

**Home Front National Forest**



**Northern CA Wildfires  
Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER)  
BAER Team Update – April 16, 2013**

**Cathleen Thompson, BAER Information Officer: (707) 853-4243**

The Home Front National Forest assembled an Interagency Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) assessment team to gather information, conduct an analysis, determine the post-fire condition of the burned watersheds, and recommend emergency stabilization treatments for the recent wildfires.

The interagency team of specialists, including hydrologists, soil scientists, archaeologists, foresters, engineers, biologists, and geographic information specialists, is comprised of resource specialists from the USDA Forest Service (USFS), USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the State of California (CA).

The BAER team will generate a report that will identify immediate and emergency actions needed to address post-fire risks to people, property, cultural and natural resources. Wildfire can increase the risk of flooding, erosion and sedimentation, debris flow, reduced water quality, invasive plants, and falling trees and rocks. The BAER team report will contain an assessment of watershed pre- and post-fire response information, areas of concern, values-at-risk, and recommended short-term emergency stabilization treatments for Forest Service land that burned during the recent wildfires.

BAER emergency treatment objectives may allow for a more efficient passage of water to increase protection for infrastructures and watersheds from accelerated erosion, as well as from the spread of noxious weeds within the burned areas, and control access in areas where it is not safe for the public to enter or in areas to allow the natural resources to recover without additional access impacts.