CFLR Project (Name/Number): Accelerating Longleaf Pine Regeneration CFLR10-19 National Forest(s): National Forest in Florida, Osceola Ranger District

<u>Please review the "CFLR Annual Report Instructions" document before filling out the template below</u>. Responses to the prompts in this annual report should be typed directly into the template. Example information is included in red below. Please delete red text before submitting the final version.

Please note that the <u>CFLRP Ecological Indicator report</u> is due along with this annual report. Please reach out to <u>lindsay.buchanan@usda.gov</u> with any questions. Reports are due to the Washington Office (via the Regional Forester to Deputy Chief for National Forest System Christopher B. French, cc'ing Lindsay Buchanan and Jessica Robertson) no later than <u>December 18, 2019</u> for review.

# 1. Match and Leveraged Funds:

### a. FY19 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLN/CFLR Funds Expended)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2019
CFLN18	\$0
CFLN19	\$766,524.85

This amount should match the amount of CFLR/CFLN dollars obligated in the FMMI CFLRP expenditure report. Include prior year CFLN dollars expended in this Fiscal Year.

Fund Source – (Funds expended from Washington Office funds (in addition to CFLR/CFLN) (please include a new row for each BLI))	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2019	
NFTM	\$528,126.13	
NFHF	\$235,490.51	

This value (aka "core funds" "in lieu of funds") should reflect the amount expended of the allocated funds as indicated in the program direction but does not necessarily need to be in the same BLIs or budget fiscal year as indicated in the program direction.

Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year	
(please include a new row for each BLI)	2019	
NFHF	\$643,655	

This amount should match the amount of matching funds in the FMMI CFLRP expenditure report, minus the Washington Office funds listed in the box above and any partner funds contributed through agreements (such as NFEX, SPEX, WFEX, CMEX, and CWFS) listed in the box below.

Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2019
Student Conservation Association (SCA), in partnership with the Corporation for National & Community Service (AmeriCorps) (Cash Match received for 2018 SCA-AmeriCorps Historic Preservation Corps Agreement)	\$27,384

Please document any partner contributions to implementation and monitoring of the CFLR project through an income funds agreement (**this should include partner funds captured through the FMMI CFLRP reports such as NFEX, SPEX, WFEX, CMEX, and CWFS**). Please list the partner organizations involved in the agreement. Partner contributions for Fish, Wildlife, Watershed work can be found in the WIT database.

Fund Source – (Partner In-Kind Contributions)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year
	2019
<b>Student Conservation Association (SCA)</b> (In-Kind Contributions received for 2018 SCA-AmeriCorps Historic Preservation Corps Agreement)	\$35,372

Total partner in-kind contributions for implementation and monitoring of a CFLR project on NFS lands. Please list the partner organizations that provided in-kind contributions.

Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract (for contracts awarded in FY19)	Totals
Total <u>revised non-monetary credit limit</u> for contracts awarded in FY19	\$160,504.96

Revised non-monetary credit limits should be the amount in contract's "Progress Report for Stewardship Credits, Integrated Resources Contracts or Agreements" in cell J46, the "Revised Non-Monetary Credit Limit," as of September 30. Additional information on the Progress Reports is available in CFLR Annual Report Instructions document. Information for contracts awarded prior to FY19 were captured in previous annual reports.

**b.** Please fill in the table describing leveraged funds in your landscape in FY2019. Leveraged funds refer to funds or inkind services that help the project achieve proposed objectives but do not meet match qualifications. Examples include but are not limited to: investments within landscape on non-NFS lands, investments in restoration equipment, worker training for implementation and monitoring, research conducted that helps project achieve proposed objectives, and purchase of equipment for wood processing that will use restoration by-products from CFLR projects. See "Instructions" document for additional information.

