

Greater Flagstaff Forests Partnership

An Overview:

History & Organization

Key Elements

Projects & Accomplishments

Forest Sustainability



**GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP**

WWW.GFFP.ORG



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Brief History of the Partnership



1996 Record Fire Season in
Flagstaff Urban Interface



Key Community
Participants

- Fire Risk Reduction
- Community Protection
- Forest Ecosystem Health Restoration
- Infrastructure Loss



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

A Community Model for Collaborative Ecosystem Restoration & Sustainable Forest Management



Foundations of the Partnership

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Guide to the Greater Flagstaff Forests Partnership





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Memorandum of Understanding

“The Forest Service and the Forests Foundation agree to work cooperatively to demonstrate new forest management approaches that improve and restore ecosystem health ...in Flagstaff Urban Interface...project referred to as

Grand Canyon Forests Partnership.”





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Guide to Partnership

Restore Natural Ecosystem Functions

Reduce Catastrophic Wildfire Risk
Within Flagstaff Urban Interface

Research, Test, and Demonstrate Key
Ecological, Economical, and Social
Dimensions of Restoration





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Greater Flagstaff Forests Partnership, Inc.

GFFP, Inc.

Partnership
Advisory Board

- Recommends Actions to FS
- Raises capital
- Oversees Restoration Activities
- PAB Advises non-profit
- Engages Community
- PAB Recommendations Only Forwarded When Unanimous



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Partnership Advisory Board

Arizona Game and Fish

Arizona State Land Dept.

City of Flagstaff

Coconino County

Coconino Natural Res. Cons. Dist.

Cocopai Resource Cons. & Dev.

Highlands Fire Department

Northern Arizona Cons. Corps

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Practical Mycology

Coconino County Farm Bureau and
Cattle Growers Association

Greater Flagstaff Economic Council

NAU School of Forestry

NAU Ecological Restoration Institute

NAU School of Engineering

Arizona Public Service (utility)

Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce

Flagstaff Native Plant and Seed

Indigenous Community Enterprises

Perkins Timber Harvesting

Society of American Foresters

Arboretum At Flagstaff

Grand Canyon Trust

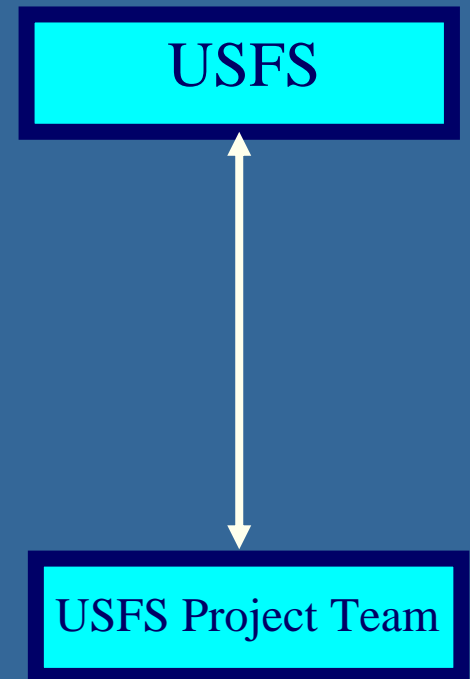
The Nature Conservancy

Southwest Environmental
Consultants

Forest Service

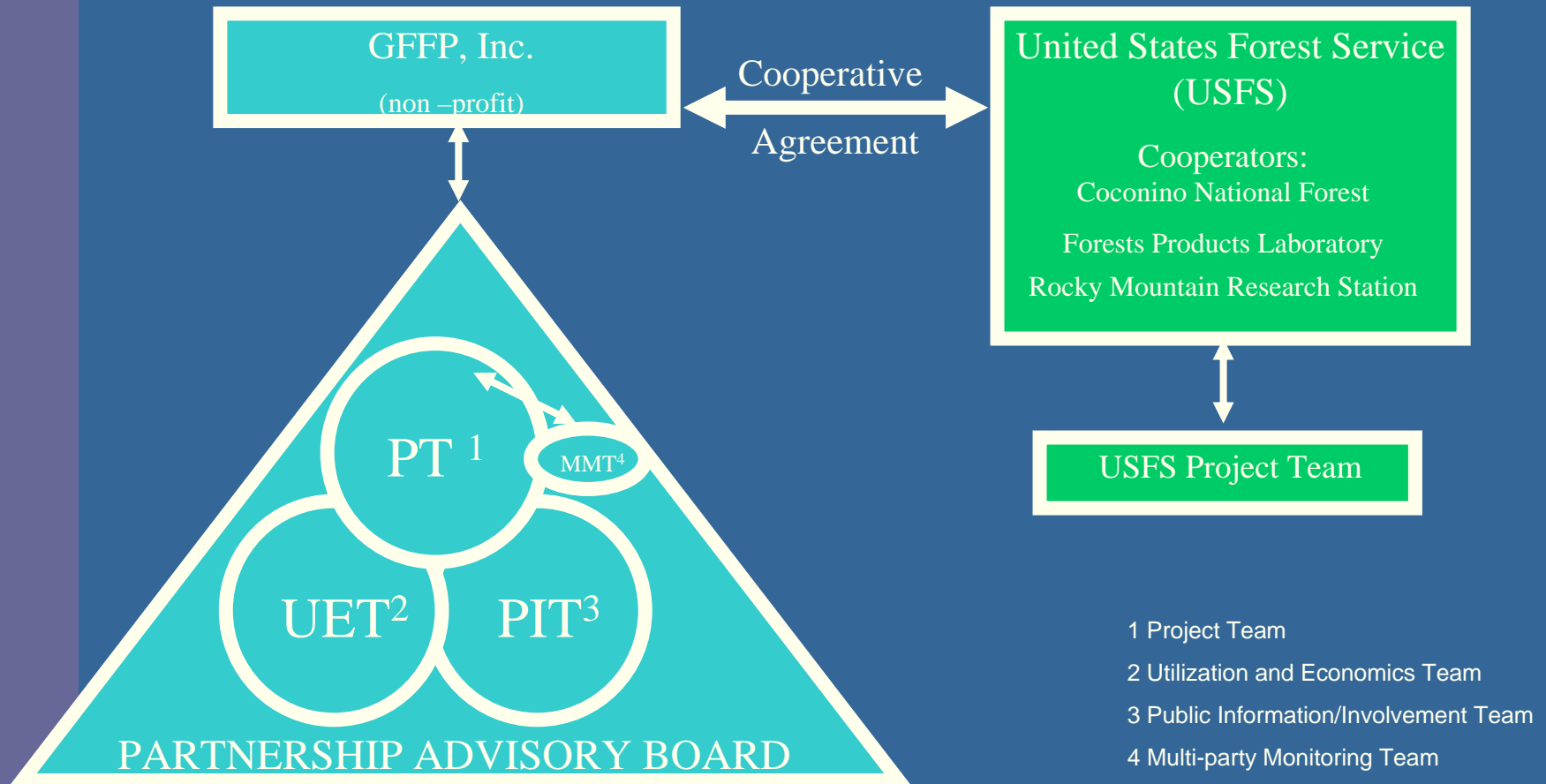
- NEPA Responsibilities and Decision
- Contractual Responsibilities
- Project Oversight
- Joint Project Funding

Includes: Coconino National Forest,
Rocky Mountain Research Station, Forest
Products Lab





GFFP Structure





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Key Elements

Community Involvement

Ecological Framework

Research and Monitoring / Adaptive
Management

Utilization & Economic Development



**GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP**

Community Involvement

- Presentations
- Open Houses
- Field Trips
- Science Forum
- Local Media
- Website
- Community Forest Forum



Vesting Community



**Engaging Community in
Restoration Debate**

- Forest Festival
- Volunteer Projects
- Multiple-agency Fire Risk Assessment
- Homeowner Assistance
- Other Public Outreach
- Open Partnership



