CFLR Project (Name/Number): Ozark Highlands Ecosystem Restoration/CFLR022

National Forest(s): Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

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. FY14 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLR Funds Expended[1])	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014($)
CFLN (2013 and 2014)	$1,349,323

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 2014($)
NFWF (2014)	$267,663
NFTM (2013)	$426,245
NFVW (2013)	$60,044

Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds (please include a new row for each BLI)[3])	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014($)
CMRD (2014)	$56,038
CMTL (2014)	$10,043
CWKV (2013)	$128,813
CWKV (2014)	$134,147
NFTM (2014)	$135,742
NFVW (2014)	$348,696
NFWF (2013)	$2,955
NFWF (2014)	$215,788
RTRT (2014)	$23,723
S2R833	$76,242
S2R824	$15,234[4]
WFHF (2014)	$199,685

Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements[5])	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014($)
United States Geological Survey & Arkansas Department of Health	$80,000
National Wild Turkey Federation	$12,500
Arkansas State Plant Board	$805

[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] The value is accurate but not reported in PAS.

[5] 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[6])	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014($)
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission	$66,942
Arkansas Wildlife Federation	$7,500
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	$15,956
Volunteer Feral Hog Trapping	$5,400
Volunteer Cave survey	$2,200
Volunteer River Clean Up Day	$14,000
Volunteer Wildlife Habitat Work	$3,250
Eagle Scout Work Day	$1,600
USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit	$9,500
National Wild Turkey Federation	$42,283
University of Arkansas	$4,600
Arkansas State University	$10,000

Fund Source – (Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract[7])	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014($)
Wedington Stewardship	$148,750
Big Piney	$225,901

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

The Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Arkansas and the Arkansas Forestry Commission submitted a proposal for the Chief's Joint Partnership Initiative. Other partners involved with this project include the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Nature Conservancy. The project landscape included the following Arkansas Counties in the CFLR landscape: Benton, Conway, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Madison, Newton, Pope, Searcy, Van Buren, and Washington. NRCS funded conservation practices in the amount of$644,666. The project landscape also includes the Ouachita CFLR project area.

Approved by (Forest Supervisor):_____

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

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. In a narrative format, describe the progress to date on restoring a more fire-adapted ecosystem, as identified in the project's desired conditions. This may also include a description of the current fire year (fire activity that occurred in the project area) as a backdrop to your response (please limit answer to one page).

During fiscal year 2014 we treated 13,054 acres of the landscape in the project area with prescribed fires. Acres of treatment in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) account for 25% of the burning (3,296 and the rest 75% (9,758) Non WUI. No wildfires occurred in, or burned into areas having received fuels treatment activities in the project area. As activities continue and the footprint of treatment areas within the project boundaries increase, we anticipate seeing changed conditions resulting in wildfires having lower fire behavior characteristics and being more easily controlled. All of the treatments are moving the project area towards the desired conditions.

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

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[8]
Commercial Forest Product Activities	**10.8**	**24.7**	**$617,785**	**$1,290,686**
Other Project Activities	**17.7**	**20.9**	**$471,970**	**$590,805**
TOTALS:	**28.5**	**45.6**	**$1,089,756**	**$1,881,491**

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[9]
Commercial Forest Product Activities	**10.9**	**24.9**	**$662,644**	**$1,300,838**
Other Project Activities	**41.6**	**49.2**	**$1,111,306**	**$1,387,932**
TOTALS:	**52.5**	**74.1**	**$1,733,950**	**$2,688,770**

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

The CFLR project contributes to the community in several ways. Some of the contracts are directly awarded to local contractors. Large and small purchases were made throughout the CFLR community area. These purchases should have helped the local economy. Volunteers involved in trapping efforts of feral hogs in the CFLR area benefitted through meat consumption or donated the meat to other community members. These efforts were monitored through volunteer agreements and monthly reporting.

