

CFLR Project (Name/Number): Burney-Hat Creek Basins / CFLR014National Forest(s): Lassen National Forest

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. FY13 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLR Funds Expended) <sup>1</sup>	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
CFLN14	\$200,864

Fund Source – (Carryover funds expended (Carryover to in addition to CFLR/CFLN) (please include a new row for each BLI)) <sup>2</sup>	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
CFTM14	\$380,184

Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds (please include a new row for each BLI)) <sup>3</sup>	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
Forest Service employee and support costs and FS Enterprise team work orders for implementation and monitoring on timber sale and service contracts.	WFHF = \$230,453 NFVW = \$1,625 SSSS = \$165,054

Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
University of Nevada Reno for monitoring snowpack and hydrology	\$15,000
National Forest Foundation and American Forests Project grant contributions to raise seedlings for reforestation on the Sugarloaf Fire and Venture Fire	\$9,095

Fund Source – (Partner In-Kind Contributions)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
Burney-Hat Creek Community Forest and Watershed Group participation and professional facilitation	\$21,121

Fund Source – (Service work accomplishment through goods-for-services funding within a stewardship contract)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
	0

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

<sup>1</sup> Additional CFLN14 expenditures (above what is shown in PAS) equal \$116,808.

<sup>2</sup> This is the remixed "Core" funding in addition to the CFLN14. Core funding is the funding level specified in the Burney-Hat Creek CFLRP Proposal. Expenditures above what is shown in PAS, are as follows: NFTM06 = \$136,659, NFWF06 = \$292,012. Total "Core" funding expenditures equal \$1,126,527.

<sup>3</sup> This amount equals the matching funds obligated in the PAS report. However, the following funding was also expended as project match: SRS2 = \$46,614, WFHF = \$240, NFVW = \$105,741, SSSS = \$9,392, NFTM = \$418, 373, CWKV = \$140,904, RTRT = \$140,816, WFPR = \$33,430 and CMTL = \$75,035. Total match expenditures equal \$1,367,677.

Leverage Funds and In-Kind Contributions	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$)
California Trout contribution to Lower Hat Creek project: combined funds from donations to CalTrout, California River Pathways grant to CalTrout, and National Wildlife Foundation grant to CalTrout used for restoration investigations, monitoring and Hat Creek Youth Initiative.	\$170,000
California Department of Parks and Recreation, CCC managed and implemented Stevens Act funding for fuels treatment in McArthur-Burney Falls State Park.	\$209,778
Lassen Volcanic National Park Northwest Gateway Project stand exams and biomass removal.	\$263,050

Approved by (Forest Supervisor):

*Dave G. [Signature]* 12/2/14

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

The Burney-Hat Creek Basins project contributed to the goals laid out in the *10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan*. The Burney-Hat Creek Community Forest and Watershed Group (BHCCFWG) partnered with private land owners and the Fall River Resource Conservation District (RCD) to successfully support accomplishments on private lands in an all-lands approach that adds to accomplishments on NFS lands.

*Goal 1 of the Implementation Plan is to improve fire prevention and suppression, and the implementation outcomes are the elimination of loss of life and firefighter injuries, and reduction of wildfire damage to communities and the environment.* During the FY13 fire season, there were two, fulltime fire prevention patrol employees who included the project area in their patrol coverage. Fire prevention and timber employees participated in fire awareness and prevention programs, and camp Smokey in Sacramento. There were nine fire starts on National Forest System lands within the project boundary, all of which were contained during initial attack. A total of 102 acres burned.

*Goal 2 of the Implementation Plan is to reduce hazardous fuels, and the implementation outcome is the reduction of wildfire risk to communities and the environment.* A total of 1,921.2 acres of hazardous fuels were treated on NFS lands within the project area during FY13. Of these acres 919.4 acres were within WUI and 1,001.8 acres were non-WUI. Pile burning was conducted on 345 acres, but no broadcast burning was conducted in the CFLR area due to conditions that did not meet burn plan prescriptions.

*Goal 3, Part A, of the Implementation Plan is the restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems, and the implementation outcome is the restoration and maintenance of these ecosystems, using appropriate tools, in a manner that will provide sustainable environmental, social, and economic benefits.* In FY13, 794.7 acres of vegetation was improved and 312.8 acres of vegetation established on NFS lands. Mastication of brush fields and plantations within the project area contributed to ecosystem improvement, habitat improvements and benefits to the local economy.

