

Spotlight on the Flagstaff District

Recent activities by the Flagstaff Ranger District have ensured the preservation of Bebb's willow on the Coconino NF.

On September 17, the Flagstaff District Wildlife Crew and Zone Hydrologist Tom Runyon planted about 50 young Bebb's willow plants in a pre-existing enclosure at Hoxworth Spring.

Bebb's willow is a Region 3 sensitive species for the Coconino National Forest. These young willows were grown locally by Northern Arizona University Research Greenhouse from locally collected seed.



The crew also constructed a Zuni Bowl to help control erosion in the area. *(Photo by Tom Runyon)*



(Photo by Tom Runyon)

On September 23 the entire district joined forces at Hart Prairie to construct a log fence to discourage vehicle travel in the Fern Mountain Botanical Area, which was set aside for the conservation of the Bebb's willow community.



New fence at Fern Mountain Botanical Area (*Photo by Debra Mollet*)



Fern Mountain Botanical Area (*Photo by Debra Mollet*)



Gary Hase and Debra Mollet ensure the sign is level and installed properly.



Joe Luttmann leads the spike pounding effort.



Cary Thompson's b-day is celebrated!

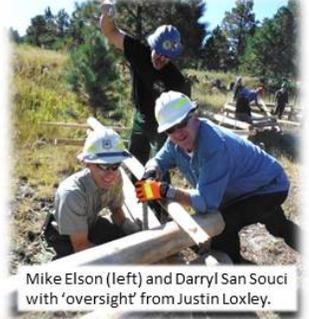
Flagstaff Ranger District's All-Employee Work Day



Brad Baxter operates the chainsaw making the new fence edges perfect.



Bebb's Willow Habitat Protection Project – September 23, 2015



Mike Elson (left) and Darryl San Souci with 'oversight' from Justin Loxley.



Katie Landry (left) and Mike Dechter install lag screws with Lionel Benally's supervision.



Andy Stephens (left) and Jarrod Elmer drilling holes.



Laura James, Project Leader (center) with Brian Poturalski (left) and Sean Murphy.

Spotlight on the Mogollon Rim Ranger District

On September 16, 2015 the MRRD employees and staff met at Buck Springs for an employee workday. Their mission was to plant Bebb's willows in an enclosure previously constructed with the help of Friends of Northern Arizona Forests. Upon arrival, the employees found huge holes in the previously intact fence but this did not deter the dedicated group. They proceeded to plant approximately 150 young willows grown locally by the Northern Arizona Research Greenhouse, control noxious or invasive weeds and even stayed late to secure the fence. The event included a potluck lunch with Dutch oven cooking by Ranger Linda Wadleigh. Good job!

Photos by Linda Wadleigh





