

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 1578 2S HB AMS WM S2962.3	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
Washington State Patrol	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.											
Military Department	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Health	Fiscal note not available											
Department of Ecology	.6	0	0	139,356	.6	0	0	139,356	.6	0	0	139,356
State Conservation Commission	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Natural Resources	22.6	13,070,400	13,070,400	13,070,400	24.2	12,996,000	12,996,000	12,996,000	24.2	12,996,000	12,996,000	12,996,000
Total \$	23.2	13,070,400	13,070,400	13,209,756	24.8	12,996,000	12,996,000	13,135,356	24.8	12,996,000	12,996,000	13,135,356

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
Washington State Patrol	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Military Department	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Health	Fiscal note not available								
Department of Ecology	.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: Preliminary 4/13/2023
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 1578 2S HB AMS WM S2962.3	Title: Wildland fire safety	Agency: 225-Washington State Patrol
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

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

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:	Phone:	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Preparation: Yvonne Ellison	Phone: 360-596-4042	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Approval: Shawn Eckhart	Phone: 360-596-4083	Date: 04/06/2023
OFM Review: Tiffany West	Phone: (360) 890-2653	Date: 04/06/2023

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 proposed legislation has an indeterminate fiscal impact on the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

The Ways & Means amended second substitute version of the proposed legislation makes changes that do not impact our previous assumptions.

New Section 2(2) requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in consultation with the Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division and the WSP, and in cooperation with local stakeholders, to develop public safety evacuation strategies for areas identified as facing significant risk of wildfire.

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.

The WSP regularly consults and coordinates with the DNR on matters related to wildland fire risk and mobilization. It is unknown at this time how much time will be required for consultation on evacuation strategies, but we expect it will be accomplished alongside the other work already done in coordination with the DNR and will therefore have minimal impact.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

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

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

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

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 2S HB AMS WM S2962.3	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:	Phone:	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Preparation: Serina Roberts	Phone: 2535127388	Date: 04/07/2023
Agency Approval: Timothy Rajcevich	Phone: 2535127596	Date: 04/07/2023
OFM Review: Cheri Keller	Phone: (360) 584-2207	Date: 04/07/2023

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.

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 2S HB AMS WM S2962.3	Title: Wildland fire safety	Agency: 461-Department of Ecology
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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	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Account					
Model Toxics Control Operating Account-State 23P-1	69,678	69,678	139,356	139,356	139,356
Total \$	69,678	69,678	139,356	139,356	139,356

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:	Phone:	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Preparation: Pete Siefer	Phone: 360-485-7648	Date: 04/07/2023
Agency Approval: Erik Fairchild	Phone: 360-407-7005	Date: 04/07/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 04/12/2023

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.

Compared to 1578 2SHB AMS AWP S2380.2, 1578 2SHB AMS WM S2962.3 makes the following changes:

- Section 2 removes the requirements for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to perform the work in this section within existing resources.
- Section 2(6) is added to provide that until July 1, 2025, the assessments and reports required by this section are only intended to assist with improving community preparedness, response, recovery, and resilience to wildland fires and are not intended and may not be used in the development of, or as the basis of, any regulations by a state agency or a local government entity.

These changes do not result in a change in fiscal impact to Ecology.

Under current law, Ecology is responsible for working with local clean air agencies (LCAAs) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to operate the statewide ambient air monitoring network and works with U.S. Forest Service to deploy temporary air monitors during wildfire season to evaluate wildfire smoke. Ecology works with DNR, the United States Forest Service (USFS), the National Weather Service, the Department of Health (DOH), and LCAAs to communicate air quality conditions and steps to protect public health to partners and communities in the state during wildfire events.

This bill would amend chapter 76.04 RCW (Forest Protection) to provide direction to DNR to expand wildfire prevention, preparedness, and resilience in areas with increasing population density, including the wildland urban interface.

Section 2(4)(b) would require DNR to coordinate cross-agency and provide information to assess wildland fire smoke risks and impacts. Activities may include that DNR:

- Coordinate with Ecology, LCAAs, and USFS to deploy temporary air monitors to assess smoke conditions during wildfires;
- Provide information to Ecology to continue to improve smoke modeling and forecasting tools and support regulatory compliance;
- Advance science and conduct research on wildfire smoke event recurrence geographically, based on different forest types and incorporating this research into planning efforts; and,
- Disseminate information to the public through online resources.

