

Achieving Goals Using Interagency Cooperation

BLM's Kingman Field Office, located in northwestern Arizona, has completed several critical fuels reduction and hazard mitigation projects by collaborating and cooperating with local agencies. Cooperating agencies include the Arizona State Land Department, Mohave County, city governments, local fire departments, businesses and special interest groups. BLM is the only federal land management agency in the Kingman area that addresses hazardous fuels and fire prevention issues on public lands, so it is extremely important to develop strong working relationships with local cooperators.

The BLM Kingman fire staff identified a need to develop stronger, more cooperative relationships with local stakeholders. Several partnerships and relationships were formed which led to the completion of many critical projects.

The Pine Lake Working Group of state, county, homeowners association and local agencies was developed to address hazardous fuels reduction issues, fire prevention education and to reduce the wildfire risk to the Pine Lake community. Private land owners in Pine Lake have allowed fuel breaks to be constructed on private property and the local fire department assists in implementing prescribed fires and hazardous fuel reduction projects.

Mohave County and BLM have jointly funded repair of a critical emergency access route severely damaged by flashfloods, and the cleanup of a hazardous fuels dump site which posed a threat to Meadview community residents. The county has provided several electronic fire restriction and closure signs at no expense, personnel and equipment to support wildfire suppression and needed native rock and fill materials to repair road damage caused by the Wild Cow Fire. Mohave County officials have taken a pro-active approach in dealing with fire hazard mitigation issues and have been very supportive of BLM actions.



Road repairs on emergency access route in the Hualapai Mountains.

Local law enforcement agencies and fire departments have been more than willing to assist in complying with fire restrictions and closures. Local news media have played an important role in getting fire related messages out to the public. News releases and public service announcements are aired throughout the year, keeping the local communities informed and assisting BLM by delivering fire related messages.

The state land department has assisted by assessing homes in high risk communities and providing expertise in bark beetle infested and drought stricken areas. The state has facilitated approving grants for the local fire departments and has been extremely supportive in the use of prescribed fire on state lands surrounding these small communities.

Private companies have also provided services to assist in hazard reduction. Local contractors such as Waste Management, Gambi Disposal and several other small companies have offered services for free or at reduced costs. They have recognized the value of giving back to their community and have become willing participants when asked to help.

Kingman and Mohave County area stakeholders concerned about fire hazard reduction have demonstrated that by working together much more can be accomplished.

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