Spot and Baled Agricultural Residue Burn Permit

The spot and baled agricultural residue burn permit (spot and bale burn permit) rules were developed after the second year of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ’s) Crop Residue Burning Program. The spot and bale burn permit reduces the administrative requirements for burning very small amounts of residue while still protecting public health. This permit can be used to destroy a small area of weeds or a broken bale within a field under the following conditions:

- No more than 1 acre of spots and/or equivalent piled or baled agricultural residue may be burned per day. For the purposes of this permit, 2 tons of piled or baled agricultural residue is equivalent to 1 acre of spots.
  - A spot or pile burn could include weed patches, spots of heavy residue, equipment plugs and dumps, pivot corners, and very small pastures but does not include open burning of wind rows.
  - Baled agricultural residue may be burned to dispose of broken, mildewed, diseased, or otherwise pest-ridden bales still in the field where they were generated. Once a bale has been removed from the field, it cannot be returned to the field and then burned.

- No more than 10 acre of spots and/or equivalent piled or baled agricultural residue may be burned per calendar year.

Grower Requirements

- Burning under the spot and bale burn permit shall only be allowed on DEQ-designated burn days for the county where the field is located and within the designated burn window. Spot and bale burns shall not smolder and create smoke outside of the designated burn window. DEQ burn decisions are available at http://www.deq.idaho.gov/air-quality/burning/daily-crop-burn-decision/spot-and-bale-burn-decisions.aspx.
  - Burning under a spot and bale burn permit may be allowed on weekdays, weekends, and state and federal holidays.

- All burning must be conducted in accordance with the permit issued by DEQ. The permit includes general requirements that apply to all burning conducted under the spot and bale burn permit and field-specific requirements due to location (e.g., next to a school).

- Permittees must record the date, time frame, type of burn, type of crop, and amount burned on the date of the burn. Records shall be retained for 2 years and made available to DEQ upon request.

- A spot and bale burn permit is valid for 1 calendar year. All permits issued in a given calendar year will expire on December 31 of that calendar year.

- Permittees must attend a crop residue burning training session provided by DEQ online at http://www.deq.idaho.gov/air-quality/burning/crop-residue-burning.aspx.

Permit Process

Registration and fee payment is available online at http://www.deq.idaho.gov/air-quality/burning/crop-residue-burning.aspx.

- Submit a registration to DEQ at least 14 days prior to the first desired burn date of the calendar year. The registration must include the following information:
  - The location of each field where the grower wants to conduct a spot or bale burn.
  - Applicant’s name, mailing address, telephone number, and cell phone number.

- Pay a nonrefundable permit fee of $20 to DEQ at least 14 days prior to the first desired burn date of the calendar year.