Four Forest Restoration Initiative
A Collaborative Effort to Restore
Forest Ecosystems on Four National Forests
www.4fri.org, www.fs.usda.gov/4fri

Kaibab

Williams

Flagstaff

Coconino

Payson

Tonto

Apache-Sitgreaves

Arizona

THE INITIATIVE

The Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) is a collaborative effort (among the U.S. Forest Service, citizens, conservation organizations, researchers and state agencies) to restore forest ecosystems on portions of four National Forests – Coconino, Kaibab, Apache-Sitgreaves, and Tonto – along the Mogollon Rim in northern Arizona.
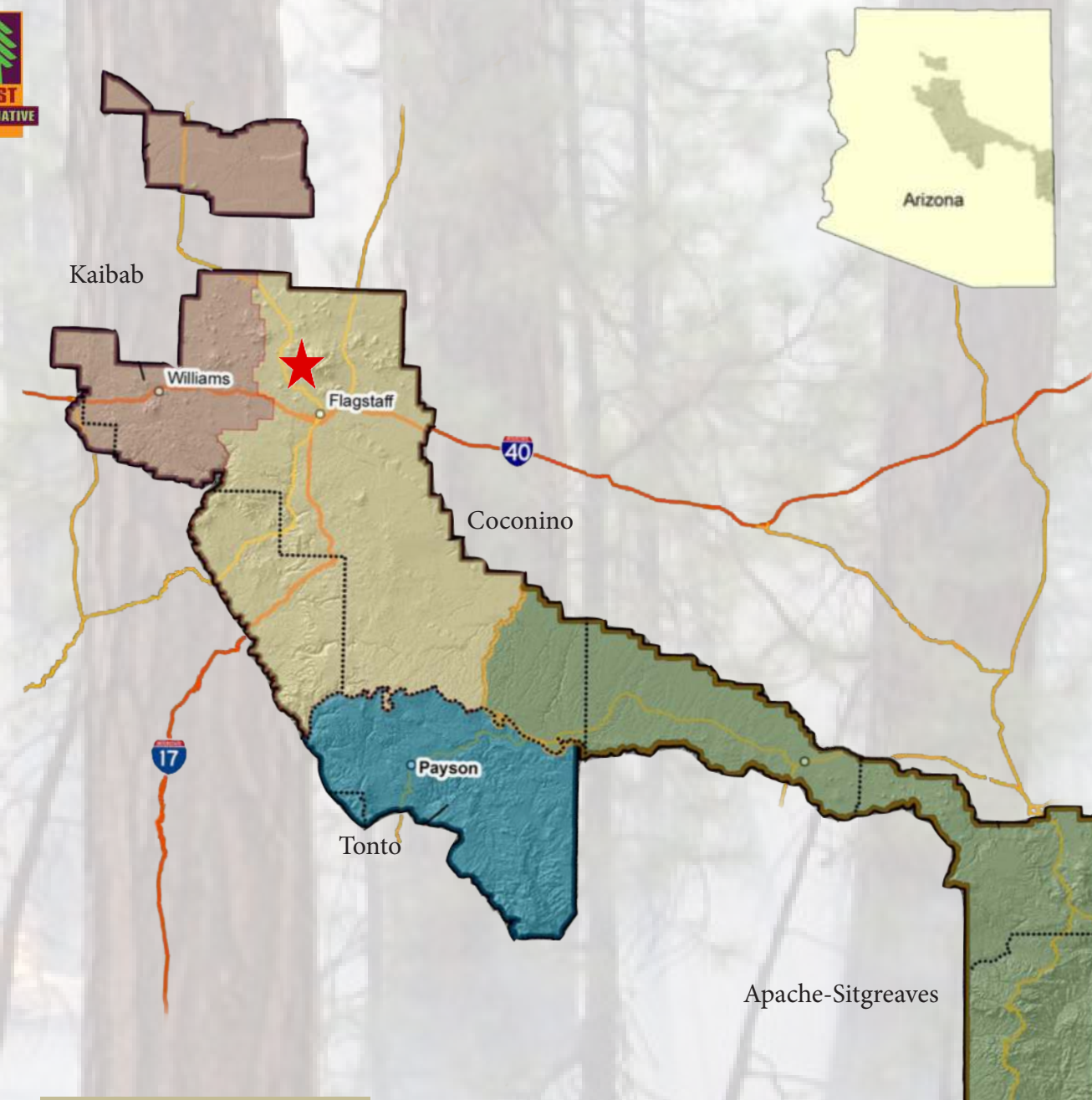
Ponderosa pine forests stretch almost continuously from the south rim of the Grand Canyon, across the Mogollon Rim, to the White Mountains in eastern Arizona.

Unfortunately, these forests have been degraded by historical land use and fire exclusion. Presently, forests are overgrown with thickets of young, unhealthy trees that contribute to the threat of unnaturally-severe wildfire.

The vision of the 4FRI is a restored forest that supports low-intensity surface fires and functioning populations of native plants and animals. The vision includes communities that are better prepared for and protected from unnaturally-severe wildfire, and sustainable forest industries that strengthen local economies.

4FRI GOALS

- Plan and implement restoration treatments across 2.4 million acres of ponderosa pine forest.

- Treat up to 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.

- Catalyze 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.

TIMELINE: WHAT MADE 4FRI POSSIBLE

The Grand Canyon Forest Foundation transitioned to become the Greater Flagstaff Forest Partnership

ForestERA

White Mountains Natural Resources Working Group

Healthy Forests Initiative; Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) passed

Western Mogollon Plateau Landscape Assessment

Study of small-diameter wood supply in Northern Arizona published

WGA developed 10-Year Implementation Plan

The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests awarded a 10-year Stewardship Contract to thin 150,000 acres

Rodeo-Chediski Fire & 3,041 wildland fires burned more than 700,000 acres

National Fire Plan

Ad hoc group calls for wood supply study

Beginning of continual decline of Timber harvest

USFS Southwestern Region designated the goshawk a sensitive species

Mexican Spotted Owl listed under ESA

Hochdoffer and Horseshoe Fires

Covington & Moore's seminal paper

Cerro Grande Fire, Los Alamos, NM

564,600 acres were infected with bark beetles

Southwest Forest Health & Wildfire Prevention Act

Forest Service Promulgated First Planning Rule under NFMA

USFWS petitioned to list the goshawk as threatened species

Environmental Impact Statement established a regional goshawk plan on 11 national forests

| 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |

Diablo Trust

Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Review Program

Grand Canyon Forest Foundation

Committee of Scientists (COS) published review of USFS planning practices

Bark beetle outbreaks led to extraordinary tree loss in Northern Arizona

Greater Flagstaff Community Wildfire Protection Plan

Healthy Forest Restoration Act

Forest Health Advisory Council and the Forest Health Oversight Council

Beginning of Timber Industry decline in AZ

4 Corners Sustainable Forests Partnership

Statewide Strategy for Restoring Arizona's Forests published

Resource Advisory Councils established

Arizona Forest Health Advisory Council combines with the Oversight council to form the Arizona Forest Health Council

Ecological Events: Significant ecological events effecting forest resources, management and policy.

Policy/Legal: National, regional and local forest management policies and conflicts.

Constituency Events: Collaborative processes where stakeholders, ecological issues, and assessment activities come together.

Science Assessments: Evolving science, evidence and joint knowledge building