



SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

CLALLAM COUNTY REVENUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**223 East 4th Street, Room 160
Port Angeles, Washington
March 17, 2025 – 2:30 p.m.**

Revenue Advisory Committee meetings will be available virtually at:

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom audio only, call 253-215-8782 and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345 and use *9 to raise your hand.

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference, visit <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83692664344> and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345

This meeting can be viewed on a live stream at this link: <https://clallamcountywa.gov/meetings>

Public comment and questions can be directed to the Clerk of the Board at 360-417-2256 or loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov

- I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS ON: February 24, 2025**
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (total of 20 minutes)**
- V. BUSINESS ITEMS**
 - a. SEPA presentation – Department of Natural Resources
 - b. Legal discussion regarding trust lands – Connie Beauvais/Commissioner Johnson
 - c. Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue PILT revenue sharing letter discussion
- VIII. FUTURES AGENDA ITEMS**
- IX. PUBLIC COMMENT (total of 20 minutes)**
- X. NEXT MEETING DATE**
- XI. ADJOURNMENT**

RAC

**Draft Minutes –
February 24, 2025**



CLALLAM COUNTY REVENUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF February 24, 2025

MEETING OF THE REVENUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RAC)

Chair Connie Beauvais called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m., February 24, 2025. Also present were Commissioner Johnson, Ben Pacheco, Gregory Bellamy, David Bingham, Sandra Lyons, Diana Reaume, Scott Horton, Marty Brewer, Drew Rosanbalm, Dan Huff, Reagan Nickels, Janine Ledford, Noah Glaude, John Nutter, Steve Burke, Dave Gedlund, Nerissa Davis, and Michael Mingee. Xx were absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: Johnson moved to adopt the agenda as modified, Pacheco seconded, mc

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 13, 2025

ACTION TAKEN: Johnson moved to approve, Huff seconded, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Diane Harvey, Clallam County Sheriff's Office, commented on Community Wildfire Grant
- Justin Grider, Fire District III, commented on the Community Wildfire Grant

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Encumbered lands – Commissioner Johnson

Commissioner Johnson provided an updated on encumbered lands. RAC Members held discussion.

b. Legal discussion regarding trust lands – Connie Beauvais/Commissioner Johnson

Commissioner Johnson provided an update on the legal discussion regarding trust lands. He noted that he has requested a legal opinion from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. RAC Members held discussion.

c. Timber sales report – Department of Natural Resources

Bill Wells, Department of Natural Resources provided a presentation on xx and Habitat Conservation Plan. RAC Members held discussion. Discussion will be continued until after the conversation with the Commissioner of Public Lands.

d. Conversation with Commissioner of Public Lands, Dave Upthegrove

Dave Upthegrove, Commissioner of Public Lands, provided an update. RAC Members held discussion.

RAC Members continued discussion with Bill Wells, Department of Natural Resources regarding timber sales.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- SEPA presentation by DNR
- Update on litigation

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on Cape Flattery School District attendance, Charter Review Commission meeting, unified trust, encumbered lands
- Jim McEntire, Sequim, commented on Board of Natural Resources, trust lands, reviewed forest board trust lands,

NEXT MEETING

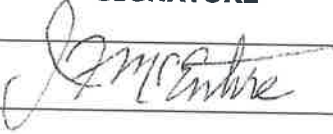
- March 17, 2025 @ 3 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting concluded at 4:27 p.m.

REVENUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

General Public Comment – 2nd Session

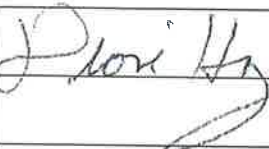
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that any testimony that I give is true and accurate. Please print name and address clearly.

Nº	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	JIM MCENTIRE		232 WOODLAND DR SEQUIM 98382
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REVENUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

General Public Comment – 1st Session

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that any testimony that I give is true and accurate. Please print name and address clearly.

