

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **El Pomar's Wildland Fire Fund Grants \$10,000 to the National Forest Foundation for Restoration Efforts**

**Colorado Springs, Colo. – September 4, 2020**— El Pomar Foundation has announced its Wildland Fire Fund has granted \$10,000 to the National Forest Foundation's White River National Forest Restoration Fund in support of restoration efforts for the Grizzly Creek Fire in western Colorado. With localized representation and guidance from El Pomar's Northwest Regional Council members, the Foundation was able to identify where emergency needs could be addressed by its Wildland Fire Fund.

This fire is currently more than 80% contained, and relevant parties have started to assess the consequences of the burn. While the total damage is still unknown, officials believe millions of dollars of infrastructure were lost in Glenwood Canyon and the surrounding landscapes. In an effort to prevent further damage to fire affected areas and to spur recovery, the National Forest Foundation addresses critical restoration needs of recently burned forest areas. Due to the canyon's steep slopes and the severity of the burn, much of the area, as well as adjacent areas also affected, will not recover on its own and will require restoration efforts.

Started in 2002, El Pomar Foundation's Wildland Fire Fund has assisted with the emergency needs of front line volunteer fire fighting agencies and first responders throughout the state of Colorado, including during the Black Forest, South Fork and Lake George fires. More information about the Wildland Fire Fund can be found at <https://www.elpomar.org/grant-making/el-pomars-funds/>.

El Pomar's Regional Partnerships program has provided invaluable support, since 2003, to eleven regions statewide, representing all 64 counties, led by more than 70 community leaders on regional councils, in an effort to increase impact and establish connections across the entire state. Each of the Foundation's eleven regional councils advises El Pomar Trustees and recommends grants to help support its communities.

*El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$22 million annually through grants and Community Stewardship programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and humanities, and civic and community initiatives. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937. To learn more about El Pomar Foundation please go to [www.elpomar.org](http://www.elpomar.org).*