# Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project

In November 2012 Flagstaff residents overwhelmingly approved a \$10 million bond to support forest health treatments within two key watersheds on the Coconino National Forest and Arizona State Trust lands. This is one of only a handful of examples in the country where forest health treatments in National Forests is funded by a municipality and the only known instance where such an effort is funded through municipal bonds.

- The Forest Service, City and State are working together to reduce the risk of severe fire and flooding in the Rio de Flag and Lake Mary Watersheds.
- The 2010 Schultz Fire demonstrated the potential impacts of severe fire and flooding our community faces.
- Severe post-fire flooding could significantly impact numerous neighborhoods, downtown Flagstaff, NAU and the Lake Mary reservoir (approximately 50% of the City's water supply).
- This bond will support forest health treatment efforts in critical watersheds in the Dry Lake Hills and Mormon Mountain areas.

- It's about partnering with others
- It's about reducing risk
- It's about an exceptional danger
- It's about quality of life
- It's an investment in our future
- It's about viewing our forests as an integral part of our water system



View of the 2010 Schultz Fire smoke column rising up behind Mt Elden.

- Forest treatments will reduce the risk of severe fire behavior and post-fire flood effects on the community and water supply.
- The environmental analysis process evaluating various potential treatments began shortly after the November 2012 election.
- Implementation is expected to begin this year; work will likely continue for the next 5-10 years.
- Treatments being evaluated include traditional logging, hand thinning, prescribed fire, helicopter and cable logging.
- Public involvement is key to success. We encourage the public to be actively engaged throughout the process.

#### www.flagstaffwatershedprotection.org



## **Agencies Involved**

City of Flagstaff

Coconino National Forest

AZ State Land Department

AZ State Forestry Division

# <u>Learn how</u> <u>YOU can</u> get involved!

We encourage the public to stay engaged throughout the process. Public input is vital to the success of this project!

View current information online, attend public meetings, ask questions and contact us anytime.

NEPA comments must be formally submitted to the USFS for consideration.



Overview map illustrating the general project areas in the Lake Mary and Rio de Flag Watersheds.

### Additional project information is available at the following:

FWPP website: Visit us at <u>www.flagstaffwatershedprotection.org</u>
Twitter: You can also follow us on Twitter at <u>@flgwatershed</u>
Flickr: View project pictures at <u>www.flickr.com/photos/flagstaffwatershedprotection</u>
Coconino National Forest NEPA: View documents and submit comments at <u>www.fs.usda.gov/Coconino</u>
Coconino National Forest—Flagstaff Ranger Station: (928) 526-0866
City of Flagstaff, Fire Administration: (928) 213-2500