



Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Office of the State Forester

Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management



David Tenney
State Forester

Tribal Outreach and Activities Annual Report 2020

Agency Overview

The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM), in partnership with local, county, state, tribal and federal agencies, protects Arizona's people by providing technical assistance through forestry programs; facilitating forest restoration; managing and suppressing wildland fire; sharing knowledge to promote fire prevention; and ensuring fire and life safety through regular building inspections, permitting, and plan reviews.

Tribal Collaboration

DFFM collaborates with tribal entities during the fire season while managing active fires, and year-round to promote dialog, mutual understanding and the pursuit of shared objectives. This engagement encourages sensitivity for tribal sovereign rights and culture. DFFM's Forestry programs offer tribes grant funding for hazardous vegetation removal, invasive plant treatment, and wildfire prevention and suppression. The State Fire Marshal's office responds to tribal entities and conducts inspections in tribal communities when invited to do so.

Tribal Notification

For all projects that DFFM conducts on Arizona State Trust Land, DFFM consults with tribes whose interests may be affected. Since the Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) is ultimately responsible for activities that occur on State Trust Land, DFFM collaborates with ASLD and ASLD takes the lead in tribal notification and consultation.

Tribal Interactions

Presently, DFFM is updating its guiding document: the 2020 Forest Action Plan (FAP). Until this revision of the FAP is approved, the Department is operating under the approved 2010 FAP. Goals and objectives in the 2010 FAP that pertain to tribal interactions are listed below.

Duty □ **Respect** □ **Integrity**

FAP 2010 Goal	FAP 2010 Objective
<p>Goal 1: Improved Communications between all land management agencies, indigenous tribes, and other cultural groups about varying perspectives and beliefs related to forests, trees, and other natural resources.</p>	<p>Objective A: Build trust, communication networks, and problem solving strategies between land management agencies, communities, and stakeholders about the diverse cultural perspectives of forest users and Indigenous Tribes.</p>
	<p>Objective B: Improve broader understanding of various cultural perspectives as they relate to forest resources, fire management, and other natural resource issues.</p>
	<p>Objective C: Educate the public, government officials, and community leaders about the role and importance of cultural perspectives in restoration, sustainable forest and wood products businesses, fire management, and responsibilities.</p>
<p>Goal 2: Effective collaboration mechanisms for sharing of information about resources, priorities, policies, and management strategies between Tribes and non-Tribal organizations.</p>	<p>Objective D: Where appropriate, share data and implementation strategies to leverage successful outcomes on tribal and adjacent lands with similar management objectives.</p>
	<p>Objective E: Improve information sharing about available resources to address the needs of indigenous tribes and other cultural groups in Arizona.</p>

Activities related to the goals and objectives above that have taken place in 2020 are listed below.

Tribal Interactions		
Goal	Objective	Activity
Goal 1, 2	Objectives A, D, E	Maintained relationships with BIA and all tribal nations within the State of Arizona. Provided resources that enhanced our capabilities to respond to wildland fires and to protect life and property, cultural and spiritual values and natural resources.
Goal 1, 2	Objectives A, B, D, E	Collaborated with tribes pertaining to archeological sites while fighting fires.
Goal 1	Objectives A, B	Received a lesson from a tribal (Diné) member on the cultural significance of forest-related items in forest management and restoration activities.
Goal 2	Objectives D, E	Awarded Community Challenge Grant to Apache County in District A2S for project on tribal trust land.