- Roosevelt Fire –
and
- Marten Creek Fire -

Bridger-Teton National Forest
Thursday, October 4, 2018

BURNED AREA CLASSIFICATION MAP RELEASED FOR ROOSEVELT FIRE

The Forest Service Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) team has released the Burned Area Reflectance Classification (BARC) map for the Roosevelt Fire near Jackson, WY. The BARC map shows areas where fire intensities burned the hottest and is a useful tool for forecasting post-wildfire flooding and debris flow hazards. Since severely burned landscapes can increase rainfall runoff and destabilize slopes, it is important to determine these areas because they are also most susceptible to potential flash flooding and landsliding.

The BARC map is based on infrared LANDSAT satellite data that measures variations in surface reflectance of burned vegetation. Healthy green vegetation will reflect much of the infrared light, whereas burned or blackened vegetation will absorb the light. This difference in reflectance is then reclassified into a map of high, medium, and low severity burn areas. Burn maps are verified by field personnel before being finalized and released to the public.

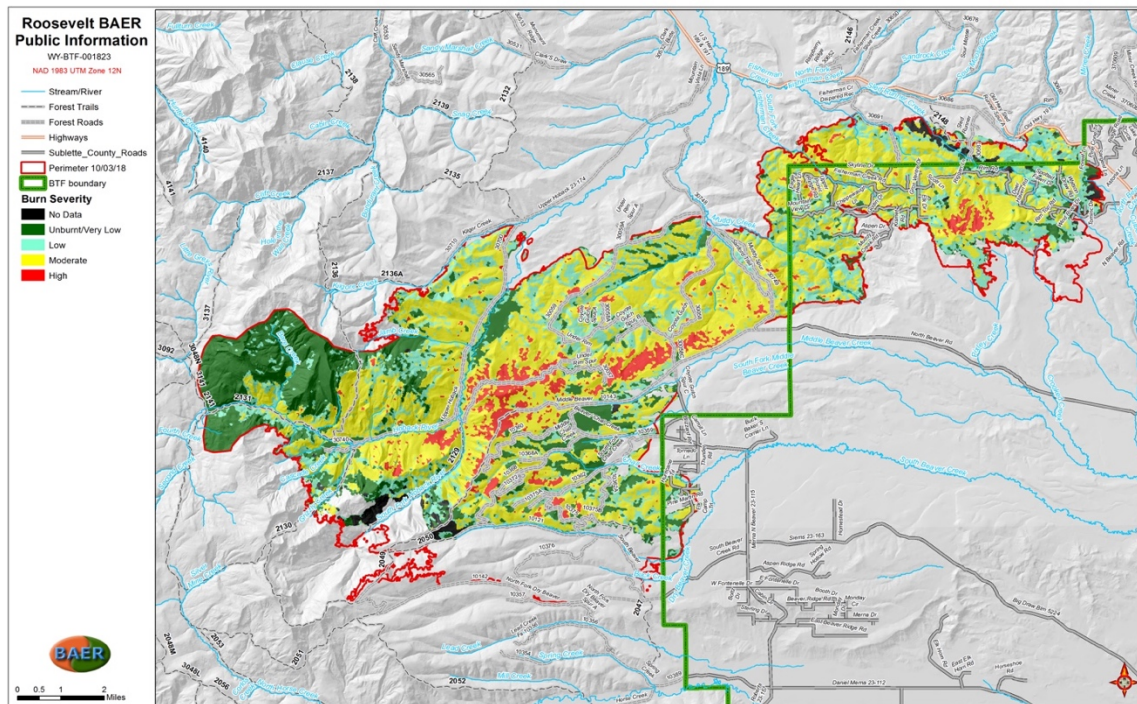*Figure 1. Soil scientist checks burned soil severity.*

Figure 2. Burned Area Reflectance Classification (BARC) map for Roosevelt Fire, near Jackson, WY.