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

Multiparty monitoring was accomplished through grants and agreements with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC), Arkansas Wildlife Federation (AWF), National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), The University of Arkansas (UA),

[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.*

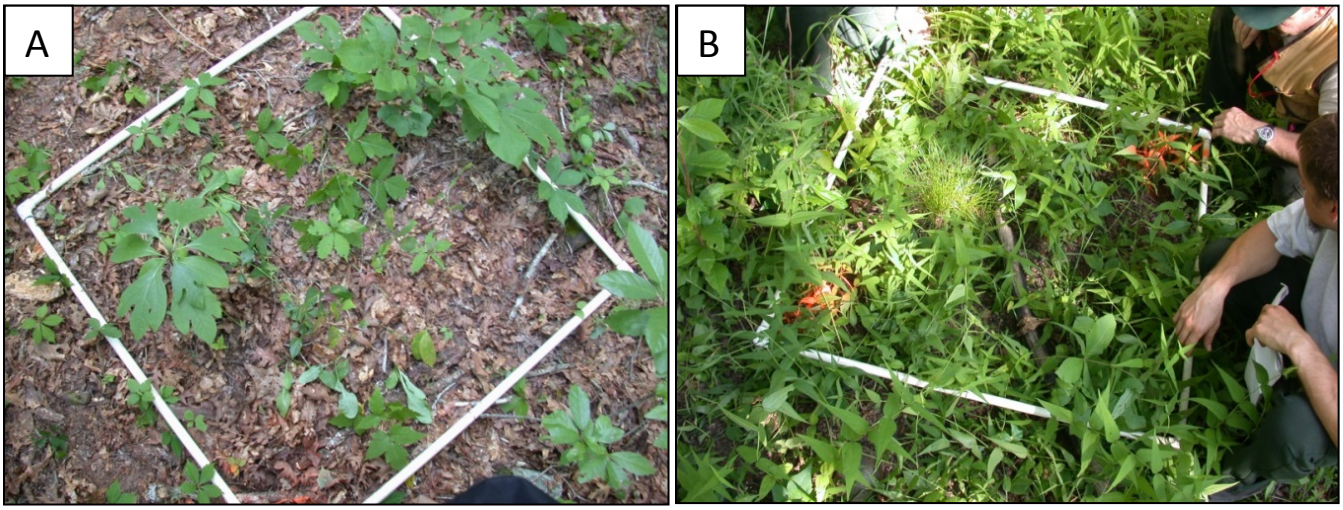
[9] *Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet, "Impacts-Jobs and Income" tab. Spreadsheet and directions available at http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/submittingproposals.shtml#tools.*

Arkansas Tech University (ATU) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Established Forest Service protocol is being used to conduct all monitoring and evaluation of the project area. Site preparation activities within the project area are having a positive effect on the overall forest health of the area, by re-establishing new growth in forest stands in place of the aging and overstocked stands. Timber harvest continues to have an overall positive effect on the local economy, by providing sources of employment and revenue to the local workforce.

Monitoring consisted of game camera placement in key CFLR treatment areas by our partner AGFC. Cameras monitored wildlife habitat utilization in some of the treatment areas. The USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit monitored the effects of prescribed burning treatments to the movement and nesting of female Eastern wild turkeys in the CFLR area. The monitoring was completed August of 2014. The University of Arkansas has been monitoring the effects of prescribed burning and wildlife stand improvement treatments to wasps and dead and down old growth fossil chinquapin forests. Other monitoring activities have included vegetative photo points before and after wildlife stand improvement (WSI) treatments through force account. The University of Arkansas has been evaluating the colonization of macro invertebrates of area streams within the CFLR area through habitat improvements such as the addition of large woody debris additions. Photo points have indicated vegetative recovery of some of the areas in the Mill Creek OHV trail area where watershed improvement fencing was constructed three years ago. Aquatic monitoring by AGFC over time after several dredging treatments of Shores Lake will be able to evaluate the change to the fisheries in the lake. Volunteers are monitoring location areas of concentrated feral hog presence and will continue to focus trapping efforts in those areas.

Bearcat Bird Surveys were conducted by AWF and ATU consisting of 19 plots revisited in June 2014. We are seeing some increases in early successional species, but the monitoring program is just starting and should not draw much inference. Region 8 Bird Surveys were revisited in June by district personnel consisting of 49 total plots with 20 of them being within the CFLRP project area. We are seeing some changes species, but the monitoring program is still ongoing.

Figure 1. Vegetation monitoring plots. (A) Monitoring plot showing conditions prior to treatments. (B) Monitoring plot post treatment.



