

# Appendix E • Key Standards and Guidelines, Coconino National Forest Land Management Plan

The general standards and guidelines that were key to developing the Kachina Village Forest Health Project are described here, however, this is not an entire list of standards and guidelines of the Forest Plan. Standard and guideline compliance reports for the Proposed Action are located in the project record file (Chapter L). Key standards and guidelines include:

- Hold fires to 10 acres or less per fire start. The zone is the WUI and an area up to 10 miles long in a southwesterly direction from WUI areas (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 93).
- "...high intensity crown fires are not acceptable in [northern goshawk] post-family fledging family areas or nest areas." (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 65-11.)
- Work toward the recovery and de-listing of threatened and endangered species (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 23). "Heavy accumulations of ground and ladder fuels have rendered many southwestern forests vulnerable to stand-replacing fires...reduce these fuels and abate fire risks" (Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery Plan).
- Standards for northern goshawk habitat call for sustaining a mosaic of vegetative densities (overstory and understory), age classes, and species composition across the landscape. (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 65-7).
- Strive to create or sustain as much old-growth compositional, structural, and functional flow as possible over time at multiple-area and scales (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 70-1).
- Northern goshawk habitat: Manage for old age trees such that as much old forest structure as possible is sustained over time across the landscape (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 65-7).
- Follow distribution of age/size tree classes per habitat guidelines for the Mexican spotted owl and the northern goshawk (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, pp. 65-1 to 65-11).
- Seek to develop or retain old-growth function on at least 20 percent of the naturally forested area by forest type in any landscape (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 70-1).
- For Mexican spotted owl Restricted Habitat: Attempt to mimic natural disturbance patterns by incorporating natural variation, such as irregular tree spacing and various patch sizes...Allow natural canopy gap processes to occur, thus producing horizontal variation in stand structure (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 65-4).
- Manage habitat to maintain viable populations of wildlife and fish species and improve habitat for selected species (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 22-1).
- ROS classes are used in developing decisions on road standards and density. Total acres of any ROS class are allowed to change no more than +/- 15 percent from the updated inventoried levels during the first decade (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 51).
- Emphasize maintaining some thermal cover in known wildlife corridors and bedding areas (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 124).
- Dispersed areas are kept clean for aesthetics, health, and safety. Areas damaged to use are closed and restored as necessary (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 57).
- Criteria for closures to off-road driving are described on pages 58-59 of the Coconino National Forest Plan (1996) and include sensitive soils, wildlife, visual quality, water quality, and wetlands.
- Maintain current satisfactory watershed conditions and improve any unsatisfactory conditions to satisfactory by 2020 (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 74).
- At least 25 percent of those riparian areas currently classified as "unsatisfactory" will be in satisfactory condition by 2000 (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 73).

- “...areas may be seasonally closed to provide opportunities for recreation in a setting...toward the primitive end of the [ROS] spectrum” (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 59).
- “Implement off-road driving restrictions in areas where roads are closed or obliterated...to prevent reopening...” (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 60).
- Northern goshawk habitat: Manage road densities at the lowest level possible (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 65-11).
- Manage road densities to achieve an average of 2 miles per section in the ponderosa pine/mixed conifer zone (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 89).
- Evaluate the extent to which insect and disease control measures are needed to protect either the suitable [timber base] or unsuitable areas (Coconino National Forest Plan, 1996, p. 70).