Goal 3, Part B, of the Implementation Plan is the restoration and post-fire recovery of fire-adapted ecosystems, and the implementation outcome is the recovery of lands damaged by wildfire to desired conditions. A total of 770.1 acres were treated for reforestation seedling tree release (grubbing) and 147.4 acres of site preparation for reforestation on the Reading fire. Rapid Fire Assessment and BAER were conducted on the Reading fire. The Reading Project environmental assessment for burned area restoration was prepared, and a FONSI signed in order to implement restoration work on the Reading fire burned area, which is entirely within the project boundary. A total of 758 acres were treated.

Goal 4 of the Implementation Plan is the promotion of community assistance, and the implementation outcome is the increased capacity to prevent losses from Wildland fire and realize economic benefits resulting from treatments and services. In addition to fuels reduction work accomplished on the ground, the BHCCFWG partnered with the Fall River RCD to support the formation of the Burney Basin Fire Safe Council (BBFSC) to promote community awareness and participation in wildfire loss prevention. Private and public lands in the Burney basin are the focus of the council. Coupled with the Hat Creek Valley Fire Safe Council, the entire project area now has fire safe council coverage.

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

- All vegetation treatments, recreation facility improvements and on-the-ground work within the project occurred in Shasta County, California.
- All commercial timber harvested was processed at mills within Shasta, Trinity, and Siskiyou Counties, California.
- Vegetation-treatment service contracts created jobs for operators based in Shasta, Lassen, and Tehama counties in California. Service contracts for reforestation created jobs for operators based in Ashland, Oregon and Tucson, Arizona.
- Service contract generated income remained mostly in Shasta County. The remainder of the income was distributed in Lassen, Humboldt, Tehama, and Trinity Counties, California, and in Ashland, Oregon, and Tucson, Arizona.

**FY 2013 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY13 CFLR/CFLN/ Carryover funding only):**

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income
Commercial Forest Product Activities	40	94	\$2,169,776	\$4,218,795
Other Project Activities	3	3	\$67,922	\$87,731
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>\$2,237,698</b>	<b>\$4,306,526</b>

**FY 2013 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY13 CFLR/CFLN/ 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
Commercial Forest Product Activities	52	113	\$2,698,806	\$5,041,959
Other Project Activities	26	31	\$677,136	\$887,105
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>\$3,375,942</b>	<b>\$5,929,064</b>

**4. Describe other community benefits achieved and the methods used to gather information about these benefits (Please limit answer to two pages).**

Project implementation includes tracking the range of benefits through government contracts and actions of partners. The proposal includes periodic socio-economic monitoring. Collaborative group discussions recognized the need to initiate socio-economic monitoring to build upon the surveys conducted in 2009 that led to the formation of the Burney-Hat Creek Community Forest and Watershed Group. For 2013, observed community benefits include recognizable job and economic benefits, youth engagement, partnerships, and social impacts.

Most community job and economic benefits were derived from vegetation treatments, and preparation for future treatments within the Basins Project area. A combination of timber sales (non-stewardship) and service contracts provided direct employment and multiplier benefits throughout local communities. In addition to the benefits represented as jobs through the TREAT model shown above, forest products harvested through standard timber sales (non-stewardship) in the project area amounted to 3,026 loads from five active sales in 2013. (See Section 5 for 2013 accomplishments) During FY13, seven service contracts were awarded to private contractors to conduct a range of vegetation and fuels improvement projects within the project area. Timber and service contracts were often awarded to companies based in neighboring counties rather than Shasta County where the work was conducted. Forest products were hauled to processing mills in Shasta, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties. Although that may appear to pull economic benefit from the local area, contractors hired some local workers, but also spent considerable revenue for local support. Out-of-area crews require local lodging, fuel for vehicles and equipment, food service, and supplies. In addition to service and repair, large trucks require tires, and a service call when a tire needs repair or replacement. Local estimates exceed \$3 million in local fuel sales in the town of Burney for the sole purpose of supporting logging truck activity. The Basins Project could have generated as much as one-third of the fuel sales. During August and September, all motels in Burney had full occupancy, mostly with workers and drivers on timber projects. Local businesses, such as restaurants and convenience stores, benefitted from serving the increased workforce on a daily basis.