Additionally, DNR would be required to collaborate with DOH and Ecology to 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. The provisions of this section would not impact or prevent the implementation of prescribed burns to improve forest health and resiliency and reduce wildfire risks.

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.

The expenditure impact to Ecology under this bill is estimated to be greater than \$50,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and ongoing to implement the requirements of section 2.

Section 2(4)(b) – Cross-agency coordination

Currently, under RCW 70A.15.5140, DNR is responsible for ensuring that the issuance of burn permits for silvicultural fires comply to the extent feasible with air quality standards established by Ecology. Under RCW 70A.15.5020, DNR is required to notify and consult with Ecology before issuing prescribed burn permits for any burn over one hundred tons of material within an urban growth area and ensure that the issuance of the permit would comply with air quality standards. In communities without an existing monitor, Ecology’s regional offices use the information from DNR to deploy temporary air monitors to assess impacts and provide information on air quality.

Section 2(4)(b) would require DNR to coordinate cross-agency and provide information to assess wildland fire smoke risks and impacts.

Section 2(4)(b)(i)(A) would allow DNR to coordinate with Ecology, LCAAs, and USFS to deploy temporary air monitors to assess smoke conditions during wildfires. Ecology assumes this work would be accomplished through existing channels, such as the weekly USFS-hosted wildfire season smoke calls, and multi-agency collaboration via the USFS-hosted “Smoke Blog.”

Section 2 (4)(b)(i)(B) would allow DNR to provide information to Ecology to continue to improve smoke modeling and forecasting tools and support regulatory compliance. Currently, the Air Quality Program at Ecology performs smoke modeling and forecasting that would meet the requirements of this bill. Ecology assumes no additional fiscal impact.

Section 2 (4)(b)(i)(D) would allow DNR to disseminate information to the public through online resources. Currently, for the monitors Ecology deploys, we provide air quality information through Ecology’s air monitoring webpage (<https://enviwa.ecology.wa.gov/home/map>). For monitors deployed by LCAAs, Ecology may display that information if the LCAA provides us with access. This information is currently available through the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) “Fire and Smoke” map. Furthermore, USFS deployed air monitors would also be available through EPA’s “Fire and Smoke” map. Ecology assumes that the information disseminated in this subsection would be included in these current resources.

Section 2 (4)(b)(iv) would require DNR to collaborate with DOH and Ecology to 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. Currently, DOH has been the lead on public health messages that pertain to wildfire smoke risks and prevention, and Ecology has helped to amplify these messages. Ecology assumes this section would require an increase in community outreach, particularly in regions of the state that experience disproportionately high levels of air contaminants and pollutants, including a focus on overburdened populations and vulnerable individuals.

0.5 FTE Communications Consultant 4 in FY 2024 and ongoing – this position would provide smoke season outreach and extend our current messaging into Public Service Announcements, television, Ecology’s blog, and social media channels, with an emphasis on extending our smoke season media campaigns and outreach on the available shelters for those who have unstable housing or are at risk of smoke exposure for other reasons.

SUMMARY: The expenditure impact to Ecology under this bill is:

FY 2024 and ongoing: \$69,678 and 0.6 FTEs.

Notes on costs by object:

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.

Benefits are the agency average of 36% of salaries.

Goods and Services are the agency average of \$5,224 per direct program FTE.

Travel is the agency average of \$1,563 per direct program FTE.

Equipment is the agency average of \$1,031 per direct program FTE.

Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.75% of direct program salaries and benefits, and is shown as object 9. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE, and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development - Journey.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
23P-1	Model Toxics Control Operating Account	State	69,678	69,678	139,356	139,356	139,356
Total \$			69,678	69,678	139,356	139,356	139,356

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
A-Salaries and Wages	37,560	37,560	75,120	75,120	75,120
B-Employee Benefits	13,522	13,522	27,044	27,044	27,044
E-Goods and Other Services	2,612	2,612	5,224	5,224	5,224
G-Travel	782	782	1,564	1,564	1,564
J-Capital Outlays	516	516	1,032	1,032	1,032
9-Agency Administrative Overhead	14,686	14,686	29,372	29,372	29,372
Total \$	69,678	69,678	139,356	139,356	139,356

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
COMM CONSULTANT 4	75,120	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
FISCAL ANALYST 2		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
IT APP DEV-JOURNEY		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total FTEs		0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6

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 2S HB AMS WM S2962.3	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:	Phone:	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Preparation: Karla Heinitz	Phone: 360-878-4666	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Approval: Ron Shultz	Phone: 360-790-5994	Date: 04/06/2023
OFM Review: Matthew Hunter	Phone: (360) 529-7078	Date: 04/06/2023

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.

No fiscal impact to the State Conservation (SCC) with the Substitute Bill Amendment.

The Second Substitute Amendment updates the bill language, but no change to the language listing SCC as one of the agencies listed as consulting with DNR on an established structure for a state-sponsored burned area emergency stabilization and response team by December 30, 2027. The Amendment changes the implementation from December 30, 2024 in the original bill to December 30, 2027.

EFFECT of Amendment:

Delays implementation of decadal wildfire risk assessments from July 2025 to July 2027. Directs the department of natural resources (DNR) to update wildland urban interface maps in coordination with counties. Adds that additional air monitoring and other wildfire smoke research may not impact or prevent the implementation of prescribed burns to improve forest health and resiliency and reduce wildfire risks.

Removes provisions directing DNR to work with stakeholders to identify smoke respite areas and cooling centers. Delays implementation of the post wildfire debris program from July 2024 to July 2028. Delays implementation of the burned area emergency stabilization and response teams from December 2024 to December 2027. Removes a null and void clause. Provides that until July 1, 2025, the wildfire risk assessments are intended to assist with improving community preparedness and response to wildland fires and are not intended for use in the development of any state or local government regulations.

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 2S HB AMS WM S2962.3	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	19.0	26.2	22.6	24.2	24.2
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	5,912,000	7,158,400	13,070,400	12,996,000	12,996,000
Total \$	5,912,000	7,158,400	13,070,400	12,996,000	12,996,000

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).
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- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Phone:	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Preparation: Nicole Dixon	Phone: 360-902-1155	Date: 04/07/2023
Agency Approval: Brian Considine	Phone: 3604863469	Date: 04/07/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 04/12/2023

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.

Differences between HB 1578 and SHB 1578:

-Notes that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) must consult with the State Emergency Management Division and Washington State Patrol and cooperate with city emergency managers in developing public safety evacuation strategies.

-Increases DNR's required collaboration with partner agencies, including with the department of Ecology, as it pertains to co-deployment of mobile air monitors, aligning with Ecology-established protocols and systems. The substitute bill also stipulates that DNR will coordinate with local clean air agencies and the U.S. Forest Service in the deployment and operation of air monitors.

-Describes that DNR shall conduct research on wildfire smoke event recurrence geographically based on different forest types and will incorporate this research into planning efforts and providing information to the department of Ecology to continue to improve smoke modeling and forecasting tools.

-Denotes that the DNR must collaborate with the departments of Health and Ecology when conducting community engagement and outreach related to wildfire smoke risks and impacts, including for outdoor workers and other vulnerable population groups.

New Description:

Section 2(1)(a) 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. The department must provide the first risk assessment to the appropriate committees of the legislature by July 1, 2027, covering a risk assessment period of July 1, 2027 through June 30, 2037. A subsequent decadal assessment is due every 10 years thereafter. DNR must also provide a mid-decade interim report to the appropriate committees by July 1, 2032, and every 10 years thereafter.

Section 2(1)(b) requires that DNR must coordinate with counties on an update to the wildland urban interface maps consistent with RCW 43.30.580.

Section 2(2) DNR, in consultation with the state Emergency Management Division and the Washington State Patrol, is required to coordinate with law enforcement, Indian tribes, and 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 in alignment with RCW 38.52.

Section 2(4)(b)(i)(A) requires DNR to coordinate with the Department of Ecology, local clean air agencies, and the U.S.

Forest Service in the deployment of mobile air monitors to assess smoke conditions during prescribed fires and wildfires.

Section 2(4)(b)(i)(B) requires DNR to provide information to the Department of Ecology to continue to improve smoke modeling and forecasting tools and support compliance.

