



# DISASTER NEWS

*Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses*

**Release Date:** December 13, 2007  
**Release Number:** ID 11126-01

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## *Disaster Assistance Available for Small Businesses*

**Sacramento, CA** – Small, non-farm businesses in 44 Idaho counties (plus neighboring counties in Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming) may now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These disaster loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by severe drought and unprecedented wildfires that occurred in the following primary Idaho counties beginning January 1, 2007, announced Alfred E. Judd, Director of SBA’s Disaster Field Operations Center - West.

### **Primary Idaho counties:**

Adams	Bannock	Bear Lake	Benewah	Bingham	Blaine
Bonner	Butte	Camas	Caribou	Cassia	Clark
Clearwater	Custer	Elmore	Franklin	Fremont	Idaho
Jefferson	Jerome	Latah	Lemhi	Lewis	Lincoln
Madison	Nez Perce	Oneida	Owyhee	Power	Shoshone
Teton	Washington				

### **Neighboring Idaho counties:**

Ada	Boise	Bonneville	Boundary	Canyon	Gem
Gooding	Kootenai	Minidoka	Payette	Twin Falls	Valley

### **Neighboring Montana counties:**

Beaverhead	Gallatin	Lincoln	Madison	Mineral	Missoula
Ravalli	Sanders				

### **Neighboring Nevada counties:**

Elko                      Humboldt

### **Neighboring Oregon counties:**

Baker                      Malheur                      Wallowa

### **Neighboring Utah counties:**

Box Elder                      Cache                      Rich

### **Neighboring Washington counties:**

Asotin                      Pend Oreille                      Spokane                      Whitman

### **Neighboring Wyoming counties:**

Lincoln                      Teton

(more)

Small businesses may qualify for Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) of up to \$1.5 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. “Eligibility for these working capital loans is based on the financial impact of the disaster only and not on any actual property damage. These loans have an interest rate of 4%, a maximum term of 30 years, and are restricted to small businesses without the financial ability to offset the adverse impact without hardship,” Judd said.

By law, SBA makes EIDLs available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Acting Secretary Chuck Conner declared this disaster at the request of Governor C. L. “Butch” Otter.

Businesses primarily engaged in farming or ranching are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance. Agricultural enterprises should contact the Farm Services Agency (FSA) about the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assistance made available by the Secretary’s declaration. However, in drought disasters nurseries are eligible for SBA disaster assistance.

For information and application forms, call toll-free **(800) 659-2955**, or visit SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **August 4, 2008**.

*For more information visit SBA’s website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).*

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