

CFLR Project(Name/Number): Grandfather Restoration Project – CFLR19
National Forest(s): Pisgah National Forest – National Forests in North Carolina

Responses to the prompts on this annual report should be typed directly into this template, including narratives and tables:

1. Match and Leverage funds:
 - a. **FY12 Matching Funds Documentation**

Fund Source	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2012(\$)
CFLR Funds Expended ¹	\$322,819
Carryover funds expended (HPRP funds or Carryover to supplement CFLR/CFLN) ² (please include a new row for each BLI)	
FS Matching Funds (please include a new row for each BLI) ³	CMRD - \$43,174 CWKV - \$33,775 NFIM - \$3,776 NFLM - \$4,154 NFTM - \$16,601 NFVW - \$24,467 SPFH - \$50,468 WFHF - \$9,464
Funds contributed through agreements ⁴	
Partner In-Kind Contributions ⁵	\$98,500
Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract ⁶	

- b. Please provide a narrative or table describing leveraged funds in your landscape in FY2012 (one page maximum)

The NC Wildlife Resources Commission contributed 640 hours of work on early successional habitat either maintaining or enhancing these areas through the use of herbicides and / or mechanical methods. Their estimate is \$25,000 worth of work was done on these areas on the Grandfather Ranger District. Wildsouth did manual NNIS treatments within the Linville Gorge Wilderness with an estimate of \$15,000. The Wilderness Society relocated the Hawksbill Trail for a match of \$13,000. The NC Forest Service burned approximately 600 acres.

¹ This amount should match the amount of CFLR/CFLN dollars obligated in the PAS report titled CFLR Job Code Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year.

² This value should reflect the amount of carryover funds allocated to a project as indicated in the program direction, but does not necessarily need to be in the same BLIs as indicated in the program direction. These funds should total the matching funds obligated in the PAS report titled Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year minus the below matching funds.

³ This amount should match the amount of matching funds obligated in the PAS report titled CFLR Job Code Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year minus the above carryover/HPRP funds.

⁴ Please document any partner contributions to implementation and monitoring of the CFLR project through an agreement (this should only include funds that weren't already captured through the PAS job code structure for CFLR matching funds). Please list the partner organizations involved in the agreement.

⁵ Total partner in-kind contributions for implementation and monitoring of a CFLR project. Please list the partner organizations that provided in-kind contributions. See "Annual Report instructions" for instructions on how to document in-kind contributions.

⁶ This should be the amount in the "stewardship credits charged" column at the end of the fiscal year in the TSA report TSA90R-01.

within communities that have CWPPs along with helping prep hand lines for prescribed burning, mechanical fuels work, and helping on the prescribed fires themselves. This work amounted to \$45,000.

Approved by : _____ Forest Supervisor

2. Discuss how the CLFR project contributes to accomplishment of the performance measures in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan⁷, dated December 2006. Please comment on the cumulative contributions over the life of the project if appropriate. This may also include a description of the fire year (fire activity that occurred in the project area) as a backdrop to your response (please limit answer to one page).

Fire activity in calendar year 2012 was average with 18 fires to date on October 24, 2012 with an average size of 1.5 acres. All but one of those fires were contained within the initial attack period. Two of the fires were lightning starts with one occurring in the Linville Gorge Wilderness Area. No Incident Management teams were required on the District so far in 2012. Approximately 4,500 WUI acres were treated with prescribed fire in FY12 that were identified in CWPP or other collaboratively developed plans.

50 percent of the treated acres were collaboratively identified as high priority acres where fire management objectives were achieved as identified. Singecat prescribed burn, 2100 acres, was treated in March 2012 and was the highest priority based on our burn prioritization model which was developed collaboratively with our partners within the Fire Learning Network. Three units inside the Linville Gorge Wilderness scored higher in the model, however burning in the Wilderness is not currently covered by NEPA.

2490 acres, roughly 50% of our treated acres, were treated through collaboration consistent with the Implementation Plan. 100 percent of treated acres, approximately 5 acres, of mechanical thinning was accomplished in FY12 as a fuel break behind four subdivisions identified with a CWPP. This project was initiated with our partners and was accomplished by Agreement with ARRA funds.