Description of item	Where activity/item is located or impacted area	Estimated total amount	Forest Service or Partner Funds?	Source of funds
Fuel reduction for wildfire protection	80 acres of State land within CFLR landscape	\$3,360	Partner Funds	John M. Bethea State Forest
Fuel reduction thinning for wildfire protection	3,175 acres of Federal land within CFLR landscape	\$107,000	Partner Funds	Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge

(Optional) Additional narrative about leverage on the landscape if needed:



2. Please tell us about the CFLR project's progress to date in restoring a more fire-adapted ecosystem as described in the project proposal, and how it has contributed to the wildland fire goals in the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan.

The Osceola uses CFLN funding to extend mastication contracts to reduce hazardous fuels. Mechanical reduction of these fuels has and will continue to facilitate the reintroduction of prescribed fire into areas deemed high risk for wildfires. Observations have shown that wildfires impacted treated areas dramatically less than untreated areas.

In 2019, five CFLR projects piloted a project to use a proposed risk index, which is the Sum of Expected Loss, to assess wildfire effects on the landscape. This metric is part of a series of calculations designed to measure the impact of varying fire intensities on Highly Valued Resources and Assets (HVRA). The Sum of Expected loss integrates fire probability and intensity to measure impact on user defined HVRAs. As Loss becomes less negative, the risk will decrease on the landscape.

The Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration CFLRP was part of a national assessment that used national datasets and HVRAs. Subsequent analyses could use more locally specific data on fuels and HVRAs to refine the impact of treatment and fire on the risk calculations for the local CFLRP.

Initial results show the proposed risk index for the Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration CFLRP decreased by 28 percent (-3,587 to -2581), while simultaneously decreasing burn probability by 31.5 percent. The likelihood of high flame-

length fire decreased by 10.8 percent for 6-foot and greater flame lengths and 12.1 percent for 8-foot and greater flame lengths within the CFLRP boundary. Calculations from the simulation data indicate overall improvement in the risk posed by wildfire to the HVRAs used in this study.

# FY2019 Overview

FY19 Activity Description (Agency performance measures)	Acres
Number of acres treated by prescribed fire	27,728 acres (including landscape area)
Number of acres treated by mechanical thinning	3,418 acres
Number of acres of natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under	987 acres
strategies that result in desired conditions	
Number of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are	39,931 acres
maintained in desired condition	
Number of acres mitigated to reduce fire risk	40,787 acres

**Please provide a narrative overview of treatments completed in FY19**, including data on whether your project has expanded the pace and/or scale of treatments over time, and if so, how you've accomplished that – what were the key enabling factors? *For projects finishing their tenth year*, if you have any additional insights from your cumulative work over the course of the project please share those here as well.

- **How was this area prioritized for treatment?** What kinds of information, input, and/or analyses were used to prioritize? Please provide a summary or links to any quantitative analyses completed.
  - In 2019, restoration of the longleaf pine ecosystem included: reintroduction of low severity controlled fire, enhancements of wildlife habitat and conservation of threatened and endangered (T&E) species, and timber production through the removal of off-site pine. Specific restoration actions include timber harvest, thinning, understory restoration through mechanical reduction and prescribed fire.
  - The widely accepted fire return interval associated with healthy longleaf pine forests is a return interval of 2 to 3 years. To achieve this, the Osceola continually strives to increase the annual prescribed fire acreage to 50,000 acres annually. In 2019, the Forest completed 27,728 acres by prescribed fire and 4,004 acres by mechanical reduction.
- Please tell us whether these treatments were in "high or very high wildfire hazard area from the "wildfire hazard potential map" (https://www.firelab.org/project/wildfire-hazard-potential)
  - Were the treatments in **proximity to a highly valued resource** like a community, a WUI area, communications site, campground, etc.?
    - Based on the wildfire hazard potential, 31,732 acres of treatments were in a high or very wildfire hazard areas; 25,401 acres in high and 7,331 acres in very high.
    - The treatments in proximity to a highly valued resources were dog hunt areas, designated campgrounds, private property, check stations, paved and unpaved roads, John M. Bethea State Forest, and Big Gum Swamp Wilderness.
- What have you learned about the interaction between treatment prioritization, scale, and cost reduction? What didn't work? Please provide data and further context here.
  - The current conditions Osceola National Forest, leave them uncharacteristically susceptible to highseverity wildfire. Both prescribed fire and its mechanical reduction are generally successful in meeting short-term fuel-reduction objectives such that treated stands are more resilient to high-intensity wildfire. Most available evidence suggests that these treatments can be accomplished with very subtle effects or no measurable effects at all.
  - Although mechanical treatments do not serve as complete alternates for fire, their application can help mitigate costs and liability in some areas. Desired treatment effects on fire hazards are temporary,

