

Larimer County Long-Term Recovery Group Update - Summer 2025

A Community Built on Resilience



Northern Colorado knows natural disasters. Whether directly or indirectly, every resident feels their impact. But what happens after the fire trucks leave and survivors settle into temporary housing?

In the weeks following the Cameron Peak and East Troublesome fires in fall 2020 and the Alexander Mountain fire in 2024, the [Larimer County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster \(VOAD\)](#) convened nonprofit, government, and philanthropic partners to form the [Larimer County Long-Term Recovery Group \(LTRG\)](#).

Backed by dozens of nonprofits and faith-based organizations—and supported by generous donors and engaged local governments—the LTRG dove into action immediately following each disaster to assess needs and set recovery priorities. Within weeks,

partners were working across the burn areas to:

- Help eligible homeowners rebuild
- Restore forests, soils, and rivers in the Big Thompson and Poudre River watersheds

This collaborative effort continues today, ensuring that recovery is not only immediate but lasting.

Year-Round Community Partnership

The Larimer County VOAD strengthens disaster readiness through communication, coordination, and collaboration. During a disaster, VOAD convenes the LTRG to lead long-term recovery—often a process lasting up to five years. While many VOAD members return to their regular missions once immediate relief ends, LTRG members remain engaged, meeting regularly to restore homes, land, and community stability. The first Larimer County LTRG was formed in 2012 during the High Park Fire in the foothills west of Fort Collins. LTRGs traditionally form at the beginning of extensive disasters and then close once local funding for unmet needs has been exhausted. A key partner in this work is the [Larimer County Office of Emergency Management](#), providing subject matter expertise around disaster mitigation, recovery, and resiliency.

Donor Impact



Since 2020, regional, state, and national donors—including [Bohemian Foundation](#), the [NoCo Foundation](#), and [United Way of Larimer County](#)—have provided crucial funding for rebuilding homes and restoring watershed health after the wildfires of 2020 and 2024.

Because many private homeowners and watershed projects receive no state or federal disaster aid, philanthropy fills the gap. The LTRG stewards donor funds with transparent eligibility criteria based on need and available resources.

Funds are distributed through the Unmet Needs Committee, which reviews funding requests from case managers and watershed project leads. Once approved by the NoCo Foundation’s Board of Trustees, payments go directly to vendors—such as building suppliers, design firms, or medical providers—or to restoration partners like the [Big Thompson Watershed Coalition](#) and the [Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed](#).

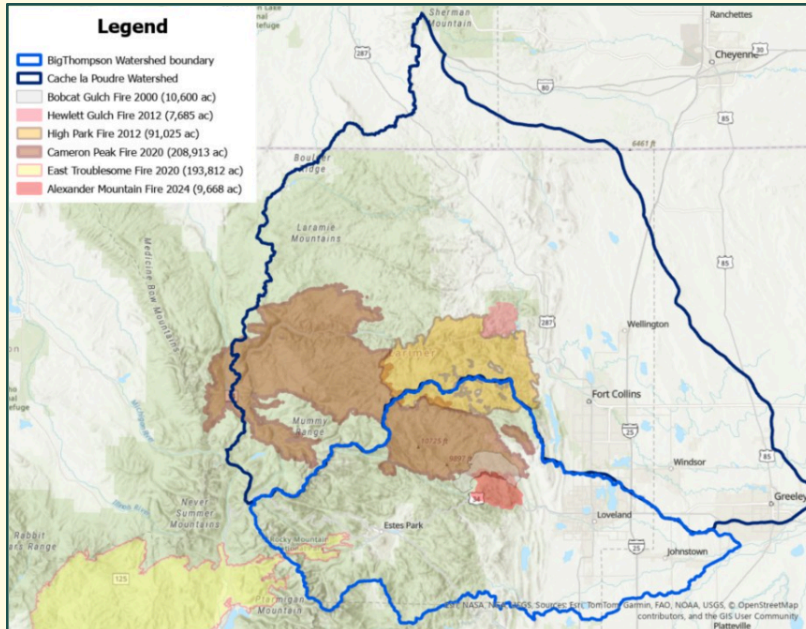
Donor funds are never given directly to survivors—ensuring accountability and impact at every step.

