**1917d: After the Fire**

(Music)

Joan Cartan-hansen, host: SOMETIMES LANDSCAPES FACE EVEN MORE DAMAGE AFTER A WILDFIRE.

HABITAT IS LOST AND THE SOIL CAN BE SO DAMAGED IT CAN’T PROPERLY HOLD WATER.

SO THAT, AND THE LOSS OF VEGETATION, CAN LEAD TO SOIL EROSION.

A FEW YEARS AGO, A SUDDEN RAINSTORM CAUSED FLASH FLOODING ON AN OLD BURNED AREA.

A MUD SLIDE CAUSED A LOG JAM ON THE MAIN SALMON, BLOCKING THE ENTIRE RIVER.

(BOOM)

CREWS HAD TO BLOW UP THE LOG JAM TO RESTORE THE RIVER’S FLOW.

CREWS ARE SOMETIMES SENT IN TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO ReHABILITATE A BURNED LANDSCAPE.

THEY PLANT NEW SEEDLINGS TO HELP REGROW THE VEGETATION ANIMALS NEED FOR FOOD AND SHELTER.

OTHER CREWS WORK TO PREVENT THE WORST WILDFIRES BEFORE THEY CAN HAPPEN BY SETTING PRESCRIBED BURNS AND BY THINNING OUT FUEL.

THE KEY IS TO KEEP PEOPLE SAFE AND LANDSCAPES HEALTHY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WILDFIRES, CHECK OUT THE SCIENCE TREK WEBSITE.

YOU’LL FIND IT AT IDAHOPTV.ORG/SCIENCE TREK

(MUSIC)