



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

# BLM Colorado: Strengthening America's Timber Industry

BLM Colorado plays a vital role in the timber industry, providing sustainably harvested timber to the nation while improving forest health and reducing wildfire risk. Through responsible forest management, BLM supports local economies, increases domestic timber supply and enhances landscape resilience.

## Timber by the Numbers FY23

**\$24.2**  
million

Economic output generated for Colorado communities.

**7.2**  
million

Board feet of timber harvested.

**#2**

Colorado ranks second among the nation's BLM-managed states for timber production economic contributions.

**>140**

Jobs supported.

## Success Story: Restoring Poncha Pass to Protect Communities

In the Poncha Pass area near Salida, the BLM and Colorado State Forest Services (CSFS) collaborated under the Good Neighbor Authority program to address severe forest health issues. The region faced significant threats from Douglas-fir beetle infestations, leading to high tree mortality rates and increased wildfire risks. By removing infested and dying trees, the project not only curbed the spread of pests but also reduced fuel loads that could exacerbate wildfires. This proactive management protected residents, critical infrastructure and vital watersheds.



### Increased Timber Production

BLM and CSFS removed beetle-infested trees, supplying high-value timber to the nation while reducing wildfire risks.



### Economic Benefits

The project created jobs for loggers, truckers and mill workers supporting Colorado's forest products industry and strengthening rural economies.



### Good Neighbor Authority in Action

Collaboration between BLM and CSFS streamlined forest management efforts, demonstrating the power of federal-state partnerships in improving land resilience.