

RCW 70A.15.5180 Aircraft crash rescue fire training—Training to fight structural fires—Training to fight forest fires—Other firefighter instruction.

(1) Aircraft crash rescue fire training activities meeting the following conditions do not require a permit under this section, or under RCW 70A.15.5010, 70A.15.5020, 70A.15.5030, 70A.15.5040, 70A.15.5050, 70A.15.5060, 70A.15.5070, and 70A.15.5080, from an air pollution control authority, the department, or any local entity with delegated permit authority:

(a) Firefighters participating in the training fires must be limited to those who provide firefighting support to an airport that is either certified by the federal aviation administration or operated in support of military or governmental activities;

(b) The fire training may not be conducted during an air pollution episode or any stage of impaired air quality declared under RCW 70A.15.6010 for the area where training is to be conducted;

(c) The number of training fires allowed per year without a permit shall be the minimum number necessary to meet federal aviation administration or other federal safety requirements;

(d) The facility shall use current technology and be operated in a manner that will minimize, to the extent possible, the air contaminants generated during operation; and

(e) The organization conducting training shall notify both the: (i) Local fire district or fire department; and (ii) air pollution control authority, department of ecology, or local entity delegated permitting authority under RCW 70A.15.5100, having jurisdiction within the area where training is to be conducted before the commencement of aircraft fire training. Written approval from the department or a local air pollution control authority shall be obtained prior to the initial operation of aircraft crash rescue fire training. Such approval will be granted to fire training activities meeting the conditions in this subsection.

(2) Aircraft crash rescue fire training activities conducted in compliance with subsection (1) of this section are not subject to the prohibition, in RCW 70A.15.5010(1), of outdoor fires containing petroleum products and are not considered outdoor burning under RCW 70A.15.5010, 70A.15.5020, 70A.15.5030, 70A.15.5040, 70A.15.5050, 70A.15.5060, 70A.15.5070, and 70A.15.5080.

(3) Training to fight structural fires located outside urban growth areas in counties that plan under the requirements of RCW 36.70A.040 and outside of any city with a population of ten thousand or more in all other counties does not need a permit under this section from an air pollution control authority or the department of ecology, but must be conducted in accordance with RCW 52.12.150.

(4) Training to fight forest fires does not require a permit from an air pollution control authority or the department of ecology.

(5) To provide for firefighting instruction in instances not governed by subsections (1) through (3) of this section, or other actions to protect public health and safety, the department or a local air pollution control authority may issue permits that allow limited burning of prohibited materials listed in RCW 70A.15.5010(1). [2020 c 20 s 1147; 2009 c 118 s 601. Formerly RCW 70.94.6546.]

Purpose—2009 c 118: See note following RCW 70A.15.5000.