

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 1578 HB	Title: Wildland fire safety
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Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Military Department	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Health	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
State Conservation Commission	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Natural Resources	21.5	12,799,000	12,799,000	12,799,000	22.9	12,698,200	12,698,200	12,698,200	22.9	12,698,200	12,698,200	12,698,200
Total \$	21.5	12,799,000	12,799,000	12,799,000	22.9	12,698,200	12,698,200	12,698,200	22.9	12,698,200	12,698,200	12,698,200

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Military Department	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Health	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
State Conservation Commission	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Natural Resources	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Total \$	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

Prepared by: Lisa Borkowski, OFM	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date Published: Final 2/ 7/2023
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1578 HB	Title: Wildland fire safety	Agency: 245-Military Department
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Rebecca Lewis	Phone: 360-786-7339	Date: 01/30/2023
Agency Preparation: Serina Roberts	Phone: 2535127388	Date: 01/31/2023
Agency Approval: Timothy Rajcevich	Phone: 2535127596	Date: 01/31/2023
OFM Review: Cheri Keller	Phone: (360) 584-2207	Date: 01/31/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

There is no fiscal impact to the Military Department in this bill. All items in the bill related to the Military Department are currently part of the department's normal business and coordination with Department of Natural Resources. It will not increase workload or costs.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1578 HB	Title: Wildland fire safety	Agency: 303-Department of Health
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Rebecca Lewis	Phone: 360-786-7339	Date: 01/30/2023
Agency Preparation: Katie Osete	Phone: 3602363000	Date: 02/01/2023
Agency Approval: Kristin Bettridge	Phone: 3607911657	Date: 02/01/2023
OFM Review: Breann Boggs	Phone: (360) 485-5716	Date: 02/05/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

The Department of Health will have to coordinate with WA DNR on public health related bill activities (Section 2: 3bii, 3biii, 3c, 3d). This will require minimal staff time, approximately 4 hours per month, split between two positions, which can be absorbed within existing workload. Therefore, no fiscal impact.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

None

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

None

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1578 HB	Title: Wildland fire safety	Agency: 471-State Conservation Commission
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Rebecca Lewis	Phone: 360-786-7339	Date: 01/30/2023
Agency Preparation: Karla Heinitz	Phone: 360-878-4666	Date: 02/01/2023
Agency Approval: Ron Shultz	Phone: 360-790-5994	Date: 02/01/2023
OFM Review: Matthew Hunter	Phone: (360) 529-7078	Date: 02/01/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

The bill directs the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assess the predicted significant wildfire risk. By December 30, 2024, DNR must have established a structure for a state-sponsored burned area emergency stabilization and response team. DNR must consult with the State Conservation Commission and other agencies when developing the structure.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1578 HB	Title: Wildland fire safety	Agency: 490-Department of Natural Resources
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	18.1	24.9	21.5	22.9	22.9
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	5,795,200	7,003,800	12,799,000	12,698,200	12,698,200
Total \$	5,795,200	7,003,800	12,799,000	12,698,200	12,698,200

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Rebecca Lewis	Phone: 360-786-7339	Date: 01/30/2023
Agency Preparation: Nicole Dixon	Phone: 360-902-1155	Date: 02/07/2023
Agency Approval: Nicole Dixon	Phone: 360-902-1155	Date: 02/07/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 02/07/2023

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Section 2(1) requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to assess areas at significant risk for wildfire. The report will be done by decade, for a period encompassing not less than 30 years. DNR must provide a mid-decade interim report to the appropriate committees by July 1, 2030, and every 10 years thereafter.

Section 2(2) DNR will collaborate with local law enforcement, Indian tribes, counter emergency managers and local fire protection districts to develop public safety evacuation strategies for areas identified in the respective decadal assessments as facing significant fire risk.

Section 2(3) requires DNR to lead a project to provide emergency disaster and evacuation plan messaging and information to the public at department-managed recreation and outdoor sites. DNR will place particular emphasis on ensuring accessibility and accommodation needs of public visitors.

