CFLR Project (Name/Number): Selway Middle-Fork National Forests: Nez Perce-Clearwater, Bitterroot

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

#### 1. Match and Leverage funds:

#### **FY12 Matching Funds Documentation**

Fund Source	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2012(\$)
CFLR Funds Expended <sup>1</sup>	\$2,755,991.28
Carryover funds expended (please include a new row for each BLI)	\$799,550 a/
FS Matching Funds	\$157,504.14 – NFRR
(please include a new row for each BLI) <sup>3</sup>	\$196,865.39 – CMTL
	\$147,999.78 – SSCC
	\$92.994.56 – CMII
	\$88,567.74 – CMRD
	\$43,356.18 – SRS2
	\$24,538.39 – WFHF
	\$6,771.08 – NFWF b/
	\$2,572.48 – NFTM b/
	\$240.29 – CMLG b/
	\$25.06 – NFVW b/
	<b>\$761,435.09</b> – Total USFS Match
Funds contributed through agreements <sup>4</sup>	\$397,658.89**
Partner In-Kind Contributions <sup>5</sup>	\$1,522,374.27**
Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding	\$18,627.77
within a stewardship contract <sup>6</sup>	
Total non-appropriated match	\$1,938,687.93
Total Project Match	\$2,690,514.11

<sup>\*\*</sup>Please see appendix A and B for complete list of partner funding

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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 tited Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year minus the below matching funds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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.

Footnote a/ - \$106,500 of the \$906,050 received was returned for fire transfer.

Footnote b/ - NFTM, NFVW, NFWF, CMLG are shown as expenditures and not included in NFRR. Expenditures were recorded for the first quarter of FY12 in those funds.

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

Values and sources of leveraged funds in the following table include activities that are either taking place with the CFLR project area and are attributable to the CFLR project, i.e. Idaho County has diverted funds for fuel reduction on private land to complement proposed USFS activities; or infrastructure and/or training that occurred outside the project area but can be attributed to expected supply of wood products or restoration work inside the CFLR project area, i.e. value added small wood mill in Elk City.

Source of Leverage Funds	Amount
Idaho County - wildfire mitigation on private property within CFLRP area	\$200,000
Elk City Wood Products- custom mill, edger and planer	\$100,000
Framing Our Community – Equipment Operators school infrastructure	\$9,450
D3 Native Wood Works – restoration/fuel reduction Equipment	\$74,000
Framing Our Community – Elk City Youth Corps	\$7,000
Montana Conservation Corps – training time and equipment for weeds and trails	\$11,000
Total	\$401,450

Approved by: /s/ Rick Brazell

Forest Supervisor, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

Approved by: /s/ Julie King

Forest Supervisor, Bitterroot National Forest

2. Discuss how the CLFR project contributes to accomplishment of the performance measures in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan, dated December 2006.

#### **Performance Measure**

Percent change from 10-year average for wildfires controlled during initial attack:

There was 63% success of controlling wildfires during initial attack resulting in a 32% decrease of success from the 10-year average of 95%. Contributing factors to the decrease in success are direction to use a suppression strategy for all fires, sustained ERC above the 97th percentile, no precipitation for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 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).

#### **Performance Measure**

100+ days, multiple high Haines, and above normal temperatures. The majority of these fires would have been managed for resource benefit objectives which would have resulted in a greater success

#### Percent change from 10 year average for number of unwanted human-caused wildfires:

There were 3% fewer human caused fires. Typically 5% of fires that occur are human caused.

#### Percent of fires not contained in initial attack that exceed a stratified cost index:

32% of fires that were initial attacked became large fires (100+ acres). Because the suppression strategy changed from a full suppression to point protection objective costs for these fires remained relatively low compared to non-wilderness fires (\$22 wilderness vs \$291 non wilderness).

#### Number and percent of WUI acres treated that are identified in CWPPS or other application collaboratively developed plans

5,227 acres, 0.3% of the 1,666,427 acre project area were treated.

#### Number and percent of non-WUI acres treated that are identified through collaboration consistent with the Implementation Plan

9,327 acres, 0.6% of the 1,666,427 acre project area were treated.

#### Number of acres treated per million dollars gross investment in WUI and non-WUI areas

- 1,710 acres treated with WFHF funding at a cost of \$37,200
- 13,460 acres treated with WFSU funding at a cost of \$296,120
- 15,170 combined acres treated at a cost of \$333,320 (WFHF & WFSU)

#### Percent of collaboratively identified high priority acres treated where fire management objectives are achieved as identified in applicable management plans or strategies

0.9% of the 1,666,427 acre project treated are high priority acres.

#### Number and percent of acres treated by prescribed fire, through collaboration consistent with the Implementation Plan.

496 acres were treated with prescribed fire. There were no approved prescribed burning from June through September per Washington/Regional direction.

