


CFLR Project (Name/Number): Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG) Cornerstone (CFLR015)
 National Forest(s): Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forest

1. Match and Leverage funds:
a. FY14 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLR Funds Expended)			Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014 (\$)		
Core Funds			BLI	Eldorado	Stanislaus
BLI / Program	Eldorado	Stanislaus			
CFLN			CFLN	368,697	347,838
FY 2013	13,366	200,956	CMRD (2013)		166,768
FY 2014	368,697	347,838	CMTL (2013)		165,983
CMRD (FY 2013)		166,768	NFWF		169,081
CMTL (FY 2013)		165,983	NFVW	108,985	
NFTM (FY 2014)	355,961		NFTM	355,961	
NFWF (FY 2014)		167,323	District Totals	\$ 833,643	\$ 847,912
NFVW (FY 2014)	108,985		Total	\$ 1,681,555	
District Totals:	\$ 847,009	\$ 1,048,868			
Cornerstone Total	\$ 1,895,877				
<i>BLI Descriptions are on Page 9.</i>					

Fund Source – (Carryover funds expended in addition to CFLR/CFLN) (please include a new row for each BLI)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014 (\$)		
FY 2013 Carryover funds expended in FY 2014 	BLI	Eldorado	Stanislaus
	CFLN (2013)	\$ 13,366	\$ 200,956
	Total	\$ 214,322	

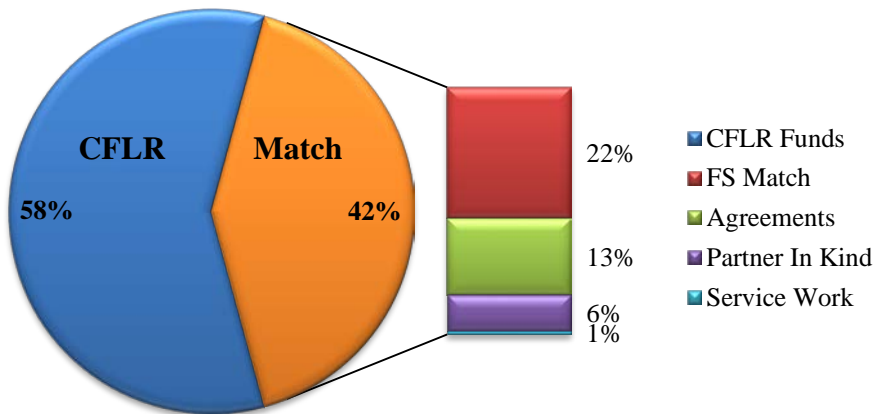
Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds) (please include a new row for each BLI)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)		
BLI	Eldorado	Stanislaus	
BDBD	15,017	12,230	BDBD = 27,247
CWKV	169,407		CWKV = 169,407
NFTM		173,535	NFTM = 173,535
NFVW		1,744	NFVW = 1,744
RIRI ¹			SSCC = 225,378
SSCC	225,378		WFHF = 101,548
WFHF		101,548	Cornerstone Total \$ 698,859
District Totals	\$ 409,802	\$ 289,057	
Cornerstone Total	\$ 698,859		
1. Expenditure report indicated \$4,299,379 of RIRI as match. The use of this expenditure BLI is in error, as RIRI was not used to fund implementation or monitoring activities in the Cornerstone Project Area			

Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Rivers, Indian Valley Project (National Fish and Wildlife Foundation [NFWF] grant) - \$26,525 Plumas Corp, Foster and Mattley Meadow (NFWF Grant)- \$23,200 State OHV Grants (User Created Trail Restoration) - \$22,211 Cal-Trans (Cedar Center - Arnold Rim Trail Connector) - \$335,000 PG & E Noxious Weeds - \$10,000 	\$ 416,936

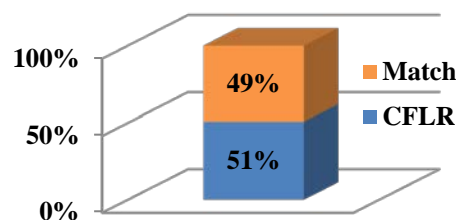
Fund Source – (Partner In-Kind Contributions)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACCG - \$91,328 Arnold Rim Trail Association, Arnold Volunteers, OHV Clubs - \$27,512 CHIPS (Master Participating Agreement) - \$79,025 	\$ 197,865

Fund Source – (Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amador = \$18,900 	\$ 18,900

Percent Match vs. CFLR



Cornerstone 2012-2014 Total (%)



b. Please provide a narrative or table describing leveraged funds in your landscape in FY2014 (one page maximum)

During the FY 2014, approximately **\$942,126** was leveraged for the Cornerstone Project area by the Amador Calaveras Consensus Group from in-kind services, restoration treatments, and capacity building that helped the project achieve objectives:

Amount	Entity	Investment	Date	Land Location
\$18,457	ACCG Members	In-kind services, workgroups and meetings.	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$230,725	Amador Fire Safe Council	Fuels reduction around Sherwood Forest, Pioneer	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$40,420	Amador Fire Safe Council	Sierra Highlands Interagency Bump and Run Drill, Pioneer	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$9,947	Amador Fire Safe Council	High Country CWPP (Title III) development	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$50,000	Amador Fire Safe Council	PG&E CEMA grant	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$336,842	Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Private landowner Contributions	Forestry Practices (Forest Stand Improvement, Tree Pruning, Tree & Shrub Establishment, Tree & Shrub Site Preparation)	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$216,232	Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Private landowner Contributions	Range Practices (Fence, Brush Management, Watering facility, Pipeline, Herbaceous weed control, Water Well, Pumping Plant, Pond, Spring Development)	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area
\$39,503	Foothill Conservancy	Watershed management: Hydropower project adaptive management, monitoring study design and review, salmon restoration feasibility, integrated regional water planning and management.	10/2013 – 09/2014	Cornerstone Project Area

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Date: November 10, 2014

2. Discuss how the CLFR project contributes to accomplishment of the wildland fire goals in the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan, dated December 2006.