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Ecological Framework

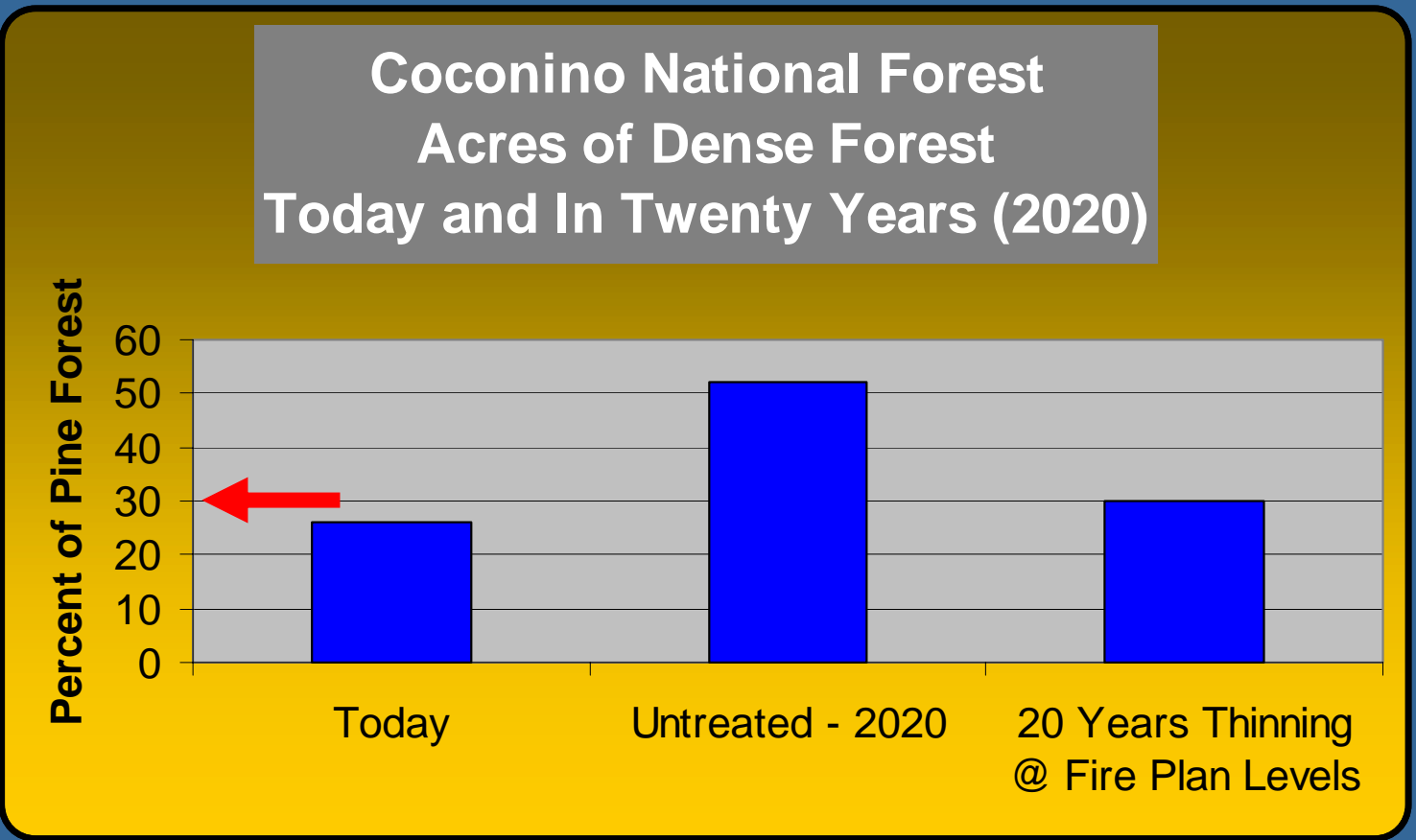


Science Based

Focus on Ecosystem Processes

- Natural Fire Regime
- More Natural Watershed Functions
- Enhancing Native Species

Forest Density





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Ecological Framework



- Restoration Plan Adapted from SER
- No Shortcuts on Laws and NEPA
- Guide for Standardized Forest Planning



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Research and Monitoring

Adaptive Management

\$500,000 Research Invested
100+ Studies by Partners

- Research Partners and Plan
- Multi-party Monitoring
- Research Reference Guide



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Sustainable Businesses

Utilize Byproducts of Restoration



- Feasibility Studies & Site Assessments
- Technology Identification & Analysis
- Business Outreach & Assistance
- Industry Recruitment



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

What Have We Done?

- Potential for Using Small Diameter Ponderosa Pine Resources in Arizona, A Feasibility Study (1997)
- Feasibility of Producing Commercial Products From Pinon-Juniper Woodlands (1997)
- Feasibility Assessment for the Development of a Log Merchandising and Manufacturing Center In Northern AZ (1999)
- Northern AZ Post and Pole Enterprise Feasibility Assessment (1999)
- Southwest U.S. Regional Wood Products Industry Survey, Summary of Findings (1999)
- Market and Utilization Options for Low-Value Wood Products, A Preliminary Assessment of Markets (1999)
- Does a Log Sort Yard Make Sense for Forest Restoration? (2000)
- Log Sort Yard Model and Commentary (2001)
- Lumber Recovery From Small Diameter Ponderosa Pine From Flagstaff, AZ (2001)