No	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	Diane Harvey		92 Lakewood Shores LN Port Angeles WA 983762
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RAC

DNR SEPA Presentation



1

Department of Natural Resources Olympic Region Trust Land Management



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NATURAL RESOURCES

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2

Timber Sale Timeline: Pre-Auction

- 1) Remote Screening
- 2) Pre-Harvest Review
- 3) Initial Field Recon
- 4) Specialist Field Visits
- 5) Timber Sale Layout and Road Design
- 6) Creating maps, documents and completing applications
- 7) Internal Document (Region) Review
- 8) **FPA/SEPA Submittal and Approval**
- 9) Contract (Division) Review
- 10) Timber Sale Appraisal
- 11) Board Approval
- 12) Timber Sale Auction



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Forest Practice Application (FPAs)

- DNR's Forest Regulation program protects public safety, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat on the 12 million acres of State-owned and Private forest lands.
- Forest Practices rules (Title 222 WAC) developed by the Forest Practice Board (an independent State agency) to protect Public Safety and Public Resources
- Forest Practice Board Manual is the advisory technical supplement to the Washington State forest practice rules
Developed by the DNR, WDFW, Ecology, other agencies, Tribes, and interested Stakeholders
- If DNR State Lands wants to perform an activity on State forest lands, an FPA must be submitted and approved
Activities include timber harvest, salvage, construction of roads, installation of culverts/bridges, working over typed water, constructing or expanding gravel pits, etc



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State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist

- The State Environment Policy Act process identifies and analyzes environment impacts associated with governmental decisions
- SEPA process is overseen by the Department of Ecology
- The DNR submits a SEPA Checklist with all timber sales
- The DNR's State Lands SEPA checklist include supplemental questions to DOE's standard environmental checklist
- SEPAs are submitted for review and posted with a 14-day comment period



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Habitat Conservation Plan

- Adopted by the DNR in 1997 and covers over 1.8 million acres
- The HCP is a long-term land management plan authorized under the Endangered Species Act
- Washington's State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is an ecosystem-based forest management plan that helps the DNR develop and protect habitat for at-risk species while carrying out forest management and other activities on state trusts lands, such as recreation.
- At its core, the HCP has four detailed conservation strategies:
 - Marbled Murrelets
 - Northern Spotted Owls
 - Riparian areas, riparian dependent species such as Salmon and Bull Trout
 - Other species of concern and uncommon habitats
- Through these strategies, protections are provided for unstable slopes, Old-growth forests, and uncommon habitats
- Through these conversation efforts, over 48% of DNR managed lands in western Washington are deferred from harvest



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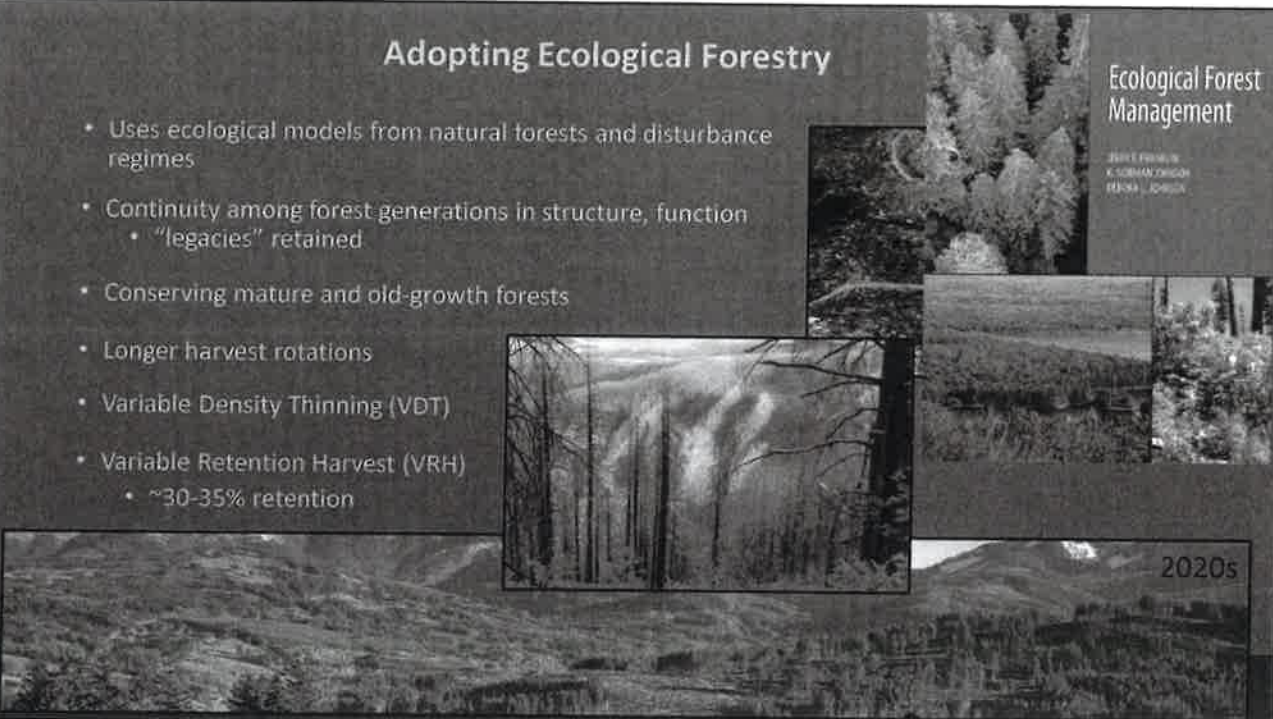
Adopting Ecological Forestry

