



Timber Times

Partners for Healthy Forests

VOLUME XXIV, ISSUE III

OCTOBER 2015



Why A Wildfire Funding Fix is Critical to CTIA

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **President's Message P. 2**
- **Logger of the Year award P. 3**
- **Company of the Year Award P. 4**
- **Tom's Corner P.5**
- **Mark Morgan Editorial P. 7**
- **More to Think About P. 8**
- **New Member Spotlight P. 9**
- **Safety P. 10**
- **Ads P. 12**

Wildfire funding issues create havoc for the US Forest Service annual budgets since the FS is required to budget for the 10-Year Average costs of fire-fighting. That portion of the FS budget is creeping up from 16% of their budget in 1995 to 52% of the budget in 2015 with projections to 67% of their budget 10 years from now. Funding for timber management and hazardous fuel reduction gets decimated as does funding for recreation, wildlife habitat issues, wilderness management and all other programs that contribute to our Colorado forests **and** contribute to our local economies.

In a fire year when nearly 9 million acres have burned, when many cities (including Denver to Boulder) have endured air quality issues and ozone alerts due to smoke from fires many miles away, the CTIA organization is working diligently to urge Congress to pass a comprehensive funding solution. We are working with many partners including wildlife organizations, sportsmen, and recreational groups and NGOs. We want solutions that address the **causes**—forest condition and forest management reforms and the **symptoms**—fire borrowing and fire budgets- that are decimating sound forest management along with much of the USFS mission.



Congress is often mired in gridlock, but the opportunities for change come when a perform storm of issues become critical. It takes many entities working with many in Congress to make 2015 that year of change!

The Colorado Timber Industry Association (CTIA) is an association of small, family-owned businesses committed to logging, processing and performing service work in the forests of Colorado. We are exceptional partners to the public and private stewards of our valuable and beautiful forests. We embrace Best Management Practices (BMPs) and sustainable forestry. To meet these values, we host annual continuing education classes on BMPs and conduct field audits to demonstrate our accountability to high quality, active management designed to promote long term forest health.

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President's Message



Hello CTIA Partners,

It has been a busy start to the CTIA year and I am amazed at the many issues that are affecting our industry at this time! I have been following the fires in the Pacific NW and Alaska and folks mention that Colorado is lucky not to be fighting a fire year. I have to remind them that my area of Colorado is still fighting the aftermath of the fires from 4 years ago! Colorado Springs and Manitou have had several flood events this summer. The Hayman area is still having flooding issues from the fires in 2002!

It is clear to me that most of the U.S. has no idea about the forest management issues that continue in the years following fires on nearly 1 million acres of Colorado forests and the now subsiding mountain pine beetle epidemic affecting some 3.4 million acres, not to mention the effects of the expanding spruce beetle epidemic on another 1.4 million acres. The challenges and costs are huge, but fire funding issues are problematic in a state experiencing so many different issues on so many acres.

So back to CTIA and my job as President. I believe that it has never been so important to keep our organization strong and our voices LOUD! We need to recruit more members, and meet their needs.

We need to continue to work on a more dependable timber supply. Every year is a struggle to meet the supply needed by industry. During years like this where the dollar is strong and lumber prices are low, supply becomes more critical than ever. Adding production hours and double shifts is the only solution to maintaining a profitable bottom line. Can't do that without more trees to process!

The current legislative efforts to streamline NEPA, craft new Categorical Exclusions, and perhaps attempt pilot arbitration efforts to reduce endless litigation may be our best hope to manage more acres to get that additional supply.

There is much to get accomplished.

I hope to visit with many of you soon.

Dan Casey.



TIMBER TIMES

Healthy Forests Healthy Communities

Colorado Timber Industry Association continues to support the Healthy Forests Healthy Communities coalition. Please visit their website to learn about current issues and to easily follow the progress of the fire funding legislation as it weaves through the maze of Congressional committees and twists and turns and tweaks and amendments. This website makes it simple to write your Congressman with your input. Add your voice today!