6. FY 2014 accomplishments

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished [10]	Total Treatment Cost ($)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)[11]
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	268	$158,279	CWKV, RTRT
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	1,691	$391,520	CFLN, CWKV, NFVW, RTRT
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	1,503	$385,709	CFLN, NFVW
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	25,001.7	$42,100	CFLN, NFVW, NFWF, Partner
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	293	$274,148	CFLN, CWKV, NFVW
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	257.5	$232,653	CFLN, NFWF
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	37.12	$31,764	CFLN, NFWF, Partner
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	48,312.78	$1,419,888	CFLN, CWKV, NFVW, NFWF, Partner, Stewardship
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	1,837	$10,000	CFLN, NFWF, Partner
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN	Miles	50	$51,082	CFLN, CMRD
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	75	$155,580 $91,476	CFLN, CMRD S2R833, S2R824 (Not Shown in PAS)
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles			
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles			
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	1,731	$54,849	CFLN, NFTM
Volume of Timber Harvested	CCF	11,841	$296,025	NFTM

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

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

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished [10]	Total Treatment Cost ($)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)[11]
TMBR-VOL-HVST		(12,196 reported in PAS)		
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	5,382	$288,217	CFLN, NFTM
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	9,758	$149,267	WFHF
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	3,296	$50,418	WFHF

7. FY 2014 accomplishment narrative – Summarize key accomplishments and evaluate project progress. (Please limit answer to three pages.)

Timber management: On the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests timber is cut to balance ecosystem and to restore watersheds. Historical records show that most of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests was in oak/pine woodlands and pine/bluestem savannahs. The timber harvest along with prescribed burning helps to maintain these ecosystems. The combination of timber harvest and prescribed burning also helps to maintain early successional forest habitats and understory growth of wildflowers and native grasses that produce habitat for pollinators. Timber harvest improves ecosystem conditions by decreasing the number of stems per acre on the landscape and increasing native ground cover vegetation. Timber was harvested through sale contracts, stewardship contracts and stewardship agreements.

Prescribed Burning: Prescribed burning improves the overall conditions of the forest for species that need a grass understory. We do all of our prescribed burning not just for fuel reduction but in areas to improve wildlife habitat conditions. The prescribed burning is done utilizing hand crews and aerial ignition to accomplish burning on a landscape level. Burns are done with a mosaic pattern with different intensities in different areas of the burn. Some of these burns are used to establish and maintain native grass fields. These native grass fields are important habitat for some wildlife species. The prescribed burning is creating woodland conditions across the landscape. These conditions are important in the fire adapted ecosystems in the Ozarks to bring our native flowering plants that are utilized by native pollinators. In the areas were bats are found on the forest, fire is helping to create and maintain feeding areas for Indiana and gray bats.

Non-Native Invasive Species Control: The problem of increase feral swine herds has become very noticeable in the forest. Feral swine eat and kill native plants, predate ground nesting bird eggs including turkeys, complete for habitat with native mammal species, destroy riparian areas, increase sediment and erosion rates into area streams and can spread diseases to domestic swine and humans. Volunteers assisted with the eradication process. Forest Service (FS) personnel in cooperation with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) also trapped feral swine with large open traps baited with corn and apples. Blood samples were taken from trapped hogs and sent to APHIS to test for diseases. Game cameras were set up to detect the presence and time of feral swine in

areas. It is expected that there are still large herds in the forest, but this project helped to control some of the invasive population. The feral swine problem will continue to exist. However, cooperative projects and new technology will help maintain control of this invasive species.

Non-native invasive plant species treated in fiscal year 2013 include fescue, privet, serecia, thistle and tree of heaven. Treatments had the intended outcome of controlling the known infestations. Most of the work performed to date is on roadside and fields. However, the seed bank has not been depleted and further treatments are needed.

Lake Habitat Restoration: The purpose of this project is to improve the aquatic and recreational habitat at the 80 acre Shores Lake through sediment removal. The lake has an estimated silt deposition of 4-6 feet in depth, with an estimated 136,000 cubic yards of silty clay with course sand and some pebbles silt deposition. The lake has several extremely shallow areas with several silt islands that are now inaccessible to boaters, swimmers, fisherman, which also creates poor aquatic habitat as well. The swim beach area and the cove with the fishing launch pad are very shallow and almost dry. The damned area of the lake still has good depth. The project will be funded over multiple years utilizing the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project (CFLRP) funding initiative. A short term authorization permit from Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) was received for the project work. The silt sand material will be recycled for road and camp pad projects once it is completely dry. Although the project will take over 5 years to complete, it is expected that the recreational and fisheries habitat in the lake will be positively impacted by this project. Over 30 years of sediment inflow from the surrounding mountains has built up. Through the CFLRP program, this lake will be able to maintain its prized fisheries and recreational values.

