

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**ENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 17-0183.01 Thomas Morris x4218

**SENATE BILL 17-050**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Cooke,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**Senate Committees**

Agriculture, Natural Resources, & Energy

**House Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE CONSOLIDATION OF GRANT PROGRAMS RELATING**  
102      **TO FOREST MANAGEMENT.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

Current law authorizes 2 grant programs relating to forest management: One relating to wildfire risk reduction that is administered by the department of natural resources, which is financed by a one-time transfer of \$1 million from the general fund, and one relating to landscape-scale forest health that is administered by the state forest service located within Colorado State University, which is financed by

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
February 6, 2017

annual transfers of \$1 million from the severance tax operational fund that ended on July 1, 2016. **Section 1** of the bill repeals the grant program administered by the department of natural resources, and **section 5** transfers it to the state forest service, renamed as the "wildfire risk reduction and forest health grant program". **Sections 3 and 4** realign the funding for the new grant program and the healthy forest and vibrant communities fund by allowing \$50,000 that had been allocated to the department of public health and environment relating to the air quality impacts of prescribed fire to be used for any authorized purpose of the healthy forests and vibrant communities fund and extending funding for the consolidated grant program for 7 years.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 36-7-406 as  
3 follows:

4 **36-7-406. Repeal of part.** This part 4 is repealed, effective July  
5 ~~1, 2018~~ DECEMBER 31, 2017.

6 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-313, **amend**  
7 (6)(a) introductory portion, (6)(b), (10)(c) introductory portion, and  
8 (10)(c)(VII); and **repeal** (6)(a)(I) as follows:

9 **23-31-313. Healthy forests - vibrant communities - funds**  
10 **created - repeal. (6) Community watershed restoration.** (a) In order  
11 to support communities and land managers in ~~moving from risk reduction~~  
12 ~~to~~ EFFORTS TO REDUCE RISK TO PEOPLE AND PROPERTY AND INCREASE  
13 FIREFIGHTER SAFETY, AND IN SUPPORT OF long-term ecological restoration  
14 so that the underlying condition of Colorado's forests supports a variety  
15 of values, ~~particularly~~ INCLUDING public water supply and high-quality  
16 wildlife habitat, the forest service shall:

17 (I) ~~(A) Hire additional temporary field capacity to support the~~  
18 ~~implementation and monitoring of forest restoration program grants~~  
19 ~~awarded pursuant to section 23-31-310.~~

1           ~~(B) In awarding grants pursuant to section 23-31-310, the forest~~  
2 ~~service shall give additional emphasis to projects that substantially~~  
3 ~~leverage additional financial resources, that provide an opportunity to~~  
4 ~~implement Colorado's good neighbor authority, or that have been~~  
5 ~~identified through a community-based collaborative process.~~

6           (b) (I) The forest service may use up to one million dollars  
7 ~~annually until July 1, 2017, from~~ OF THE UNENCUMBERED BALANCE OF the  
8 forest restoration AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION GRANT program cash  
9 fund created in section 23-31-310 (8.5) THAT RESULT FROM  
10 APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS THAT END ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30,  
11 2017, for the purpose of complying with this subsection (6), of which at  
12 least two hundred thousand dollars shall be used to implement  
13 ~~subparagraph (IV) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (6)~~ SUBSECTION  
14 (6)(a)(IV) OF THIS SECTION.

15           (II) This ~~paragraph (b)~~ SUBSECTION (6)(b) is repealed, effective  
16 ~~July 1, 2018~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

17           (10) **Healthy forests and vibrant communities fund.** (c) Of the  
18 ~~moneys~~ MONEY transferred to the fund pursuant to section 39-29-109.3  
19 (2)(n): ~~C.R.S.:~~

20           (VII) ~~Up to fifty thousand dollars may be expended for the~~  
21 ~~purposes specified in section 25-7-111 (5), C.R.S.~~ THE UNENCUMBERED  
22 BALANCE MAY BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION  
23 (10)(c).

24           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3, **amend**  
25 (2) introductory portion, (2)(k), and (2)(n) as follows:

26           **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - repeal.**  
27 (2) Subject to the requirements of subsections (3) and (4) of this section,

1 if the general assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred percent  
2 of the ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the operational fund as specified in subsection  
3 (1) of this section, the state treasurer shall transfer the following:

4 (k) (I) For ~~nine~~ SEVEN state fiscal years, beginning with the state  
5 fiscal year commencing on July 1, ~~2008~~ 2017, one million FIFTY  
6 THOUSAND dollars per year to the forest restoration AND WILDFIRE RISK  
7 MITIGATION GRANT program cash fund created in section 23-31-310 (8.5).

