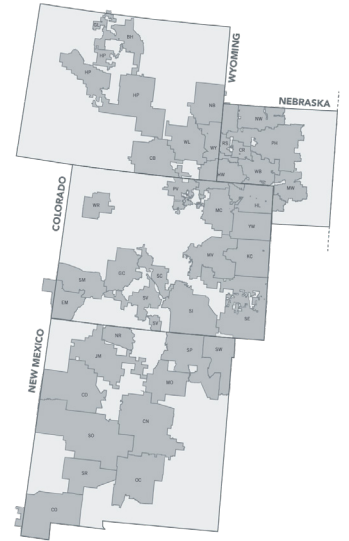


Tri-State and our members are all not-for-profits serving nearly one million energy consumers across Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming and Nebraska covering nearly half of the land mass in these states. Our wildfire mitigation plans exist to safeguard our communities and protect our transmission system, ensuring the delivery of safe, reliable and affordable electricity.


STEWARDS OF THE LAND

Vegetation management and transmission line maintenance projects require site specific plans and consideration. These plans take into account natural resources, access, topography, sensitive land uses, and landowner and agency related concern.

HARDENING OUR LINES

Tri-State conducts annual inspections on our transmission system to protect to maintain the safe and reliable operation of our infrastructure.

MANAGING VEGETATION

Vegetation management is a key part of Tri-State's Wildfire Mitigation Strategy, reducing wildfire risk and improving transmission line resilience by removing hazardous vegetation within and adjacent to rights-of-way.



**Enhancing Reliability
with Drone Monitoring**



**Vegetation Management
in Canyons of the Ancients
National Monument**



**High-Elevation Helicopter
Logging for Tree Removal**

Tri-State & Our Rural Co-op Members Are Helping to Combat Wildfire Risk

We're doing our part, but we need help

We are deeply committed to the safety and well-being of the communities we serve and are working to reduce wildfire risks relating to our utility infrastructure and operations. However, no risk can be entirely mitigated and wildfire in our service territory is a serious threat to rural communities.

Each year, Tri-State and its members face rising insurance costs while facing increasing risks of wildfires with insurance coverage becoming more inadequate. This scenario creates a burden for cooperatives that may be passed onto its consumers. Cooperatives have been diligently working with elected officials across our members' service territories to create sound policy that both mitigates the risk of wildfires and protects cooperatives from financial risk.

**To continue providing safe, reliable and affordable energy,
rural electric cooperatives need protection from wildfire risks.**



SCIENCE-BASED MONITORING AND ALERTS

To protect the people and ecosystems we serve, Tri-State has constructed and deployed multi-layered mitigation plans.

Preventative situational awareness is the first line of defense for fire mitigation and we're making data-driven decisions to ensure our resources are being used efficiently and effectively. Seasonally, we study wildfire risk drivers like fuels, topography and previous fire history at a landscape level to determine where fire is likely to occur. Daily, we monitor fire weather conditions including temperature, wind speed and relative humidity.

We also conduct detailed annual inspections and use satellite and drone technology to proactively identify maintenance needs. We adapt this program to keep pace with the ever-changing wildfire risk in the communities we serve because, not only do wildfire conditions fluctuate, but the population in these high-risk areas also undergo significant transformations.

RISK REDUCTION

Tri-State proactively reduces risk across our system based on the data generated in our situational awareness programs.

We have a robust vegetation management program to address shrubs and trees that risk encroaching, damaging or interfering with our system. We have also incorporated wildfire design considerations into our engineering standards, including an evaluation and feasibility of replacing wood poles with steel in high wildfire risk areas or the installation of a fire-resistant wrap at the bottom of our wood structures to make the transmission line more resilient to wildfires. We have created fire safe work practices for red flag days and fire weather watch days that ensures our employees incorporate best practices to reduce ignition risk from our field activities..

These processes are time, labor and capital-intensive, therefore protecting our physical structures involves extensive planning and permitting in conjunction with federal, state and local communities.

The wildfire risk in the areas we serve will continue to evolve, and Tri-State will rise to the challenge to provide the safe, reliable and affordable power our members require and deserve.



ELECTRICITY IS A BASIC NEED

Further collaboration on insurance, liability standards, permitting, early detection and funding is critical as utilities address fire mitigation and vegetation management. Together, we can better protect our communities while delivering safe, reliable and affordable power.



"We work in an industry that's got a moral obligation to protect the environment and the people around it. Through wildfire mitigation, we're protecting our people, their communities, livelihoods and the things they cherish, and I think that's incredibly important."

Curtis Hartenstine
Wildfire Mitigation Program Manager
Tri-State G&T



LEARN ABOUT
TRI-STATE'S WILDFIRE
MITIGATION EFFORTS