which indicates that after fuel-reduction management starts, managers need to be persistent with repeated treatment.

**Please provide visuals if available**, including maps of the landscape and hazardous fuels treatments completed, before and after photos, and/or graphics from fire regime restoration analysis completed locally. You may copy and paste these below or provide a link to a website with these visuals.







**Palmetto Chopping**: Mechanical reduction of under-story and mid-story fuels by roller knocks down and chops up brush and trees up to about 3 inches in diameter. This reduces stand density and allows the reintroduction of prescribed fire into forest stands.



**Mulching**: Mechanical reduction of under-story and mid-story fuels by mulching fully chip to a uniform size. This reduces stand density, vertical fuel loading, and allows the reintroduction of prescribed fire into forest stands.



Timber Thinning: row thinning two plantations. This gives the ability to roller chop and improve fire regiem.

### **Expenditures**

Category	<u>\$</u>
FY2019 Wildfire Preparedness <sup>1</sup>	731,616
FY2019 Wildfire Suppression <sup>2</sup>	1,390,520
The cost of managing fires for resource benefit if appropriate (i.e. full suppression versus managing)	0
FY2019 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (CFLN)	\$895,440
FY2019 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (other BLIs)	\$258,000

How may the treatments that were implemented contribute to reducing fire costs? If you have seen a reduction in fire suppression costs over time, please include that here. *For projects finishing their tenth year*, if you have any additional insights from your cumulative work over the course of the project please share those here as well.

Wildfires within treatment area have drastically reduced in size from 500 acres to 2 acres.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Include base salaries, training, and resource costs borne by the unit(s) that sponsors the CFLRP project. If costs are directly applicable to the project landscape, describe full costs. If costs are borne at the unit level(s), describe what proportions of the costs apply to the project landscape. This may be as simple as Total Costs X (Landscape Acres/Unit Acres).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Include emergency fire suppression and BAER within the project landscape. Describe acres of fires contained and not contained by initial attack. Describe acres of resource benefits achieved by unplanned ignitions within the landscape. Where existing fuel treatments within the landscape are tested by wildfire, summary and reference the fuel treatment effectiveness report.

The following treatments contributed to reducing fire costs:

- 1. Timber harvest,
- 2. Mechanical reduction (i.e. roller chopping and mulching)
- 3. Prescribed fire

Have there been any assessments or reports conducted within your CFLRP landscape that provide information on cost reduction, cost avoidance, and/or other cost related data as it relates to fuels treatment and fires? If so, please summarize or provide links here: No assessments have been conducted at this time.

# When a wildfire interacts with a previously treated area within the CFLR boundary:

If additional assessments have been completed since the FY2018 CFLRP annual report on fires within the CFLRP area, please note that and provide responses to the questions below. **For projects finishing their tenth year**, if you have any additional insights from your cumulative work over the course of the project please share those here as well. **Five** *wildfires occurred within treatments in 2019* 

Each unit is required to complete and submit a standard fuels treatment effectiveness monitoring (FTEM) entry in the FTEM database (see FSM 5140) when a wildfire occurs within or enters into a fuel treatment area. For fuel treatment areas within the CFLR boundary, please copy/paste that entry here and respond to the following supplemental questions. Note that the intent of these questions is to understand progress as well as identify challenges and what didn't work as expected to promote learning and adaptation.

