

# How I-2117 Hurts Forest Health & Makes Communities More Vulnerable to Wildfires



**I-2117 would cut nearly \$30 million in funding for programs across the state that help make our communities less vulnerable to catastrophic wildfires while making our forests healthier - and help local governments, private landowners, and communities prevent and prepare for fire in high-risk areas.**

**Forest Health & Fuels Reduction:** I-2117 would cut funding for several statewide programs that reduce severe wildfire risk. This includes \$2 million for a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife program helping to reduce the severity of wildfire by removing dead and downed brush and vegetation on the forest floor through controlled burning and thinning out overgrown forests to make them healthier. It also includes \$10 million in funding for a Washington Department of Natural Resources program to restore forestlands that have the greatest potential to prevent wildfires and protect air quality through the same kinds of activities.

**Firewise Grants for Local Governments & Private Landowners:** I-2117 would cut \$10 million in grants through the Firewise USA program, which encourages local communities and landowners to prepare for wildfire and implement resilience measures in high-risk areas, providing resources and education for homeowners to take steps like removing brush on their property that could put their home at higher risk.

**Training & Workforce Development for Managing Wildland Fires:** I-2117 would end over \$2 million in funding to build out the workforce we need to maintain and restore healthy forests and manage extreme wildfires. This includes a program that provides wildland fire management training to Tribal communities and members, as well as a Department of Natural Resources program to educate and train a statewide workforce to support the health and resilience of Washington's forests.

**Join Us: Endorse No on 2117**

Over 350 organizations and Tribes oppose I-2117, including firefighters, small businesses, Tribal Nations, doctors and public health leaders, labor unions, and environmental groups.

[www.no2117.com](http://www.no2117.com)

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