#### Number and percent of acres treated by mechanical thinning, through collaboration consistent with the Implementation Plan.

1,214 acres were treated mechanically.

#### Number of acres and percent of the natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under strategies that result in desired conditions

13,460 acres, 49% of all natural ignitions were allowed to burn initially under a suppression strategy that utilized a point protection objective that was based on risk and firefighter exposure. Fire for resource benefit was not approved by the Regional Forester until mid-September. 22% of all natural ignitions were submitted for resource benefit objective approval for 13,460 acres.

#### Number and percent of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are moved toward desired conditions

9,102 acres, 60% of all acres treated were estimated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems.

## Number and percent of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are maintained in desired

6,068 acres, 40% of all acres treated this year were estimated to have maintained desired condition.

#### Number and percent of burned acres identified in approved post-wildfire recovery plans as needing treatments that actually receive treatments

0 acres received treatment in 2012

#### Percent of burned acres treated for post-wildfire recovery that are trending towards desired conditions

0 acres in 2012

#### 3. What assumptions were used in generating the numbers and/or percentages you plugged into the TREAT tool?

For the full project details the following assumptions were used:

70% of the funding would be used for contracts; 30% of the funding for force account and 25 FTEs

#### Funding distribution

- 45% Facilities, watershed, roads and trails
- 45% Ecosystem restoration
- 5% Contracted monitoring
- 5% Thinning and biomass harvesting

Volume distribution was estimated to be 70% sawmills and 30% papermills

#### For the CFLN impacts, the following assumptions were used:

88% of the funding would be used for contracts; 12% of the funding for force account and 15 FTEs

#### **Funding Distribution**

- 45% Facilities, watershed, roads and trails
- 45% Ecosystem restoration
- 10% Contracted monitoring
- 0% Thinning and biomass harvesting (CFLN funds were not used for harvest since timber sale values were positive)

FY 2012 Jobs Created/Maintained	(FY12 CFLR/CFLN/HPRP/Carryover funding only):
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Type of projects	Direct part and full- time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income <sup>8</sup>
Commercial Forest Product Activities	0	0	0	0
Other Project Activities	50	62.3	\$1,157,837	\$1,518,618
TOTALS:	50	62.3	\$1,157,837	\$1,518,618

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 <sup>9</sup>
Commercial Forest Product Activities	24.2	52.5	\$1,446,176	\$2,528,960
Other Project Activities	60	74.3	\$1,353,788	\$1,776,325
TOTALS:	84.2	126.7	\$2,799,964	\$4,305,286

#### 4. Describe the other community benefits achieved:

We are excited and pleased at the growth of the Selway Middle-Fork Project in 2012. For the Clearwater Basin Collaborative (CBC), the project represents a foundation from which to build upon as we work together to "enhance and protect the ecological and economic health of forests, rivers and communities within the Clearwater Basin by working across a diversity of interests." For the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forests, membership in the program and working with the CBC represents a unique opportunity to steer away from traditional Agency thinking and engage in challenging, creative and "out of the box" problem solving – How can we think bigger? How can we do better? How can we get more done? How can we efficiently and effectively build capacity for accelerated restoration? The partnership has caused a genuine change for the better and our team remains passionate and encouraged by the opportunities ahead.

The project has now brought in over \$8 million dollars in CFLR funds. The majority of these funds have been obligated through contracts or agreements with partners who have been instrumental in generating capacity and ensuring the program remains additive. Success breeds success, and building from the momentum generated by the CFLR program, we have just learned that Idaho County's State and Private Forestry's Western Competitive Resource Allocation Grant application was ranked #2 in the western States. Their proposed project would reduce fuels and improve forest conditions on private lands within the CFLR project area and would receive up to \$300,000 pending approval by the Washington Office. We look forward to reporting more on the projects' status in the FY 13 annual report. This infusion of funds from the CFLR program and leveraged by our partners is critical for sustaining job growth and producing tangible accomplishments on the ground.

The production of wood products from the project began this year with the implementation of the Interface Fuels Timber Sale. The sale was purchased by Blue North Forest Products, a local mill in Kamiah Idaho. Blue North specializes in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 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.

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processing small diameter trees into lumber and interestingly, products removed from the sale (pulp, cedar products, oversized trees, etc.) that could not be processed by Blue North supplied fiber for up to nine other local mills. This flow and exchange of wood products is essential for a vibrant economy in the Clearwater Basin. Since Blue North's reopening in 2010, the competition between local mills has and will continue to be a boon to the Forests and for future sales of forest products from restoration treatments. Within the CFLR project area, the Interface Fuels Timber Sale is expected to continue at least through this season and the Lodge Point Sale, purchased by Idaho Forest Group in Grangeville, Idaho this year, is expected to begin implementation in FY13.

