



2019 Legislative Requests

Board of the Natural Resources presentation

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Department of Natural Resources

January 18, 2019

WE HAVE A WILDFIRE AND FOREST HEALTH CRISIS IN OUR STATE



HILARY S. FRANZ
Commissioner of Public Lands

Wildfire and Forest Health

- \$55 million request
- \$38 million operating
- \$17 million capital
- Main components
 - Full-time Fire Fighters
 - Increase community engagement in Wildfire prevention
 - Faster Aerial Response
 - Amplify Forest Health initiatives
 - Increase Landowner Assistance

INVESTING IN CORRECTIONAL CAMPS

\$4,826,300 in 2019-21
\$1,225,900/yr ongoing

Washington benefits from allowing inmates from state correctional facilities to fight wildfires and carry out forestry projects. For example, mobile kitchens staffed by inmates provide tremendous cost-savings for fire camps. When not fighting fires, inmate crews thin unhealthy forests, plant trees, and serve emergency response needs, such as responding to flooding.

Participants also learn valuable work skills that have helped many secure employment opportunities after release.

This funding replaces aging equipment and creates opportunities for 80 additional inmates—bringing total program enrollment to 380.

Funding puts 80 more inmate firefighters on the ground



DNR'S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS PROVIDES VALUE FOR THE STATE AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR INMATES.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

\$100,000 in 2019-21

Wildfire response relies on functional telecommunications networks. This funding will allow DNR, in partnership with other agencies, to evaluate how well telecommunications infrastructure serves firefighting. This study will also look for improvements to broadband service in underserved communities.



POST-FIRE RECONNAISSANCE

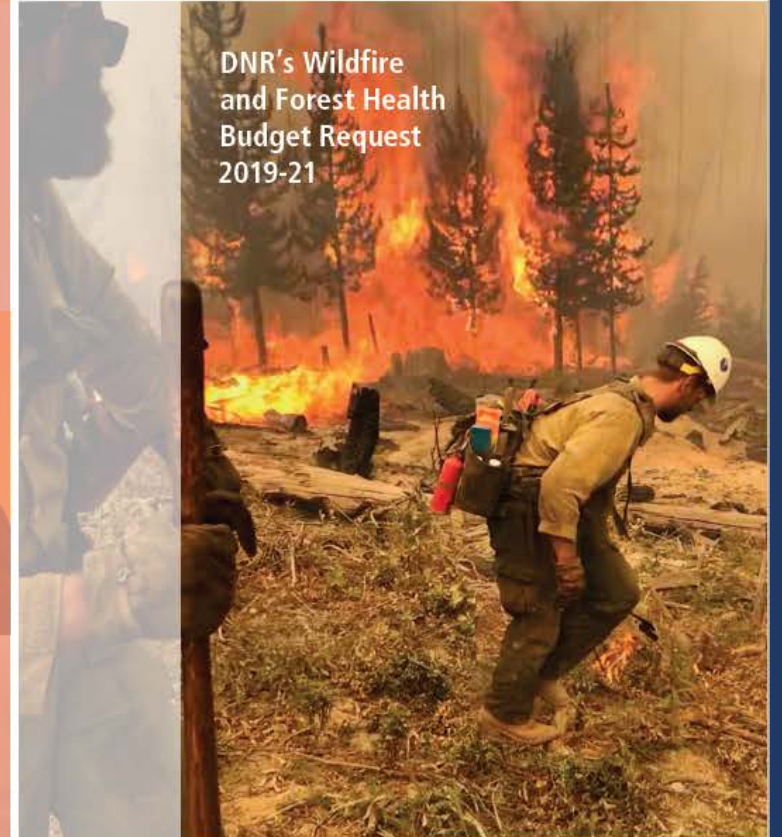
\$234,200 in 2019-21

After wildfires occur, there are increased risks for landslides in certain areas. This proposal assembles a team of geologists, hydrologists, and foresters from within DNR to assess the potential for post-fire damage and recommend mitigation measures.



PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITIES AND RESOURCES FROM WILDFIRE

DNR's Wildfire and Forest Health Budget Request 2019-21



WASHINGTON WILDLAND FIRE ADVISORY BOARD presentation 1/18/19



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WE MUST INVEST IN HEALTHY HABITAT TO SAVE OUR ICONIC SALMON



Environment and Resilience

- **\$90 million request**
 - **\$22 million operating**
 - **\$68 million capital**
- **Main components**
 - **Restore and Strengthen habitat for Salmon**
 - **Protect rare and engaged species**
 - **Help small landowners sustainably their forests**
 - **Remove legacy toxic from aquatic environments**
 - **Reduce sediment loads into fish-bearing streams**
 - **Improve the quality of stormwater run in urban areas**

Increasing development and a growing population are putting our iconic salmon habitat and clean water they depend on in jeopardy. And the impact is undeniable. Orcas are starving. Salmon runs continue to decline. We can no longer fish for some species. We need to take action now to protect and restore salmon habitat and water quality.

