicoll's Peak traditional Cultural Property (adjacent BLM)
 General Forest, perennial/annual grassland, desert shrub:
 Wildlife, grazing, ecologic values

B. Resource Condition Assessment

- (a) Resource Setting
- (b) Findings of the On-The-Ground Survey
- (c) Consequences of the fire on values at risk

II. BAER Risk Assessment Refer to: Chapter 2520 - Watershed Protection and Management

| Probability of Damage or Loss | Magnitude of Consequences | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | Major | <u>Moderate</u> | Minor |
| | RISK | | |
| Very Likely | Very High | Very High | Low |
| Likely | Very High | High | Low |
| Possible | High | <u>Intermediate</u> | Low |
| Unlikely | Intermediate | Low | Very Low |

Primary risk is conversion of desert shrub, Joshua tree habitat to cheat grass. Probability is likely, magnitude is moderate. Treatment is monitoring. Effectiveness of treatment if detected is uncertain. Probability of new noxious weeds (such as yellow star thistle or?) is possible with moderate to major consequences

Summary:

C. Emergency Determination –

D. Treatments to Mitigate the Emergency

- (a) Treatment Type: Monitoring
- (b) Treatment Objective: Early detection of noxious weed infestations
- (c) Treatment Description: Monitor dozer lines and high severity fire areas for noxious weeds for three years
- (d) Treatment Cost:
- (e) Probability of completing treatment prior to damaging storms or events: High
- (f) Probability of treatment success: Moderate

III. Discussion/Summary/Recommendations

Monitor dozer lines and high severity fire effects for three years. Evaluate treatment needs annually.

IV. References

V. Appendices