The Arizona Tornado Outbreak of 2010

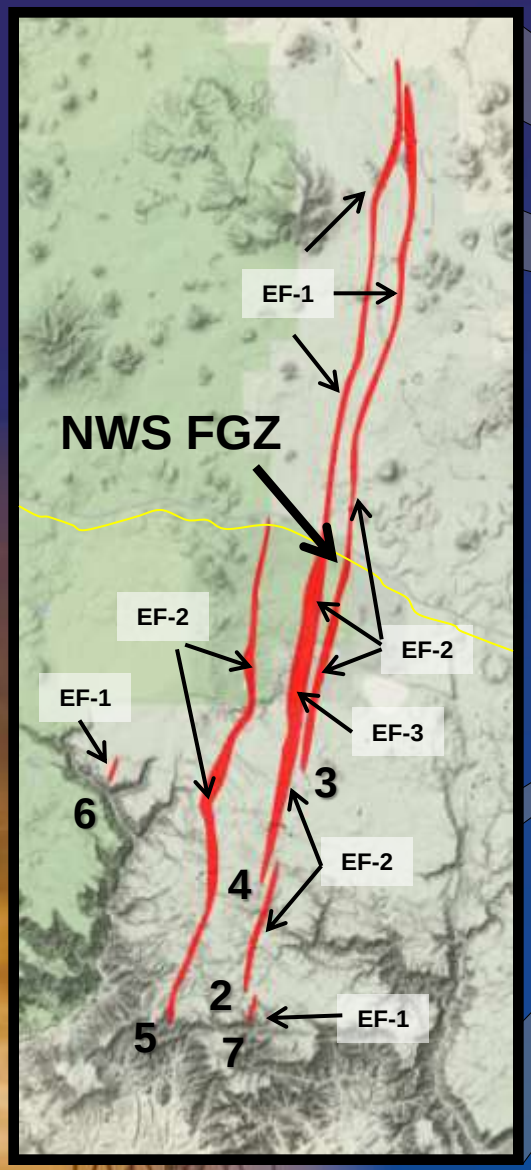
(Updated Oct 6, 2011)

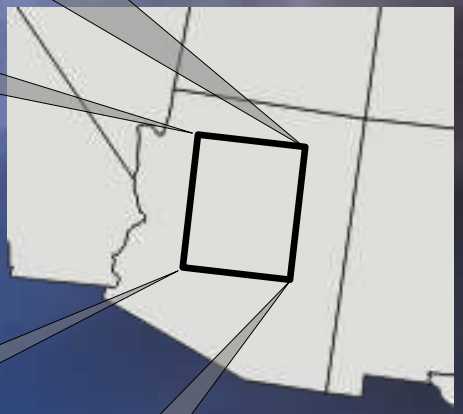
NWS Flagstaff, AZ

The Updated Analysis

- **Since our original analysis of the Oct 6th 2010 Tornado Outbreak, additional data have been examined to better determine the magnitude of the event.**
  - ***Additional ground surveys were conducted.***
  - ***Radar data and storm rotational characteristics analyzed.***
  - ***New Google Earth imagery utilized.***
  - ***Additional research on damage ratings in forest areas.***
- **From these additional analyses, it was determined that at least *11 tornadoes* touched down on Oct 6th, 2011 (the original estimate was 8 tornadoes). Tornado #4 was also upgraded to EF-3 intensity.**

