



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Colorado Springs, Colorado

March 5, 2021

### **BILL WILLIAMS MOUNTAIN STEEP SLOPE THINNING PROJECT COMPLETED BY MARKIT! FORESTRY MANAGEMENT**

Bill Williams Mountain is located in the Kaibab National Forest, about 31 miles west of Flagstaff, Arizona. Part of a wildland-urban interface with the nearby city of Williams, Arizona, the Bill Williams Mountain area was determined by the United States Forest Service to be in critical need of forest thinning to reduce the risk of wildfires, protect surrounding watersheds, and restore overall forest health. The National Forest Foundation was tasked with managing the Northern Arizona Forest Fund in soliciting forest thinning and restoration services for 300 acres of steep and rocky terrain in the Bill Williams Mountain area.

The National Forest Foundation brought together multiple entities, including the Kaibab National Forest, Coconino County, Arizona, and the Arizona Department of Water Resources, to fund the project, and selected Markit! Forestry Management ("Markit! Forestry") to execute the forestry work. The purpose of the forestry work was to protect vital watershed areas that provide water to the city of Williams and to other communities surrounding the mountain. Removing wood fiber from remote areas of the mountain was designed to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire.



***Bill Williams Mountain, near Williams, Arizona***

Markit! Forestry Management LLC ("Markit! Forestry") was awarded the Bill Williams Mountain steep slope forest thinning project in September 2019 due to the innovative methods that it proposed for managing the project. Markit! Forestry devised a multi-workflow plan that included helicopter logging, mechanical mastication, and the use of hand crews. Markit! Forestry successfully completed the Bill Williams Mountain project in January 2021. The project resulted in over 11,200 tons of wood fiber being removed from the Mountain, material that otherwise would have remained

on the mountain as fuel that would have fed wildfires. Wood fiber removed from Bill Williams Mountain was sent to an electricity-from-biomass plant and to various commercial enterprises in Arizona.



***Helicopter removing biomass from Bill Williams Mountain and delivering it to the treatment area***

Jeremy Moore, Vice President of Project Delivery for Markit! Forestry commented on the project:

*The Bill Williams Mountain steep slope thinning project is an excellent example of the power of collaboration in the forestry industry. The U.S. Forest Service and the National Forest Foundation put together a targeted project with funding from multiple sources, including Arizona state government agencies and private entities. Markit! Forestry is proud to have assembled a team of forestry professionals from many disciplines that completed the forestry project with excellence. This collaborative effort should serve as a model for similar forestry projects in Arizona and across the southwest United States.*

Markit! Forestry Management LLC is a full-service environmental forestry management company, specializing in steep slope forestry projects and helicopter logging in the southwest United States. Markit! Forestry Management provides Forest Fuels Reduction, Forest Health Restoration, Post-Fire Rehabilitation, Defensible Space, and Timber Harvesting on Municipal, State, Federal and private land. For more information on Markit! Forestry Management please visit [www.markitforestry.com](http://www.markitforestry.com) or call Jeremy Moore at 719-593-2365.