



2023 Ancestral Lands Hopi Firewood Report

The Hopi Fuelwood Partnership is a collaboration consisting of the National Forest Foundation, Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps, U.S Forest Service, the Hopi Foundation, and the Hopi Community. This partnership formed to help ensure access to fuel wood to the local Hopi and Navajo community who utilize the wood primarily for home heating. The project is part of a larger initiative known as the Wood for Life. Wood for Life currently seeks to sustainably deliver wood to Navajo and Hopi communities from forest restoration thinning on the Coconino and Kaibab National Forests.

Dairy Springs Thinning Project:

The Dairy Springs Project located near Mormon Lake was identified by the USFS for a thinning project due to a high concentration of residential units as well as access roads for pickups/distributions. The trees were felled in the winter of 2021 by contractors and ALCC crews were fielded to stage and process the fuelwood for pickup by the local Navajo and Hopi communities.

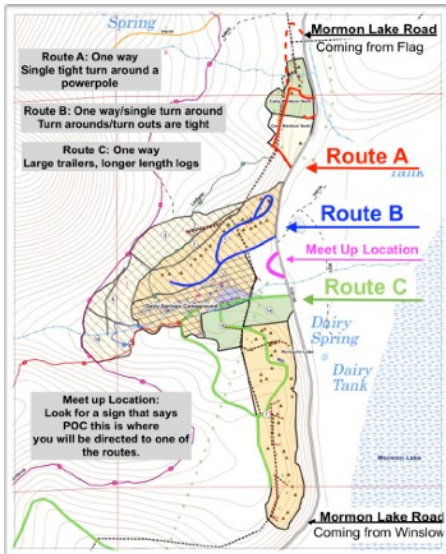
Ancestral Lands Processing and Distribution

The project was logistically challenging as we were tasked with coordinating removal of a large amount of jackknifed fuelwood with limited capacity located in both a residential area as well as a camp ground. The mating season for Mexican Spotted Owl as well as Fire Season reduced our overall operating capacity and we primarily utilized hand crews to complete the project. The project was also located in close proximity to residential units where crews supported large distribution days with a focus on safety and resource damage mitigation.

Distribution days

We prioritized project partners for pick ups in both the spring and summer before the big Fall Season firewood rush. This was intended to encourage pick up of fuelwood in the early spring/summer as well as develop partnerships with local organizations. This allowed us to serve more households because these partners consisted of Villages, Chapters, and local organizations whose missions are to provide fuelwood to the





community. Distributions were coordinated on a bi-weekly basis from Wednesday Saturday to target working hours as well as catch the weekend volunteers.

We still had plenty of material to distribute in the Fall and moved to an individual distribution system where individuals could schedule a pick up via phone or email. We coordinated a first come first serve system where individuals could sign up for time slots. This was due to limitations of space in the parking area as well as getting community members on/off the site within a 1 hour time frame.

Distributions were held from Thursday to Sunday with a varying number of time slots that depended on capacity of staff to handle volume. Each day we were able to accommodate 90 trucks and had limited spaces for trailers. The strategy was to provide as much information through the request form, over the phone, and on site to

mitigate any safety or general concerns from the public. The tight control and relay of information was critical to implementing a successful long-term project of a valuable community resource.

Demographic Information Collected

Information was collected both through the Request Form as well as upon arrival of the community members to the site through a questionnaire. This information was collected to determine need, demand, and effectiveness of the project. This information also allows use to determine the costs associated with the project as well as production potential of future projects. The questions were as follows:

- Are you picking up this load for yourself or someone else?
- Number of people living in your household?
- What is your primary heat source? (Wood/Coal/Propane)
- How much do you typically pay for this amount of wood?
- How much will a truckload of wood last you in weeks?
- Do you have access to a truck? Trailer? Chainsaw?

How number of cords distributed was estimated:

The Firewood Coordinator collected information on the size of truck that arrived as well as any irregularities such as siding installed by the owner. The cord estimate was recorded as follows:

Truck Beds:	10ft- 1.5 cords
Short truck bed: 0.33	12ft- 2 cords
Standard truck bed: 0.5	14ft- 2.5 cords
Long bed truck: 0.75	16ft- 3 cords
Trailer Sizes:	18ft- 3.5 cords
8ft- 1 cord	20ft- 4 cords



Final Numbers and Averages

- Number of households served through ALCC individual distributions: **227**
- Number of individuals served based on total #in household: **874**
- Total Number of Cords distributed through individual pick ups: **189**
- Total number of Cords distributed to Hopi Villages: **157**
 - (We did not receive info on additional number of household served)
- Total Number of cords distributed to Navajo Chapters: **123**
 - (We did not receive info on additional number of household served)
- Approximate Number of cords produced/distributed from Dairy Springs Project: **469-500 cords** (This number will be higher as there were a number of undocumented pick ups that we did not capture.



Based off averages: **A truckload of wood (1/2-1/3 Cord) will last a household of 4 a total of 4 weeks and cost \$144.**

Ancestral Lands Hopi Crews:

The Ancestral Lands Hopi Crews consist of local youth and young adults between the ages of 18-24. This project was made possible by the many hours of hard work by our members and leaders through, rain, heat, cold, and snow. We thank them for their hard work on this project and for taking care of their communities.

