



Protection by Owner

This guidance document is not a new law. This is an interpretation of existing law, except as authorized by Idaho Code or incorporated into a contract.

1. Agency Contact

Chief, Bureau of Fire Management

2. Purpose

Owners of forest land may elect to provide their own protection against the starting, existence, or spread of fires. To do so, they must comply with IDAPA 20.04.01.030 of the Rules Pertaining to Forest Fire Protection as authorized under Title 38, Section 111, Idaho Code.

3. Applicability

All forest landowners who choose to provide their own forest fire protection.

4. Associated Policies

- A. Title 38, Section 111, Idaho Code
- B. Rules Pertaining to Forest Fire Protection, IDAPA 20.04.01.030

5. Definitions

None

6. Policy

A written Fire Plan received by a Department of Lands Fire Warden will be forwarded to the Bureau of Fire Management with recommendations attached. The Bureau will review the plan and forward it to the State Forester with an additional recommendation. Any recommendation for rejection of the request will outline, in detail, the reasons for such recommendations.

See **Fire Plan – Protection Against the Starting, Existence, or Spread of Fires, Attachment 1**, for an example of a protection plan. This attachment constitutes the absolute minimum information required and is intended merely to provide a general format for anyone desiring to protect their lands.

7. Procedures

Landowners who elect to protect their own lands must comply with the following:

- A. Deadline for submission of plan
Written fire plans must be submitted before April 1 of each year.
- B. Effective date of approval
No plan shall become effective until approved, in writing, by the State Forester of the Department of Lands.
- C. Minimum requirements
Any plan submitted must include, as a minimum, the items specifically outlined in IDAPA 20.04.01.030.
- D. Inspection by the Department
The detection system, fire tool caches, manpower, suppression equipment, etc. listed in the fire plan must be available for inspection by the Department of Lands at all times during closed fire season.

8. Exception Authorization

Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the Chief, Bureau of Fire Management.

9. Revision History

7/1/25 Updated to ADA compliance and new FMH format.