

FEMA Authorizes Funds to Fight Sunset Fire in Idaho

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BOTHELL, Wash. - The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) authorized the use of federal funds to help with firefighting costs for the Sunset Fire burning in Bonner County, Idaho.

The state of Idaho's request for a declaration under FEMA's [Fire Management Assistance Grant](#) (FMAG) program was approved by FEMA Region 10 Acting Administrator Vincent J. Maykovich on Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 11:52 p.m. PT. He determined that the Sunset Fire threatened to cause such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. This is the first FMAG declaration in 2025 to help fight Idaho wildfires.

At the time of the state's request, the wildfire threatened homes in and around the communities of Sagle and Careywood. The fire also threatened Blacktail Peak Communication Site and Facility, Little Blacktail Ranch Water District, a Timberlake Fire Protection District fire station, and the U.S. Navy's Acoustic Research Detachment facility in Bayview.

FMAGs make funding available to pay up to 75 percent of a state's eligible firefighting costs for fires that threaten to become major disasters. Eligible items can include expenses for field camps, equipment use, materials, supplies and mobilization and demobilization activities attributed to fighting the fire. These grants do not provide assistance to individual home or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

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