The existential struggle of many of Washington's native species requires us to wait no longer. It is time to take significant investment in our natural resources, our economy, and our communities.

As stewards of nearly 6 million acres of public land—including 2.6 million acres of aquatic land—the Washington State Department of Natural Resources is committed to protecting and restoring our salmon habitat.

That is why DNR is putting forward a multi-tiered approach to protect and restore salmon habitat. This package of solutions to:

- restore and enhance salmon habitat and the downward trend of salmon runs,
- protect rare and engaged species,
- secure and increase revenue production on state trust lands,
- help small landowners sustainably their forests over 3 million acres of forest,
- remove legacy toxic from aquatic environments,
- reduce sediment loads into fish-bearing streams,
- improve the quality of stormwater runoff in urban settings.

These investments will sustain the salmon that have—and must continue to—sustain our state's culture, economy, and ecosystem.

SMALL FOREST LANDOWNERS ASSISTANCE

\$1,602,900 in 2019-21
\$704,700/yr ongoing

Families own more than half of Washington's private forests. DNR is seeking 4 full-time professional foresters to meet an increasing demand from family forests for help enhancing fish and wildlife habitat and meeting timber regulations. Funding also makes forest landowners aware of the incentives DNR provides to preserve working forests.



FOREST PRACTICES ONLINE APPLICATION

\$2,100,500 in 2019-21
\$261,400/yr ongoing

Review of forest practice applications is important to assure water and habitat are protected. Forest practice applications are managed by a 20-year-old online tool that is inefficient, cumbersome for forest owners, and unwieldy for those seeking information about forest practice applications. This proposal will develop a user-friendly portal for filing and reviewing forest practice applications online.



DNR FORESTERS MAKE THOUSANDS OF SITE VISITS EACH YEAR TO HELP FAMILY FOREST OWNERS IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH AND HABITAT.

FAMILY FOREST FISH PASSAGE PROGRAM

This program helps family forest owners eliminate fish passage barriers. This request will correct an estimated 50 fish passage barriers, opening up 100 miles of stream habitat.

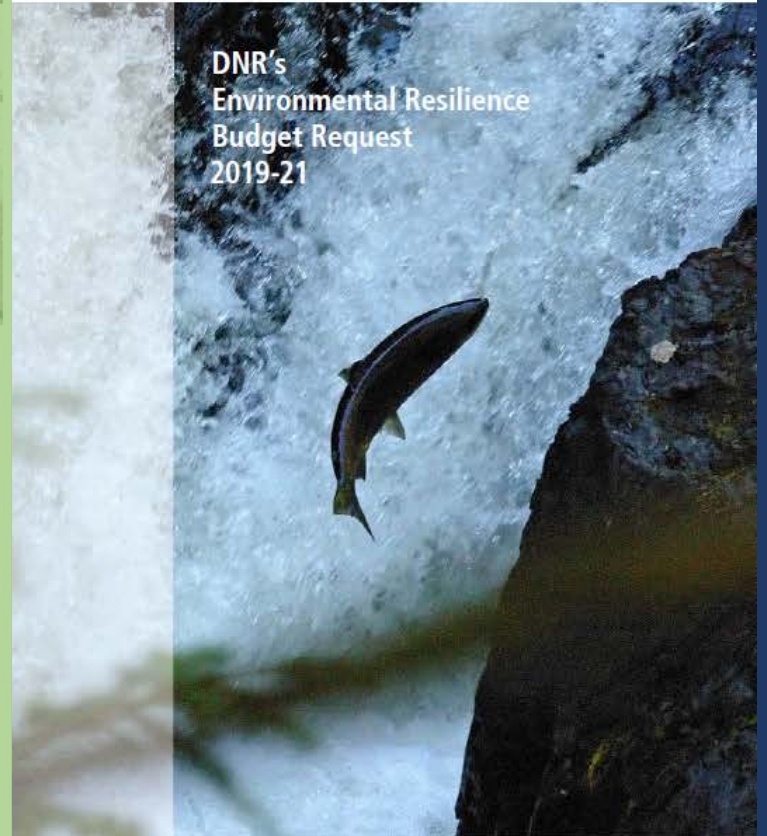
FORESTRY RIPARIAN EASEMENT PROGRAM

FRFP funding will purchase about 205 conservation easements on potentially unstable slopes.



