

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

October 15, 2024

Department Report

Subject

Fire Season Update

Background

As of October 9, Emergency Fire Suppression expenditures are estimated to be \$62,333,500. The suppression account will recover an estimated \$10,836,000 of reimbursable costs, for a net obligation of \$51,497,500. The total obligation includes the 2024 contracted aircraft costs and prepositioned contract engines to assist with a lack of qualified engine bosses. These engines were assigned across the state to boost initial attack resources.

Discussion

On September 2, the Chimney Fire was reported 9 miles northwest of Fairfield. The fire has burned 6,522 acres and is 80 percent contained.

On September 30, the Rosie Fire was reported 25 miles southeast of Jordan Valley, OR. The fire has burned 5,119 acres and is 15 percent contained.

On October 4, the Valley Fire was reported 1 mile east of Boise. The fire has burned 9,892 acres and is 66 percent contained.

On October 4, the Wallen Fire was reported 5 miles east of Moscow. The fire has burned 138 acres and is 100 percent contained.

Fire Season Comparison to Date

Number and Size of Fires (Year to Date)				
Year	Human	Lightning	Total	Acres
2020	190	50	240	6,879
2021	237	154	391	141,981
2022	127	153	280	4,614
2023*	206	78	284	2,582
2024*	201	122	323	49,251
20 Yr. Average (2002-2022)			288	24,784

*2024 and 2023 fires are calculated using protection boundaries of the new Idaho Master Agreement which increased the area in which IDL is the protecting agency. Therefore, there is an inconsistency between 2023/2024 numbers and 20-year averages.

A very warm and dry fall has prolonged the fire season. Due to these conditions, closed fire season has been extended until conditions warrant. Several large fires in Idaho still require management. Continued warm and dry weather is predicted for the remainder of the

month. Longer nights and cooler temperatures will help reduce fire activity, however, there remains a considerable risk especially in areas with cured grasses and other fine fuels.

All restrictions are rescinded and burn permits are being issued where appropriate.

Significant Fires Outside of IDL Protection

Red Rock Fire

Agency/Management: Salmon-Challis National Forest (USFS)

General Location: 15 miles west of Salmon, ID

Acres burned: 51,873 acres, 15 percent contained

Garden Fire

Agency/Management: Salmon-Challis National Forest (USFS)

General Location: 25 miles northwest of Salmon, ID

Acres burned: 8,379 acres, 0 percent completed

Lava Fire

Agency/Management: Boise National Forest (USFS)

General Location: 12 miles southwest of Cascade, ID

Acres burned: 97,567 acres, 90 percent contained

Wapiti Fire

Agency/Management: Boise National Forest (USFS)

General Location: 14 miles west of Stanley, ID

Acres burned: 127,043 acres, 80 percent completed

Total Acres Burned by Ownership	
10/9/2024	
Surface Owner	Acres
Bureau of Land Management	264,243
Other Federal	8,846
Other State	9,519
Private	133,203
State Endowment	37,572
Tribal	1,008
U.S. Forest Service	499,730
Other	846
Total Acres	954,967

Only fires with perimeters in the Fire Enterprise Geospatial Portal have been included in the analysis.

Fire Deficiency Warrant Spending - 2024 Fire Season YTD		
Category	Estimated Costs	Notes
Aviation Resources	\$3,500,000	4 SEATS, 4 Single Engine Water Scooper (Fire Boss), 1 Type 1 UH-60 Blackhawk
Prepositioned Engines	\$787,500	5 Type 6 Exclusive Use Contract Engines
IDL Non-Team Fires	\$9,770,000	IDL/Assn fires including pre-positioning. Based on Estimates and actuals.
IDL Team Fires	\$33,120,000	Billy Creek (CIMT-CMS), Texas (CIMT-PDS), Cherry (IDL T3-CMS), Steelhead (IDL T3-CMS), Rock Creek (CIMT-CMS), Flat (CIMT-SWS), Chimney (CIMT-EIS)
Other Suppression/Non-reimbursable	\$4,320,000	Coeur d'Alene Cache, Dispatch- Estimate includes expenditures from 1/1/2024-7/9/2024
Other Suppression/Reimbursable	\$10,836,000	Reimbursable (IDL and Fire Department resources supporting non-IDL fires). Based on LUMA Actuals- estimates not used.
Total Estimate YTD	\$62,333,500	Does not include Cost Share Fires

Suppression Spending History

Fire Season Estimated Costs from Annual Reports			
	Idaho Fire Suppression Costs	Reimbursable	Idaho Obligation
2020	\$ 28,500,000	\$ 3,100,000	\$ 25,400,000
2021	\$ 74,600,000	\$ 7,200,000	\$ 67,400,000
2022	\$ 25,700,000	\$ 8,560,000	\$ 17,140,000
2023	\$ 22,060,500	\$ 4,683,000	\$ 17,377,500
2024	\$ 62,333,500	\$ 10,836,000	\$ 51,497,500

Numbers for 2024 are YTD.

Attachment

1. Map—Significant Fires

2024 Wildland Fires in Idaho

10/10/2024

Fire Perimeter Categories

- Current Month
- Last Month
- Two Months Ago
- Three Months and Older

Surface Management

- Idaho Endowment Lands
- Other State
- Private
- U.S. Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Tribal Lands
- Other Federal



Perimeters obtained from: NIFC InFORM system.
Only fires greater than 100 acres are displayed on the map unless otherwise requested.

"This map has been compiled using the best information available to the Idaho Department of Lands at the time and may be updated and/or revised without notice. In situations where known accuracy and completeness is required, the user has the responsibility to verify the accuracy of the map and the underlying data sources."

Map Created 10/10/2024 by IDL GIS