- Uses ecological models from natural forests and disturbance regimes
- Continuity among forest generations in structure, function
 - "legacies" retained
- Conserving mature and old-growth forests
- Longer harvest rotations
- Variable Density Thinning (VDT)
- Variable Retention Harvest (VRH)
 - ~30-35% retention

Ecological Forest Management

JOHN E. FRIEDL
K. SORHANZONGOR
EMMA J. JOHNSON

2020s



7

Variable Retention Harvest (VRH)

- Invite you to watch the 05/02/2023 Board of Natural Resource Meeting
 "Scientific Perspectives on Variable Retention Harvests and Managing Older Forests by Daniel Donato, PhD"
- Variable Retention Harvest is an element of Ecological Forestry
 Which targets 30-35% retention in and around the harvest units
 Olympic Region for FY23 was at 38%
 This retention is separate from the conserved lands on the landscape level
- VRH and the openings they create are consistent with natural disturbances





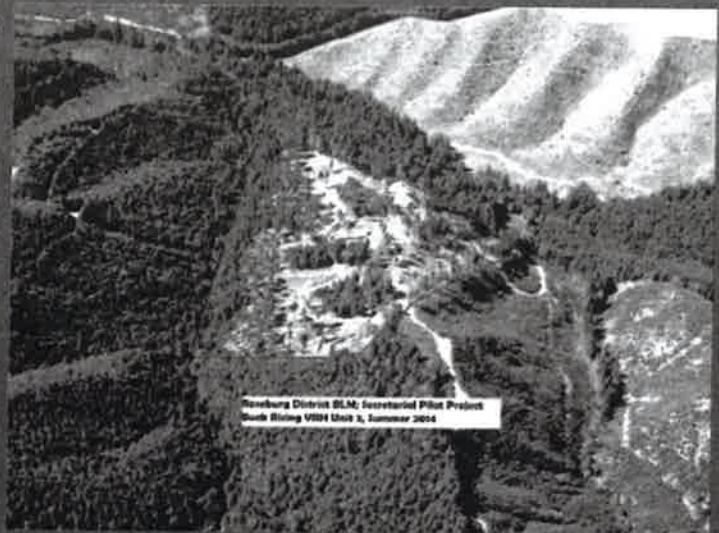


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State Land Management vs Large Private Landowners



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Questions?



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Want to know more?

Reach out and I would be happy to set time up to discuss more –

David Hurn

Management Forester – Olympic Region

david.hurn@dnr.wa.gov

360-640-9332



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RAC

**Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue
letter discussion**



CLALLAM 2 FIRE-RESCUE

P.O. Box 1391, Port Angeles, WA 98362 • 360-457-2550 • www.clallamfire2.org

Jake Patterson
Fire Chief

Keith Cortner
Commissioner

Steve Hopf
Commissioner

Dan Huff
Commissioner

February 18th, 2024

Board of Clallam County Commissioners
Commissioner Randy Johnson
Commissioner Mark Ozias
Commissioner Mike French

RE: Proposal for PILT revenue sharing

Commissioners,

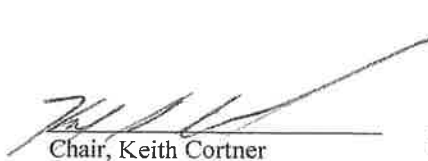
The Board of Fire Commissioner for Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue are requesting a distribution of funding received by Clallam County from the Department of Interior in the form of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT). This PILT funding is designed to assist local agencies in providing vital government services either directly, or indirectly to Olympic National Park.

Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue provides fire and emergency medical services to several areas within Olympic National Park, but does not receive any of the PILT funding allocated each year to Clallam County. The attached proposal provides a brief overview of the services provided and impact of providing those services has on the fire district.

We believe that PILT funding should be proportionately distributed to local agencies, including junior taxing districts, who provide vital services to Olympic National Park and the millions of visitors who come through Clallam County each year. Receiving a portion of the PILT funding will ensure that we are able to continue to provide fire and EMS responses to Olympic National Park.

This request for funding is based on actual emergency responses and uses the Washington State Department of Natural Resource Wage and Equipment rates for 2024 as guidance for reasonable cost estimates. In total Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue is requesting an allocation of \$25,759 from Clallam County for service provided in 2024.

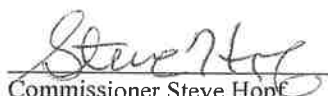
Thank you for your consideration,



Chair, Keith Cortner



Vice-Chair Dan Huff



Commissioner Steve Hopf

RECEIVED
CLALLAM CO. COMMISSIONERS
FEB 19 2025
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Finance
Auditor
Treasurer

Executive Summary

Clallam County is home to a large portion of Olympic National Park which generates millions of visitors each year. This has a tremendous positive impact on the local economy, while at the same time it does generate a strain on local government entities to provide essential government services. In an effort to offset some of those impacts, the Department of Interior, which manages the National Park system, provides funding in the form of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT).

Over the last several decades, Clallam County has received millions of dollars in PILT funding, however some of the cost of vital government services that this funding is intended to offset, are not being provided by Clallam County. Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue provides fire and emergency medical services to several, highly visited areas of Olympic National Park but does not received any of the PILT funding dedicated to Clallam County. These areas are located at Deer Park, Hurricane Ridge, Elwha, Lake Crescent, and Sol Duc.

As one of the agencies providing government services to several areas of Olympic National Park, Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue is requesting the Clallam County Board of Commissioners consider a revenue sharing agreement for PILT funding. The purpose of this revenue sharing agreement would be to ensure there is an equitable distribution of funding to support all agencies who are impacted by providing services directly, or indirectly to Olympic National Park.

Proposal

Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue would like to propose the development a revenue sharing agreement to offset some of the impact of providing services to ONP. To date, the fire district has not received any portion of the PILT funding which is designed to reduce the burden on smaller, local agencies that are providing services either directly, or indirectly to ONP.

The fire district understands that PILT funding must be appropriated each year by the Federal government and is not a guarantee. However, history shows that this has been a reliable and consistent source of revenue to Clallam County. Keeping this in mind, the fire district recognizes that if no PILT funding is received from the Department of Interior, any revenue sharing agreement would not be implemented for the impacted year(s).

As part of a revenue sharing agreement, the amount would be negotiated between the fire district and Clallam County using data that shows the impact of providing these services to ONP has on Fire District operations.

Providing a monetary value to providing services can be challenging as there are impacts that extend beyond simply providing the services on a response by response basis. The taxpayers of the fire district support the personnel and infrastructure to provide emergency services when needed. When resources are pulled out of the fire district to serve ONP, it provides coverage gaps to local residents. It is challenging to quantify those impacts into a dollar value so the fire district is proposing at this time to calculate cost on a response number basis with a understanding this may not encompass all the impacts.

The response for 2024 have been tabulated to include the number of fire engines, ambulances, and personnel who responded to each incident. To determine a cost for fire engines and ambulances, the 2024 Washington State DNR Wage and Equipment rates were used. The cost was broken down into length of call and applied to the actual hours required of each incident from dispatch to retuning into service.

The cost for personnel was determined using the hourly rate of our firefighter/EMTs and firefighter/paramedics using the same Washington State DNR Wage and Equipment rates. This was then calculated using the total number of fire or EMS personnel assigned to each call.

