

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Updates to Idaho DEQ's Prescribed Fire Rulemaking

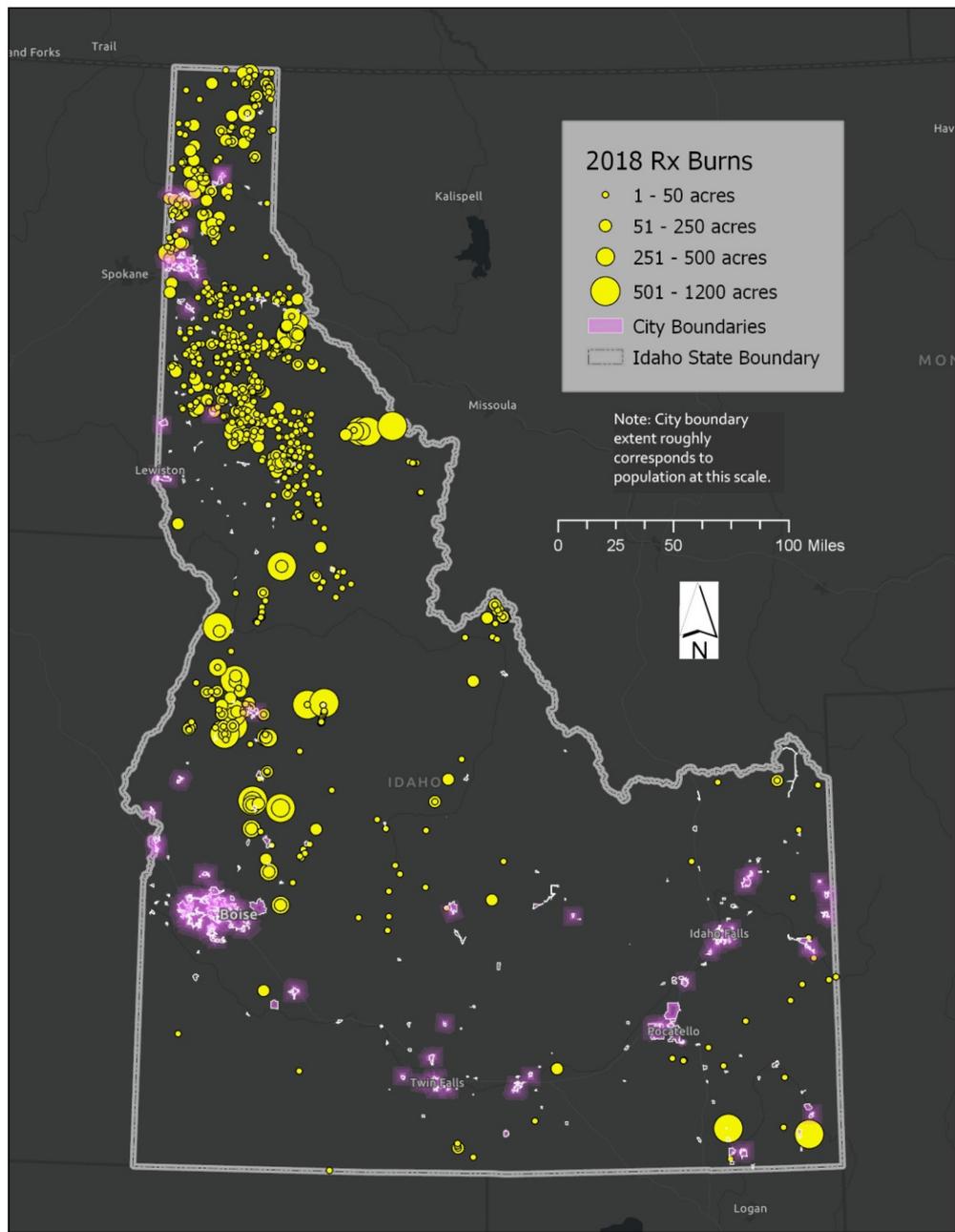
Sally Hunter



Prescribed Fire Rulemaking

- Update existing rules
- Manage Smoke
- Protect Public health





2018 Prescribed Burns and Population Centers



Emissions in Idaho

In 2017, wildfires produced **111,000** tons of PM 2.5 emissions.