Section 2(4)(b)(i)(C) requires DNR to conduct research on wildfire smoke event recurrence geographically based on different forest types and to incorporate this research into planning efforts and to provide this information to the Department of Ecology.

Section 2(4)(b)(ii) requires DNR to work cross-agency to address 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 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)(d) DNR is required to implement a post-wildfire debris flow program by July 1, 2028.

Section 2(4)(e) DNR is required to establish a structure for a state sponsored burn area emergency stabilization and response team by December 30, 2027. DNR is also required to provide capacity-building to local communities to establish teams and to make recommendations regarding the appropriate number of teams needed, the funding necessary for to support team deployments, and the implementation of hazard mitigation strategies.

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, 2027, covering a risk assessment period of July 1, 2027, through June 30, 2037. 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, 2032, 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, in consultation with the state Emergency Management Division and the Washington State Patrol, will coordinate with law enforcement, Indian tribes, and emergency managers and local fire protection districts 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.

Section 2(4)(e): By December 30, 2024, DNR shall create an organizational model for state-level burned area emergency response and stabilization (BAER) 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.

Total Costs for this section:

FY 2024 - \$768,600 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$1,005,100

2023-25 \$1,773,700

2025-27 \$1,499,500 (ongoing)

Section 2(3): 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.

Costs associated with this work:

- 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 - \$129,200 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$168,600

2023-25 \$297,800

2025-27 \$337,200 (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 - \$4,036,500 (includes one-time computer purchases)

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

2023-25 \$8,565,700

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

Section 2(4)(b): Through participation in cross-agency emergency management planning and response efforts related to wildfire smoke in alignment with RCW 38.52, DNR will incorporate smoke readiness into community resilience programming and coordinate with local, state, and Tribal governments to provide information to Washington communities affected by wildfire smoke. In collaboration with the Department of Ecology, local clean air agencies, and the U.S. Forest Service, DNR plans to support deployment of mobile air quality monitoring equipment, conduct simulation modeling, and provide real-time data and smoke exposure forecasts to support community-level public health efforts as it pertains to wildfire and prescribed fire. 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.

DNR will provide information to the Department of Ecology to continue to improve smoke modeling and forecasting tools and support compliance. DNR will conduct research on wildfire smoke event recurrence geographically based on different forest types and to incorporate this research into planning efforts and to provide this information to the Department of Ecology. DNR will work cross-agency to address smoke risks to transportation safety and firefighter exposure to smoke.

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 – 1.5 FTE in FY 24 and 2.0 FTE in FY 25 (ongoing) – These two positions will serve as the Dedicated Air Resource Advisor (North region) and Dedicated Air Resource Advisor (South region) to monitor equipment, interpret the forecasting, support the Wildfire Ready Neighbors messaging as well as work with prescribed fire and coordinate with Department of Health, Ecology, U.S. Forest Service, and local clean air agencies.
- 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 - \$447,000 (includes one-time computer purchases)

FY 2025 - \$723,100 (includes one-time vehicle purchases)

2023-25 \$1,170,100

2025-27 \$1,146,000 (ongoing)

Section 2(4)(d): 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 2SHB 1578:

FY 2024 - \$5,912,000 FY 2025 - \$7,158,400

2023-25 \$13,070,400

2025-27 \$12,996,000 (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 (4.5 FTE in FY 24, 6.2 FTE in FY 25, 5.7 FTE 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	5,912,000	7,158,400	13,070,400	12,996,000	12,996,000
Total \$			5,912,000	7,158,400	13,070,400	12,996,000	12,996,000

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	19.0	26.2	22.6	24.2	24.2
A-Salaries and Wages	1,200,100	1,651,800	2,851,900	3,033,600	3,033,600
B-Employee Benefits	428,800	591,000	1,019,800	1,090,400	1,090,400
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	1,275,400	1,327,500	2,602,900	2,624,000	2,624,000
G-Travel	51,000	85,900	136,900	169,200	169,200
J-Capital Outlays	109,000	450,000	559,000	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	527,700	732,200	1,259,900	1,348,800	1,348,800
9-					
Total \$	5,912,000	7,158,400	13,070,400	12,996,000	12,996,000

