

WHERE CAN I FIND HELP?



Fire Recovery Assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has multiple agencies that provide financial and/or technical assistance to help farmers, ranchers and rural landowners recover from natural disasters, such as wildfires. Listed below are USDA agencies and an overview of applicable programs. Funding for some programs are contingent on the on the annual enactment of Congressional appropriations legislation.



The Farm Service Agency has a variety of programs such as Livestock Incentives Program, Livestock Forage Disaster Program, Emergency Loans, and the Tree Assistance Program. For more information visit <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/>.



The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) may be able to pay \$3.82/acre on grazing lands if producers agree to defer grazing on damaged land for 2 years. The NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program may be able to provide financial assistance where a fire has created a situation where excessive soil erosion could occur from a rain event creating a threat to life and improved property. For more information visit <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/national/home/>.



Risk Management Agency provides insurance to farmers and ranchers who have previously enrolled in the subsidized multi-peril crop and livestock insurance programs. For more information visit <http://www.rma.usda.gov/>.



Provide experienced hydrologists, soil scientists, wildlife biologists, and other professionals to offer guidance and information to landowners and coordinate with federal, state, and private landowners on a basin-wide BAER assessment. For more information please call (208) 935-2513 or (208) 983-1950.

University of Idaho Extension: In addition to the USDA resources listed above, expertise and assistance on particular subjects (e.g. Re-seeding, Erosion & Flooding, Livestock, Salvage Logging and Reforestation) may be available through local county Extension offices. To find contact information for your local county Extension office, or for information on topics of interest, those sites can be accessed at <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/find.asp>



Provides information, regulation and technical assistance from State Foresters, forestry programs, fire protection and prevention, Forest Practice Act Enforcement and more. For more information please visit <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/>.



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ): As you begin the rebuilding process, we ask you to consider the following issues that can cause future problems. Paint and solvent cans, used oil containers, tires, refrigerators with Freon, Gas cans, ... Identifying these issues while in the clean-up phase is often the most cost-effective method of handling post-fire tasks. DEQ is available to provide assistance and can be reached at 877-541-3304.



Planning for the Future: <http://firewise.org> : Find out what the experts know about the best way to make your home and neighborhood safer from wildfire. From the basics of defensible space and sound landscaping techniques to research on how homes ignite (and what you can do about it), there are tips, tools and teachings you can use!

A public information meeting for agriculture producers and landowners affected by the recent fires and drought will be held on September 15 from 9-11:30 a.m. at the American Legion Hall, 618 Main Street, in Kamiah. The meeting will focus on programs available to offset livestock, pasture, and fence losses due to fires and drought, and assessing timber damaged or destroyed by fire.