Section 2(4)(a) requires DNR to expand its community resilience programming (also referred to as Wildfire Ready Neighbors). Services should include the counties or regions of western Washington where risk of wildfires and smoke exposure exists as determined by DNR

Section 2(4)(b) requires DNR to participate in cross-agency emergency management planning and response efforts related to wildfire smoke.

Section 2(4)(b)(i) requires DNR to establish a smoke monitoring and predictive services team to assess wildland fire smoke risks and impacts.

Section 2(4)(b)(ii) requires DNR to work cross-agency to address public health concerns, smoke risks to transportation safety and firefighter exposure to smoke.

Section 2(4)(b)(iii) requires DNR to conduct community engagement and outreach related to wildfire smoke risks and impacts, focused on regions of the state that experience disproportionately high levels of air contaminants and pollutants.

Section 2(4)(c) DNR will coordinate with state agencies, local fire protection districts, local governments and Indian Tribes to assist with identification of smoke respite areas in high-risk communities where people can take refuge and to promote the additional utilization of community buildings that can serve as clean air and cooling centers.

Section 2(4)(d) DNR will utilize the community resilience programming to ensure residents and community organizations are provided information about services and programs to improve indoor air quality in the home.

Section 2(4)(e) DNR is required to implement a post-wildfire debris flow program by July 1, 2024.

Section 2(4)(f) DNR is required to establish a structure for a state sponsored burn area emergency stabilization and response team by December 30, 2024. DNR is also required to make recommendations regarding the appropriate number of teams needed, the funding necessary for to support team deployments, the implementation of hazard mitigation, and provide capacity-building to local communities to establish teams.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Section 2(1): Recognizing that climate change will continue to shift regional fire vulnerabilities, DNR will provide updated modeling to assess high-fire risk regions on a decadal basis, integrating the most updated meteorological and geological projections and assessments. Detailed data will provide property-owners, the public, Tribes, and local governments the ability to develop responsive strategies to address their specific wildfire risk profile.

DNR must provide the first risk assessment to the legislature by July 1, 2025, covering a risk assessment period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2035. A subsequent decadal assessment is due every 10 years thereafter. The department must also provide a mid-decade interim report to the legislature by July 1, 2030, and every 10 years thereafter.

This is an entirely new body of work for DNR and will require resources to get the program up and going, particularly in the first biennium of 2023-2025. While the decadal reports and five-year mid-point analysis assessments will be submitted to the legislature every five years, the in-depth and complex analysis that goes into data analysis, visualization, and dissemination for landowner, government, and public planning purposes will be occurring on a regular basis throughout the 30-year period of this project. Acknowledging finite resources, and that there may be more effort required at the onset of this project, DNR is scaling back the proposed FTE for subsequent biennia after 2023-2025.

Section 2(2): DNR will coordinate with local law enforcement, county emergency managers, local fire protection districts, and Tribes to develop public safety evacuation strategies for areas identified in the respective decadal assessments. DNR must provide support to help incorporate wildfire evacuation strategies within existing regional and local emergency response plans. DNR will lead the implementation of emergency disaster and evacuation plan design and information dissemination on DNR-managed outdoor access and recreation sites. Information must be displayed in an accessible manner, including in signage at trailheads, and be relevant to the area's particular natural disaster risk profile.

Section 2(4)(f): By December 30, 2024, DNR shall create an organizational model for state-level burned area emergency response and stabilization (BEAR) teams to support the implementation of hazard mitigation and post-fire treatments for public safety and resource protection. This will provide local capacity-building support to county emergency managers, local law enforcement, and fire protection districts to initiate local burned area emergency response and stabilization teams. During the establishment of the model organization for a state sponsored burned area emergency stabilization and response team, which will increase local community capacity-building to stand up local burned area emergency stabilization and response teams, DNR will consult with the Emergency Management Division of the Washington State Military and the Washington State Conservation Commission.