In 2012, The Selway Middle-Fork CFLR project collaborated with the Idaho Department of Labor in support of the Idaho Youth Conservation Corps (IYCC). The program provides employment opportunities to local youth who have been determined as having "barriers to employment" and might otherwise be unable to find work in their local communities. Centered on the core principles of the CFLR program, the Forest IYCC Coordinator led a 19 person crew on a wide variety of natural resource restoration projects such as weed eradication, trail maintenance, native seed collection, plantation improvements and forest inventory.

The IYCC program strived to develop a positive work ethic in the crew. Participants learned many new occupational skills as well as how to be an effective team member. The confidence gained through their experiences will enable them to reach their future goals, be it a full time job, college or trade school. Youth participants developed an appreciation and understanding of the Forest Service Mission to "Care for the Land and Serve the People", while completing needed conservation work on the Forests. Environmental education and community service were incorporated into the work projects to increase awareness of local and national conservation issues. The Selway Middle-Fork CFLR Project will again be funding and hosting the IYCC crew in FY 13.

The program goes beyond mere funding however. One of the goals from our proposal was to reduce conflict in the Clearwater Basin. There are number of contentious issues in the Basin and there will always be critics of Forest management, however our collaborative processes are showing signs of success. We have created a safe atmosphere to explore ideas, refine and validate concepts; and make real progress towards consensus decisions on controversial issues such as old growth retention, wildlife habitat improvement, and prescribed burning. The Forests have entered into a multi-party Memorandum of Understanding with our collaborative partners and identified three landscape scale CFLR projects where partners will participate in project development during the NFMA and NEPA assessment. Ultimately, the intent of the MOU is to ensure effective collaboration focused on ecological outcomes beginning at the project development stage through implementation. We are confident that the MOU process will help build projects that are not only economically feasible, bust socially and ecologically desirable as well. The draft EIS for the first of these projects, the Clear Creek Integrated Restoration Project, is due in the first quarter of FY13 with implementation in FY14. Collaboration on this project in 2012 has included several Forest presentations to partners and multiple field tours to discuss potential alternatives.

#### 5. Describe the multiparty monitoring, evaluation, and accountability process:

Building on its accomplishments in FY2011, the CBC solicited and hired a CFLRP Coordinator in March 2012 to oversee the multi-party monitoring component of the project as well as work on developing a Youth Initiative. Since then, the Coordinator and the Monitoring Advisory Committee (MAC) have been working on solidifying the monitoring framework and plan to guide projects that will measure the effectiveness of CFRLP treatments at both the project-level and landscape scale. The MAC consists of over 45 representatives from the local communities, contractors, the University of Idaho, interest groups, Idaho Fish and Game, and the Clearwater-Nez Perce National Forest and USFS Region 1 office.

To initiate the monitoring effort, the CBC advertised several RFPs and awarded the following contracts:

- 1. Collection and analysis of baseline ecological monitoring data the hired contractor is currently working on identifying existing monitoring and data collection efforts on CFLRP projects in order to determine gaps or weaknesses in existing monitoring programs that will help inform the CBC's multi-party monitoring plan by avoiding duplication of efforts and facilitating data sharing for further analysis and adaptive management.
- 2. Collection and analysis of baseline socio-economic data starting in FY2013, the hired contractor will be conducting monitoring of both the direct and the indirect economic impacts of the CFLRP project including information on several social indicators associated with employment benefits. The monitoring effort will include establishing clear baseline data for 2011 and 2012 in order to accurately measure the impacts associated with the CFLRP project. In addition to the national indicators for jobs/economic and fire costs, using TREAT and R-CAT information provided by the Forest Service, the contract will be conducting interviews and surveys that will inform the following types of indicators:
  - Number of local contractors receiving contracts
  - Number of local contractors receiving restoration-related contracts for the first time
  - Number and type of forestry and forest products businesses in existence
  - Wood products supply and amount processed locally
  - Level and type of public and private investments in forest restoration equipment and technology
  - Processing capacities of local facilities
  - Time from start to finish for a project
  - NEPA review time
  - Availability and utilization of local workforce
  - Workforce Training (both equipment training and safety training)
  - Employment Benefits offered and received
- 3. Monumentation of permanent photo plots and collection of common stand exam data the hired contractor established 296 permanent photo plot locations within the CFLRP project areas and collected common stand exam data. These plots will be revisited periodically over the next 12 years in order to document vegetative response to the various restoration treatments.
- 4. Data management and public communication the hired contract will be developing a central data warehousing function for all types of existing and collected monitoring datasets, reports, maps, photos, etc. Once basic layers have been established, the contractor will work with the MAC to develop an interactive public-user interface that will help the CBC "tell the story" of the CFLRP project and associated monitoring and youth-involvement efforts.