In total, the fire district is requesting \$25,759 in reimbursement from Clallam County using the Department of Interior PILT funding. This represents the cost of emergency responses in 2024. Attached is a spreadsheet for each of the emergency responses and breakdown of expenses related to each cost for apparatus and personnel.

Background

Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue (fire district) provides fire suppression, technical rescue, and emergency medical services to several areas within Olympic National Park (ONP). This includes the Deer Park, Hurricane Ridge, Elwha, Lake Crescent, and Sol Duc regions of the Park. This is due primarily to the proximity of the fire district to these areas, and a response agreement which is in place between ONP and Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue to provide those services as the closest emergency response agency.

The services provided by Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue include;

Structural Fire Suppression

ONP does not have any structural fire suppression program and the fire district provides structural fire response and suppression to the previously designated areas within ONP. This includes not only response to actual fires, but also other emergency responses such as fire alarms, power lines down, vehicle fires, smoke investigations, and other various types of fire emergencies.

Wildland Fire Suppression

While ONP does have a wildland fire program, typically the fire district is called as the first response agency to provide initial attack on fires within ONP that are accessible by roads. Often fire district crews spend several hours on a wildland fire before operations are transferred over to ONP personnel.

Technical Rescues

A few times a year, crews from the fire district are called either to perform, or assist with technical rescues within ONP. The most frequent types of technical rescues involve high-angle/rope rescue operations. Fire district crews have performed these types of rescues along the Hurricane Ridge roadway, usually after a motor vehicle accident. The fire district's technical rescue team has also been involved in several successful rescues of persons who have fallen over Sol Duc falls. The fire district also has performed "pack-outs" from various trails and roadways in ONP.

Emergency Medical Services

The fire district provides both basic and advanced life support EMS response and transport for the designated areas within ONP. This includes responses to all types of medical emergencies, both near roadways and sometimes several miles up a trail. Fire district and ONP crews work together to deliver the best patient care possible and transport either ground or air to the appropriate receiving hospital. This also includes motor vehicle accidents along several miles of roadways within ONP.

Emergency Response Statistics

In 2024 the fire district responded to a total of 55 emergency call for assistance within Olympic National Park. This represents all EMS, fire, and rescue responses.

The 55 emergency responses for the fire district in 2024 represent approximately 3% of the fire district's total call volume, however these calls often have a disproportionate impact because of the remote nature of the incidents and length of time dedicated to the incident. The response, on-scene, and transport times often are over 2 hours in length. The average EMS call into ONP is 1 hour and 26 minutes. Vehicle accidents average 1 hour and 14 minutes and fire calls are typically 1 hour long. Even calls that are cancelled while units are still responding are 20 minutes in length. This takes Fire District units out of position and often leave the Fire District with limited resources while crews respond to emergencies within ONP.

In 2022 the fire district had 51 emergency responses into ONP, in 2023 there were 75 responses and in 2024 there were 55 response. The summer months tend to be the busiest months with June, July, August, and September accounting for over 55% of the annual emergency responses into ONP. This is also the busiest time for regular fire district responses which compounds the impact of providing services to ONP.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes

Clallam County receives Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds which are Federal payments that help local governments offset losses in property taxes due to the existence of nontaxable Federal lands within their boundaries. The law recognizes the financial impact of the inability of local governments to collect property taxes on federally owned land.

PILT payments are made annually for tax-exempt Federal lands administered by Department of the Interior agencies, including the National Park Service. PILT payments are one of the ways the Federal Government can fulfill its role of being a good neighbor to local communities.

The following describes the purpose for these PILT payments;

The Department of Interior website describes the purpose of PILT payments as a way to "...help local governments carry out such vital services as **firefighting** and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and **search-and-rescue operations**."