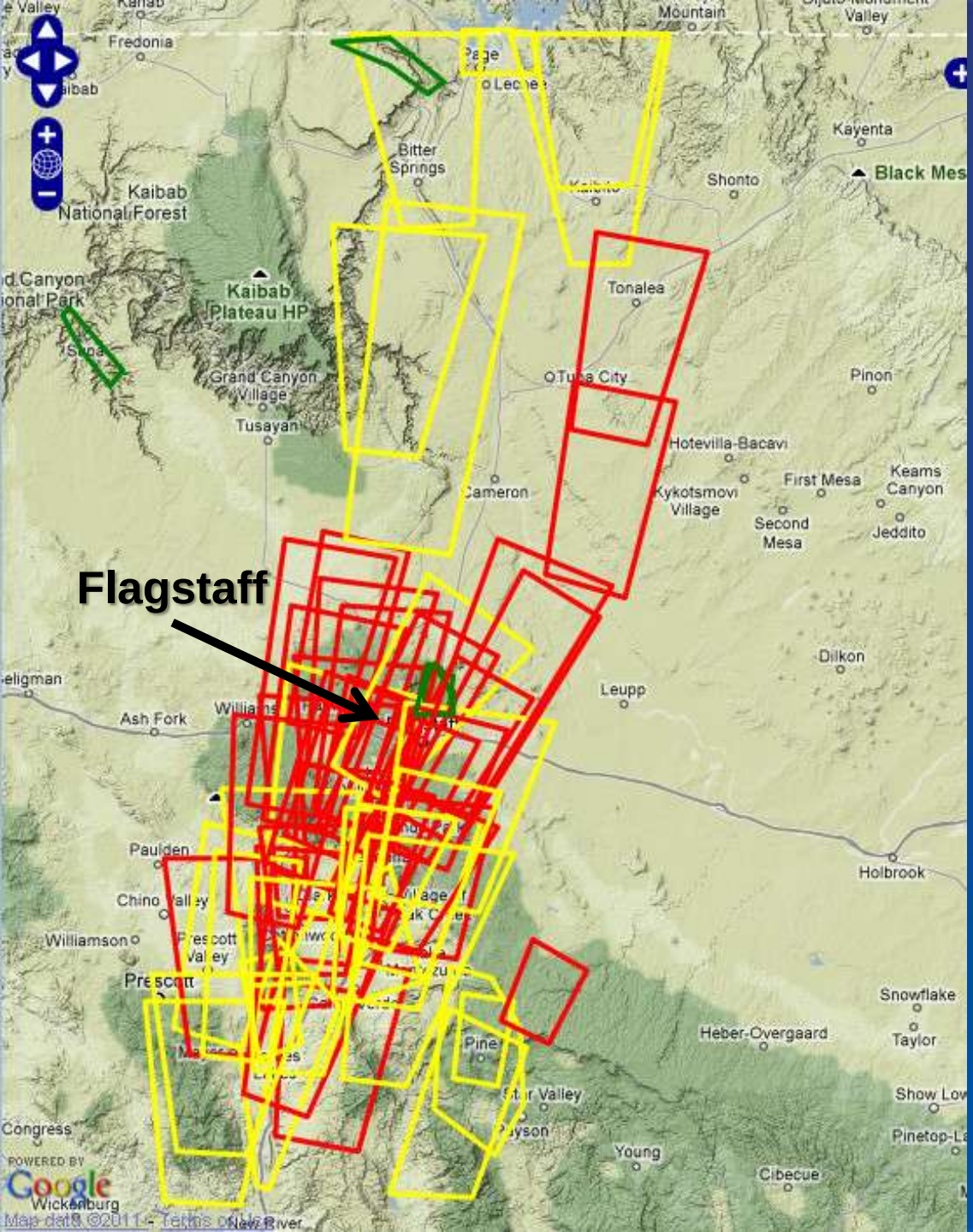
Verified Tornadoes on Oct 6th, 2010





Tornado #1	2:05 AM	EF-2
Tornado #2	4:53 AM	EF-2
Tornado #3	5:18 AM	EF-2
Tornado #4	5:54 AM	EF-3
Tornado #5	6:50 AM	EF-2
Tornado #6	8:29 AM	EF-1
Tornado #7	9:10 AM	EF-1
Tornado #8	10:30 AM	EF-0
Tornado #9	11:15 AM	EF-3
Tornado #10	12:10 PM	EF-0
Tornado #11	12:20 PM	EF-0

(Tornadoes numbered near the start of each track on the maps)



