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NELSON DAVIS
CHAIRMAN
DISTRICT III
P.O. Box 428, St. Johns, AZ 85936

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF APACHE COUNTY**

P.O. BOX 428
ST. JOHNS, ARIZONA 85936

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RYAN N. PATTERSON
MANAGER-CLERK
ST. JOHNS, AZ 85936

**NOTICE OF A TELEPHONIC PUBLIC MEETING AND AGENDA OF THE
APACHE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02(H), the public will have physical access to the meeting room thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the meeting.

**Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room, First Floor
Apache County Annex, 75 West Cleveland Street
St. Johns, Arizona
December 16, 2025
9:00 a.m. MST**

1. Emergency Management: Discussion and possible approval of an agreement between Apache County and the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management amending Grant Number HFI-22-324 to extend the term of the grant to end June 30, 2026 and to revise the project area and project plan.
2. Notification of District I Safety Banquet on December 16, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. at the Chinle District I Road Yard Administration Building, U.S. Highway 191, mile post 446.9, Chinle, Arizona where two or more members of the Apache County Board of Supervisors may be in attendance.

One or more members of the Board of Supervisors may participate telephonically or through video communication.

Posted this 15th day of December at 7:30 a.m. by 



Ryan N. Patterson
Clerk of the Board

Apache County Board of Supervisors
AGENDA ITEM REVIEW FORM

date/time stamp

Submitter's Name Apache County Emergency Management

Date/Signature: 12/10/2025 Heather Lamas

Describe in detail what you want to say to the Board and what action you want the Board to take:

Discussion and possible approval of an agreement between Apache County and The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management amending Grant Number HFI 22-324 to extend the term of the grant to end June 30, 2026, and to revise the project area and project plan.

BOS Meeting Date: December 2025

PRE-AGENDA ITEM REVIEW

Legal Review: _____

Signature: _____

Check if item does not require review

Finance Review: _____

Signature: _____

Check if item does not require review

Human Resources Review: _____

Signature: _____

Check if item does not require review

Other Review: _____

Signature: _____

Check if item does not require review

Reviews completed, item approved for Agenda. Board Clerk's Initials _____



GRANT AMENDMENT

**Arizona Department of
Forestry and Fire
Management**

1110 W. Washington, Ste 500
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 771-1400

Grant No: HFI 22-324

Apache County

Amendment No: 2

It is mutually agreed that the referenced grant agreement is amended as follows:

1. Pursuant to Page 1, Item 4: TERM OF AGREEMENT, per the email request dated December 5, 2025, the term of this agreement shall be extended to an end date of June 30, 2026.
2. Pursuant to Detail Project Plan (Attachment B) per email request dated December 5, 2025. The original Project Area and Detailed Project Plan will be amended to the attached revised Project Area and Detailed Project Plan.

TOTAL project area to be completed: 208 acres

TOTAL grant award amount: \$213,000

All Other provisions shall remain in their entirety

Grantee hereby acknowledges receipt and acceptance of above amendment. The amendment only becomes effective once signed by both Grantee and Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

The above referenced Grant Amendment is hereby executed as of the final signature date below.

Grantee: **Apache County**

Grantor: **Arizona Department of Forestry
and Fire Management**

Signature

Date

Signature

Date

Authorized Signatory's Name and Title

State Forester

Nutriosio Firewise and Fuels Reduction Health Improvement Project
Detailed Project Plan February 2022

Project Narrative

Approximately 400 acres of private property forest restoration has been identified in Nutriosio 15 miles SE of Eagar and 15 miles N of Alpine. The vegetation is heavy Ponderosa Pine, Cedar, and Juniper in traditionally grazed grasslands. The project abuts FS to the south and east and AZ Hwy 180 to the west. The Northern project boundary is County Road 2315. A dozer line/access road splits the project from east to west. The area is considered high risk in the 2004 Apache County CWPP and high risk in the current AZ-WRAP. Winds from the southeast can push wildfire from extremely high risk areas (the Wallow Fire burn footprint) into this project. Power lines runs along the eastern boundary, north and west.

Goals and Objectives

Project goals and objectives will be achieved through a collective partnership of state, federal, and local agencies, and private landowners.

Main Goal:

The main goal of this project is to protect Nutriosio from catastrophic wildfire while improving forest health and historical grasslands.

Objectives:

Treat 200 acres of private property within the Nutriosio WUI.

Work in collaboration with the USFS to treat federal lands adjacent to the project boundary under Good Neighbor Authority.

Planning

Planned treatment of 200 acres will take place in Nutriosio over two years to reduce wildfire threat to residents in the area and protect native grasslands, transportation and power infrastructure, and complement National Forest treatments. The area has become overwhelmed with cedar and juniper. Removal of these species while maintaining proper pine spacing and Firewise recommendations around homes and structures will reduce the available fuels for wildfire ignition and spread. The project is subject to high winds from the south that have the potential to push fire from NF land which have a high to extreme wildfire risk rating. These lands are flagged for treatment by the Alpine Ranger District.

