COUNCIL – SUPERVISORS UPDATE

County: Forest Restoration – Jay Smith
City: Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project – Paul Summerfelt

June 4th, 2018
Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project

- History
- Organization
- Work Flow
- Successes
- Challenges
- Future
History

South Half: Lake Mary

Blue – Lake Mary watershed; Gold – Federal

Focus → flooding/reservoir

Lake Mary → Mormon Mtn → Mormon Lake
History

- Envisioned in 2011
- $10M bond capacity available
- City Manager recommendation, Council approval summer 2012
- 74% approval, Nov 2012
Organization

- **Project:**
  - Executive Team
  - Communications Team

- **City:**
  - Council/Leadership
  - Staff
  - Greater Flagstaff Forests Partnership

- **Federal:**
  - WO, RO, Coconino NF, Flagstaff RD
  - Interdisciplinary Planning Team
  - Implementation Team
Work Flow

• Progression of Treatments

  • Sequence
    City & State ↔ Federal (I, II, III)

  • Treatment Acres
    1st five years: City, State, Federal (I)
    Current: City/Federal (I)
    Next: Federal (II)
    Future: Federal (III)
Work Flow

• Treatment Types
  • Harvesting
    • Hand
    • Traditional mechanical
    • Steep-slope mechanical
    • Cable
    • Helicopter
  • Rx fire

• Treatment Methods
  • Service
  • Sale
• Cutting Prescriptions
  • City
    • Forest Stewardship & CWP Plans
    • GTR 310
    • Partner input/review
    • Long-term investment
  • State:
    • Mission
    • Recurring harvest/wood production
  • Federal:
    • Forest Plan
    • NEPA ➔ FEIS/FROD
    • Fuel reduction
    • Site specific rx by staff
Work Flow

- **11,600 acres w/FWPP boundaries:**
  - City/State – 3,500 acres
  - Federal – 8,100 acres
    - DLH: 5,100 acres -
      - Phase I - 660 (M) + 100 (H) + **100 (H)**
      - Phase II - 480 (M) + **2,360 (M)** + **500 (H)**
      - Orion TO - 900 (M)
  - MM: **3,000** acres ±
Work Flow

• $ Allocation
  $ 3.4 M – Spent
  $ 4.6 M – Encumbered (Phase II)
  $ 2.0 M – Planned (grant matches, operating/treatment expenses)

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$10.0 M – Total bond

• City State – 3,500 acres
• Federal – 5,960 acres

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9,460 acres
Successes

- 4,000 acres thinned/harvested
- 1,500 acres of slash chipped and removed
- 1,900 acres of slash piled and burned
- 1,000 acres broadcast burned
- 3,300 acres of tree marking
- 1,500 cords of firewood
Successes

- 500 acres of material provided for mixed coal-green biomass generating test
- 1,400 acre 3-year field test/use of Tablet Technology
- Steep-slope timber harvesting equipment test
- City Monitoring Plan
- 13,200 hrs of volunteer labor
Successes

• Environmental planning on federal lands
• Rebuilt/resurfaced 8 miles of existing roads
• Federal lands boundary surveys within Dry Lake Hills area
• 4 hydrologic gauge stations
• MSO monitoring
Successes

- 20+ Agreements
- 50+ public events
- Numerous tours & visits
- Reports, Case-Studies, Media
- 5 new partners
- Acquired $5.2 million outside funds
Challenges

• 5½ years into 10 year project . . .
  Transition from Project Vision to Project Planning to Operational Execution
  • For 78% of area, we are not JHA
  • Terrain
  • Critical wildlife habitat
  • Timber markets
  • Operator availability/viability
  • Information outreach
  • Personnel turnover
  • Unknowns
  • No road map
Challenges

• Funding Refinement – **Potential Need**
  
  • Where
    
    • Dry Lake Hills (II) - $2.5 M
      
      • Dependent upon bids received/awarded (fall) and contract performance (2018-2020)
    
    • Mormon Mtn (III) - $2.0 M
  
  • How are we addressing?
    
    • 5 Year Commitment
    
    • CM/BT, Partners, Community members
    
    • Council workshops
• How are we addressing?
  • Innovative approaches:
    • International round-wood export
    • ACE internal fund-raiser
    • NFF – NAFF discussions
  • Additional leverage funds
  • New monies/in-kind commitments
  • Refining approach w/USFS, talking to partners/community members
Future

- Bond fully spent/encumbered Dec 2019
- July 2019 (FY20) critical
Wrap-Up

• **It's about . . .**
  • Exceptional danger,
  • Reducing risk,
  • Partnering with others,
  • Quality of life,
  • Forests as integral part of our community and water system,
  • Investment in our future,
  • Recognition we can’t wait for others to act
Questions?

www.flagstaffwatershedprotection.org