

Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security news release

For Immediate Release

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Wildfire Mitigation Grant Awarded to McCall Outdoor Science School

The University of Idaho's McCall Outdoor Science School has been awarded \$455,000 to reduce the risk from wildfire on the University of Idaho McCall Field Campus and Ponderosa State Park. Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security Director Col. Bill Shawver will present McCall Outdoor Science School Executive Director Dr. Steven Hollenhorst with a check during a presentation this Friday. The presentation will be at the McCall Outdoor Science School (near the entrance to Ponderosa State Park) on Friday, October 30, 2009, at 10:00 a.m.

The Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation (LPDM) funding is a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), passed through BHS to the University of Idaho College of Natural Resources. This award comes from the \$600,000 earmark from Congressman Simpson for wildfire mitigation out of the 2008 PDM appropriation. The funding will be used to reduce fuels, manage vegetation, and protect 70 structures on 3,165 acres of the McCall Field Campus and Ponderosa State Park. This funding will also be used to educate Idaho residents how to protect their homes and properties from the risk of wildland fire.

"The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security is pleased to be able to assist the University of Idaho in obtaining the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant funds," said Col. Shawver. "Taking proactive action is the best way to reduce wildfire risk and these funds will not only reduce the risk in Valley County, but will educate Idahoans across the state how to reduce their risk"

Note to reporters: The Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security is the State of Idaho's emergency management agency. Please note that Idaho BHS is an Idaho-specific agency, and it is not the same thing as the federal Department of Homeland Security. Within the State of Idaho organizational chart, Idaho BHS is aligned under the State of Idaho Military Division.

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