The CBC and the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests have benefited from contributions to the CFLRP monitoring effort. In 2012, The Nature Conservancy led an effort with the CBC's Forest Health and Function subcommittee to collect, analyze, and develop a Static Terrestrial Assessment of the current ecological condition of forest ecosystems throughout the Clearwater Basin including all ownerships and land designations. The first phase of this project studied the departure of forest structure from historic range of variability, assessed the likelihood and intensity wildfire based on current ecological conditions and assumed fire management policies, analyzed the recent occurrence and intensity of bark beetle-induced mortality, and identified the limitations of mechanical forest restoration/management treatments. The second phase of the assessment will incorporate the results of the Static Terrestrial Assessment into the collaborative development of quantifiable desired future conditions.

In 2012, the CBC secured a grant from the National Forest Foundation to help with the evaluation and documentation of the CFLRP National Outcomes and Indicators. In conjunction with contractors and various partners, the MAC is actively working on determining baseline conditions and setting targets for all five national outcomes and indicators: ecological, fire costs, job/economics, leveraged funds, and collaboration. Using data collected for the Static Terrestrial Assessment as well as other sources, the MAC will utilize the USFS's landscape model SIMPPLLE and other remotely-sensed datasets to model the Historic Range of Variability (HRV) in the CFLRP project area and quantify departure. This information will be used to develop the ecological outcomes and indicators based on departure from HRV and desired future conditions.

The CBC and the MAC are also working on developing a Youth Corp Initiative within the CFLRP project that will complement the existing youth programs on the Forest. Although still in development stage, the Youth Corp Initiative will emphasize collaborative problem solving while also providing a paid learning experience and exposure to a variety of natural resource occupational fields. Youth participants will learn about the complexities of providing for multiple uses on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests as well as how forest management decisions impact local communities.

FY2012 was the first year the CBC established contracted deliverables to implement its multi-party monitoring program. Therefore, most of the monitoring efforts so far have been to establish baseline reference conditions that future monitoring can be measured against. The program of work for FY2013 will include evaluation of the results of the FY2012 projects (all FY2012 contracts are due by March 2013), adjust the monitoring framework and plan accordingly, and begin working on the top priority monitoring needs identified by the MAC.

#### 6. FY 2012 accomplishments:

A column labeled "Proposal Goals Measured" was added to the accomplishment summary table in order to accurately describe how the performance measures link to the goals outlined in the Selway-Middle Fork restoration proposal – how we are measuring success. The following table identifies the proposal goals and their abbreviations used in the accomplishment summary table.

Goals from Selway-Middle Fork Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal	Abbreviated As
1. Ensure adequate protection of rural communities, private land and Wild and Scenic River values from uncharacteristic wildland fire.	WUI / Fire / Fuels
2. Re-establish and perpetuate a landscape that has a diversity of vegetation communities that are resilient in the presence of wildfire, invasive species, insects, disease and climate change.	Resilience and Diversity
3. Restore/maintain forest structure, function and ecologic processes that promote aquatic health and diverse aquatic native species habitat including bull trout, steelhead and westslope cutthroat trout.	Aquatic Restoration
4. Restore/maintain forest structure, function and ecologic processes that promote habitat for a large variety of native terrestrial species including mule deer, elk and other big game.	Terrestrial Restoration
5. Eliminate or contain noxious weeds to the greatest extent possible.	Weeds
6. Promote landscape conditions that allow fire to function as the primary ecosystem restoration agent within the Middle and Upper Selway River watersheds.	Fire Regime Restoration

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished <sup>10</sup>	Proposal Goals Measured <sup>11</sup>	<b>Total Treatment Cost (\$)</b>	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) <sup>12</sup>
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	Acres	32,785.3	All goals are represented by this performance measure	Integrated	Sum of:  TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC FOR-VERG-IMP FOR-VEG-EST S&W-RSRC-IMP INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC HBT-ENH-TERR FP-FUELS-NON-WUI
Acres of forest vegetation established	Acres	None in 2012	Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration		
Acres of forest vegetation improved	Acres	616	Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration	\$56,000	CFLN
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acre	4,110.3	Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration Goal 5: Weeds	\$452,800 \$81,000 \$50,000 \$76,000 \$1,100	CFLN NFRR SRS2 Partner/In-Kind NFRW
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	Acres	NA			
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions.	Acres	336	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	Integrated with roads maintained and improved, road decom and AOP maint. to standard	CFLN

Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record.
 Please refer to question 7 – Accomplishment Narrative for more detail