The *Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan* focuses on building collaborative relationships with local, State, Regional, Tribal and National interests. The Forest Service is working with ACCG, in which the Fire Safe Councils are active participants, to provide a foundation to meet performance measures in the future. For example, the Eldorado National Forest, Amador Ranger District is actively working with the Amador Fire Safe Council to create the High Country Community Wildfire Protection Plan which will strategically link Forest Service projects with our partners' projects. Fuel treatments conducted in FY 2014 within the Cornerstone project area are expected to reduce the extent and intensity of future wildfires within the Wildland Urban Intermix. Hazardous fuels have been greatly reduced in the project area adjacent to communities at risk.

Contributions to the goals and performance measures are as follows:

Goal	Performance Measure	Contribution to the 10-year Strategy
<i>Goal 1 of the Implementation Plan is to improve fire prevention and suppression.</i>		Fire prevention and education play a major role in mitigating human caused fire events. The Forest Service makes daily contacts with the public and informs them of fire restrictions and campfire policies.
	Percent change from 10-year average for wildfires controlled during initial attack.	The Cornerstone Project area had 36 wildland fires (103.38 acres) in 2014, which was below or equal to the 10-year average. All fires in 2014 were contained in the initial attack, with the exception of the Irene fire on the Amador Ranger District.
	Percent change from 10-year average for number of unwanted human-caused wildfires.	
	Percent of fires not contained in initial attack that exceed a stratified cost.	
<i>Goal 2 of the Implementation Plan is to reduce hazardous fuels.</i>		
	Number of WUI acres treated that are identified in CWPPS or other application collaboratively developed plans.	927 acres
	Number of non-WUI acres treated that are identified through collaboration consistent with the <i>Implementation Plan</i> .	0 acres
<i>Goal 3, Part A, of the Implementation Plan is the restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems.</i>		
	Number of acres treated by prescribed fire, through collaboration consistent with the <i>Implementation Plan</i> .	25 acres
	Number of acres treated by mechanical thinning, through collaboration consistent with the <i>Implementation Plan</i> .	0 acres
	Number of acres of the natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under strategies that result in desired conditions.	Natural ignitions were not allowed to burn due to fuel and weather conditions.
	Number of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are moved toward desired conditions.	667 acres
	Number of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are maintained in desired conditions	576 acres
<i>Goal 3, Part B, of the Implementation Plan is the restoration and post-fire recovery of fire-adapted ecosystem.</i>		
	Number and percent of burned acres identified in approved post-wildfire recovery plans as needing treatments that actually receive treatments.	555 acres
	Percent of burned acres treated for post-wildfire recovery that is trending towards desired conditions.	
<i>Goal 4 of the Implementation Plan is the promotion of community assistance.</i>		
	Number of green tons and/or volume of woody biomass from hazardous fuel reduction and restoration treatments on federal land that are made available for utilization through permits, contracts, grants, agreements, or equivalent.	The Forest Service continues to implement a Master Participating Agreement (MPA) and Supplemental Project Agreements with the Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS), resulting in fuels reduction and fuel break construction projects completed.

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

Part-time and full-time jobs and labor income estimates were derived using the following assumptions:

Description	CFLR/N Funds Only	All Funds (CFLR/N and Match)
Funding and Employment		
Total Funding	\$1,897,635	\$3,236,781
Percent of Funding used for Contracted Work	38%	22%
Percent of Funding used for Force Account Implementation and Monitoring	62%	78%
Annual Force Account FTEs for Implementation and Monitoring	9	18
Contract Funding Distribution		
Facilities, Watershed, Roads and Trails	5%	4%
Abandoned Mine Lands	0%	0%
Labor Intensive - Ecosystem Restoration, Hazardous Fuels and Forest Health (No Commercial Products)	93%	89%
Contracted Monitoring (Does not include in-kind and volunteer contributions)	1%	1%
Equipment Intensive - Ecosystem Restoration, Hazardous Fuels and Forest Health (No Commercial Products)	1%	1%
Thinning and Biomass Harvesting (Commercial Products)	0%	0%
Amount of Harvest Volume		
CCF (100 cubic feet)	0	845
MBF (1000 board feet)	0	0
Dry Tons	0	0
Cords	0	0
Product Distributions		
Sawmills and Wood Preservation	0%	45%
Veneer and Plywood Manufacturing	0%	0%
Engineered Wood Member and Truss Manufacturing	0%	0%
Reconstituted Wood Product Manufacturing	0%	0%
Wood Container and Pallet Manufacturing	0%	0%
Prefabricated Wood Building Manufacturing	0%	0%
All Other Miscellaneous Wood Product Manufacturing	0%	0%
Pulp Mills	0%	0%
Biomass—Co-gen	0%	0%
Firewood (Commercial)	0%	0%
Firewood (Home Use)	0%	55%

FY 2014 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY14 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	-	-	\$0	\$0
Other Project Activities	19.4	22.8	\$644,915	\$784,282
TOTALS:	19.4	22.8	\$644,915	\$784,282

FY 2014 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY14 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	1.2	2.0	\$67,167	\$103,419
Other Project Activities	18.3	21.5	\$607,351	\$738,162
TOTALS:	19.5	23.5	\$674,519	\$841,581

