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# By Sharing the Responsibility for Healthy Land & Forests, We Can Reduce Wildfire Danger and Minimize Impacts Felt Across Washington

*Washington's wildfire strategy has critical gaps that increase wildfire risk across all lands. By piggybacking on existing commitments from private forest landowners and operators, HB 1168 would provide stable and full long-term funding for wildfire response, forest health, and community resilience.*



## PRIVATE LANDOWNER'S CURRENT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

### PRE-FIRE

- Manage lands in fire resilient state; funded as operating expense.
- Invest in and maintain forest roads to ensure access.
- Purchase required firefighting resources to have on hand, such as water tenders, fire patrols, and heavy equipment.
- Pay Forest Fire Protection Assessment to the state to help fund the state's fire preparation (\$11.2 million annually).
- Pay Landowner Contingency Assessment to fund DNR response to fires started on private land (\$800,000/biennium, adjusted as needed by DNR).
- Reduce forestry operations during fire alerts.

### POST-FIRE

- Absorb all losses in forest inventory.
- Pay to rehabilitate land and plant replacement trees.
- Replace damaged equipment and gates.
- Insurance not available for lost trees and future revenue.

### FIRES STARTED BY OPERATORS ON PRIVATE LAND

- Fires started by operators on private land account for only 0.03% of all wildfire acreage between 2017-2019.
- Landowners value a long-held norm: private owners invest and prepare to be the first responsible line of response to fight fire on their lands.
- If spread from private to public lands, reimburse the public for all suppression expenses.
- Pay increased Landowner Contingency Assessment if related fund drops below \$3 million.

### FIRE STARTING ON LAND NOT OWNED BY LANDOWNER

- Not reimbursed for capital costs incurred to defend own property.
- Incur losses of forest inventory, equipment, and other capital; not reimbursed.

**WILDFIRE IMPACTS THE ENTIRE STATE – IT'S TIME FOR THE REST OF WASHINGTON TO JOIN US.**