Wildlife Habitat Improvement: The AGFC and the NWTF worked to maintain early successional habitat in wildlife openings and fields in the White Rock & Wedington Wildlife Management Areas. The forest has less than 5% of this type of habitat and the Boston Mountain Ranger District has less than 2% of this type of critical wildlife habitat. All liming, fertilizing, disking and seeding work was completed either by USFS and AGFC personnel or through contracts. The AGFC funded fertilizer, lime and portion of the seed. The USFS funded the seed, a brush hogging contract and a hydro-axe contract. Some of the openings or fields needed hydro-axing or brush hogging due to woody encroachment. The NWTF provided cooperator signs and some gates through the Arkansas State Superfund program. The areas provide early successional habitat for a variety of wildlife species, such as: deer, turkey, quail, bear, bats, neotropical migratory birds and small game. These areas also provide native pollinator habitat. These areas provide key open habitat in overall closed canopy forest conditions.

Figure 2. Watershed/Wildlife Habitat Improvement-recovered/re-vegetated areas (A) previous devoid of vegetation and (B) after fencing off illegal trails and access areas in Mill Creek and Illinois River Watersheds:

Wildlife habitat improvement was also accomplished at the Wedington unit using stewardship contracting. The purpose of this project is to improve the hardwood and mixed hardwood/shortleaf pine woodland forest conditions on the Wedington unit. Open woodlands create habitat diversity in an overcrowded, closed canopy forest. This will enhance wildlife species diversity as well. The objective will be to eventually reach an open, oak-woodland condition with a park like setting, as called for in the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Revised Land and Resource Management Plan. These areas are the main public land in northwest Arkansas and serve a population of over 350,000. The area is highly used for recreational activities such as hunting, horseback riding, bike riding, hiking and nature viewing. The wildlife stand improvement project was completed and will continue to be completed through multiple tools-through stewardship contracts and regular contracts. Work will be with chainsaws. All trees less than 10 inch diameter at breast high (DBH) will be cut except preferred wildlife trees, such as: serviceberry, dogwood, black cherry. The preferred leave trees will be white oak, hickory and red oak. Trees will be left down and the area will be burned in two to three years. Through utilizing stewardship contracting, the Wedington unit will be receiving much needed watershed, forest health and wildlife habitat improvement treatments that trade goods for services. This allows more funding to stay within the project area to accomplish more work on the ground. It is expected that once the work proceeds, there will be many benefits. We anticipate an increase in wildlife use and availability of habitat, especially for early successional species. Opportunities such as nature viewing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, etc. will also increase as the area will have more open habitat. Before treatment the fire class condition was III, after treatment it will be moved toward a class II and after prescribed burning, it will be in a condition class I and will be maintained in that condition. It is expected that different species of wildlife will increase the use of the areas (deer, turkey, neotropical migratory birds). It is expected that the open woodland conditions will increase wildlife species diversity through time as there is very little of this type of habitat in the area. It is expected that a flush of herbaceous forbs will return where there was little to none prior to the project.

Woodland Restoration: Past forest management practices have resulted in overstocked stands, altered species composition and increase in canopy closure in areas that support fire tolerant habitat such as woodlands. These changes have affected the resiliency of the forest and have caused a decline in species richness and diversity. The desired condition is an open, oak-woodland condition with a park-like setting, as called for in the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Revised Land and Resource Management Plan. Woodland restoration was accomplished by prescribing wildlife stand improvement treatment. The work included cutting all trees less than 10 inch DBH, except trees preferred for wildlife such as serviceberry, dogwood, and black cherry. The preferred leave trees were white oak, hickory and red oak. Trees were left on site to be burned in two to three years.

The Arkansas Wildlife Federation and volunteers from National Wild Turkey Federation, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Yell County Wildlife Federation, Arkansas Tech University Fisheries & Wildlife Society, University of the Ozark's Planet Club, and Little Rock Air Force Base participated in a work day at Bearcat Hollow project area. The group worked on installing six new gates, picked up fields to be planted, cleaned up Richland Creek camp ground and the creek itself.

