

## Partnerships in NW Arizona Multiply Results 2005 BLM Fuels Reduction & Prevention

A number of fuels reduction projects and fire prevention projects in northwestern Arizona are the result of new partnerships with the BLM's Kingman field office, working with the Arizona State Land Department, Mohave County, city governments, local fire departments and businesses and special interest groups. The BLM is the only federal land management agency in the Kingman area dealing with hazardous fuels and fire prevention on public lands, and BLM staff recognize the importance of working relationships with local cooperators.

The BLM Kingman fire staff therefore has worked on improving relationships with local stakeholders; new partnerships have resulted in the completion of many critical projects.

The Pine Lake Working Group – including representatives from the state, county, homeowners association, and local agencies – was formed to address hazardous fuels issues, fire prevention and education, and wildfire risk reduction for the Pine Lake community. Landowners in Pine Lake allowed the construction of fuelbreaks on private property, and the local fire department helped with prescribed fires and fuels reduction.

Mohave County and the BLM jointly funded the repair of an emergency access route that had been severely damaged by flashfloods and the cleanup of a hazardous fuels dump site that posed a threat to the Meadview community. The county provided several fire restriction and closure signs, along with personnel and equipment for suppression. They also supplied 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.



*Road repairs on emergency access route in the Hualapai Mountains.*

Local law enforcement agencies and fire departments have helped with fire restriction and closure compliance. Local news media helped with relaying fire-related messages to the public. News releases and public service announcements are aired throughout the year, keeping communities informed. The State Land Department assessed homes in high-risk communities and provides expertise in bark beetle-infested and drought-stricken areas. The state's helped with approving grants for local fire departments and supports 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 including Waste Management and Gambi Disposal have provided services for free or at reduced costs. Kingman and Mohave County area stakeholders concerned about fire hazard reduction have demonstrated that by working together, much more can be accomplished toward goals of reduced risk, improved fire readiness, and better prevention.