

Brief History

Following a tragic wildfire in spring of 2012, Governor John Hickenlooper and Colorado State University (CSU) President Tony Frank requested a thorough examination of the state's emergency response capabilities. The review team was directed to assess the structure of the emergency coordination between the State Forest Service and the Division of Emergency Management in order to improve the state's response to fires and protect people and property. After careful analysis, the team recommended that the prescribed fire and wildfire management portions of the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) at CSU be moved into the Division of Fire Safety, within [the Colorado Department of Public Safety](#), and that the Division of Emergency Management, within the Department of Local Affairs, also be moved into Public Safety.

This reorganization was codified in [HB12-1283](#), which was signed by Governor Hickenlooper on June 4, 2012. The bill created the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) from the former Division of Fire Safety and transferred the fire responsibilities from Colorado State University and the Colorado State Forest Service effective July 1, 2012.