
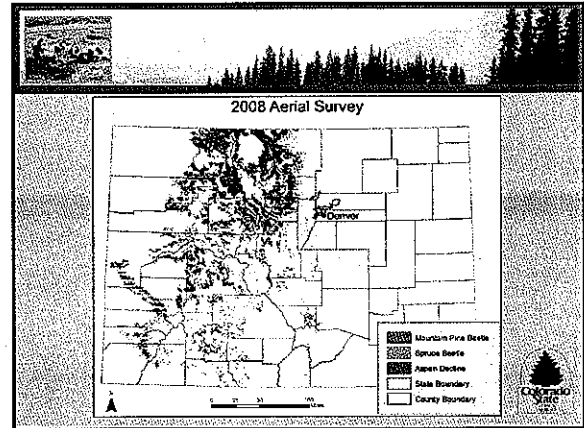
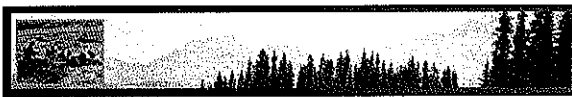


Joint Agriculture Hearing


2008 Report on the Health of Colorado's Forests

High Elevation Forests


Jeff Jahnke, Colorado State Forest Service
 Rebecca Swanson, Governor's Office
 Nancy Fishering, V.P. Colorado Timber Industry Assoc.
 Rick Cables, U.S. Forest Service


Insect and Disease Update




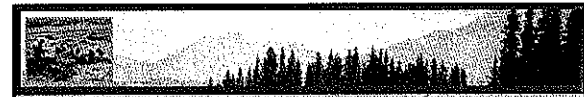
Mountain pine beetle
Rabbit Ears Pass



Sudden aspen decline
South Park





Western spruce budworm and western tent caterpillar
Cuchara

Colorado's High Elevation Forests



- mixed conifer
- upper montane
- subalpine zones


Colorado


Colorado's High Elevation Forests Offer Many Values and Uses

- Economic
- Tourism
- Recreation
- Watersheds
- Wildlife
- Biodiversity

Watersheds & Water Infrastructure







Threats

Spruce Beetle

Subalpine fir decline: Monarch Pass


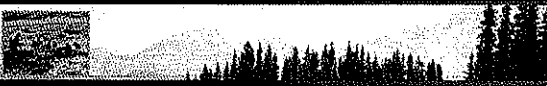
Sudden aspen decline: South Park

High Elevation Fires



Infrequent but intense

- 200-400 years - late summer/fall
- Climate change
- Watershed concerns




2008 Forestry Related Legislation

Bill Number	Bill Name	Bill Summary
HB 1118	Amend Fire Exemption	Phytophagous program that allows a landowner to deduct the actual rate of wildfire mitigation up to \$12,000.
HB 1126	State and Fed Exemptions for Wildlife-Related Trees	Strengths timber-related log and wood products from each log from state rules and state laws.
HB 1119	Highlighting the Effects of the Pine Beetle Infestation	Establishes a beetle mitigation fund that allows the public to make voluntary donations that can be used to fund beetle-related educational needs.
SB 71	Amend the Restoration Plan Program	It funds for 5 years the Community Forest Restoration Grant Program that was made law in 2007 through the passage of SB 1130. Grants are available to communities for forest mitigation and restoration.
SB 221	Watershed Bonding for Forests	With proper authority and agreement, bonds can be issued for forest health and watershed protection projects.
SB 215	CSU Agency Law Issue Clarification	Clarifies the General Assembly's responsibility to appropriate funds directly to the Colorado State Forest Service, Agricultural Experiment Station and CSU Extension.
SB 216	Wildfire Damages of Fire Protection Districts in the 1970s	Repeals the 2006 state of 1970 study to develop a pilot restoration program for forest resources of Fire Protection Districts in the 1970s as they have been defined.
SB 1153	Forest	Provides public compensation for timber harvests generated by local forests.
SB 116	Improving Watershed Characterization	Requires that the USFS, BLM and CWS work together to identify and implement up to five long-term watershed contracts.
SB 217	Wild Landfire Commission	Creates an eight-member inter-agency commission to hold hearings on issues related to the Wild Landfire Initiative, fire fighting, fire mortality from bark beetles and incentives for forestry-related industry.

