CFLR Project: Southwest Jemez Mountains/CFLR006

National Forest(s): Santa Fe National Forest and Valles Caldera National Preserve

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

| Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$) | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |

| Fund Source – (Carryover funds expended (Carryover to in addition to CFLR/CFLN) ² (please include a new row for each BLI)) | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$) |
|---|--|
| WFHF06 | \$1,175,000 |
| CFLN06 1510 | \$205,420 |
| | Total-\$1,380,420 |

| Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$) |
|--|--|
| (please include a new row for each BLI) ³) | |
| CFHF06 | \$158,975 |
| CFRR06 | \$285,618 |
| CFRT06 | \$58,336 |
| CFSS06 | \$3,050 |
| CWKV06 | \$8,209 |
| VCVC13 | \$665,193 |
| | Total=\$1,179,381 |

| Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements ⁴) | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$) |
|--|--|
| USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory | \$177,900 |

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

² This value should reflect the amount of carryover funds allocated to a project as indicated in the program direction, but does not necessarily need to be in the same BLIs as indicated in the program direction. These funds should total the matching funds obligated in the PAS report.

³ This amount should match the amount of matching funds obligated in the PAS report.

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

| Fund Source - (Partner In-Kind Contributions ⁵) | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$) |
|---|--|
| -Partner in Kind Implementation | |
| WildEarth Guardians 30,000 native seedlings | \$81,900 |
| WildEarth Guardians 720 Volunteer Hours | \$14,440 |
| Forest Guild YCC Crew | \$78,032 |
| Los Amigos de Valles Caldera | \$54,092 |
| NMED 319 | \$27,500 |
| North American Wetlands Conservation Act | \$15,145 |
| RERI | \$18,016 |
| Regional Grant USFS money for FR 376 repair | \$200,000 |
| USFS ASC Green Team | \$1,603 |
| Trout Unlimited | \$4,229 |
| NM Forestry Inmate Program | \$18,000 |
| -Partner In Kind Monitoring | |
| DOE/Jemez Pueblo | \$10,000 |
| NOAA | \$24,000 |
| USDA Forest Service | \$11,500 |
| Sandia National Laboratory | \$5,000 |
| National Park Service Volunteers | \$9,887 |
| USDA SEL/SI | \$177,900 |
| CFRP | \$86,537 |
| Texas Tech University | \$88,000 |
| Bosque School Albuquerque | \$850 |
| National Science Foundation/SMU | \$66,000 |
| National Science Foundation/EPSCoR | \$11,000 |
| National Park Service | \$35,003 |
| National Science Foundation/University of Arizona | \$870,000 |
| University of Maryland | \$35,300 |
| National Science Foundation ESPCoR/New Mexico | \$1,000,000 |
| National Science Foundation | \$499,500 |
| David Menicucci | \$2,000 |
| Relf Price | \$50,000 |
| TOTAL IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS | <u>\$3,495,137</u> |

| Fund Source – (Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract ⁶) | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2013(\$) |
|--|--|
| Los Indios Stewardship Contract | \$0 |
| Los Griegos Stewardship Contract | \$6838.40 |
| Jemez Falls Campground Stewardship Contract | \$10098.62 |
| | Total=\$16,937 |

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

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

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

| Implementation (I) or Monitoring (M) | Project Title (abbreviated) | Funding Source | Funding Amount | Description of Project |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---|
| I | Habitat Restoration | YCC | \$78,032 | Post Los Conchas fire Habitat Restoration |
| I | Creek Temperature Reduction | NMED | \$27,500 | Redondo and San Antonio Temperature Reduction project |
| I | Beaver Habitat Enhancement | WCA | \$15,145 | Riparian and wetlands beaver restoration within VCNP and SFNF |
| I | American Forest ReLeaf | ReLeaf | \$20,000 | Planting native saplings |
| I | Riparian Restoration Project | EPA.NMED/ WEG | \$114,316 | Planting 30,000 Native seedlings along riparian areas in the VCNP |
| Ι | Riparian Restoration Project | Los Amigos de VC | \$54,092 | Reducing Temperature & Turbidity on San Antonio Creek by Restoring Slope wetlands |
| I | FR 376 Repair | USFS Grant | \$200,000 | Placement of gravel and culverts on FR 376 |
| М | Air Quality Monitoring | DOE/Jemez Pueblo | \$10,000 | Air Quality Monitoring at the Valle Grande Weather Station |
| М | Wildlife Herbivory Study | USFS Grant | \$10,000 | Wildlife herb ivory impacts on burned Gambel oak |
| М | Snow Water Study | Sandia Labs | \$5,000 | Development of snow-water equivalent methods |
| М | Breeding bird surveys | NPS | \$9,887 | Dispersal in gray-head juncos |
| М | Forest Insect Pest Survey | USFS | \$1,500 | Survey of forest pest insects on the VCNP |
| М | Forest Insect Surveys | USDA SEL/SI | \$177,900 | Beneficial and pest insect surveys on the VCNP |
| М | Jemez Mtn Salamander Study | TNC | \$86,537 | Developing reference conditions of Mixed conifer forest and habitat for JMS |
| М | Wildfire dwelling bats Study | Texas Tech U | \$54,000 | Effects of Wildfire and Rx fire on Forest Dwelling bats and their Prey |
| М | American Pike study | ABQ Bosque School | \$850 | Changes in distribution of Pike moderated by changes in climate and forest fires |
| М | Habitat monitoring | Texas Tech U | \$34,000 | Monitoring wildlife and habitats of the VCNP and SFNF |
| М | Dendrochronology of the VCNP | U of A | \$3,000 | Dendrochronology of trees study |
| М | Ancient WUI Study | NSF/SMU | \$565,500 | Long term resilience of ecosystems to fire regime and climate change in the ancient WUI |
| М | Black carbon Study | NSF/EPSCoR | \$11,000 | Black carbon from wildfires and impacts on watersheds |
| М | Fire Origin shrub lands Study | NPS | \$35,003 | Dendroecological analyses of fire-origin shrub lands in former conifer forests |
| М | Critical Zone Observatory Program | NSF/U of A | \$870,000 | Carbon/water/energy cycles in upland watersheds on the VCNP |
| М | Gunnison's Prairie Dog | U of Maryland | \$35,300 | Studies on Gunnison's Prairie dog on the VCNP |
| М | NM EPSCoR Study | NSF EPSCoR | \$1,000,000 | E. Fork Jemez river water quality monitorin from fire and climate change effects |
| М | Fungi and Lichen Inventory | Relf Price | \$50,000 | Inventory of Fungi and Lichens following fir |