Warnings Issued on Oct 6, 2010

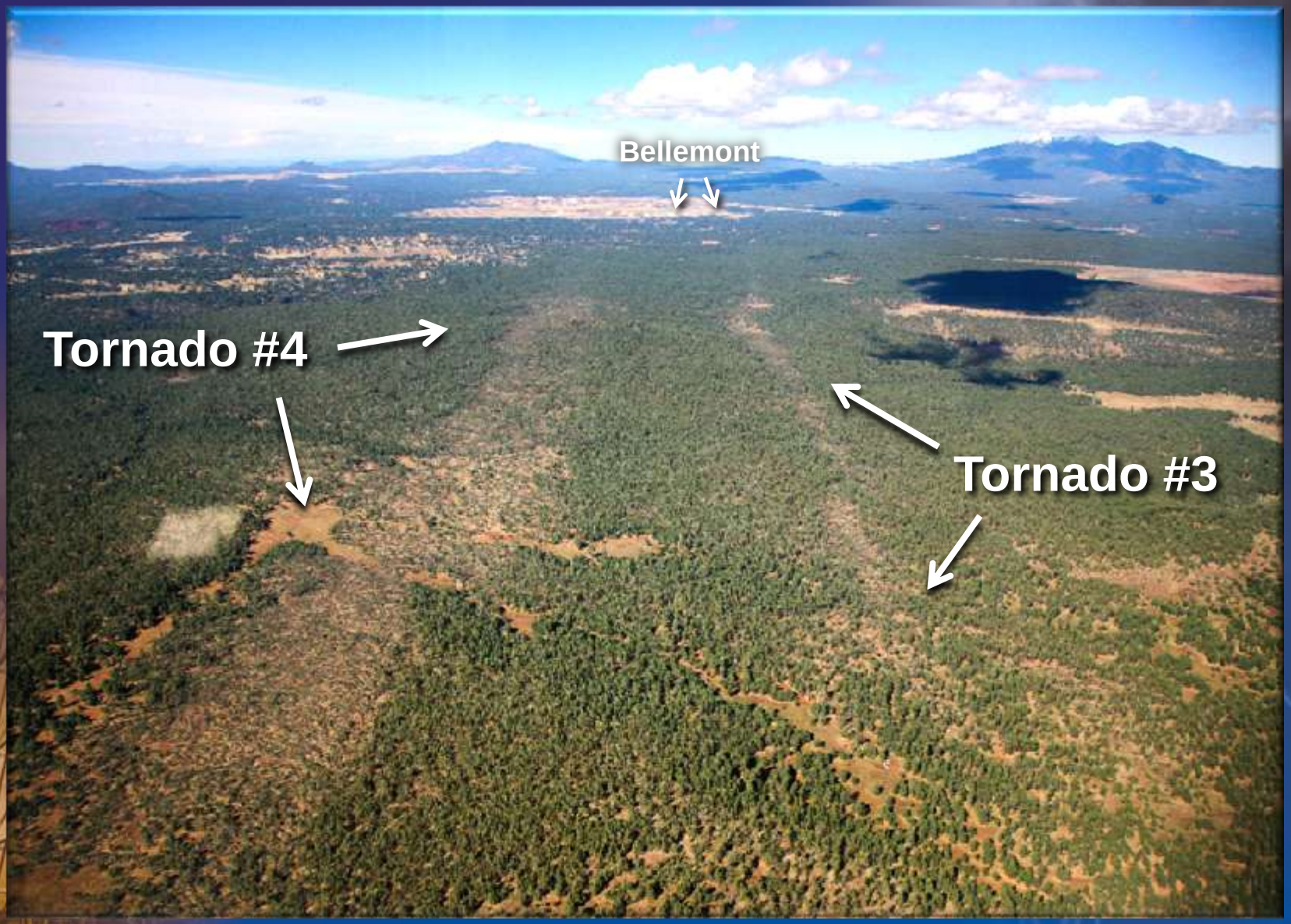
28 Tornado Warnings
25 Thunderstorm Warnings
2 Flash Flood Warnings

Each box represents the area indicated by a warning on Oct 6th. As you can see, there is a great concentration of warnings near Flagstaff. Potentially tornadic storms repeatedly moved over the same limited area of Northern Arizona throughout the morning.