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

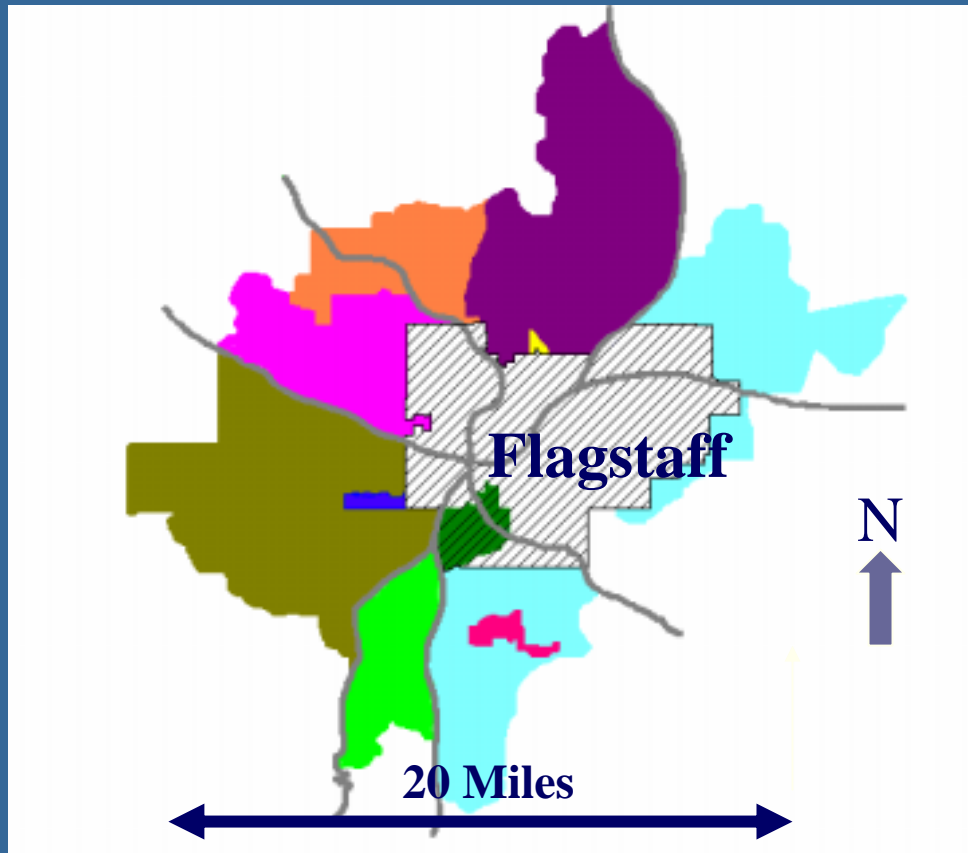
And More!

- Small Diameter Wood Utilization Strategy (2002)
- Small Diameter Saw Mill / Small Log Processing Mill Run (2002)
- Small Log Saw Mill Site Assessment Study for Northern Arizona (2002)
- Preliminary Site Assessment for a Biomass Energy Power Plant In Northern Arizona (2003)
- Consultation with AZ State Government Regarding Biomass In the Environmental Portfolio Standard (2003)
- Enterprise Development Fund for Small Wood Utilization in the Flagstaff Region (2003)
- In-Woods Micromill Economic Feasibility Assessment and Operational Cost Study (2003)
- Coordinated Resource Offering Protocol – CROP (2003)