Healthy Forests



Healthy
Communities

GO TO: <https://www.healthyforests.org>

'Like' them on facebook

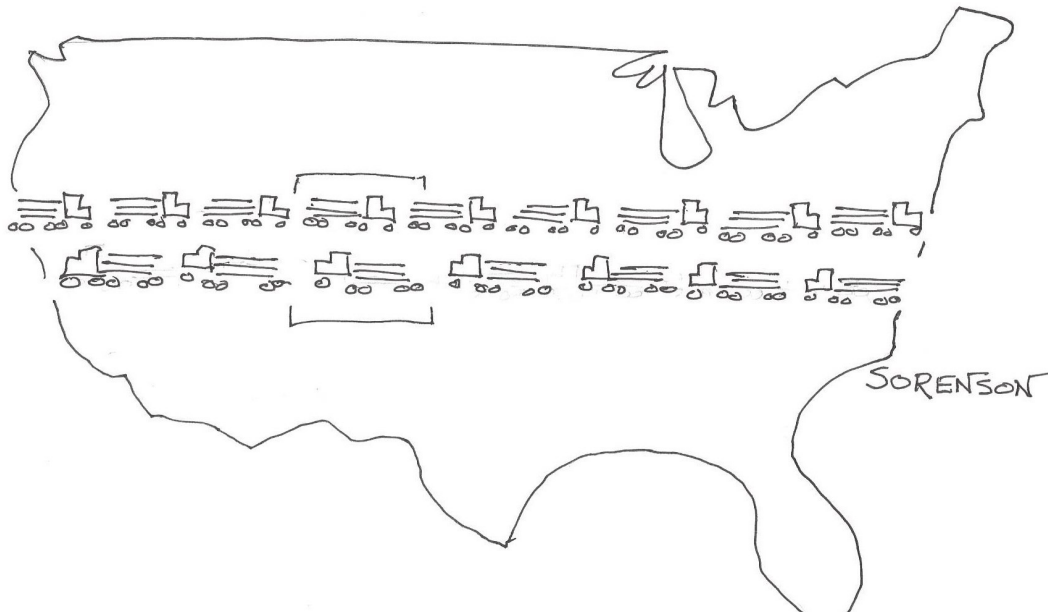
Call Nancy Fishering (970) 249-1767 or Molly Pitts (928) 521-9476

For more information

Spruce Bark Beetle on the Rio Grande National Forest

On the Rio Grande National Forest alone, over 500,000 acres of mature spruce have died from the spruce beetle epidemic. A conservative estimate of 1 load of spruce logs per acre converts to over 500,000 loads of spruce logs, that is equivalent to a caravan of log trucks that, if lined up 'bumper-to-bumper', would be over 6,000 miles long... Enough to reach from one coast of the United States entirely across to the other coast and back again! That's just the mortality on one forest in Colorado. Expand that by the mortality on the national forests throughout the West and the loss is unimaginable.

HOW MUCH DEAD?



<http://www.coloradotimber.org/>

The goals for the CTIA website are – 1) be a resource for CTIA members, and 2) provide information about CTIA members and Colorado forest management for the public.

*Dear Readers,
The following letter
is a prototype
position paper on
the current
legislation pending in
Washington to
address the wildfire
funding issues.

We share this in
hopes that our
membership can
take this , or a
shorter letter to
County
Commissioners,
Chambers of
Commerce, or
Economic
Development groups
in Colorado in order
to grow a consensus
message to our
Congressional
Delegation.
Thanks for your
help!*

Colorado Congressional Delegation:

The Western United States are experiencing another devastating fire season with nearly 500,000 acres burned, firefighter lives lost, homes destroyed and over \$700 million dollars of fire borrowing to fight the on-going fires. As you continue working on legislation to improve federal wildfire funding policies, we urge you to support reforms that would increase the pace and scale of needed forest management to restore the health and resiliency of federal forests, reduce the risk of future catastrophic wildfires, and contribute to the economic and revenue needs of local communities.