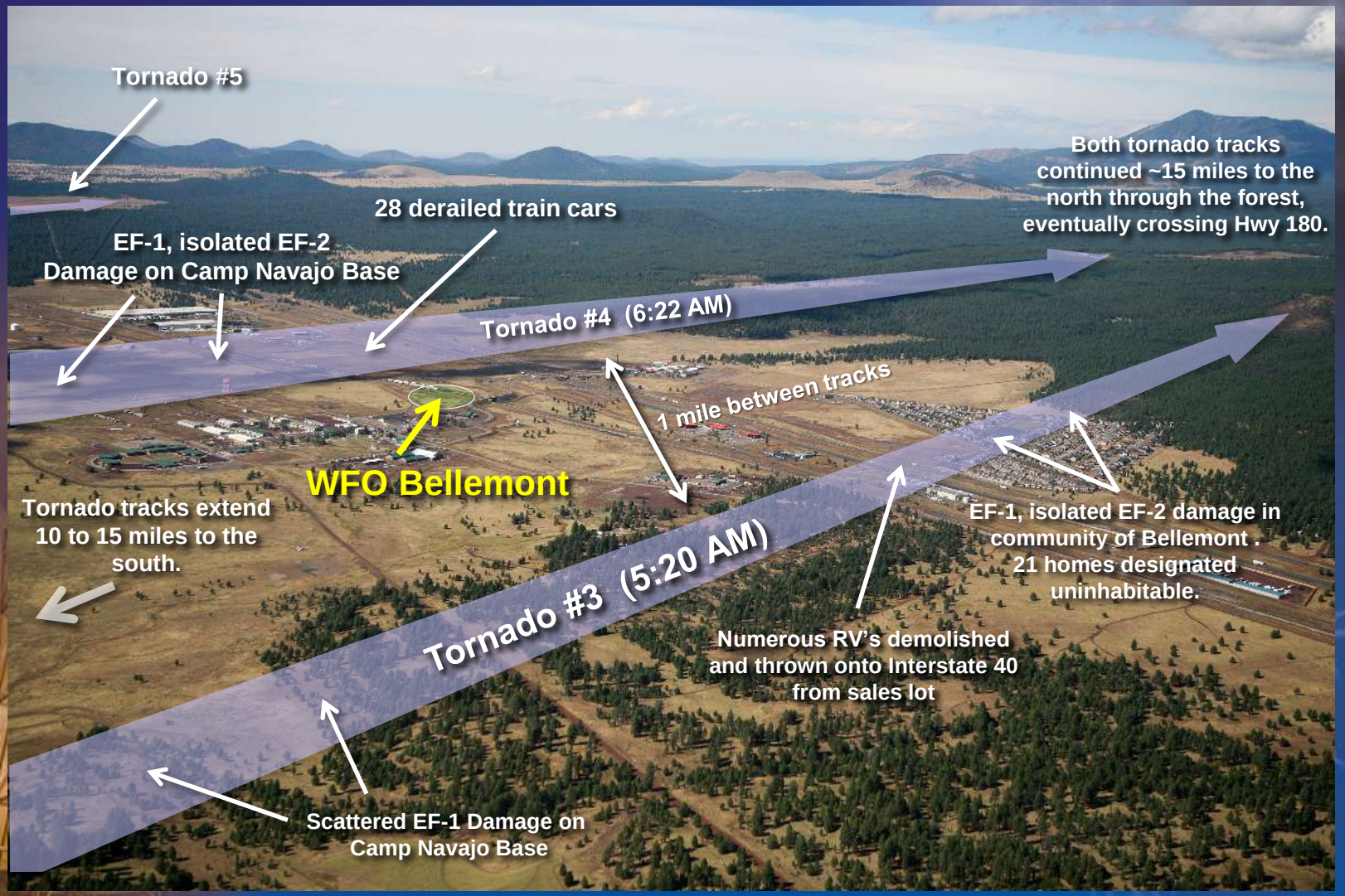
EF-1, EF-2 Damage in Bellemont

EF-2 Forest Damage North of Bellemont

Areal View ~10 Miles S. Bellemont



Tornado Tracks / Damage
Near Bellemont, AZ



Summary of the Oct 6th, 2011 Tornado Event

- **Greatest outbreak in Arizona**
  - *(previous record was 6 tornadoes in one day)*
  - *Duration, intensity, and number of tornadoes distinguished this event apart from any other AZ event, or any other event west of the Continental Divide.*
  - *-At least 11 tornadoes recorded on this date. The number may go even higher with further investigation of current tracks.*
- **It was the greatest recorded tornado outbreak west of the Continental Divide.**
- **Large hail (up to baseball-sized) was reported with the tornadic storms.**
- **Multiple tornadic storms repeatedly developed over the same location, keeping the same small area under a constant tornado threat for several hours.**
- **Occurred late at night – early morning with temperatures in the 40s!**