

REPAIRING ACTUAL AND POTENTIAL DAMAGES TO RESOURCES AND PROPERTY

7773

(May 1988)

NEED FOR REPAIRS

7773.1

(May 1988)

The CAL FIRE's objective of fire suppression is to hold damages to life, property, and resources to some acceptable level within social, political, and economic constraints. In the past, the CAL FIRE's fire suppression activities may have resulted, directly or indirectly, in damages to soil, streams, fish habitat, and private property. To the extent possible and practical, these damages should be minimized but with due consideration for fire suppression requirements.

Following fire suppression activities, equipment and personnel should not be released from the fire until some reasonable repairs can be made to private property and until actions can be taken to minimize potential damages to soil, streams, and fish habitat.

INCIDENT COMMANDER

7773.2

(May 1988)

The operations section is responsible to the incident commander for inventorying actual and potential damages to resources and property. Following the control of a fire, this section is also responsible for taking whatever actions are necessary and reasonable to repair actual damage or to decrease the potential for further damages to resource and property values.

REHABILITATION CHECKLIST

7773.3

(May 1988)

- Construct water bars along all firelines and along those roads which have been built especially to accommodate fire control activities. Use the following guidelines to construct water bars:
 - Distances between water bars as measured along the surface of the ground should be as follows:

MAXIMUM DISTANCE BETWEEN WATER BARS (IN FEET)				
Estimated Erosion Hazard Rating*	Road or Fireline Gradient			
	10% or Less	11 - 25%	25 - 50%	Over 50%
Extreme	100	75	50	50
High	150	100	75	50
Moderate	200	150	100	75
Low	300	200	150	100

*Should be judged by CAL FIRE forester or other qualified person.

- Effective water bars shall be constructed at all natural water courses regardless of the above quoted distances, except where culverts or bridges are provided.
- Water bars shall be cut diagonally a minimum of six inches into the firm roadbed or fireline surface and should have a continuous firm embankment of at least six inches in height immediately adjacent to the lower edge of the water bar cut.
- Water bars shall provide for unrestricted discharge at the lower end of the water bar so that water will be discharged and spread into the adjacent area in such a manner that erosion in the discharge area shall be minimized.
- Water shall be discharged into some form of vegetative cover or duff whenever possible. Refer to State Forest Note #65 - Water Bars.
- Block those roads which have been built especially to assist in fire control activities if they are not to be used in further fire-related activity.
- Clear all stream bottoms of debris deposited as a result of fire control activities to permit free flow of water and to decrease potential damage to fish habitat.
- Repair damages to private property within reasonable limits and within the capabilities of available resources. Ensure that stock fences are repaired to keep livestock within their confines.
- List unrepaired damages to property created by fire suppression activities, and report this information to the incident commander for resolution with property owners.

(see next section)

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(see Forms or Forms Samples)