Depty Forist Superusor Approved by (Forest Supervisor):

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

The Southwest Jemez Mountains project addresses the 10-year strategy, as demonstrated by these accomplishments:

- One hundred percent of the acres treated are within a Wildland-Urban Interface area.
- Treatments are governed by the goal of reducing fire intensities that conform to the National Fire Management Plan by reducing hazardous fuels.
- Treatments are also designed to restore fire-adapted ecosystems.
- All are identified in Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs).
- The Lead Partners' selection of acres treated was guided by the priority areas identified in the CWPPs.
- Fuel loads on a total of 9522 acres were reduced by thinning and prescribed fire this year.
- Nearly all was accomplished through treatment located near forest communities.
- The SWJM CFLRP project partnered with Jemez Pueblo and T.C. Company through a Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) grant to remove and utilize small diameter trees from 784 acres thinned in 2011. The CFRP grant supported the creation of the *Walatowa Timber Industries, LLC,* a joint venture between T.C. Company and Jemez Pueblo Development Corporation. The goals of the Walatowa Timber Industries, LLC (WTI) are to create economic development in the Pueblo of Jemez and the surrounding community while restoring the landscapes that contain Jemez Pueblo ancestral lands. Establishing this viable point of utilization is critical to achieving the goals of the CFLR and the 10-year strategy within the SWJM. The VCNP has contracted thinning with Walatowa Timber Industries to thin its Bonco Bonito area and other thinning units to provide local jobs and wood to the local community including the Jemez Pueblo.
- The VCNP continues to do major rehabilitation work needed in the Las Conchas Fire footprint to protect its obsidian quarries, Indios Creek, and in gullies on the toe slopes of the Rio Medio.
- The San Juan (maintenance) Burn was completed in 2013 and was 7306 acres in size.
- Stable The Mesa wildfire was managed for multiple resource benefit and was 406 acres in size.
- The planned Paliza burn received fuels prep work along its fire line as well as 10 miles of road work in and around the planned 14,300 acre prescribed burn.

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

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

For FY13, TREAT results reflected data provided by the VCNP and SFNF and was paired with dialogues with the local wood utilizers. The table below details the assumptions used to run the TREAT model.

| | Santa Fe National | Valles Caldera National | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Category | Forest | Preserve | Notes |
| | | | Total CFLN funding by |
| CFLN funding | \$1,997,544 | \$205,420 | jurisdiction |
| | | | Total FY13 funds without FS |
| | | | BLI's, divided by jurisdiction with |
| | | | FS and VCNP BLI funds added by |
| All other funding | \$4,087,689 | \$4,238,694 | jurisdiction |
| | | | Direct reporting from each |
| Force Account FTEs CFLN | 7 | 8 | jurisdiction. |
| Force Account FTEs non- | | | Direct reporting from each |
| CFLN | 2.8 | 8 | jurisdiction. |
| % for contracted work in | Averaged based on rep | porting from each | |
| landscape | jurisdiction. | | |
| % of Force Account | | | |
| implementation and | Averaged based on rep | porting from each | |
| monitoring | jurisdiction. | | |
| Contract funding | Averaged based on rep | porting from each | |
| distributions | jurisdiction. | | |
| | | | Direct reporting from each |
| Wood volume data (CCF) | 1183 | 7880 (plus 20 cords) | jurisdiction. |
| Wood product categories | Based on dialogues wi | th utilizers. | |

Across both jurisdictions TREAT estimated an increase in total jobs from all sectors from FY12 to FY13 from 31 jobs to 144 jobs representing a 365% increase. FY13 total funding was more than in FY12 by \$2,589,172 or an increase of 45%. This increase in total project jobs is likely a result of the increase treatments and wood use occurring on both jurisdictions as well as improved project coordination around these topics. The Santa Fe NF, the VCNP, and partner matching contributions added \$6,123,418 to this. The TREAT program modeled a substantial increase of 37.3 jobs in non-commercial forest products jobs with that contribution.

| Type of projects | Direct part and full- time jobs | Total part and full-time jobs | Direct Labor Income | Total Labor Income ⁸ |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Commercial Forest Product Activities | 42.5 | 95.2 | \$1,466,074 | \$3,790,178 |
| Other Project Activities | 9.0 | 11.3 | \$305,427 | \$369,599 |
| TOTALS: | 54.5 | 106.5 | \$1,771,501 | \$4,159,777 |

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

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 ⁹ |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Commercial Forest Product Activities | 45.3 | 95.4 | \$1,468,766 | \$3,797,136 |
| Other Project Activities | 38.6 | 48.6 | \$1,312,846 | \$1,588,686 |
| TOTALS: | 83.9 | 144.0 | \$2,781,612 | \$5,385,822 |

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

Jobs from Utilization: Biomass removed from thinning projects during FY12 was processed at Walatowa Timber Industries (WTI) in Jemez Pueblo as described in the FY12 Annual Report. The WTI opened in the 4th quarter of FY 12 and by the first quarter in FY13 had three fulltime employees working in the wood yard and one full time employee working in administration and sales. This FY the project also supported the Jemez Pueblo Wood Program which provided firewood for heat and cooking to older Tribal members, many of whom lack alternative heat sources. This information was documented in the USFS CFRP Project (12-DG-11031000-023) Quarterly Report #1: September 1 – December 31, 2012. Through personal communication with WTI employee Bruce Bauer, by the end of FY13, there were 7 full time employees working.

Boy Scouts: As shown below **Boy Scouts** cleaned up fire wood from FY11/12 thinning area and delivered wood to area seniors.

