



Flagstaff Film Commission FAIR ITEM

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January 2026





FLG Film in FY25



- 9 permits.
- Estimated economic benefit: \$110,000.
- 33 additional film projects assisted.
- Budget \$71k to market COF as a film destination.

Comparison: Phoenix Film Office permitted 98 projects for an economic benefit of \$24 million in FY24/25.



Permitting in FLG

- Film Permits issued once approvals from relevant departments obtained. No cost. \$2 million insurance policy required (waived for low impact film following discussion of this FAIR item).
- PROSE may require a separate Special Events Permit for exclusive use of a site. Fees vary on size/location.
- Street/lane closures: Special event permit required. PROSE and Traffic Engineering approve of traffic plan from licensed engineer.
- Atypical uses of parks/open spaces prohibited.



Permitting in Phoenix

- Administrative procedures for permitting.
- Film Office coordinates. City departments required to approve conditions, coordinate on-duty and off-duty staff, close streets, hood meters, and bill for city expenses.
- Fees of up to \$200 to apply plus \$250 “donation” to Parks for special access/closures/atypical uses.
- Criteria: Traffic congestion, disruption of normal activities, public safety, peace and quiet, convenience, and safety of property.



EXPLORE Act

- Affects filming on all federal lands.
- No permit **or insurance** required if 8 or fewer people in film crews that do not:

Intrude on experience of other visitors, disturb or hurt natural resources, require access to an area not normally open to public, require closing an area, use a set/staging equipment other than handheld cameras/tripods.

- Outside this criteria they require a permit (\$50-\$600/day).



Example 1

Example: Four-person crew wants to film people sitting at a picnic table in a public space during normal hours, with no closure to the public.

- **National Forest/National Park:** No permit or proof of insurance necessary.
- **Phoenix:** Film Permit (\$150) and proof of insurance.
- **Flagstaff:** Film Permit (\$0), insurance waived per new guidelines from Risk Management.



Example 2

10-person crew filming parked car on a service road closed to traffic.

- **Papago Park city of Phoenix:** Film Permit (\$200) required, shoot must occur during a slow period for the park, and a \$250 donation to Parks Department to mitigate the disruption to the public.
- **Buffalo Park Flagstaff:** Not permitted. Location does not include a service road.
- **Forest Service public road:** Film permit (\$50-\$600/day), insurance required. Likely require shoot to take place on a Monday or slow time of week avoiding weekends. Wildlife, general suitability dependent.



Albuquerque, N.M.

- Population ~560,000
- Ranked among top locations in the U.S.
- Offers “blanket use” permit similar to EXPLORE Act for crews of 6 or fewer with minimal impact.
- Larger projects require insurance and fees based on impact.
- City offers guidelines on traffic impacts to assist with scheduling.



Page, Ariz.

- Population ~7,500
- City code addresses film permits.
- \$1,000 refundable deposit to city to review application and cover anticipated city expenses.
- Insurance required for permit.



Bozeman, Mont.

- Population ~57,000.
- \$30-\$60 application fee along with proof of insurance.
- Written permission from affected city departments using a flow chart. I.E. “Does the film include characters using weapons? If yes, Police Department permission ...”
- Written permission from adjacent businesses.



Park City, Utah

- Population ~8,500.
- No permit or insurance for small projects with one camera and no sidewalk/street closures.
- Projects requiring a closure or equipment beyond a single camera require insurance and project review for permit.



Council discussion and questions