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)
FY14	62,305
FY10, FY11, FY12, FY13 and FY14 (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))	FY12: 48,528 FY13: 64,917 FY14: 62,305

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 CFLR project helped contribute to the mission of the wildland fire goals in several ways. Wildlife Stand Improvement (WSI), in combination with Stewardship contracting in the CFLR area helped lessen risks from catastrophic wildfires by reducing fuels build-up in forests and woodlands surrounding the urban interface. The CFLR project should create conditions that will assist in having fewer large, catastrophic fires and less damage from those that do occur than would otherwise be the case. Through utilizing a succinct and integrated vegetative management program, we are able to reduce risks and also reach our resource management objectives.

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? (Please limit answer to two pages)

We were unable to locate a contractor for our watershed restoration work-so our watershed work had to be reprogrammed into a different activity to include force account work. Our non-native invasive species (NNIS) work and

[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.

large woody debris (LWD) work could not be completed for the Spirits Project area because the NEPA decision notice, to date, has still not been signed. So both activities were reprogrammed to the Wedington and Mill Creek area. Most activities went smoothly. The last few years contracts generally come in at higher rates than anticipated or as predicted when the original CFLR proposal was created. As a result we had to adjust work/areas to reflect and absorb those costs. Other issues are damage to our watershed fencing and gates. This has resulted in high costs of replacing and repairing in the area.

Figure 3. Gate damaged at Mill Creek area.

11. Planned FY 2016 Accomplishments

Performance Measure Code[13]	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount ($)
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	206	$41,200
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	1,062	$163,548
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	1,450	$220,000
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	39,000	$77,800
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	80	$233,843
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	20	$200,000
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	1	$1,500
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	3,872	$533,606
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	150	$56,400
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	50	$18,800
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	1	$55,000
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	3,000	$12,500
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	5,000	$165,800

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

Restoration work will continue predominately in the Wedington Stewardship area and also on the main division and eastern corridor. Watershed improvement work will continue in the Mill Creek OHV area due to the success and natural re-vegetation of the area from the past three years of accelerated restoration. The area still has many miles of illegal

[13] Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2016 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.

trails that run into Mill Creek that need to be obliterated and closed. Shores Lake dredging will continue to improve the aquatic and recreational habitat and will hopefully be more successful than previous years, as we realized that mechanical removal of the silt material is cheaper and will allow us to remove more than hydrologic dredging. This will reduce mobilization fees from contractors so more work can be done on the ground. The much needed wildlife stand improvement will continue throughout the Wedington Unit, but also in the stewardship area. Roadside NNIS spraying will move to the main division in the Spirits Project/watershed area, targeting dominant woody NNIS species. Other NNIS activities will include the continued spraying and eradication of fescue from Wedington #12 to eventually restore this overgrown abandoned grazing allotment to a warm season native grass prairie that will be more beneficial for wildlife habitat and can be easily viewed from the road. This will also improve rangeland conditions for the area. We anticipate it will take at least 4 years to completely remove the fescue from the allotment. This area could eventually also be a prime wildlife and native plant pollinator, wildflower viewing area. Wildlife habitat improvement work will utilize a combination of wildlife pond habitat improvement, wildlife stand improvement and wildlife opening improvement and maintenance. Early successional habitat is extremely lacking on the main division of the restoration area-it is vital to maintain and improve these existing early successional habitats for a variety of wildlife species. Stream habitat improvement will include the addition of large woody debris into Spirits Creek to restore lost pool habitat and to improve both aquatic and herptofauna habitat in the area. Trail maintenance and improvement will continue in areas we have worked on the last three years. Many of these trails are along riparian habitats and continue to need improvement or maintenance in order to reduce sedimentation into area streams and lakes. Other projects will include the construction of aquatic wetland areas at Lake Wedington for fisheries habitat and to catch silt.

13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2015/16 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):

Because the dredging project cost such a large amount to complete, we asked for additional funding for FY2015/16. This is due to the high cost of immobilization costs. By increasing the funding, we can make the contract more attractive to potential bidders through making it more cost efficient. This will also increase the chances that we can advertise the contract as an IDIQ contract. We have asked for slightly more in some areas due to the cost of contracts coming in at higher rates.