

# ZUNI MOUNTAINS COLLABORATIVE

The Zuni Mountains Collaborative is a network of businesses, land management agencies, scientists, residents, and tribes working together to improve the ecological and economic resiliency of the Zuni Mountains in west-central New Mexico. The Collaborative works closely with Cibola National Forest on the Zuni Mountains Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) project.

## WHO WE ARE



The collaborative formed in 2005 from a partnership between the Forest Stewards Guild and the Cibola National Forest and has led to the Zuni Mountain Collaborative CFLR.

The Collaborative provides opportunities for youth to participate in restoration and monitoring with the Forest Stewards Youth Corps and other partners.



Local jobs provided by the Collaborative's partners form the backbone of the restoration economy in the Zuni Mountains. Growing the market for wood products is vital to restoring forests and watersheds.





## CREATING JOBS

By increasing forest work opportunities and creating local wood products, the Collaborative is sustaining a local restoration workforce in Cibola and McKinley Counties with 50–80 jobs a year. Mt. Taylor Millwork and BRL Logging are key partners in creating and sustaining jobs.



## REDUCING WILDFIRE RISK

Collaborative partners are working to make forests more resilient. Using fire as a tool helps to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires, improves wildlife habitat, and protects communities. The National Wild Turkey Federation has been integral in reducing wildfire risk while improving wildlife habitat.

## PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES

Current efforts to protect water resources include habitat monitoring for the Zuni Bluehead Sucker (ZBS), a native, endangered fish species endemic to the Zuni Mountains. Catastrophic wildfire is a significant threat to the ZBS and the Collaborative is working to reduce that threat by protecting and restoring critical watersheds in the landscape.