PURE WATER PARTNERS

Wildfire Recovery Restoration Matrix

The severity of a wildfire dictates the best response for erosion mitigation and long term restoration. Once the burn intensity and severity is determined, the matrix below suggests best management practices.

For more information or to sign-up for a recovery assessment visit **www.purewaterpartners.org.**

Practice	Low impact (Low slope, low burn severity, low tree mortality, leaf/needle litter present, low debris flow risk)	Moderate impact (Moderate slope, moderate burn severity, moderate tree mortality, leaf/needle litter minimally present, moderate debris flow risk)	High impact (Steep slope, high burn severity, high tree mortality, leaf/needle litter absent, high debris flow risk)
Short term (within 1-2 months post-fire)			
Hazard trees	Leave woody and vegetative debris in place to the extent practical.	If needed, cut and lay parallel to water bodies to reduce erosion	Cut, and lay parallel to water bodies to reduce erosion
Seeding Native seed mix	Unlikely to require supplemental revegetation. Natural revegetation should occur. Monitor for erosion.	May be required.	Recommended
Hydroseeding (Limited to areas of high risk)	Monitor for erosion.	Monitor for erosion.	(>60% slope) Hydroseed using native seed, tackifier, and flexible growth medium (FGM)
Mulching (straw/wood chips)	Unlikely to be recommended.	May be required depending upon slope and burn severity	Recommended
Wattles	Not needed. Leave woody and vegetative debris in place to the extent practical. Monitor for erosion.	Recommended, if hillslope drainage and/or increased debris flow risk are present.	Recommended, if hillslope drainage and/or increased debris flow risk are present.
Erosion blankets	Not needed. Leave woody and vegetative debris in place to the extent practical. Monitor for erosion.	Recommended, if hillslope drainage and/or increased debris flow risk are present.	Recommended, if hillslope drainage and/or increased debris flow risk are present.
Sediment fences (For use in flatter open areas)	Not needed. Leave woody and vegetative debris in place to the extent practical. Monitor for erosion.	Recommended where the flow of water is dispersed and where there is moderate potential for sediment movement above them.	Recommended where the flow of water is dispersed and where there is moderate potential for sediment movement above them.

Practice	Low impact (Low slope, low burn severity, low tree mortality, leaf/needle litter present, low debris flow risk)	Moderate impact (Moderate slope, moderate burn severity, moderate tree mortality, leaf/needle litter minimally present, moderate debris flow risk)	High impact (Steep slope, high burn severity, high tree mortality, leaf/needle litter absent, high debris flow risk)
Check Dams (for use in drainage areas)	Not needed. Leave woody and vegetative debris in place to the extent practical. Monitor for erosion.	If needed, use jute/ cutting wattles.	If needed, use jute/ cutting wattles.
Log terraces	Not needed, but woody debris and vegetative debris should be left in place.	Use downed trees parallel to the river to provide sediment retention.	Use downed trees parallel to the river to provide sediment retention.
Culvert protection	Not needed. Remove accumulated material prior to precipitation events.	If present, use gravel berms, wire/hog fencing with "felt" geotextile fabric on the upstream side, or even sediment fence, to create a barrier to the debris. Monitor.	If present, use gravel berms, wire/hog fencing with "felt" geotextile fabric on the upstream side, or even sediment fence, to create a barrier to the debris. Monitor.
Medium-term (3-6 months post-fire)			
Bare root trees/shrubs	May not be needed. Allow natural revegetation to occur. Monitor.	Selectively replant using native trees and shrubs to achieve a 4:1 shrub/tree ratio. Achieve a density of 2,200 to 2,600 stems per acre.	Replant using native trees and shrubs to achieve a 4:1 shrub/tree ratio. Achieve a density of 2,200 to 2,600 stems per acre.
Long-term (6 month-3 years post-fire)			
Invasive vegetation management	Monitor for new invasive plant growth. Treat/remove as needed.	Monitor for new invasive plant growth. Treat/remove as needed.	Monitor for new invasive plant growth. Treat/remove as needed.