

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 6120 E SB	Title: Wildland urban interface
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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
Department of Enterprise Services	.0	18,000	18,000	18,000	.0	50,400	50,400	50,400	.0	0	0	0
Department of Natural Resources	Fiscal note not available											
Total \$	0.0	18,000	18,000	18,000	0.0	50,400	50,400	50,400	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 Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Department of Enterprise Services	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Natural Resources	Fiscal note not available								
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

NONE

Prepared by: Val Terre, OFM	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date Published: Preliminary 2/13/2024
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Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 6120 E SB	Title: Wildland urban interface	Agency: 179-Department of Enterprise Services
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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
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	0	18,000	18,000	50,400	0
Total \$	0	18,000	18,000	50,400	0

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: Jed Herman	Phone: 360-786-7346	Date: 02/08/2024
Agency Preparation: Michael Diaz	Phone: (360) 407-8131	Date: 02/13/2024
Agency Approval: Jessica Goodwin	Phone: (360) 819-3719	Date: 02/13/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 02/13/2024

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)(a) amends RCW 19.27.074 and 2018 c 207 s 4 adding language that states the Wildland Urban Interface Codes must be consistent with RCW 19.27.560.

Subsection 3(1) replaces the mapping of wildland urban interface areas with a wildfire hazard map and a base-level wildfire risk map for each county of the state, per RCW 43.30.580, consistent of Chapter 1 and the following technical provisions of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code.

Subsection 3(4) is a new subsection that states that all counties, cities, and towns may complete their own wildfire hazard and base-level wildfire risk map for the use in applying the code enumerated in subsections (1) and (2) of this section. Counties, cities, and towns may continue to use locally adopted wildfire risk maps until completion of a statewide wildfire hazard map and base-level wildfire risk map for each county of the state per RCW 43.30.580. Six months after the statewide wildfire hazard map and base-level wildfire risk map is complete, any map adopted by counties, cities, and towns must utilize the same or substantially similar criteria as the map required by subsection (1) of this section.

Subsection 3(5) is a new subsection that states that all counties, cities, and towns issuing commercial and residential building permits for parcels in the areas identified as high hazard and very high hazard on the map required by subsection (1) of this section or adopted according to subsection (4) of this section shall apply the code enumerated in subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

Subsection 4(3) amends RCW 43.30.580 and 2018 c 189 s 3 stating that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) shall establish and maintain a statewide wildfire hazard map and a base-level wildfire risk map for each county of the state based upon criteria established in coordination with the state fire marshal office.

Section 5 is a new section and states this act takes effect immediately.

This bill requires the adoption of updated wildland urban interface codes, which will require the State Building Code Council (SBCC) to hold additional council and technical advisory group meetings.

This has fiscal impact to the Department of Enterprise Services.

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.

Sections 1, 2 and 3 amend various chapters in 19.27 RCW that requires the State Building Code Council (SBCC) to update the Wildland Urban Interface Codes. Section 5 states this act takes effect immediately.

SBCC currently uses the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildland Urban Interface map. Section 3 changes this to a wildfire hazard map and a base-level wildfire risk map, which, per Section 4, DNR would be required to create and maintain.

The Department of Enterprise Services (DES) assumes implementation of this proposed legislation would require additional Council and Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings, public hearings, and testimony. This TAG does not currently exist, and this code is not one that is regularly reviewed. SBCC assumes that once the maps are created by DNR, it would take approximately 1 year for this TAG to update the codes. Emergency code work would begin in Fiscal Year 2025.

The SBCC would need to meet for an additional three council meetings with eight council members, ten advisory meetings with two members, two public hearings with one member, and five executive committee meetings with six members to establish these codes. Travel costs for an SBCC member to attend a meeting are as follows:

- Round-trip air travel \$527
- Per Diem \$311
- Rental car \$50
- Parking \$12
- Total \$900/day

Travel Cost breakout:

3 Council Meetings X \$900 X 8 members = \$21,600
 10 Advisory Meetings X \$900 X 2 members = \$18,000
 2 Public Hearings X \$900 X 1 member = \$1,800
 5 Executive Committee Meetings X \$900 X 6 members = \$27,000
 Total travel costs: \$68,400

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	0	18,000	18,000	50,400	0
Total \$			0	18,000	18,000	50,400	0

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years					
A-Salaries and Wages					
B-Employee Benefits					
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services					
G-Travel		18,000	18,000	50,400	
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total \$	0	18,000	18,000	50,400	0

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.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 6120 E SB

Title: Wildland urban interface

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

Legislation Impacts:

- Cities: Cities could adopt locally specific wildland urban interface maps to determine where to apply the International Wildland Urban Interface Code for permitting commercial and residential building permits.
- Counties: Same as above for counties.
- Special Districts:
- Specific jurisdictions only:
- Variance occurs due to:

Part II: Estimates

- No fiscal impacts.
- Expenditures represent one-time costs:
- Legislation provides local option: Creating and adopting wildfire risk maps that are similar to the statewide wildfire hazard and base-level wildfire risk map developed by the Department of Natural Resources.
- Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: Number of jurisdictions that would adopt locally specific wildfire hazard and base-level risk maps.

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: Jordan Laramie	Phone: 360-725-5044	Date: 02/13/2024
Leg. Committee Contact: Jed Herman	Phone: 360-786-7346	Date: 02/08/2024
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 02/13/2024
OFM Review: Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3973	Date: 02/13/2024

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

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

This fiscal note reflects language in the engrossed substitute version of SB 6120, 2024 legislative session.