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

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



Figure 1 – Picture of Boy Scout Troop 417 from Los Alamos

Youth Conservation Corps: Matching funds included a Youth Conservation Corps grant that provided training and employment to 12 young adults (18-22 year-olds from Pojoaque and Jemez Pueblos). There was a 5-day formal training session (first-aid/CPR, safety, use of tools, backcountry driving, tree planting, fencing, field measurements, etc.). There were also opportunities to provide environmental training (ecology, biology). Hands on environmental training included fish surveys (capture, electro-shocking, measuring, marking) and rangeland vegetation surveys. A second grant has been received for 2014. The information was provided in the Quarterly Progress Reports for the YCC Valles Caldera National Preserve.

Economic Impacts of Restoration Monitoring: The monitoring program brings in students, researchers and volunteers for extended visits into the Jemez Valley. The regional economic impacts of the CFLN contributions through contracting monitoring services is estimated using TREAT however; the benefit to this local community from this visitation is not tracked/quantified, but is important to the very small businesses in the area. This summer there were extended closures of USFS recreational facilities due to the sequester/lack of funds for management and maintenance. Extreme fire danger and wildfire suppression activity, as well as dangers brought about by post fire flooding, forced additional forest-wide closures. The patronage of folks coming in to participate in monitoring and research was especially important this season.

Public Education and Awareness: The key partners involved in the collaboration organized several meetings to increase public awareness and knowledge about the restoration efforts in the project. Besides in-person meetings they created space on a website to provide a non-agency forum for sharing information on the website "All About Watersheds – Forest and Watershed Health Information

Clearinghouse." <u>http://allaboutwatersheds.org/groups/SW%20Jemez%20CFLRP</u>. A lack of fiscal capacity has limited a fully independent collaborative from developing separate from the Federal agencies. The Nature Conservancy, WildEarth Guardians, New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute and the Forest Guild have carried the lion's share of the workload to engage the public outside the agency purview.

Director and Executive Producer, Tim Aydelott completed the first installment of a documentary trilogy about the Valles Caldera. The documentary featured much of the monitoring work that is supporting the CFLN project and highlighted the role of fire and the impacts of uncharacteristically severe fire. *Valles Caldera: The Science* was distributed to PBS

affiliates and at the 2013 Rocky Mountain Emmy Awards celebration it won in two of three nominated categories. Best Documentary - Topical was awarded to Executive Producer/Director Tim Aydelott and Producer Ylonda Viola. Best Photography went to John G. Britt.

The Santa Fe National forest has held two public field trips to explain the project and local ecology to the general public as well as having displays at the NM State Fair this year. We have also been working on YouTube videos and had numerous radio and TV interviews with our specialists and Partnership Coordinator. The VCNP, Environmental Education staff, developed student monitoring activities within the areas treated under the CFLN. This program will allow students to monitor the outcomes of forest thinning and prescribed burning on an ongoing basis. Age appropriate projects have been developed for K-12 including the photo below of students measuring trees in the VCNP using instruments they made from protractors and straws.



Figure 2 – Picture of students measure trees in the VCNP using instruments they made from protractors and straws.

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

Multiparty Monitoring: The monitoring program for the Southwest Jemez Mountains CFLRP project is coordinated through the Valles Caldera Trust (VCT), Scientific Services Division, and the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF). The Nature Conservancy (TNC) functions as a neutral party, compiling the monitoring data sets and holding an annual "all hands" meeting of collaborators to evaluate the project's accomplishments, past and future. In addition to the VCT, SFNF, and TNC, our collaborators include Jemez Pueblo, Bandelier National Monument (National Park Service), the US Geological Survey's Jemez Mountain Field Station and the USGS Fish & Wildlife Coop Unit at New Mexico State University, Hawks Aloft, the USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory/Smithsonian Institution (SEL/SI), WildEarth Guardians, the Forest Guild, the New Mexico Environment Department, Los Amigos de Valles Caldera, Trout Unlimited, New Mexico Trout, the Albuquerque Wildlife Service, the Desert Research Institute (DRI), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), University of New Mexico, New Mexico Tech, Highlands University, Texas Tech University and the University of Arizona.

A component of the multiparty monitoring effort is collaboration among identified project partners, potential partners, and the public. A group of the core project partners involved in the collaboration organized several meetings in FY13 to

increase public awareness and knowledge about the restoration efforts in the project. This consisted of an October 2012 meeting that was attended by over 50 participants and a winter 2013 meeting that generated similar attendance. These meetings covered time sensitive issues related to both the SFNF and the VCNP's EIS efforts, community concerns about smoke and the health and environmental impacts of potassium permanganate (ping-pong ignition balls), and formalizing the collaborative group structure. Both of these efforts necessitated the core project partners to meet many more times to plan, prepare, and assess these efforts. An outcome of these efforts in FY13 is occurring in FY14 as the November 16th Living with Fire in Northern New Mexico Workshop. This free public workshop is for the interested public and will present the state of the science, management. It is being supported by the Southwest Fire Science Consortium, the NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, and the Fire Adapted Community Learning Network's New Mexico hub. Besides in-person meetings the collaborative created space on a website to provide a non-agency forum for sharing information on the website "All About Watersheds – Forest and Watershed Health Information Clearinghouse." <u>http://allaboutwatersheds.org/groups/SW%20Jemez%20CFLRP</u>. A lack of fiscal capacity has limited a fully independent collaborative from developing separate from the Federal agencies. The Nature Conservancy, WildEarth Guardians, New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute and the Forest Guild have carried the lion's share of the workload to engage the public outside the agency purview.

<u>Youth Conservation Corps</u>: The Jemez Ranger District again had a Forest Guild Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew consisting of 9 local youth and 1 trainer stationed at the District for 9 weeks in the summer. This has been occurring for the past 15 years. The Valles Caldera National Preserve hosted two new Youth Conservation Corps crews from the WildEarth Guardians. Together these crews are supported by state, foundation, private and federal funds that include cash and in-kind funds. The VCNP and the SFNF often support these crews with training, materials, vehicles, and staff time.

The Forest Guild Youth Conservation Corps crew (ages 16-18) supports range, forestry, fuels, wildlife and recreation programs at the district. Most of these efforts directly support CFLR implementation or monitoring efforts. This crew received first-aid and safety training, attended a three day training session, received college credit for their service, and received AmeriCorps higher education awards for their service. Forest Guild again received support from the New Mexico YCC program for 2014 and is currently pursuing the complimentary foundation, private, and federal funding support needed.

