



# Wildfire and Water Supplies

Water Law and Resource Issues Seminar

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Delivering water and power™



# Salt River Project

- ❑ The Phoenix metropolitan area's largest supplier of water to municipal, urban and agricultural water users
- ❑ A community-based, not-for-profit public power utility



# Our History

## ❑ Salt River Valley Water Users Association

- Established in 1903
- Private Corporation
- One of the first Federal Reclamation Projects under the Reclamation Act of 1902

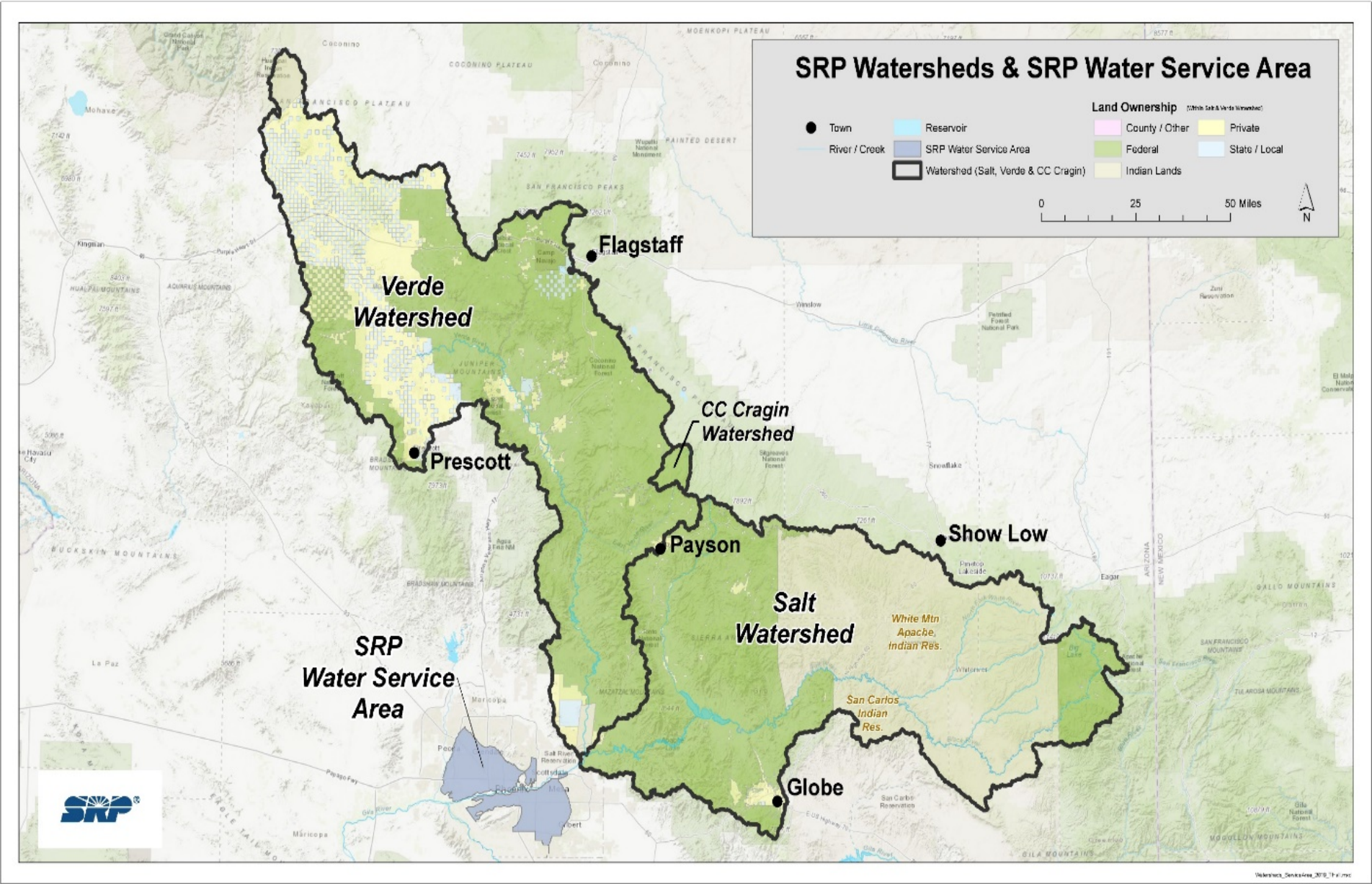
## ❑ Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District

- Established in 1937
- Political Subdivision of the State of Arizona
- Allowed for the growth of power generation and service





