



**DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC  
LANDS**

1111 WASHINGTON ST SE  
MS 47001  
OLYMPIA, WA 98504-7001

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

The Honorable Bernard Dean  
Chief Clerk of the House  
338B Legislative Building  
Olympia, WA 98504

The Honorable Brad Hendrickson  
Secretary of the Senate  
412 Legislative Building  
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Chief Clerk Dean and Secretary Hendrickson:

Please accept the enclosed report, submitted on behalf of the Department of Natural Resources (“Department”), as directed by the Legislature in the 2021-2023 Operating Budget (Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5092). Section 310 (8) of the bill directs the Department to submit monthly updates of fire suppression costs incurred, and the number and type of wildfires suppressed, to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature and the Office of Financial Management.

There were 12 classified fires recorded in November 2021. Total fire cost to the department for the month of November was \$8.9 million. Estimated costs for FY 2022 are \$121 million as compared to the FY GF-S/Disaster allotment of \$28.7 million. This puts us over the current allotment of GF-S/Disaster & Supplemental by \$92.3 million.

Unfortunately, Washington experienced another long, hard fire season in 2021. The final numbers put the state at 1,872 fires for 2021 – including a record-setting 226 wildfires on DNR jurisdiction during the month of April – which occurred on a total of 674,249 acres.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 360-764-0013 or [Brian.Considine@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:Brian.Considine@dnr.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Brian Considine  
Legislative Director  
Office of the Commissioner of Public Lands

Enclosure: Legislative Report: Monthly Fire Suppression Report (November 2021)

cc:

Members of the Senate Agriculture, Water, Natural Resources & Parks Committee  
Members of the House Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

Members of the House Appropriations Committee  
Members of the House Capital Budget Committee  
Members of the House Environment & Energy Committee  
Members of the Senate Environment, Energy, & Technology Committee  
Members of the Senate Ways & Means Committee  
Office of Financial Management