<sup>12</sup> 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 <sup>10</sup>	Proposal Goals Measured <sup>11</sup>	<b>Total Treatment Cost (\$)</b>	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) <sup>12</sup>
				\$285,000 Selway Road repair	
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	NA			
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles	31.7	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	Integrated with culvert replacements and road decom	
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	13,166	Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration, Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 6: Fire Regime Restoration	140acres - \$56,000 Remainder is integrated with fire and weeds	CFLN
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved	Acres	NA			
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	27	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$13,500	CFLN/CMRD
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	221.9	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$271,146	CFLN/CMRD
Miles of road decommissioned	Miles	27.3	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$60,000 \$69,000 \$148,000	CFLN NFRR SSCC
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles	4.4	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$307,754	CFLN/CMRD
Miles of high clearance system road improved	Miles	2.8	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$420,000	CFLN/CMRD
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	Number	5	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$232,900 \$231,000	CFLN NFRR
Miles of system trail maintained to standard	Miles	730.2	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	\$299,404.00 \$221,106.99 \$11,000	CFLN CMTL Partner/In-kind
Miles of system trail improved to standard	Miles	10.2	Goal 3: Aquatic Restoration	Integrated with above costs	
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	12.5	Necessary for all goals	\$3,930	CFLN

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished <sup>10</sup>	Proposal Goals Measured <sup>11</sup>	<b>Total Treatment Cost (\$)</b>	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) <sup>12</sup>
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	552	Goal 1: WUI/Fire /Fuels, Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration, Goal 6: Fire Regime Restoration	Associated with volume sold	
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	9,672.9	Goal 1: WUI/Fire /Fuels, Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration, Goal 6: Fire Regime Restoration	\$7000.00 sale prep \$59,000 sale prep \$4,850 sale prep	CFLR CFLN NFRR
Volume of timber harvested	CCF	5,432.1	Same as above	\$16,000 sale admin \$37,000 sale admin	CFLR CFLN
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio- energy production	Green tons	1,216.7	Same as above	By product of volume sold	
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	13,389	Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration, Goal 6: Fire Regime Restoration	\$249,558	WFSU
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	1,094	Goal 1: WUI/Fire /Fuels, Goal 2: Resilience and Diversity, Goal 4: Terrestrial Restoration, Goal 6: Fire Regime Restoration	\$37,200	WFHF NFRR
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	NA			
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	NA			

#### 7. FY 2012 accomplishment narrative:

2012 was another successful year for the Selway Middle-Fork Project and the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forests. The Forests experienced some exciting changes and difficult challenges in FY 12; however accomplishments and progress on the Selway Middle-Fork project met or exceeded expectations.

Wildfires on the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forests burned over 260 thousand acres in the largest fire season since 1934. Fortunately, none of the proposed or on-going CFLR projects were negatively impacted by the fires.

The Nez Perce-Clearwater Forests were selected as early adopters for forest plan revision under the new planning rule, due in large part to the success of recent collaborative efforts. The Forests also proposed and have been working with Regional Office Staff to develop an accelerated restoration strategy that builds off the momentum and success of the CFLR program. By leveraging CFLR funds The Forests will be able to treat more acres, provide important wood products and jobs to the local economy and accomplish restoration objectives at the appropriate scale.

In 2011, the Forests and CBC placed a heavy emphasis on developing a vision for the CFLR program and investing in long term capacity that would transcend fiscal year boundaries, challenging budgets and difficult budgeting cycles. Those investments played a huge role in our success and once again demonstrated the Selway Middle-Fork Project as a sound investment.

Our partnership with the Nez Perce Tribe was essential in accomplishing another ambitious program in FY 12. The Tribe has a vested interest in restoration of this landscape and brings important resources, expertise and financial support to the program. Through our agreements with both the Department of Fisheries Resource Management and Department of Natural Resource Management we were able to accomplish the following projects that exemplify how our capacity building is paying off:

- A GRAIP (Geomorphic Roads Analysis and Inventory Package) survey of the O'Hara/Hamby Fork Roads. This 17 mile road segment, much of which is in riparian areas, has been subject to chronic failure and unusually high sediment production, which causes adverse impacts to important anadromous fish habitat. The GRAIP survey, conducted by specialists from the Nez Perce Tribe identified the sediment "hot spots" and made recommendations of which sections of road and which drain points could be prioritized for maintenance. The survey report will be a tremendous asset in prioritization of future watershed restoration projects in the O'Hara drainage.
- Forest examination / stand health diagnosis, prescriptions and treatment prioritization on over 1200 acres on the CFLR project area. FY 12 was the first year "on the ground" under an agreement executed late in FY 11 with the Tribe's Department of Natural Resources. The information collected under the leadership of the Tribe's foresters was essential to the continuation of vegetation restoration projects. This agreement has been a win-win for both parties as it has brought much needed capacity to the Forests and provided the Tribe an opportunity to train and maintain a skilled workforce within the Department of Natural Resources.
- The Nez Perce Tribe contributed funding for acquisition of additional LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) data for the project area. Data from a small portion of the project area which had been previously sampled contributed to increased accomplishments in road decommissioning. An Environmental Assessment completed in early FY 11 identified and cleared over 75 miles of un-needed road for decommissioning using LiDAR data. The Tribe's specialists from the Department of Fisheries Management prioritized the segments and in FY 12 there were 23 miles decommissioned. This type of watershed restoration work, funded through the CFLR program is

- being done in advance of vegetation restoration, allowing us to demonstrate a trend toward watershed rehabilitation.
- The Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries Department continues to invest almost a million dollars annually towards native anadromous and inland fish recovery efforts within the Selway Middle-Fork CFLR area through their fish rearing, supplementation and monitoring program.

