

### \$29,542,000 Capital Request (SBCA)

# Supports fire suppression and other DNR functions

This project consolidates multiple leases and eliminates a series of less than adequate facilities while adding dormitory space and necessary logistics space to support fire, aviation, forestry and recreation functions.

#### This project delivers:

- > Dormitory space
- Warehouse space
- Fire engine storage
- Shower, laundry and meal preparation space
- > Office space
- > Training space
- Aviation operations facilities

### 2025-27 Omak Consolidation, Expansion, and Relocation

Funding to construct a 14-building complex on an eight-acre site leased from the City of Omak at the Omak Airport. This project supports the DNR's Aviation (Fire) program, Northeast Region's Fire Program, as well as forest resiliency, recreation and other programs.

This request constructs and brings to fruition the <u>final phase</u> of the cooperative effort between the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the City of Omak to establish permanent facilities to sustain DNR's operations in the greater Okanogan County area. This completion of this project will eliminate four space leases, the rental of four mobile office trailers and a land lease currently in use by DNR.

## A major component of this project is to establish suitable dormitory space for seasonal fire personnel.

Partial year housing or leasing opportunities are very limited in the vicinity of Omak. Some seasonal personnel have resorted to living in their personal vehicles or campgrounds in the area to fill seasonal positions during fire season. The lack of available housing solutions has limited applicants for open seasonal positions and some positions have remained unfilled over recent years.

DNR currently leases a mix of buildings and mobile office trailers at several locations at the Airport, as well as off-site vehicle storage and billeting space for seasonal firefighting personnel. The current collection of facilities is sub-standard to requirements, the largest of which is not weather tight. The four mobile office trailers supporting the Aviation Program do not have utility delivery of potable water or sewer/septic service and the DNR must truck in potable water to the site and truck out septic waste. The Department rotates (air crew and Helitack) or bases 83 personnel at Omak this location.

Specifically, this project will construct an operations building for aviation operations and personnel, a work center office building for the DNR's Northeast Region, a shop building, a fire cache and warehouse building, five buildings contributing a total of 36 dormitory



rooms, two shower/latrine/laundry structures, a dayroom/community space with meal preparation facilities, and a small outbuilding to house flammable liquids. The project will establish a compound on eight acres of land leased from the City of Omak.

Previous phases of this project have included an effort by the City of Omak to construct water delivery infrastructure at the Airport such that the infrastructure delivers water in sufficient volume to support the fire suppression systems necessary for permitted construction under current building codes. The City's project is underway and is due to complete construction late in 2024.