8 ~~C.R.S.~~

9 (II) This ~~paragraph (k)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(k) is repealed, effective  
10 ~~July 1, 2018~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

11 (n) (I) For ~~three~~ SEVEN fiscal years commencing on or after July  
12 1, ~~2014~~ 2017, the state treasurer shall transfer:

13 (A) One million three hundred ~~fifty-five~~ FIVE thousand dollars of  
14 ~~the moneys in the account~~ to the healthy forests and vibrant communities  
15 fund created in section 23-31-313 (10); ~~C.R.S.~~;

16 (B) Fifty thousand dollars of ~~the moneys in the account~~ to the  
17 wildland-urban interface training fund created in section 24-33.5-1212  
18 (5); ~~C.R.S.~~;

19 (C) Ninety-five thousand dollars to the wildfire preparedness fund  
20 created in section 24-33.5-1227 (1). ~~C.R.S.~~

21 (II) This ~~paragraph (n)~~ SUBSECTION (2)(n) is repealed, effective  
22 ~~July 1, 2018~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

23 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-310, **amend**  
24 (1), (2), (3), (4) introductory portion, (4)(a), (4)(f)(II), (5), (6), (8.5), and  
25 (9); and **add** (1.5), (4.5), (8.2), and (8.3) as follows:

26 **23-31-310. Forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation**  
27 **grant program - legislative declaration - definitions - technical**

1 **advisory panel - repeal.** (1) **Short title.** THE SHORT TITLE OF this section  
2 ~~shall be known and may be cited as~~ IS the "Colorado Forest Restoration  
3 "FOREST RESTORATION AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION Act"".

4 (1.5) **Legislative declaration.** THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY:

5 (a) FINDS THAT:

6 (I) COLORADO'S FORESTS ARE FUNDAMENTALLY IMPORTANT TO ITS  
7 CITIZENS IN PROVIDING CLEAN AIR AND WATER, RECREATION AND TOURISM  
8 OPPORTUNITIES, WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND WOOD PRODUCTS; \_\_\_\_\_

9 (II) DAMAGING WILDFIRES OCCUR REGULARLY IN COLORADO DUE  
10 IN PART TO FIRE SUPPRESSION EFFORTS AND DROUGHT, THE RESULT OF  
11 WHICH ARE UNHEALTHY, FIRE-PRONE FORESTS; AND

12 (III) COLORADO HAS EXPERIENCED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN  
13 DAMAGING WILDFIRES THAT HAVE DESTROYED HOMES, PROPERTY, AND  
14 OTHER ESSENTIAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE;

15 (b) DETERMINES THAT:

16 (I) IT IS CRITICAL THAT WE INVEST IN MEASURES THAT REDUCE THE  
17 PROBABILITY OF CATASTROPHIC FIRES SPREADING UNCONTROLLABLY INTO  
18 OUR COMMUNITIES IN AREAS OF THE WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE AND  
19 REDUCE THE FINANCIAL COSTS OF WILDFIRE IN COLORADO;

20 (II) INCREASING OUR EFFORTS TO THIN OR OTHERWISE MANAGE TO  
21 IMPROVE THE FORESTS IN COLORADO WOULD KEEP OUR FORESTS HEALTHY  
22 AND HELP MITIGATE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRES  
23 THAT ENDANGER LIVES, PROPERTY, WATERSHEDS, AND CRITICAL  
24 INFRASTRUCTURE; \_\_\_\_\_

25 (III) CONSOLIDATING EXISTING STATE GRANT PROGRAMS WILL  
26 PROVIDE THE NECESSARY RESOURCES TO THE COLORADO STATE FOREST  
27 SERVICE TO ALLOW THE AGENCY TO CONTINUE TO ADDRESS WATERSHED