The Wilson Creek prescribed burn, 1240 acres, treated in November 2011 was the third introduction of fire into that unit. Approximately 400 acres in that burn unit were maintained in desired conditions. This was a joining of two adjacent prescribed fire units that had historically been treated individually. Great efficiencies were gained treating them together. The prescribed fire also included 100 acres covered under a conservation easement with the Nature Conservancy.

No acres were treated that were identified for post-wildfire recovery plans.

⁷ The 10-year Comprehensive Strategy was developed in response to the Conference Report for the Fiscal Year 2001, Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (Public Law 106-291).

3. What assumptions were used in generating the numbers and/or percentages you plugged into the TREAT tool?
 The numbers below were derived from actual expenditures with estimations on percent of contracted and force account work. Table 1 used 63% and 37% respectively and Table 2 used 58% and 42% respectively.

FY 2012 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY12 CFLR/CFLN/HPRP/Carryover funding only):

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ⁸
Commercial Forest Product Activities	9.9	21.1	\$478,865	\$821,863
Other Project Activities	7.0	8.1	\$88,800	\$116,901
TOTALS:	16.9	29.2	\$567,665	\$938,764

FY 2012 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY12 CFLR/CFLN/HPRP/Carryover and matching funding):

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ⁹
Commercial Forest Product Activities	19.7	42.2	\$957,730	\$1,643,726
Other Project Activities	9.9	11.4	\$121,180	\$160,807
TOTALS:	29.7	53.5	\$1,078,910	1,804,533

4. Describe other community benefits achieved and the methods used to gather information about these benefits

(Please limit answer to two pages).

Bob Gale of the Western North Carolina Alliance played an instrumental role in hosting a NNIS workshop for private landowners in the Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor. They have been surveying, according to Forest Service protocol, both private and National Forest System lands within the Wilson Creek corridor. They will supply a consolidated report to us in January. Our intent is to treat the NNIS on National Forest System lands as they are conducting treatments on the neighboring private lands.

5. Describe the multiparty monitoring, evaluation, and accountability process (please limit answer to two pages).

The Grandfather Project Collaborative has formed a monitoring committee that is open to all participants in the collaborative. The regular representatives on the committee include USFS, Western North Carolina Alliance, Wild South, The Wilderness Society, The Nature Conservancy, Forest Stewards, Southern Research Station, and the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. The collaborative at large has decided that it will be important to monitor fire effects, silvicultural effects, wildlife trends in response to restoration treatments, efficacy of non-native invasive species treatments, and economic impacts of restoration.

⁸ Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet, "Impacts-Jobs and Income" tab. Spreadsheet and directions available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/submittingproposals.shtml#tools>.

⁹ Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet, "Impacts-Jobs and Income" tab. Spreadsheet and directions available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/submittingproposals.shtml#tools>.

The monitoring committee has thus far ratified the vegetation monitoring methodology developed by the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network to monitor fire effects and silvicultural effects on vegetation. This methodology consists of installing .1 acre permanent plots that record all woody vegetation over 4" dbh, measure sapling density in a nested sapling plot, record percent cover of shrubs and herbs, and measure fuels along three transects. In 2012, 60 vegetation monitoring plots were installed for Lost Bear and Rose Mountain prescribed burns by Forest Stewards and 20 plots were installed at Roses Creek and Miller Mountain timber sales by Western North Carolina Alliance.

Other monitoring activities accomplished in FY 2012 include monitoring the decline of nine Carolina hemlock forests due to hemlock woolly adelgid, and monitoring of water quality at the Brown Mountain OHV area, both by Western North Carolina Alliance.

The Southern Appalachian Cooperative Weed Management Partnership (SACWMP) has a well-established methodology for monitoring the efficacy of invasive species treatments. The methodology is to measure the percent cover and presence/absence of invasive species before and after control efforts with a goal of 80% or more reduction in coverage with each successive treatment until the target species are no longer detectable.

In FY 2013, it is the top priority of the monitoring committee to develop a methodology for monitoring wildlife response to restoration treatments. Our goal is to have the wildlife monitoring methodology in place by April 2013 so that we can collect a full season of data on migratory and year-long resident birds.