Costs associated with this work:

- WMS Band 2 – .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will be the supervisor for the Wildland Fire Risk Assessments project, Evacuation Strategy Development and Partnership project, and the Emergency Response Stabilization Team project.
- Natural Resource Scientist 4 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25, .5 FTE in FY 26 (ongoing) – This position will lead the scientific analysis on the creation of the Wildfire Risk Decadal Assessment
- Environmental Planner 4 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25, .5 FTE in FY 26 (ongoing) – This position will lead the project for Wildfire Risk Assessments project
- Environmental Planner 4 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25, .5 FTE in FY 26 (ongoing) – This position will run the GIS analysis for Wildfire Risk Assessments project.
- Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 2 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) - This position will support the Evacuation Strategy Development and partnership project
- Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 2 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will support

the Emergency Response and Stabilization project.

- Environmental Planner 4 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will support DNR’s implementation of emergency disaster and evacuation strategy design, implementation, and public information dissemination on DNR managed outdoor access and recreation lands

Total Costs for this section:

FY 2024 - \$898,000 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$1,173,600

2023-25 \$2,071,600

FY 2026 - \$918,450 (ongoing)

2025-27 \$1,836,900 (ongoing)

Section 2(4)(a) and 2(4)(c): DNR will expand its community resilience program to include counties in western Washington where risk of wildfires and smoke exposure exist. As DNR supports efforts to identify smoke respite areas in high-risk communities where people can take refuge and to promote the additional utilization of community buildings that can serve as clean air and cooling centers for specific periods of time, school sites may be identified as promising locations given that more fires and smoke events occur during the summer months when schools may reduce usage of their facilities.

HB 1168 has been instrumental to effectuating landscape-scale forest health needs. Through a robust prioritization process based on comprehensive assessments and risk profiles, the department of natural resources has focused a majority of its efforts to date on wildfire prevention and preparedness on the east side of the state. Accordingly, DNR wildfire community resilience program “Wildfire Ready Neighbors” (WRN) has been successfully operating in six counties in Eastern Washington. However, driven by climate change-fueled hotter temperatures and increasingly severe droughts, we are seeing a greater prevalence and severity of Western Washington fires.

This Cascading Impacts of Wildfire bill (HB 1578) would fund the expansion of the Wildfire Ready Neighbors program into eight wildfire-vulnerable counties in Western Washington for which existing HB 1168 community resilience funding levels would not currently be able to support. This would include providing homeowners, renters, and private landowners access to expert advice, free resources, and tools to help prepare for wildfire year round. Residents will be able to receive free custom home and property assessment with specific zone-by-zone actions to create expert-advised defensible space and home hardening. It would also allow for the delivery of grants and pass-through partner funding that currently only the current six counties of Wildfire Ready Neighbors programs have benefitted from, such as community grants for Firewise USA sites, equity and inclusion grants to reach underrepresented communities, and partner funds for Conservation Districts. Furthermore, a new smoke readiness component of the program would be incorporated throughout all of Wildfire Ready Neighbors areas of focus. This includes smoke preparedness and mitigation grants for community planning related to smoke preparedness and mitigation. This involves regional identification and implementation of smoke respite areas in high-risk communities where people can take refuge and to promote the additional utilization of community buildings that can serve as clean air and cooling centers for specific periods of time. This also includes partnering with local weatherization agencies and other entities that work to improve indoor air quality in homes through improved air filtration and ventilation systems, improved insulation, and through sealing gaps and air leaks.

Costs associated with this work:

- Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 2 – 1.5 FTE in FY 24 and 2.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) and Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 1 – 1.0 FTE in FY 24 and 2.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – These positions (4 individual staff) will lead on the implementation of the Wildfire Ready Neighbor expansion into the 8 counties noted above. They will provide span of control and subject matter expertise in the program and be responsible for the Firewise USA Site program and Federal Grant program and will conduct marketing surges annually.
- Contracts Specialist 2 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will support administrative contracts and procurement and grant oversight needs for Wildfire Community Resilience projects.

