

**MEETING DATE:** June 23, 2026

**STAFF PERSON RESPONSIBLE:** Dylan Williams, Wildfire Mitigation & Resilience Coordinator

**DESCRIPTION:** FY2026 Healthy Forests & Vibrant Communities (HFVC) Grant Application - \$750,000

**SUMMARY:** On June 9, 2026, the Colorado State Forest Service Franktown Office applied for Healthy Forests & Vibrant Communities (HFVC) grant funding in the amount of \$750,000 to address mountain pine beetle infestations and reduce wildfire risk within Douglas County.

The proposed project encompasses ~400 acres across the Highlands Ranch Community Association Backcountry Wilderness Area, Cherokee Ranch, and Denver Mountain Parks (DMP)-Daniels Park properties. Project includes sanitation removal of ~1,200 infested ponderosa pine trees and creation of a shaded fuel break along Daniels Park Road to improve wildfire resiliency and emergency egress for adjacent Highlands Ranch and Castle Pines communities.

The total project cost is estimated at \$1,050,000, consisting of the \$750,000 HFVC grant request and \$300k in matching funds, including contributions of \$100k from Cherokee Ranch, \$100k from HRCA, \$50k from DMP, and \$50k from Douglas County Cost-Share Program.

If awarded, Douglas County will serve as the fiscal agent for grant and matching funds, provide technical expertise and project coordination.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Request that the Board accept the HFVC grant funds if the project is approved to act as the fiscal agent for the project.

**REVIEW:**

Darren Weekly	Approve	6/16/2026
Jeff Garcia	Approve	6/17/2026
Christie Guthrie	Approve	6/17/2026
Doug DeBord	Approve	6/17/2026

**ATTACHMENTS:**

HFVC grant application