As you know, the federal government, primarily through the U.S. Forest Service, controls 68 percent of Colorado's total forest land. Over the last two decades, federal regulations, lawsuits, and the resulting "analysis paralysis" have caused a rapid decline in federal forest management activities across the West. Colorado is unique among western states in that active forest management is dominated by U.S. Forest Service budgets, priorities, and capacity. Relatively few forested acres are within tribal lands, state or private lands or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

As a result many acres of our federal forests had become unnaturally dense, overstocked and more vulnerable to insects, disease, and catastrophic wildfires. The 2015 Colorado aerial survey results noted the cumulative effects of the mountain pine beetle at an estimated 3.4 million acres, and cumulative effects of spruce beetle to almost 1.4 million acres. A review of recent Colorado fire history indicates over 800,000 cumulative acres. Colorado has 22.6 million acres of forestland and 25% of the acres has been drastically affected over the recent 10-15 years. Post fire the state continues to experience floods, and sedimentation issues that effect roads, reservoirs and downstream communities and homeowners.

While 2015 has not been a fire year for Colorado, we support legislative efforts to improve wildfire suppression policies and budgeting, but action must also be taken to rehabilitate burned forests, meaningfully reduce the risk of future fires, and restore forest diversity and resiliency on federal forestlands across Colorado through more active management. Increasing sustainable timber harvests on federal forests would not only create additional jobs in the forest products sector, it would also generate revenues for local counties that provide access and essential emergency services, benefit the state's outdoors industry, hunting opportunities, and other sectors that depend on healthy, vibrant forests and watersheds.

Congress should take swift action on solutions that restore the health of our federal forests and reform our approach to fighting wildfires, including ending the nonsensical practice of "fire borrowing" when the Forest Service exhausts its wildfire suppression budget. At this time the Forest Service has already borrowed \$700 million dollars from program areas of critical importance to Colorado including forest management, hazardous fuel reduction within forest management and other arenas such as recreation, road maintenance, and capital expenditures. The House of Representatives recently passed comprehensive wildfire funding and federal forest management legislation that builds on bipartisan reforms included in the 2014 Farm Bill. It earned the support of over 170 organizations, including conservation, sportsmen, outdoor, counties and forestry groups that recognize the benefits of these reasonable reforms. There is also growing bipartisan support in the Senate for improving wildfire and forest management policies.

Active forest management and restoration is one of the few effective, long-term solutions for improving the health of our forests and rural communities. The primary factor limiting active forest restoration on federal lands is the cost and time required for the Forest Service to satisfy exhaustive analytic requirements driven by conflicting regulations and litigation. The Forest Service currently expends over \$350 million annually on environmental reviews, limiting the money available for on-the-ground projects. Those reviews also take an average of 19-37 months to complete, delaying needed projects to get ahead of the growing threat. Fortunately, it is possible to streamline the environmental review process to improve the pace and scale of forest management projects without sacrificing conservation values.

We urge you to work together on a bipartisan basis to support the reforms we need to effectively fight wildfires, rehabilitate burned forests, and actively manage our federal forests to meet the needs of local communities and reduce the size and severity of wildfires in the future.

Sincerely....

Interesting editorials

Chief Tidwell has spent too much time in D.C.: Robin Stanley's response to the Chief's Evergreen interview

Posted on [October 7, 2015](#) by [ronroizen9](#)

Editor's note: This opinion piece comes to us from NWAF! Coalition member Robin Stanley, submitted earlier today.

I just completed reading Forest Service Chief Tidwell's interview in *Evergreen* magazine". Unfortunately, our Chief doesn't get it. His whole mantra is "Building and maintaining trust with the public." But it isn't an issue of building trust. It's an issue of fundamental beliefs. There are those who do not believe any trees should be cut and that man should not manage our forests. Forests should be left to nature. So what does building trust have to do with changing their fundamental belief? Education maybe, but building trust? Is the Chief asking the extreme enviros to "trust" that collaboratives will do the right thing? Even if collaboratives were successful at convincing 99% of the population that the project is valuable and necessary to save our forests, the remaining one percent can still file a suit.

Secondly, the Chief admits collaboratives move slowly. So his suggestion is to attempt larger projects. Is the Chief so out of touch with reality that he doesn't know that the larger the projects, the greater the probability of law suits? Doesn't the Chief know that for decades there has been an effort to do small projects to keep them under the radar of sue-happy environmentalists?

Furthermore, in the interview, Tidwell states he is reluctant to discourage the availability of the courts to those that cannot afford to put up bonds and mentions that the climate change and other factors have lead to the bad fire season. Unfortunately he failed to mention the elephant in the room, the accumulation of fire fuel over the past three decades.