Planning, design and implementation of vegetation restoration projects have been an emphasis for the Forests and CBC in 2012. Our goal has been to design projects that are not only consistent with the intent of the CFLR program, but also to ensure, that through working with our partners and stakeholders, that projects are socially, ecologically desirable as well as economically feasible. The following projects are examples of the work we are pursuing:

- Implementation of the Interface Fuels project. This project, designed to reduce fuels on nearly 1200 acres of National Forest Lands surrounding the communities of Syringa and Lowell. The timber sale was purchased in FY 11 by a then recently re-opened Blue North Forest Products and is expected to contribute more than eight million board feet of timber to the local economy. To-date, approximately 550 aces of the project have been implemented and will continue into the future. More information on the project is available on the Clearwater Basin Collaborative website: Mutual Trust Leads to Tangible Results
- Sale of the Lodge Point Commercial Thin Project Idaho Forest Group recently purchased this timber sale which is designed to commercially thin overstocked plantations to improve forest health and resilience as well as reduce fuels on over 600 acres of Forest surrounding the community of Syringa. The project is expected to contribute over three million board feet of timber and is the first CFLR project designed to produce biomass products.
- A decision is pending on an Environmental Assessment for the Iron Mountain Vegetation Restoration Project which would harvest over 660 acres of mountain pine beetle affected lodgepole pine stands. Following the harvest, the project area would be reforested with whitebark pine and other long lived early seral species, improving the overall health and ecological resilience of the area. The project is also located in the WUI of Elk City. Removing the dead and dying trees could help to minimize the threat of extreme fire behavior in that area.
- A Draft Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared and is expected to be released in January for the Clear Creek Integrated Restoration Project. This project is the cornerstone of our CFLR proposal and the Forests, CBC and other stakeholders have invested almost two years in its planning and design. The project represents a shift from traditional management practices and seeks to maintain or restore a comprehensive set of ecological conditions across an approximate 60,000 acre watershed. We are excited about the level of support the project has received to-date and look forward to the release of the DEIS. More about the project can be found here: Clear Creek Project

Other Notable accomplishments for FY 2012 include:

- Continued support of the Idaho Youth Conservation Corps (see community benefits question for a description of IYCC achievements).
- Completion of numerous road improvement projects lessened a backlog of maintenance that will result in less sediment entering streams.
- Further advanced the weed control efforts and protection of weed free areas in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness and general forestland. Cooperators such as the Montana Conservation Corps, Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho County, University of Wyoming and Back Country Horsemen played an invaluable role in completing treatments on a

- meaningful scale. Preliminary monitoring shows a 90-95% reduction in invasives within treated areas. Protection of weed free areas conserved thousands of acres of quality wildlife habitat.
- Trail improvements and maintenance to improve drainage, reduce sediment and maintain administrative and public access on over 730 miles of trails.
- Implementation of the Selway Winter Range improvement Project, which when completed, will provide almost 3000 acres of quality winter range improvement for big game and other species in the Lower Selway River Canyon.
- Improved dialogue with stakeholders. The Forests have made an effort to engage in meaningful dialogue and be more inclusive and transparent about the CFLR program and individual projects, including conservation groups that have chosen not to "formally" collaborate on projects outside of the normal NEPA process. These groups have a long history of participation in project planning and have valuable insight to offer towards project development. We are pleased to be moving towards furthering our mutual understanding and away from traditional adversarial relationships with these organizations.
- Many of the projects completed in FY12 will further the development of successful projects in FY2013. By laying a solid foundation with open, collaborative discussions and fiscal responsibility, the Forests will continue to leverage the CFLR program and use it as an example for landscape scale projects across the Forests.

