

Blood Complex Wilderness Fire Rehabilitation Plan

The following fireline rehabilitation measures within Congressionally-designated wildernesses affected by wildfires in the Blood Complex should be undertaken by the Incident Management Team prior to demobilization. These measures are consistent with Forest Service minimal impact suppression guidelines, as well as wilderness management direction. They are:

1. Remove all flagging, paper, equipment, and other human-generated debris from firelines, access routes, trails, and the general wilderness area.
2. After the fire is controlled, obliterate any cup trenching by restoring the natural contour of the area.
3. Waterbar or use downed woody debris as sediment control on any dug fireline as needed to control erosion.
4. Flush cut all stumps.
5. Arrange any woody material cut during suppression in such a manner as to mimic blowdown or natural conditions, with cut ends being turned away from any maintained hiking trail.
6. Camouflage cut stumps and log ends that are visible from maintained hiking trails by rubbing ash and/or dirt on the cut faces.
7. Where possible, piece back together bucked logs that are visible from maintained hiking trails.
8. Rake leaves and scatter woody debris in firelines where visible from maintained hiking trails.
9. Bury any human waste.
10. Naturalize any area where there were concentrations of personnel within the wilderness by scattering leaves, woody debris, etc.
11. Where old roads and other vehicle access points are apparent along the fireline, place large downed woody debris in a manner that will discourage vehicular access, particularly potential OHV access points.

Special rehabilitation measures for those portions of the Appalachian Trail, a National Scenic Trail, that were used as firelines or were affected by suppression activities. The Georgia Appalachian Trail Club was consulted during the preparation of this document .

1. Replace any waterbars removed during suppression efforts.
2. Repair or replace any waterbars damaged during suppression efforts. Note: Waterbar materials must be native stone or logs, installed in the manner of the nearby undamaged waterbars.
3. Rake leaves removed from the Trail during suppression efforts back into the Trail tread, where not already blown back in by the wind.
4. Repair any outside berm of the Trail that may have been damaged during suppression efforts.

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