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

The Cornerstone collaborative identified the following community benefits from FY 2013:

- Provided jobs to local residents in economically disadvantaged rural communities, which created direct and indirect economic benefits.
- Reduced the risk of uncharacteristic fire that could harm people and property.
- Put local Native Americans to work restoring traditional cultural sites.
- Continued and expanded collaboration and communication among federal, state and local governments, community groups, nonprofits and businesses.
- Increased public awareness of restoration efforts in the Cornerstone all-lands planning area.
- Leveraged investment from other federal, state, and private sources.
- Involved diverse community members in project planning, implementation, and monitoring.
- Attracted regional attention as a model for community forest collaboration.
- Promoted open discussion of forest issues related to ACCG goals through on-the-ground projects.
- Provided opportunities for community learning through project field trips.
- Avoided project-stopping conflicts and project appeals.
- Strengthened relationships among the members of the ACCG.

The Collaboration held eight outreach programs in 2014. Outreach programs focused on Calaveras students (16 Mountain Oaks High school students, a parent, and 2 faculty members), residents of Calaveras and Amador counties, and potential stakeholders that could boost ACCG membership and recruitment (greater than 23 individuals). Outreach programs also had visitors from the San Francisco Bay Area (3) and France (2). Field trips focused on local history and forest management, which combined motorized walkie-talkie tours with interpretative hikes to ACCG projects. Projects visited included the Power Fire Restoration, Lilly Gap Shaded Fuel Breaks, clear cuts on private lands, Devil's Nose lookout, Mokelumne Watershed Tour of historic Mokelumne Canal and current CPUD facilities, West Calaveras Plantation Thinning, Mattley Meadow Restoration, Ramsey Burn Restoration, Hell's Kitchen Vista, Emigrant Trail hike at Pacific Grade, Hemlock Landscape Restoration meadows.



Outreach program with Mountain Oaks High School.

Photo by Linda Mariani

The Calaveras Enterprise published a news article that highlighted an ACCG/Forest Service field trip to Mattley Meadow. The news article summarized the need for meadow restoration and demonstrated how the Collaborative and the Forest Service worked together to meet CFLRP goals. In addition, a video of a Mattley Meadow field trip was recorded for potential inclusion on a documentary regarding the practice of moving livestock to different grazing pastures seasonally in Calaveras County. Likewise, an article regarding sensitive plant monitoring was published in the Sierra Foothills, California Native Plant Society Newsletter.

One example of the strength of our commitment to enhance community benefits is the increase of trust among all Collaborative participants, especially between environmental groups, industry, and the Forest Service. Much of this trust stems from exposure to the Forest Service's comprehensive planning process and sincere efforts by all stakeholders to consider all points of view.

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

The ACCG Collaborative has a team with diverse knowledge, technical resource skills, planning expertise, and perspectives on forest restoration and community conditions actively developing the Cornerstone monitoring strategy. This monitoring team includes a variety of Forest Service staff, representatives from environmental and non-profit organizations, Amador County consultant, and the forest products industry. The monitoring plan will describe what will be monitored, how to conduct the monitoring, how the monitoring results will be used, and the responsible party for each step in the process. The monitoring plan will also provide guidance in:



ACCG Cornerstone Monitoring Workshop

Photo by USFS

- Determining if restoration projects are implemented in accordance with the project design and intent.
- Determining if the outcomes and effects of restoration actions are achieving desired conditions.
- Identifying whether the restoration treatments need to be modified to accommodate results of monitoring.

The monitoring team spent over 1,142 hours working on the monitoring strategy in FY 2014, which included a 4-day workshop held in February with over 30 participants. We expect that the monitoring strategy will be completed by the summer 2015. CFLR funds were used to support the collection of baseline conditions for the upcoming restoration projects (Power Fire, Mattley Meadow, Foster Firs and Hemlock Landscape Restoration). In addition, field trips were conducted to identify needed topics for implementation monitoring.

Progress towards our desired condition target associated with each ecological indicator was evaluated. We considered progress towards achieving desired condition “Good” if the amount of treated acres completed was $\geq 30\%$ of the amount of expected treated acres stated in the Cornerstone CFLR proposal. Progress was considered “Fair” if we only treated 16-29 % of expected treated acres, and $\leq 15\%$ was considered “Poor” progress. Overall, the Cornerstone project is making good progress in fire regime and fish and wildlife habitat restoration, but needs to plan and implement additional watershed improvement and invasive species projects. Additional information is contained in the Cornerstone Ecological Indicator Report.

