



## NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Don Wagner, Program Manager  
(208) 666-8647

### **Fire managers requiring North Idaho ag operators to take extra steps when burning fields**

(COEUR D'ALENE) – The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) wants agricultural burners north of Riggins to know they can still burn while stage two fire restrictions are in effect, but they still must obtain a fire safety burn permit and follow extra steps to ensure fires do not escape.

Stage two fire restrictions go into effect Tuesday for certain areas in northern Idaho. Detailed information and maps of the areas where certain activities are banned because of fire danger can be found online at <http://idahofireinfo.blogspot.com/p/fire-restrictions.html>.

The fire safety burn permit always is required for agricultural burning operations during closed fire season – May 10 to October 20 – but with stage 2 fire restrictions in place, the operators must follow additional steps to ensure fire does not escape. The fire safety burn permit can be obtained online at <http://www.burnpermits.idaho.gov>.

The mitigating measures agricultural burners must follow while stage 2 fire restrictions are in effect include:

1. Minimum of one 200-gallon water truck with a spray unit, and a tractor with disk. These must be staffed in addition to the ignition personnel.
2. No burning when the wind speed is over 10 miles per hour
3. Minimum fire line of 20 feet on all fields, or more if near timber or adverse topography
4. Remain onsite for patrol for at least one hour after the last smoke
5. Mop up 25 feet from fire perimeter

The measures will be listed in the fire safety burn permit.

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