

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-third General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 22-0176.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

**HOUSE BILL 22-1012**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Cutter and Valdez D.**, Lynch, Snyder

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Ginal and Lee**, Story

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**House Committees**

Energy & Environment  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING HEALTHY FORESTS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**  
102 **MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

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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/>.)*

**Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Section 1** of the bill creates the wildfire mitigation and recovery grant program (grant program) in the Colorado state forest service (forest service) to provide grants to help counties with forested areas prevent and recover from wildfire incidents and ensure that such efforts are undertaken in a manner that reduces the amount of carbon that enters the atmosphere. In

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

expending grant money, a county, to the extent practicable, shall ensure that biomass that is removed from forests is recycled or disposed of in a manner that reduces the amount of carbon that enters the atmosphere.

The forest service shall administer the grant program and, subject to available appropriations, award grants out of money annually appropriated to the forest service for the grant program. The forest service shall review grant applications in consultation with the division of fire prevention and control in the department of public safety and with the Colorado forest health council in the department of natural resources.

The grant program is repealed, effective September 1, 2028. Before the repeal, the grant program is scheduled for a sunset review by the department of regulatory agencies. **Section 2** schedules this review.

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

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-313, **amend**  
3 (10)(a)(I); and **add** (9.5) as follows:

4 **23-31-313. Healthy forests - vibrant communities - funds**  
5 **created - repeal. (9.5) Carbon accounting framework.** (a) ON AND  
6 AFTER SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, THE STATE FOREST SERVICE SHALL DEVELOP  
7 A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE STATEWIDE CARBON ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK  
8 THAT YIELDS CARBON STOCK AND FLUX ESTIMATES FOR:

9 (I) ECOSYSTEMS BY COUNTY AND FOREST COVER TYPE; AND

10 (II) WOOD PRODUCTS.

11 (b) THE STATE FOREST SERVICE SHALL ALSO DEVELOP A FOREST  
12 CARBON CO-BENEFIT FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT-LEVEL FOREST  
13 MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, INCLUDING WILDFIRE MITIGATION. THE STATE  
14 FOREST SERVICE SHALL USE THIS FRAMEWORK TO TRAIN PRACTITIONERS  
15 IN ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO BE INCORPORATED INTO  
16 CURRENT FOREST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, INCLUDING WILDFIRE  
17 MITIGATION. THE STATE FOREST SERVICE SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL  
18 EXPERTISE TO ASSIST INDUSTRY AND LANDOWNERS WITH CARBON  
19 INVENTORIES AND MONITORING.

1 (c) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (9.5), UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
2 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

3 (I) "CARBON ACCOUNTING FRAMEWORK" MEANS A MODEL THAT  
4 USES DATA FROM THE FOREST INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS PROGRAM OF  
5 THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S FOREST SERVICE TO  
6 DEVELOP TABULAR DATA OF CARBON FLUX AND STOCK ESTIMATES FOR  
7 ALL FOREST TYPES AND WOOD PRODUCTS IN THE STATE OF COLORADO.

8 (II) "FOREST CARBON CO-BENEFIT FRAMEWORK" MEANS A  
9 FRAMEWORK THAT LINKS GOALS, STRATEGIES, AND APPROACHES IN THE  
10 2020 COLORADO FOREST ACTION PLAN TO FOREST MANAGEMENT AND  
11 WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION PRACTICES THAT SERVE TO IMPROVE CARBON  
12 SEQUESTRATION.

13 (10) **Healthy forests and vibrant communities fund.**

14 (a) (I) There is hereby created in the state treasury the healthy forests and  
15 vibrant communities fund. The fund consists of all money that may be  
16 appropriated thereto by the general assembly and all private and public  
17 money received through gifts, grants, reimbursements, or donations that  
18 are transmitted to the state treasurer and credited to the fund. All interest  
19 earned from the investment of money in the fund is credited to the fund.  
20 The money in the fund is hereby continuously appropriated for the  
21 purposes specified in this subsection (10) SECTION and remains available  
22 until expended. Any money not expended at the end of the fiscal year  
23 shall remain in the fund and shall not be transferred to or revert to the  
24 general fund.

25 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2022-23 state fiscal year,  
26 \$95,407 is appropriated to the healthy forests and vibrant communities  
27 fund created in section 23-1-313 (10)(a)(I), C.R.S. This appropriation is

1 from the general fund. The department of higher education is responsible  
2 for the accounting related to this appropriation.

3 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
10 November 2022 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.