The National Association of Counties states that "PILT payments are necessary to support essential local government services such as education, **emergency services**, transportation infrastructure, law enforcement and **health care** in over 1,900 counties in 49 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

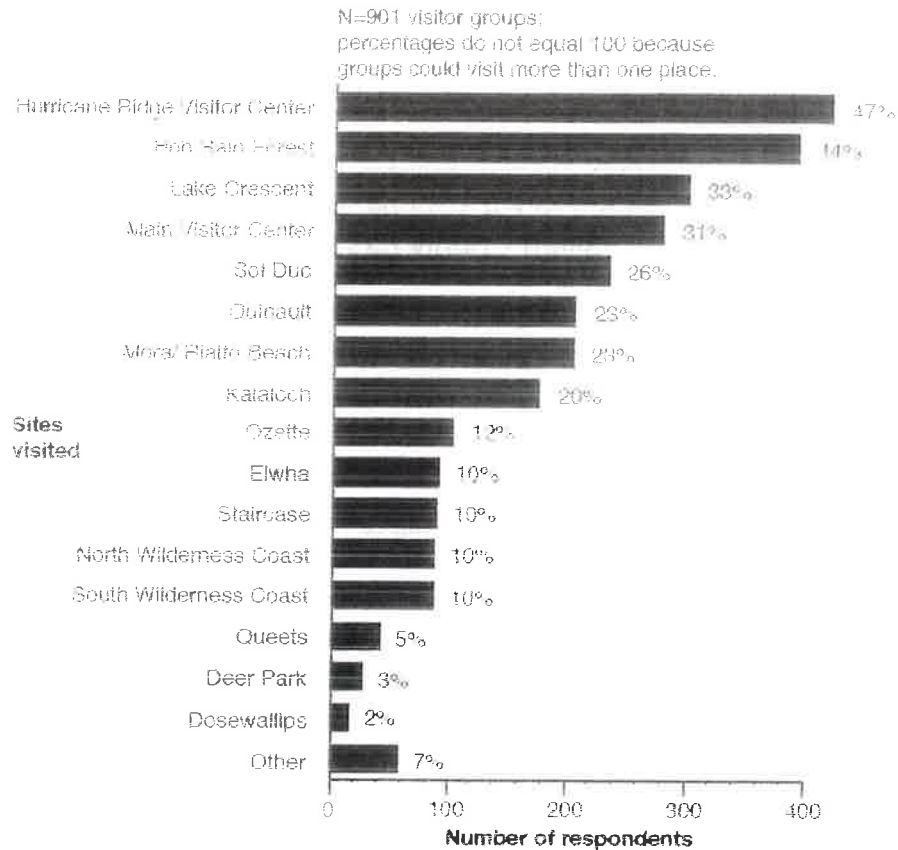
In a press release issued by Congressman Derek Kilmer on June 25, 2021 he states “The Payments in Lieu of Taxes program supports critical local services in rural communities across our region – including essential community **public health programs**, job-creating infrastructure, and **firefighting**,”

Clallam County has been the recipient of PILT funds from the Department of Interior for decades. Over the past 10 years Clallam County has received the following annual PILT payments;

2024	\$1,346,072.00
2023	\$1,236,499.00
2022	\$1,225,189.00
2021	\$1,155,238.00
2020	\$1,101,485.00
2019	\$1,043,662.00
2018	\$1,368,211.00
2017	\$978,411.00
2016	\$969,665.00
2015	\$913,951.00

10-Year total \$11,338,383.00

A study conducted by Olympic National Park in 2020 shows Hurricane Ridge, Lake Crescent and Sol Duc as some of the most visited areas of the park. The fire district provides emergency services to these highly visited areas of ONP. As noted, the purpose of PILT funding is to offset or address the impacts that areas such as ONP have on local agencies which provide essential government services.



Conclusion

The fire district believes that the purpose and intent of the PILT money received from the Department of Interior should benefit the agencies tasked with providing vital services. It is understood that Clallam County does provide many of those services and would receive the bulk of the annual PILT payments. Other agencies that are not part of County government, who are impacted by ONP and also provide services, should receive an appropriate amount to offset those impacts.

The fire service will always continue to strive and ensure that the local communities and region are a safe place to live and visit. This includes both our permanent residents, and those who choose to visit our area. As one of the premier destinations within the National Park Service, Olympic National Park contributes to millions of visitors each year to the region. A National Park Service report shows that 2,947,503 visitors came to Olympic National Park in 2023. A large portion of those areas receive emergency services from Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue. This revenue sharing proposal is intended to offset the impact of providing those services to Olympic National Park that are currently being funded primarily by local taxpayers.