Project Scope

Treatment will take place on 200 acres over two years and will involve 3 property owners. Each property has been preliminarily assessed and each owner has been contacted and entered into landowner agreements with Apache County and cooperator agreements with NRCS. More in depth FireWise assessments will be conducted at the time of the contract award and thinning prescriptions prepared.

Terrain varies but is easy to walk overall and accessible with equipment. A combination of mechanical and hand treatment is planned. Mastication will be carried out on 45 acres. Hand thinning and slash removal will take place on the remaining 155 acres. The identified 155 acres will be treated as a grassland restoration project to increase agricultural production. Partnering with NRCD is crucial to achieve the desired outcomes.

Apache County EM will carry out site assessments and mapping. The AC drone pilots will fly the projects before and after treatment for picture documentation as well as mapping. NRCD and MH consulting will conduct assessments and develop prescriptions. MH consulting will manage all aspects of the project including reporting and financials.

Post treatment, property owners are responsible for maintenance. The landowner agreement outlines a requirement to maintain treatment for proper fire mitigation. Landowner education on fire adapted landscapes and their ability to withstand wildfire is a key component to project longevity. Maintenance costs are about \$100 per acre when properly implemented and can sometimes be no more than general raking and trimming.

MH consulting will be responsible for all deliverables to DFFM including progress reports, quarterly reports, and reimbursement requests. Apache County will process all financial payments to the landowners. This will be done in accordance with Apache County's purchasing and procurement policies. For example, landowners will be asked to obtain three quotes from contractors on the County's approved list. The list is comprised of timber contractors that are licensed and insured and have a thorough knowledge of Firewise principles and fuels mitigation. Emergency management staff will assist in removal of slash after treatments are completed.

Project deliverables and outcomes include mitigation and fuels reduction by removing 90% of pinon/juniper and cedar. Pine reduction by 25-50% per acre through removal of any dead, dying, diseased, or otherwise unhealthy tree while maintaining proper spacing in healthy forest stands is planned. Erosion control will be achieved by allowing native species the opportunity to reestablish through reduced tree density. In some areas re-seeding with native grasses will be proposed to property owners. Rangeland health and grassland restoration is a primary goal of the project and will be attained by removing woody biomass from the understory and reducing tree density. Wildlife habitat will be improved by reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire. Protection of infrastructure such as power lines and roadways are further intended outcomes.

Apache County will utilize its drone capabilities in assessing properties. With permission from property owners, staff will fly each property for an accurate tree count. Upon a follow-up

inspection, a second flyover will be conducted along with a second tree count. This information will provide the necessary data to establish the percentage of fuel load reduction that is taking place. Before and after photo and video documentation will measure the immediate results during and post-treatment. The drone information will aid in mapping of the projects. MH Consulting will subcontract the GIS mapping component. Thinning prescriptions vary but are consistent with FIREwise recommendations and tree spacing that prevents crown fire. MH Consulting will work with local agencies including the Alpine Ranger District and NRCD for additional guidance.

Nutriosos Firewise and Fuels Reduction Health Improvement Project

Detailed Project Plan February 2022

Project Narrative

Approximately 400 acres of private property forest restoration has been identified in Nutriosos 15 miles SE of Eagar and 15 miles N of Alpine. The vegetation is heavy Ponderosa Pine, Cedar, and Juniper in traditionally grazed grasslands. The project abuts FS to the south and east and AZ Hwy 180 to the west. The Northern project boundary is County Road 2315. A dozer line/access road splits the project from east to west. The area is considered high risk in the 2004 Apache County CWPP and high risk in the current AZ-WRAP. Winds from the southeast can push wildfire from extremely high risk areas (the Wallow Fire burn footprint) into this project. Power lines run along the eastern boundary, north and west.

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Objectives:

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Work in collaboration with the USFS to treat federal lands adjacent to the project boundary under Good Neighbor Authority.

Planning

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Apache County Board of Supervisors
AGENDA ITEM REVIEW FORM

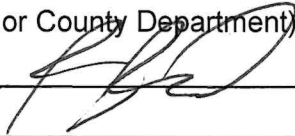
date/time stamp

Submitter's Name: (Individual, Organization, or County Department)

County Manager

Date/Signature:

12/15/25



Describe in detail what you want to say to the Board and what action you want the Board to take:

Notification of District I Safety Banquet on December 16, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. at the Chinle District I Road Yard Administration Building, U.S. Highway 191, mile post 446.9, Chinle, Arizona where two or more members of the Apache County Board of Supervisors may be in attendance.

BOS Meeting Date 12/16/25

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