

**COSWAP Workforce Development Grant Application**

Colorado Department of Natural Resource’s Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP) has funding available to support wildfire mitigation work by conservation corps and the Department of Corrections (DOC) State Wildland Inmate Fire Teams (SWIFT), and funding to support wildfire mitigation workforce training. DOC SWIFT crew time is available statewide, while conservation corps and training opportunities are only available in the Strategic Focus Areas listed below.

**Contact Information**

If you have any questions regarding this application, please contact DNR staff:

Alison Lerch Courtney Young

Program Administrator Program Facilitator

alison.lerch@state.co.us courtney.young@state.co.us

**How to Apply**

Applicants should review the Request for Applications (RFA) document found on the [COSWAP website](https://dnr.colorado.gov/divisions/forestry/co-strategic-wildfire-action-program) before filling out the application. The RFA includes important information on eligibility, timeline and process.

Applicants should submit a completed application combined into a single pdf file to [courtney.young@state.co.us](mailto:courtney.young@state.co.us) with “COSWAP-Application-*Your Project Name*” in the subject line.

Hard copies will not be accepted.

This application is open to the following entities:

* Federal agencies
* State agencies (DNR divisions contact [courtney.young@state.co.us](mailto:courtney.young@state.co.us) for separate application)
* Local governments including counties, municipalities, fire protection districts and other special districts
* Tribes
* Public utilities with infrastructure or land ownership in areas of high wildfire risk
* Registered homeowner associations, property owners associations, formal neighborhood associations and road districts
* Wildfire Councils and/or wildfire, watershed or forest collaborative groups
* Non-profit organizations that promote fuel reduction projects, are engaged in prescribed fire projects, or natural resource management
* Conservation corps are eligible for cash awards but are not eligible to apply for crew time

DOC SWIFT crews are available STATEWIDE. Contact the Department of Corrections SWIFT Supervisor to discuss your project and determine if it is appropriate for DOC SWIFT crews. Questions can be directed to Dennis DeLong at dennis.delong@state.co.us, or by phone at 719-269-5778 (office) and 719-924-0372 (cell).

Conservation corps (CYCA accredited or non-CYCA accredited) and wildfire mitigation workforce training are available the following Strategic Focus Areas.

1. Boulder County
2. Douglas County
3. El Paso County
4. Jefferson County
5. La Plata County
6. Larimer County
7. Teller County
8. [Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative](https://restoringtherockies.org/#maps) (RMRI) Focal Areas\*
   1. Southwest Colorado (Parts of Dolores, Montezuma, La Plata,
   2. Upper Arkansas (Chaffee and Lake Counties)
   3. Upper South Platte

\*The Applicant does not need to be affiliated with RMRI to apply for funds, but we highly recommend connecting with RMRI partners to develop projects.

Contact the local corps representative to speak about your project. To locate the CYCA accredited conservation corps serving your area, please visit the Colorado Youth Corps Association’s website: [https://www.CYC.org/hire-a-corps/](https://www.cyca.org/hire-a-corps/).

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| Boulder County Youth Corps  Luiz Blanco-Bertolo, Program Manager  [lblanco-bertolo@bouldercounty.org](mailto:lblanco-bertolo@bouldercounty.org)  303-678-6104 | Larimer County Conservation Corps  Maelly Oropeza, Corps Manager  [moropeza@larimer.org](mailto:moropeza@larimer.org)  970-498-6630 |
| Mile High Youth Corps  Jesse Roehm, Associate Director  [jesser@mhyc.net](mailto:jesser@mhyc.net)  303-433-1206 Ext. 230 | Rocky Mountain Youth Corps  Ryan Banks, Program Director  [ryan@rockymountainyouthcorps.com](mailto:ryan@rockymountainyouthcorps.com)  970-819-0533 |
| Southwest Conservation Corps – Four Corners  Clara Moulton, Director  [cmoulton@conservationlegacy.org](mailto:cmoulton@conservationlegacy.org)  505-870-0153 | Southwest Conservation Corps – Los Valles  Anna Hendricks, Director  [ahendricks@conservationlegacy.org](mailto:ahendricks@conservationlegacy.org)  719-580-3272 |

**COSWAP Workforce Development Grant Application**

**Applications must be submitted by email to courtney.young@state.co.us** and will be accepted on a continual basis while funding is available. DNR will begin reviewing applications on February 14, 2022.

