

Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative (RMRI)
April 29, 2021, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
RMRI Workforce Capacity Subcommittee
Meeting Summary – FINAL

RMRI WORKFORCE CAPACITY SUBCOMMITTEE	
ATTENDANCE: Samantha Albert, Melissa English, Molly Pitts, Tim Reader, Scott Segerstrom, Jake Todd, Tara Umphries, Nathan Van Schaik, and Samuel Wallace	
ACTION ITEMS	
Molly Pitts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to explore options for the registered apprenticeship program for both logging and manufacturing businesses. • Obtain flyers on the forest/restoration programs at the Front Range Community College and Trinidad State Junior College and share them with Jake Todd.
Molly Pitts and Tim Reader	Give the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i> presentation to the workforce center leadership team on Monday, May 17, at 9 am.
Tara Umphries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite the USFS staff member to talk about recreation workforce challenges at the next Workforce Capacity Subcommittee meeting. • Send the map on the state of forest health to Molly Pitts to include in the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i> presentation once it is finished in mid-May. • Work with Molly Pitts to identify how many jobs are needed to maintain trails and recreation facilities by May 10.
Scott Segerstrom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Workforce Capacity Subcommittee on any additional funding for corps programs. • Send an email to Nathan Van Schaik with information on how many positions are expected to be added to the Colorado corps programs if additional federal allocations come through.
Samantha Albert	Share data on the trajectory of job growth for recreation businesses and the jobs in Southwest Colorado with Molly Pitts by May 10.
Nathan Van Schaik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post the registered apprenticeship program presentation on the RMRI website. • Incorporate edits into the presentation to the workforce center leadership team by May 12 and send it to Molly and Tim.
MEETING SUMMARY	
DISCUSSION TOPIC: Action item updates	
<p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molly Pitts, Colorado Timber Industry Association (CTIA), is working with Clarke Becker, Colorado Rural Workforce Consortium, to get the forest and restoration industry recognized in the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i>. • Tara Umphries, US Forest Service (USFS), talked with a USFS staff member about challenges with the recreation workforce. She invited him to 	<p>Decisions/Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tara Umphries: Invite the USFS staff member to talk about recreation workforce challenges at the next Workforce Capacity Subcommittee meeting. • Scott Segerstrom: Update the Workforce Capacity Subcommittee on any additional funding for corps programs.

<p>speaking at the next Workforce Capacity Subcommittee meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Reader, Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS), reached out to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE) and identified a natural resources training program under their Colorado Technical Education program. • The Colorado Office of Just Transition is starting to reach out to sawmills to identify opportunities for employment for displaced coal workers. • Scott Segerstrom, Colorado Youth Corps Association, provided an update on potential allocations to the corps program. Additional funding may be coming to the corps programs through the federal infrastructure bill. Any funding allocated to the corps will follow their general cost lines and not change their service model. The corps programs are still navigating challenges related to minimum wage and housing. More information on any additional funding for corps programs will be available at the next Workforce Capacity Subcommittee meeting. 	
<p>PRESENTATION TOPIC: Melissa English, CDLE, presented on the CDLE’s registered apprenticeship program. Her slide deck can be found at this link. Following her presentation, meeting participants discussed the registered apprenticeship program.</p>	
<p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The registered apprenticeship program is a great way to develop a workforce while offsetting the costs for employers to get employees on-the-job training. • There is an opportunity to advertise the registered apprenticeship program with potential employees, especially at community colleges. • CTIA could become a sponsor for the program to hire apprentices for timber businesses. • The CDLE applied for additional funding for the apprenticeship program, so there may be more opportunities to promote the program in the timber industry in the future. 	<p>Decisions/Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nathan Van Schaik: Post the registered apprenticeship program presentation on the RMRI website. • Molly Pitts: Continue to explore options for the registered apprenticeship program for both logging and manufacturing businesses.
<p>DISCUSSION TOPIC: Getting the Colorado forest and restoration industry recognized in the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i>.</p>	
<p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molly Pitts met with Clarke Becker to develop a strategy to get the forest and restoration industry recognized in the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i>. For that conversation, Nathan Van Schaik prepared a presentation to introduce RMRI and 	<p>Decisions/Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tara Umphries: Send the map on the state of forest health to Molly Pitts to include in the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i> presentation once it is finished in mid-May.

<p>share information on the needs and opportunities in the forest and restoration industry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting participants reviewed the presentation and provided the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Add information on the Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) regional programs that are working with and supporting the timber industry. ○ Add a map that Tara Umphries and the USFS are developing on the state of forest health in Colorado, which should be included in the presentation. ○ Emphasize the history of collaboration in the RMRI landscapes. ○ Add information on the work the Workforce Capacity Subcommittee has accomplished. • It would be difficult to give a number on how many jobs are expected to be added to the forest and restoration industry. Still, it is fair to say that increasing the number of treatment acres will require industry growth. Scott Segerstrom, Samantha Albert, and Tara Umphries have preliminary numbers they can share with Molly Pitts for the presentation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molly Pitts and Tim Reader: Give the <i>Colorado Talent Pipeline Report</i> presentation to the workforce center leadership team on Monday, May 17, at 9 am. • Scott Segerstrom: Send an email to Nathan Van Schaik with information on how many positions are expected to be added to the Colorado corps programs if additional federal allocations come through. • Samantha Albert: Share data on the trajectory of job growth for recreation businesses and the jobs in Southwest Colorado with Molly Pitts by May 10. • Tara Umphries: Work with Molly Pitts to identify how many jobs are needed to maintain trails and recreation facilities by May 10. • Nathan Van Schaik: Incorporate edits into the presentation to the workforce center leadership team by May 12 and send it to Molly and Tim.
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DISCUSSION TOPIC: Reaching out to veterans for forest and restoration workforce needs.

<p>Discussion Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jake Todd, USFS, has been sharing information on workforce opportunities with soldiers on Fort Carson. Many soldiers were interested in the conservation corps programs, and they have heavy equipment operations skills. • Jake could use more flyers to help reach out to soldiers and veterans about joining the forest and restoration workforce. Front Range Community College and Trinidad State Junior College will have brochures directly on their programs. 	<p>Decisions/Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molly Pitts: Obtain flyers on the forest/restoration programs at the Front Range Community College and Trinidad State Junior College and share them with Jake Todd.
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Next Meeting Topics

- Update from USFS staff on USFS recreation workforce needs and opportunities.
- Presentation from Trinidad State Junior College (TSJC) on their new trail building program.
- Update from Scott Segerstrom on funding allocations on the conservation corps.