



**To:** Kaibab National Forest Woodcutters,

**Date:** May 16, 2018

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our returning firewood cutters for all the great work you have helped us achieve over the years in improving forest health by removing dead and down as well as small-diameter trees on the Kaibab National Forest. I would also like to welcome those of you who may be new to the Kaibab's firewood program.

In recognition of the valuable service firewood cutters provide and the many benefits that developing strong partnerships can help us achieve, we are announcing the 2018 Pilot Firewood Program, which is designed to reward your efforts toward moving the Kaibab to a healthier and more resilient state. We consider you partners in forest restoration, and we hope that by continuing to work together and expanding opportunities to remove wood from the forest, we can achieve our mutual goal of land stewardship while ensuring your continued access to a needed forest product.

In practice, the big difference you will notice as part of our pilot program is that there is an increased amount of wood available to you. Each person, with proper identification, can now obtain permits for up to 30 cords (combined paid and free use) per season. This is a big increase over the past. We have also lowered the price for our paid-use permits. The price was lowered from \$5 per cord to \$4 per cord, with an additional \$2 per cord service credit applied. This means that you can now purchase up to 20 cords with two \$20 permits.

We have made these changes because we believe that as a woodcutter you help perform a valuable ecosystem service, which is to reduce fuels and improve overall forest health. What we ask in return is that you help us steward our natural resources. You can do that by reviewing the information we provide about firewood cutting best practices, such as protecting cavity trees that are frequently used by wildlife, and following those recommendations as you fulfill your permit.

As part of your permit, we will now be providing you with a document that we hope serves as a land steward guide. It will be easy to understand and implement and will likely reflect many of the best practices you are already doing while cutting wood in the forest. We hope you will help us protect and improve conditions and resources on the Kaibab by taking this guide to heart and encouraging your family, friends and fellow woodcutters to do the same. We will all win if we have a healthy forest to share! By following the land steward guide's recommendations, you will help us make our pilot program successful so that we can continue to offer it in future years.

Please continue to provide your suggestions and feedback so that we can ensure we are working with you in the best way possible to meet our shared goals. I encourage you to visit our website at <https://bit.ly/KNFfuelwood> regularly for updates on information that may be useful to you.

Sincerely,

/S/ HEATHER PROVENCIO  
Kaibab Forest Supervisor