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| Project name: | | Date: |
| **APPLICANT INFORMATION** | | |
| Organization name (entity legally responsible for the project): | | |
| Project Manager: | Title: | |
| Mailing Address/City/State/Zip: | | |
| Telephone (Work/Cell): | | |
| Email: | | |
| **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT**  Please select the workforce development grant that you are requesting. Fill in the appropriate application sections corresponding with your selection. | | |
| Crew Time Award Grants  Department of Corrections SWIFT crew  CYCA accredited conservation corps (Strategic Focus Areas ONLY)  Cash Award Grants (Strategic Focus Areas ONLY)  Cash grant for mitigation project completed by non-CYCA accredited conservation corps  Cash grant for wildfire mitigation workforce training (Proceed to page 4 to complete the Cash Grant Section) | | |
| **MITIGATION PROJECT DETAILS**  Applicants requesting DOC SWIFT crews, CYCA accredited conservation corps crews or a cash grant for a mitigation project must complete this section. If requesting a cash grant for a training you do not need to fill this section. | | |
| Is your project located in a [Strategic Focus Area](https://dnr-edo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=d9faae3f62af4db4ab9d8f33140e7c3d)? YES  NO | | |
| Project County: | Property owner: | |
| If the project manager is different from the property owner, please describe that relationship. | | |
| Property name (if applicable): | Project size (acreage): | |
| Desired month(s) and year(s) (2022, 2023) for project work: | Is this flexible and/or a multi-year project? | |
| Approximate project **and** access coordinates (lat, long): | | |
| The Project Manager is responsible for securing access and all necessary permits, licenses, clearances, and environmental analysis documentation necessary to comply with local, state, and/or federal laws. **Place an X next to the appropriate status of due diligence.** Complete  In process | | |

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| **DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS (DOC) SWIFT CREWS**  Applicants are required to speak with a DOC representative about their project before submitting a project request. This is the DOC contact that has reviewed this project and affirmed DOC is fully aware of and agrees to the scope of the project, crew time budget, and timeline. |
| DOC contact name: |
| Have you worked with this workforce partner before? YES  NO |
| **DOC SWIFT CREW BUDGET- Crew Week Request and Crew Descriptions** |
| **SWIFT Day Crew** – Up to a 20 person crew with two crew leaders that travels to and from the project site. All crew members are chainsaw trained and fully equipped with saws and safety gear. Crews are also able to assist in pile burning.  **SWIFT Overnight Crew** - Up to a 20 person crew with two crew leaders that camps near the project site or at a nearby facility. All crew members are chainsaw trained and fully equipped with saws and safety gear. Crews are also able to assist in pile burning.  **Chipper** – DOC can provide chipping services to a project on a per week basis.  Note: A SWIFT week is four days, Monday-Thursday or Tuesday-Friday |

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| **Crew type** | **Number of weeks requested (6 to 25)** |
| SWIFT Day Crew |  |
| SWIFT Overnight Crew |  |
| Chipper |  |

**PLEASE PROCEED TO PAGE 6, SECTION A-1 TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION**

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| **CYCA ACCREDITED CONSERVATION CORPS**  Applicants are required to speak with a conservation corps representative about their project before applying for crew time awards. This is the contact who has reviewed this project and affirmed the organization is fully aware of and agrees to the type of crew, scope of the project, crew time budget, and timeline. | | |
| Name: | | Title: |
| Telephone: | Email: | |
| Name of conservation corps: | | |
| Have you worked with this workforce partner before? YES  NO | | |
| **CYCA ACCREDITED CONSERVATION CORPS BUDGET- Crew Week Request and Crew Descriptions** | | |
| **Day Crew (Non Specialty)** – A crew that executes a project scope that does not require chainsaw use or herbicide application and travels to and from the project site every day and corps members go home at the end of the day. (Denver Metro area crews are usually day crews.)  **Camping Crew (Non Specialty)** – A crew that executes a project scope that does not require chainsaw use or herbicide application and camps at or near the project site.  **Specialty (saw) Crew** – For projects requiring chainsaw experience (fuel reduction, forest thinning), a specialty saw crew will have no less than 75% of its members chainsaw trained and fully equipped with saws and safety gear. These crews may camp on site or travel to the work site each day.  **Specialty/Hybrid Crews-** These crews are qualified to work on projects that require a significantly higher skill level. For example, the work may require that the crew camp in the backcountry and work above tree line for one or more project weeks. If a project only requires one or two chainsaws, we may be able to do a hybrid crew. These crews may camp on site or travel to the work site each day.  **Fire Operations Crew-** The crew consists of conservation service corps members certified as Type II wildland firefighters performing operations such as forest thinning, slash pile burning, serving on prescribed burns, suppressing active wildland fires and other projects requiring a wildland firefighter certification. These crews may camp on site or travel to the work site each day. | | |

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| **Crew type** | **Number of weeks requested (6 to 25)** |
| Day Crew |  |
| Camping Crew |  |
| Specialty (saw) Crew |  |
| Specialty/Hybrid Crew |  |
| Fire Operations Crew |  |

