

## I want more information...

If you are interested in establishing a Rangeland Fire Protection Association or exploring other options, you can contact any of the following offices for more information:

### **South Idaho Fire Program Liaison Idaho Department of Lands**

Rick Finis  
South Idaho Fire Liaison  
300 N. 6th St. Suite #103  
Boise, ID 83702  
208-334-0263  
rfinis@idl.idaho.gov

### **Idaho State Fire Marshal**

Knute Sandahl  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0043  
208-334-4370

### **Bureau of Land Management Idaho State Office**

Mike Morcom  
Fire Management Officer  
1387 South Vinnell Way  
Boise, ID 83709  
208-373-3851

## Bottom Line...

This is an opportunity for local land-owners to protect their own, and their neighbors', property where no fire protection services are currently available. Being able to respond quickly and keep fires small are the goals. There may also be opportunity to respond to adjacent ownership in areas where remote locations may create lengthy response times by other agencies.

Rangeland Fire Protection Associations, with groups operating under the concept of "neighbors helping neighbors", sets the stage for the Idaho Department of Lands to assist with state and federal funding and equipment, as available.

This concept is endorsed by the following organizations:

Idaho Department of Lands  
Idaho State Fire Marshal  
Bureau of Land Management  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



# Rangeland Fire Protection Associations

*Neighbors  
Helping Neighbors*

**An Option for  
Rangeland  
Fire Protection**

## Protection

You may live in an area that has no fire protection services for private lands. Protecting private rangeland, and your improvements, from unwanted fire should be a high priority for you.

- ◆ You can determine what level of protection is right for your lands and your community.
- ◆ You could be part of an organization that is based on the concept of “neighbors helping neighbors”.
- ◆ Your organization could be a local organization made up of you and your neighbors.
- ◆ Your organization need not be tax or fee-based.

## Why would I want this?

- ◆ **Protect your investments.** Protect your homes and barns, your hay and grain crops, and your hunting areas from range fires.
- ◆ **Get assistance.** You would have the opportunity to get firefighting equipment, grant funding, training in wildland firefighting, and technical support at little or no cost to you, the landowner.
- ◆ **Keep fires small.** You could keep the range fires in your area small by having the equipment and an organization that can respond quickly.
- ◆ **Help with prescribed burns.** You could utilize the equipment to conduct your rangeland burning operations.

## What is a Rangeland Fire Protection Association?

A Rangeland Fire Protection Association (RFPA) is set up as a nonprofit corporation to prevent and suppress range fires.

- ◆ It is governed and directed by you and members of your local community.
- ◆ It provides services to suppress range fires in your local area.
- ◆ It is a voluntary program.
- ◆ It is funded by fees set by your local Board of Directors. Funds managed by the Idaho Department of Lands may be available for initial start up.
- ◆ Equipment could be provided through the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) program for the prevention and suppression of rural and wildland fires and for prescribed burning.
- ◆ Equipment could be strategically located by your RFPA’s Board of Directors throughout your area for quick response to fires.
- ◆ Training is provided by the Idaho Department of Lands and the Bureau of Land Management at no cost to the Association.

## A Rangeland Fire Protection Association—What it *isn't*.

- ◆ It is not “government control”.
- ◆ These options are not a “taxing district” within a county.
- ◆ Rural Fire Districts suppress structure fires and wildland fires. This is not a Rural Fire District.

This is a voluntary program for landowners and is designed to provide assistance based on your wishes and needs.

A position within the Idaho Department of Lands assists landowners in exploring the options for providing rangeland fire protection services.

This position works in conjunction with the Idaho State Fire Marshal, and the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

