



Federal – State – Local Cooperation in Forest, Watershed, and Fire Management

Full Cost of New Mexico Wildfires:

- Suppression accounts for only 7.9% of total wildfire costs
- 39% of wildfire costs are private property losses, damage to utilities, damage to recreation facilities, loss of timber/habitat resources, and aid to evacuate residents. The burden of these costs are borne by private individuals, businesses, and public entities.
- 27% of wildfire costs are to rehabilitate the affected lands.
- Total cost estimate 2009-2012 at **\$1.5 BILLION**
- Forests shifting from carbon sinks to carbon sources

What we are seeing:

- Communities and water-users are willing to protect themselves
- Something has to be done with the wood from forest/watershed restoration
 - Pay for disposal, or
 - Utilize the wood to create products as a mechanism to reduce treatment costs
- Post-wildfire rehabilitation is diminishing, with private and State landowners largely without assistance – exacerbating flooding, water pollution, and property/infrastructure damage
- Statewide Agreements with Federal Agencies to get boots on the ground:
 - Stewardship Agreement – US Forest Service
 - Cooperating Agreement - BLM

What we need:

- Incentivize utilization of forest-related materials
 - Public-Private Partnerships on utilization facilities and forest/watershed restoration
 - Provide access to capital or guarantee long-term wood supplies
- Provide for post-fire rehabilitation on private and State lands

Contact: Brent Racher, racher@resource-management.us or (575) 937-5551