

Boulder County Strategic Fuels Mitigation Grant Program

Spring 2024 Awards

- **Arapaho Ranch Project**

The Boulder Watershed Collective is receiving **\$43,000** of SFMG matching funds for sanitation to remove significant blow down vegetation and prevent insect infestation over 16 acres of a current fuels mitigation project site. The Arapaho Ranch project helps to protect critical values including the source water for Boulder and Nederland, single Nederland drinking water intake, the local water treatment facility & high school. It supports fire suppression efforts along Eldora Road (critical egress & POD boundary) and is strategically located between completed USFS West Magnolia treatments and the County's Tucker Ranch with the completed Sherwood treatments north of Tucker.

Partners include: City of Boulder, Colorado Open Lands, Wildfire Partners, Town of Nederland, Colorado State Forest Service, Larimer County Conservation Corps.

Contributing Match funds: CSFS FRWRM (\$20,000), Bonneville Environmental Foundation Grant (\$20,000) Landowner Match (\$3,000), **Total Match (\$43,000)**.

- **Raymond/Riverside Fuels Reduction Project**

The Watershed Center is receiving **\$225,500** for the Raymond-Riverside Fuels Reduction Project, a community-wide fire mitigation and forest management project which will work across six private properties. In total, this project works across ~450 acres, but will treat the operable 70 priority acres that lie within the larger properties. The project area is within and adjacent to multiple collaboratively identified priority areas for forest management, including a Boulder County Fireshed Focus Area, and multiple POD boundaries (Peak to Peak and Hwy 7).

The communities surrounding this project are situated in a high-risk, densely forested canyon with dense structures and only one ingress/egress route. Further, this project area is adjacent to the Middle St. Vrain Creek, which is a critical water supply of drinking and agricultural water for downstream users (Lyons and Longmont). The primary goals of this project are to reduce risk to communities, improve egress routes and firefighter safety, increase the resilience of the forest to wildfire and other disturbances, and to decrease the likelihood of post-fire excessive sediment deposition into critical water supplies.

Partners include: St. Vrain Forest Health Partnership (30 stakeholders)

Contributing Match: SFA Grant (\$238,500), Landowners (\$6,805), **Total Match (\$245,305)**.

- **Roaring Fork Forest Restoration Project:** The Boulder Valley Longmont Conservation District (BVLCD) is receiving \$184,647 of SFMG matching funds to complete the following projects:

Phase 1- Surface Fuel Reduction and Forest Pest Sanitation on recently restored forest. This area experienced significant blowdown as a result of the two recent wind events. The project

aims to reduce surface fuel loading across 118 acres of private land, including 80 acres of recently restored forest.

Phase 2- Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Treatment: The project will reduce forest density on 35 acres across 2 landowners for forest health, wildlife habitat, and wildfire protection. The more open structure will increase diverse forage for wildlife and support the regeneration of desired tree species. These characteristics will promote a more resilient forest against disturbances like wildfire, disease, and forest pests.

Partners include: NRCS, Wildfire Partners, Camp St. Malo, SVFHP

Contributing Match funds: BVLCD (\$15,000) EQIP (\$160,683), Landowner Match (\$8,964), **Total Match (\$184,647).**