

RCW 36.28A.140 Development of model policy to address property access during forest fires and wildfires. (1) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall convene a model policy work group to develop a model policy for sheriffs regarding residents, landowners, and others in lawful possession and control of land in the state during a forest fire or wildfire. The model policy must be designed in a way that, first and foremost, protects life and safety during a forest fire or wildfire. The model policy must include guidance on allowing access, when safe and appropriate, to residents, landowners, and others in lawful possession and control of land in the state during a wildfire or forest fire. The model policy must specifically address procedures to allow, when safe and appropriate, residents, landowners, and others in lawful possession and control of land in the state access to their residences and land to:

- (a) Conduct fire prevention or suppression activities;
- (b) Protect or retrieve any property located in their residences or on their land, including equipment, livestock, or any other belongings; or
- (c) Undertake activities under both (a) and (b) of this subsection.

(2) In developing the policy under subsection (1) of this section, the association shall consult with appropriate stakeholders and government agencies. [2007 c 252 § 1.]