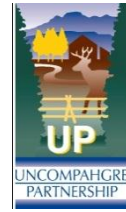




# THE COLLABORATIVE FOREST LANDSCAPE RESTORATION PROGRAM IN COLORADO



## What is CFLRP?

Congress established the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) under Title IV of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes on National Forest System lands.

## Why is CFLRP important to Colorado?

More than one-third of Colorado is forested (24.4 million acres). A patchwork of private and public forest ownership, along with a history of fire suppression and the current pine beetle epidemic leave forests vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire. Forest treatments are critical to reducing catastrophic wildfire risks and restoring forests to better health. Uncharacteristic and catastrophic wildfires that have plagued Colorado in recent years:

- In 2002, more than 2,000 fires burned 502,000 acres and cost more than \$152 million for suppression efforts alone.
- The Hayman Fire of 2002 destroyed 134 homes and burned more than 138,000 acres, and has cost an estimated \$230 million for rehabilitation of eroded areas and water infrastructure.
- The Missionary Ridge Fire of 2002 destroyed more than 56 homes and cost \$40.4 million in suppression and an estimated \$50 million in impacts and rehabilitation after the fire.
- The Four Mile Canyon Fire of 2010 destroyed 168 homes and cost more than \$14 million of public money for fire suppression and rehabilitation to date.

Forests are vital municipal watersheds, supplying over 85 percent of Colorado's residents with drinking water. At least 62 percent of Colorado's Front Range watershed is vulnerable to degradation and erosion from severe fires, and billions of dollars-worth of infrastructure such as communications towers, roads, pipelines and water facilities are at risk.

## How is CFLR making a difference on the ground?

CFLR projects reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, generate jobs and material for forest treatment contractors, and the renewable fiber and timber industry.

CFLR is structured to encourage broad involvement in the forest treatment planning and monitoring and are monitored by coalitions such as the Front Range Roundtable and Uncompahgre Partnership, that represent nonprofit conservation organizations, lumber and renewable fiber businesses, and local, state and federal government agencies. CFLRP contains a broad perspective on project design and monitoring, including how projects affect local communities socially and economically.

## What is the program's potential?

If fully funded, CFLRP can provide up to \$40 million annually for forest treatments across the country. Colorado projects have received \$5.8 million to date; and they stand to receive up to \$45.6 million if fully funded over 10 years.

Colorado's Front Range Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Project outlines a 10-year strategy for restoring nearly 32,000 acres of high priority forest land and would catalyze complementary treatment on at least 165,000 acres in the surrounding landscape.

The Uncompahgre Plateau Collaborative Restoration Project outlines a 10-year strategy over 572,000 acres of National Forest Service land. If fully funded, it will help restore forests within a million-acre landscape, eliminate dangerous fuels along powerlines, support local industry, create 750 seasonal jobs, coordinate treatment of noxious weeds and reseed critical native plants.