### FTEM Reports are attached to the end of the report.

- Please describe if/how partners or community members engaged in the planning or implementation of the relevant fuels treatment.
  Partners are engaged annually at cooperator meeting and throughout the year conditions change.
- Did treatments include coordinated efforts on other federal, tribal, state, private, etc. lands within or adjacent to the CFLR landscape? Yes, coordination with both state and federal lands.
- What resource values were you and your partners concerned with protecting or enhancing? Did the treatments help to address these value concerns? Timber resources, inholding property, T&E habitat were all improved with treatments.
- Did the treatments do what you expected them to do? Did they have the intended effect on fire behavior or outcomes? Please include a brief description. Previous treatments allowed for reduced losses and increased ecological gain. Previous treatments greatly increase on the ground confidence and actual operational success.
- What is your key takeaway from this event what would you have done differently? What elements will you continue to apply in the future?
  Treatments will continue to play a key role in the ability to reduce loss and manage fire for ecological gain.
- What <u>didn't</u> work as expected, and why? What was learned? N/A
- Please include the costs of the treatments listed in the fuels treatment effectiveness report: how much CFLR/CFLN was spent? How much in other BLI's were spent? If cost estimates are not available, please note and briefly explain.
  Cost estimation is \$ 263,788 for fuels treatments.

### When a wildfire occurs within the CFLR landscape on an area <u>planned</u> for treatment but not yet treated:

# - Please include:

- Acres impacted and severity of impact
- Brief description of the planned treatment for the area
- Summary of next steps will the project implement treatments elsewhere? Will they complete an assessment?
- Description of collaborative involvement in determining next steps.
  - In 2019, 987 acres of forest land was impacted by wildfire. This area will be monitored and included in a 2-3 year burn interval.
  - Team members that participate in suppression efforts include the Greater Okefenokee Association of Landowners (GOAL), the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge staff, Osceola National Forest staff, the Georgia Forestry Commission, and the Florida Forest Service staff.
  - These partners support the chosen strategy as the appropriate management response to protect adjacent valuable commercial timber, isolated homes scattered on private land, and wildlife habitat for threatened and endangered species.
  - Throughout the CFLR project we have contracted and employed forest personnel to prepare sites in the Osceola for controlled burns. We've treated thousands of acres through mulching and roller chopping the palmettos, timber thinning, and the reintroduced fire.
  - Fortunately, our thinning and controlled burning have proven effective. Avian monitoring results from Tall Timbers Research Station have provided clear evidence that increased management actions through the CFLR program have improved the ecological condition of the Osceola and increased abundance/occupancy of all focal species.
  - National funding allows us to restore longleaf pine on an accelerated timeframe and shift a significant portion of the landscape from needing restoration to only needing maintenance (i.e., maintained through biennial prescribed fire). We are aiming to continue these efforts in order to restore our longleaf pine ecosystems.

# Please include acres of fires contained and not contained by initial attack and acres of resource benefits achieved by unplanned ignitions within the landscape, and costs.

992 acres uncontained by initial attack at a cost of \$1,390,520. All acres achieved resource benefits.

3. What assumptions were used in generating the numbers and/or percentages you plugged into the TREAT tool? Information about Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool inputs and assumptions available <u>here</u>.