The WildEarth Guardians provided training and employment to 12 young adults (18-22 year-olds from Pojoaque and Jemez Pueblos). There was a 5-day formal training session (first-aid/CPR, safety, use of tools, backcountry driving, tree planting, fencing, field measurements, etc.). There were also opportunities to provide environmental training (ecology, biology). Hands on environmental training included fish surveys (capture, electro-shocking, measuring, marking) and rangeland vegetation surveys. A second grant has been received for 2014. The information was provided in the Quarterly Progress Reports for the YCC Valles Caldera National Preserve.

Economic Impacts of Restoration Monitoring: The monitoring program brings in students, researchers and volunteers for extended visits into the Jemez Valley. The regional economic impacts of the CFLN contributions through contracting monitoring services is estimated using TREAT however; the benefit to this local community from this visitation is not tracked/quantified, but is important to the very small businesses in the area. This summer there were extended closures of USFS recreational facilities due to the sequester/lack of funds for management and maintenance. Extreme fire danger and wildfire suppression activity, as well as dangers brought about by post fire flooding, forced additional forest-wide closures. The patronage of folks coming in to participate in monitoring and research was especially important this season. To better monitor these important economic investments in the landscape, Forest Guild is

working with the VCNP to implement a form for monitoring partners to fill out annually that would quantify attributes of this investment.

Observed Ecological Shifts: As with last year, these monitoring observations fall under 3 categories: The first is *forest biomass (fuel) reduction* through thinning operations and prescribed fire. Initial prescriptions for thinning second-growth Ponderosa pine forests were simply defined as removing all trees <11" dbh. This effectively removed all trees <60 years old, eliminating those age classes. *Prescriptions were modified* in 2011 to remove most white fir, and leave different age classes of aspen, Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine, as well as large logs that provide habitat for the endangered Jemez Mountains Salamander. Monitoring for responses of large mammals, birds, and vegetation to thinning operations is underway, with control and treatment areas established and sampled before treatment; post-treatment sampling was conducted in 2013, and data are being analyzed this fall and winter. Results of vegetation monitoring indicate steady increases in grasses and herbaceous wildflower species. Merriam's wild turkeys continue to use thinned areas for mating and foraging. Pre-treatment bird sites were sampled in 2012, and post-treatment sampling was conducted in 2013; data are still be analyzed at the time of this report (Nov. 2013).

The second ecological monitoring shift observed was in *riparian areas* that were restored with woody shrubs and trees by our collaborators with WildEarth Guardians. Survival of plants was approximately 50% (the drought of 2011 caused considerable plant aboveground mortality, but many plants stump-sprouted in 2012 and continue to survive in 2013). Many of these areas were hit by floods following the Thompson Ridge fire in summer 2013, causing some additional mortality. Additional plantings are planned for 2014, and all will continue to be monitored.

The third major ecological shift was observed following the Las Conchas wildfire in summer, 2011, which burned ~30,000 acres of the project area, and the Thompson Ridge wildfire in 2013 that burned ~25,000 acres on the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Monitoring sites were established in burned and unburned grasslands, forests and streams, including many from before the fire. Monitoring results indicate that grassland vegetation recovered in <8 weeks for total cover, litter and bare ground, but that individual species exhibited significant increases/decreases in cover and height. Grassland pest insects (grasshoppers) were significantly reduced post-fire, but were recovering by late summer 2012 and during 2013; some other species of pest/beneficial grassland insects did not decline in burned sites. Grassland birds generally were less abundant, with fewer species in burned grasslands 1 year after the fire; some species (crows, sparrows) increased after the fire. Prairie dog populations in grasslands did not decline following the fire. Forest understory vegetation and forest-floor litter were significantly reduced by the fire, with concomitant increases in bare ground; however, by the end of 2013, herbaceous ground cover exceeded 60% in Ponderosa pine forests and over 75% in mixed-conifer stands that had suffered high-severity burns in 2011. Aspen sprouts were up to 3 m tall by September 2013 in some areas, but had been heavily browsed by elk and cattle in other areas. Forest birds remained abundant in both burned and unburned stands of Ponderosa pine and mixed-conifer, with 3 species significantly more abundant (Three-toed Woodpecker, American Robin, Mountain Bluebird); only two species significantly declined. Small mammals were generally unaffected by fire in the short term, as they sheltered underground during the fire; tree squirrels were killed by the fire. In 2013, populations of chipmunks and ground squirrels were in decline in burned forest stands, but deer mouse populations were growing. Most forest invertebrates exhibited little impact from the fire, and were recovering quickly through 2013; moths were the exception, with significantly reduced species numbers and abundances. Flash floods in streams caused reductions of trout by 95%; however, native non-game fish survived in good populations. Ammonia concentrations likely caused the fish kills (streamwater ammonia was 2-3 times above the concentration needed for killing trout). Aquatic invertebrate assemblages survived the floods, and although reduced somewhat in species diversity and abundance, were found to be largely intact in 2011 and 2012 (2013 data are being

analyzed). Water quality continues to suffer from high turbidity during and after spring snowmelt and summer thunderstorms.

Socio-economic Shifts: Grant based investments made by the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) to Roger Tucker Inc. in 2011 (\$236,750) and 2012 (\$150,000) and to the 2012 grant (\$450,000) to TC Company have directly led to establishment Walatowa Woodlands Initiative (WWI) with Jemez Pueblo. These investments from the CFRP and from the two grant recipients (who must generate at least 20% of their own non-federal match) are uniquely important to supporting harvesting and wood utilization in the SW Jemez landscape and have directly supported treatment and wood utilization on the SFNF and the VCNP. The images below (courtesy of Rachel Wood Consulting) show (1) chips being blown into a chip trailer on the Valles Caldera and (2) mixed forest products (vigas, posts, and dimensional lumber) ready for shipment by WTI and their business partners TC Company and Roger Tucker Inc.



Figure 3 and 4. Pictures of woods chips being blown into a chip trailer on the Valles Caldera. And picture of mixed forest products (vigas, posts, and dimensional lumber) ready for shipment by WTI and their business partners TC Company and Roger Tucker Incorporated.