- Community Outreach & Environmental Education Specialist 4 - .37 FTE in FY 24 and .50 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will conduct engagement with individuals, community organizations, Tribes, and local municipality agencies to increase community-level and property-level wildfire readiness, preparedness, and mitigation strategies.
- Contractual Services - \$1,144,200 in FY 24 (ongoing) – This will fund the following contractual needs:
 - o \$410,400 annually for marketing and communications related to Wildfire Ready Neighbors in order to increase awareness, engagement, and utilization of program property-level assessment, community wildfire readiness and action planning, and regional networks of Firewise sites.
 - o \$40,000 annually for translation of materials for ensuring accessibility and outreach to underserved populations
 - o \$693,800 annually for Conservation District Community Response: Pass through to the Washington State Conservation Commission for coordination with Conservation Districts. To increase actions taken by homeowners and landowners on their property to be prepared for the next wildfire. Equity and Inclusion Grants for Wildfire Preparedness: Provide capacity building support to increased engagement with underrepresented communities who have not traditionally been engaged in wildfire preparedness efforts or who have experienced disproportionate environmental or social equity impacts.
- Grants - \$2,320,000 in FY 2024 (ongoing) – This will fund the following grants:
 - o \$880,000 annually for Community Micro Grants for Firewise USA Sites - Micro grant program to support current Firewise USA sites in implementing Community Action Plans. Funds are also used to encourage additional communities to become a Firewise USA site.
 - o \$1,440,000 annually for Smoke Readiness Grant: To provide funding for community planning related to smoke preparedness and mitigation. Includes regional identification of smoke respite areas in high-risk communities where people can take refuge and to promote the additional utilization of community buildings that can serve as clean air and cooling centers for specific periods of time. Includes partnering with local weatherization agencies and other entities that work to improve indoor air quality
- \$215,100 in 2023-25 for one-time capital outlay purchases to include: vehicles with radio equipment, computers/monitors and tablets

Total Costs for this section:

FY 2024 - \$4,036,600 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$4,529,200 (includes one-time vehicle purchases)

2023-25 \$8,565,800

2025-27 \$8,658,300 (ongoing)

Section 2(4)(b): Tasks DNR with establishing a smoke monitoring and predictive services team to assess wildland fire smoke risks and impacts. Expanding upon existing cross-agency emergency management planning and response team efforts, DNR plans to deploy mobile air quality monitoring equipment, conduct simulation modeling, and provide real-time data and smoke exposure forecasts to support community-level public health efforts. Easy-to-use and transportable mobile monitoring sensors provide an important complement to stationary sensors. Forecasting and predictive data based on fire risk-profiles can provide communities, including those in the wildland-urban interface, with early warning of potential smoke hazards.

Costs associated with this work:

- Natural Resource Scientist 3– .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) - This position will work as the Assistant Meteorologist to assist with smoke forecasting.
- Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 1 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will serve as the Dedicated Air Resource Advisor to monitor equipment, interpret the forecasting, support the Wildfire Ready Neighbors messaging as well as work with prescribed fire and liaison with Department of Health, Ecology, Emergency Management, and local emergency management organizations.
- Community Outreach & Environmental Education Specialist 4 - .38 FTE in FY 24 and .5 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – This position will conduct community engagement and outreach related to wildfire smoke risks and impacts, particularly in regions of the state that experience disproportionately high levels of air contaminants and pollutants. They will conduct

engagement with individuals, community organizations, Tribes, and local municipality agencies to provide information and education around smoke exposure mitigation, resources regarding community clean air centers, and programs around weatherization administered by counties and community action agencies. Particular emphasis in outreach will be targeted to overburdened communities, and vulnerable people, including outdoor workers, those older in age, those experiencing persistent health challenges, and those experiencing unstable housing arrangements.

- \$25,000 annually for fixed and mobile smoke-sensing equipment.
- \$158,500 in 2023-25 for one-time capital outlay purchases to include: vehicles with radio equipment, computers/monitors and tablets

Total Costs for this section:

FY 2024 - \$330,000 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$568,600 (includes one-time vehicle purchases)

2023-25 \$898,600

2025-27 \$847,900 (ongoing)

Section 2(4)(e): By July 1, 2024, DNR must implement a post-wildfire debris flow program. The department shall identify areas prone to hazards from post-wildfire debris flows, assess burned areas to determine potential for increases in post-wildfire debris flow hazards, improve modeling to determine triggers for post-wildfire debris flow early warning for at risk communities and infrastructure, and communicate to emergency managers, local governments, stakeholders and the public both for preparedness and response.