CHANGES BETWEEN THIS VERSION AND PREVIOUS BILL VERSION:

Sec. 1 would be amended such that counties, cities, and towns may use the model International Wildland Urban Interface Code as specifically referenced in RCW 19.27.560(2).

Sec. 3 would be amended such that all counties, cities, and towns may complete their own wildfire hazard and base-level wildfire risk maps. They can continue to use such maps until six months after the maps created by the Department of Natural Resources in Sec. 4 of this act are complete.

After this time, all jurisdictions must adopt the DNR maps or their own local maps with substantially similar criteria as the DNR maps, or chapter 1 and certain technical provisions of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code established by Sec. 3(1).

Sec. 4 would be a new section that would require DNR to produce a statewide wildfire hazard and base-level wildfire risk maps. DNR must establish a method by which local government may update the wildfire risk map based on local assessments, which would be approved by the jurisdiction's fire marshal.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL:

This legislation would enumerate portions of the international wildland urban interface code and allow local governments to use a statewide version of a map of areas at greatest risk from wildland fires and base-level wildfire risk maps at the county level. Local governments could complete their own fire hazard and risk maps so long as these maps are substantially similar to the Department of Natural Resources' hazard and risk maps. Irrespective of the map used, all local governments that issue commercial and residential permits for areas identified as high and very high risk would be required to enforce the Wildland Urban Interface Code as adopted by the State Building Code Council for these structures.

Sec. 1 would amend the State Building Code statute so that only portions of the International Wildlife Urban Interface Code (WUI Code), as specifically referenced in RCW 19.27.560, or the model International WUI Code, applies to State Building Code.

Sec. 2 would amend the responsibilities of the State Building Code Council to amend the WUI Code so that it is consistent with RCW 19.27.560.

Sec. 3 would amend International WUI Code statute to allow for all counties, cities, and towns to complete their own wildfire hazard and base-level wildfire risk maps. They can continue to use such maps until six months after the maps created by DNR in Sec. 4 of this act are complete.

After this time, all jurisdictions must adopt the DNR maps or their own local maps with substantially similar criteria as the DNR maps, or chapter 1 and certain technical provisions of the International Wildland Urban Interface Code established by Sec. 3(1). All jurisdictions that issue commercial and residential building permits must apply the code enumerated in subsection 1 or subsection 2 of this Section for areas identified as high risk and very high risk.

Sec. 4 would be a new section that would require DNR, with consultation with the State Fire Marshal's Office, to produce a statewide wildfire hazard and base-level wildfire risk maps. DNR must establish a method by which local government may update the wildfire risk map based on local assessments, which would be approved by the jurisdiction's

fire marshal.

Sec. 5 is an emergency clause stating that this act would take effect immediately.

BACKGROUND:

In 2018, RCW 19.27.560 set a timeline for incorporating portions of the International Code Council’s 2018 International Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Code into the State Building Code, as well as completing a statewide map of WUI areas. In 2020, the Building Code Council began considering proposals for a WUI Code, and several local governments in the state already have already adopted parts of the international code, including the cities of Chelan and Spokane, and Yakima and Kittitas counties. (Municipal Research and Services Center)

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:

The amendments to this bill would not change the expenditure impact of the prior bill.

However, this proposed engrossed senate bill would expand the discretionary ability of counties, cities, and towns to adopt hazard and risk maps that are pertinent to local conditions. It also allows these jurisdictions to achieve a heightened fire protection with minimal resources through the adoption of the Department of Natural Resource wildfire hazard and risk maps.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL VERSION:

This legislation would have indeterminate, but minor impacts on local government expenditures.

There would be no impact on local government expenditures for the provision in Sec. 3(4) as it does not require counties, cities, or towns to create a different wildland urban interface map that is locally specific. The act gives local governments’ greater discretion to implement locally specific fire hazard and risk maps, should the county, city, or town decide that to be a more appropriate option. If a county, city, or town chose to create their own fire risk map that is substantially similar to the Department of Natural Resources’ maps, they would be doing so a local option. The number of jurisdictions that would undertake this work cannot be known in advance.

There may be de minimis to minor expenditure impacts to update forms, internal processes, and training resources for jurisdictions with wildland urban interface (WUI) risks that qualify for permitting processes that make use of the WUI Code in Sec 3(5) of this act. The number of jurisdictions that these costs would apply to is not currently known, but it is likely in all fire prone areas of the state. However, these costs would likely already be anticipated by affected local governments as the implementation of the State Building Code exists on three-year cycles and updates to the existing code, including the WUI Code are available on the State Building Code Council website for review before their adoption.

To be in compliance with the 2021 State Building Code update, which is scheduled to take effect March 15, 2024, all counties, cities, and towns would be required to update the State Building Code within their local code. These jurisdictions would need to adopt the new State Building Code by reference, or present alternative heightened codes for approval to the State Building Code Council. In jurisdictions that adopt amendments to State Building Code, there would be additional indeterminate costs related to review of local building code, adoption, and passage of the ordinance making the change to such code.

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.

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

The amendments to this bill would not change the revenue impact of the prior bill.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT BILL VERSION:

This bill would not have revenue impacts on local governments.

SOURCES:

Department of Enterprise Services, State Building Code Council

Department of Natural Resources

Engrossed Senate Bill Report, E SB 6120 (2024)

Local Government Fiscal Note Program, FN SB 6109 (2018)

Local Government Fiscal Note Program, Unit Cost Model, (2024)

Municipal Research Services Center

Senate Bill Report, SB 6120 (2024)