2026 Incentives for Local Government Grant Program Report

November 9, 2026

Purpose of the Report

To provide an annual update regarding the Incentives for Local Government (ILG) Grant Program, as required and outlined in HB22-1011.

Background

The ILG Grant Program, administered by the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), was created during the 2022 legislative session when the Colorado General Assembly passed House Bill 22-1011.

This competitive grant program provides state funding assistance to local governments that dedicate revenue for local forest management and wildfire mitigation efforts. The funding is intended to either match revenue raised by such governments from a dedicated revenue source or to expand existing programs administered by the local government on a long-term basis.

ILG Grant Process

The CSFS received $10 million to develop and administer the ILG Grant Program. In March 2023, the CSFS released a call for applications detailing the program eligibility requirements. The application period closed in April, and CSFS employees reviewed applications and announced awards in May.

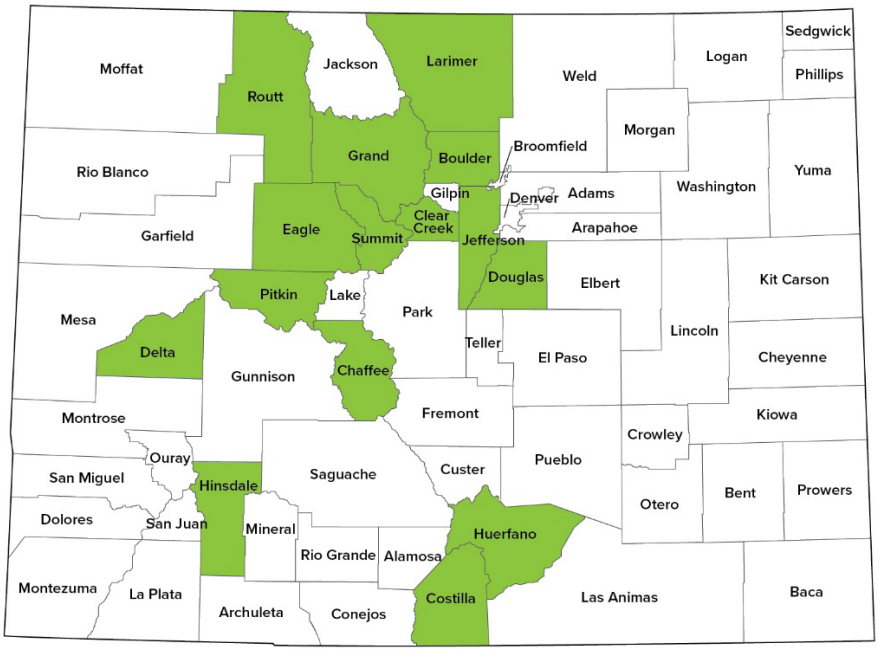
2023 ILG Applicant Summary

The CSFS received 31 eligible applications totaling just over $14.7 million of requests for increased staffing, equipment purchases and fuels reduction treatments on approximately 11,000 acres. The CSFS issued awards to 28 applicants totaling $18.6 million of project work ($9.8 million grant share, $8.8 million match contribution), leaving approximately $5 million of unfunded grant share requests. Table 1 displays the distribution of requests and awards by county, and Figure 1 is a map depicting Colorado counties that received an ILG award.

Table 1. ILG Request and Awards by County

Incentives for Local Government (ILG) Grant Program 2023 - All Requests and Final Awards by County										
County	Amount Requested (eligible only)	# of Applications Received	Area of Fewer Economic Resources?	# of Awards	Capacity Building Projects Awarded	Fuels and Forest Health Projects Awarded	Acres Awarded	Total Match for Awarded Projects	# Awards for Areas of Fewer Economic Resources	Total ILG Funds Allocated
Boulder	$ 1,476,993	8	1	8	5	3	762	$ 1,371,608	1	$ 1,366,791
Chaffee	$ 860,238	1	0	1	0	1	364	$ 575,750	0	$ 575,357
Clear Creek	$ 752,500	3	0	2	1	1	380	$ 140,000	0	$ 140,000
Costilla	$ 134,365	1	1	1	0	1	203	$ 50,000	1	$ 134,365
Delta	$ 600,000	1	1	1	0	1	225	$ 200,000	1	$ 600,000
Douglas	$ 250,000	1	1	1	0	1	403	$ 250,000	1	$ 250,000
Eagle	$ 3,477,200	3	2	2	1	1	4304	$ 3,151,900	2	$ 3,131,900
Grand	$ 240,000	1	1	1	1	0	0	$ 245,000	1	$ 240,000
Hinsdale	$ 15,000	1	0	1	1	0	0	$ 15,000	0	$ 15,000
Huerfano	$ 60,657	1	1	1	1	0	0	$ 20,219	1	$ 60,657
Jefferson	$ 537,913	2	1	1	0	1	73.1	$ 109,650	0	$ 109,650
Larimer	$ 3,630,000	1	1	1	1	0	0	$ 409,792	1	$ 1,229,375
Pitkin	$ 109,923	1	0	1	1	0	0	$ 340,185	0	$ 109,923
Summit	$ 1,433,625	3	2	3	1	2	1042	$ 1,255,125	2	$ 1,255,125
Boulder, Gilpin, Larimer	$ 650,000	1	0	0	0	0	0	$ -	0	$ -
Jefferson, Douglas	$ 236,457	1	1	1	1	0	0	$ 236,457	1	$ 236,457
Jefferson, Park, Douglas	$ 275,000	1	1	1	1	0	0	$ 285,000	1	$ 275,000
	$ 14,739,871	**31**	**14**	**27**	**15**	**12**	**7756.1**	**$ 8,655,687**	**13**	**$ 9,729,600**

