



COLORADO
WATER CONGRESS
INFORM | CONVENE | TRAIN | ACT

HB22-1012

SHORT TITLE: Wildfire Mitigation and Recovery

LONG TITLE: Concerning healthy forests, and, in connection therewith, creating the wildfire mitigation and recovery grant program

SPONSORS: Representatives Cutter and Valdez, D./Senators Ginal and Lee

COMMITTEES: House Energy & Environment Committee

PURPOSE OF THE BILL: To provide funding to counties in wildfire areas to mitigate and recover from fires. Money may be used for removal of debris, hiring laborers to conduct the work, obtain equipment to remove and dispose of the timber or debris (woodchippers, etc.).

PROPONENTS OF THE BILL: Interim committee on Wildfire Matters

POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS: Dept. of Public Safety, county governments, conservation groups, water providers

BACKGROUND: Removal of debris is important for fire mitigation as well as protection of watersheds and limiting carbon emissions. The bill is the result of committee discussion.

Is this bill necessary this year? There is no deadline.

How does the bill change current law? It does not change law, it simply adds another funding mechanism

Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system? No.

How is the bill implemented? Money will be appropriated by the legislature to the dept. of Higher Ed for use by the Forest Service to provide grants to counties. Counties must ensure that disposal limits amount of carbon that will escape to atmosphere through use of recycling, composting, etc.

Practical Considerations: How is the carbon emissions limit evaluated?

Fiscal Impact: None indicated, as no specific amount is required for appropriation.