**PLEASE PROCEED TO PAGE 6, SECTION A-1 TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION**

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| **CASH GRANT**  Complete this section when requesting cash for wildfire mitigation workforce training or cash for a mitigation project completed by a non-CYCA accredited conservation corps. | |
| Please indicate what you are requesting a cash grant for: | |
| Cash to pay a non-CYCA accredited conservation corps to complete a mitigation project  S130/S190 Basic Fire School\*  S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaws\*  TREX event\*  \*Participants of a training are required to complete a mitigation project within one year of completion | |
| If you selected cash to pay for a conservation corps to complete a mitigation project please complete the following section: | |
| Name of conservation corps: | |
| Conservation corps contact: | Phone number: |
| Number of crew weeks required to complete your project: | Did you contact the conservation corps before applying for this grant? Yes  No |
| If you selected a mitigation or prescribed fire training, please complete the following rows: | |
| Please explain how the training will increase your mitigation workforce. How many people will be trained? What are the trainees' relationships to your organization? | |
| Demonstrate the need for this training. What is the projected outcome of this training opportunity? What is the long term vision for utilizing this training and those trained? | |
| Cash grants for wildfire mitigation workforce training require a mitigation project to be completed by the trainees within a year. Describe the mitigation project you will be completing. | |
| Project Name: | Project Location: |
| Number of acres treated: | Treatment type: |
| Tell us about your project. Extra consideration will be given to mitigation projects that reduce wildfire risk to lives, property and infrastructure. | |
| Does your mitigation project engage all trainees? | |

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| **CASH GRANT BUDGET** | | | | |
| The maximum cash award is $100,000. Up to 10% of the request may be used for indirect costs including staff time. Applicants must provide a 25% match of the award amount.  **Project Categories**   * Personnel/conservation corps crew time: Amount needed for personnel to attend training or cost of conservation corps crew time * Training Cost: Actual cost of the wildfire mitigation workforce training program * Travel Expenses: Mileage, hotel and GSA approved per diem associated with attending the training * Indirect Costs: Administrative and facility costs and mitigation equipment. | | | | |
| **Match**  Column C + D must equal at least 25% of column B.  Match (In-kind): Personnel time, equipment usage, training cost, travel expenses, etc.  Match (dollars): Cash | | **Match Calculator**  If requesting $10,000 a $2,500 match is required.  If requesting $50,000 a $12,500 match is required.  If requesting $100,000 a $25,000 match is required. | | |
| **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **E** |
| **Project categories** | **Grant share**  **(Amount Requested)** | **Match**  **(In-Kind)** | **Match**  **(Dollars)** | **Total** |
| Personnel time/  Conservation corps |  |  |  |  |
| Training Cost |  |  |  |  |
| Travel Expenses |  |  |  |  |
| Indirect Costs\* |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL BUDGET |  |  |  |  |

\*Indirect costs cannot exceed 10% of the grant share.

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| **CASH GRANT BUDGET NARRATIVE:**  Please describe each of the project categories in detail below. Include details for both the grant share and match. |
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**IF APPLYING FOR A WILDFIRE MITIGATION WORKFORCE TRAINING GRANT PLEASE PROCEED TO PAGE 9 TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION**

**A-1**

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| **SCOPE OF WORK**  Applicants requesting crews time or cash for mitigation projects must complete this section. Not for wildfire mitigation workforce training grants. |
| Break down the project into a list of tasks to be completed, including specific fuel treatments by acreage. These should be quantifiable items that correspond to the crew types requested. The final outlined task should be biomass removal. Please provide a clear plan and timeline for removing any woody material/slash generated by the project. If creating burn piles, please explain why this is the most effective project treatment and a timeline for burning the piles.  Provide a detailed description of each task using the following format.  **TASK #- TASK Name:**  Description of Task and methods:  Deliverables:  Examples  **#1- Shaded fuel break:**  Description of Task and methods: Create a shaded fuel break along the primary evacuation route for the Rainbow community. Thin 200ft on either side of the roadway using hand crews. Remove all conifers up to 8 inches DBH. Limb all trees greater than 8 inches DBH to 6 feet above ground.  Deliverable: Enhance the primary excavation route by thinning 1 mile of roadway.  **#2- Biomass removal:**  Description of Task and methods: The project will have a combination of hand fed chipping and creation of piles for future burning. Crews will be advised to spread chips no more than 4 inches deep across the project area. Applicant has a qualified crew to burn piles in the off season and will work with DFPC on a burn plan for winter 2022/2023. Burn piles will be constructed according to DFPC’s Colorado Pile Construction Guide. Burn piles are essential for the northeast area of the project due to access issues with driving in a chipper.  Deliverable: Biomass created from this project has a defined plan. |
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**A-2**

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| **APPLICATION NARRATIVE**  INSTRUCTIONS: Remove instructional questions (please keep the headings!) from this page and replace them with information specific to this project. Please limit your application narrative to two pages. |

**ORGANIZATION INFO**

- Briefly describe your organization and your role in wildfire mitigation.