Long-Term Recovery Group Participating Organizations 2020-2025



- [American Red Cross of Northern Colorado](#)
- [Big Thompson Watershed Coalition](#)
- [Bohemian Foundation](#)
- [Catholic Charities](#)
- [Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed](#)
- [Department of Local Affairs \(State of Colorado\)](#)
- [Larimer County Assessor's Office](#)
- [Larimer County Building Department](#)
- [Larimer County Office of Emergency Management](#)
- [Lutheran Family Services](#)
- [NoCo Foundation](#)
- [Our Front Porch](#)
- [Salvation Army of Loveland](#)
- [Serve 6.8](#)
- [Seventh Day Adventist, Fort Collins/Larimer County](#)
- [SummitStone](#)
- [Southern Baptist Disaster Relief](#)
- [Team Rubicon](#)
- [United Policyholders](#)
- [United Way of Larimer County](#)
- [Volunteers of America](#)

Cameron Peak and East Troublesome Fires



Cameron Peak:

August 13 – December 2, 2020

Acres Burned: 208,913

East Troublesome:

October 14 – November 30, 2020

Acres Burned: 193,812



Structures Destroyed:

- Cameron Peak: 492 total structures damaged or destroyed; 481 destroyed, 11 damaged; 237 residential structures, 48 were primary; 238 outbuildings; 17 business structures
 - 116 households received support, including 156 adults and 11 children
- East Troublesome: 366 single-family homes; 200 outbuildings/structures
 - Households supported by Grand County and Grand County Community Foundation

LTRG Funding and Categories



Debris removal
\$21,245



River restoration
\$140,000



Rent assistance– survivors
\$41,700



Road, bridge, and culvert repair
(following fire-related flooding
in 2021 and 2022)
\$242,158



Land restoration
\$56,000



Property recovery
\$247,242



LTRG administration and
community outreach
\$111,950



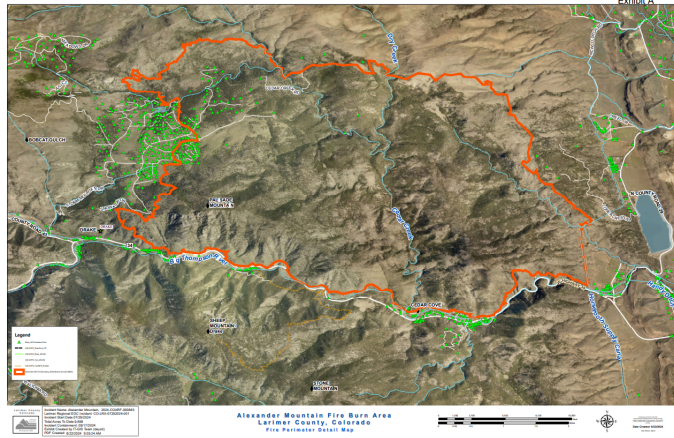
Fire department support
\$288,500

Total Donor Funds Raised: \$1.68M

Total Distributed: \$1.15M

Status: The LTRG's distribution of donor funds has ended due to the completion of survivor case management; remaining donor funds will be used in future northern Colorado disasters. Several agencies continue to restore the burn area with other funding sources.

Alexander Mountain Fire



Alexander Mountain:
July 29 – August 17, 2024
Acres Burned: 9,668

Structures Destroyed:

- 29 residential structures, 21 outbuildings; 4 additional structures damaged
- 5 households are receiving support, including five adults and one child

LTRG Funding and Categories to Date:



Debris removal
\$6,000



Property recovery
\$23,772

Total Donor Funds Raised: \$140,000

Total Distributed (as of Sept. 2025): \$29,772

Status: The LTRG is actively meeting to support community rebuilding, recovery, and restoration. It is anticipated that this LTRG will meet for one to two more years, or until donor funds are exhausted.

Join Us in Supporting Long-Term Recovery

Your contribution to the NoCo Foundation's Northern Colorado Disaster Recovery Fund directly supports survivors as they rebuild their homes, lives, and communities. While we can't prevent disasters, we can show up for one another when it matters most.

Community generosity ensures recovery goes farther and reaches everyone who needs it. Learn more at nocofoundation.org/noco-disaster-recovery-fund.

Many community partners and organizations contributed funding and expertise to the 2020 and 2024 fires' disaster response, relief, and recovery. This report only represents the activities and funding through the Long-Term Recovery Group. The funds that were distributed were first collected through the United Way of Larimer County in 2020 and the NoCo Foundation in 2024.