

# Colorado Wildfire Mitigation Stimulus Package

Angela Boag, Assistant Director  
Climate Change, Forest Health and Energy  
Colorado Department of Natural Resources

June 9th, 2021



**COLORADO**  
Department of  
Natural Resources

# Welcome

- Wildfire risk mitigation is a top priority for DNR
- Local governments are a critical partner: We need you!



# Agenda

Department of Natural Resources

CWCB Watershed Restoration & Management

CSFS Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Program

SB21-258: Wildfire Mitigation Stimulus



# Department Mission & Vision

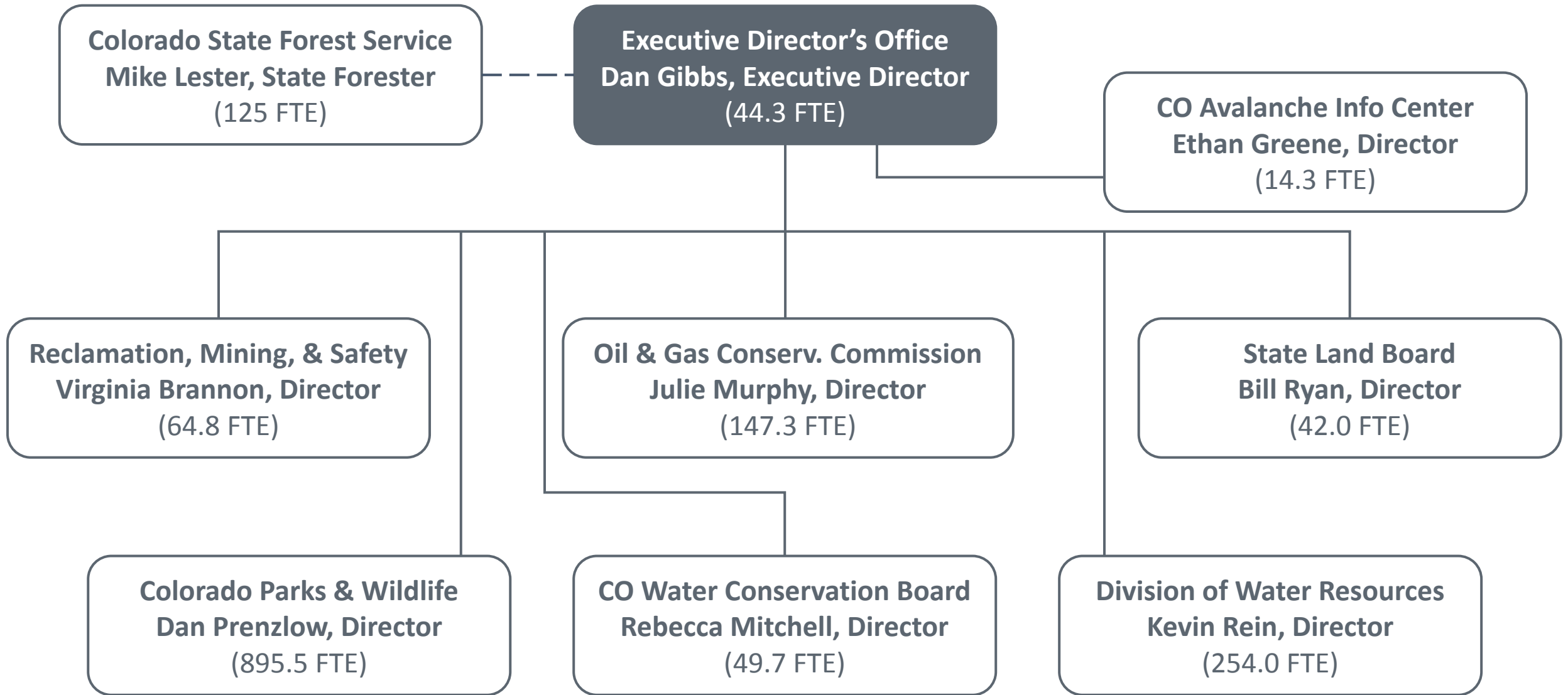
The mission of the Department of Natural Resources is:

*To manage and conserve Colorado's natural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of people today and tomorrow.*

DNR's vision:

*Colorado will be a national leader in promoting the responsible use and conservation of natural resources for this and future generations.*





**FY 2020-21 DNR Total = 1,511.9 FTE**



# Watershed Restoration and Management

- FY21 Wildfire Supplemental (SB 21-054): \$4 million for CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant Program
- FY21 Watershed Stimulus (CO Recovery Plan, SB 21-240): \$30 million for CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant Program
- FY21 Water Plan Implementation Stimulus (CO Recovery Plan, HB 21-1260): \$20 million = \$15 million to the Water Plan Grant Program and \$5 million to Water Supply Reserve Fund

<https://cwcb.colorado.gov/colorado-watershed-restoration-grants>



# Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Grant Program

- Since 2017, the CSFS has awarded approx. \$4.3M in FRWRM funds to 68 grant recipients to support wildfire mitigation work and equipment purchases.
- FY21 Wildfire Supplemental (JBC Package Bill, SB 21-054): \$6 million for CSFS-FRWRM Grant Program; total project cost limit now \$1M
- In May 2021 CSFS received over 80 eligible proposals totaling over \$13 million in funding requests for equipment purchases and treatment on 11,000+ acres
- FY21 Long Bill (SB21-205): \$8M funding available per year (no longer dependent on severance tax)