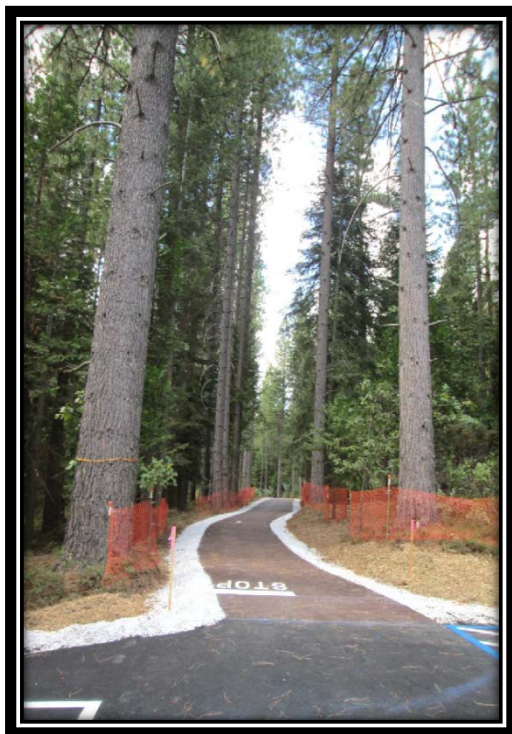
Ecol. Ind.	Performance Measure	Percent Accomplished	Progress Category		
			Good $\geq 30\%$	Fair 16-29%	Poor $\leq 15\%$
Fire Regime Restoration					
	Acres of hazardous fuels treated <u>outside</u> the wildland/urban interface (WUI)	22		X	
	Acres of hazardous fuels treated <u>inside</u> the wildland/urban interface (WUI)	37	X		
Fish and Wildlife Habitat					
	Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	13			X
	Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	46	X		
	Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	107	X		
	Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	50	X		
Watershed Improvements					
	Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions.	113	X		
	Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	3			X
	Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	18		X	
	Miles of system road decommissioned	18		X	
	Miles of passenger car system roads improved	0			X
	Miles of high clearance system roads improved	9			X
Invasive Species					
	Acres managed for noxious weeds and invasive plants	7			X

6. FY 2014 accomplishments. FY 14 Accomplishments that were not listed in the PAS report are listed below.

Performance Measure Code	Project Names	Unit of Measure	Total Units Accomplished	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)
Watershed Improvement					
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions (S&W-RSRC-IMP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramsey Fire Salvage Middle Fork Moke. River Amador District Wide Invasive Treatments Cat Creek Dispersed Camp Restoration Indian Valley Willow Planting 	Acres	288	\$18,467	CFLN NFWW
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage (STRM-CROSMITG-STD).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle Fork Mokelumne River 	Number	1	\$10,467	NFWW
Habitat Improvement					
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-STRM).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Valley Willow Planting 	Miles	0.75	\$26,525	NFWF PTNR
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-TERR).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amador District Wide Invasive Treatments Indian Valley Willow Planting 	Acres	52.5	\$56,860	CFLN NFWF PTNR
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants (INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amador District Wide Invasive Treatments 	Acre	46.6	\$28,000	CFLN PTNR
Road Improvements					
Miles of high clearance ML 2 system roads maintained (RD-ML2-MAINT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Callecat Stewardship Contract 	Miles	1.5	N/A	N/A
Miles of ML3 passenger car system roads maintained (RD-ML3-MAINT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calaveras RD System Roads Callecat Steward Contract 	Miles	51.5	\$45,000	CMRD
Miles of ML4 passenger car system roads maintained (RD-ML4-MAINT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calaveras RD System Roads Callecat Steward Contract 	Miles	17.1	\$18,576	CMRD RIRI
Miles of ML5 passenger car system roads maintained (RD-ML5-MAINT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ellis Road Patching 		10.0	\$9,576	RIRI
Forest Improvements					
Acres of forest vegetation improved (FOR-VEG-IMP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sky High, Walkaluu Camp Ground, Ganns Meadow/Ramsey FB Meadowmont Fuel Break Bear PCT Callecat PCT and Release Power PCT and Release 	Acres	1,428.7	\$648,459	CFLN CMTL CWKV SSCC
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales (TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mokey Bear Re-Sale Stewardship 	Acres	266.0	\$15,870	CFLN
Volume of timber sold (TMBR-VOL-SLD).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amador District Fuel Wood Permits 	CCF	780.0	\$23,533	SSSS
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees made available for bio-energy production (BIO-NRG).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amador District Fuel Wood Permits 	Green Tons	2,340.0	Accounted for in Volume Sold	SSSS
Fuel Treatments					
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire (FP-FUELS-WUI).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Alpine Fuel Break Skyhigh Fuel Break Ganns Meadow/Ramsey FB Meadowmont Fuel Break Amador Fuels Contract View 88 Fuels Contract 	Acres	927.0	\$475,484	CFLN CMTL SSCC WFHF
Inventory and Monitoring					
Acres of inventoried data collected/acquired (INV-DAT-ACQ).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR West Calaveras Plantation Mattley Meadow 	Acres	12,328.0	\$194,929	NFWF

FY 2014 Accomplishments Not Listed in the PAS Report.

Performance Measure Code	Project Names	Unit of Measure	Total Units Accomplished	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)
Volume of timber harvested from NFS lands. (TMBR-VOL-HVST)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramsey Salvage Timber Sale Firewood permits Dorrington Fire Station Hazard tree 	CCF	6,489	(\$173,198)	SS (Salvage Fund)
Acres of forestlands treated to provide for wood products, and to improve ecosystem health and resiliency to wildfire, insect and disease epidemics (TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramsey Salvage Timber Sale 	Acres	237	(\$173,198)	SS (Salvage Fund)
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-TERR).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skyhigh Ramsey Salvage/Ganns Meadowmont 	Acres	137	\$200,000	CFLN
Treatment and retreatment of invasive plant (including noxious weeds) infestations (INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ganns Meadow Hathaway Pines Work Center Heliport. 	Acres	111	\$750	CMTL
Acres of lake rest./enhanced (HBT-ENH-LAK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beebe Lake Fish 	Acres	4.2	\$10,000	NFWF
Miles of system trail improved (TL-IMP-STD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camp Irene Wheeler Ridge Sandy Meadow Jackson Canyon Arnold Rim Trail 	Miles	17.7	\$437,000	CFLN CMTL PTNR
Miles of system trail maint. (TL-MAINT-STD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arnold Rim Trail 	Miles	42.0	\$27,512	PTNR



Arnold Rim Trail Cedar Center Bikeway Connection project.