# 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?<sup>13</sup>

Fiscal Year	Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint)
FY10	5,784
FY11	16,768
FY 12	24,597
Total	47,149

#### 9. Describe other relevant fire management activities within the project area:

- Expenses in wildfire preparedness (WFPR)
  - o The CFLRP project area encompasses portions of the Lochsa, Red River, Powell and Moose Creek Ranger Districts on the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. Also a portion of the West Fork Ranger District on the Bitteroot National Forest is within the project area. Combined total WFPR expenditures for 2012 are \$2,715,010. The proportionate cost to the project area is \$1,131,091.
- Expenses in wildfire suppression (WFSU)
  - There were 73 fires that were initially placed in a suppression strategy for an estimated cost of \$2,255,066.00. A total of 102,508 acres were reported at an estimated cost of \$22 per acre (based on the Ditch Fire costs). BAER cost for this year was \$0 in the project area.
  - Of the 73 fires reported, 16 fires were approved for resource benefit objectives by the regional office mid-September. Initially these fires were managed under a suppression strategy as directed by the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 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.

- Regional Office. A total of 13,460 acres were accomplished for resource benefit objectives at an estimated cost of \$296,120.
- o This year there were no fuel treatments in the project area that were tested by a wildfire. Fire did burn into and through previous burn scars.
- Other Hazardous Fuel Expenses Not Captured Above
  - o Project analysis = \$47.515
  - o GS-12 Deputy Fire Staff and GS-11 Fuels/Fire Planner = \$4,812. These costs are time committed to CFLRP Strategy Committee, annual reporting, planning, and budgeting.

One of the successes from this fire season was the defense of the Selway Lodge, a private in-holding, and the Shearer Guard Station in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness. The Lodge and the Guard Station became threatened in late July after the Ditch and Goat fires grew and moved to the east. Fuel reduction and defensible space work implemented by USFS fire crews at the Selway Lodge made for confident burnout operations around the southern end of the private ground and ultimately held the fire. The fuel reduction was completed through a Challenge Cost Share Agreement in 2010, prior to selection into the CFLR program, but it serves as an example of the work we are continually pursuing. Numerous other structures in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness were also successfully defended under a point protection suppression strategy during the 2012 fire season, including the Historic Moose Creek Ranger Station, Running Creek, North Star and Seminole Ranches.

#### 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?

Generally all projected accomplishments from the proposal and workplan have been met or exceeded. Minor discrepancies between the detailed funding plan submitted with the proposal and actual implementation were the result of on the ground refinement and validation, NEPA refinements or project name changes.

The implementation of NFRR made it challenging to determine what functional area contributed funding through NFRR for contracting of vegetation treatments. In the past separate fund codes made this much easier to track and provided greater accuracy.

Although we exceeded our planned accomplishments for acres of fire resource benefit objectives, we did not meet our planned prescribed fire acres. Early direction from both Deputy Chief Hubbard and the Regional Forester required approval for wildfire with resource benefit objectives, and for all prescribed burning. Sixteen of our fires within the CFLRP area were approved in mid-September for resource benefit objectives. There were a total of 73 fires that burned an estimated total of 102,508 acres in the CFLRP area, but only 13,460 acres can be counted as accomplishment. In a normal year, almost all of these fires and associated acres would have been managed for resource benefit objectives. The Moose Creek, Lochsa, Powell and West Fork Districts have mature fire management programs and indeed, much of our CFLR proposal was premised on allowing natural fire to burn for resource management objectives. Management strategies for point protection (suppression objective) do not differ from protection of values at risk (resource benefit objective) and the outcomes on the ground in terms of acres burned are the same for either strategy.

The prescribed fire program suspension had very little effect on not meeting our planned accomplishment of 2,000 acres. It would have been unlikely that we would have implemented any prescribed fire due to the fire activity across the Nez Perce-Clearwater and Bitterroot National Forests. On the Nez Perce - Clearwater National Forests alone there were over 180 fires that burned approximately 263,700 acres this fire season, the most since 1934.

#### 11. Planned FY 2014 Accomplishments

		Amount (\$)
	Accomplishment	
Acres	Integrated	
	100	<b>***</b>
Acres	100	\$20,000
	1-0	400.000
Acres	450	\$90,000
	1.700	<b>\$200.000</b>
Acre	1,500	\$200,000
	37.	
Acres	NA	
Acres	350	Integrated
Acres	NA	
2 514		
Miles	30	Integrated
Acres	5,000	Integrated
Acres	NA	
Miles	25	\$30,000
Miles	87	\$97,000
Miles	25	\$275,000
Miles	19	\$650,000
Miles	15	\$800,000
Number	3	\$300,000
Miles	415	\$170,000
Miles	319	\$338,363
1,11100		φ330,303
	Acres Miles Miles Miles Miles Miles Miles Miles	Acres       100         Acres       450         Acre       1,500         Acres       NA         Acres       NA         Miles       30         Acres       5,000         Acres       NA         Miles       25         Miles       87         Miles       19         Miles       15         Number       3         Miles       415

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 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 <sup>14</sup>	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	NA	
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	450	Associated with below
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	15,000	\$500,000
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	Byproduct of above	Associated with above
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	1,000 <sup>i</sup>	\$100,000
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	1,000	\$100,000
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	NA	
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	NA	

