



## Arizona Conservation Corps + Coconino National Forest **HART PRAIRIE MEADOW RESTORATION**

### IN PROGRESS PROJECT SNAPSHOT:

The Arizona Conservation Corps (AZCC), a program of Conservation Legacy, in partnership with the Coconino National Forest, is completing important land management work north of Flagstaff by engaging AmeriCorps members in projects that will benefit the community of Flagstaff and the forests that surround it.

AZCC members are working on the Hart Prairie Meadow Restoration project, restoring historic meadows by retaining and enhancing herbaceous cover to help prevent soil erosion and provide forage for dependent species. Along with the work in the meadow they are working on a fuels reduction project in Unit 87A, northeast of Forest Service Road 151. Crews are also assisting in reducing fuels by decreasing stand densities and fuel loading, lessening the potential of a crown fire. Through this work, AZCC members are gaining experience in restoration and fuels reduction techniques such as hand and machine thinning techniques, and piling and lop and scatter slash treatments.



### CREW MEMBER IMPACT:

AZCC members are spending time with USFS specialists learning about forest and meadow ecosystems. This information is helping these members understand the impact their work will have on the landscape and the benefits for the community of Flagstaff. Members have received this training relative to the project site and work.



"My name is Jacob Thompson and I am a member of crew 357. We are working on the Hart Prairie Restoration project and goal of this project is to restore the meadow by removing the trees that have taken over in the past 100 years due to intensive fire management practices."



"My name is Mac Jacobs and I'm the Crew Leader for Crew 357. Our work this week took place in Hart Prairie, where we were working to restore a beautiful meadow resting underneath the San Francisco peaks. We felled trees, limbed them, and stacked large slash piles."

Slash piles are no less than eight feet tall and ten feet wide. The work is hard, but our crew is resilient. We also endured various different weather patterns. At the end of the week, spirits remained high and the crew had bonded well."



District Silviculturist, Andy Stevenson lines out crew 357 after educating them on meadow restoration techniques.