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 & Environmen Education Specili	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	4.5	6.2	5.4	5.7	5.7
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	2.5	4.0	3.3	4.0	4.0
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		19.0	26.2	22.6	24.2	24.2

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 2S HB AMS
WM S2962.3

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, clean air agencies, 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: 04/06/2023
Leg. Committee Contact:	Phone:	Date: 04/06/2023
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 04/06/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 04/12/2023

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

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

CHANGES BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

- Removes language regarding completing tasks within existing resources.
- Provides that until July 1, 2025, the wildfire risk assessments are intended to assist with improving community preparedness and response to wildland fires and are not intended for use in the development of any state or local government regulations.
- Delays implementation of decadal wildfire risk assessments from July 2025 to July 2027.
- Directs DNR to update wildland urban interface maps in coordination with counties.
- States that additional air monitoring and other wildfire smoke research is not intended to impact or prevent the implementation of prescribed burns to improve forest health and resiliency and reduce wildfire risks.
- Removes provisions directing DNR to work with stakeholders to identify smoke respite areas and cooling centers.
- Delays implementation of the post-wildfire debris program from July 2024 to July 2028 and directs DNR to implement the program within existing resources.
- Delays implementation of the burned area emergency stabilization and response teams from December 2024 to December 2027.
- Removes a null and void clause.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL:

- Requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to complete decadal assessments of areas at significant risk of wildfire, beginning with the decade between July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2037.
- Requires DNR to cooperate with and provide support to various local entities to develop public safety evacuation strategies for incorporation into local emergency response plans.
- Requires DNR to expand its community resilience programming within the wildland urban interface in areas of Western Washington where DNR determines that risk of wildfires and smoke exposure exist.
- Requires DNR to implement a Post-Wildfire Debris Flow Program by July 1, 2028, and establish a structure for a state-sponsored burned area emergency stabilization and response team by December 30, 2027.

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.

CHANGES IN EXPENDITURE IMPACTS BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

In comparison to the previous version of the bill, the current version would have additional indeterminate expenditure impacts on local governments.

The amended bill directs DNR to update wildland urban interface maps in coordination with counties. However, the amendment removes the clause that requires tasks to be completed within existing resources. Since local governments are not required to update maps using current resources, entities may choose to hire additional staff to address increased workload, or to distribute additional tasks to existing staff. If current employees were tasked with coordination efforts, it is unknown whether or not increasing FTE would be required. Since it is unknown how much staff time would be required to update wildland urban interface maps in coordination with DNR, and the amount of time required to complete the map updates would vary depending on the employee capacity and wildfire risk of the county, expenditure impacts would be indeterminate.

The amended bill removes provisions directing DNR to work with stakeholders to identify smoke respite areas and cooling centers. The removal of this provision would decrease expenditure impacts on local governments in comparison to the previous version of the bill. This would eliminate expenses in terms of staff time that would have previously been required to assist DNR in identifying smoke respite areas. However, since it is unknown how much staff time would have been required to work with DNR, the decrease in expenditures is indeterminate.

EXPENDITURE IMPACTS OF CURRENT BILL:

This bill would have indeterminate expenditure impacts on local governments.

The bill requires DNR to coordinate with Ecology, local clean air agencies and the US Forest Service to place temporary air monitors to assess smoke conditions near wildfires. These requirements could increase staff time and coordination costs for local governments that DNR consults with. Public safety concerns and air quality monitoring would fall under the purview of current local emergency management staff and clean air agencies, however, since the amount of staff time required to coordinate with DNR is unknown, these additional costs are indeterminate.

Local governments would incur costs when working with DNR to develop public safety evacuation strategies and plan response efforts related to wildfire smoke 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. 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

House Bill Report, SHB 1578, Agriculture & Natural Resources committee, (2023)

Local Government Fiscal Note, 2SHB 1578 AMS AWP S238.2, (2023)

Local Government Fiscal Note, SHB 1578, (2023)

Local Government Fiscal Note, HB 1578, (2023)

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

Municipal Research Services Center

Senate Bill Report, 2SHB 1578 AMS WM S2962.3, Ways & Means committee, (2023)

Washington Fire Chiefs Association

Washington State Association of Counties