Photo by Calaveras County Department of Public Works

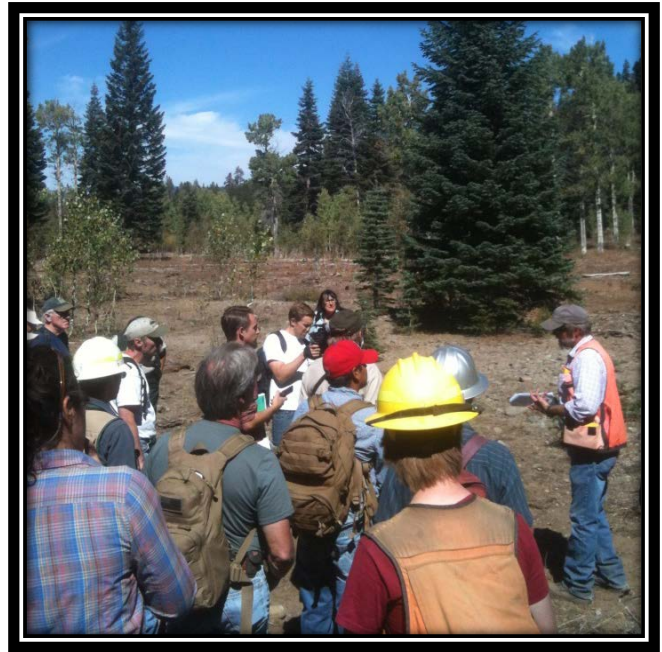
List and description of Budget Line Item (BLIs) used in this report

BLI	Description
BDBD	Brush Disposal
CFBD	Cornerstone Match – Brush Disposal
CFHF	Cornerstone Match – Hazardous Fuels Reduction
CFLN	Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration
CFTM	Cornerstone Match – Forest Products
CFVW	Cornerstone Match – Vegetation and Watershed Management
CMRD	Improvement or Maintenance of Roads
CMTL	Improvement or Maintenance of Trails
CWK2	Cooperative funds can be used to perform watershed restoration; improve wildlife habitat; control insects, disease, and noxious weeds or invasive plants; provide community protection activities; and maintain forest roads.
CWKV	The Knutson-Vandenberg (K-V) fund derived from timber sale receipts for timber stand improvement and reforestation.
NFTM	Forest Products
NFVW	Vegetation and Watershed Management
NFWF	Wildlife and Habitat Management
PTNR	Partner Funds
RBRB	Range Betterment Fund
RIRI	Restoration of Improvements on Forest Lands
RTRT	Reforestation
SSCC	Stewardship Contracting
SSSS	Timber Salvage Sales
WFHF	Hazardous Fuels Reduction

7. FY 2014 accomplishment narrative – Summarize key accomplishments and evaluate project progress.

The ACCG continually strives to meet its all-lands approach, leveraging the Cornerstone Project to reach its triple-bottom-line goals. Consistent with ACCG’s focus, the goals of the Cornerstone Project are to:

- Restore and maintain high-value watersheds in a proper functioning condition.
- Reduce threats to water quality and air quality from wildland fire.
- Reduce threats to lives and properties in the wildland-urban intermix and reduce wildfire protection costs.
- Restore and maintain forest structure, function and ecological processes to promote aquatic and terrestrial health, biological diversity, and habitat for a variety of native species, especially species at risk.
- Create more resilient vegetation conditions to meet ecological and social goals.
- Restore and protect prehistoric, historic, and active cultural sites in a sensitive manner.
- Reintroduce fire as a management tool and create conditions that allow prescribed fire to be used in the future.
- Build on existing energy and other available infrastructure available to utilize woody biomass.
- Create sustainable local, restoration stewardship related economic activity and local jobs based on restoration treatment work and development of diverse woody biomass and small-diameter tree by-products and local markets.
- Collaboratively involve the diverse ACCG interests in project planning, implementation, monitoring and adaptive management.
- Contribute to greater community stability through ongoing, sustainable restoration activities on public and private lands.
- Integrate ecological restoration with social goals, such as local employment and community social infrastructure development.
- Enhance appropriate recreation opportunities.
- Demonstrate the benefits of collaborative resource management in the region.



Collaboration field trip to Mattley Meadow with Plumas Corps.
Photo by Reuben Childress, Foothill Conservancy

The ACCG has put significant effort into preserving respect within the collaborative. To this end, the group has spent substantial time ensuring its core values are considered at all phases of project planning and implementation. This has not always been easy and takes constant effort and self-policing. Towards this goal, the ACCG has had the following successes in fiscal year 2014:

Indian Valley Willow Planting- Continuing on the successful partnerships with American Rivers and others, this year American Rivers returned to the Indian Valley Meadow. Eleven young energetic workers from the Sierra Native Alliance’s Native Youth Conservation Corps planted willows along a 1.5 miles stream to speed the restoration of this meadow at the headwaters of the Mokelumne River. The group braved freezing temperatures and an early snow storm, but enjoyed themselves and completed their task. This year’s event allowed an opportunity to review the ecological benefits from the “plug and pond” treatment completed in 2012 and to share those experiences with the next generation of land stewards. Additional information is available at the following web page: <http://www.americanrivers.org/blog/river-restoration-adventure-with-sierra-native-youth/>.

Foster Meadow and Mattley Meadow Restoration Projects - The Eldorado National Forest, and the Stanislaus National Forest had submitted two meadows, Foster Meadow, and Mattley Meadow for grant funding to begin the design process for meadow restoration. We were unsuccessful in this attempt, but the opportunity arose to work with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Plumas Corp to initiate these projects this year. These partners have been instrumental in the completion of the Indian Valley Restoration, and these new projects are



Brush fields in the Power Fire project area.