Lower Hat Creek was once California's premier spring-creek fishery, and in 1972, was designated as California's first Wild Trout Management Area. Hat Creek became a major recreation destination that bolstered the local economy. In the



early 1990s, stream conditions and the fishery began to deteriorate. Restoration of lower Hat Creek on Pacific Gas and Electric property was initiated in 2010 with a Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee grant to the Fall River Resource Conservation District (RCD), as a member of the BHCCFWG. The RCD contracted with local environmental consulting firm Spring Rivers to conduct stream surveys and develop a restoration plan. California Trout, the University of California Davis Center for Watershed Sciences, CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Fall River RCD, Forest Service, local fishing guides, the Pit River Tribe, Central Valley Water Quality Control Board, PG&E, and other partners began work on restoration planning. CalTrout, a participant in the

collaborative group, adopted Hat Creek as a statewide priority project and has successfully obtained grant funding from CA River Parkway Program, Sacramento Water District, and Orvis, Inc. to restore lower Hat Creek.

In 2013, CalTrout developed the Hat Creek Youth Initiative (HCYI) to engage local High School students in restoration efforts. Six students (including two from the Pit River Tribe) were provided fulltime, seasonal employment to conduct large woody debris and other surveys. In addition to their fieldwork, HCYI participants were provided natural resource professional mentoring, and career and professional development guidance. The participants enjoyed tribal elder and

cultural discussions, Fall River RCD invasive plant instruction, USFS and BLM career and pathways instruction, and a professional private forester presentation.

During 2013, a \$209,778 Forest Service grant was awarded to the California Department of Parks and Recreation utilizing Stevens Act funding to reduce hazardous fuel accumulations in McArthur-Burney Falls State Park. The park is within the project area and is a participant in the BHCCFWG. Fuel reduction in the park is adjacent to the four corners fuel reduction project on the Lassen National Forest. There was a strong community benefit through the state utilizing the California Conservation Corps to conduct the work. Generally, a crew of 13, the CCC employs young men and women in natural resource and recreation improvement projects. A 101-acre hazardous fuel project was laid out and most of the handwork small biomass removal was conducted. All wood generated by the project will be utilized as firewood to be sold at the state park for visitor use.

A multi-year Participating Agreement committing over \$100,000 was established with the Pit River Tribe for tribal crews to conduct trails improvement, maintenance and repair. Within the Basins Project area, work included cutting back vegetation, improving trail tread, and repairing and installing erosion control devices along 20 miles of trail in the Thousand Lakes Wilderness and 11.25 miles along the Parham's Trail. The Lassen National Forest provided whipsaw and other hand tool training, building career skills for the crew. Under the oversight of a Forest Service Trails Technician, the project accomplished deferred trail maintenance while teaching the crew new skills in trails maintenance, and backcountry travel. The Parham's trail, formerly the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), received little treatment since the PCT was moved in the mid-1990s. Some of the lower sections were cleared of deadfall as an annual recreation event, but no tread work had been done. During the 2012 Reading Fire, the PCT had to be temporarily re-routed back to the Parham's Trail to allow passage for through hikers. Although the trail was usable by pedestrians in an emergency situation, it had become overgrown, covered by rock-fall, and completely impassable by equestrians in some areas. During 2013, the tribal trail crew succeeded in making the trail fully serviceable for foot and livestock use.

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

The Burney-Hat Creek Basins Project monitoring plan remains in draft, needing additional personnel to complete. Though approved, a monitoring coordinator position remains vacant. Pacific Southwest Region program direction for 2014 includes the engagement of the provincial ecology program in the CFLR project. Ecology program participation has been funded and initiated with the intent that the ecology program will guide the completion of the monitoring plan and assist with overall direction of project monitoring, and increase the capacity for multi-party monitoring. During 2013, monitoring was conducted by Forest Service personnel, universities, contractors, partners and youth in conjunction with ongoing project implementation. Under the proposal, there were four primary monitoring categories: (1) vegetation, (2) wildlife, (3) water, and (4) socio-economic condition. Archeological resources are also monitored.

During 2013, project implementation shifted from the planned project schedule to primarily burned area restoration of the 2012 Reading fire. The fire burned entirely within the proposed Badger project area, changing the anticipated green vegetation project into a post-fire treatment on 4,273 acres within the 11,071-acre fire parameter on the Lassen National Forest. Monitoring on the Reading project included wildlife, water and archeology. Monitoring was also conducted on green-vegetation projects that were implemented mainly through service contract. Section 7 describes the accomplishments for 2013.