So in other words, Chief Tidwell's solution to our wild fire crisis is increasing the size of the projects proposed for the collaborative, developing better public trust, and hiring more employees to do all the paper work. No wonder we're in trouble. The Chief's comments reminds me of Albert Einstein's quote about "insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results."

Building public trust and supporting the collaborative approach are definitely the politically correct things to say and do. But the management of our national forests cannot be entrusted to the public. The public is not trained in forest management, but the public does have an opinion. I agree with Congressman Don Young from Alaska in his statement: "I look at this and the Forest Service is no longer the Forest Service, it's the Park Service," Young said. "They're not trying to manage the timber."

I read Chief Tidwell's statements and I see him as the "Park Ranger" trying to please all the park visitors, hoping they will write him a nice review when they exit the park. But he is not trying to manage the timber in our forests to protect our communities from wildfire. He is not willing to stand up to do what he should know needs to be done to protect our forests, wildlife, and communities from catastrophic fire. Instead he is worried about being politically correct and building trust.

Instead of focusing on being politically correct and blaming climate change, he should be addressing the real problem, the accumulation of fire fuel. And there can never be a significant change in forest management without addressing the potential of every significant tree harvesting proposal being challenged in court

My heart goes out to the Forest Service employees that know and understand the real problem but are restrained by the Forest Service management at the top.

Robin Stanley

WILDFIRE UPDATE

TOTAL ACREAGE BURNED 2015:

8,920,752

NUMBER OF LIVES LOST:

10

HOMES DESTROYED:

1,000+

NATURALRESOURCES.HOUSE.GOV

Editors Note:

Evergreen Magazine is running a series on collaboration. Copy this link in your browser to read the Chief interview that evoked this response. Jim Peterson frequently publishes interesting articles and interviews in *Evergreen Magazine*.

<http://www.evergreenmagazine.com/forest-collaboration-series-part-15-tom-tidwell-qa/>

Welcome new members ...

This month we would like to welcome Windy Gap Logging and Mike Jolovich to our CTIA membership.

Windy Gap Logging was started in the spring of 2015 by Mike Jolovich as a sister company to Ranch Creek Ltd. Windy Gap logging will self sufficiently supply timber to Ranch Creek Ltd for its production of round wood and rough cut lumber. Ranch Creek Ltd has been in business, producing products from the local timber of Grand County, CO for 23 years. Mike Jolovich's and his son Daniel Jolovich's constant diversification of production and a dedicated and ambitious entrepreneurial spirit have fueled the use of the beetle killed timber in the area. Windy Gap Logging is just one more step towards maintaining a conscientious use of timber that would otherwise go to waste.



We always welcome new members and urge them to share their needs and ideas with the organization. Likewise, we want our membership to reach out and share our insights and collective expertise with the Jolovichs. Windy Gap is located in Granby and their contact info is:

ranchcreek@rkymtnhi.com
(970) 531-1482.

Want to be more involved?

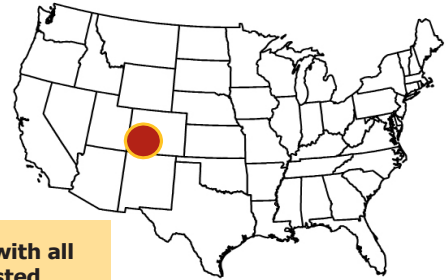
The flyer from the Watershed Wildfire Protection Group on the next page is an organization that CTIA has supported and has benefitted from their correspondence.

Would you or someone in your organization like to be informed about the meetings and educational outreach provided by their efforts?

If so, call Nancy Fishering (970) 249-1767 and she will connect you with their organizers!

Watershed Wildfire Protection Group

<http://csfs.colostate.edu/forest-management/watershed-management/>



The Watershed Wildfire Protection Group (WWPG) began as part of the Front Range Roundtable and was formed to identify hazards to water supplies from wildfires in Colorado. The WWPG is a diverse group of watershed stakeholders including major water providers in the Front Range, and State and Federal management agencies. Our mission is to promote healthy watersheds by facilitating education and awareness; and facilitating prioritization, implementation, and monitoring for people and wildlife (Fish & Aquatics, for the West, Mammals, Next Generation, Public, Recreationists, Rivers & Streams). Our vision is to protect Colorado's water supplies and critical infrastructure from catastrophic wildfire and other threats by maintaining healthy, resilient watersheds through collaboration, implementation, leveraging, and education. Our primary goals are to connect implementers with funders, provide education and outreach, and maintain a statewide focus.