STRENGTHENING OUR STATE BY STRENGTHENING OUR LANDS AND WATERS

DNR's Environmental Resilience Budget Request 2019-21



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DRIVING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY BY INVESTING IN STATE LANDS AND RECREATION



EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND CONNECTIVITY

\$2,057,000 in 2019-21
\$1,002,000/yr ongoing

DNR manages many communications towers and sites, but cannot afford to maintain some sites because costs exceed the 25-to-31 percent of revenues DNR is allowed to capture for maintenance. The standard for maintaining communication sites is 60-to-75 percent of gross revenue. This proposal will prepare 25 towers for sale, allowing DNR staff to administer DNR's 430 other existing leases. It is also projected to increase revenue by \$600,000 to \$1 million annually.



HEALTHY ECONOMIES, HEALTHY TRUSTS, HEALTHY WASHINGTON

Environment and Resilience

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages many in and around our state's most economically challenged communities.

While the economy along the I-5 corridor has exploded over the past 20 years, growth has not reached Washington's rural communities.

- **\$34 million request**
- **\$9.4 million operating**
- **\$24 million capital**

- Increase revenue from trust assets,
- expand on successful sectors of DNR's portfolio,
- capitalize on commercial real estate

Main components

- Increase revenue for trust
- Expand successful sectors of DNR's portfolio
- Capitalize on commercial real estate opportunities
- Pursue and develop clean energy projects
- Support the recreation industry

Clean energy has shown the potential to be a sustainable economic development strategy. Many are located in prime areas to develop solar, wind, and geothermal energy. This package allows DNR to pursue these opportunities and financial returns for trust beneficiaries.

Many communities have a strong history of recreation to support tourism. This package shows a commitment to outdoor recreation through additional investment in the development of recreational sites. This package seeks win-win outcomes to efficiently increase trust revenue and provide prudent, sustainable opportunities to expand the rural economies that made our state what it is today.

THE STATE SURROUNDING ALL OUR COMMUNITIES ARE VITAL TO EXPANDING ECONOMIC AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR STATE.

\$34M
\$9.4M OPER. BUDGET
\$24M CAPITAL BUDGET
and expand
generation on

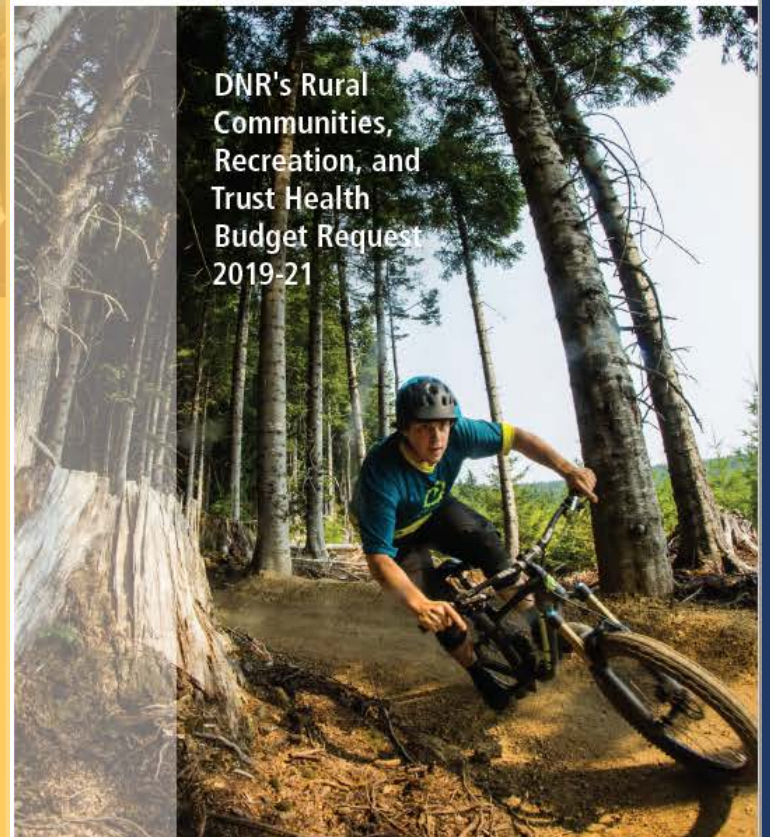
AMATEUR RADIO

\$371,000 in 2019-21
\$199,000/yr ongoing

Amateur radio operators are part of effective, comprehensive emergency communications throughout Washington. State law requires DNR to provide amateur radio operators access to communications towers for \$100 per year, with the Legislature obliged to pay the difference with fair market value (RCW 79.13.510). Current appropriations fall short.



DNR's Rural Communities, Recreation, and Trust Health Budget Request 2019-21



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