

September 27, 2011

Approved *Christopher Stone*
Christopher Stone

TO: Christopher Stone
FROM: Patricia Wood *P.W.*
Facilities Section
Water Resources Division

TIERRA FIRE BURNED AREA REPORT

Recommendations

1. No further action by Public Works is necessary
2. Authorize us to send a copy of this report to the City of Palmdale's Department of Public Works apprising them of the potential impacts to their facilities.

Background

Fire Name: Tierra Fire
Date of Fire: August 7, 2011
Burned Area: 15 Acres
Location: The fire occurred southwest of the intersection at Avenue S and Tierra Subida, in Palmdale Refer to Attachment A (Thomas Guide Page 4285-H4)

Fire History

Our records indicate that the area of the Tierra Fire was not previously burned

Summary of Potential Sediment Impact

On August 16, 2011, Water Resources Division (WRD) staff conducted a field investigation of the burned area to determine if residential properties or Public Works maintained facilities will be impacted by the flooding/debris flows during moderate to severe storms. The burned area, which is located in Debris Production Area Zone 10, is subdivided into two subarea watersheds. Vegetation of the watershed prior to the burn consisted of grasses and desert chaparral shrubs.

There are no Public Works maintained facilities that could be impacted by storm produced debris flows from the burned watershed. Field observations revealed that one resident below the burned slopes may be impacted by mudflow and debris. WRD staff met with the property owner and discussed potential protective measures that may be employed to deflect mud and debris flows from his property. The owner declined written

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advice, however, he accepted our *Homeowner's Guide for Flood, Debris, and Erosion Control* booklet for guidance and reference.

Subarea 1

Subarea 1 consists of a total area of 13 acres and is located on a privately owned property. The subarea was 77 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 110 cubic yards (cy). During moderate to severe storm events, mud and debris material from the burned area may flow down toward two catch basin inlets at the intersection of Avenue S and Tierra Subida where an existing culvert under Tierra Subida may potentially plug and cause flows to spill onto the intersection and impede traffic. It is our understanding the culvert and intersection are under the purview of the City of Palmdale.

Subarea 2

Subarea 2 consists of a total area of 9 acres and is located on a privately owned property. The subarea was 51 percent burned creating an adjusted debris production potential of 70 cy. During moderate to severe storm events, mud and debris material from the burned area may flow directly from the burned area onto Avenue S causing flooding and sediment deposition along the roadway. It is our understanding the road is under the purview of the City of Palmdale.

The approved Burned Area Report will be posted on the Internet at <http://www.ladpw.org/WRD/FIRE/>

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Youssef Chebabi at Extension 6154

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