Vegetation: Hundreds of stand exams were conducted for baseline information in the Plum, Big Lake and Sluice Box within North 49, and Whittington project areas. Stand exams provide useful and repeatable data that can track



vegetation changes and response to treatments. Each stand exam is established with GPS coordinates and is marked to relocate and duplicate the exam.

Stand exam information was collected using the keyhole plot design and included tree status (live or dead), species, height, diameter, crown length, crown position (dominant, co-dominant, intermediate, overtopped, or remnant), age, and defect (disease – dwarf mistletoe, crooks, forked tops, broken tops, dead tops, etc.) Other information gathered during stand exam includes canopy cover using a densitometer between plots. Vegetative cover, including grass, forbs, and brush, was estimated in the 1/100 acre fixed plot. Fuels information collected included duff depth and overall fuel depth. Surface fuel loadings were estimated using the Photo Series for Quantifying Natural Forest Residues: Southern Cascades and Northern Sierra Nevada, GTR-PSW-56, NFES #1872.

**Wildlife Surveys:** Surveys were conducted on 11,525 acres encompassing the Reading project area, and on 3,906 acres encompassing the Big Lake project area for California spotted owl and northern goshawk. Some of the Badger project area had previously been surveyed as part of the planning prior to the fire and provides comparative data. Other surveys established post-fire baseline data for continued monitoring. A Forest Service regional team conducted first-year post-fire monitoring surveys for black-backed woodpecker occupancy within the Reading fire boundary. The monitoring serves as a baseline for long-term wildlife monitoring. The team also conducted third-year post-fire monitoring surveys on the Brown Butte and Sugarloaf fires for black-backed woodpecker.

Combined, the Plum and Big Lake projects had 882 acres of baseline-establishing surveys conducted for Pacific fisher, American marten, and Sierra Nevada red fox using camera-equipped bait stations. Reconnaissance surveys (not to protocol, but useful in identifying occupation) were conducted in the Snow Mountain area to help determine more detailed survey needs.

Section 4 above describes the lower Hat Creek restoration project and the baseline monitoring conducted by contractors and participants in the Hat Creek Youth Initiative. The six-member HCYI crew worked with a crew leader, an environmental consulting firm, and UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences in data collection and baseline monitoring for aquatic and riparian resources. Three students volunteered 60 hours of their time on the project as part of their High School Senior Project requirement. In the 2014 year of the HCYI, there is expected to be more volunteer time needed as the bulk of the stream-bank planting will occur during the fall months. The HCYI anticipates offering up to 5 Senior Projects and organizing a community planting day in 2014.

**Hydrology:** Surface water is restricted in the Basins project area making groundwater of paramount interest. The groundwater flow in the area is very complex. Fractured basaltic aquifers are generally characterized using statistical extrapolations of known fracture orientations along with well or borehole data. However, this approach would be unreliable in the Basins area given the multiple tectonic orientations and heterogeneous geology. In FY12, a method for monitoring snow melt dynamics



was designed with Gordon Grant, Ph.D., Pacific Northwest Research Center, USDA Forest Service, and Oregon State University, and Scott Tyler, Ph.D., Department of Geological Sciences and Engineering, University of Nevada, Reno and

Director of the Center for Transformative Environmental Monitoring Programs (CTEMPS). The National Science Foundation funds CTEMPS to develop cutting-edge technologies for monitoring applications, and transferring them to other scientists and engineers. A timber sale unit where several different silvicultural treatments were implemented in close proximity to each other (radial thinning, group selections, diversity thinning, and a no-treatment area) was identified, and instrumented. The effects of different prescriptions on snow pack dynamics and melt patterns will be monitored. A 750 meter fiber-optic line with thermocouples installed every meter was strung through each area. Several weather towers and buried soil moisture and temperature probes were also placed. The system collected data through the winter of FY13. The results were accurate, which served as a proof of concept. These data will serve as a baseline for continued monitoring. Given the success, additional instruments and a second fiber-optic line were added to the design, and multi-year agreements with both institutions were entered into. Analyzing the monitoring data will serve as a thesis topic for two graduate students over the lifetime of the agreement.