# FY 2019 Jobs Supported/Maintained (FY19 CFLR/CFLN/ WO funding):

FY 2019 Jobs Supported/Maintained	Jobs (Full and Part-Time) (Direct)	Jobs (Full and Part-Time) (Total)	Labor Income (Direct)	Labor Income (Total)
Timber harvesting component	22	28	1,126,374	1,32,143
Forest and watershed restoration component	8	10	170,992	246,162
Mill processing component	31	57	2,488,981	4,372,622

FY 2019 Jobs Supported/Maintained	Jobs (Full and	Jobs (Full and	Labor Income	Labor Income
	Part-Time)	Part-Time)	(Direct)	(Total)
	(Direct)	(Total)		
Implementation and monitoring	1	3	409,381	462,151
Other Project Activities	1	1	20,233	27,381
TOTALS:	62	98	4,215,962	6,428,459

# FY 2019 Jobs Supported/Maintained (FY19 CFLR/CFLN/ WO and matching funding):

FY 2019 Jobs Supported/Maintained	Jobs (Full and Part- Time) (Direct)	Jobs (Full and Part- Time) (Total)	Labor Income (Direct)	Labor Income (Total)
Timber harvesting component	22	28	1,126,374	1,320,143
Forest and watershed restoration component	12	15	222,951	338,165
Mill processing component	31	57	2,488,981	4,372,622
Implementation and monitoring	47	53	1,463,949	1,652,652
Other Project Activities	4	5	96,470	130,554
TOTALS:	115	158	5,398,726	7,814,136

# 4. Describe other community benefits achieved and the methods used to gather information about these benefits. How has CFLR and related activities benefitted your community from a social and/or economic standpoint? (Please

limit answer to two pages).

Indicator	Brief Description of Impacts, Successes, and Challenges	
Ease of doing business	Restoring longleaf pine has brought together diverse partners with the resources and skills needed for success. These collaborative efforts are demonstrated through the Regional Longleaf Partnership Council, the Federal Coordinating Committee (FCC), and the state and local implementation teams. The Osceola landscape was designated by the	
	America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative as one the endangered longleaf pine ecosystems. The Okefenokee/Osceola Local Implementation Team (02LIT) overarching goal is to increase the capacity for longleaf pine restoration and prescribed fire implementation.	
% Locally retained contracts	In FY 2019, 100% of contracts were awarded to small corporations within the commuting area. Forest management activities led to the harvest of and mechanical reduction of fuels. These activities reduce fuels, enhance native groundcover, and improve wildlife habitat. Moreover, these activities have added product	

Indicator	Brief Description of Impacts, Successes, and Challenges
	to local wood markets at competitive market
	rates.
Responses to surveys about	Our partners, contractors, and volunteers truly
collaboration conducted locally	value our CFLR project. They recognize that our
	Forest is healthier because of the work we've
	done here, made possible by the Collaborative
	Forest Landscape Restoration program. Over
	the years our partners have treated thousands
	of acres. It gives them a great deal of
	satisfaction to know that the work they do is
	contributing to the health of the Osceola's
	wildlife and natural resources.
Job training opportunities/per	The Osceola National Forest is in partnership
capita normalize	with, the Student Conservation Association
	(SCA) and the Corporation for National &
	Community Service (AmeriCorps). The Osceola
	is currently hosting two, 41 week SCA
	Conservation Interns that were hired to assist
	with the CFLP project. The primary goals of the
	program are to: Build career skills among a
	diverse group of young adults by providing
	training and hands-on learning experiences that
	prepare them for additional career exploration
	in natural resource stewardship. Establish
	members and career professionals in order to
	deepen each member's knowledge of and
	connection to conconvision corpore. Eacilitate
	member engagement with the local community
	through a variaty of public outroach and
	volupteer service project opportunities
	Complete important natural resource
	protection work on the Osceola
	in natural resource stewardship. Establish mentoring opportunities between program members and career professionals in order to deepen each member's knowledge of and connection to conservation careers. Facilitate member engagement with the local community through a variety of public outreach and volunteer service project opportunities. Complete important natural resource protection work on the Osceola.

5. Based on your project monitoring plan, **describe the multiparty monitoring process**. <u>You may simply reference your</u> <u>ecological indicator reports here</u> if they adequately represent your multiparty monitoring process. <u>If</u> further information is needed, please answer the questions below.

