1C

FIRE SEASON REPORT



STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
October 20, 2026
Director's Update

Subject

Fire Season Update

Background

As of September 29, Emergency Fire Suppression expenditures are estimated to be $47,300,000. The suppression account will recover an estimated $19,830,000 of reimbursable costs, for a net obligation of $27,470,000. The total obligation includes the 2026 contracted aircraft costs.

Discussion

As shown by the table below, fire occurrence to date for 2026 is 68 percent of the 3-year average and, while the acres burned is 43 percent of the 3-year average.

Fire Season Comparison to Date

Number and Size of Fires (Year to Date)				
Year	**Human**	**Lightning**	**Total**	**Acres**
2023	195	91	286	2,590
2024	217	122	339	65,040
2025	262	118	380	4,870
2026	183	44	227	10,463
3 Yr. Average (2023-2025)			335	24,167

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

There are no fire restrictions in place.

Total Acres Burned by Ownership 9/29/26	
Surface Owner	**Acres**
US Wildland Fire Service	568,887
Other Federal	14,799
Other State	1,374
Private	163,522
State Endowment	47,275
Tribal	2,363
U.S. Forest Service	53,552
Undetermined	43
Total Acres	**851,814**

Fire Deficiency Warrant Spending - 2026 Fire Season YTD		
Category	**Estimated Costs**	**Notes**
Aviation Resources	$4,900,000	2 SEATS, 4 Scoopers (Fire Boss), 1 Type 1 UH-60 Blackhawk, 1 Air Attack Platform
IDL Non-Team Fires	$12,960,000	IDL/Assn fires including pre-positioning. Based on estimates and actuals.
IDL Team Fires	$4,000,000	Gold Run (T3@CAS), Greer (T3@CTS)
Other Suppression/Non-reimbursable	$5,610,000	Coeur d'Alene Cache: incoming and outgoing supplies not yet billed; Dispatch/Bureau cost when supporting multiple incidents.
Other Suppression/Reimbursable	$19,830,000	Reimbursable (IDL and Fire Department resources supporting non-IDL fires).
Total Estimate YTD	$47,300,000	

Suppression Spending History

Fire Season Estimated Costs from Annual Reports			
	Idaho Fire Suppression Costs	**Reimbursable**	**Idaho Obligation**
2023	$ 22,157,500	$ 4,780,000	$ 17,377,500
2024	$ 66,637,500	$11,340,000	$ 55,297,500
2025	$ 55,218,800	$14,685,000	$ 40,533,800
2026	$ 47,300,000	$19,830,000	$ 27,470,000

*2026 suppression costs are year to date

Attachments

1. Fire Information Map

2026 Wildland Fires in Idaho

9/25/2026

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

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

N W E S

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 9/25/2026 by IDL GIS

0 10 20 40 60 80 100
Miles

Upper Smith
Parker Lake
Silver
Porcupine
Coeur d'Alene
Dudley
Moose Mountain
Moscow
320
Lewiston
Grotto
Three Links
Cascade
Wolf Creek
Grangeville
Cooper
Scimitar
Cherry
Lake
Salmon
McCall
Horse Flat
Challis
Doublesprings
Tartar
Mm81 Hwy55
Wildhorse
Goldy
Custer
Goodson
Crooked
Byrne Side
Big Rock
Boise
Claremont
Buckhorn
Ohio Fire
Idaho Falls
Cave
Cole
Bonneville County Assist 4
Otr 113
Otr 101
Otr 95
Otr 115
Otr 114
Otr 80
Mm115 Hwy 20
Bingham County Assist 5
Bigfoot
Fraser
Reservoir Fire
Shale Butte
Pocatello
Flint
Big Grass
Tuana Gulch
West Windmill
Mcpherson
Rural Assist 7
Twin Falls
Wagon
North Heglar

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ATTACHMENT 1