In 2017, prescribed fire activity produced **17,607** tons of PM 2.5 emissions.

The crop residue burning program reported **1,275** tons of PM 2.5 emissions produced from burning 36,737 acres outside of reservation boundaries in 2017.

In contrast, also in 2017, mobile and industrial sources produced **4,875** tons of PM 2.5 emissions.



Not everyone is accounted for

- While most big industrial timber groups have joined the MIAG, small private family forest owners are not currently members
- Without permitting, registration, or some other type of system, we can't keep track of how much burning they are doing, when they are doing it, and how much emissions they are producing
- Impacts our ability to coordinate the airshed and approve burning in the MIAG



DEQ Rulemaking Method

- From the NWCG 2018 Smoke Management Guide for Prescribed Fire (p.9):

“A lynchpin to addressing the future role of fire, whether through wildfires or prescribed fire, will depend upon land managers proactively responding to public concerns about air quality”



Western Way



Overall Rule Concepts

- Meet all the elements of a Smoke Management Program and incorporate basic smoke management principles
- Leverage the MT/ID Airshed Group where possible
- DEQ approval to burn
- Year-round process
- Smoke management training for burners
- Develop operations guide
- Advisory committee for ongoing stakeholder involvement
- More emissions = greater level of coordination



Delineation of Burner Types

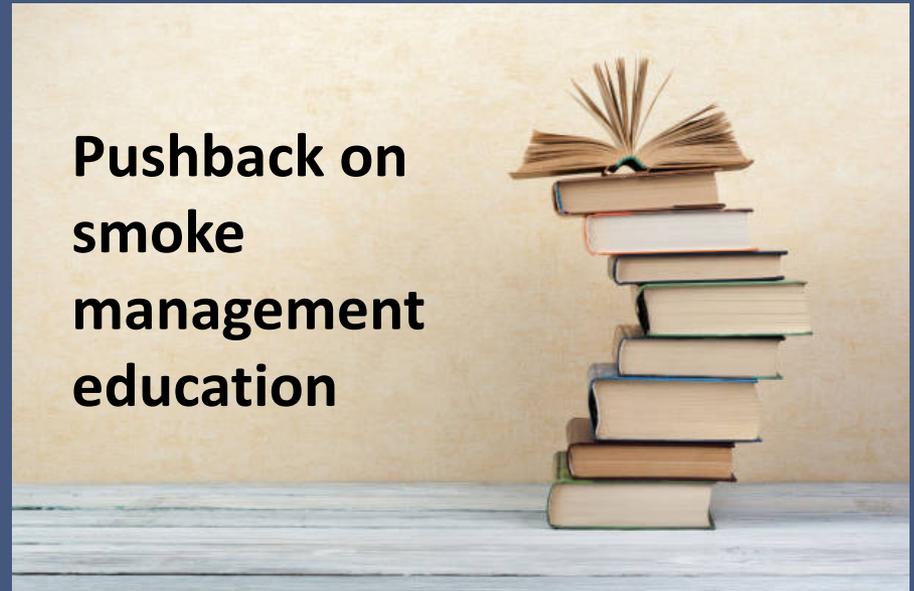
- 2 categories of burners
 - Majors and Minors
 - Majors burn more than 2,250 tons of material per year
 - Minors burn less than 2,250 tons of material per year
- 3 levels of minor burners
 - Level 1
 - More than 100 tons of material per day
 - Level 2
 - Between 2 and 100 tons of material per day
 - Level 3
 - Less than 2 tons of material per day



Negotiations



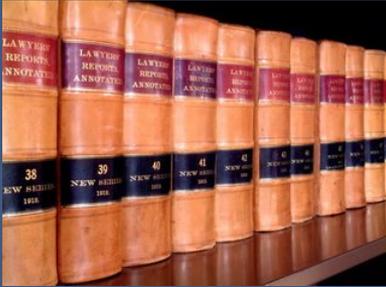
**Missing
small
burners**



**Pushback on
smoke
management
education**



Rulemaking Status



Thank you