- What local and/or regional partnerships are you affiliated with? Is this project planned in collaboration with any other organizations?

- Describe your organization's ability to provide project oversight and management on your project.

**WILDFIRE RISK INFORMATION**

- Is your project located in an area at high-risk (level 7-9) to wildfire as identified in the [CSFS Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Risk Index](https://co-pub.coloradoforestatlas.org/#/)? If your community has a localized risk assessment, share a link.

- Is your project identified in a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan or other plan? If so, please share a link and note the page number.

- If your project location is not identified as high risk please explain why your project is a priority.

**PROJECT LOCATION**

- Where is the project located? What access is available to the work site?

- What is the closest community to your project and does your project directly reduce fuels adjacent or within the community?

- What are the current conditions of the site in terms of the type, density and health of vegetation?

- What other fire mitigation work have you or neighboring landowners done at this site or in the area?

- If the project is on private land, please list clear, discernable public benefits of the project.

**PROJECT PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

- List your project purpose and three objectives pertaining to reducing wildfire risk to communities.

- How will the project accomplish your objectives?

**TIMELINE**

- What is the project timeline? Is it multi-year? Does your project have seasonal constraints?

**PROJECT IMPACT**

- Explain how this project is strategic, why it is a priority and how it directly protects life and property.

- What types of critical infrastructure does this project directly protect? Types of critical infrastructure include but are not limited to: evacuation routes, power lines, communication towers, health care and emergency services.

- Does your project protect critical watersheds, or municipal and agricultural water supply structures?

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE**

- How long will your project be effective at reducing wildfire risk?

- Please outline a five year maintenance plan for the project. How will this maintenance be funded?

**LEVERAGED FUNDING AND RESOURCES**

- Please explain the time needed for project management, layout, implementation and reporting. What leveraged funding will you be providing for this project (equipment usage, leveraged public or private funds)? If any revenue or cost offsets will be generated by this project please explain including the value of firewood or material for biomass heating.

**A-3**

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| **PROJECT LOCATION** |

Project Map: Please attach a map identifying the specific area to be treated. If there are multiple treatment types please differentiate these on the map.

Optional: If you can provide geospatial data at this time, please attach it to the email with your application. If your project is selected for award, geospatial data will be required before a contract is signed.

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| **AGREEMENT, LIABILITY, AND INSURANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** | | |
| I understand that all successful applicants will be required to enter a Grant Agreement with the State of Colorado as a condition of receiving the grant award. I have reviewed the Grant Agreement sample template attached to the Request for Applications as Appendix E.  I understand that all successful applicants must agree to assume all liability related to the approved project and to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Colorado, CYCA, DOC SWIFT, and any CYCA-accredited conservation corps for any and all claims arising out of the approved project. I agree that the State, CYCA, DOC SWIFT, and any CYCA-accredited conservation corps will not be liable for any act or omission of any party as a part of an approved grant program that causes any harm or that fails to prevent or mitigate wildfire damage at any time in the future.  I understand that the State, CYCA, DOC SWIFT, and any CYCA-accredited conservation corps cannot guarantee the work completed as a result of either crew time awards or cash awards will prevent future wildfires or minimize the damage from future wildfires. The State will not guarantee the effectiveness or outcomes of any approved project.  I understand that all successful applicants will be required to maintain and provide proof of adequate insurance coverage as detailed in the Grant Agreement. I agree to acquire and maintain such insurance coverage as a condition of any grant award. | | |
| **CREW TIME AWARD ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** | | |
| I acknowledge that if selected to receive a Crew Time Grant Award, my organization will not receive payment from the State. By my signature below, I acknowledge that, if selected, the Crew Time Grant Award will require that I provide a project manager to coordinate with CYCA, DOC SWIFT, and/or the relevant CYCA-accredited conservation corps to implement the project and that the costs of providing a project manager will not be reimbursed by the State.  I understand and acknowledge that project managers for Crew Time Grants must provide the following to crews for crew awards.  1) Site visit with the crew manager before final grant agreement.  2) Technical project assistance as required.  3) Maps and camping locations (if necessary).  4) Specialty work tools and project supplies as required and not provided by the crew.  5) CYCA specific complete project site evaluations for analysis of the work completed.  6) All reporting required by the Grant Agreement including a final report to the State.  7) Lawful access to all properties necessary for project work.  8) Relevant Maps, including geospatial maps, and other pertinent technical support. | | |
| **AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE** | | |
| I certify that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the applicant and that, if awarded a grant for this project, the applicant will comply with the grant administration requirements of both the State and the workforce development organization. I certify that the contents of this application are true to the best of my knowledge and agree to provide any corrections or updates to the State as soon as practical after discovery of an error. | | |
| Signature (Electronic and PDF Signatures are accepted unsigned applications will not be accepted): | | |
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| Name: | Title: | Date: |