

# Biscuit Fire Project

Title: Erosion Assessment and Erosion Prevention Planning Project for Forest Roads in the Biscuit Fire Area, Southern Oregon

Client: Pacific Rivers Council

Location: Southern Oregon

Summary: Pacific Watershed Associates conducted a reconnaissance-level, rapid field inventory of erosion sources, and developed restoration options, for over 130 miles of forest roads in 6 key watersheds in burn areas of the Biscuit Fire, southern Oregon.

Project Details: This rapid assessment project consisted of a field inventory of selected forest roads within the Biscuit Fire area, as well as several main-line haul roads leading from adjacent unburned lands from the fire area, to identify existing and potential road-related sediment sources. Within this area, a limited sample of typical forest roads, in various geomorphic and physiographic settings, were selected for evaluation and analysis. Field work was conducted over three weeks in June, September and October, 2004. At sites of future erosion and sediment delivery, generalized treatment prescriptions were developed for cost-effective erosion prevention and erosion control. The proposed erosion prevention and erosion control work calls for road upgrading (storm-proofing) of roads that are a part of the active transportation system, and decommissioning of roads that are already in an abandoned, unmaintained status. The proposed treatments have been prioritized based on the sensitivity of the fisheries, the potential for sediment delivery, the volume of expected sediment delivery and treatment cost-effectiveness.