



Why?

Catastrophic wildfire significantly impacts Colorado's economy, safety, watersheds, infrastructure, and communities.

What?

The **Wildfire and Watershed Initiative for Resilient Colorado (WWIRC)** advances statewide sustainable public-private funding and other strategies to enhance the pace and scale of wildfire risk reduction and watershed resilience.

WWIRC activities are focused on sustainable funding, watersheds and forests, risk reduction and resilience, and landscape priorities for public and private lands. We catalyze statewide coordination across public and private sectors.

With a statewide focus on private-public funding, WWIRC complements state and local efforts including the Colorado Forest Health Council and Colorado Forest Collaboratives Network.

10% of Colorado's forests need urgent attention

\$4.2B estimated need to address wildfire risk, watershed protection & forest health

\$150-\$200M estimated annual need for priority areas

\$6-13 saved for every \$1 spent on proactive mitigation and disaster preparation

How?

WWIRC is advancing strategies for **statewide public funding; local public funding; private-public funding; and forest restoration economies**. These efforts are complemented by policy engagement, modern metrics, landscape projects, and strategic communications.

Who?

WWIRC brings together a broad cross-sector network with dozens of private and public sector participants. An Action Team steers the broader effort; current Action Team members include:

- City of Greeley
- Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc.
- Colorado Dept. of Natural Resources
- Colorado Forum
- Colorado River District
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado Timber Industry Association
- Conservation Investment Management
- Denver Water
- Fire Adapted Colorado
- National Forest Foundation
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Northern Water
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- Western Resource Advocates
- World Resources Institute
- *Federal agencies (information-sharing role)*
- *Facilitator: Keystone Policy Center*



Goals and Strategies

Goal: Increase the amount of sustainable public and private funding for wildfire risk reduction and watershed resilience in Colorado.

- **Statewide public funding:** Inform efforts to increase investment in statewide public programs for wildfire and watershed resilience.
- **Local public funding:** Enhance efforts to catalyze local, county, and regional public funding opportunities in interested communities.
- **Private-public funding:** Enhance efforts to create local and state private-public funding opportunities to aggregate, streamline, and attract private funders.
- **Forest Restoration Economy:** Catalyze coordination and action for a Colorado Forest Restoration Economy with wood product market pathways and infrastructure.

Goal: Advance investment in and implementation of landscape scale risk reduction and resilience projects through engagement with policies, metrics, and storytelling.

- **Policy engagement:** Engage in state and federal policy conversations to advance funding, the forest economy, and implementation for landscape scale wildfire risk reduction and watershed resilience.
- **Modern metrics:** Advance understanding and use of modern metrics to help inspire investment and action, and to quantify risks, costs, benefits, and success.
- **Landscape investment:** Support scaled investment in implementation of projects with landscape scale benefits throughout Colorado.
- **Strategic communications:** Support strategic outreach and storytelling to build awareness and action for wildfire and watershed resilience among private, philanthropic, and public leaders and funders.