



PEAKS TO PEOPLE WATER FUND
SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER



Note from the Director

I am pleased to share some wonderful news! We are incredibly fortunate to have been awarded a grant of \$500,000 from one of our founding funders. This grant will truly launch Peaks to People in our efforts to accelerate forest restoration to reduce the threat of severe wildfire in Northern Colorado. The grant includes \$100,000 in seed funding allowing Peaks to People to raise funds to work at scale. We are working with our partners in the Cache la Poudre and Big Thompson watersheds to identify an additional 1,000-2,000 acres of projects that need funding and to secure the funds to treat much of those acres by 2020. We are also excited to announce the launch of our new Project Outcomes Tracker, where funders, implementers and citizens can see the benefits of all the work that is being done to restore our forests and protect our water supplies. We are funding an additional project at Lory State Park and are very happy to partner with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Forest Service and Northern Water on this project. Read on to learn all about our work in Lory and more. This is such an exciting time for Peaks to People and I look forward to seeing what is next!

Heather Schinkel, Director





Wildfire Resources for Larimer County

With the 2018 wildfire season upon us, it is more important than ever to know what to do when fire occurs and what resources are available to you. The High Park Fire of 2012 showed us how swift, coordinated action on the part of both emergency professionals and local residents is critical. Much of Larimer County is located within or very near to forests and grasslands that are currently at high risk for severe wildfire. When a wildfire breaks out again in Larimer County will you know what to do?

Read our latest blog, [Wildfire Resources for Larimer County](#), to learn the top wildfire preparation and survival tips from Larimer County, Poudre Fire Authority and the American Red Cross along with these specific resources for Larimer County Residents:

What to Do Before a Wildfire

1. [Sign up](#) to receive emergency notifications from the Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority. LETA911 is the Governing Authority for 9-1-1 in Larimer County Colorado.
2. Review national fire incident information and updates online at [InciWeb](#).
3. Check local and state wide fire restrictions
 - a. [State-wide Fire Restriction Information](#)
 - b. [Larimer County Fire Restrictions](#)

What to Do During a Wildfire

1. Go to <https://www.larimer.org/> emergency to view current emergency announcements or call the Larimer County Emergency Information Line at (970) 498-5500.
2. Get recorded updates by calling the Fire Incident Information Hotline: (970) 498-1030.
3. Listen to local television and radio stations, such as KRFC 88.9FM, for updates on evacuations and emergency information.
4. Follow [CO - Emergency Mgmt](#) and [Larimer County](#) on Twitter and Facebook

With the threat of wildfire so high this year it has never been more important to stay informed and react quickly. It's not if a wildfire will happen but when. Proper preparation can save your life and the lives of those you love. Stay safe Colorado.



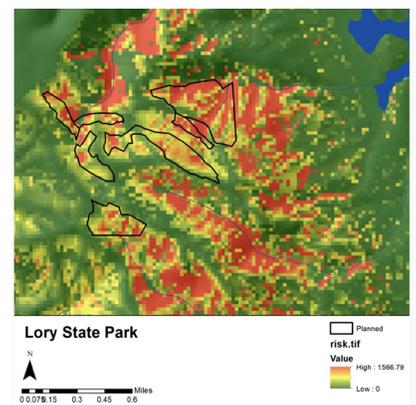


Lory State Park Forest Management Project

Our communities depend on our forests to provide clean and plentiful water. Therefore, our health and our wealth require coordinated, proactive management of our watersheds. A key component of the forest management work being done by Peaks to People Water Fund, and our partners, is reducing the risk of wildfire through fuels reduction. When the severity of wildfires is decreased, the threats to water quality, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities and local economies decrease as well. Fuels management projects decrease the threat of wildfire by reducing forest density and removing ladder fuels that move fire from ground to crown; from slow to fast spreading; from manageable to uncontrollable. These projects, which are thoughtfully planned and executed, can include both mechanical treatment of fuels and/or [prescribed fire](#).

Peaks to People is currently co-funding a forest management project in Lory State Park, where dense forest connects directly with Horsetooth Reservoir. This project builds upon past and planned work at Lory State Park and Horsetooth Mountain Open Space. In 2012, the park was partially burned by the High Park Fire. The fire burned into previously treated areas, which were successful at modifying fire behavior. The increased spacing between the crowns of the trees stopped the fire from continuing through the canopy.

Our Watershed Investment Tool confirmed that this is a high priority for protecting water resources. Work will commence in these areas late 2019 or 2020. Performance Measures are calculated using Peaks to People Water Fund's Watershed Investment Tool. For more information on these measures visit: <https://outcomes.peakstopeople.org/PerformanceMeasure/Index>



Watershed Investment Tool Heat Map Lory State Park



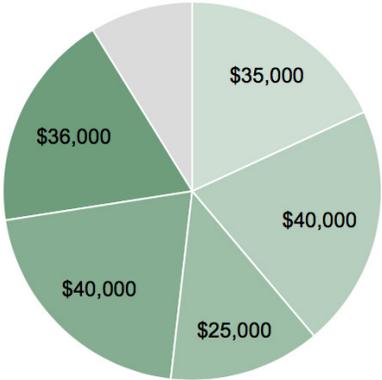
Lory State Park Forest Management Project > cont.

