



FOUR FOREST RESTORATION INITIATIVE

Arizona relies on its continued success

WHAT IS AT RISK?



Arizona's **timber industry** relies on **healthy forests**, which provide a sustainable and reliable wood supply while maintaining **ecological balance and rural prosperity**.



Catastrophic wildfires increasingly threaten **communities and natural resources**, putting water systems and other **critical infrastructure** at risk.



Boosting **forest and watershed health through restoration** reduces **post-fire flooding** and associated social and financial costs to communities within and beyond the 4FRI footprint.

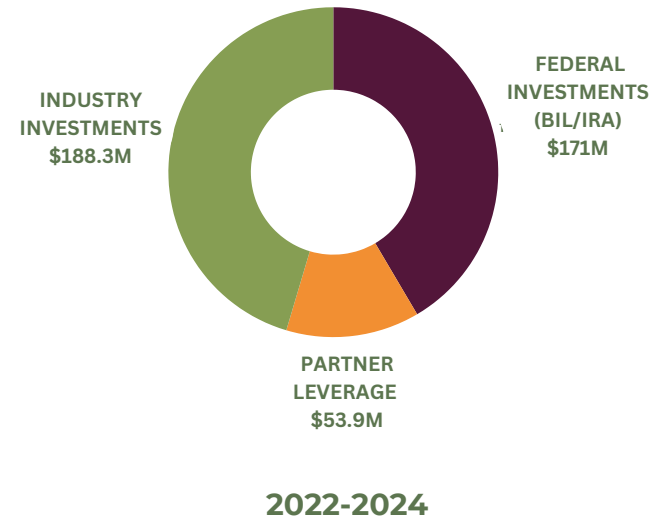
WHAT IS 4FRI?

The **Four Forest Restoration Initiative** (4FRI) is a 2.4-million-acre national priority firescape and a multi-stakeholder effort to reduce Arizona's catastrophic wildfire risk through science-based collaborative ecosystem restoration.

4FRI needs sustained investment to continue moving forward

INVESTING IN 4FRI

The **Four Forest Restoration Initiative** has relied on federal funding that leverages partner investments. **4FRI** receives funding from various sources. In the **last three years**, 4FRI funding has roughly included the following sources:



4FRI generated over 1,000 full-time and part-time **jobs** in 2023.



For every **USDA Forest Service dollar** invested in the last three years, industry and partners have invested **\$1.42**.

1.4 MILLION ACRES TREATED BY 4FRI SINCE 2010

Beneficial Fire



821,878
Acres Treated

Prescribed fire, managed fire, and pile burning

In 2024, 4FRI treated just over **200,000 acres**, the most acres treated in one year since 2010.

2010



140,000 acres of timber supply available over next five years

2024

2 million NEPA-ready acres available for restoration



58% of 2.4M acre goal

Mechanical Thinning



584,697
Acres Treated

Commercial, non-commercial, hand thinning, and strategic small-diameter thinning



Since 2010, individuals and members of **local, county, state and multiple federal government entities, environmental groups, and industry representatives** have joined 4FRI to accelerate restoration of northern Arizona's forests.



The Forest Service and 4FRI Stakeholder Group have been working together under a **Memorandum of Understanding** since 2011.



Partners have created more than **40 key resources**, including foundational, operational, and strategic **planning documents**, as well as **monitoring analyses, position statements, and resolutions**.



Modernization & Efficiency

Uses **innovative** practices and technologies to do more with less. On 4FRI, 20 acres can be marked digitally for every 1 acre traditionally painted, **reducing federal costs** by 13 times.



Industry & Operations

Invests in operations and biomass disposal. Ongoing investment is key to sustaining a healthy industry, enabling it to treat up to **40,000 acres** annually.



Comprehensive Restoration

Improves forest and **watershed health** by restoring springs and streams, protecting aspen stands, and **mitigating post-fire flooding**.



Prioritization & Optimization

Targets acres for mechanical thinning and prescribed fire using a spatially explicit optimization model. This **achieves mutually desired priorities**, such as reducing risk to communities, natural resources, and timber industry viability.



Monitoring

Evaluates **4FRI treatments** to ensure they are helping to **restore** fire-adapted ecosystems and **achieve** 4FRI objectives.

4FRI Stakeholder Group

Working to collaboratively restore **2.4 million acres** of northern Arizona's ponderosa pine forest and associated ecosystems.

Maintaining 4FRI funding decreases wildfire risk and strengthens Arizona's timber industry.

\$48M investment in FY24 sustained this work.

4FRI.ORG

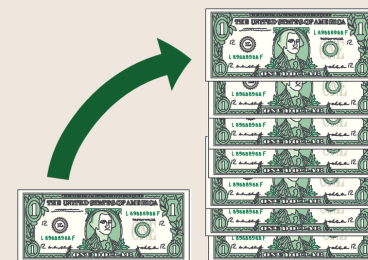


This document was collaboratively produced by the 4FRI Stakeholder Group in January 2025, and updated April 2025.

The **Four Forest Restoration Initiative** is more than halfway to an unprecedented 2.4-million-acre treatment goal thanks to a decade of collaboration and committed investments from 4FRI partners, forest industries, and the USDA Forest Service. Investing in 4FRI protects communities, public safety, habitats, infrastructure, and natural resources.

To protect the next 1 million acres of Arizona's forests, waters, and communities, **4FRI needs sustained and committed investment** from the Forest Service to match the historic contributions of its partners and industries.

Arizona's public safety requires continued investment



Research shows in high risk areas like 4FRI, restoration funding sees an estimated \$7 return for every \$1 invested, saving billions of dollars by avoiding catastrophic fires and post-wildfire flooding.