1 WILDFIRE RISKS AND FOREST HEALTH CONDITIONS IN COLORADO;  
2 AUGMENT ITS TECHNICAL CAPACITY TO ASSESS AND REDUCE WILDFIRE  
3 RISK TO PEOPLE, PROPERTY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE; SUPPORT  
4 IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS; ENHANCE  
5 ITS TECHNICAL OUTREACH CAPABILITIES; AND PROVIDE LOANS AND  
6 GRANTS FOR MARKET-BASED FOREST TREATMENT SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE  
7 WILDFIRE RISK, PROTECT WATERSHEDS, AND IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH;  
8 AND

9 (IV) MAINTAINING PROPER FUNDING FOR A COMBINED GRANT  
10 PROGRAM WILL ENSURE THAT NECESSARY RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO  
11 BOTH REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK AND IMPROVE FOREST HEALTH; AND

12 (c) DECLARES THAT IT INTENDS TO PROVIDE AID AND GUIDANCE  
13 FOR CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION AND FOREST HEALTH  
14 IMPROVEMENTS BY AUTHORIZING A COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM TO  
15 ASSIST WITH FUNDING COMMUNITY-LEVEL ACTIONS ACROSS THE ENTIRE  
16 STATE THAT ARE IMPLEMENTED TO PROTECT POPULATIONS AND PROPERTY  
17 IN THE WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE AND TO PROMOTE FOREST HEALTH  
18 AND THE UTILIZATION OF WOODY MATERIAL, INCLUDING TRADITIONAL  
19 FOREST PRODUCTS AND BIOMASS ENERGY.

20 (2) **Definitions.** As used in this section, unless the context  
21 otherwise requires:

22 (a) "Accredited Colorado youth corps" means a youth corps  
23 organization that is accredited by the Colorado youth corps association.

24 (b) "Director" means the ~~executive~~ director of the ~~department of~~  
25 ~~natural resources created in section 24-1-124, C.R.S~~ FOREST SERVICE.

26 (c) "Forest service" means the Colorado state forest service  
27 identified in section 23-31-302 and the division of forestry created in

1 section 24-33-104. ~~C.R.S.~~

2 (d) ~~"Stakeholder" means county and municipal governments,~~  
3 ~~educational institutions, landowners, and other interested public and~~  
4 ~~private entities~~ "FUEL" MEANS LIVING AND DEAD COMBUSTIBLE  
5 VEGETATION THAT CAN FEED A FIRE, INCLUDING GRASS, LEAVES, PINE  
6 BOUGHS, SHRUBS, AND TREES.

7 (e) "HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION TREATMENT" MEANS A  
8 TREATMENT THAT REMOVES OR REDUCES VEGETATIVE FUEL, INCLUDING  
9 MECHANICAL, MANUAL, BROADCAST BURNING, AND PILE BURNING FIRE  
10 TREATMENTS, OR REDUCES STRUCTURAL IGNITABILITY IN ORDER TO:

11 (I) DIMINISH THE POTENTIAL DAMAGE ARISING FROM A  
12 CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE;

13 (II) ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF EMERGENCY PERSONNEL TO SAFELY  
14 INFLUENCE THE SPREAD OF WILDFIRE; OR

15 (III) IMPROVE LANDSCAPE-SCALE FOREST HEALTH CONDITIONS.

16 (f) "WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE" OR "WUI" MEANS AN AREA  
17 WHERE:

18 (I) HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IS CLOSE TO WILDLAND VEGETATION;  
19 AND

20 (II) THERE EXISTS A HIGH POTENTIAL FOR A WILDLAND FIRE.

21 (3) **Grant program.** The forest service shall issue a statewide  
22 request for proposals for cost-share grants to stakeholders for  
23 experimental forest restoration projects that are designed through a  
24 collaborative community process. The projects may be entirely on, or on  
25 any combination of, private, federal, state, county, or municipal forest  
26 lands. The state GRANT share of an individual project cost shall MUST not  
27 exceed ~~sixty~~ FIFTY percent of the total cost of the project or exceed one

1 million dollars per project. The remaining portion of the project's funding  
2 may be in the form of cash, stumpage, or in-kind contribution.

