



**TO** Interested Parties  
**FROM** Miranda Everitt  
FM3 Research  
**RE:** Washington Voter Views of Wildfire Funding  
**DATE** January 24, 2026

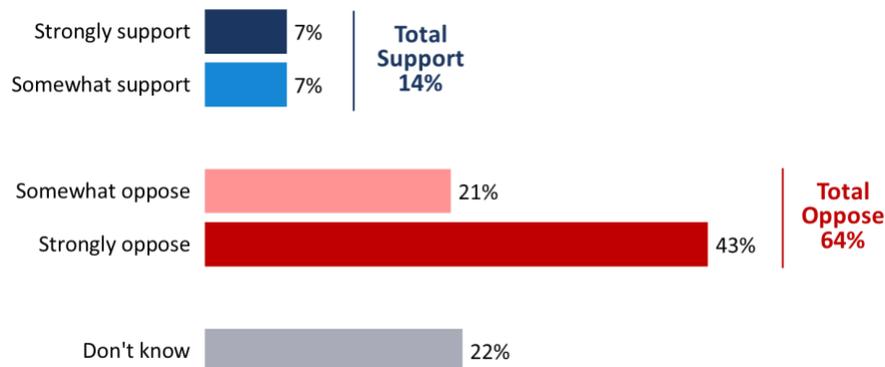
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Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates (FM3) recently completed a survey of Washington voters to understand their views of recent cuts to funding for wildfire response, forest health and community resilience.<sup>1</sup> The study found that **Washington voters overwhelmingly oppose the \$60 million cut from these purposes – and that three in five say they would be more likely to view a state elected official who restored this funding more favorably.** Key findings include:

- **Nearly two-thirds oppose the State Legislature’s cuts to wildfire response.** Figure 1 below shows that 64% oppose this action cutting \$60 million from wildfire response, forest health and community resilience – and just 15% support it.

**Figure 1: Opposition to Cuts to Wildfire Response, Forest Health and Community Resilience**

*Last year, the State Legislature cut \$60 million from wildfire response, forest health, and community resilience efforts. Do you support or oppose this action?*



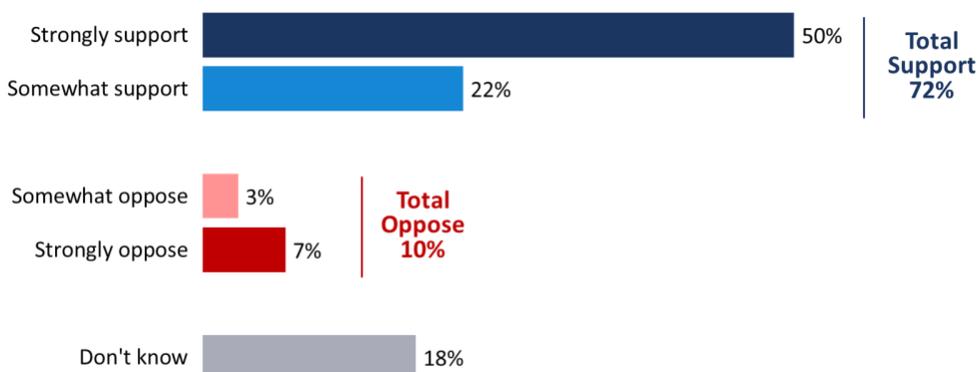
This opposition cuts across party lines, including:

- 76% of Democrats, 50% of independents and 60% of Republicans, as well as
- 61% or higher in every region of the state.

- **Seven in ten support restoring this funding – and half “strongly support” it.** This view is shared broadly across key demographic groups (Figure 2), including:
  - 85% of Democrats, 60% of independents and 65% of Republicans;
  - 69% of men and 75% of women;
  - 68% of voters under 50 and 75% of voters ages 50+; and
  - 59% or higher in every region of the state.

**Figure 2: Support for Restoring Funding**

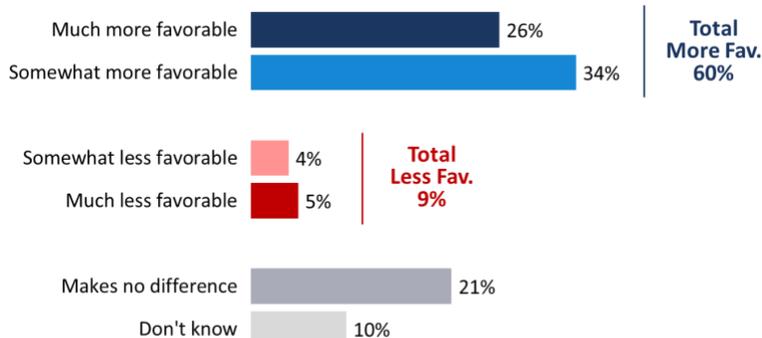
*Do you support or oppose Washington state restoring funding for forest health, wildfire response and community resilience?*



- **By a 51-point margin, voters would have a more favorable view of a state elected official who supports fully funding wildfire response.** Three in five (60%) would see their state elected official more favorably if they supported fully funding wildfire response.

**Figure 3: Impact of Support for Funding Restoration on Support for Elected Officials**

*If your state elected officials supported fully funding wildfire response, forest health, and community resilience in Washington, would you have a more favorable view of them, a less favorable view of them, or would it make no difference?*



In sum, Washington voters largely disapprove of the State Legislature’s cuts to wildfire response, forest health and community resilience funding – and most say they would have a more favorable view of a state elected official who supported fully funding these priorities.

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<sup>1</sup> **Methodology:** From Jan. 6-14, 2026, FM3 completed 628 online and telephone interviews with likely November 2028 voters in Washington state. The margin of sampling error for the study is +/-4.0% at the 95% confidence level; margins of error for population subgroups within the sample will be higher. Due to rounding, not all totals will sum to 100%.