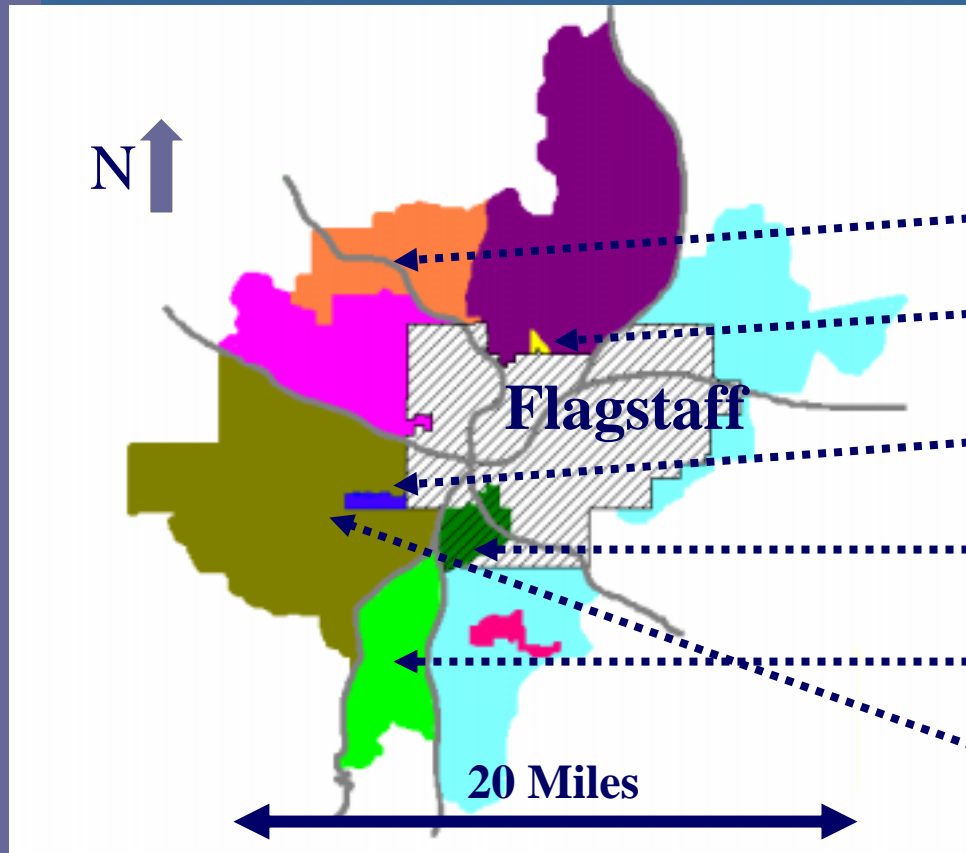
GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Flagstaff Urban Interface



- 180,000 Acres
- Ten Year Analysis Schedule
- Multiple Ownerships

Flagstaff Urban Interface



Projects To Date

Fort Valley (2001)

Elden (completed 2001)

Arboretum (completed 2002)

Airport (2003)

Kachina Village (2002)

Woody Mountain (2004)



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Projects



Thinning

Burning



Restoring Meadows,
Riparian Areas



Enhancing Watershed
Functions



Enhancing Native Species
Recreation, Trails, Roads

Steps Toward Reducing Catastrophic Wildfire And Restoring Keystone Ecosystem Processes

Actions

Results

Thinning Small Trees



Reduces "Ladder" Fuels



Broadcast Burning



Reduces "Ground" Fuels

Thinning Trees in Understory



Reduces Continuous Tree Canopy ("Aerial" Fuels)

Restoration Thinning



Restores More Natural Tree Patterns and Densities and Natural Fire Regime

Time (100 Years +)

Old Growth Forest With Natural Fire Processes

Restoration of Other Natural Processes as an Associated Benefit

Increasing Tree Density





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

Partnership Accomplishments

- * Increased community consciousness about forest health
- * **Developed community model for collaboration**
- * Provided \$1, 500,000 toward projects and partnership operations
- * Thinning(ed) about 4,000 acres
- * **Broadcast burned about 1,500 acres**
- * Thinning and burning by Partners as individual efforts on more than 3,500 acres
- * Restored riparian zone and meadow
- * **Rerouted or closed 11 miles of trails and roads**
- * Reduced recreation impacts to fire risk and wildlife





GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

What's Next?

- Estimate long term (30+ years) sustainable levels of biomass yield from restored ecosystems under maintenance prescribed burning to assure establishment of appropriately scaled business enterprises
- Help facilitate landscape level analysis – Western Mogollon Plateau Landscape Scale Assessment using Forest ERA model: 1.8 million acres
- Support Governor Napolitano's Forest Health Advisory & Oversight Councils recommendations for creation of Cabinet-level **Office of Forest Ecosystem Health** and adoption of "Guiding Principles"
- Participate in Southwest Initiative of Region 3 and State agencies
- Continue public education and citizen involvement efforts to make Flagstaff one of the most knowledgeable & engaged communities in the West
- Explore use of Montreal Criteria and Indicators to focus the design of long term monitoring efforts and enhance adaptive management



GREATER
FLAGSTAFF
FORESTS
PARTNERSHIP

This Is What We Want to Achieve!

