

# Wildland Fire Advisory Committee

## 8/18/2022 Meeting Chat Log

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CHAT</b>	<b>TIME</b>
James Cahill	Do you have a summary Wildfire/Forestry provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act funding that you can share?	2:21.14
Calvin Ohlson-Kiehn	We at DNR State Lands are taking forward two state capital funding requests for the 23-25 biennium to construct a new seed processing facility and scope an expansion to Webster Forest Nursery	2:27.31
Terra Rentz	Our prescribed fire program has been working internally and externally over the past year and through this current biennium to move more qualified individuals into the right certifications to lead our burns. We have also discussed utilizing new state and private forestry dollars to support prescribed fire training as this is a clear and know need.	2:42.51
Matt Comisky	Will the FHAC members be able to get a copy of this presentation after the meeting?	2:56.53
Allen Lebovitz	Matt, yes, I will facilitate that through Terra.	2:57.20
Melissa Gannie	Do you have an assessment of the effectiveness of each of these programs?	2:59.26
Darcy Batura	In prep for these conversations over the coming months, could DNR provide committee members with a detailed breakdown on the carry forward \$94 million to help inform us on the pass through? Could DNR also describe what was delivered with the 2021-23 dollars?	3:10.14
Allen Lebovitz	Darcy, yes. We will be confirming these numbers soon and will share them once we have done that.	3:13.42
Annie Schmidt	Agree. So let's share the pie while we howl for more, as opposed to shifting the burden for advocacy to pass-through programs.	3:19.59
Melissa Gannie	Help us understand what other state agencies can use the funds for. There are only certain state agencies that own lands applicable to this discussion.	3:21.35
Shana Joy	It is so important to establish some stable, base-level consistent funding levels for community resiliency because dribs and drabs of funding devoted to that important work here and there really hamstring communities (and conservation districts) from making that significant progress that is so badly needed.	3:22.08
Annie Schmidt	Also, the lack of a complete understanding of the need is precisely why we shouldn't automatically go state-first.	3:23.01

Melissa Gannie	What about funding the Emergency Management manages to help local communities with mitigation efforts? Can those work in concert with these efforts? What about Department of Commerce? How do we understand all the buckets of money that can work in concert with each other?	3:24.32
Ashley Blazina-Cooper	I agree here. Especially from an equity standpoint -- focusing on who is "more ready" is just going to perpetuate current benefits/burdens of how we do our work.	3:25.10
Shana Joy	often times conservation districts can provide assistance of that type to communities and other entities at the local level that need help with applying for or administering a grant.	3:33.48
Jay	I really appreciate Darcy's point...and yet to the point or question about effectiveness am seeing/hearing a disconnect with state lands folks. I was told the other day that NO work would occur on CWPP priorities on state lands because the Board of Natural Resources has directed state land managers to focus on treating across the ownership (even if that isn't necessarily happening due to staffing, etc). So with limited funds (yet an opportunity to leverage CWDG investments, etc), trying to really do impactful work and bring our communities along, how do we do that without managers of state trust lands on board? Calvin?	3.33.53
Shana Joy	The State Conservation Commission works through local conservation districts to do work primarily on private lands. Maybe a valuable component to populate in the QA/QC table of programs would also be to look at other resources for that similar work and note those resources in the table as we walk through that process?	3.34.31
Wade Pierce	I believe that I already know the answer to this, but to verify: Are any of these funds available to Industrial Landowners? Industry can be a huge asset in achieving common goals; we have access to a wealth of equipment and expertise, and have the ability to be competitive in costs per acres. As an example, I have completed over 400 acres of masticating work this year at an average cost of just under \$400 per ac.	3:38.30
Matt Comisky	It would be great if we could get an answer to Jay's question in writing. I am aware of legislative direction to DNR about forest health treatments on State Trust Lands. But I will be curious to see DNR's answer about Board direction.	3:39.32
Annie Schmidt	I think they would be Wade, if there is money allocated to those pass-through programs.	3:39.39

	Eastern and Western WA cost-share programs. But again, that is based on the funds being there.	
Ashley Blazina-Cooper	That's a great idea, Shana. I think one additional piece would also be to look at who has been served through these programs -- and who hasn't. We need to take a closer look at who are the best messengers/relationship-builders for progressing these goals in these plans. In many cases, it will not be a state agency.	3:40.10
Annie Schmidt	Re: russ question - we need to be very careful about match as there are lots of equity implications.	3:42.28
Shana Joy	Yes Ashley! It's local spark-plugs that really get the best traction to make things happen.	3:42.56
Annie Schmidt	We often end up funding high resource communities, over and over, because they have resources to match. While other communities continue to have risk and struggle.	3:42.58
Terra Rentz	Wade - for some pass-thru programs, yes. I would see this stakeholder group as one we need to more clearly identify which programs do and don't apply and how.	3:42.59
Shana Joy	I think we need to consider relaxing any match requirements to help those communities who just can't pony up cash to access the funds they need	3:43.49
Annie Schmidt	There is more than one kind of "skin"	3:44.06
Cynthia Wilkerson	My apologies, I am late for a competing meeting. Thank you for the discussion, seems like we are in a squeeze collectively, tough to balance the existing commitments and the unfunded needs. The scope and scale is still beyond the pie, definitely looking forward to working together to prioritize allocation and increase the overall pie through demonstrated success and ability to collaborate to produce results.	3:46.08
Ashley Blazina-Cooper	Furthering Annie and Shana's comments -- we need to keep in mind that time is another big resource -- not just funds. The extra time to fill out applications, reach out to funders, etc.	3:46.10
Tom Smith	Ashley, Shana, Annie; YES! Many small communities are first reached by Conservation districts that can offer support ahead of any interaction with Feds or DNR.	3:46.52
Ashley Blazina-Cooper	So when we are planning for equity -- we need to think about all resources that an entity will have to invest for acquiring some of these funds	3:47.13
Melissa Gannie	Ashley - agreed. Many of these communities do not have the match. If they get equipment, especially used equipment, they need help with maintenance. Also, what is the shelf life of the efforts?	3:50.07
Loren Torgerson	These sound like potential gaps in program delivery.	3:51.14

Terra Rentz	Also to flag for folks: DNR is working on a number of other priorities that support and dovetail this work - we're working on a workforce development package, to address those elements of 1168, and also new components associated with reforestation and urban and community forestry.	4:08.23
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