Photo by Reuben Childress, Foothill Conservancy

building on this successful relationship. Plumas Corp offered to gather the baseline data and help design the restoration for these two meadows, and is well on the way to completing this work. The plan is to complete the NEPA for these projects and implement one or both, possibly as early as fiscal year 2016.

Planning and Operations Work Groups – Per its governance rules, the ACCG makes formal decisions as part of the large plenary group, consisting of all members who have signed on to the Memorandum of Agreement (approximately 30 members). However, much of the detailed work is completed at the workgroup level. Workgroups include Administration, Planning (including monitoring), Operations, and Finance. Two of these groups are highlighted here.

The Planning Workgroup was very active last year. The group continued with procedures developed in previous years for assessing project proposals to ensure compliance with the ACCG’s “Principles and Policies to Guide Operations.” This process allows opportunity for comment, modification, and consensus for a new project prior to submitting to the full ACCG for a collaborative decision. Suggestions often improve projects’ social and local economic benefits. To date, the ACCG has supported all projects presented by the Planning Workgroup.

This year, much of the collaboration discussion occurred during field trips. In fiscal year 2014, ACCG members participated in 10 field visits (approximately 1,259 hours) to project sites ranging from fuels reduction to post-fire salvage to meadow restoration. Field trips will continue as a primary means of explaining project concepts, educating partners, and sharing values and objectives within the group.

One of the largest successes in collaboration for the ACCG this year was tackling the controversial topic of herbicide use within the Power Fire project area. One goal of the ACCG is to find solutions to controversial forest actions, such as herbicide treatments, that optimize environmental, social, and economic benefits. The ACCG planning workgroup discussed a number of different nonchemical treatment options for the 10-year old brush in the area, including use of controlled fire, grazing, and hand and mechanical methods. After discussing various options and borrowing portions of a proposed methodology from the neighboring Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions Collaborative, the ACCG developed a low-herbicide Power Fire alternative. Moving forward with the environmental analysis of the Forest Service’s proposed action, the new low-herbicide alternative, and a no-action alternative, will allow the completed EIS to show a range of project costs and benefits that ultimately will allow decisions focused on the greatest triple bottom line benefits.

The Operations Workgroup is responsible for ensuring that ACCG-supported work continues to meet the group’s purpose and desired outcomes, notably by identifying local solutions towards improving social, economic and environmental conditions. In 2014, the Operations Workgroup developed recommendations and

tools to increase CFLR contract awards to local communities. As part of this ongoing effort numerous meetings were held with local contractors, ACCG members, Forest Service Regional Office Directors and staff, the Small Business Administration, and others. Successes include ACCG approval of a definition for “local benefit”. Future work includes working with Forest Service contracting staff to create Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity and Stewardship contract opportunities for local contractors and businesses, inventorying contractor availability to complete CFLR work, and identifying opportunities to increase local contractor skills.

CHIPS Master Participating Agreement – The Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forests continue to use a Master Participating Agreement with the Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS). This agreement, which requires a match from CHIPS towards project cost, provides the Forest Service with trained workers to implement restoration activities. In turn, CHIPS receives on-the-job training experience for local workers and payment for work completed, helping integrate ecological restoration with opportunities for local employment. CFLR funding has allowed CHIPS to currently run two crews for project work on both the Amador and Calaveras Ranger Districts. In addition, the ACCG identified a unique opportunity to train local youth workers associated with CHIPS with an existing, experienced contractor to enhance fieldwork and safety skills.

Heritage Resources – Six educational presentations were conducted by Native American traditional practitioners at Wakaluu Hepyoo Campground. In addition, the 10th Annual Passport in Time (3-day event) provided students with an opportunity to learn traditional ways of life from 10 Native American traditional practitioners. Other accomplishments include the issuance of two free use permits to allow the Jackson Rancheria Band of the Me-Wuk Indians to remove timber from the Eldorado National Forest for use at the Indian Grinding Rock State Historic Park. Timber is being used to rebuild their ceremonial round house. Also, the Eldorado National Forest Heritage Program hosted the California Archeological Society Site Stewardship Program training. Hand treatments to improve resource conditions occurred on 33 acres at six heritage sites in the Cornerstone Project area.

Mokelumne Environmental Benefits Program and Avoided Cost Analysis - ACCG partners continued to actively participate in these projects to expand local watershed perspectives and knowledge consistent with the ACCG goals to the entire watershed. In the lower watershed, ACCG partners are combining their equipment and knowledge to restore agriculture lands. In the upper watershed, the Mokelumne Avoided Cost Analysis, completed this year, examined the avoided cost benefits of strategic fuel reduction projects. ACCG partners played an integral role and provided critical information about the water and hydropower operations. The study quantifies the benefits of fuel reduction to government agencies, homeowners, insurance companies and others with significant investment in the upper watershed.

Trail Projects –The 105,165 acre Mokelumne Wilderness straddles the crest of the central Sierra Nevada, on the Amador and Calaveras Ranger Districts. Trail maintenance was completed on approximately 16 miles of trail within the wilderness. Work included redefining the tread, brushing, rock and log removal, slash redistribution, switchback repair, and the construction of drainage features. We also accomplished approximately 42 miles of non-motorized trail maintenance in the Arnold Rim trail, and constructed 2.0 miles of new trail that improves connectivity between the Cedar Center in the community of Arnold and the Arnold Rim trail.



Rugged landscape of the Mokelumne Wilderness on the Amador and Calaveras Ranger District.