Investments in increasing wood harvesting, transportation, and processing capacity are rare and when they are available (in this case the CFRP) are extremely competitive to access. Second, the NM Forest Industry Association has identified that efficient, mechanized, and in-state wood harvesting, transportation, and processing capacity is currently a gap to implementing mechanical forest restoration treatments at the scale needed as identified by both scientists and managers. The WWI partnership is working to build capacity to address this gap in the SW Jemez landscape. Forest product availability from CFLRP thinning projects has supported the CFRP investments with treatment acres and together, has led to the creation of the WWI. This collaboration between a private contractors and the Native American Pueblo takes small-diameter trees and creates vigas (round roof beams for housing), dimensional lumber, landscaping chips and mulch, firewood, and (in the near future) wood stove pellets. The thinning and product manufacturing has increased employment in the project area by **113** jobs. The TREAT model for FY13 identifies **95.2** wood harvesting and processing jobs. In addition to local wood harvesting and wood processing capacity within the landscape, WWI sort their material and when higher value logs are identified, they sort, debark, and ship these to nearby Las Vegas New Mexico's Old Wood (http://www.douglasfirfloors.com/) for secondary value-added processing into end-block wood flooring(image courtesy of Douglas Fir Floors.



Figure 5: Picture of Old Wood's high end flooring

Evaluation of Partner Contributions to Project Success: Overall, the project has benefited enormously from partner collaborations. Partner organizations have provided specialized expertise to the monitoring program (e.g., bird monitoring by Hawks Aloft, riparian restoration and monitoring by WildEarth Guardians, fish monitoring by USGS/NMSU, Trout Unlimited, New Mexico Trout, Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, and the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, large mammal monitoring by USGS/NMSU, Texas Tech University and NMDGF, invertebrate monitoring by SEL/SI, climate monitoring by DRI, NOAA, NRCS) as well as organizational integrity and communication (e.g., TNC's "All Hands" annual meeting and newsletter publications of partner NGOs). Volunteer hours for both implementation projects and monitoring activities have significantly increased in 2013, and will likely continue to do so as projects grow and mature. No legal appeals or suits have been filed in regard to the CFLRP planning or on-the-ground actions thus far in the program, and we will endeavor to collaborate with all partners to focus our energy and resources on the forest landscape, rather than the courtroom.

6. FY 2013 accomplishments

| Performance Measure | Unit of measure | Total Units Accomplished | Total Treatment | Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹¹ |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Acres treated annually to | Acres | 10 | Cost (\$) | \$512,917 Partners in Kind |
| sustain or restore watershed function and resilience WTRSHD-RSTR-ANN | | 15,285 (40,415) ¹³ | \$1,069,679 | \$396,350 VCVC \$160,412 CFRR06 |
| Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST | Acres | 0, | | |
| Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP | Acres | 720 (1251) ¹³ | \$801,690 | \$801,690 CFLN06 |
| Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC | Acre | 86.8 (90.8) ¹³ | \$78,649 | \$19,325 WFHF06 \$59,325 CFLN06 |
| 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 | 4166 (29,380) ¹³ | \$147,109 | \$9,077 WFHF06 \$78,032 Match YCC \$60,000 CFLN06 |
| Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK | Acres | 0 | | |
| Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM | Miles | 0 (8) ¹³ | \$80,662 | \$80,662 VCNP Match |
| Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR | Acres | 4806 | \$295,206 | \$200,000 CFLN06 \$95,206 CFRR06 |
| Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP | Acres | 4883 | \$150,000 | \$120,000 CFLN06 \$30,000 CFRR06 |
| Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN | Miles | (164.5) ¹³ | \$628,843 | \$178,843 VCVC06 \$450,000 WFHF06 |
| Miles of passenger car system roads receiving | Miles | | | |

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

¹¹ Please use a new line for each BLI or type of fund used. For example, you may have three lines with the same performance measure, but the type of funding might be two different BLIs and CFLR/CFLN. ¹³These measures were underreported in PAS due to the lack of VCNP access to the Database of Record FACTS

¹⁴ This measure was underreported in PAS due the CFLN06 job code not being in INFRA.

| Doufourseen bit | I lost f | Tetel III. | Tabal | CFLRP Annual Report: |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Performance Measure | Unit of measure | Total Units Accomplished | Total Treatment Cost (\$) | Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹¹ |
| maintenance RD-PC-MAINT | | | | |
| Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM | Miles | 2.5 (14) ¹³ | \$152,663 | \$26,332 CFLN06 \$26,332 S2X3A813 \$100,000 CFLN0612 |
| Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP | Miles | 27.5 | \$120,000 | \$30,000 CFLN06 \$90,000 WFHF06 |
| Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP | Miles | 92.5 (164.5) ¹³ | \$628,843 | \$178,843 VCVC06 \$450,000 WFHF06 |
| 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 (7) ¹⁴ | \$10,500 | \$10,500 CFLN06 |
| Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD | Miles | 0 (1) ¹⁴ | \$2,000 | \$2,000 CFLN06 |
| Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT | Miles | 3 | \$11,000 | \$11,000 CFLN06 |
| Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC | Acres | 0 | | |
| Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST | CCF | 0 | | |
| Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD | CCF | 1183 (9063) ¹³ | \$796,795 | \$58,336 RTRT06 \$727,200 CFLN06 \$8,209 CWKV06 \$3,050 CFSS06 |
| Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG | Green tons | 887.3 | | |
| Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wild land/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wild land fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI | Acre | 2906 | \$146,756 | \$84,256 CFHF06 \$62,500 CFLN06 |
| Acres of wild land/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk | Acres | 5420 (5951) ¹³ | \$608,158 | \$382,690 CFLN0612 \$74,719 CFHF06 \$150,749 CFLN0613 |

| Performance Measure | Unit of | Total Units | Total | Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS | | |
|--|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| | measure | Accomplished | Treatment | BLI, Partner Match) ¹¹ | | |
| | | 10 | Cost (\$) | | | |
| of catastrophic wild land fire FP-FUELS-WUI | | | | | | |
| Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSPE-FED-AC | Acres | 0 | | | | |
| Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands SP-NATIVE-FED-AC | Acres | 0 | | | | |

7. FY 2013 accomplishment narrative (summarizes key accomplishments and evaluates project progress) (please limit answer to three pages).

