

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

DRAFT 10.15.15
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Bill 9

*Temporary storage location: S:\LCS\Policy & Research\Committees\Interim\2015\Wildfire Matters Review Committee\Bills\Bill 9\_16-0277.wpd*

LLS NO. 16-0277.01 Thomas Morris x4218

**INTERIM COMMITTEE BILL****Wildfire Matters Review Committee**


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**BILL TOPIC: "Broadcast Burn Reduce Wildfire Risk Replenish Fund"**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101     **CONCERNING INCREASED AUTHORITY TO USE BROADCAST BURNING AS**  
 102             **AN OPTIONAL TOOL TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK, AND, IN**  
 103             **CONNECTION THEREWITH, PROVIDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING**  
 104             **FOR WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION EFFORTS.**

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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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

**Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Section 1** of the bill adds broadcast burning, the method by which fire is applied generally to most

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

or all of an area within well-defined boundaries with well-defined conditions, as an optional method for which the department of natural resources may award grants from the wildfire risk reduction fund to reduce wildfire risk in the wildland-urban interface.

**Sections 2 and 3** transfer \$3 million to the wildfire risk reduction fund, half from tier 2 of the severance tax operational fund and half from the general fund.

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

**SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 36-7-402, **amend** (3) introductory portion as follows:

**36-7-402. Definitions.** As used in this part 4, unless the context otherwise requires:

(3) "Hazardous fuel reduction treatment" means treatments that remove or reduce vegetative fuel, including mechanical, manual, BROADCAST BURNING, and pile burning fire treatments, in order to:

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 36-7-405, **amend** (2) as follows:

**36-7-405. Wildfire risk reduction fund - creation - transfer - repeal.** (2) (a) (I) On July 1, 2013, the state treasurer shall transfer from the general fund to the wildfire risk reduction fund the sum of nine million eight hundred thousand dollars.

(II) THIS PARAGRAPH (a) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016.

(b) ON JULY 1, 2016, THE STATE TREASURER SHALL TRANSFER:

(I) FROM THE SEVERANCE TAX OPERATIONAL FUND AS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 39-29-109.3 (2) (t), C.R.S., TO THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION FUND THE SUM OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

(II) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION FUND THE SUM OF ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

(III) THIS PARAGRAPH (b) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018.

1           **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 39-29-109.3, add (2)  
2 (t) as follows:

3           **39-29-109.3. Severance tax operational fund - repeal.**

4 (2) Subject to the requirements of subsections (3) and (4) of this section,  
5 if the general assembly chooses not to spend up to one hundred percent  
6 of the moneys in the operational fund as specified in subsection (1) of this  
7 section, the state treasurer shall transfer the following:

8           (t) (I) TO THE WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION FUND CREATED IN  
9 SECTION 36-7-405, C.R.S., ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND  
10 DOLLARS ON JULY 1, 2016.

11           (II) THIS PARAGRAPH (t) IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018.

12           **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
13 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
14 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.