Figure 1. Colorado Counties with Successful ILG Applicants



Additional Information Requested by HB22-1011

HB22-1011 requests that the CSFS share additional data regarding the grant program on an annual basis. Table 2 includes a summary of awardees, projects and amount of ILG funding awarded. Table 3 describes the dedicated funding source each awardee contributed as match.

Table 2. ILG Award Summary

Applicant	Project Name	County	Award Amount
Alpine Mountain Ranch Metropolitan District	Priest Creek Fuel Reduction and Watershed Protection Project	Routt	$ 45,400.00
Aspen Fire Protection District	Aspen Fire Community Wildfire Action	Pitkin	$ 109,922.78
Boulder County	Boulder County CWPP update	Boulder	$ 125,000.00
Boulder County Parks and Open Space	Riverside Ranch Fuels Reduction Project (component of Phase 2: SVFHPP)	Boulder	$ 327,500.00
Boulder Valley & Longmont Conservation District	Peak to Peak Phase One: James Pond	Boulder	$ 200,000.00
Chaffee County Government	Chaffee Landscape and Community Fire Mitigation Project	Chaffee	$ 575,357.14
City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks	City of Boulder Tracked Chipper Project	Boulder	$ 75,000.00
City of Louisville	Wildfire Mitigation Program	Boulder	$ 289,797.59
Clear Creek County	Clear Creek County Wildfire Risk Management Project Enhancement	Clear Creek	$ 50,000.00
Clear Creek Fire Authority	Clear Creek Fire Authority Fall River Community Risk Reduction	Clear Creek	$ 90,000.00
Costilla County	Costilla County Wildfire Mitigation and Biomass Utilization Project	Costilla	$ 134,365.00
Delta County	Delta County Wildfire Resilience	Delta	$ 600,000.00
Eagle Valley Wildland	Eagle County Collaborative Mitigation Capacity Support Project	Eagle	$ 1,735,150.00
Eagle Valley Wildland	South-Central Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project	Eagle	$ 1,396,750.00
Elk Creek Fire Protection District	Conifer Wildland Division PIO Position	Jefferson, Park, & Douglas	$ 275,000.00
Four Mile Fire Protection District	Boulder West Wildfire Authority Mitigation Capacity	Boulder	$ 101,229.96
Grand Fire Protection District	Grand County Capacity Building	Grand	$ 240,000.00

Hinsdale County	Hinsdale County's Community Chipping Program	Hinsdale	$ 15,000.00
Huerfano County	Hazard Mitigation and Planning Specialist	Huerfano	$ 60,657.20
Jefferson County Open Space	Lookout Mountain and Roadside Fuels Reduction	Jefferson	$ 109,650.00
Larimer Conservation District (LCD)	Larimer Conservation District Forest Health & Community Outreach	Larimer	$ 1,229,375.00
Lefthand FPD	Lefthand Fire Protection District Capacity Building	Boulder	$ 123,663.33
Summit County Government	Hazardous Fuel Reduction Grant Program Project	Summit	$ 600,000.00
Summit Fire & EMS FPD	Wildland Division Staffing	Summit	$ 550,125.00
Sunshine Fire Protection District	Dry Gulch South Fuels Reduction Project	Boulder	$ 124,600.00
Town of Blue River	Blue River Roadway Fire Mitigation Project	Summit	$ 105,000.00
Town of Castle Rock	Town of Castle Rock Wildland Fire Mitigation Project	Douglas	$ 250,000.00
West Metro Fire Protection District	Full-Time Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Project	Jefferson / Douglas	$ 236,457.00

