

**Department of Natural Resources
Wildfire Division**

Phone: 360-902-1300

Email (Assessment): rp_ffpa@dnr.wa.gov

Web: dnr.wa.gov/ffpa

To report a fire, please call 1-800-562-6010

For emergencies, call 911



Firefighters gather for briefings each day before heading to the fireline.

Learn more online
about DNR Wildfire
Assessments

DNR Wildfire Assessments in Washington State

**Fees that contribute to
funding preparation and
response to wildfire by
the Department of Natural
Resources (DNR).**



WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

WHAT ARE DNR WILDFIRE ASSESSMENTS?

Forest Fire Protection Assessment (FFPA)

A fee that is paid by private landowners and exempt entities to help the DNR pay for the cost of preparing to fight wildfire (firefighter training, purchasing engines, aircraft and equipment).

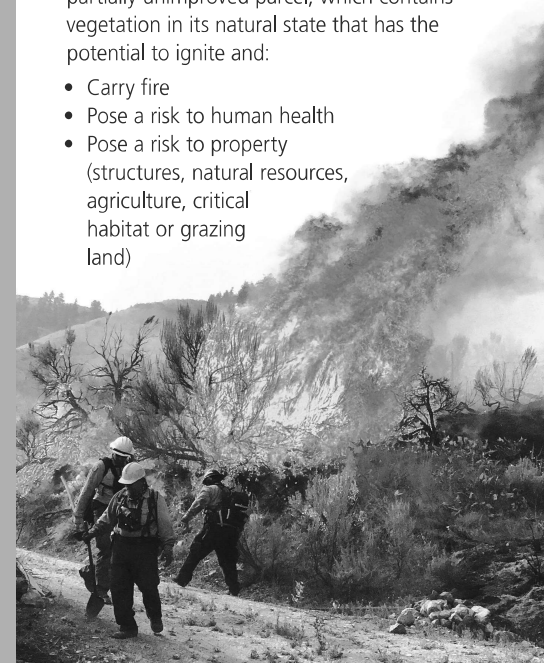
Landowner Contingency Forest Fire Suppression Assessment (LOC)

Any landowner who pays FFPA also pays LOC. LOC pays for emergency fire suppression when a paying landowner starts a fire during a landowner operation.

WHAT TYPE OF PARCEL QUALIFIES FOR ASSESSMENT?

Any non-federal, unimproved or partially unimproved parcel, which contains vegetation in its natural state that has the potential to ignite and:

- Carry fire
- Pose a risk to human health
- Pose a risk to property (structures, natural resources, agriculture, critical habitat or grazing land)



dnr.wa.gov/ffpa

Understanding the Fee Rates

Forest Fire Protection Assessment (FFPA)

Fifty cents of the total assessments paid per parcel is retained by the county expense fund to defray the cost of listing, billing, and collecting assessments (RCW 76.04.610).

\$17.50 + \$0.27
FLAT FEE ON EACH ACRE EXCEEDING 50 ACRES

Landowner Contingency Forest Fire Suppression Assessment (LOC)

UP TO \$7.50* PLUS UP TO \$0.15 ON EACH ACRE EXCEEDING 50 ACRES

* DNR may annually establish this flat fee assessment for participating landowners (landowner parcels subject to FFPA). For parcels over 50 acres, DNR may charge this set flat fee assessment plus a per acre assessment (not to exceed \$0.15 per acre) (RCW 76.04.630). The fee may not exceed \$7.50/flat fee or \$0.15/acre. Please check <http://dnr.wa.gov/ffpa> for current LOC rates.

RATES IN WASHINGTON BEGINNING IN 2022

EXAMPLE 1

.01 to 50 ACRE PARCEL \$23.50

FFPA Rate (Flat Fee) **\$17.00**
 COUNTY Expense **\$0.50**
 LOC Rate (Flat Fee) **\$6.00**
TOTAL Assessment \$23.50

EXAMPLE 2

85 ACRE PARCEL \$38.20

FFPA Rate: **\$17.00** first 50 acres,
 + **\$9.45** [**\$0.27** x 35 (acres over 50)] **\$26.45**
 COUNTY Expense **\$0.50**
 LOC Rate: **\$6.00** first 50 acres,
 + **\$5.25** [**\$0.15** x 35 (acres over 50)] **\$11.25**
TOTAL Assessment \$38.20



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Forest Fire Protection Assessment (FFPA)?

The assessment is a fee that is paid by private forest landowners and exempt entities to help the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) pay for the cost of preparing to fight wildfire.

Why was it determined that my parcel should pay the assessment?

Parcels that are considered for assessment contain forested or unimproved lands that have enough timber (standing or down) or vegetation in its natural state that could catch and carry fire.

Can I request a review of my parcel?

Yes. If you think your parcel is being charged in error, you can request to have your parcel reviewed.

To request a review, please fill out a change request form or contact DNR's Wildfire Division at **360-902-1300** or by email at rp_ffpa@dnr.wa.gov

What do I get from the assessment?

Assessment revenues are used to purchase wildfire engines, hire and train wildfire personnel, purchase equipment (such as portable pumps, hose, hand tools, radios, etc.) and provide office space and work stations in various strategic locations near protected areas. If a wildfire starts, DNR will suppress the fire at no additional cost to you if negligence is not involved.

If I pay a levy to my local fire protection district, why do I also pay the assessment?

Fire Districts and DNR work together on many incidents and have agreements in place to do so. Many times, local fire districts respond and often are first responders to fires on forested or unimproved lands. If it is determined that the fire is in DNR's jurisdiction, DNR incurs the costs. Legally, fire districts are budgeted and obligated to protect structures. Similarly, DNR protects wildlands.

How do I know if I qualify for a refund?

If you pay FFPA on multiple parcels in the same county, each parcel is 50 acres or less and all parcels are in the same taxpayer name (with some exceptions), you may be eligible for a partial refund.

If all of your parcels together contain 50 acres or less, your refund will be in the amount of your flat fee assessments paid (\$17.00/parcel) reduced by one assessment (\$17.00).

If all of your parcels together contain more than 50 acres, your refund will be in the amount of your flat fee assessments paid (\$17.00/parcel) reduced by one assessment (\$17.00) and \$.27/acre for each acre over 50.

*Refunds do not apply to LOC Assessments

How do I apply for a refund?

Refund forms are available on our website at <http://dnr.wa.gov/ffpa>. Proof of payment must be included with each refund form. This can be done by either having your County Treasurer verify and sign your refund form or you can attach proof of payment from your County Treasurer website to the submitted form.

Who can I contact for more information regarding FFPA or the refund process?

You can find more information about the assessment on our website at <http://dnr.wa.gov/ffpa> or you can call our Wildfire Division at **360-902-1300**.

What is an FFPA Combination?

An FFPA combination is for taxpayers who have six or more parcels, each under 50 acres, and are within the same county. If you qualify, you can request that your parcels be combined and DNR will work with your county assessor to compute the assessment for all parcels together and bill the assessment charges to a single parcel, eliminating the need for a refund.

*Combinations do not apply to LOC Assessments.

To apply for a Combination, please visit: <http://dnr.wa.gov/ffpa>