3 (4) **Eligibility requirements.** To be eligible to receive funding  
4 under this section, a project ~~shall~~ MUST:

5 (a) ~~Be located in an area with an approved community wildfire~~  
6 ~~protection plan as defined by the federal "Healthy Forests Restoration Act~~  
7 ~~of 2003", Pub.L. 108-148~~ REDUCE THE RISK TO PEOPLE AND PROPERTY IN  
8 THE WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE AND PROMOTE FOREST HEALTH;

9 (f) Include an assessment to:

10 (II) Report, upon project completion, to the forest service on ~~the~~  
11 ~~positive or negative impact and including cost effectiveness of the project~~

12 THE NUMBER OF ACRES TREATED, COST PER ACRE TO TREAT, TONNAGE OF  
13 MATERIAL GENERATED, NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED, AND USE OF ANY  
14 FOREST PRODUCTS GENERATED; and

15 (4.5) **Eligible recipients.** ELIGIBLE GRANT RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

16 (a) LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS, INCLUDING HOMEOWNERS'  
17 ASSOCIATIONS OR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, THAT ARE WITHIN  
18 CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE WUI;

19 (b) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES WITHIN OR ADJACENT TO THE  
20 WUI;

21 (c) PUBLIC OR PRIVATE UTILITIES, INCLUDING WATER PROVIDERS,  
22 WITH INFRASTRUCTURE OR LAND OWNERSHIP IN AREAS OF HIGH RISK FOR  
23 CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRES;

24 (d) STATE AGENCIES, SUCH AS THE STATE LAND BOARD OR THE  
25 DIVISION OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE, THAT OWN LANDS OR PROPERTY IN  
26 AREAS OF HIGH RISK FOR CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRES; AND

27 (e) NONPROFIT GROUPS THAT PROMOTE HAZARDOUS FUEL



1 REDUCTION TREATMENT PROJECTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL, STATE,  
2 OR PRIVATE ENTITIES.

3 (5) **Technical advisory panel.** The director shall convene a  
4 technical advisory panel to evaluate the proposals for forest restoration  
5 demonstration AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION grants and provide  
6 recommendations regarding which proposals would best meet the  
7 objectives of this section. The panel shall consider eligibility criteria  
8 established in ~~subsection~~ SUBSECTIONS (4) AND (4.5) of this section, a  
9 project's effect on long-term forest management, AND THE number of  
10 acres treated for state dollars spent and seek to use a consensus-based  
11 decision-making process to develop such recommendations. A PANEL  
12 MEMBER SHALL RECUSE HIMSELF OR HERSELF IF HE OR SHE HAS AN ACTUAL  
13 OR POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH RESPECT TO A GRANT  
14 APPLICANT. The panel ~~shall be~~ IS composed of ~~seven~~ TEN to eleven  
15 members, to be appointed by the director. as follows: THE COMPOSITION  
16 OF THE PANEL INCLUDES:

- 17 (a) An official to represent the department of natural resources;  
18 (b) At least one representative from federal land management  
19 agencies;  
20 (c) At least ~~two~~ ONE independent ~~scientists~~ SCIENTIST with  
21 experience in forest ecosystem restoration; ~~and~~  
22 (d) ~~Equal representation from:~~  
23 ~~(H) Conservation interests~~ AN OFFICIAL TO REPRESENT THE  
24 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY;  
25 ~~(H) (e) Local communities; and~~ AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO  
26 REPRESENTS A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT WITH JURISDICTION  
27 OVER AN AREA OF THE WUI;

1           ~~(HH) (f) Commodity interests~~ AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO  
2 REPRESENTS THE TRADITIONAL FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY;

3           (g) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS THE BIOMASS  
4 ENERGY PRODUCTS INDUSTRY;

5           (h) AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO REPRESENTS A NONPROFIT  
6 COLLABORATIVE GROUP INVOLVED WITH THE MITIGATION OF  
7 CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRES IN COLORADO AND THE MAINTENANCE AND  
8 IMPROVEMENT OF ECOLOGICAL HEALTH; AND

9           (i) AT LEAST TWO MEMBERS WITH EXPERTISE IN WATER AND  
10 WATERSHED MANAGEMENT.

11           (6) **Proposal selection.** After consulting with the technical  
12 advisory panel established in subsection (5) of this section, the forest  
13 service shall select the proposals that will receive funding through this  
14 section. In carrying out the program and approved projects, to provide  
15 forest restoration activities, the forest service and stakeholders PROJECT  
16 PROPONENTS shall, whenever feasible, contract with the Colorado youth  
17 corps association or an accredited Colorado youth corps to provide labor.