Tall Timbers Research Station continued its ecological monitoring for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) project on Osceola National Forest to assess management effects on 3 declining "focal" species including Bachman's Sparrow (*Peucaea aestivalis*), Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*), Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*). These focal species were chosen for monitoring due to their conservation status, sensitivity to land management, and usefulness as indicators of ecological integrity. Comparing bird abundance and occupancy estimates over successive years and between areas associated with different management practices provides information on population trends and management effects.

Tall Timbers Research Station's assessment is that the continued increase in management actions through the CFLRP have improved the ecological condition of the Osceola National Forest. Using the Ecological Condition Model tier index (1-5) data indicated average tier index declined (i.e., improved ecological condition) from 2012 to 2018. While tier is a simple ocular assessment of habitat, we are confident that more intensive analysis of vegetation data will further illustrate the improved ecological condition of the forest. Available reports are saved in the monitoring section of the CFLRP SharePoint.

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units	Total Treatment
		Accomplished	Cost (\$)
			(Contract Costs)
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	618	\$160,504.96
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	n/a	n/a
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acre	n/a	n/a
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	4 (note: not reported in USFS database of record)	\$5,000
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W- RSRC-IMP	Acres	n/a	n/a
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	25	5,000
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	n/a	n/a
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	n/a	n/a
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	n/a	n/a
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	3.4 (note: not reported in USFS database	\$22,100
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	54.8 (note: 12.18 reported in USFS database of record)	\$156,200
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles	n/a	n/a
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	n/a	n/a
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	n/a	n/a
Road Storage While this isn't tracked in the USFS Agency database, please provide road storage miles completed if this work is in support of your CFLRP restoration strategy for tracking at the program level.	Miles	n/a	n/a
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	n/a	n/a
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles	1.1	n/a
Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD	Miles	n/a	n/a

# 6. FY 2019 Agency performance measure accomplishments:

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished	Total Treatment Cost (\$) (Contract Costs)
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND- BL-MRK-MAINT	Miles	n/a	n/a
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES- TRT-AC	Acres	1,594	n/a
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	n/a	n/a
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	26,126.81	n/a
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	n/a	n/a
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	6,408	\$179,424
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	21,320	\$ 596,960
Acres mitigated FP-FUELS-ALL-MIT-NFS	Acres	n/a	n/a
Please also include the acres of prescribed fire accomplished	Acres	n/a	n/a
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSPE-FED-AC	Acres	n/a	n/a
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands SP-NATIVE-FED-AC	Acres	n/a	n/a

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

7. **FY 2019 accomplishment narrative** – Summarize key accomplishments and evaluate project progress *not already described elsewhere* in this report. *For projects finishing their tenth year*, if you have any additional insights from your cumulative work over the course of the project please share those here as well. (Please limit answer to three pages.)

Healthy longleaf pine ecosystems harbor some of the richest biological diversity in the country, most of which occurs on the forest floor in the form of grasses and herbaceous vegetation. Many wildlife and plant species, however, begin to decline as sunlight is shaded by an overly dense forest canopy or midstory. Saw palmetto, a naturally occurring shrub in longleaf pine flatwoods, usually occurs in sparse clumps. However, when longleaf pine forests are fire suppressed, saw palmetto densities increase dramatically and replace the diverse understory. When the density of saw palmetto exceeds 33% cover, imperiled grassland birds such as Bachman's sparrow, Brown headed nuthatch and bobwhite are no longer present.

An effective method of reducing saw palmetto coverage, reducing hazardous fuels, and increasing grass and herbaceous species is to use a single pass roller chopper followed closely by the application of prescribed fire. Timber stands with high basal areas of small diameter pines are **thinned**, **chopped**, **and burned** every 2-3 years, stimulating the grass and herbaceous ground cover. Mechanical reduction of these fuels has and will continue to facilitate the reintroduction of prescribed fire into areas deemed high risk for prescribed fire use. *(Performance Measure: HBT-ENH-TERR, TMBR-VOL-SLD, FP-FUELS-WUI & FP-FUELS-NON-WUI)* 

8. The WO (EDW) will use spatial data provided in the databases of record to estimate a treatment footprint for your review and verification. This information will be <u>posted here</u> on the internal SharePoint site for verification *after the databases of record close October 31*.

