

**Caughlin Fire BAER Rehab Team**  
**UPDATE**  
**Thursday, December 15, 2011**

**Weather Briefing-Rhett Milne- National Weather Service**

Data shows that we have a small, very cold system moving in Thursday, possibly 5-6 am-5pm. We could see 0.5 to possibly 1.0" of snow, possibly without any accumulation through the day. After that we move back into a high pressure pattern. There doesn't appear to be any potential for precipitation prior to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December.

**BAER Team Updates:**

**A. Public Safety, Roads & Trails**

City of Reno & Washoe County trails remain closed due to Public Safety concerns. The k-rail staging has been completed at Audrey Harris Park. K-rail installation will begin Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and will be complete on December 21<sup>st</sup>. During that time there will be lane closures on Lakeside Dr. around the Windy Hill area. Washoe County will issue a press release related to this.

**B. Water Quality/Erosion Control**

City of Reno work in Manzanita canyon has begun with some watershed protection (over excavation at the Dant Dam/detention pond and construction of check dams) in the drainage bottom. Permitting has been approved by USACOE and NDEP under emergency guidelines.

**C. Ecosystem Rehabilitation**

Washoe County has begun work at Bartley Ranch for removal of dead cottonwoods, we have received quotes for pre-emergent herbicide application on 24 acres. Work will begin week of December 19. We will also be hiring a landscape architect to design an irrigation system and planting plan for approx . 2.8 acres in and around the Hawkens amphitheater. Other emergency restoration plans are still being prepared along with the needed right of entry's.

**D. Finance/Budget**

- a. NLC Fundraising efforts-NLC has hired a part time person to begin logging donations and administrative work on the fundraising effort beginning Monday, December 19 ([www.nvlc.org](http://www.nvlc.org).) They have also partnered with the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada for fundraising efforts ([www.cfwnv.org](http://www.cfwnv.org)).
- b. Truckee River Fund Grant-NLC in coordination with City of Reno and Washoe County submitted an application to the Truckee River Fund for \$219,000 for emergency restoration efforts in Manzanita Canyon, Windy Hill and Evans Creek Drainage. We have received preliminary approval by the TRF Board, and hope to receive final approval on December 21 by the TMWA Board.

- c. Application to NRCS for Emergency Watershed Program-Washoe County staff continues to work with the NRCS Staff in obtaining Right of Entry for Evans Creek drainage, as well as helping prepare the Damage Survey Report and obtain the necessary maps needed for completion of their report.
- d. Other grant sources-NLC and the Community Foundation are currently receiving donations and have identified local foundations and organization that have pledged additional funding.
- e. City of Reno has requested through NDEM consideration for applying a portion of their existing authorized grant funding for the Dant Wash Drainage project to recovery efforts for the Caughlin Fire event within Manzanita Canyon. NDEM has requested FEMA Region 9 to consider whether erosion control work within the canyon can be considered eligible work scope under the project, in which case the City of Reno may be able to apply a portion of the authorized grant funding to augment TRF and other grant funding for recovery efforts. URS Consultants, as the Consultant FEMA retains for their HMGP program nationwide, is currently working on an opinion regarding this for FEMA.

#### **E. Public Information/Education**

Distributing information to the public on the December 7, 2011 Caughlin Restoration Meeting and the December 14, UNCE Be Ember Aware meeting.

Mechanisms to distribute event information included a direct email to homeowner associations in the area who redistributed through their email lists, cMail blasts to 600+ individual emails, citizen board member contacts through Washoe County and partnering agencies (City of Reno, City of Sparks), City of Reno email distribution lists, and agency social media sites.

A team of public information officers including Jim Sloan from University of Nevada, Reno, Cooperative Extension Office; Bob Harmon from Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space; and, Michelle Anderson from City of Reno distributed information to the media and responded to requests for information.

#### Provide Avenues for Citizen Response/Notification

##### Updated the Caughlin Fire Website:

[www.washoecounty.us/mgrsoff/caughlinfire.html](http://www.washoecounty.us/mgrsoff/caughlinfire.html)

Updates to the Caughlin Fire website include links to community resource information, updates on upcoming events and issues and responses to citizen questions. On top of updating the site, Chris Matthews has created a simple graphic linking citizens to resources for emergency notification systems.

The site is currently being updated with information from the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and should be completed by the end of the week.

### cMail

A cMail system for automated email notifications has been established for Caughlin Fire. Individuals who signed up at the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be added automatically to the list. It can be used by the team to update interested individuals on the restoration activities or to solicit feedback. Anyone can sign up to receive information at [www.washoecounty.us/cMail](http://www.washoecounty.us/cMail) and I encourage the team to sign up ☐.

Attached is the flyer developed for the December 7 meeting that includes interesting talking points and reference numbers.

### **F. Resources-Marsha Cardinal**

Washoe County GIS staff continues to produce maps as needed for damage reports and identification of property owners for obtaining signed right of entry's

### **G. Legal Issues**

#### **Access/Right of Entry**

City of Reno and Washoe County Legal staffs have approved a final Right of Entry for private lands. NLC has hired a part time person to begin obtaining signed right of entry forms beginning Monday, December 19.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** between City of Reno and Nevada Land Conservancy is currently being drafted. The MOU will define roles and responsibilities of applicable parties.

**Next (Large Group) Meeting**-Time & Location will be after January 1, 2012 with time and location TBD.

**After December 29, 2011**, Lynda Nelson will be retired from Washoe County, so please refer any Incident command issues to Kyle West at [westk@reno.gov](mailto:westk@reno.gov)