WILDFIRE

AT-A-GLANCE | A QUICK LOOK AT DNR'S WILDFIRE PROGRAM

HILARY S. FRANZ, a statewide elected official, is Washington's fourteenth Commissioner of Public Lands since statehood in 1889.

Wildland fires are a pressing issue across Washington. Today, the average wildfire season across the nation is 78 days longer than it was in the 1970s.* In Washington, future fire seasons are expected to grow hotter, longer and more unpredictable.

The risk of extreme wildfires continues to grow as more trees die from extreme weather patterns, disease, and native and invasive pests. At the same time, Washington homeowners are moving into the wildland urban interface (WUI) areas at rates faster than those seen anywhere else in the nation.*

As the state's largest on-call fire department, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is taking on the challenge to prevent and prepare our state for wildfire.

DNR WILDFIRE ALSO:

◗ **Works with the National Weather Service to provide the fire weather forecasts and fire precaution levels for firefighters, forest landowners and the forest industry**

◗ **Coordinates with 567 local fire districts across Washington**

◗ **Is working to implement forest health efforts across 22 million acres of forests across Washington**

1,400
DNR EMPLOYEES, WHICH INCLUDES 550 SEASONAL FIREFIGHTERS ABLE TO RESPOND

120
WILDLAND FIRE ENGINES

6
SINGLE ENGINE AIR TANKERS (SEATS)**

9
TYPE 2 HELICOPTERS

13 MILLION
ACRES OF PRIVATE AND STATE-OWNED FOREST LAND FIRE SUPPRESSION RESPONSIBILITIES

Learn more online

dnr.wa.gov/fightingfire

> It's only by working together that DNR and firefighting partners can meet the challenge of preparing and protecting our forests, livelihoods and communities from the threat of catastrophic wildfire."
>
> **HILARY S. FRANZ**
> COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

FIGHTING WILDFIRES

DNR operates the state's largest on-call fire department with crews generally operational April through October. In addition to the more than 13 million acres of forestland protected by the agency, DNR resources may also assist local districts through the regional dispatch centers.

FOREST HEALTH

DNR provides timely forest health and management information to private and public landowners across Washington's 22 million acres of forestland. This work enables natural resource professionals and landowners to make informed decisions for healthier ecosystems that are less conducive to major wildfire threats.

FIRE DISTRICT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

DNR's Fire District Assistance Program helps provide local and rural fire districts in Washington opportunities to establish, develop, improve and maintain their wildland firefighting capabilities. DNR provides grant funding to these fire districts for wildland firefighter training and firefighting equipment.

DNR hires 550 seasonal firefighters each year.

INTERAGENCY WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING ACADEMIES

DNR hosts three annual interagency wildland fire training academies in Central, Eastern and Western Washington. The academies are a joint operation of DNR, USFS, county fire districts and tribes. In 2018, 85 agencies participated to train more than 1,000 firefighters. dnr.wa.gov/fireacademy
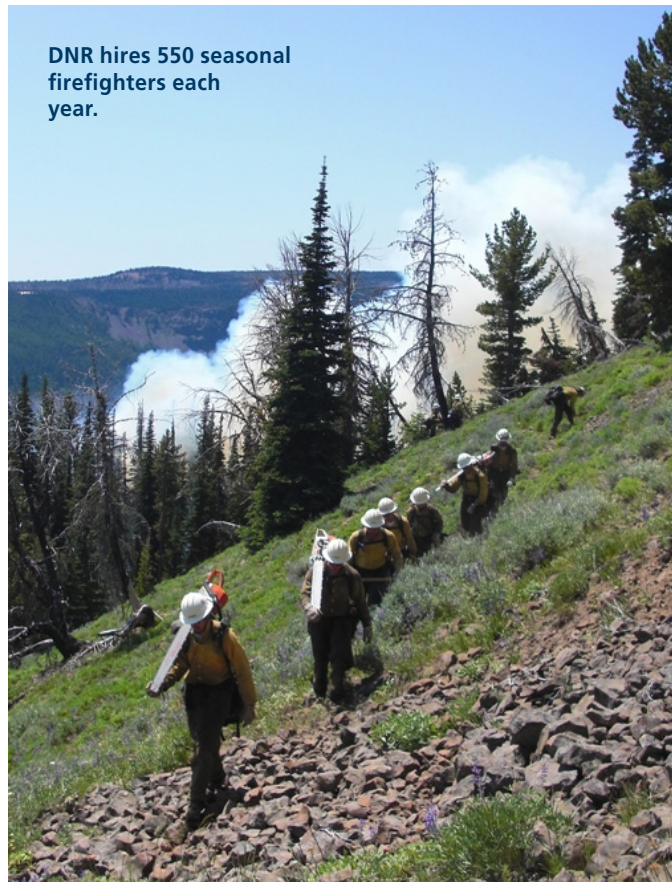
WASHINGTON FIREWISE

DNR works with local fire districts, conservation districts, counties and extension programs to help all Washington residents benefit from the Firewise Communities/USA educational program. The Firewise Program shows homeowners and communities how to prepare for wildfire. dnr.wa.gov/firewise

SMOKE MANAGEMENT

DNR regulates outdoor burning through the use of burn bans and permits, and by approving prescribed and pile burn operations. Always check to see if there are burn restrictions before lighting any fire. dnr.wa.gov/Burn-bans

CORRECTIONAL CAMPS WORK PROGRAM

Working jointly with the Department of Corrections and Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, DNR puts up to 30 inmate crews to work fighting wildfires and staffing three mobile kitchens at wildfire basecamps.
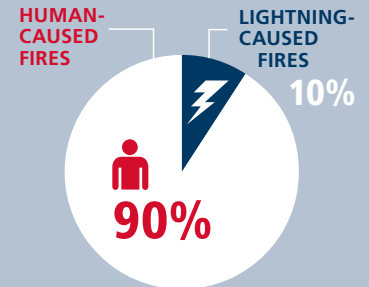
1,541
5-YEAR AVERAGE ANNUAL WILDFIRES RESPONDED TO BY DNR EACH WILDFIRE SEASON*

242,845
5-YEAR AVERAGE ANNUAL ACRES BURNED WITHIN DNR JURISDICTION AREAS

HUMAN-CAUSED FIRES

LIGHTNING-CAUSED FIRES

10%

90%

IN 2017, 90 PERCENT OF ALL WILDFIRES IN WASHINGTON ARE HUMAN-CAUSED

Learn more online   dnr.wa.gov/fightingfire

* BASED ON A 5-YEAR AVERAGE.