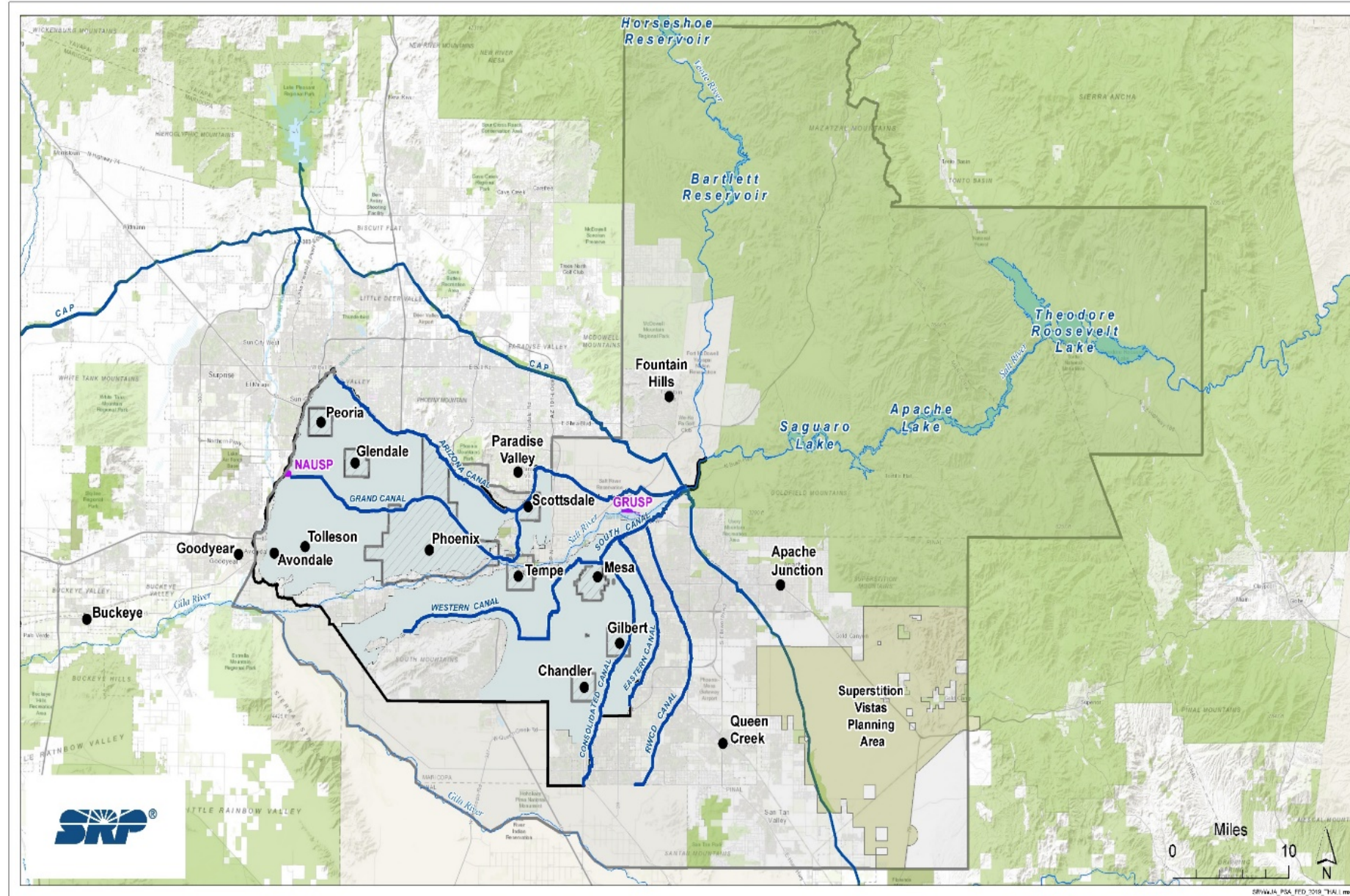
# SRP Watersheds





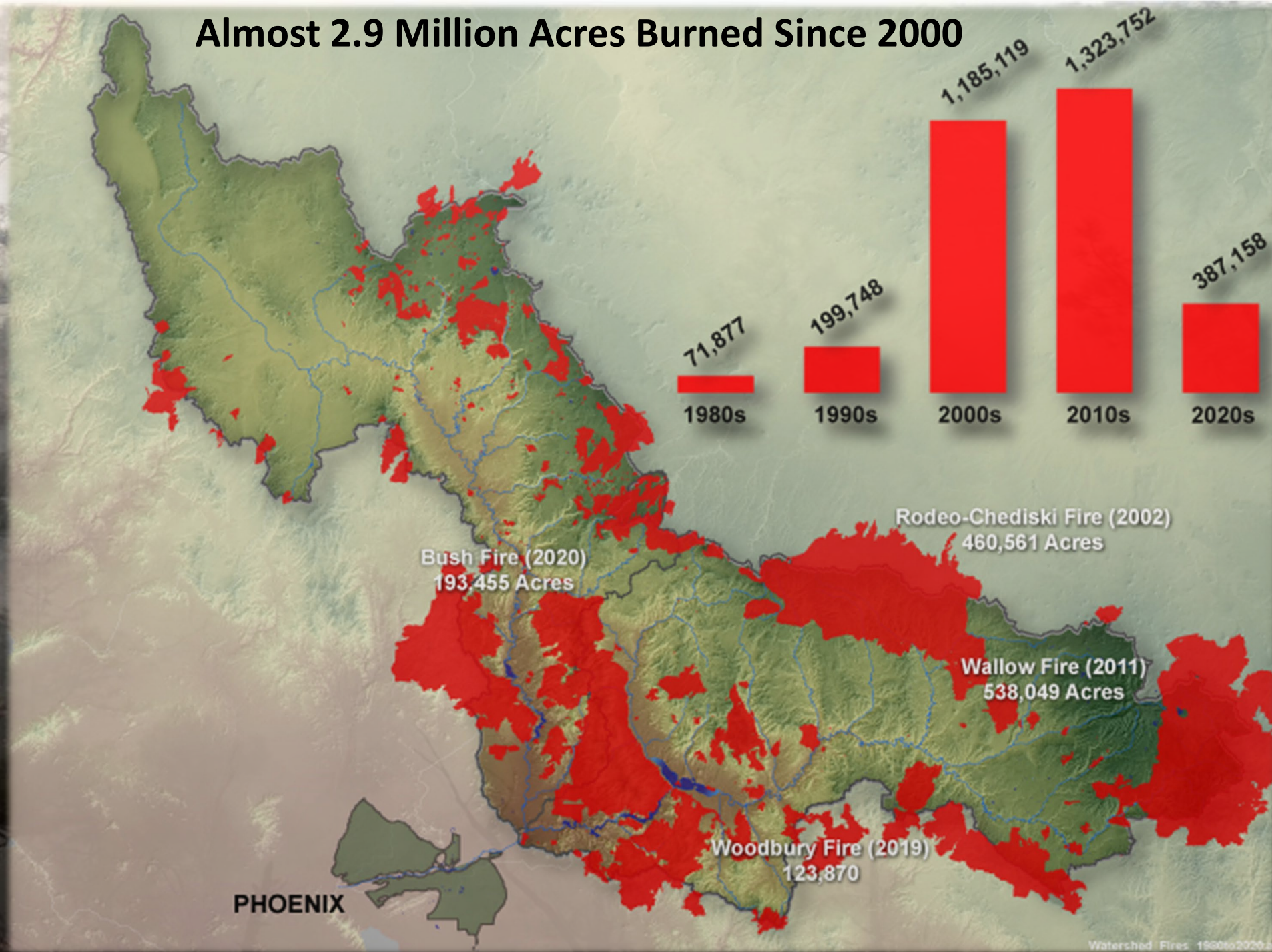
# SRP Water Service

- ❑ 13,000 square mile watershed
- ❑ 7 dams and reservoirs
- ❑ 375 square mile service territory
- ❑ 750,000 acre-feet delivered/year
- ❑ Deliver to:
  - Agriculture
  - Cities
  - Urban irrigation





# Almost 2.9 Million Acres Burned Since 2000





# Consequences of Wildfire and Flooding

Reservoir Capacity Loss



Damage to Infrastructure



Water Quality Degradation



# Forest Restoration Benefits

Reduces risk of uncharacteristic wildfire

Restores natural fire regime

Protects rural communities and economies

Supports forest products industry and increases rural jobs

Protects of water infrastructure, water quality and water storage

Increases forest resiliency to climate change, drought and insect infestation

Increases carbon sequestration and reduces air pollutants

Protects wildlife and habitat

Enhances recreation and tourism





# Forest Restoration Challenges and Solutions

## Challenges

- ❑ Over one million acres in need of forest restoration in northern and central Arizona
- ❑ Limited capacity and low value products
- ❑ Drought, disease and insect infestations, climate change magnify the problem
- ❑ USFS funding, resources, priorities

## Solutions

- ❑ Attracting and sustaining industry
- ❑ Creating partnerships
- ❑ Addressing policy/ regulatory impediments





# SRP's Efforts to Address Challenges

## ❑ Attracting Industry

- Four Forest Restoration Initiative Request for Proposals
- Healthy Forest Tax Credit

## ❑ Creating Partnerships

- SRP Healthy Forest Initiative
- SRP – Arizona Dept. of Forestry and Fire Management MOU

## ❑ Policy/ Regulatory Impediments

- Fire Borrowing
- 20-year Stewardship Contracting
- Wildfire Liability
- Funding







## Questions



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