18           (8.2) **Community watershed restoration and wildfire risk**  
19 **mitigation.** (a) IN ORDER TO SUPPORT COMMUNITIES AND LAND  
20 MANAGERS IN EFFORTS TO REDUCE RISK TO PEOPLE AND PROPERTY AND IN  
21 SUPPORT OF LONG-TERM ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION SO THAT THE  
22 UNDERLYING CONDITION OF COLORADO'S FORESTS SUPPORTS A VARIETY  
23 OF VALUES, PARTICULARLY PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY AND HIGH-QUALITY  
24 WILDLIFE HABITAT, THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL:

25           (I) HIRE ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY FIELD CAPACITY TO SUPPORT  
26 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREST RESTORATION AND WILDFIRE RISK  
27 MITIGATION PROGRAM GRANTS AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION;

1 (II) IN AWARDING GRANTS PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION, GIVE  
2 ADDITIONAL EMPHASIS TO PROJECTS THAT SUBSTANTIALLY LEVERAGE  
3 ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES OR THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED  
4 THROUGH A COMMUNITY-BASED COLLABORATIVE PROCESS.

5 (b) (I) THE FOREST SERVICE MAY USE THE UNENCUMBERED  
6 BALANCE OF THE FOREST RESTORATION AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION  
7 GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND CREATED IN SUBSECTION (8.5) OF THIS  
8 SECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPLYING WITH THIS SUBSECTION (8.2).

9 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (8.2)(b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE  
10 SEPTEMBER 1, 2023.

11 (8.3) (a) **Technical advisory panel.** THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL  
12 DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM IN CONSULTATION WITH THE  
13 TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL CREATED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS  
14 SECTION. IN DEVELOPING THE PROGRAM, THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL:

15 (I) DEDICATE UP TO TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONEY  
16 AVAILABLE IN THE FOREST RESTORATION AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION  
17 GRANT PROGRAM CASH FUND, CREATED IN SUBSECTION (8.5) OF THIS  
18 SECTION, TO FUND CAPACITY-BUILDING EFFORTS TO PROVIDE LOCAL  
19 GOVERNMENTS, COMMUNITY GROUPS, AND COLLABORATIVE FORESTRY  
20 GROUPS WITH THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO PROVIDE SITE-BASED  
21 HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION TREATMENTS, INCLUDING NEIGHBORHOOD  
22 SLASH PILES AND COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT FOR USE BY LANDOWNERS;

23 (II) DEDICATE UP TO FIVE PERCENT OF THE MONEY AVAILABLE IN  
24 THE FUND TO BE USED BY THE FOREST SERVICE TO:

25 (A) MONITOR GRANT RECIPIENTS' COMPLIANCE WITH THE GRANT  
26 PROGRAM; AND

27 (B) MEASURE THE GRANT PROGRAM'S EFFECTIVENESS;

1 (III) REQUIRE A GRANT APPLICANT TO DEMONSTRATE THAT:

2 (A) THE GRANT APPLICANT HAS AVAILABLE, OR WILL HAVE  
3 AVAILABLE BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT, MATCHING FUNDS  
4 IN THE FORM OF A DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR MATCH OR THE VALUE OF IN-KIND  
5 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE PROJECT. A PROJECT'S MATCHING FUNDS MAY  
6 COME FROM FEDERAL SOURCES OR STATE SOURCES, BUT NO MORE THAN  
7 FIFTY PERCENT OF THE MATCHING FUNDS MAY COME FROM STATE  
8 SOURCES; EXCEPT THAT, IF THE GRANT APPLICANT IS A STATE AGENCY,  
9 MORE THAN FIFTY PERCENT OF THE MATCHING FUNDS MAY COME FROM  
10 OTHER STATE SOURCES.

11 (B) THE PROPOSED PROJECT INCLUDES A PLAN FOR UTILIZING ANY  
12 WOODY MATERIAL GENERATED BY THE PROJECT, INCLUDING TRADITIONAL  
13 FOREST PRODUCTS AND BIOMASS ENERGY PRODUCTS. PURSUANT TO ITS  
14 AUTHORITY UNDER SECTION 23-31-315, THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL OFFER  
15 TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO GRANT APPLICANTS TO ASSIST WITH THE  
16 DEVELOPMENT OF THE APPLICANT'S PLAN FOR UTILIZING FOREST  
17 PRODUCTS. THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL INFORM APPLICANTS OF THE  
18 AVAILABILITY OF ITS TECHNICAL SUPPORT.