#### 12. Planned FY 2014 accomplishment narrative:

#### **Implementation**

- The first timber sale from the Clear Creek Integrated Restoration Project is scheduled for FY 14.
- Approximately 2000 acres of prescribed fire in the Fenn Face and/or O'Hara projects, restore fire, reduce fuels in WUI and improve wildlife habitat.
- Aquatic restoration is planned to continue at current levels, pending funds, through roads and trails maintained or improved to standard. Additionally, three culvert replacements for aquatic organism passage and 25 miles of road decommissioning are planned.
- 300-500 acres of big game winter range / wildlife habitat improvements in the Selway drainage.
- 300-500 acres of forest improvement through pre-commercial thinning, pruning in white pine plantations. Native seed collection for propagation of trees, shrubs and grasses for restoration projects will continue.

- Invasive plant management will continue and expand their program. The Nez Perce and Bitterroot Forests are working in cooperation with Idaho County to develop a comprehensive out year plan for invasive plant management and native species restoration in the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness. In addition the invasive plant management program has planned the following specific goals for FY 14:
  - o Post-fire treatment, monitoring and mapping to detect the introduction of new species and prevent the rapid expansion into burned sites by established target species.
  - o expansion and implementation of revegetation work, bio-control introductions and weed-free area detection/treatment/invasion prevention
  - o implement protocols for aquatic invasive species detection

## 13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2013/14 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan:

Planned accomplishments for FY 13/14 are expected to be consistent with the project work plan and table above, assuming CFLR funding continues at similar levels. Minor discrepancies due to NEPA refinements, on the ground validation and prioritization of the Forest program may be possible; however it is our expectation that consistency with the proposal is maintained. As we progress into the fourth year of the program and beyond, it is expected that modifications between the proposal financial plan and / or workplan will be necessary to account for changing conditions on the ground and the realities of budget and workforce. We will continue to respect and endeavor to achieve the objectives and accomplishments set forth in our original proposal to ensure the Selway Middle-Fork Project remains and sound investment.

<sup>1</sup> Includes only acres treated mechanically or with prescribed fire. Does not include acres treated through management of naturally occurring

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### APPENDIX A – In-Kind and Volunteer Match

Partner / Cooperator Name	Match Amount
IN-KIND and VOLUNTEER	
Montana Conservation Corps - 9459	
crew hours	\$201,814.00
Selway Bitterooot Foundation - 4130	
crew hours	\$90,682.00
Back Country Horsemen - 512 crew	
hours -(trails)	\$11,249.00
Nez Perce Tribe - Annual fisheries	
restoration program	\$916,000.00
Nez Perce Tribe - Lidar acquisition	
for CFLRP area	\$27,000.00
Nez Perce Tribe - Selway Culvert	
Replacements - Direct funded thru	
BPA	\$53,000.00
Idaho Fish and Game - recurrent/	
annual wildlife/habitat management	\$135,000.00
Back Country Horsemen of N.	
Central ID - weed treatment	\$8,306.75
FOC - Invasive weed	
mapping/eardication and trail clearing	\$10,000.00
CBC collaboration - monitoring and	
CFLR program management	\$67,322.52
Bitterroot NF Volunteers - Weeds	\$2,000.00
Total	\$1,522,374.27

### **Appendix B – Funds Contributed Through Agreements**

AGREEMENTS	
Cooperator	Match Amount
AGR - Idaho County Weed Control	\$26,000.00
AGR - Clearwater RC&D -	
multiparty monitoring	\$15,335.20
AGR - IDFG - ecosystem monitoring	\$7,209.96
AGR - MCC trail mtc	\$61,558.00
AGR - IDFG terresrial surveys	\$3,724.76
AGR - MCC Rapid river trail mtc	
(MCRD)	\$10,618.30
AGR - University of Idaho - weed	
monitoring	\$2,567.00
AGR - Selway Bitterroot Foundation -	
trail liason	\$34,176.00
AGR - Twin Rivers Back Country	
Horsemen - Boulder Creek Trail Mtc	\$19,839.20
AGR - University of Wyoming -	
floristic inventory and monitoring	\$69,462.00
AGR - Nez Perce Tribe - weed	
inventory and monitoring	\$35,365.75
AGR - MCC fire affected trail mtc	\$12,236.00
AGR - Nez Perce Tribe - Stand	
exams and treatment prescriptions	\$34,312.04
Kidder Harris Highway District -	
Selway area road mtc	\$20,800.00
AGR - BTR - MCC - heavy trail	
mtce.	\$13,300.00
AGR - Back Country Horsemen	
N.Central ID - Meadow Creek Trail	
Mtc	\$3,154.68
AGR-BTR - MCC Invasives	
monitoring	\$28,000.00
Total	\$397,658.89