

**Watersheds *for* Firesheds**

**Brief Summary of the US Forest Service's 10-Year Strategy & Funding.**

The 2021 federal [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/infrastructure) provided $3.5 billion over the next five years for the National Forest Service's [Confronting the Wildfire Crisis: A Strategy for Protecting Communities and Improving the Resilience of America's Forests](https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Confronting-Wildfire-Crisis.pdf) – also known as the '10-Year Strategy.'

**The problem - and opportunity** - is that the Forest Service has $3.5 billion in new funding. However, currently the 10-Year Strategy does not prioritize funding for critical watersheds, endangered wildlife habitat, or climate resilience. This is even though in the American West, the source of over half of the downstream water supply is on National Forest lands. Thousands of acres of those lands are burning catastrophically, severely impacting water quality, quantity, and endangered wildlife habitat.

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