6. FY 2012 accomplishments

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished ¹⁰	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹¹
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	Acres	N/A		
Acres of forest vegetation established	Acres	N/A		
Acres of forest vegetation improved	Acres	312	\$111,775	CFLN CWKV SPFH
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acre	127	\$174,467	CFLN NFVW Partner
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	Acres	N/A		
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions.	Acres	N/A		
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	N/A		
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles	N/A		
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	2129	\$41,745	CFLN CWFS Partner
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved	Acres	N/A		
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	6	\$68,174 (for High clearance and passenger maintenance below)	CFLN CMRD
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	27		CFLN CMRD
Miles of road	Miles	N/A		

¹⁰ Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record.

¹¹ Please use a new line for each BLI or type of fund used. For example, you may have three lines with the same performance measure, but the type of funding might be two different BLIs and CFLR/CFLN.

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished ¹⁰	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹¹
decommissioned				
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles	N/A		
Miles of high clearance system road improved	Miles	N/A		
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	Number	N/A		
Miles of system trail maintained to standard	Miles	7	\$20,500	CFLN CMTL Partner *7 miles accomplished and in INFRA but not included in the 11/09/12 "pulled" data
Miles of system trail improved to standard	Miles	N/A		
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	19	\$17,985	CFLN NFLM *19 miles accomplished and in WorkPlan but not included in the 11/09/12 "pulled" data
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	N/A		
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	7608	\$16,601	NFTM
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	N/A		
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	71	\$15,849	CFLN WFHF
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	5191	\$140,600	CFLN WFHF Partner
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	N/A		
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	N/A		

7. FY 2012 accomplishment narrative (summarize key accomplishments and evaluate project progress) (please limit answer to three pages).

One of the primary goals for the Grandfather Restoration Project is to restore and maintain fire adapted/dependent ecosystems. We were able to make great progress toward accomplishing that. The goal identified in the proposal was 6,500 acres and we accomplished 5,200 acres after receiving the funding near the end of our prescribed fire season. We should be in a better position in FY 13 to reach the goal of 6,500 acres. We were also able to accomplish 130 acres of Hemlock treatments, treated 750 acres of invasives, maintained 68 miles of roads, produced 7,600 ccf of volume from timber sales, and installed monitoring plots on prescribed burns planned for FY13.

Role of Partners- Partners in the collaborative have been engaged throughout the process. Here are some highlights of accomplishments they have been able to help with:

Wildsouth- Completed trail inventories and hosted workdays for volunteers for NNIS removal in the Linville Gorge Wilderness.

Western North Carolina Alliance- Accomplished Hemlock Woolly Adelgid treatments across the district as well as installation of monitoring plots on specific projects. Josh Kelly with WNCA is also the lead for the monitoring committee for the collaborative. Bob Gale played an instrumental role in hosting a NNIS workshop for private landowners in the Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor.

The Wilderness Society/Southern Appalachian Wilderness Stewards- They took the lead on a trail reroute for the Hawksbill trail in the Linville Gorge Wilderness. The work was accomplished by a crew out of Yonkers, NY, employees of SAWS, and volunteers.

NC Wildlife Resources Commission- Accomplished several acres of wildlife opening maintenance across the district NC Forest Service- provided several crews who helped with construction of fire line as well as implementation of prescribed burns. They also completed several projects including mulching of vegetation on and adjacent to Forest Service property.

The Nature Conservancy- Provided in-kind services of a biologist who accomplished several bird surveys to clear projects in the NEPA process. They also continue to provide support through the Fire Learning Network.

8. Describe the total acres treated in the course of the CFLR project (cumulative footprint acres; not a cumulative total of performance accomplishments). What was the total number of acres treated?¹²

Fiscal Year	Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint)
FY12	5,622
FY10, FY11, and FY12	5,622

¹² This metric is separate from the annual performance measurement reporting as recorded in the databases of record. Please see the instructions document for further clarification.

9. In no more than two pages (large landscapes or very active fire seasons may need more space), describe other relevant fire management activities within the project area (hazardous fuel treatments are already documented in Question #6):

Fire activity in calendar year 2012 was average with 18 fires to date on October 24, 2012 with an average size of 1.5 acres. All but one of those fires was contained within the initial attack period. Two of the fires were lightning starts with one occurring in the Linville Gorge Wilderness Area. No Incident Management teams were required on the District to date. Of the two natural ignitions this year, one of those fires, the Sand Mountain fire, burned 25 acres before it was extinguished by rains. After direct attack line failed, District personnel put in indirect lines to confine the fire to a 250 acre area, with the goal of moving the ecosystem towards desired conditions. The other natural ignition burned about .5 acres before it was rained out.