- If the estimate is consistent and accurate, please confirm that below and skip this question.
- If the gPAS spatial information does NOT appear accurate, describe the total acres treated in the course of the CFLR project below (cumulative footprint acres; not a cumulative total of performance accomplishments).
   What was the total number of acres treated?

Fiscal Year	Footprint of Acres Treated (without counting an acre of treatment on the land in more than one treatment category)
FY 2019	40,780 acres
Estimated Cumulative Footprint of Acres (2010 or 2012 through 2019)	473,654 acres

If you did not use the EDW estimate, please briefly describe how you arrived at the total number of footprint acres: what approach did you use to calculate the footprint?

9. Describe any reasons that the FY 2019 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? *For projects finishing their tenth year*, if you have any additional insights from your cumulative work over the course of the project please share those here as well. (Please limit answer to two pages). N/A

9b. **(OPTIONAL) FOR INTERNAL USE:** The following responses are directed towards feedback on *internal* bottlenecks or issues that may impact your project. Please use this space to raise awareness on key internal issues, or opportunities to improve processes moving forward. Responses will be included in an internal document. What are the limiting factors to success or more success of the CFLR? How can the National Forest and its collaborators operate in a more integrated and synergized way?

#### Performance Measure Code Unit of Planned **Planned Accomplishment** Accomplishment on non-NFS lands within measure for 2020 (National the CFLRP landscape<sup>3</sup> Forest System) Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-Acres EST Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants Acre INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC

# 10. \*Project selected in 2012 and 2013 ONLY\* - Planned FY 2020 Accomplishments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As we shift to more emphasis on sharing results across all lands within the CFLRP projects – if relevant for your project area – please provide estimates for planned work on non-NFS lands within the CFLRP areas for work that generally corresponds with the Agency performance measure to the left and supports the CFLRP landscape strategy. <u>Give your best estimate at this point; if it's unknown how much work will occur off NFS lands, simply state unknown.</u>

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Performance Measure Code	Unit of	Planned	Plannea Accomplishment
	measure	Accomplishment	on non-NFS lands within
		for 2020 (National	the CFLRP landscape <sup>3</sup>
		Forest System)	
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles		
HBT-ENH-STRM			
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres		
HBT-ENH-TERR			
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles		
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles		
RD-PC-IMP			
Miles of high clearance system road improved	Miles		
RD-HC-IMP			
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF		
Green tons from small diameter and low value	Green tons		
trees removed from NFS lands and made			
available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG			
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the	Acre		
wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the			
risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-			
WUI			
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high	Acres		
priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the			
risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI			

Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2020 is available.

11. **\*Project selected in 2012 and 2013 ONLY\*** - Planned accomplishment narrative and justification <u>if</u> planned FY 2020 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):

12. Please include an up to date list of the members of your collaborative <u>if</u> it has changed from previous years. If the information is available online, you can simply include the hyperlink here. If you have engaged new collaborative members this year, please provide a brief description of their engagement.

13. **Media recap**. Please share with us any hyperlinks to videos, newspaper articles, press releases, scholarly works, and photos of your project in the media that you have available. You are welcome to include links or to copy/paste.

Economic Benefits of Longleaf Pine Restoration

NFWF – Longleaf

Longleaf Pine Conservation & Restoration at Osceola National Forest in Florida

Longleaf Alliance, OLIT

Ocala to Osceola (O2O) Conservation Corridor

### Signatures:

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Recommended by (Project Coordinator(s)): Thomas fut Approved by (Forest Supervisor(s)): Key Russell

Draft reviewed by (collaborative chair or representative): \_\_\_\_\_