After the Reading fire, Hat Creek was tested for arsenic, mercury and selenium at the beginning of FY13, and again after the first major rain event of the winter to determine effects. Concentrations were within the legal limits for drinking water. The turbidity of Hat Creek was also monitored following major precipitation events to ensure that mass wasting from denuded slopes was not degrading habitat and the municipal water supply for Old Station.

Given the sensitivity of many aquatic resources to water temperature, ten five-year temperature loggers were placed in Hat Creek and Lost Creek in FY12. All locations were upstream of Old Station. Loggers were placed where these creeks enter National Forest System Land, as well as above and below every major confluence. This monitoring has continued through FY13.

Archeology: Surveys for heritage resources (ancient and historic) are conducted prior to project implementation to establish baseline data, and monitored throughout implementation to ensure protection of the resources. Surveys were conducted on the Reading Project Addendum, Pacific Crest Trail washout (Reading fire), Plum Project, and Big Lake. In total, 5,910 acres were surveyed within the Basins Project area in 2013. Archeological surveys were conducted on 419 acres of previously un-surveyed ground for the Reading Project. For the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) washout repair, 29.6 acres of previously un-surveyed ground was surveyed. The Reading fire caused water to channelize within the PCT, which made it impassable for hikers and horses. A total of 5,166 acres were surveyed within the Plum Project boundary in 2013. In 2014, approximately 900 more acres will need to be surveyed for completion of heritage survey requirements.

For The Big Lake Project, 196 acres were surveyed in the 2013 field year. Due to thick lodge pole pine growth and duff, the area will need to be revisited after project implementation to perform an intensive survey in areas with high site probability, as required by the 2013 Regional Programmatic Agreement (RPA). A Section 110 Heritage survey was performed near the Community of Cassel just to the north of Baum Lake, a hydroelectric impoundment on Hat Creek. The survey investigated 100 acres of un-surveyed ground.

All surveys performed during 2013, conform to the survey guidelines set forth by the *2013 Programmatic Agreement among the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5), California State Historic Preservation Officer, Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding the Processes for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for Management of Historic Properties by the National Forests of the Pacific Southwest region (RPA 2013)*. All heritage surveys were completed by Forest Service Archaeologists

## 6. FY 2013 Accomplishments

Performance Measure	Unit of Measure	Total Units Accomplished <sup>4</sup>	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience WTRSHD-RSTR-ANN	Acres	0		
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	313	\$20,859	RTRT, CWKV
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	1,040	\$360,507	CFLN, SRS2, WFHF, CWKV, NFWW, RTRT
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	0	\$4,000	NFWW
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	0		
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	300	\$537,111	NOTE: This is a combination of Reading Fire BAER work and acres that come from other actives i.e.: 15% of all fuels work, there was no cost associated with this accomplishment, the cost accrued is for the thinning (CWKV, CFLN, NFWF,WFHF, WFPR).
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	1		
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	0		
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	540	\$9,559	CWKV NFWF
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	0		
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAINT	Miles	0		
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	0		
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles	0.3		

<sup>4</sup> Units accomplished match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record associated with CFLRP14. However, the following additional accomplishments were also accomplished and recorded: INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC = 20 acres, S&W-RSRC-IMP = 198 acres, HBT-ENH-TERR = 560 acres, RD-HC-MAINT = 10 miles, RD-PC-MAINT = 8 miles, RD-PC-IMP = 13 miles, RD-HC-IMP = 20 miles, TL-MAINT-STD = 10 miles, and SP-NATIVE-FED-AC = 319 acres.



Performance Measure	Unit of Measure	Total Units Accomplished <sup>4</sup>	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	13		HPG3H713 (Reading Fire BAER funds)
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	0	\$70,602	HPG3H713 (Reading Fire BAER funds)
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	0		
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles	0	\$58,800	CMTL @ \$39,000 Partner Match (Tribal Agreement) @ \$19,600
Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD	Miles	0	\$45,000	CMTL @ \$35835.42 Partner Match (Tribal Agreement) @ \$9,164.98
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT	Miles	6		
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	749		
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	19,709		
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	60,148		
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	33		
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	624	\$198,227	CFLN, NFWF, WFHF, CWKV, NFWW, WFPR
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	496	\$212,203	CWKV, CFLN
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSP-FED-AC	Acres	0		
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands SP-NATIVE-FED-AC	Acres	0	\$120,932	NOTE: these acres come from other actives i.e.: thinning, there was no cost associated with this accomplishment, the cost accrued is for the thinning (CWKV, CFLN, SRS2, WFHF)