Through our annual outreach meetings we have been able to connect with areas in Colorado outside of the Front Range. These meetings have included engagement with the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership; Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Water Quality/Quantity Committee; and the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable. As a result, we have been able to more efficiently leverage many of our efforts through broader networks and increase participation during other quarterly meetings with joint presentations and panels.



Challenges of WWPG

As a re-formed group, our early challenge was to define our mission, vision, and primary goals. Our continuing challenge is to offer relevant content in our quarterly meetings and keep group members up-to-date on upcoming issues, information, and funding opportunities

Working with all interested communities statewide throughout Colorado



Regional Partners

American Water Works Association
Aurora Water
Bear Creek Watershed Association
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Reclamation
Center for Collaborative Conservation
City of Fort Collins
City of Northglenn
Clear Creek County
Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed
Coalition for the Upper South Platte
Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative
Colorado Conservation Exchange
Colorado Dept. of Natural Resources
Colorado Division of Water Quality
Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control
Colorado Forest Restoration Institute
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Colorado Springs Utilities
Colorado State Forest Service
Colorado State University
Colorado Timber Industry Association
Colorado Tree Farmers

Colorado Water Conservation Board
ConstruKs
Denver Mountain Parks
Denver Water
FireWise of Southwest Colorado
Front Range Fuels Treatment Partnership
Front Range Roundtable
Greeley Water
Jefferson County Parks & Open Space
JW Associates
National Forestry Foundation
National Park Service
Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Project Learning Tree
Pueblo Water
Rio Grande Basin Roundtable
Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team
Rocky Mountain Research Station (USDAFS)
San Juan-Chama Watershed Partnership
San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership
Senator Cory Gardner's Office
Senator Michael Bennet's Office
South Platte Enhancement Board
The Nature Conservancy
Urban Waters Partnership
US Forest Service
Warner College of Natural Resources
West Range Reclamation
Xcel Energy

Contact Information:

Rich Edwards
CO State Forest Service
(970) 491-8036
Rich.Edwards@colostate.edu

Brad Piehl
JW Associates Inc.
(970) 406-0085
bpiehl@jw-associates.org

Above Photo: Colorado State Forest Service
Below Photo: Bill Cotton, Colorado State University

The Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network is supported by Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together (PERFACT), a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, the USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior. For more information, contact Nick Goulette (nickg@hayfork.net).



An equal opportunity provider. v. 24 May 15



Colorado Timber Industry Association Membership Application

Company Name: _____

Your Name: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Website: _____

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

☐ Mailing List Correction

Please circle your company's primary business:

Logging Primary Manufacturing Secondary Manufacturing Fuels Mitigation Log Hauling
TSI Contractor Road Contractor Biofuels Other Forestry Work _____

SALES OF: Forestry Equip. - Trucks & Truck Equip. - Other _____

Please circle your membership category:

Forest Products Companies

Individual Operator \$75
1-5 employees \$200
6-15 employees \$500
16-30 employees \$1,000
31-49 employees \$1,500
50+ employees \$2,400

Maximum annual dues to IFA members \$1,000

Associate Membership

Bronze \$100
Silver \$250
Gold \$500
Platinum \$1,000

All Members Receive:

Electronic newsletters and periodic updates on forestry news and issues, along with a listing on the CTIA website.

Advertising Opportunities

Circle

(Free for Silver, Gold & Platinum) 1"x2½" Ad every Newsletter

\$50

(One booth free for Gold & Platinum) 8'x10' Booth at Annual CTIA Meeting

\$50

(One free for Silver Member) ¼ Page Ad for 1 issue

\$75

(One free for Gold Member) 1/2 Page Ad for 1 issue

\$125

(One free for Platinum Member) Full Page Ad for 1 issue

\$250

Check us out at:

www.coloradotimber.org

Membership Payment \$ _____

Advertising Payment \$ _____

Additional Donation \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed \$ _____

Mail the completed application along with your check, to:

Colorado Timber Industry Association P.O. Box 32 Delta, CO 81416

Questions?