<https://csfs.colostate.edu/funding-assistance/>



# SB21-258: Wildfire Mitigation Stimulus

CO Recovery Plan, SB 21-258: \$25M (\$17.5M to DNR)

- Section 2: FRWRM
  - Projects may include federal lands
  - 75% of FRWRM funds for Fuels & Forest Health projects; 25% fund Capacity Building: Equipment purchases; staff capacity; project planning; outreach and engagement
- Section 3: CSFS Programs
  - Forest Business Loan Program: \$2.5M
  - CSFS can hire full-time staff to provide support for Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)

<https://csfs.colostate.edu/cowood/forest-business-loan-fund/>





# SB21-258: Wildfire Mitigation Stimulus

## Section 5: Wildfire mitigation capacity development fund

- Guided by MOU between DNR-CSFS-DPS/DFPC
- Statewide strategic analysis with USFS partners
- Organizational assessment of state wildfire mitigation programs
- Workforce development: ~\$7.4M for Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) and Department of Corrections State Wildland Inmate Fire Teams (SWIFT)
- Landscape Scale Wildfire Mitigation Projects: ~\$8.85M for project planning & implementation
- Funds obligated by June 30th, 2023

*“The Department of Natural Resources shall prioritize those projects with the greatest potential to protect life, property, and infrastructure.” SB21-258*

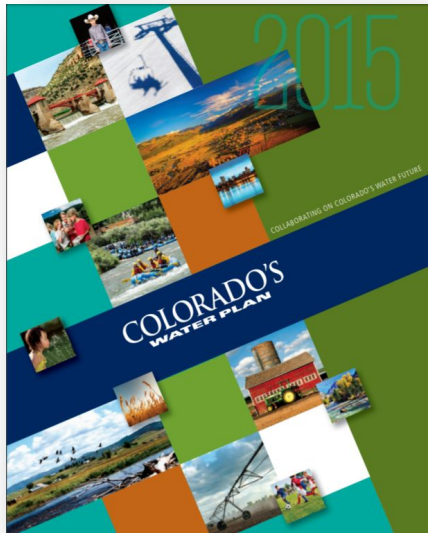
# Additional 2021 Legislation

- HB21-237: Moving the Forest Health Council from CSFS to DNR
  - 4 seats for County Commissioners
- HB21-1008: Forest Health Project Financing
  - Special or local improvement districts for forest health
  - Colorado Water Resources Power and Development Authority issues bonds to fund watershed protection projects
- HB21-1180: Biomass Utilization Grants
  - CSFS may grant up to \$2.5M for biomass utilization projects demonstrating wildfire risk reduction, renewable energy production, biochar production

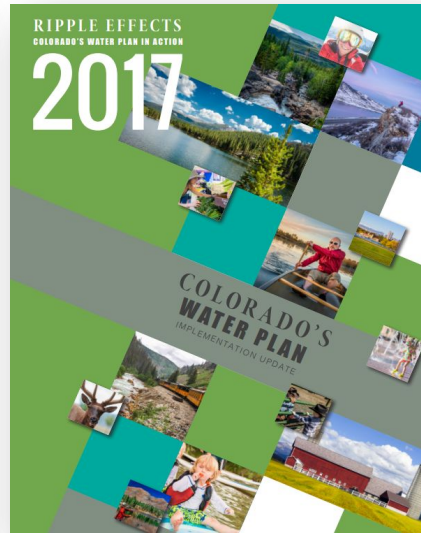


# Colorado Water Plan

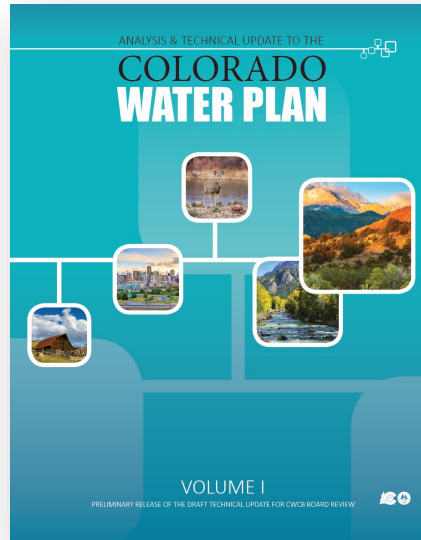
*Collaborative. Iterative. Interconnected.*



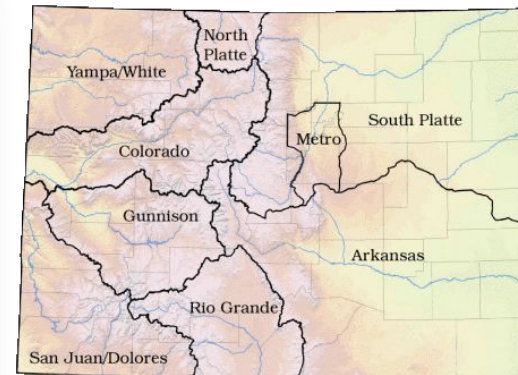
2015



2017



2019



BIP UPDATES

2018-2021

COLORADO WATER  
PLAN UPDATE

2019-2022



**COLORADO**  
Department of  
Natural Resources

# Questions?

Angela Boag, DNR EDO

[angela.boag@state.co.us](mailto:angela.boag@state.co.us)

Watershed Restoration: Chris Sturm, CWCB

[chris.sturm@state.co.us](mailto:chris.sturm@state.co.us)