## 7. FY 2013 Accomplishment Narrative

A total of 3,829 acres were treated in the project proposal area in 2013. Most of the vegetation management and associated work on the Hat Creek Ranger District during 2013 was conducted in the Burney-Hat Creek Basins Project area. A combination of CFLR and other appropriated matching funds were used to cover project implementation such as layout, marking and cruising. Vegetation project preparation does not accomplish acres of treatment, but makes treatment possible. A great deal of time, effort and funding goes into preparation. Timber sale preparation was mainly conducted on fire salvage and restoration projects that resulted in three timber sale awards. All three sales – Lost, Prospect and North Rail – had some treatment accomplished in 2013. The Bear Wallow timber sale, which is part of the North 49 project implementation, had treatment accomplished in 2013. Because these were regular timber sales and not service contracts, they do not fit the accomplishment requirements of the CFLR program. However, the timber sales are an important means to achieve meaningful improvements to the forest condition and occurred within the Basins Project area. The four sales produced a combined 3,026 truckloads of forest product. The harvest, haul and processing of that product is an important contribution to the local economic condition.

Preparation of green timber sales associated with the North 49 Forest Health Recovery EIS (Shooter T.S. 1,200 acres FY 14, and Sluice Box T.S. 900 acres FY15) also continued. Baseline monitoring (Wildlife, Silviculture, Hydrology and Archeology) was conducted on the Whittington and Plum Forest Health Restoration Projects. Post-harvest monitoring progress is discussed in Section 5. Baseline and post-project monitoring was also conducted with a combination of funds.



Funding provided through the CFLR program allowed the Forest to accomplish pre-commercial (biomass) thinning utilizing mastication and hand thinning of trees, on 1,000 acres in the North 49 (622 acres), Whittington (105 acres), and Windthrow projects (248 acres). Plantations damaged by the Reading Fire have been contracted to cut and deck (148 acres) for removal prior to re-planting in the spring of 2014. Treating plantations and biomass in areas outside timber sale boundaries, where timber revenue cannot be utilized, was paramount. Implementing such treatments is a priority for the Burney-Hat Creek Community Forest and Watershed Group.

Reforestation and release activities are continuing within the 2009 fire perimeters and timber sale groups associated with the North 49 EIS (1,333 acres). Matching CFLR funds for these activities include appropriated, reforestation and Knutson-Vandenberg trust funds. These funds also included grant contributions from the National Forest Foundation and American Forests Project to raise seedlings for reforestation on the Sugarloaf Fire and Venture Fire.

Forest Service employees continue to hand thin, pile, and burn within the Old Station Wildland Urban Interface project. This includes timber stands identified in the environmental analysis and forest fuels created in the construction of the Reading fire contingency fuelbreak.

Project progress during 2013 was highly effective, especially the efforts toward the restoration of the Reading fire which were accomplished during urgent and demanding conditions. During 2014, work planned in the Basins Project area will continue with restoration efforts from the Reading fire. Activities will also include a renewed focus on our green program (Whittington, North 49, Old Station, 4 Corners and Plum). Planned accomplishments should remain on track on a project-wide basis.

The following table presents specific 2013 project accomplishments in Burney-Hat Creek Basins Project area.

<b>Accomplishments</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Timber Sales	1,305
Service Contracts	1,000
Reforestation	1,333
Fuels Management	191
<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>3,829</b>

Note: The 1,305 acres shown for timber sales are not stewardship contracts and do not meet CFLR requirements for accomplishments, but are important contribution to forest condition improvements.

**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?**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint)</b>
FY13	3,829
FY10, FY11, FY12 and FY13 (as applicable- projects selected in FY2012 may will not have data for FY10 and FY11; projects that were HPRP projects in FY12, please include one number for FY12 and one number for FY13 (same as above))	7,915

**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):**

Although near drought conditions persisted throughout 2013, lightning events or other ignition sources were infrequent. This resulted in a manageable fire activity level in the project area. Preparedness levels were maintained, and all fires we caught during initial attack or extended attack.

The Hat Creek Ranger District is staffed with six engines, one 10-person hand crew, two wet patrols that perform prevention work, and two lookouts (Burney Mountain and West Prospect). All fire resources respond within the CFLR boundary. The FY13 allocation for fire management to the district was \$1,876,631 to fund all resources, including a District Fire Management Officer and Assistant District Fire Management Officer. This cost includes all fire training, supplies for prevention and engines, and base salaries.

