

Wildfire Resiliency Training Center

"...there is a need for a fire workforce that reflects the diversity of the nation and the communities they serve to address past barriers and ensure a safe, inclusive, and welcoming work environment."

~ Report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission, 2023

WRTC is the most significant workforce development initiative in northern New Mexico, and directly addresses the Restoration Economy (Strategy #8 in the NM Forest Action Plan).

Priorities include:

- Recruiting and re-training burn scar communities in forest and land restoration;
- Cross-train new workers in fire, forest, and restoration skills for year-round sustained employment;
- Increase access to fire, forest, and restoration up-skilling to support retention of experienced workers;
- Target un-included and under-utilized workforce populations to boost capacity ;
- Develop youth pathways for natural resources management and rehabilitation jobs.

WRTC's certifications and trainings will address pre-fire mitigation, wildland and wildland-urban fire management, and post-fire restoration, including heavy equipment operation and CDL training.

WRTC trainings will make it possible for families whose income has been incinerated through catastrophic wildfires, to develop alternative livelihoods, rebuild their homes and property, and remain engaged in the rebuilding of burn scar communities across New Mexico. NMFWR I and LCC have served more than 300 people in the HPCC burn scar through landowner workshops, hands-on trainings, and service projects in San Miguel and Mora counties.



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