

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

November 18, 2025

Department Report

Subject

Fire Season Update

Background

As of November 3, Emergency Fire Suppression expenditures are estimated to be \$59,282,500. The suppression account will recover an estimated \$18,680,000 of reimbursable costs, for a net obligation of \$40,602,500. The total obligation includes the 2025 contracted aircraft costs and prepositioned contract engines to assist with a lack of qualified engine bosses. These engines are assigned across the state to boost initial attack resources.

Discussion

As shown by the table below, fire occurrence to date for 2025 is 135 percent of the 20-year average and, while the acres burned is 20 percent of the 20-year average.

Fire Season Comparison to Date

Number and Size of Fires (Year to Date)

Year	Human	Lightning	Total	Acres
2021	237	154	391	141,981
2022	127	153	280	4,614
2023*	206	78	284	2,582
2024*	201	122	323	49,251
2025*	257	135	392	4,898
20-Yr. Average (2002-2022)			288	24,784

*2023–2025 fires are calculated using the protection boundaries of the new Idaho Master Agreement which has increased the area in which IDL is the protecting agency. Therefore, there is an inconsistency in 20-year average.

Temperatures and precipitation are returning to seasonal norms; no significant fire danger and activity is expected.

There are no fire restrictions in place.

Total Acres Burned by Ownership as of 11/12/2025

Surface Owner	Acres
Bureau of Land Management	85,998
U.S. Forest Service	66,855
Other Federal	8,358
Tribal	1,257
Private	13,569
State Endowment	7,454
Other State	305
Other	185
Total Acres	183,981

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

Fire Deficiency Warrant Spending—2025 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	\$1,012,500	5 Type 6 Exclusive Use Contract Engines July 14-Sept. 15 (45 days guaranteed)
IDL Non-Team Fires	\$9,520,000	IDL/Assn fires including pre-positioning. Based on estimates and actuals.
IDL Team Fires	\$24,760,000	Nettleton Gulch (T3@MIS); Cherry (T3@PDS); Sunset (CIMT@POS)
Other Suppression/Non-reimbursable	\$1,810,000	Coeur d'Alene Cache: incoming and outgoing supplies not yet billed; Dispatch/Bureau cost when supporting multiple incidents.
Other Suppression/Reimbursable	\$18,680,000	Reimbursable—IDL and Fire Department resources supporting non-IDL fires.
Total Estimate YTD	\$59,282,500	

Suppression Spending History

Fire Season Estimated Costs from Annual Reports

Year	Idaho Fire Suppression Costs	Reimbursable	Idaho Obligation
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	\$ 62,333,000	\$ 10,836,000	\$ 51,497,500
2025*	\$ 59,282,500	\$ 18,680,000	\$ 40,602,500

*Numbers for 2025 are YTD.

Attachments

1. Map—Wildland Fires

2025 Wildland Fires in Idaho

10/31/2025