Santa Fe National Forest

Currently the Santa Fe National Forest is working on its Environmental Impact Statement which will cover the 110,000 acre project area for 32,000 acres of thinning and 77,000 acres of prescribed fire and a variety of restoration treatments across the project area. We anticipate the signing of this document in October of 2014. Until then we are working off of shelf stock to complete thinning and burning projects and do preparation work in anticipation of the Environmental Impact Statement being signed. We currently are also working on a 5 Year Implementation plan with the Collaborative in anticipation of the EIS being signed.

Forest Thinning: The Santa Fe NF awarded 720 acres of forest thinning last year in high profile areas adjacent to communities at risk such as Thompson Ridge and Sierra De Los Pinos. There we have the Los Indios Stewardship contract on 173 acres in which the local Walatowa Industries is currently working on. We also have begun laying out thinning units in anticipation of the EIS and Stewardship contract we are currently working on. We have identified 5000 acres for layout and have currently layed out 3000 acres so far in 2013 near the key communities and watersheds in our project area.

Prescribed Fire: Last October we accomplished the 7306 acre San Juan maintenance burn in the project area which was a resounding success. Overall we treated 8326 acres with prescribed fire as we had 513 acres of piles in high priority areas adjacent to communities which were critical to treat. We also had the 406 acre Stable Mesa wild fire which we managed for multiple resource benefit as well in the project area. Over the years we have managed 3803 acres of wild fires where the conditions were right in the project area which has had a multitude of landscape resource benefit. Our fire managers are pioneers in this approach and have used it effectively as a low cost tool. We also prepped a lot of acres for our planned 6000 acre Paliza Rx burn with the Jemez Pueblo which was on track but the furlough put on hold. This was a huge disappointment for us as a Forest and Pueblo as we have been attempting it for years but haven't had to right burn windows.

Road Maintenance and Decommission: Our road system is in extremely poor condition and we are taking steps to address it with the anticipated timber haul and access for prescribed burns. Overall we did most of our road work and maintenance in the planned Paliza Rx burn area. We contracted for 92.5 miles s of High Clearance roads to be

maintained and 27.5 miles of Passenger clearance roads to be maintained around our planned thinning units. Outside of this area we decommissioned 2.5 miles of road in San Antonio, our priority watershed on the Forest.

<u>Cultural Site Management and thinning</u>: As our purpose and need is the protection of the 3000 cultural sites which lie in the project area we identified 500 sites on Virgin Mesa for thinning using hand crews to protect these sites from catastrophic wild fire. We had just begun thinning these sites in late September so we only thinned 30 of these sites in FY13. We signed a multi-year contract to thin these sites and should have a lot more completed in FY 2014.

<u>Watershed and Meadow Restoration</u>: We completed the 100 acre Los Conchas meadow restoration have been working on identifying other areas for meadow restoration in our project area. We started the San Antonio meadow restoration in our priority watershed as well thinning trees under 12" dbh. As far as watershed restoration we completed the in stream design contact for the Jemez river to restore the natural morphology and remove fishing structures which have damaged the natural morphology of this river system.

Noxious Weeds: We identified and treated 86.8 acres by hand of noxious weeds in the project area. When we have our noxious weeds EIS we can use herbicides and treat many more acres a year in the project area.

Valles Caldera National Preserve

The Valles Caldera Trust released the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in August covering all the activities proposed under the CFLR Strategy for the VCNP. The comment period ended in September. We expect to have the Final EIS and Record of Decision completed by early spring. This will allow us to move from project level to landscape scale implementation. A very important aspect of this long-term decision making is that it will allow us to develop multi-year contracts and agreements where funds received late in the fiscal year can be obligated to ensure that funds received are expended on on-the-ground accomplishments, leading to very little carryover. In the meantime we were able to complete project level work within all our planned activity areas including forest thinning, road management, noxious weed control, riparian and wetland restoration, and burned area rehabilitation.

Forest Thinning: The VCT awarded a 531 acre mechanical treatment contract for forest thinning and biomass disposal. Leave trees will include all trees greater than 16 in. diameter and the largest, best formed ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir and aspen trees less than 16 in. diameter. The current stands average 500 trees per acre, mostly within the 9-16 in. diameter class. Treated stands will average 50-70 trees per acre. All large and old standing trees will be left. All large and old dead and down trees will remain on site for wildlife habitat. Any large, dead tree damage or removed for safety will be left on site for habitat. All fuels (biomass) generated from thinning operations will be treated during operations, mostly by removal. This will reduce the amount of smoke from follow-up prescribed burning and insure the fire hazard is not increased, even for a short period, by forest thinning.

Road Maintenance and Decommissioning: The thinning contract also includes 6.4 miles of road maintenance and just over 11 miles of road closure and decommissioning. Road decommissioning will be accomplished by shaping to improve drainage and reduce erosion as well as raking and incorporation of slash to encourage re-vegetation. Roads will be closed to motor vehicle use but will remain open to non-motorized (recreation and equestrian) use. Using non-cfln/match codes (VCVC, BAER and Suppression) we maintained 24 miles of level 3, and 72 miles of level 2 roads.

<u>**Riparian Restoration**</u>: We worked with partners to continue work under existing riparian restoration grants and one new Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) grant that focused on watershed restoration work on the Valles Caldera. Under four grants aimed at riparian restoration and re-vegetation, the WildEarth Guardians (WEG) contributed 720 hours of volunteer time and \$158,693.31 in match and \$81,900 in in-kind contributions. The in-kind was the procurement of the plant materials including:

- 30,000 willow
- 500 aspen
- 100 thin leaf alder (grown from seeds collected on site last year)
- 200 narrow leaf cottonwood
- 100 serviceberry shrubs

WEG also repaired and maintained riparian exclosures impacted by post fire flooding from the Las Conchas and Thompson Ridge fires. The YCC crew (also a WildEarth Guardians grant) completed 8 miles of fencing including fence removal/reconstruction. This project removed superfluous fences and fences that were hazardous to wildlife (mesh or improperly constructed barb wire) and replaced them with wildlife friendly fences located to protect riparian areas. In total they completed over seven miles of fencing (removal, repair, reconstruction, new construction). The YCC crew consisted of young adults (18-22) from Pojoaque and Jemez Pueblos. Treated posts used in the fence construction procured locally and made from small trees removed from the VCNP during CFLN forest thinning activities!

