

## Waldo Canyon Fire to Receive \$1.2 Million in EWP Funds

October 4, 2012 Denver, CO - The Natural Resources Conservation Service in Colorado recently received an allocation of more than \$1.2 million in Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) funds to help treat privately owned lands impacted by the Waldo Canyon fire. Collaborative efforts between NRCS and EWP sponsors, including the City of Colorado Springs, Colorado's Department of Transportation and El Paso County provide the opportunity for more than \$1.6 million in assistance.

The EWP program was established to respond to emergencies. It's designed to relieve imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, blizzards, and other natural occurrences. The program allows for the installation of conservation measures that will stabilize soil, slow runoff as well as help lessen the impacts of water flow, debris runoff and erosion on lands downstream and down slope from certain burned areas.

*"Although we haven't received %100 of the allocation requested, these fund will make an impact,"* said John Andrews, NRCS State Conservation Engineer and EWP Program Manager, Denver, CO. *"Both NRCS and the EWP sponsors agree that these funds will best be used to treat burned areas deemed moderate to high in severity."*

Land treatments will include channel debris removal upstream from crossings, flood protection, trash racks, sediment basins to reduce sediment entering the tributaries to Monument and Fountain Creeks, and check structures to capture sediment and debris.

For additional information about the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Waldo Canyon fire EWP project please contact Greg Langer, NRCS District Conservationist located in Colorado Springs.

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