

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

February 17, 2022

Committee on Energy & Environment.

After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:

HB22-1012 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:

1 Amend printed bill, page 2, strike lines 2 through 18 and substitute:

2 "SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-31-310, **amend**  
3 (1.5)(c) and (4)(b)(III); and **add** (4)(b)(V), (4)(b)(VI), and (8.3)(a)(III)(C)  
4 as follows:

5 **23-31-310. Forest restoration and wildfire risk mitigation**  
6 **grant program - technical advisory panel - legislative declaration -**  
7 **definitions - repeal.** (1.5) **Legislative declaration.** The general  
8 assembly hereby:

9 (c) Declares that it intends to provide aid and guidance for  
10 catastrophic wildfire risk mitigation and forest health improvements by  
11 authorizing a competitive grant program to:

12 (I) Assist with funding community-level actions across the entire  
13 state that are implemented to protect populations and property in the  
14 wildland-urban interface; ~~and to~~

15 (II) Promote forest health and the utilization of woody material,  
16 including traditional forest products and biomass energy;

17 (III) HELP COMMUNITIES WITH FORESTED AREAS PREVENT AND  
18 RECOVER FROM WILDFIRE INCIDENTS BY REMOVING DEAD TREES AND  
19 OTHER POTENTIAL FUEL AS WELL AS DEBRIS THAT HAS RESULTED FROM AN  
20 INCIDENT OF WILDFIRE OR INSECT INFESTATION; AND

21 (IV) ENSURE THAT EFFORTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION  
22 (1.5)(c)(III) OF THIS SECTION ARE UNDERTAKEN IN A MANNER THAT  
23 MINIMIZES THE AMOUNT OF CARBON THAT ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE.

24 (4) **Eligibility requirements.** To be eligible to receive funding  
25 under this section, a project must:

26 (b) Address one or more of the following objectives for the  
27 purpose of protecting water supplies:

1 (III) Replanting NATIVE trees in deforested areas if such areas  
2 exist in the proposed project area; and

3 (V) REDUCING POST-FIRE SOIL EROSION THROUGH THE USE OF  
4 AERIAL MULCHING, SEEDING WITH NATIVE SEED MIXES, AND RELATED  
5 ACTIONS; OR

6 (VI) PROMOTING THE RECOVERY OF FORESTED LANDS FROM  
7 WILDFIRE INCIDENTS BY REMOVING DEAD TREES IN AREAS WITH SAFETY  
8 CONCERNS ARISING FROM THE AREAS' PROXIMITY TO COMMUNITIES,  
9 ROADS, TRAILS, OR STRUCTURES.

10 (8.3) **Grant program.** (a) The forest service shall develop and  
11 administer the program in consultation with the technical advisory panel  
12 created in subsection (5) of this section. In developing the program, the  
13 forest service shall:

14 (III) Require a grant applicant to demonstrate that:

15 (C) FOR A PROPOSED PROJECT TO REMOVE DEAD TREES NEAR  
16 COMMUNITIES, ROADS, TRAILS, OR STRUCTURES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
17 (4)(b)(VI) OF THIS SECTION, AREAS OF SALVAGE AND EXCLUSIONS FROM  
18 SALVAGE ARE IDENTIFIED BASED ON ECOLOGICAL DATA, TAKING INTO  
19 ACCOUNT SITE-SPECIFIC FEATURES, AND GUIDELINES FOR THE  
20 PRESERVATION OF KEY BIODIVERSITY ATTRIBUTES ARE CREATED THAT  
21 ENSURE ADEQUATE RIPARIAN BUFFERS AND MITIGATE SOIL AND FOREST  
22 RECOVERY DISTURBANCES FROM THE TREE REMOVAL PROCESS."

23 Strike pages 3 through 5.

24 Page 6, strike lines 1 through 9.

25 Renumber succeeding section accordingly.

26 Page 1, strike lines 101 through 103 and substitute "**CONCERNING**  
27 **HEALTHY FORESTS.**".

\*\* \*\* \*\* \*\* \*\*