



JOINT FIRE SERVICE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ADDRESSING WILDLAND FIRE ISSUES

Pre-fire Mitigation Issues

- Direct the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) to implement a nationally recognized pre-fire mitigation program such as the Ready Set Go! Program, allowing for personal and community-wide action plans, education and assistance in creating defensible space, training in proper fuel maintenance, and more; works in concert with existing programs on FireWise Communities (HB 2579)
- Promote the local adoption of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Code by local jurisdictions by providing assistance in identifying and mapping critical WUI zones (HB 2579 & HB 2303)
- Allow local jurisdictions to impose reasonable, temporary bans on the sale and use of fireworks during periods of drought or instances of extreme fire danger (HB 2348)
- Update and promote critical silvicultural practices such as prescribed burns, etc. (parts of HB 2579, HB 2928, SB 6510)

Volunteer Firefighter Incentives

- Fund Military Department with dedicated funds for National Guard firefighters' training and equipment, allowed for extended attacks during large-scale events
- Create grant program for local fire departments to recruit and train volunteers for wildland firefighting, plus allow for small stipend to incentivize ongoing volunteerism
- Allow volunteer firefighters the choice of joining PERS pension system rather than the volunteer pension system upon reaching a certain amount of deployment hours of wildland firefighting (SB 6439)
- Allow for and fund use of certain inmate crews by Department of Natural Resources during wildland firefighting events
- Allow for volunteer firefighters to be considered temporary employees for fire mobilization purposes

Operational Upgrades

- Allow for and fund repositioning of DNR fire crews and assets based on severity analysis and utilizing existing fire mobilization request and command structure
- Allow for local access to property, livestock, etc., at discretion of incident commander based on critical safety factors (expanding on HB 2925)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:



WASHINGTON FIRE
COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

RYAN SPILLER (360)789-5246



WASHINGTON FIRE CHIEFS

DYLAN DOTY (206)790-6492