Photo by the Stanislaus Trail Crew

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?

Fiscal Year	Total Number of Acres Treated (Treatment Footprint)		
	Amador Ranger District	Calaveras Ranger District	Totals
FY 2014	1,900	712	2,612
FY 2012-2013	4,611	3,356	7,967
TOTALS	6,511	4,068	10,579

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 Amador and Calaveras Ranger Districts had an active fire prevention program. For example, approximately \$159,200 annually is spent in patrolling in the Cornerstone Project area on the Amador and Calaveras Ranger Districts. The Amador Ranger District had a busy fire prevention season focusing on public contact and education. Over 250 public visitors of all ages were contacted each weekend. The Amador Fire Prevention program spent \$1,300 on sign materials, \$1,000 on fire prevention signs. In addition, The Calaveras Fire Prevention program spent \$1,000 on sign materials, \$1,000 on fire prevention signs, and \$3,262 on the “One Less Spark” campaign in Sonora, California. Approximately 4,000 participants, ages 3-50, attended the opening of the Disney movie, “Planes, Fire and Rescue”, where “One Less Spark” fire prevention message was aired 300 times.

The Calaveras Ranger District has one type-three fire engine (five people per day) and a 10 person fire crew that aids in wildfire preparedness. Likewise, the Amador Ranger District has two type-three fire engines (five people

Fires that Occurred in the Cornerstone Project Area During 2014					
Calaveras Ranger District			Amador Ranger District		
Fire Name	Date	Approximate Acres	Fire Name	Date	Approximate Acres
Hiram	06/01/14	0.50	Mud	2/13/14	0.10
Underwood	06/08/14	0.25	Shealor	6/7/14	0.10
Ganns	06/28/14	0.50	Bear	7/4/14	0.10
Grouse Flat	07/14/14	0.25	Valley	7/17/14	0.10
Jackson	07/16/14	0.25	Moke	7/20/14	0.20
Irene	07/18/14	0.25	Thunder	7/21/14	0.10
Marshall	07/18/14	0.25	Cat	7/21/14	0.58
Lookout	07/21/14	0.25	Wagon	7/21/14	0.10
North Fork	07/21/14	0.50	Dufrene	7/31/14	1.0
Weiser	07/21/14	0.25	Cody	8/7/14	0.10
Bull	07/25/14	0.25	Rattle	8/7/14	0.10
Camp	08/07/14	0.50	Runner	8/10/14	0.10
Wheeler	08/14/14	0.25	Pardoes	8/10/14	0.20
Hermit	08/16/14	0.25	North South	8/18/14	1.0
Highland	08/30/14	0.10	Irene	9/14/14	94.0
17	09/21/14	0.25	Deadwood	9/21/14	0.10
Hwy 207	09/20/14	0.10	Deer	10/5/14	0.25
Bear Trap	09/21/14	0.10			
Cirque	09/22/14	0.10			
Total Acres		5.15			98.23

per day) and one tactical water tender. These resources perform fuels reduction and prescribed fire activities in the Cornerstone Project area. Annual costs for the 10 person fire crew, engine personnel, and water tender for the Cornerstone Project area is approximately \$150,000.

The Amador Ranger District had an active 2014 fire season, with 17 fires (94.2 acres) that resulted in \$600,170 in suppression costs. Likewise, the Calaveras Ranger District had an active 2014 fire season, with 19 fires (5 acres) that resulted in \$47,000 suppression costs. All fires were contained in initial attack, except the Irene fire on the Amador Ranger District. No lightning caused fires were allowed to burn for resource benefit.

10. Describe any reasons that the FY 2014 annual report does not reflect your project proposal, previously reported planned accomplishments, or work plan. (Did you face any unexpected challenges this year that caused you to change what was outlined in your proposal?)

Generally, the FY 2014 annual report accomplishments reflect the Cornerstone Project proposal, work plan, and planned accomplishments reported in FY 2012. Full implementation of projects awarded in 2012 and 2013 may not be realized until 2015 or 2016 due to implementation delays. Minor discrepancies between the detailed funding plan submitted with the proposal and actual implementation were the result of on the ground refinement and validation, NEPA refinements or project name changes. Prescribed fire targets continue to remain lower than expected due to the limited availability of burn windows, suitable fuel conditions, and low winter precipitation and dry conditions. Large fires in the Sierra Nevada (Rim and King Fires) currently limit Forest Improvement accomplishments, as green sales are temporally delayed until the local forest products industry can process the fire-killed trees. These accomplishments should improve in the future.

Performance Measure Code	Planned Accomplishment (From FY 2012 Annual Report)	2014 Accomplished (See Question 6)
Watershed Improvement		
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions (S&W-RSRC-IMP).	4	288
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage (STRM-CROS-MITG-STD)	0	1
Habitat Improvement		
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-STRM).	2	1
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-TERR).	500	53
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants (INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC).	90	47
Road Improvements		
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance (RD-HC-MAINT).	42	2
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance (RD-PC-MAINT).	33	79
Miles of system roads decommissioned (RD-DECOM).	1	0
Miles of system trails improved (TL-IMP-STD)	6	16
Forest Improvements		
Acres of forest vegetation improved (FOR-VEG-IMP).	325	1,429
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales (TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC).	1,600	266
Volume of timber sold (TMBR-VOL-SLD).	27,500	780
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees (BIO-NRG).	800	2,340
Fuel Treatments		
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the WUI (FP-FUELS-NON-WUI).	1,640	0
Acres of hazardous fuels treated inside the WUI (FP-FUELS-WUI).	1,396	927

