



## Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security News Release

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### **Federal Assistance approved for Clearwater Complex Fires**

(Boise) Federal funds are being made available to help with firefighting costs for the Clearwater Complex Fires in north central Idaho. This follows the signing Thursday of a State Declaration of Disaster Emergency for Lewis and Idaho Counties in the wake of lightning-sparked wildfires that have consumed more than 15-thousand acres. The Clearwater Complex fire, which includes the Lawyer Complex and the Fisher Complex fires, began Monday and has led to voluntary evacuations and road closures.

“This remains a very dangerous and challenging time for the entire state,” said IBHS Director Brad Richy. “With 51 named fires, high temperatures, low relative humidity and Red Flag warnings it is critically important for residents to remain informed about evacuation orders and safety precautions.”

Lewis County, Idaho County, and the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security requested the federal assistance due to the rapidly moving fireS, dangerous fire conditions and the potential for its impact to residences and infrastructure in the fire’s anticipated path.

The Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) authorization makes FEMA funding available to pay 75 percent of the state of Idaho’s eligible firefighting costs for managing, mitigating and controlling designated fires. The grants only provide reimbursement for firefighting and life-saving efforts. These grants do not provide assistance to individual homeowners or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

Up-to-date information on the Clearwater Complex Fire and other active fires in Idaho can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/13/#>

***Note to reporters:** The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security is the State of Idaho's emergency management agency. Please note that IBHS is an Idaho-specific agency, and it is not the same thing as the federal Department of Homeland Security. Within the State of Idaho organizational chart, IBHS is aligned under the State of Idaho Military Division.*