

# BGO's 2024 Tenure in Trees Program Plants Roots in Huerfano County and Costilla County, Colorado

Tenure in Trees honors the BGO team by planting one tree for every year an employee spends with the company. In Costilla County and Huerfano County, Colorado, our planting partners are working tirelessly to replant two million trees that were lost during recent fires (2018 to 2021), making this the largest conservation-based reforestation effort in the history of Colorado.

## Colorado Reforestation

In 2023, 861 wildfires damaged 41,917 acres in Colorado, especially in Bear Creek (1,093 acres), Little Mesa (4,009 acres), and Quartz Ridge (2,850 acres). As climate change has intensified, four of the five largest fires in Colorado history have taken place since 2018!

Severe wildfires can strip all the vegetation from an area, eliminating nutrients and preventing regrowth. Soil becomes resistant to water, raising the risk of floods and erosion. The Colorado Restoration & Rehabilitation Initiative focuses on restoring the soil and planting fresh trees to rejuvenate burned forests.

## In the Details

BGO's planting partners are devoted to a large-scale reforestation effort in response to the Spring Creek Fire, working to counteract three of the largest stand-replacing crown fires in Colorado history. Efforts include planting rooted conifer seedlings in mixed conifer forests to improve the rate of natural regrowth.

## New Discoveries

As part of an initiative to replant two million trees lost between 2018 and 2021, the largest reforestation effort in state history will preserve the ecosystems of Colorado. As the landscape heals, the program will also empower scientists and researchers to learn more about seed migration, seedling endurance, drought conditions, and carbon capture.



## What trees are we planting in Colorado?

- Ponderosa pine
- Douglas fir
- White fir
- Limber pine
- Colorado blue spruce
- Engelmann spruce



**#TeamBGO** has contributed **667 trees** to the Colorado Restoration & Rehabilitation Initiative. With each tree, we help to revitalize the landscape and communities of Colorado.