

FEMA Authorizes Funds to Fight Bedrock Fire in Idaho

Release Date: ?? 13, 2021

BOTHELL, Wash. - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) authorized the use of federal funds to help with firefighting costs for the Bedrock Fire burning in Nez Perce County, Idaho, and on the Nez Perce Reservation.

The state of Idaho's request for a federal [Fire Management Assistance Grant](#) (FMAG) was approved by FEMA Region 10 Acting Regional Administrator Vincent Maykovich on Friday, August 13, 2021, at 12:32 a.m. PT. He determined that the Bedrock Fire threatened to cause such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. This is the first FMAG declared in 2021 to help fight Idaho wildfires.

At the time of the state's request, the wildfire was threatening homes in and around the community of Lenore. The fire has already burned some outbuildings and residences in the community and was also threatening a tribal fish hatchery, a post office, shops, barns, equipment sheds and transmission lines owned by Bonneville Power Administration.

FMAGs are provided through the President's Disaster Relief Fund and are made available by FEMA to assist in fighting fires that threaten to cause a major disaster. Eligible items can include expenses for field camps; equipment use, repair, and replacement; mobilization and demobilization activities; and tools, materials, and supplies. This authorization makes FEMA funding available to pay 75 percent of the state's eligible firefighting costs under an approved grant for managing, mitigating, and controlling designated fires. These grants do not provide assistance to individual home or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

In addition to the firefighting funds authorized under this FMAG, another \$584,083 will be available to Idaho through the [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program \(HMGP\) Post Fire](#) for the mitigation of future wildfires and related hazards, such as flood after fire or erosion. Some eligible wildfire project types include defensible space measures, ignition-resistant construction, and hazardous fuels reduction. The



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[Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018](#) authorizes FEMA to provide [HMGP Post-Fire](#) funds to eligible states and territories that receive Fire Management Assistance declarations and federally recognized tribes that have land burned within a designated area.

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