



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Announcement

[BLM Boise District Office](#)

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BLM Idaho facilitates critical firefighting boost delivering surplus engines to local fire department

Boise, Idaho—In an effort to bolster wildfire response capabilities, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) facilitated the transfer of surplus wildland fire engines on June 10, 2024, to two local fire departments through the Rural Fire Readiness Program.

Oasis Volunteer Fire Department and Eagle Fire Department, cooperators who play important roles in combatting wildland fires in Idaho, each received one Type 4 wildland fire engine that can hold over 800 gallons of water and is equipped with their own pump systems. These engines provide departments with increased firefighting capabilities, allowing for a more rapid response to wildfires in the region.

The BLM's collaborative approach with these fire departments is essential, as these departments often are the first to respond to wildfires on private, state, and federal lands. With wildfire seasons becoming longer and more extreme, such partnerships have become paramount in safeguarding communities and natural resources.

"Investing in our local cooperators through the Rural Fire Readiness Program is not only a vital responsibility, but a cornerstone of our commitment to effective firefighting," expressed **Christopher Cromwell, Fire Management Officer for the BLM Boise District**. "The ability to transfer equipment is a result of continued collaboration and ensures that we stand better prepared against the threat of wildland fires."

The transfers come at no cost and forms a crucial part of BLM's commitment to enhancing the firefighting capacity of local fire districts, volunteer fire departments, and rangeland fire protection associations in addressing wildland fires effectively and safely.

Sean Marvin from Eagle Fire Department said, "This will be the first Type 4 brush truck in the department and enhance our capabilities fighting wildfires in the wildland urban interface around Eagle Fire Department Protection District."

Oasis Fire Chief Chris Sirani expressed gratitude for the upgrade to their fleet, stating "This will make responding to wildfires easier, faster, and safer for our firefighters. This is a much needed and appreciated addition to our fleet and will be used for many years to come."

The BLM continues to demonstrate a commitment to bolstering rural departments year after year with transfers of surplus wildland fire engines, water tenders, tools, hose, pumps, and other equipment to numerous fire programs across Idaho, further solidifying fire readiness in the state.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$96 billion in sales of goods and services throughout the American economy in fiscal year 2017. These activities supported more than 468,000 jobs.

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