Call Tom Troxel at 605-341-0875 or email t_troxel@hills.net



Businesses Supporting the Timber Industry

Renewable Fiber, Inc.

305 N. Denver Ave.
Ft. Lupton, CO 80621
1-800-888-0374

Ron and Nan Talarico

1150 Oakhurst Drive
Broomfield, CO 80020
Phone: 720-935-6589

Scott and Mary Canda Forest Wise, LLC

21110I -25 Frontage Rd.
Trinidad, CO 81082
719-846-2057
mary@forestwise.net



DDI Equipment

4600 Hwy. 50
Whitewater, CO 81527
Phone: (970) 399-1100
Fax: (970) 243-1437

MSLBMDA

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701-433-7041

Woodland Management Consulting

Bill Gherardi
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970-481-4471

Poles, Inc.

Randy & Jennifer Gross
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719-685-0444



Colorado State Forest Service

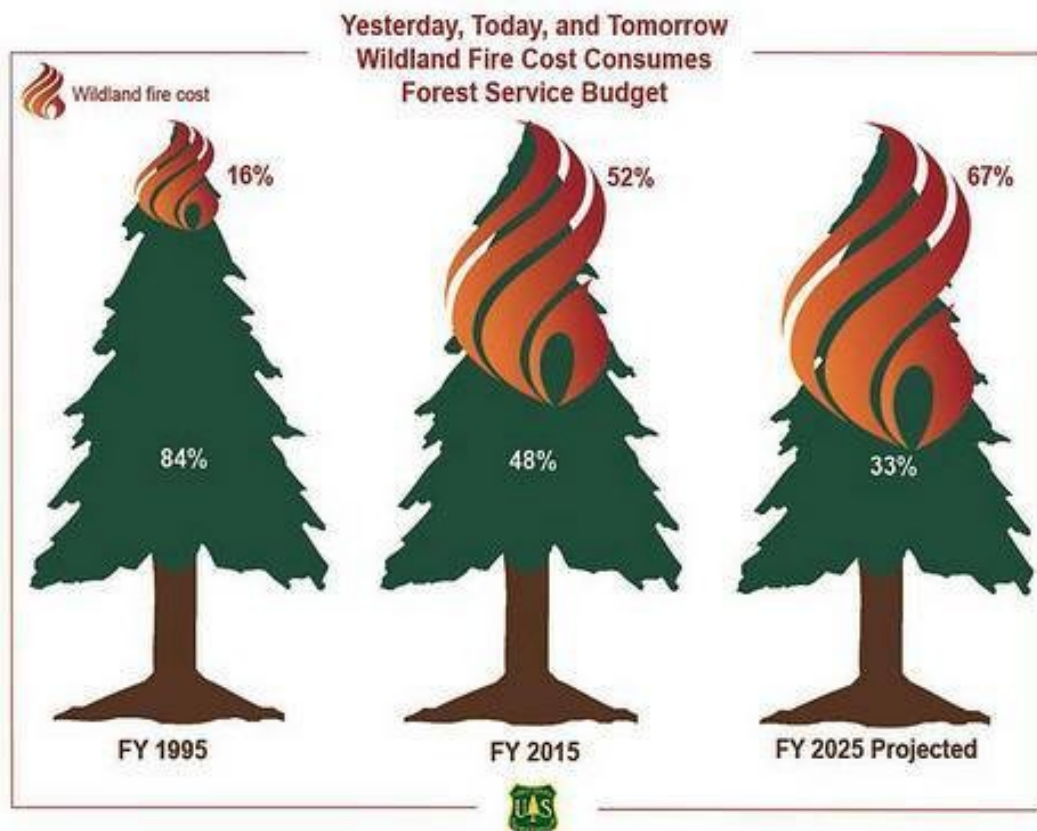
Partners in Forest Management
State Headquarters
970-491-6303

Southwest Soils Pioneer Soils

Chip Scroggs
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CTIA

**Doing the right thing for
the right reason.**

