



New University of Idaho study examines state fire suppression costs

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The University of Idaho (UI) recently released a new study on how states fund wildfire suppression.

Idaho's method of paying costs incurred while suppressing fires on lands protected by the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and two timber protective associations was included in the study.

The study titled, "State Funding for Wildfire Suppression in the Western U.S." is available for download [here](#).

The number of large wildfires and acres burned have increased over the past 30 years and are expected to continue rising.

Wildfire protection responsibilities are shared primarily between state government agencies such as IDL and federal government agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. The study focused on wildfire suppression costs for state government agencies.

"Each Western state has a unique funding system for paying its wildfire suppression costs, but they have common elements. This study is an initial step in understanding how different states fund wildfire management and knowing the mechanisms they may use to respond to increased wildfire and cost obligations in the future," said Dr. Dennis Becker, the director of the UI Policy Analysis Group - an arm of the College of Natural Resources.

Read the UI news release announcing the availability of the study [here](#).

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