

Nez Perce County 215 10<sup>th</sup> Street Lewiston, ID 83501 (208) 799-3100 Fax (208) 799-0349 Latah County
333 E Palouse River Drive
Moscow, ID 83843
(208) 882-7506
Fax (208) 882-3494

Clearwater County
105 115<sup>th</sup> Street
Orofino, ID 83544
(208) 476-7850
Fax (208) 476-7494

Idaho County 903 West Main Grangeville, ID 83530 (208) 983-2842 Fax (208) 983-2845 Lewis County
132 N Hill Street
P O Box 277
Kamiah, ID 83536
(208) 935-2124
Fax (208) 935-0223

**Press Release** 

CONTACT: Tara Biesecker, PIO

PHONE: (208) 799-3100

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HEADLINE: Water Testing for Private Water Systems Damaged by Wildfire** 

**LEWISTON, IDAHO** - Public Health-Idaho North Central District (PH-INCD) and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Microbiology Laboratory have teamed up to offer free water testing for those properties where private water systems sustained damage caused by the wildfires in Clearwater, Lewis and Idaho counties and are concerned about their drinking water being contaminated. Once water system repairs have been completed, the samples can be collected. With an appointment, PH-INCD will offer to come out to properties affected by the fires, and collect samples for coliform bacteria, and nitrates/nitrites/total phosphorus from private water systems that have sustained damage from the fires.

Concerned property owners may contact Jacob Davis, Environmental Health Specialist for Public Health – Idaho North Central District at 208-476-7850, or Ed Marugg, Environmental Health Director at 208-799-0356 to set up an appointment to collect samples, or if they have questions.