10. Describe any reasons that the FY 2012 annual report does not reflect your project proposal, previously reported planned accomplishments, or work plan. Did you face any unexpected challenges this year that caused you to change what was outlined in your proposal? (please limit answer to two pages)

On February 1, 2012 we received notification that we were awarded the project and funding was made available to us in April 2012. With only 6 months to implement projects scheduled to occur over a year period we were able to match the CFLN funds with FS funds and get most of the proposed work accomplished. Those projects that we were unable to complete in that concentrated timeline were:

1. Ensuring employees charged to the CF job codes so that FS funds would be counted as matching. Consequently \$29,000 in approved salary under the CFLN job code was not charged. This issue was addressed and should not occur again.
2. The \$80,000 planned to cover the cost of hiring a full-time CFLR coordinator was not utilized. The coordination was accomplished by a detailer and then transitioned as a collateral duty to the Ecosystem, Fire and Forest Staff Officer. How the coordinator responsibilities will be accomplished longterm is currently under consideration by the Forest Leadership Team.
3. Several Challenge Cost Share Agreements were not finalized. The work planned to utilize the \$119,000 of funding included monitoring of fire effects, HWA treatments, and NNIS treatments for FY12. The agreements will be in place for FY13 and will obligate the funding so the work can continue for several years across multiple fiscal years.
4. Several contracts were not awarded and several awarded contracts came in way below the government's estimate resulting in a saving of Forest funding. Some of that savings was used to secure additional work to be completed under existing contracts. We were unable to commit the remaining \$43,200 programmed for contracts and supplies due to time constraints and the fact that we had used up the available acres for treatment.

11. Planned FY 2014 Accomplishments

Performance Measure Code¹³	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	Acres	N/A	
Acres of forest vegetation established	Acres	24	\$29,243 (for Forest Veg Established and Forest Veg Improved Below)
Acres of forest vegetation improved	Acres	120	
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acre	N/A	
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	Acres	250	\$87,000
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions.	Acres	7	\$115,000
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	N/A	
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles	N/A	
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	12	\$14,500
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved	Acres	N/A	
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	7.5	\$25,000 (for high clearance and passenger roads receiving maintenance OR improved, as well as decommissioning – this row and next 3 rows)
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	22.5	
Miles of road decommissioned	Miles	N/A	

¹³ Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2014 is available. Use actual planned funding if quantity is less than specified in CFLRP project work plan, and justify deviation from project work plan in question 13 of this template.

Performance Measure Code ¹³	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles	.5	
Miles of high clearance system road improved	Miles	.1	
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	Number	N/A	
Miles of system trail maintained to standard	Miles	2	\$37,500
Miles of system trail improved to standard	Miles	.5	
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	4	\$2,842
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	N/A	
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	N/A	
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	N/A	
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	N/A	
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	4103	\$173,000
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	N/A	
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	N/A	

12. Planned FY 2014 accomplishment narrative (no more than 1 page):

Continue to treat NNIS in the Wilson, Catawba, and Linville drainages in the amount of 250 acres. Restoring and enhancing 12 acres of early successional wildlife habitat through both mechanical and herbicide treatments. Maintaining 30 miles of road to reduce sedimentation into streams. Maintaining and improving 2.5 miles of trail to reduce soil movement in nearby streams. Using prescribed fire to treat 4103 acres of fire adapted ecosystems using the fire prioritization model. Accomplish 120 acres forest vegetation improved through crown touch release and herbicide treatments along with establishing 24 acres of forest.

13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2013/14 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):

Funding for 2013/14 should match closely. Adjustments are expected to be made throughout the year as contracts are awarded and projects are implemented. This often produces a change in dollar amount for the project as planned. As we saw in FY12, we need to be better prepared to anticipate savings from contracts and to commit or obligate those monies quickly. Changes are also expected for partner match throughout the year.