

Removing barriers to sustained revenue growth will spur investment in state lands and stimulate rural job creation.

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2022 DNR Legislative Priorities: Agency Transparency and Efficiency

Agency Request Bills

Timber Sale Improvements (SB 5201)

This bill, introduced in 2021, updates RCWs to streamline the process of taking timber sales to auction, allowing DNR to respond more quickly to market demands. This change will increase the value of the timber, and increase returns to schools, county governments, and other beneficiaries.

Commercial Real Estate Lease Terms (HB 1430)

This bill was also introduced in 2021 and increases DNR lease lengths from 55 to 99 years. Increasing the maximum lease term to the industry standard will allow DNR-managed commercial properties to be more competitive for prospective lessees. This maximizes revenues to state beneficiaries by minimizing the time properties sit vacant or undeveloped.

Budget Asks: Operating

Fire Suppression Administrative Investment (GF-S \$17.1M)

Removal of current operating budget proviso allows investment in administrative support for DNR's fire suppression work. This investment is critical to ensure agency can have dedicated funding necessary to support our wildland fire fighting force. Investment will also allow for agency fiduciary trust and dedicated funds to be restored and savings created by this investment will be used to further protect state lands and waters. This investment aligns with recommendations from the independent, Legislature-mandated review by Stellar LLC and zero-based budget review of DNR's Wildfire Division by agency and budget staff.

Agency Administration Backbone Assessment (GF-S \$350k)

Funding for an independent consultant to review DNR administrative services to determine how the agency can most effectively and efficiently operate the full range of DNR programs and services in support of recommendations from Stellar LLC.

Implementing the State Auditor's Office Recommendations (GF-S \$680k)

Funding at the request of the Forest Practices Board to address recommendations made by the State Auditor's Office in its January 2021 performance audit of the forest practices Adaptive Management Program.