Costs associated with this work:

- Natural Resource Scientist 4 – .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) - This position will serve as the Program Manager for the Post-Wildfire Debris Flow Program. It will be responsible for the development and generation of pre- and post-fire planning geologic and hydrologic models and maps, post-wildfire emergency assessment of geologic and hydrologic hazards, the installation and maintenance of post-fire monitoring equipment. It will also provide technical assistance to local and state agencies regarding planning and mitigating post-wildfire geologic and hydrologic hazards.
- Natural Resource Scientist 3 – 1.5 FTE in FY 24 and 2.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – These positions will serve as field team leads for the Wildfire- Associated Landslide Emergency Response Team, assessing public safety related to geologic hazards after wildfires. They determine how, when, and where post-fire hazards assessments are conducted, and train team members. They also conduct reconnaissance hazard evaluations following debris flows, collect rainfall data to better understand future events, and install and maintain post-fire monitoring equipment. They are project leads for mapping areas prone to post-wildfire debris flow hazards prior to wildfire occurrence for community preparedness planning.
- Natural Resource Scientist 2 - .75 FTE in FY 24 and 1.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) - This position will participate in the Wildfire- Associated Landslide Emergency Response Team activities, including deploying to fire-affected areas to assess debris flow potential, conducting reconnaissance evaluations following debris flows, and installing and maintaining post-fire monitoring equipment. They are responsible for mapping areas prone to post-wildfire debris flow hazards prior to wildfire occurrence for community preparedness planning.
- \$10,000 in FY 24 and \$20,000 in FY 25 (ongoing per year) for monitoring equipment
- \$81,600 in 2023-25 for one-time capital outlay purchases to include: vehicle, computers/monitors and technical equipment

Total Costs for this section:

FY 2024 - \$530,600 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$732,500 (includes one-time vehicle purchases)

2023-25 \$1,263,100

2025-27 \$1,355,000 (ongoing)

Total Costs for HB 1578:
 FY 2024 - \$5,795,200
 FY 2025 - \$7,003,800
 2023-25 \$12,799,000
 2025-27 \$12,698,200 (ongoing)

Goods and services and travel are calculated on actual program averages per person.

Administrative costs are calculated at 31% of staff salary and benefits and staff-related goods and services and travel. For fiscal note purposes, this cost is represented as a Fiscal Analyst 2 position (4.3 FTE in FY 24, 5.89 FTE in FY 25, 5.43 in FY 26 (ongoing)).

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
001-1	General Fund	State	5,795,200	7,003,800	12,799,000	12,698,200	12,698,200
Total \$			5,795,200	7,003,800	12,799,000	12,698,200	12,698,200

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	18.1	24.9	21.5	22.9	22.9
A-Salaries and Wages	1,142,400	1,574,700	2,717,100	2,879,400	2,879,400
B-Employee Benefits	407,100	562,100	969,200	1,032,600	1,032,600
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	1,267,100	1,316,300	2,583,400	2,605,200	2,605,200
G-Travel	50,200	83,300	133,500	169,000	169,000
J-Capital Outlays	106,400	450,000	556,400	90,000	90,000
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services	2,320,000	2,320,000	4,640,000	4,640,000	4,640,000
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements	502,000	697,400	1,199,400	1,282,000	1,282,000
9-					
Total \$	5,795,200	7,003,800	12,799,000	12,698,200	12,698,200

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
Community Outreach & Environ Ed Spec 4	73,260	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
Contracts Specialist 2	69,756	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
Environmental Planner 4	89,292	2.3	3.0	2.6	2.0	2.0
Fiscal Analyst 2	55,872	4.3	5.9	5.1	5.4	5.4
Natural Resource Scientist 2	68,076	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
Natural Resource Scientist 3	82,896	2.3	3.0	2.6	3.0	3.0
Natural Resource Scientist 4	91,524	1.5	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.5
Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 1	77,028	1.8	3.0	2.4	3.0	3.0
Wildland Fire Program Coordinator 2	82,896	3.0	4.0	3.5	4.0	4.0
WMS Band 2	101,268	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
Total FTEs		18.1	24.9	21.5	22.9	22.9

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 1578 HB

Title: Wildland fire safety

Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

Cities: Cities, municipal police departments, and any other departments or agencies related to public health & safety.

