



## Idaho Gwen Wildfire July 26, 2024

### Office of the Governor

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### Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency

Idaho Office of Emergency Management  
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Recent press release on July 26, 2024

*“The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) authorized the use of federal funds to help with firefighting costs for the Gwen Fire burning in the Nez Perce Reservation and in Nez Perce and Latah counties, Idaho.*

*The state of Idaho’s request for a federal [Fire Management Assistance Grant](#) (FMAG) was approved by FEMA Region 10 Administrator Willie G. Nunn on Friday, July 26, 2024, at 12:23 a.m. PT. He determined that the Gwen Fire threatened to cause such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. This is the second FMAG declared in 2024 to help fight Idaho wildfires.*

*At the time of the state’s request, the wildfire threatened homes in and around the communities of Juliaetta, Myrtle, Arrow Junction and Lenore and the city of Lapwai. The fire also threatened private and nonprofit public utilities and critical community infrastructure such as roads, bridges, public businesses and recreational areas. FMAGs are provided through the President’s Disaster Relief Fund and are made available by FEMA to assist in fighting fires that threaten to cause a major disaster. Eligible items can include expenses for field camps; equipment use, repair and replacement; mobilization and demobilization activities; and tools, materials and supplies. This authorization makes FEMA funding available to pay 75 percent of eligible*

*firefighting costs under an approved grant for managing, mitigating, and controlling designated fires. These grants do not provide assistance to individual home or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire. In addition to the firefighting funds authorized under this FMAG, another \$985,111 will be available to Idaho through the [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program](#) (HMGP) Post Fire for the mitigation of future wildfires and related hazards, such as flood after fire or erosion. Some eligible wildfire project types include defensible space measures, ignition-resistant construction and hazardous fuels reduction. The [Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018](#) authorizes FEMA to provide [HMGP Post-Fire](#) funds to eligible states and territories that receive Fire Management Assistance declarations and federally recognized tribes that have land burned within a designated area.”*

## **American Red Cross**

(800) 733-2767

[American Red Cross | Help Those Affected by Disasters](#)

American Red Cross of Idaho and East Oregon  
5380 W. Franklin Road  
Boise, ID, 83705  
Phone: 1-208-947-4357

For the most up to date map of open shelters, please visit: [Disaster Shelters | Find Shelters | American Red Cross](#)

### **Open Shelters:**

Latah County Fairgrounds  
1021 Harold St  
Moscow, ID 83843

Lapawi United Methodist Church  
420 US Hwy 95  
Lapwai, ID 83540

## **Department of Transportation**

Idaho Transportation Department  
11331 W Chinden Blvd  
Boise, ID 83714  
(208) 334-8000

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## **United Way/211 Information and Referrals Lines**

These information and referral lines may know of additional resources currently providing assistance, such as food pantries, clothing closets, emergency shelters, and agencies offering financial assistance. Please dial 2-1-1 and provide your zip code and demographic information in order to receive referrals. Information can also be obtained at [Call 211 for Essential Community Services | United Way 211](#).

2-1-1 Idaho CareLine

Dial 2-1-1 or visit [Welcome to 2-1-1 | Idaho Department of Health and Welfare](#).

## **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**

(800) 621-3362

[FEMA.gov](#)

Please visit the website and click on “*Disaster Declarations*”. If a disaster is declared, please call to apply for assistance by phone, or visit: [Individual Assistance | FEMA.gov](#) to apply online.

## **DisasterAssistance.gov**

[Home | disasterassistance.gov](#)

Offers information about local resources for disasters, including: FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), Red Cross, food, shelter, state emergency management agencies, and hospital locators.

To determine if individual disaster assistance is available through FEMA, please visit the website and enter the address.

To locate your local state emergency management agency for disaster information and updates, please visit: [Search Your Location | FEMA.gov](#)

## **National Weather Service**

Weather alerts by state are available at: [Active Alerts \(weather.gov\)](#).

## **The Weather Channel**

Local forecasts and severe weather. Please call or visit the website to locate your local chapter and open shelters.

[National and Local Weather Radar, Daily Forecast, Hurricane and information from The Weather Channel and weather.com](#).

## **Safe Travel USA**

[SafeTravelUSA](#)

## **National Traffic and Road Closure Information**

[National Traffic and Road Closure Information | Federal Highway Administration \(dot.gov\)](#)

### **Free Help Line**

Optum, a leading health and behavioral health services company, is offering a free emotional-support help line.

The toll-free number, 866-447-3573, will be open Monday-Friday, 8am-8pm CST. The service is free of charge and open to anyone. Specially trained Optum mental health specialists help people manage their stress and anxiety so they can continue to address their everyday needs. Callers may also receive referrals to community resources to help them with specific concerns, including financial and legal matters.

Along with the toll-free help line, emotional-support resources and information are available online at <https://www.liveandworkwell.com>.