

Poco Pino Fuels Reduction Project

Delivering water and power™

Forest and Watershed Health Background

The Salt River Project (SRP) is dedicated to protecting the watersheds that are vital to Arizona's water supply. The restoration of National Forest System (NFS) lands in Tonto National Forest (TNF) affects municipal water supply, water quality, forest fire potential, public safety, recreation, natural resources, and the economic vitality of surrounding communities. Restoring this land drastically reduces the possibility of high costs associated with wildfire and post-wildfire flooding damages. As part of the effort to reduce catastrophic wildfire, SRP has partnered with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to implement forest thinning and fuels reduction projects.

Poco Pino Project Overview

The Project is located less than 1 mile southeast of Pine, Arizona and covers 718 acres of ponderosa pine forest. The purpose of this project is to restore the health of the forest by removing the overabundance of small diameter ponderosa pine, Emory oak, Arizona white oak, and alligator juniper. This project will create conditions for a vigorous ponderosa pine forest with a structure that is sustainable for 10-15 years. This project also aims to improve the Verde watershed function.

Poco Pino Details

Estimated Costs: \$574,400

Funding Received to Date: \$498,000

• Funding Needed: \$76,400

• Partners: SRP, USFS

• Implementation Timeline: Spring 2024 – Spring 2025

Project Benefits

- · Reducing risk of high-severity, large-scale wildfire and post-wildfire flooding
- Protecting the Town of Pine





Map of Poco Pino Project Area

Haigler Creek Phase 1 Mastication Project



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Haigler Creek Phase 1 Project Overview

The Project is located 20 miles east of Payson, Arizona and covers 1,687 acres of ponderosa pine and juniper woodland. The purpose of this project is to restore the ponderosa pine and woodland species by removing the encroached junipers, woodland, and

brush species adjacent to high valued private land and infrastructure. This Project will create conditions for a healthy, vigorous ponderosa pine forest with a structure that is sustainable for the next 10-15 years. The Project will improve conditions within the Haigler Creek watershed which ultimately flows into Roosevelt Lake in the Salt River watershed.

Haigler Creek Project Details

• Estimated Costs: \$1,367,060

Funding Received to Date: \$683,530

• Funding Needed: \$683,530

Partners: SRP. USFS

• Implementation Timeline: Starting in May 2025

Project Benefits

- Reducing risk of high-severity, large-scale wildfire and post-wildfire flooding
- Protecting private/public infrastructure
- Protecting water supplies, infrastructure, and water quality







Map of Haigler Creek project area, Phases 1 and 2

South Payson Phase 1 Mastication Project

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South Payson Phase 1 Project Overview

The Project is located seven miles south of Payson, Arizona and covers 2,299 acres of ponderosa pine and juniper woodland. The purpose of this project is to restore the ponderosa pine and woodland species by removing the encroached junipers, woodland, and brush species adjacent to high valued private land and infrastructure. This project will create conditions for a healthy, vigorous ponderosa pine forest with a structure that is sustainable for the next 10-15 years. It will also improve a key watershed function in the local area.

South Payson Phase 1 Details

- Estimated Costs: \$1,916,177
- Funding Received to Date: \$1,619,600
- Funding Needed: \$296,577
- Partners: SRP, USFS, DFFM, AZ Game and Fish Dept.
- Implementation Timeline: October 2023 October 2024

Project Benefits

- Reducing risk of high-severity, large-scale wildfire and post-wildfire flooding
- Protecting Town of Payson
- Protecting private/public infrastructure
- Protecting water supplies, infrastructure, and water quality





Map of South Payson projects, Phases 1-5.



