

## Administrative Correction – 08/10/2016

The language shown in *green italics* was added to the Background and Rationale of Objective 5 to clarify that non-commercial mechanical treatment acres are not included in the 2,500 to 8,000 acre target.

<b>Obj-5</b>	Within the Ponderosa Pine-Evergreen Oak and Ponderosa Pine-Gambel Oak PNVTs, thin or harvest 2,500 to 8,000 acres and introduce or allow wildland fire on 25,000 to 50,000 to restore ecosystem conditions, during the 10 years following plan approval. ( <a href="#">DC-Ecosystem Resilience-1</a> , <a href="#">DC-Airshed-1</a> , <a href="#">DC-Veg-1 to 2</a> , <a href="#">DC-Veg-13 to 20</a> , <a href="#">DC-Wildlife-1</a> )
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### Background and Rationale

- Wildland fire includes prescribed fire and wildfire managed to meet resource objectives. Both tools would be used to maintain or trend toward desired conditions. The opportunity to manage wildfires to meet resource objectives cannot be predicted; however, when conditions allow, such wildfires would be used in conjunction with prescribed fires to meet acreage targets.
- Northern goshawks are the focal species associated with the ponderosa pine PNVTs.
- The ponderosa pine PNVTs (Ponderosa Pine-Gambel Oak and Ponderosa Pine-Evergreen Oak) were combined for this objective because they have similar unnatural structural characteristics due to past fire suppression. These characteristics include an increase in young forest with dense canopy cover as well as older forest with dense canopy cover. Both PNVTs have “natural” fire frequencies of every 6 to 15 years.
- Multiple treatments in the same locations could be carried out, especially at the wildland-urban interface near Prescott and on Mingus Mountain. An example might be thinning and then burning on the same site.
- Dense young and mid-age forests with more than 30 percent tree canopy cover predominate in these PNVTs. This is due to several factors but is primarily attributed to past fire suppression. The density of trees leads to uncharacteristic crown fires when wildfires do occur. This type of fire is unnaturally severe, can burn so intensely that postfire natural conifer regeneration is delayed, and can threaten lives and property.
- The relatively low number of acres shown for mechanical treatment is due to limitations such as steep slopes, lack of access, and fewer acres that are suitable for *commercial thinning and timber harvest (see Chapter 7 – Timber Suitability)*. *Acres of non-commercial mechanical treatment are not included in this objective*. If a demand for biomass increased, it is possible that the acreage of mechanical treatments of small woody vegetation could increase, however, slopes and access limitations could still prevent large scale mechanical treatments. Mechanical treatments could be emphasized in the vicinity of Prescott to decrease smoke impacts.