



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **STATE TO WAIVE FEES TO SPEED WILDFIRE REBUILDING EFFORTS IN CLEARWATER, IDAHO AND LEWIS COUNTIES**

**(Boise)** – Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter announced today that he signed an [Executive Order](#) to aid in the ongoing recovery and rebuilding efforts in the wake of wildfires that devastated large parts of northern Idaho last summer.

The emergency order allows for the waiver of state electrical, plumbing, and HVAC permit/inspection fees to assist with reconstruction and repair efforts for commercial and residential buildings in Clearwater, Idaho and Lewis counties that suffered extensive damage.

"Now that residents and business owners have moved beyond the assessment phase and are into the rebuilding phase, I want to assure them the state is doing what it can to ease the financial burden," said Governor Otter. "By waiving these fees, residents impacted in these counties can begin putting their lives back together in the aftermath of an extremely destructive fire season."

Applications for waiver of fees will be processed through the Division's Licensing and Permitting Program. Individuals seeking fee waivers may contact the Division toll-free at (800) 955-3044.

Applicants should ask to speak with either of the following individuals:

Deputy Administrator	Steve Keys	(208) 332-8986	<a href="mailto:steve.keys@dbs.idaho.gov">steve.keys@dbs.idaho.gov</a>
Program Supervisor	Heather Carr	(208) 332-7148	<a href="mailto:heather.carr@dbs.idaho.gov">heather.carr@dbs.idaho.gov</a>

"The governor's order waiving permit and inspection fees clears the way for DBS to act quickly in helping to make whole those affected by these fires so they may quickly return to a state of normalcy," said Division of Building Safety Administrator C. Kelly Pearce. "We are committed to assisting these folks rapidly and with an absolute minimum amount of red tape."

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