The Hat Creek Ranger District had an active fire season in 2013 with 16 fires within the CFLR project boundary that burned 103.35 acres resulting in \$539,878.00 of suppression costs. Local management of fires with additional resources was sufficient to suppress all 16 fires. No Type I or Type II Incident Management Teams were ordered for fire suppression. All fire suppression repair work was completed during fire suppression actions. No wildfires allowed to burn for resource benefits during the 2013 fire season. The table below lists the fires suppressed in the project area during 2013.

Fire Name	Date	Size (Approximate Acres)
Rocky	7/3/13	.10
Creek	7/10/13	.20
Spatter	7/18/13	.10
Red	7/22/13	.80
Chute	7/26/13	.10
Salvage	8/6/13	.10
Murken	8/19/13	79
Thousand	8/21/13	.10
Rocky	8/21/13	.10
Box	8/27/13	.10
Broke Down	8/30/13	.10
Eskimo	9/1/13	.10
Logan	9/10/13	22
Doty	9/13/13	.10
Wilcox	10/20/13	.25
Cinder 2	10/28/13	.10
Total		103.35

**10. Describe any reasons that the FY 2013 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?**

During 2013, project implementation varied from the proposal in response to the Reading Fire of 2012. The fire occurred entirely within the boundary of the Badger Project planning area described in the proposal. Approximately one-third of the Badger planning area was affected by the fire. Cumulative effects analysis on the Reading fire indicate that resting the area after fire salvage and reforestation treatments will be necessary prior to any green vegetation treatment on the remaining portion of the Badger project.

In September, crews began layout and preparation for timber sales within the Reading fire burned area. Planning was conducted concurrent with preparation. The Reading Project environmental assessment was completed in April. A Decision Memorandum for Thomas Tidwell, Chief of the Forest Service was signed on July 3, 2013 approving Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Randy Moore’s request for an emergency situation determination. A Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact was signed by the Forest Supervisor Jerry Bird on July 10, 2013. Three timber sales – North Rail, Prospect, and Lost - were sold and operations on the sales occurred in August and September.

Accomplishments shown in Section 7 above are for those months. Most of the implementation accomplishment occurred in the first quarter of FY 14 and will be included in the 2014 project report. The accomplishments on the Reading Project correspond to the planned accomplishments for the Badger project in location only. Planned landscape

ecological restoration and condition improvement, economic value, and community benefits are all less than a green vegetation project would have been. Treatment of the remaining area of the Badger Project will be moved to the end of the CFLR project schedule, but will be accomplished as described in the proposal. The Reading Project also shifted the implementation schedule of all other projects in the proposal, but did not affect the planned level of annual accomplishment. Regardless of the fire restoration efforts during 2013, implementation continued on the North 49 timber sales – Bear Wallow and Claim Jumper – and the seven awarded service contracts.

Planning, preparation, and implementation of the Reading Project required full-time focus of available personnel to the exclusion of other priorities. On the Almanor Ranger District of the Lassen National Forest, a similar effort was underway for restoration on the 2012 Chips fire. Combined, the projects were the highest priority for the Forest in 2013 and required the entire fiscal year to accomplish. Such demand coupled with a new and ineffective hiring process, resulted in delay for intended monitoring in 2013. This should be rectified in 2014 as described in Section 5 above.

**11. Planned FY 2015 Accomplishments**

Performance Measure Code	Unit of Measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience WTRSHD-RSTR-ANN	Acres	0	
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	1,590	
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	875	
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acres	0	
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	0	
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	775	
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	125	
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	0	
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	2,381	
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	600	
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN	Miles	15	
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	43	
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles	2	
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	6	
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	0	
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	0	



Performance Measure Code	Unit of Measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles	5	
Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD	Miles	0.5	
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT	Miles	0	
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	1,500	
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	22	
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	21,000	
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	40,000	
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acres	3,947	
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	0	
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSP-FED-AC	Acres	0	
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands SP-NATIVE-FED-AC	Acres	0	

**12. Planned FY 2015 accomplishment narrative (no more than 1 page):**

The scheduling of treatment sequence has shifted from the Basins Project proposal due to the unanticipated 2013 focus on the Reading Project. The shift will have little effect on planned annual accomplishments. For 2015, there will continue to be sale and implementation on a mixture of timber sales, service contracts and burning. It is anticipated that additional projects in conjunction with the Pit River Tribe will be developed through 2014 and implemented in 2015. Planning and preparation are underway for the variety of projects and current estimated accomplishments are approximately 4,000 acres and 21,000 CCF for 2015.

