

The Initiative

The Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) is a collaborative effort to restore forest ecosystems on portions of four National Forests – Coconino, Kaibab, Apache-Sitgreaves, and Tonto – along the Mogollon Rim in northern Arizona.

Ponderosa pine forest stretches almost continuously from the south rim of the Grand Canyon, across the vast Mogollon Rim, to the White Mountains in eastern Arizona. Forests across this expanse surround and support communities and provide invaluable wildlife habitat, recreational resources, and ecosystem services.

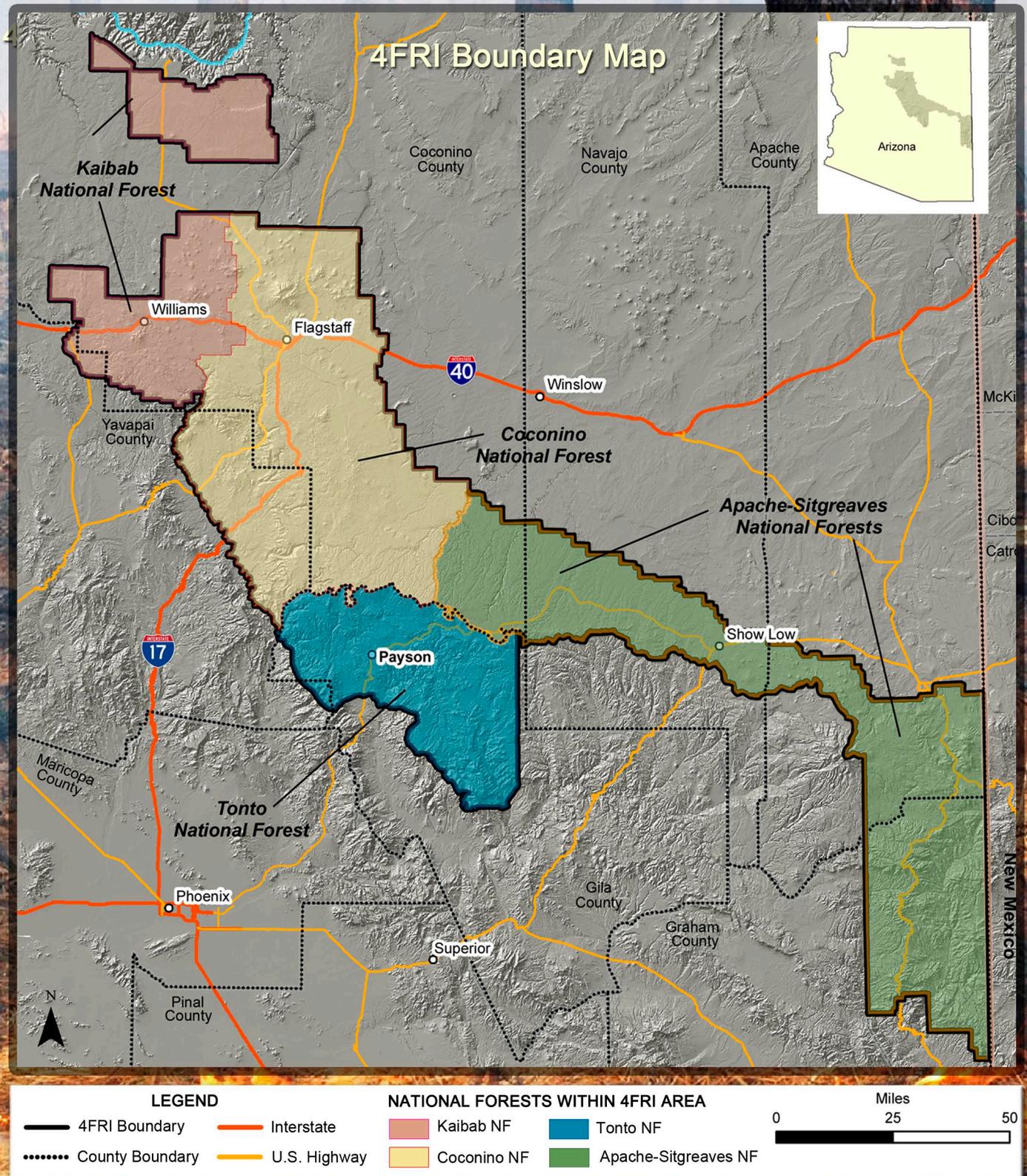


Unfortunately, these forests have been degraded by unsustainable historical land uses and fire exclusion. The result is overgrown forest with thin, unhealthy trees and the threat of unnaturally severe wildfire.

The vision of 4FRI is restored forest ecosystems that support natural fire regimes, functioning populations of native plants and animals, and forests that pose little threat of destructive wildfire to thriving forest communities, as well as support sustainable forest industries that strengthen local economies while conserving natural resources and aesthetic values.

4FRI Goals

- Plan and implement restoration treatments across 2.4 million acres of ponderosa pine forest.
- Treat 50,000 acres per year over the span of 20 years.
- Allow for increased use of prescribed fire and management of natural fires for restoration objectives.
- Engage new industry so the cost of restoration is covered by the value of the products removed.
- Assure that the science-based and socially-acceptable agreements forged over the last decade result in implementation of long-term, landscape-scale restoration.





Get Involved

The Forest Service recognizes the value of collaboration and the wealth of experience and knowledge that partners can contribute toward improving natural resource conditions.

Individuals and organizations interested in 4FRI may join the 4FRI Stakeholder Group or work directly with members of the Forest Service 4FRI Team. Please contact us if you want to get involved.

Coconino National Forest
1824 S. Thompson St.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928) 527-3600

<http://fs.usda.gov/goto/kaibab/4fri>



Stakeholder Group

Arizona Forest Restoration Products
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Arizona State Forestry Division
Arizona Eastern Counties Association
Center for Biological Diversity
Coconino County
Coconino Natural Resources Conservation District
Coconino Rural Environment Corps
Ecological Restoration Institute
Flagstaff Fire Department
Forest Energy Corporation
Gila County
Graham County
Grand Canyon Trust
Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership
Greenlee County
Mottek Consulting
National Wild Turkey Federation
Navajo County
Northern Arizona Logging Association
Northern Arizona Natural Resources Working Group
Northern Arizona University Forest ERA
Northern Arizona Wood Products Association
Pioneer Association
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Sierra Club
Southwest Sustainable Forests Partnership
The Nature Conservancy
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Restoration: Before and After

Before Treatment (2003)



After Treatment (2005)



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The Four Forest Restoration Initiative

A Collaborative Effort to Restore Forest Ecosystems on Four National Forests

