



FireScape: Preserving Our Mountains by Thinking Big

FireScape: A Coronado National Forest program to apply fire management across southeastern Arizona that is:

- Safe
- Ecologically-sound
- Large-scale
- Multi-partnered

FireScape is about removing barriers

Firescape plans analyze large “sky island” landscapes and the surrounding lower grasslands. Analysis areas of several hundred thousand acres include plans to coordinate fire management across land ownership boundaries and to lay the foundation to allow fires to burn more naturally across property lines. Mechanical thinning, especially in the wildland-urban interface, is included.

FireScape is an innovative approach

Partners work together to apply the right type of fire to the appropriate habitat (grasslands, woodlands, and forests). Our goal is to create landscapes that are able to survive wildfire and keep our biodiversity intact. We also work to keep fire out of systems where fire has not been the norm, such as the Sonoran desert and high spruce-fir forests.

FireScape includes multiple projects across our Sky Island forests. No two projects are alike, but all demonstrate the ability to think big and make a difference.

Huachuca FireScape

- Over a decade working together
- 400,000 acre analysis area that is NEPA compliant with no appeals
- Includes Huachuca Mountains, Coronado National Memorial, Fort Huachuca, BLM lands, and Audubon and The Nature Conservancy properties

Chiricahua FireScape

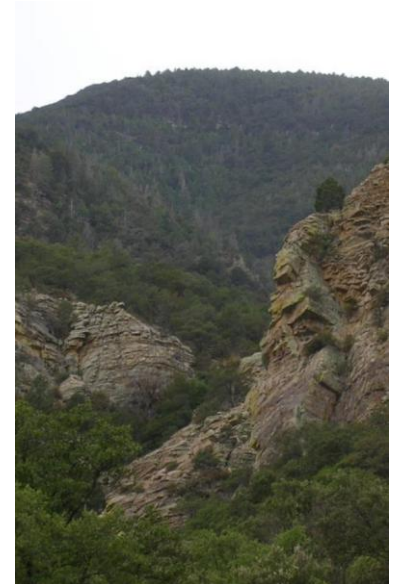
- Restoring natural fire regime to 500,000 acres in the Chiricahua, Dragoon, and Dos Cabezas mountains, Fort Bowie National Historic Site, Chiricahua National Monument, Leslie Canyon National Wildlife Refuge, and State trust lands
- Grazing permittees invited

Catalina-Rincon FireScape

- 250,000-acre landscape with a mosaic of treatments dealing with past wildfires
- University of Arizona research on fire behavior and carbon cycle effects
- Includes Coronado National Forest, Saguaro National Park, Arizona State Trust lands, and private lands
- Treatment in designated wilderness
- Reduce threats to surrounding urban interface

Galiuro FireScape

- Covers remote country with little urban interface
- Concentrates on large-scale managed fires
- Discussion includes using helicopter ignition for prescribed fire management in wilderness
- Partners include Coronado National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy, University of Arizona, Arizona Game and Fish, and grazing permittees
- NEPA process to start in late 2010



Coronado National Forest General Location Map