Under the San Antonio Five Tributary Projects the Los Amigos de Valles Caldera completed (...still waiting for the report from Los Amigos) Under the Jaramillo Restoration Project (319 grant) the Los Amigos de Valles Caldera brought a hand crew from Taos Pueblos to repair gullies initiated by post fire erosion from the 2011 Las Conchas fire. As shown below they use small diameter trees near the gulley to create structure to capture sediment and stabilize the gullies.



Figure 5 Picture of log mattresses used to repair post fire gullies

Noxious Weed Control: Noxious weed inventories were completed in areas through-out the preserve where weeds had been previously identified and treated as well as areas impacted by recent wild fire activity with an emphasis on control lines, drop points and staging areas. New or persisting weed populations were eradicated using manual treatments or herbicide applications. We also acquired a new UTV to get into areas where access had been severely compromised by

the fires. Along with the UTV we procured herbicide and a boom applicator. Most weeds are sprayed individually be hand, the boom applicator is intended to treat cheat grass along road edges.

Burned Area Rehabilitation: Riparian restoration, road maintenance and noxious weed control all addressed impacts from the Las Conchas and Thompson Ridge wildfires. Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) assessment and implementation were also completed within the 24,000+ acre Thompson Ridge fire. Including 397 acres of seeding with annual barley.

Out-year Preparation: 1100 acres are layed out for thinning, 2000 additional acres were surveyed for the presence of cultural resources; reconnaissance and project layout was collaboratively completed in the Valle Seco in preparation for out-year wetland and riparian restoration activities. Gullying and other erosion in the Las Conchas wildfire area was assessed for future treatments. Three agreements have been drafted to expand collaboration and cost share activities with other federal and state agencies and non-governmental organizations.

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

| Fiscal Year | | Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint) | | |
|---|------|---|--|--|
| FY13 | 9531 | 531 (VCNP) 9000 SFNF | | |
| 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)) | | 1980 (VCNP) 19,164 SFNF | | |

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):

The Thompson Ridge wildfire burned 23,900 acres within the SWJM project area. 23,828 acres were on the Valles Caldera National Preserve; 38 acres burned on the Santa Fe National Forest and 34 acres on private land. Over 17,000 acres of the fire burned with low severity, 5458 burned with moderate severity and 639 burned with high severity.

Post fire flooding and erosion has not been as damaging as the Las Conchas fire however it has impacted some main roads and all facilities on the Preserve are without water due to impacts to the water treatment system. The areas classified as moderate severity lost nearly 100 percent of the cover, but the organic layer remained largely intact. The intact soil and duff reduced debris flow in some areas but the moderately burned areas sill produced significant run off and erosion as shown below.

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



Figure 6– Pictures of left erosion from Thompson Ridge fire, right flume in lower Redondo destroyed by post fire erosion.

The fire impacted access for a variety of monitoring activities and destroyed one flume and damaged several exclosures. Not all vegetation sites were accessible for annual monitoring. Thinning completed in 2010 provided a point where the fire could be anchored and a control point established. Without the fuels reduction, the area would not have been a safe place for fire fighters to work.

Santa FE NF Jemez RD Fire Accomplishments/Duties:

The Santa Fe National Forest Jemez Ranger District has the lead in fire responsibility for both the Valles Caldera and the Jemez Ranger District which kept District Resources very engaged with the Type 2 23,934 Acre Thompson Ridge fire this past summer. Below is a summary of their work this past summer. They also had the search and rescue for their engine captain which took many weeks of resources and in conjunction with the furlough delayed the planned Paliza Rx burn this last fall.

- Stood up the Jemez Eagles for engine module boosters (5 personnel / 42 days)
- 70 IA personnel at height of Season :
 - 8 engines, 2 IA Crews, 5 Prevention Patrols(L2) and 1 LEO (L1)
- Assisted several other States with pre-suppression response and large fire support
- Provided IA response for other Districts on the SNF
- Multiple training assignments and task book certifications completed
- Supported 5 public meetings
- Maintained EMS Qualifications of District resources

• <u>Wildfire</u>

- USFS
 - o 12 Lightning 442 acres
 - o 10 Human 13.5 acres
- VCNP
 - o 2 Lightning .2 acres
 - o 1 Human 23,934 acres
- 1,836 Documented public contacts
- 27,655 Miles of system roads patrolled
- 113 Abandoned Campfires (down 18%)
- 9 Public assists (down 50%)

• 52 Citations (down 34%)

• Rx / Managed Fire 8,225 acres Total

- San Juan Rx 7,306 acres
- Guacamalla Piles 134 acres
- Thompson Ridge Piles 199 acres
- Los Griegos Piles 180 acres
- Stable Wildfire 406 acres
- <u>Thinning / Preparation</u>
- Paliza Rx
- Arch Site prep (multiple locations)
- Holding Line Prep 11 Miles
- Snagging 11 Miles
- San Juan Rx
- Arch Site Prep
- Holding Line Prep 14 Miles
- <u>Collateral Duties</u>
- Provided support during furlough
- supported USFS Honor Guard, 4 events
- Assisted with travel management implementation
- Supported International Exchange Fire Resources
- Supported the Forest Safety Committee

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? (please limit answer to two pages)

The Las Conchas fire of 2011 significantly affected our schedule of work by delaying the completion of both the Santa Fe and Valles Caldera's Environmental Impacts Statements. The Thompson Ridge fire has less of an impact on that process but still delayed the completion of planning and decision making by about 6-8 months for both agencies.

The Thompson Ridge fire all but halted work and physical access to many parts of the VCNP entirely for nearly 4 weeks and continues to affect access. Much of the area burned with low severity and we anticipate proceeding with planned restoration activities through this area as described in the restoration strategy. The Santa Fe NF Jemez RD and SO was heavily involved in this fire as well with specialists doing fire and BAER rehab work.

Probably a more significant delay has been getting instruments in place to procure services (contracts and agreements). Contracting officers have also been impacted by the fire seasons region-wide. The combination of heavy workloads and delays in receiving budgets and authorization to spend money has made it a struggle to obligate the monies within fiscal

year deadlines. This FY, a focus will be to complete the EIS, clearing the way for multi-year contracts and agreements to be obligated. Once these instruments are in place we can begin to implement on the schedule described in the restoration strategy adjusted based on actual funding received. The VCNP is also looking at arrangements with other regional grant and agreement centers that may not be as impacted by large fires at the same time as Region 3.

