



Land Use & Natural Resources Steering Committee Friday, January 28, 2022

Agenda as of 1/24/2022

Welcome/Introductions

Chair: Commissioner Ben Tisdell, Ouray County
 Vice Chair: Commissioner Matt Scherr, Eagle County
 CCI Staff: Daphne Gervais (dgervais@ccionline.org | M: 720-635-4705)

Leadership Elections

Below are those that have submitted a letter of intent; nominations will also be accepted from the floor

- Chair
 - Ben Tisdell, Ouray County ([view letter](#))
- Vice Chair
 - Matt Scherr Eagle County ([view letter](#))

New Legislation for Discussion (5 Bills)

<u>HB22-1007, Assistance Landowner Wildfire Mitigation</u>	
H-Spon	D. Valdez & M. Lynch
S-Spon	P. Lee & C. Simpson
Summary	<p>Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Section 1 of the bill establishes the wildfire mitigation resources and best practices grant program (grant program) within the Colorado state forest service (forest service). To be eligible to receive a grant, a recipient must be an agency of local government, a county, municipality, special district, a tribal agency or program, or a nonprofit organization. The forest service is tasked with reviewing grant applications. Grants must be awarded to applicants proposing to conduct outreach among landowners in high wildfire hazard areas and the forest service must consider the potential impact of the applicants' proposed outreach when awarding grants. The forest service must report to the wildfire matters review committee on the grant program.</p> <p>Section 2 repeals the existing income tax deduction created to offset the landowner's costs incurred in performing wildfire mitigation measures for the 2023 and subsequent income tax years.</p> <p>Section 3 creates a state income tax credit to reimburse a landowner for the costs incurred in performing wildfire mitigation measures on the landowner's property. Specifically, a landowner with a federal taxable income at or below \$120,000 for the income tax year commencing on or after January 1, 2023, as adjusted for inflation and rounded to the nearest hundred dollar amount for each income tax year thereafter, is allowed a state income tax credit in an amount equal to 25% of up to \$2,500 in costs for wildfire mitigation measures. The maximum total credit in a taxable year is \$625.</p>
Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Energy & Environment
Position	Pending

<u>HB22-1012, Wildfire Mitigation & Recovery</u>	
H-Spon	D. Valdez & L. Cutter
S-Spon	P. Lee & J. Ginal
Summary	Wildfire Matters Review Committee. Section 1 of the bill creates the wildfire mitigation and recovery grant program (grant program) in the Colorado state forest service (forest service) to provide grants to help counties with forested areas prevent and recover from wildfire incidents and ensure that such efforts are undertaken in a manner that reduces the amount of carbon that enters the atmosphere. In expending grant money, a county, to the extent practicable, shall ensure that biomass that is removed from forests is recycled or disposed of in a manner that reduces the amount of carbon that enters the atmosphere. The forest service shall administer the grant program and, subject to available appropriations, award grants out of money annually appropriated to the forest service for the grant program. The forest service shall review grant applications in consultation with the division of fire prevention and control in the department of public safety and with the Colorado forest health council in the department of natural resources. The grant program is repealed, effective September 1, 2028. Before the repeal, the grant program is scheduled for a sunset review by the department of regulatory agencies. Section 2 schedules this review.
Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Energy & Environment
Position	Pending

<u>HB22-1104, Powerline Trails</u>	
H-Spon	A.Boesenecker
S-Spon	K. Priola
Summary	<p>The bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows transmission providers to enter into contracts with public entities or private landowners to construct and maintain public recreational trails (powerline trails) covering a tract of land where transmission lines are or will be constructed (transmission corridor); • Allows transmission providers to include certain contractual provisions in powerline trail contracts; • Allows transmission providers to recover costs incurred in implementing and complying with the bill through an increase in rates; • Requires transmission providers to develop and maintain informational resources to encourage the construction of new powerline trails; • Requires a transmission provider, when siting or expanding a transmission line, to notify local governments of the potential for a powerline trail in the associated transmission corridor; • Requires a transmission provider, when applying for a permit with a local government to develop in an area of state interest, to demonstrate compliance with the requirement to notify local governments of the potential for a powerline trail and to develop and maintain informational resources encouraging construction of new powerline trails; • Requires the public utilities commission to amend its rules to also require electric public utilities in the state to consider plans for the construction of new powerline trails and with the requirement to develop and maintain informational resources on powerline trails; • Requires the Colorado electric transmission authority (CETA) to arrange for the continuation of any existing powerline trail contracts before entering into a project or divesting a facility; and • Requires the CETA to give priority for project solicitations to electric utilities and other entities that demonstrate an interest in continuing or creating a powerline trail.

Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Transportation & Local Government
Position	Pending

HB22-1132, Regulation And Services For Wildfire Mitigation

H-Spon	R. Holtorf
S-Spon	L. Liston
Summary	The bill requires that a fire department (defined to include a fire protection district as well as a county or municipality) be notified prior to conducting a controlled burn on private property and prohibits a person from conducting a controlled burn under certain conditions. The bill also sets forth civil and criminal penalties for a person who does not provide notice prior to conducting a controlled burn or otherwise violates the bill's requirements.
Status	Introduced In House - Assigned to Energy & Environment
Position	Pending

SB22-002, Resources for Volunteer Firefighters

H-Spon	L. Cutter & P. Will
S-Spon	J. Ginal & T. Story
Summary	<p>Wildfire Matters Review Committee. The bill allows fire departments, including fire protection districts and volunteer fire departments, to be compensated from state funding sources for wildland fire suppression activities conducted in the fire department's jurisdiction if the fire department relies primarily or solely on volunteer firefighters, the fire exceeds the department's capacity to extinguish or control, and the period of mutual aid has ended. The fire department must use money received to compensate volunteer firefighters in accordance with guidelines adopted by the division of fire prevention and control (division) in the annual wildfire preparedness plan. Boards of county commissioners are authorized to reimburse fire departments from county funds for wildland fire suppression activities conducted within the fire department's jurisdiction in the same circumstances.</p> <p>The bill amends the existing local firefighter safety and disease prevention fund grant program (program) to allow grants to be spent to provide access to mental health services for seasonal and volunteer firefighters involved in wildland fire suppression in addition to purchasing equipment and providing training. The bill requires the program to give priority in awarding grants to governing bodies and volunteer fire departments that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have lost tax revenues as a result of decreased assessment values due to a wildland fire within their jurisdiction in the previous 5 years; • Rely solely or primarily on volunteer firefighters and serve communities affected by wildland fires; or • Demonstrate the greatest need for additional funding to ensure the safety of volunteer and seasonal firefighters. <p>The general assembly is required to annually appropriate \$5 million to the program and may appropriate additional money as necessary to meet the needs of governing bodies and volunteer fire departments. On or before September 1, 2032, the staff of the joint budget committee is required to report on whether the amount of the annual appropriation should be adjusted based on current needs.</p> <p>In addition, the division may use money in the firefighter safety and disease prevention fund to reimburse mental and behavioral health-care specialists for services provided to firefighters who</p>

	have served as volunteer or seasonal wildland firefighters, in accordance with rules adopted by the division.
Status	Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Local Government
Position	Pending

Other Business

- Extended Producer Responsibility (not yet introduced, as of 1/24/2022)
 - [View bill draft here](#)

Adjourn

In Case You Missed It...

SB 258 & Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program

Dan Gibbs, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Natural Resources

Friday, February 4th, 4:00-5:00 PM

Last session, the state legislature passed [SB21-258](#) to amplify statewide wildfire mitigation efforts. The bill created the wildfire mitigation capacity development fund, the hazard mitigation fund, and initiated a statewide assessment of wildfire risk. Additionally, the bill created the Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP), designed to quickly deploy \$17.5 million in state stimulus dollars to fuel reduction projects and capacity building for forest restoration and wildfire mitigation work. COSWAP is intended to fund work done by the Colorado Youth Corps Association (CYCA) and the State Wildland Inmate Fire Teams (SWIFT) within the Department of Corrections (DOC), and to award funds for landscape scale strategic wildfire mitigation projects.

Now a few months into the implementation of this legislation, Department of Natural Resources Director Dan Gibbs would like to update CCI's membership on the new program and answer questions about the ongoing effort.

If you're interested, please join us next Friday, February 4th from 4-5PM, and find Zoom details below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87831853906>

Meeting ID: 878 3185 3906

One tap mobile

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