Targeted Performance Measures

| Performance Measure | Expected Value |
|---|------------------|
| Fuels Reduction/Forest Restoration | 157 acres |
| Active Crown Fire Reduced | 116 acres |
| Reduced Erosion | 4422 metric tons |
| Reduced Sediment Delivered to Streams | 2611 metric tons |
| Avoided Sediment in Water Supplies | 2437 metric tons |
| Reduced Sediment Impacts to Water Supplies | 258 metric tons |
| Reduced Sediment Costs to Water Supplies | 76176 dollars |
| Avoided Home Loss (number) | 0.05 number |
| Avoided Home Loss (\$) | 16821 dollars |
| Crucial Wildlife Habitat Protected from Severe Wildfire | 131 acres |
| Parks and Open Space Protected from Severe Wildfire | 157 acres |

Both the frequency and severity of wildfires have been increasing in the Western United States. We can change this pattern by working together on the landscape. Proactively managing the fuels that feed wildfire by restoring our forests to a more natural state has a proven history of success in Lory State Park and across the arid mountain west. Peaks to People is proud to be a part of this project and to be working with multiple stakeholders to ensure its success.

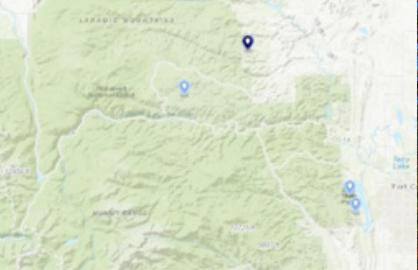
Lead Implementer: Colorado State Forest Service
Funders: Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Forest Service, Northern Water, Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed and Peaks to People Water Fund
Other Organizations: Colorado Big Thompson Project



Targeted Funding

- Secured Funding: Coalition for the Poudre River Watershe... (CPRW)
- Secured Funding: Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)
- Secured Funding: Northern Water (Northern Water)
- Secured Funding: Northern Water (via CSFS FRWR... (Northern Water)
- Secured Funding: Peaks to People W... (Peaks to People Water Fund)
- No Funding Source Identified





Forest Health Outcomes Project Tracker

We are very happy to announce the launch of our [Forest Health Outcomes Project Tracker](#). This valuable tool will enable implementers, landowners and funders to track proposed and active projects designed to improve forest health and protect water in Northern Colorado. While the current geography includes the Cache la Poudre and Big Thompson watersheds, other watersheds could be added in the future.

The [Forest Health Outcomes Project Tracker](#) is sponsored by Peaks to People, however it is intended to be a clearinghouse for all implementers and funders to be able to track their work by reporting on estimated and actual outcomes of forest health projects in the area. It is also planned to be the primary means for proposing projects for funding from Peaks to People. This tool provides a wealth of information such as project maps, proposals, performance measures, funding sources and much more.

Performance Measures demonstrate cost effectiveness and improve transparency of publicly-funded investments, and ensure ongoing support of Peaks to People and our partner organization's projects. Most of the performance measures will be provided by Peaks to People via our Watershed Investment Tool and Co-benefits tools.

The Accomplishments Dashboard will show results for all the forest health projects currently being tracked using this shared tool. We look forward to seeing this dashboard develop and grow.

Our [Forest Health Outcomes Project Tracker](#) was developed by Sitka Technology Group. Their unique [ProjectFirma™](#) platform tracks project performance and expenditures and helps managers visualize results at the program level. Our tracker builds on the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's EIP Project Tracker, California's [Resource Conservation District Project Tracker](#) and others. In 2017, Sitka was honored to receive a [Best in Basin award](#) for development of the Lake [Tahoe Environmental Improvement Program \(EIP\) Project Tracker](#). Matt Deniston with Sitka explains, "Sitka partnered with Environmental Incentives to ensure the performance-based framework they had previously defined for the EIP was appropriately translated into an online tool. Over the next couple of years, the system matured based on partner needs and feedback. Today it tracks over 850 projects and hundreds of project proposals." Peaks to People is proud to be offering such a thoughtfully designed online platform to our partners and fellow conservation organizations in Northern Colorado.

At Peaks to People Water Fund our goal is to support those who are working to improve forest health and protect water in the Cache la Poudre and Big Thompson watersheds. When we share resources and knowledge we can do more with less and have greater success. We hope everyone who utilizes the [Forest Health Outcomes Project Tracker](#) finds this resource to be as beneficial as we do.



Project Themes





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