Monitoring Program – All monitoring activities are on schedule as described in the proposal, with two exceptions. First, due to budget cuts, we did not initiate project-wide stream water-quality chemistry analyses (e.g., nutrients, minerals, metals, salts, suspended solids, dissolved solids, etc.), but rather are concentrating on water quality variables measured with Sonde instrumentation (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, and turbidity). Stream water chemistries are still being monitored on the Valles Caldera National Preserve as part of its ongoing stream monitoring program. Second, also due to budget cuts, we were not able to fund the hydrologic modeling from CFLRP funds; however, we have recently obtained additional funding from the Bureau of Reclamation to accomplish this task. Hydrologic modeling efforts will begin in 2014. Otherwise, all monitoring programs for forest fuels, herbaceous vegetation, wildlife, fisheries, water quality, water quantity (discharge), pest and beneficial insects, invasive species, climate and soil erosion are proceeding as planned.

11. Planned FY 2015 Accomplishments

| Performance Measure Code ¹³ | Unit of measure | Planned Accomplishment | Amount (\$) |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Acres treated annually to | Acres | | , |
| sustain or restore watershed | | 40.000 | ¢4,000,000 |
| function and resilience | | 40,000 | \$4,000,000 |
| WTRSHD-RSTR-ANN | | | |
| Acres of forest vegetation | Acres | | |
| established | | 0 | |
| FOR-VEG-EST | | | |
| Acres of forest vegetation | Acres | c000 | ¢1 coo ooo |
| improved FOR-VEG-IMP | | 6000 | \$1,600,000 |
| Manage noxious weeds and | Acre | | |
| invasive plants | | 200 | \$40,000 |
| INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC | | | |
| Highest priority acres treated | Acres | | |
| for invasive terrestrial and | | | |
| aquatic species on NFS | | 0 | |
| lands | | | |
| INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC | | | |
| Acres of water or soil | Acres | | |
| resources protected, | | | |
| maintained or improved to | | 20.000 | \$1,000,000 |
| achieve desired watershed | | 30,000 | \$1,000,000 |
| conditions. | | | |
| S&W-RSRC-IMP | | | |
| Acres of lake habitat | Acres | | |
| restored or enhanced | | 0 | |
| HBT-ENH-LAK | | | |
| Miles of stream habitat | Miles | | |
| restored or enhanced | | 10 | \$60,000 |
| HBT-ENH-STRM | | | |
| Acres of terrestrial habitat | Acres | | |
| restored or enhanced | | 16,000 | \$900,000 |
| HBT-ENH-TERR | | | |
| Acres of rangeland | Acres | | |
| vegetation improved | | 20,000 | \$400,000 |
| RG-VEG-IMP | | | |
| Miles of high clearance | Miles | | |
| system roads receiving | | 100 | \$400,000 |
| maintenance | | | ÷ 100,000 |
| RD-HC-MAIN | | | |
| Miles of passenger car | Miles | | |
| system roads receiving | | 50 | \$200,000 |
| maintenance | | | +-00,000 |
| RD-PC-MAINT | | | |
| Miles of road | Miles | | |
| decommissioned | | 30 | \$400,000 |
| RD-DECOM | | | |
| Miles of passenger car | Miles | | A 4 9 9 9 9 9 |
| system roads improved | | 20 | \$100,000 |
| RD-PC-IMP | | | |

¹³ Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2015 is available. Use actual planned funding if quantity is less than specified in CFLRP project work plan, and justify deviation from project work plan in question 13 of this template.

| Performance Measure Code ¹³ | Unit of measure | Planned Accomplishment | Amount (\$) |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Miles of high clearance | Miles | Accomplishment | Amount (ș) |
| system road improved RD-HC-IMP | Miles | 30 | \$200,000 |
| 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 | 10 | \$15,000 |
| Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD | Miles | 8 | \$18,000 |
| Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT | Miles | 5 | \$20,000 |
| Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC | Acres | 0 | |
| Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST | CCF | 0 | |
| Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD | CCF | 30,000 | \$3,000,000 |
| Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio- energy production BIO-NRG | Tons | 20,000 | \$750,000 |
| Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI | Acre | 0 | |
| Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI | Acres | 14,000 | \$900,000 |
| Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSPE-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):

<u>SFNF:</u> In 2015 the project is anticipated to be in full implementation mode with a signed EIS and with the full suite of restoration activities occurring. We hope to begin thinning the 5000 acres of units that we are currently laying out with a Stewardship contract and conduct the 14,300 acre planned Paliza Rx burn. We are pursuing potential funding sources with the Nature Conservancy the proposed Albuquerque Water Fund to fund sizable chunk of the forest thinning as it's doesn't have any timber value and we need to look for alternative sources of funding beyond the CFLN money we are obligated.

VCNP: In 2015 we plan to be implementing a suite of restoration activities (Forest thinning, wetland/riparian restoration, road closure/decommissioning, trail restoration) within the Sulphur Creek 6th code watershed. We have already initiated preparation and 2014 will complete archaeological survey and clearance and contracting for 2015-16 implementation projects. All carryover will be obligated to on-the-ground projects allowing us to catch up to the planned accomplishments described in the SWJML Collaborative Restoration Strategy. Prescribed burning projects will include follow-up treatments in thinning areas as well as grassland burning. Noxious weed eradication activities will continue. In general we plan to be accomplishing activities as described in the SWJML Collaborative Restoration Strategy, adjusted based on actual funding.

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):

In general we are on track to recover from the impacts of the 2011 Las Conchas Fire, the 2013 Thompson Ridge Fire as well as impacts from receiving late budgets and reductions in funding. We should be in-line with the strategy provided that moneys carry over. We are working through the challenges that working in an area with an active fire season presents as we must all drop our SW Jemez CFLRP work and focus on the fires and the BAER rehab work. This has slowed our progress considerably. Both the VCNP and SFNF are currently laying out thinning units in anticipation of their EIS's being signed and the Santa Fe is currently working on a 5 year Implementation Plan with the collaborators to identify priority areas to treat first.