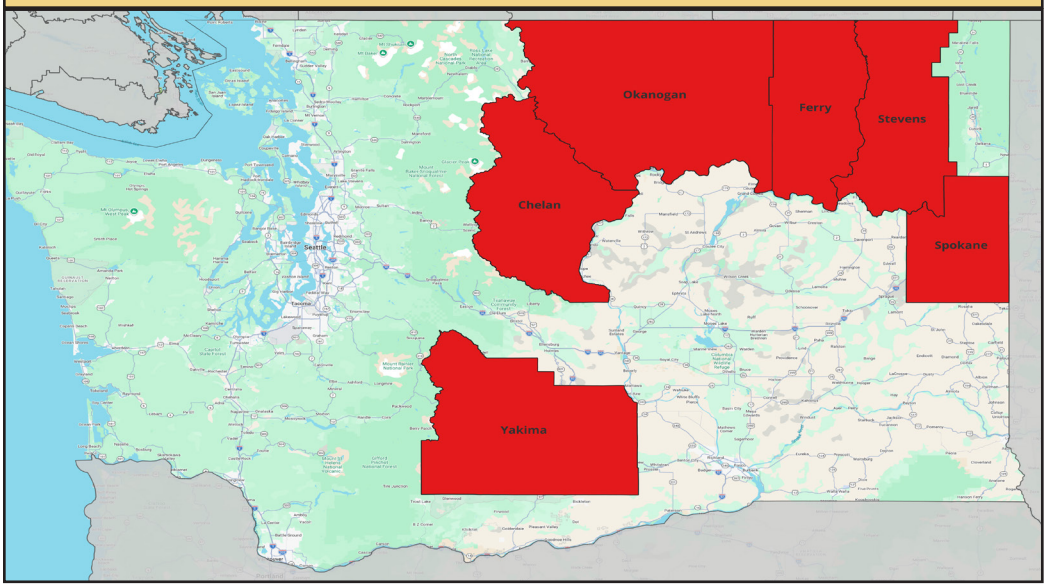
Washington State Pollution Liability Insurance Agency Wildfire Guidance

In response to wildfires that have occurred across Washington State in August of 2026, Financial Assurance (FA) Program staff at the Washington State Pollution Liability Insurance Agency (PLIA) are available to help underground storage tank (UST) owners and operators identify next steps to reduce tank leaks and safely resume operations.

PLIA will also be adjusting FA Program deadlines for you if you have been affected by wildfires. The agency is also working to proactively reach out to stations in the FA Program that may need additional guidance.

Please contact PLIA's FA Program Coordinator, Schellie Schlesser at schellie.schlesser@plia.wa.gov, if you're an FA Program Participant that has been affected by wildfires at your gas station and would like assistance deciding on next steps.

PLIA-Identified Areas of High Wildfire Impact (August 2026)



Highly Impacted Counties

- Chelan
- Ferry
- Okanogan
- Spokane
- Stevens
- Yakima

Steps to Take if Your UST Facility is Affected by Wildfires

- Please report the leak to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) if you suspect a UST leak has occurred.
  - Ecology can be contacted at eroertscoordinator@ecy.wa.gov
  - You can also report online on Ecology's website.
- Note your product inventory - follow your normal reporting procedures to Ecology and PLIA if you have a loss of product.
- Take pictures of the affected facility and UST system.
- Contact your service provider to schedule tightness testing and repairs.
- Monitor all devices including fill pipes, sump, sensors and dispensers.
- Schedule next steps to get your facility back into service.

Additional Resources

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Wildfire Guide.
- EPA Recommended Actions for UST Facilities Impacted by Fire.
- Watch Duty Wildfire Maps & Alerts.

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