11. Planned FY 2016 Accomplishments

Performance Measure Code	Project Names	Unit of Measure	Total Plan Accompl.	Amount (\$)
Watershed Improvement				
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved (S&W-RSRC-IMP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR 	Acres	500	\$90,000
Habitat Improvement				
Miles of stream restored/ enhanced (HBT-ENH-STRM).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bailey Stream Rest. 	Miles	0.5	\$70,000
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-TERR).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR 	Acres	1,000	\$180,000
Acres of lake restored or enhanced (HBT-ENH-LAK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beebe Lake Fish 	Acres	4.2	\$10,000
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants (INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hathaway Pines Heliport Ganns Meadow Moke. Wilderness Amador District Wide Invasive Treatment 	Acre	270	\$90,000
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved (RG-VEG-IMP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bear Allotment 	Acres	0.5	\$2,500
Road and Trail Improvements				
Miles of high clearance system road improved (RD-HC-IMP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock Landscape Restoration 		5	\$60,000
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance (RD-PC-MAINT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR Power Fire Rd Maint. 	Miles	30	\$3,200,000
Miles of passenger car system roads improved (RD-PC-IMP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR West Calaveras Thin 	Miles	5	\$60,000
Miles of system roads decommissioned (RD-DECOM).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bailey Plantation 	Miles	0.5	\$30,000
Miles of system trails maintained (TL-MAINT-STD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arnold Rim Trail San Domingo 	Miles	50	\$113,000
Miles of system trails improved to standard (TL-IMP-STD).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moke. Wilderness Mokelumne C to C 	Miles	20	\$110,000
Forest Improvements				
Acres of forest vegetation improved (FOR-VEG-IMP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR Power Fire Restoration 	Acres	3,500	\$1,150,000
Acres of forest vegetation established (FOR-VEG-EST).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ramsey Salvage 	Acres	50	\$25,000
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales (TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR Callecat Steward Cont 	Acres	700	\$75,000
Volume of timber harvested (TMBR-VOL-HVT).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Calaveras Thin Hemlock LR Callecat Steward Cont 	CCF	15,00	
Volume of timber sold (TMBR-VOL-SLD).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR Hazard Trees Foster Firs Steward 	CCF	30,000	
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production (BIO-NRG).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR West Calaveras Thin Bailey Plantation 	Tons	250	
Fuel Treatments				
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) hazardous fuels treated (FP-FUELS-WUI).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR Foster Firs Steward Amador Dist. Burning 	Acres	1,500	\$320,000
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) (FP-FUELS-NON-WUI).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hemlock LR Sourgrass Fuels Red. Calaveras Pile Burning Foster Firs Steward 	Acres	500	\$135,000
Inventory and Monitoring				
Acres of inventoried data collected/acquired (INV-DAT-ACQ).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mattley Meadow West Calaveras Thin Bailey Plantation Hemlock LR 	Acres	4,300	\$190,000

12. Planned FY 2016 accomplishment narrative (no more than 1 page):

The Cornerstone collaborative will continue its steady march toward accomplishing the 10-year goals. Projects planned will improve forest health and resiliency with commercial/pre-commercial thinning, removal of biomass, and mastication of brush. Road work will reduce sedimentation and improve soil stabilization through road reconstruction, maintenance, realignment and decommissioning.

The Forest Service and collaborative will hand cut and pile and burn fuels within existing cultural sites to reduce susceptibility to wildfire damage and enhance existing condition. The hazardous fuels reduction program will continue, with under-burning as weather and air quality allow, and burn preparations throughout the Cornerstone Project area. Existing fuel breaks will be maintained with mastication and prescribed fire. The construction of new fuel breaks is planned. In addition to the restoration activities, inventory and monitoring activities will be performed. The Forest Service will prepare and implement stewardship contracts to accomplish restoration objectives within the Cornerstone Project area to balance local environment, community, and economy for an all-land, triple bottom line result.

Guided by its principles and adapting from its experience, the Cornerstone collaborative intends to “build the road it travels” toward restoring and maintaining all of the lands in the larger all-lands stewardship planning area. It will continue to design and construct the systems, infrastructure, and processes necessary for a sustainable, healthy and functional balance among the environment, community, and economy in the planning area. Continued collaborative and cooperative capacity building activities include increasing access to local qualified NEPA and CEQA professionals to expedite pre-project environmental work and diversifying small businesses for woody biomass value-added utilization.

13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2015/16 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan:

The Central Sierra Nevada around the Cornerstone project area experienced two large wildfires. The Stanislaus National Forest and Yosemite National Park experienced a 257,314 acre wildfire in August 2013, and the Eldorado National Forest experienced a 97,717 acre wildfire in September 2014. These fires continue to challenge our accomplishments as post-fire salvage logging has inundated local saw mills. As a result, the amount of green sales is greatly reduced and implementation targets associated with green sales in the next couple of years are tenuous. In FY 2015 and 2016, the Cornerstone Collaborative will continue on-the-ground implementation of the Bailey Plantation Health Improvement, West Calaveras Plantation Thin, Callecatt and Foster Firs Stewardship projects, and Power Fire Restoration. We anticipate conducting our multiparty monitoring and continued collection of baseline data. Our overall planned accomplishments and funding for FY 2015 and 2016 are expected to be consistent with the project work plan and Cornerstone program of work. Minor discrepancies due to contracting and implementation variances, NEPA completions, on the ground validation, and prioritization of the Forests’ program may shift some FY 2015 targets to FY 2016; however it is the expectation that target consistency with the proposal is maintained.



Prescribe fire in the Cornerstone CFLR Project area.

Photo by USFS