Because the terms of a timber sale contract allow for implementation to occur over a period of three to five years with options for extension, vegetation treatment is not likely to occur in the year of the sale. However, timber sales from previous years would likely be harvested. Work on the Reading Project timber sales continued through the first quarter of FY14, but are now complete. In the spring of 2014 reforestation will begin on the Reading Project, and will continue into 2015 and beyond. Currently there are two sold and open sales in the Basins Project proposal area. Both have been partially harvested and will operate through 2014, with potential to carry into 2015. The Shooter timber sale, to implement the North 49 Forest Recovery Project, will be sold in 2014 and could be operating in 2015. The Sunshine Plantation is under consideration for an integrated resource timber sale (IRTC) stewardship contract for 2015 as implementation of the North 49 Forest Recovery Project. The Sluice Box timber sale planned for 2015 is also part of the North 49 implementation. Planning is underway in 2014 for the expected 2016 sale of the Plum timber sale. That will require sale preparation during 2015.

A number of service contracts will operate in 2015. The largest is Big Lake, utilizing Knutson-Vandenberg (KV) funding from the Red Lock project, which is currently being planned as an integrated resource service contract (IRSC) for improvement of wildlife habitat. Service contract work will continue on the plantations within the Whittington Forest Health Restoration project as preparation is completed to issue a stewardship contract (IRTC) for implementation in 2016. There are several smaller service contracts utilizing KV funding that will be implemented in 2015. These are a combination of brush mastication for fuels and wildlife habitat management, and pre-commercial thinning (timber stand improvement and fuels reduction.) Fuels treatments will include hand thinning, and pile and broadcast burning. The acres of burning are dependent on vegetation treatment results, fuel loading and burn conditions.

**13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2014/15 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):**

Planned accomplishments for FY2014 and FY2015 are expected to reflect a greater variety of treatments than described in the proposal. Vegetation treatment through timber sales drove the majority of proposal accomplishments. That will continue to be an effective means to restore the landscape and reduce biomass and fuels, but additional approaches are emerging. The project area includes thousands of acres of tree plantations, most of which need thinning and brush management. Similar to the Whittington Project environmental assessment completed in 2012, plantations will be treated to mimic more natural growth patterns, to the extent possible. Removing trees to create openings and leaving some dense clumping of trees and brush will be included with timber stand improvement projects and will improve wildlife habitat, increase ecotones, and encourage a broader range of grasses, forbs and shrubs to emerge. Much of this will be accomplished through service contracts.

Strong participation from the Pit River Tribe as a collaborative group member is expected to result in a broader range of tribal job opportunities, and tribal project coordination on ecological restoration work beyond what was envisioned in the proposal. The Pit River Tribe signed a memorandum of agreement with the Lomakatsi Restoration Project, a non-profit, grassroots organization that develops and implements forest and watershed restoration projects in Oregon and northern California. Lomakatsi provides expertise and capacity in project development, planning, management, fine-scale ecological treatment design, monitoring, and implementation for ecosystem restoration projects. Under the agreement, Lomakatsi will assist Pit River Tribe members in critical skills development to ensure successful participation in restoration accomplishments and utilization of traditional environmental knowledge.

Beginning in 2014, Forest Service ecology program participation is expected to provide guidance on monitoring, but also to help direct project implementation improvements through influencing project planning a design. New considerations of climate change in ecological restoration and reforestation will become part of the project.

Restoration of lower Hat Creek (see Section 4) will continue as a CalTrout project, now a separate but associated project with the BHCCFWG. The Hat Creek Wild Trout Restoration Project will be guided by the Hat Creek Resource Advisory Committee, comprised of California Trout, the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences, CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Fall River RCD, Forest Service, local fishing guides, the Pit River Tribe, Central Water Quality Control Board, PG&E, and other partners, which will continue restoration efforts. CalTrout's success in obtaining grant funding will provide nearly \$1.3 million for the restoration project over three years. The high profile and success of this project will continue to develop results far beyond any envisioned in the proposal, a tribute to all those who engaged in this effort.