19 (IV) ENCOURAGE A GRANT APPLICANT, WHERE FEASIBLE, TO  
20 UTILIZE THE LABOR OF:

21 (A) YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS PARTICIPATING IN A COLORADO  
22 YOUTH CORPS ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED BY THE COLORADO YOUTH  
23 CORPS ASSOCIATION; OR

24 (B) VETERANS PARTICIPATING IN AN ACCREDITED COLORADO  
25 CORPS PROGRAM SERVING VETERANS;

26 (V) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL  
27 CREATED IN SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION, ESTABLISH THE

1 INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE GRANT APPLICATION, INCLUDING A  
2 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT; AND

3 (VI) ESTABLISH A PLAN FOR ADMINISTERING THE GRANT  
4 PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF:

5 (A) PERIODIC REPORTING REQUIREMENTS;

6 (B) TOOLS FOR MONITORING AND TRACKING GRANT PROJECTS;

7 AND

8 (C) MEASURES FOR ASSESSING THE PROGRESS OF GRANT PROJECTS.

9 (b) ANNUALLY AND IN A FINAL REPORT TO BE PRESENTED BEFORE  
10 THE END OF THE REGULAR SESSION IN 2018, THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL  
11 REPORT TO THE AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
12 COMMITTEE IN THE COLORADO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE  
13 AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND ENERGY COMMITTEE IN THE  
14 COLORADO SENATE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, REGARDING THE  
15 PROGRESS OF THE GRANT PROGRAM, INCLUDING INFORMATION  
16 CONCERNING THE:

17 (I) NUMBER OF ACRES TREATED;

18 (II) COST PER ACRE TO TREAT;

19 (III) TONNAGE OF MATERIAL GENERATED;

20 (IV) NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED;     

21 (V) USE OF ANY FOREST PRODUCTS GENERATED; AND

22 (VI) THE GRANT PROGRAM'S ABILITY TO ACHIEVE ITS STATED  
23 GOALS.

24 (c) ON AND AFTER THE REPEAL OF PART 4 OF ARTICLE 7 OF TITLE  
25 36, THE FOREST SERVICE SHALL ADMINISTER PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION  
26 ALL GRANTS MADE PURSUANT TO THAT PART 4 BEFORE ITS REPEAL.

27 (8.5) Forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation grant

1 program cash fund. (a) There is hereby created in the state treasury the  
2 forest restoration AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION GRANT program cash  
3 fund. The department of higher education shall administer the fund,  
4 which consists of:

5 (I) All ~~moneys~~ MONEY transferred by the treasurer as specified in  
6 section 39-29-109.3 (2)(k); ~~C.R.S.~~ AND

7 (II) ALL MONEY THAT WAS IN THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION FUND  
8 CREATED IN SECTION 36-7-405 PRIOR TO THE REPEAL OF THAT FUND. AS  
9 SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2017, THE STATE TREASURER  
10 SHALL TRANSFER THE UNENCUMBERED FUND BALANCE OF THE WILDFIRE  
11 RISK REDUCTION FUND AS OF MONTH-END CLOSE ON DECEMBER 31, 2017,  
12 TO THE FOREST RESTORATION AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION GRANT  
13 PROGRAM CASH FUND.

14 (b) All ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund ~~are~~ IS continuously  
15 appropriated to the department of higher education for allocation to the  
16 board of governors of the Colorado state university system for the forest  
17 restoration AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION GRANT program specified in  
18 this section. All ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund at the end of each fiscal year  
19 ~~remain~~ REMAINS in the fund and ~~do~~ DOES not revert to the general fund or  
20 any other fund. THE STATE TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND  
21 INCOME DERIVED FROM THE DEPOSIT AND INVESTMENT OF MONEY IN THE  
22 FUND TO THE FUND.

23 (9) **Repeal.** This section is repealed, effective September 1, 2017  
24 2022. Prior to such repeal, the department of regulatory agencies shall  
25 review the technical advisory panel as provided in section 2-3-1203,  
26 C.R.S.

27 **SECTION 5. Effective date - applicability.** This act takes effect

1 July 1, 2017, and applies to conduct occurring on or after said date.

2 **SECTION 6. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
3 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
4 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.