

# Four Forest Restoration Initiative

- The Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) is a collaborative effort with over 30 stakeholder groups and the Forest Supervisors and staff of the Coconino, Kaibab, Tonto, and Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests. The 4FRI landscape spans 2.4 million acres across the Mogollon Rim of Northern Arizona and is the largest landscape-scale restoration project selected by the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP, established under section 4003(a) of Title IV of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009). For more information on 4FRI see the Forest Service website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/4fri/planning>. Information about the 4FRI Stakeholder Group (SHG) can be found at <http://www.4fri.org/>.
- **The increasing size, severity, and frequency of unnatural wildfire over the last 15 years in Arizona, as well as predicted climate change have catalyzed the desire for action.** The two largest fires in Arizona history, the Rodeo-Chediski Fire (468,000 acres) and the Wallow Fire (538,000 acres) occurred within the last 14 years. These fires are expensive in ecological, social, and economic terms. The Rodeo-Chediski Fire cost over \$308 million and just the cost of fighting the Wallow Fire was \$109 million. The 15,000-acre Schultz Fire of 2010 that burned on the east side of the San Francisco Peaks was not only destructive but also resulted in devastating post-fire flooding and loss of life. A recent study estimates that the full cost of the Schultz Fire will exceed \$133 million.
- **4FRI builds on many years of collaboration, research, and action since the mid-1990s.** Ongoing and past efforts play a major role in the success of 4FRI. These efforts include the Natural Resources Working Group, White Mountain Stewardship Contract, Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership, Western Mogollon Plateau Landscape Assessment, White Mountains Landscape Assessment, Kaibab National Forest Health Assessment, State-wide Strategy for Restoring Arizona's Forests, Northern Arizona Small-Diameter Wood Supply Study, and the Governor's Forest Health Council.