Counties: Counties and sheriff's offices, and any other departments or agencies related to public health & safety.

Special Districts: Fire districts, public health districts, and any special districts related to public safety

Specific jurisdictions only:

Variance occurs due to:

Part II: Estimates

No fiscal impacts.

Expenditures represent one-time costs:

Legislation provides local option:

Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: Costs incurred by local governments for coordinating with the Department of Natural Resources in community engagement, outreach and community resilience programming.

Estimated revenue impacts to:

None

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Chelsea Mickel	Phone: 518-727-3478	Date: 02/06/2023
Leg. Committee Contact: Rebecca Lewis	Phone: 360-786-7339	Date: 01/30/2023
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 02/06/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 02/07/2023

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

This bill requires DNR to consult with local governments to develop public safety evacuation strategies, plan response efforts related to wildfire smoke, and identify smoke respite areas in high-risk communities.

Section 2 states that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) must assess areas at significant risk for wildfire, by decade, for at least 30 years. The assessment must include an analysis of the predicted climate influence on wildfire risk in the state and provide enough detail for landowners, the public, local governments, and tribal nations to develop strategies to address wildfire risk. DNR must provide the first risk assessment to appropriate legislative committees by July 1, 2025 which covers the risk assessment period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2035. Further risk analyses for subsequent decades will be due every 10 years. DNR must provide mid-decade interim reports to appropriate committees in the legislature by July 30, 2030 and every 10 years.

DNR must cooperate with local law enforcement, Indian tribes, county emergency managers, and local fire protection districts to develop public safety evacuation strategies for areas identified in the respective decadal assessments as facing significant risk of wildfire. The department must provide support to help incorporate wildfire evacuation strategies within existing regional and local emergency response plans. Implementation of evacuation strategies remains under the authority of local law enforcement.

DNR is required to expand its community resilience programming and participate in cross-agency emergency management planning and response efforts related to wildfire smoke. During this process, DNR must conduct community engagement and outreach related to wildfire smoke risks and impacts, particularly in regions of the state that experience disproportionately high levels of air contaminants and pollutants. DNR must also coordinate with state agencies, local fire protection districts, local governments, and Indian tribes to assist with the identification of smoke respite areas in high-risk communities where people can take refuge.

B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

This bill would have indeterminate expenditure impacts on local governments.

Local governments would incur costs when working with DNR to develop public safety evacuation strategies, plan response efforts related to wildfire smoke, and identify smoke respite areas in high-risk communities. Local law enforcement and special districts, such as Fire Protection Districts and Regional Fire Protection Service Authorities, would work with DNR to assess wildfire risk, prevention and evacuation strategies. Various local agencies, including emergency management, law enforcement, public health, and public works, would also need to coordinate with DNR to accomplish these tasks and assist in community resiliency programming and engagement. It is difficult to assess the scope of local government agency obligations and determine the amount of additional staff time for each jurisdiction required to coordinate with DNR. The average professional compensation at the local level is \$66 per hour, including benefits and overhead. Costs to local governments would depend upon the number of hours of staff time required for each affected local government to collaborate with DNR. The level of cooperation would likely vary depending upon the jurisdiction's level of wildfire risk. It is unknown whether the scope of local government participation would include in-person meetings and travel, or if collaboration would be mostly remote. Travel and meeting costs would vary depending on the number of local staff representatives present, the distance traveled, the number and length of meetings, and the local per diem and hotel costs. Due to the uncertainties listed above, the expenditure impacts on local governments is indeterminate.

C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

This bill would not have revenue impacts on local governments.

SOURCES

Association of Washington Cities

Department of Natural Resources

Local Government Fiscal Note Program Unit Cost Model, (2023)

Municipal Research Services Center ([link](#))

Washington Fire Chiefs Association

Washington State Association of Counties