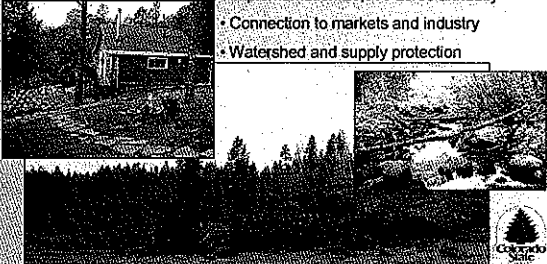


Positive Results: HB 1130, SB 71

12 projects completed statewide


Looking Ahead to Positive Results

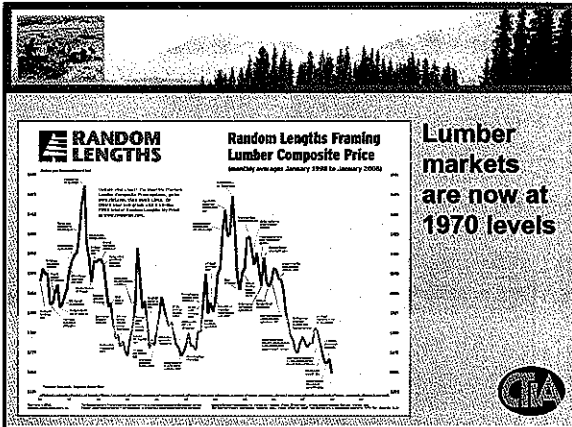
- Implementation 20,000 acres annually
- Connection to markets and industry
- Watershed and supply protection

Forest Health Advisory Council

Rebecca Swanson





Region 2 Mill Closures

1992-Louisiana Pacific, Kremmling CO	2001-Louisiana Pacific OSB, Olathe CO
1994-Louisiana Pacific, Walden CO	2003-Louisiana Pacific, Saratoga WY*
1998-Hammer Lumber, Encampment WY	2008-Wyoming Sawmills, Sheridan WY
2001-US Forest Ind., South Fork CO	2009-Big Horn Lumber, Laramie WY

Colorado Efforts in 2008

- Since 1982, total Colorado timber harvested and processed has dropped 40%.
- A structural change in the forest products industry has been the degree of interdependence among firms.
- Driven by increased specialization and scarce timber supplies, logs of all types and sizes criss-cross the state as mills seek to maintain financial viability.

— Mike Retzlaff
FS Regional Economist, March 2007

Colorado Efforts in 2008

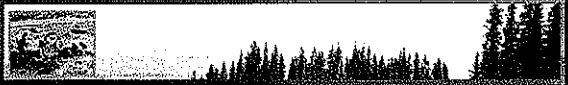
- 2008 Legislation has resulted in funds for a model Community Wildfire Protection Plan implementation – Woodland Park
- State and local forest management dollars are precedent setting for western states
- Thanks for the trips and correspondence to Washington

Colorado Efforts in 2009

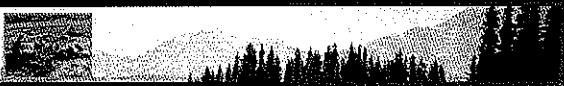

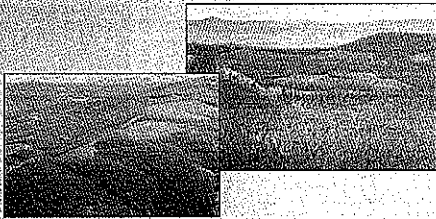
- Biggest issue is funding for National Forests in Colorado
 - Timber sales, fuel reduction, recreation
 - Thanks to Rick Cables for his letter on emergency funding needs in Colorado
- Encouraged by the bills introduced in this session
 - Please understand that the need for revolving loan are exceptional for both the survival of existing businesses as well as targeting 'new' businesses

Other Colorado Issues

- CSFS is doing an excellent job refining and assisting communities with CWPP's
 - Concern about new 'standards' and the ability of more remote and fiscally challenged communities to meet new rules
 - Concern about hiring freezes and ability of Colorado to take on the new funding and new challenges presented by forest health