Table 3. ILG Awardee Dedicated Funding Sources

Awardee	Dedicated funding source
Aspen Fire Protection District	FPD's Operational budget based on a 2.202 mill levy
Boulder County	Boulder County 1A Wildfire Mitigation Tax
City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks	City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks dedicated budget for Forest health and fire mitigation staff
Eagle Valley Wildland	Dedicated annual contributions from EVW wildland staff, Eagle County, and Town of Vail
Elk Creek Fire Protection District	Dedicated district funds / consolidated mill levy
Four Mile Fire Protection District	Wildfire mitigation-fee-for-service revenue / Four Mile FPD dedicated mill levy
Grand Fire Protection District	Grand Fire Protection District dedicated mitigation budget (In the process of renewing Grand County's Open Lands, Rivers and Trails sales tax)
Hinsdale County	Dedicated annual contribution from Hinsdale County and Town of Lake City
Huerfano County	Emergency Services Fund (primarily funded by 1% percent County-wide sales tax)
Lefthand FPD	The LHFPD Community Mitigation Program Revenue and the dedicated LHFPD Mitigation Budget
Summit Fire & EMS FPD	SFE's dedicated operating budget
West Metro Fire Protection District	WMFPD Wildfire Mitigation Fund GL# 10-02-37
Clear Creek Fire Authority	Dedicated seasonal crew and captain salaries.
Larimer Conservation District (LCD)	Dedicated contributions from CO Conservation Board and Northern Water while the Nov. '23 mill levy campaign/vote is pending
Alpine Mountain Ranch Metropolitan District	Alpine Mountain Elk Trust Fund line item for wildfire mitigation
Boulder County Parks and Open Space	Dedicated Parks & Open Space Capital Stewardship Funds
Boulder Valley & Longmont Conservation District	Boulder County 1A and St Vrain & Left Hand Water Conservancy District 7A funds
Chaffee County Government	Chaffee Common Ground Fund
Clear Creek County	Clear Creek County Wildfire Mitigation Grant Program
Costilla County	Dedicated Costilla County Fire Mitigation Project Budget
Delta County	Delta County Dedicated Wildfire Resilience Fund
Eagle Valley Wildland	Dedicated annual contributions outlined in intergovernmental agreements with Bachelor Gulch Village Assoc., Bachelor Gulch Metro District, Beaver Crk. Metro District, Arrowhead Metro District, Cordillera Metropolitan District, and Cordillera POA.
Jefferson County Open Space	Jefferson County Open Space .5% sales tax dedicated to JCOS Conservation Greenprint forest health goals.
Summit County Government	Summit County's Strong Future Fund (Ballot Measure 1A) and Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) Grant Program.

Sunshine Fire Protection District	Sunshine FPD 3.56 mill levy dedicated to fire prevention, specifically wildland fire mitigation.
Town of Castle Rock	Ballot Measure 2D for wildland mitigation
City of Louisville	The City's open space & parks sales tax and dedicated wildfire mitigation operational budget.
Town of Blue River	The Town of Blue River's Defensible Space Grant Program

ILG Program Updates

In October 2026, the Colorado Office of Policy, Research and Regulatory Reform (COPRRR) completed the sunset review process for the ILG Grant Program and published the 2026 Sunset Review Report of COPRRR's evaluation and sunset recommendations. COPRRR recommends that the General Assembly should sunset the ILG Grant Program given the lack of additional appropriations to offer future grants to local governments, which renders the Grant Program defunct and unable to fulfill its mission. Adoption of—and therefore sunset—or changes to the report will be before the General Assembly in early 2027. The CSFS will comply with the direction the General Assembly moves.

ILG Project Accomplishments

The awarded project's are in their final year of implementation with all projects due to conclude by December 2027. To date, 12,402 acres have been treated, nearly 1,000 home ignition zone assessments have been conducted, over 600 education events reaching over 8,000 Coloradans, and several other capacity-related efforts are underway. The capacity efforts that have been reported include the completion of a CWPP update, delivery of several community outreach events, identification of future treatment areas, delivery of successful community chipping programs, multiple community equipment purchases and multiple mitigation positions filled to continue the planning and implementing of wildfire risk reduction treatments. Ten ILG projects have concluded totaling $2,175,873 of project work ($890,812 grant share, $1,285,061 match contribution).

ILG Success Story: Costilla County

In 2023, Costilla County was awarded ILG funding to reduce wildfire risk along 115 acres of county road easements within the Sangre de Cristo Ranches Subdivision. These roads serve as critical evacuation routes for residents and provide essential access for firefighters and emergency responders. The project improved evacuation safety and emergency access within a community encompassing 80,453 acres of wildland-urban interface (WUI), more than 430 miles of county roads, and approximately 500 homes.

The project also supported local wood utilization, removing 2,098 cubic yards of wood and 630 cubic yards of chipped slash. Rather than going to waste, these materials provide direct benefits to the County and its residents. Wood is used to heat two county-owned facilities equipped with biomass furnaces, with additional firewood distributed to residents through referrals from the Department of Social Services. Wood chips are repurposed for mulch and erosion control along county roads and in parks, with some made available to local residents.

The County matched the ILG award using its dedicated wildfire mitigation budget, maintained since 2014. This sustained local investment supports a six-person seasonal mitigation crew responsible for thinning, vegetation removal, and wood processing. ILG funding helped leverage the County's existing resources to expand wildfire mitigation efforts while supporting local employment, beneficial wood utilization and long-term community resilience.

Photos: Before and after the treatment on Forbes Road.







Blocked wood stacked at San Luis Shop