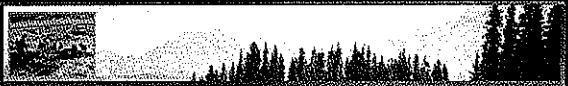

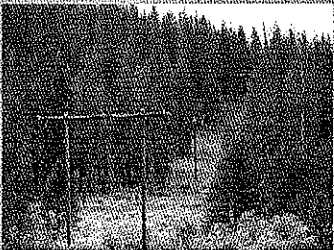


Threats:
Wildfire, Falling Trees



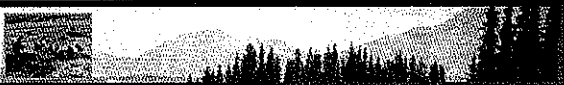


Infrastructure Threatened

- Power lines
- Range fences





Infrastructure Threatened

- Roads
- Trails
- Campgrounds



The New Water Project:

Protecting the High Headwaters




Water from National Forests


1897 Organic Act: "Secure favorable conditions of water flows"

National forests yield 68% of Colorado's water.


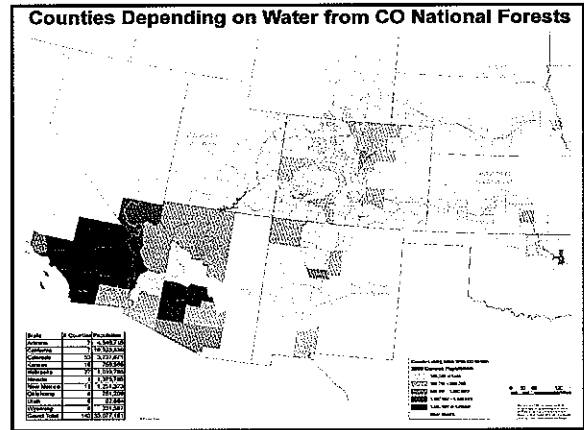

National forests supply over 70 percent of public surface water systems in Colorado.

People in 143 counties in 10 states rely on water from Colorado national forests.





Area of Consideration	% of Area in NF Lands	% Water Yield from NF lands
Lower 48 states	9	18
11 western states	19	51
Colorado	22	68


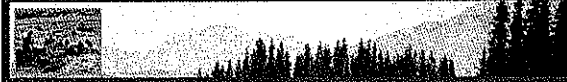




Climate Change and Water

Spring runoff in West comes 10 days earlier; snow packs may drop 30-70% by 2100



By 2050, flows are expected to drop by 18% in the Colorado River and 23% in the Rio Grande

Since 1988, forest fires over 1,000 acres are 4 times more numerous and burn 6 times more land; fire seasons are .78 days longer

Forest Service Funds to State of Colorado

- State lands and private lands
- FY 2009 Emergency Supplemental Funds
- Secure Rural Schools






Forest Service Funding Provided to the State of Colorado

2007
 Colorado State Forest Service = \$7.1 million
 Colorado Department of Agriculture = \$281,000
 Colorado State Parks = \$100,000
TOTAL = \$7.4 million

2008
 Colorado State Forest Service = \$7.3 million
 Colorado Department of Agriculture = \$258,000
TOTAL = \$7.6 million


2009
 Currently under revision





2009 Emergency Supplemental Funds To Colorado


\$20.6 million:

- \$8 million – Hazardous Fuels on State and Private Lands
- \$5 million – Hazardous Fuels on Federal Lands
- \$7.6 million – Rehabilitation and Restoration of Burned Areas




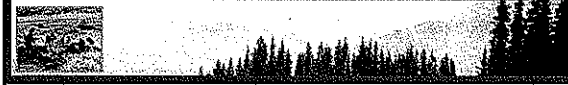


Economic Stimulus – Forest Service



Capital Improvement/Maintenance
\$650 million

- Road maintenance/decommissioning
- Trail maintenance/decommissioning
- Facility improvement, maintenance
- Abandoned mine remediation
- Watershed/ecosystem enhancements


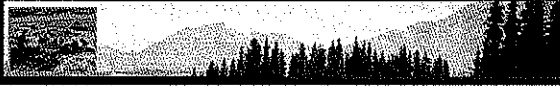
Economic Stimulus – Forest Service



Wildland Fire Management: **\$500,000 million**

Federal Lands: **\$250 million**
(hazardous fuels reduction, hazard mitigation, forest health activities, rehabilitation)

State and Private Lands: **\$250,000 million**
(hazardous fuels, ecosystem improvement, forest health activities)

Any Questions?

