CFLR Project: Southwest Jemez Mountains/CFLR006 Santa Fe National Forest

1. Match and Leveraged Funds:

a. FY19 Matching Funds Documentation

| Fund Source – (CFLN/CFLR Funds Expended) | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2019 |
|--|---|
| CFLN18 | \$31,713* |
| CFLN19 | \$2,060,204* |

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. Total CFLN spent reported in Agency database of record is \$2,060,204

| 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 | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| NFVW | \$265,435 | | |
| NFHF | \$903,220 | | |

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 (please include a new row for each BLI) | Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2019 |
|---|---|
| NFHF | \$810,327 |
| NFTM | \$183,955 |
| H3L0 | \$183,266 |

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 |
|--|---|
| CWFS | \$38,265 |

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 |
|---|---|
| WildEarth Guardians | \$46,026 |

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 revised non-monetary credit limit for contracts | \$0 (No Task Orders that included |
| awarded in FY19 | merchantable material were |
| | awarded in FY19) |

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 in-kind services that help the project achieve proposed objectives but do not meet match qualifications.

| Description of item | Where activity/item is located or impacted area | Estimated total amount | Forest Service or Partner Funds? | Source of funds |
|---|---|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Wildearth Guardians Valles Caldera Watershed Restoration YCC program | Watershed restoration, trail work, and road clearing in the Valles Caldera National Preserve – San Antonio Creek | \$147,636.60 | Partner funds (NM Youth Conservation Corps) | Wildearth Guardians |
| Avian Monitoring | Avian monitoring throughout the CFLRP landscape | \$11,207 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Fence Maintenance | Fence Maintenance – North-end boundary fence | \$20,000 | Partner Funds | NPS |

| Description of item | Where activity/item is located or impacted area | Estimated total amount | Forest Service or Partner Funds? | Source of funds |
|---|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fire and Fuels Work | Fire and Fuels work near Valles San Antonio, Banco Bonito, Seco, and Sulfer Springs | \$35,000 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Restoration and Fence Maintenance | Restoration and fence maintenance – Throughout CFLRP landscape | \$24,000 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Stream channel and wetland restoration | Valles Caldera Preserve La Jara Creek | \$71,420 | Partner Funds | NMED |
| Soils Monitoring | Valles Caldera Preserve South Mountain, Seco 5, and Banco Bonito | \$130,000 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Fish Population and Aquatic Invertebrates Monitoring | Valles Caldera Preserve Valle de los Indios and Valle San Antonio | \$27,274 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Jemez Mountain Salamander Monitoring | Cerro Seco on Valles Caldera Preserve – Monitoring log Microhabitats through forest thinning and RX fire | \$8,086 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Cultural Resources Surveys | Valles Caldera Preserve – San Antonio Mountain, Eastern Valle Grande, Indios Creek, North Slopes of Cerro Seco and Cerro San Luis | \$399,999 , | Partner Funds | NPS |

| Description of item | Where activity/item is located or impacted area | Estimated total amount | Forest Service or Partner Funds? | Source of funds |
|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Statistical Assistance | Statistical assistance with vegetation data and fisheries data | \$9,669 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Hydrology Monitoring | Water Quality Monitoring at 8 locations on Cibola National Forest and Valles Caldera – East fork Jemez River, Indios Creek, San Antonio Creek, Rio San Antonio, 2 on Rio Cebolla and 2 at Battleship Rock | \$98,000 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Weather Stations and data management | At 9 weather station locations throughout the CFLRP boundary | \$12,230 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Student Workers | National forestland and Preserve – thinning and burn sites of Jemez Ranger District | \$66,660 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| RX Burns | Valles Caldera Preserve Banco Bonito and Cerro Seco | \$100,000 | Partner Funds | NPS |
| Forest Thinning | Valles Caldera Preserve Cerro San Luis and San Antonio Mountain | \$582,287 | Partner Funds | NPS |

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

The Santa Fe National Forest and the Valles Caldera National Preserve have established partnerships with the WildEarth Guardians youth program, which works to both advance conservation work in the CFLR landscape and train the next generation of land stewards. Wild Earth Guardian Crews add capacity to the Jemez Ranger District staff by completing conservation projects within the SW Jemez CFLR landscape. This year the 8-person crew accomplished many tasks in the landscape during their 6 month program including watershed restoration and fence repair projects.

In addition, VCNP partnered with the research and academic community, and was able to establish important working relationships with researchers that will improve the use of best available science in collaborative work. These institutions include: University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Nevada. Furthermore, partnerships between Valles Caldera and academic institutions often provide leveraged funding. Graduate student workers, like one 2019 student from Northern Arizona University, often have part of their project funding contributed through another source than the CFLRP. Another example of this academic leverage, is that New Mexico State University brought 2 PHD students that were paid by outside sources to help work on large mammal monitoring associated with the SW Jemez CFLR.

The VCNP also invested in local New Mexican fire workers by contracting with New Mexico State Forestry for fire management services.

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.

FY2019 Overview

| FY19 Activity Description (Agency performance measures) | Acres FS | Acres VCNP | |
|---|----------|------------|--|
| Number of acres treated by prescribed fire | 1,310 | 1,717 | |
| Number of acres treated by mechanical thinning | 715 | 3,814 | |
| Number of acres of natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under | 787 | 317 | |
| strategies that result in desired conditions | | | |
| Number of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which | 0 | 0 | |
| are maintained in desired condition | | | |
| Number of acres mitigated to reduce fire risk | 2,812 | 5,848 | |

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.

Successful treatments to restore fire-adapted forests in FY 2019 included the Tent Rocks prescribed broadcast burn (1,310 acres), and the San Diego thin/pile project (90 acres). Both of these areas were prioritized as being adjacent to private inholdings with numerous residential structures. In addition, the San Diego project adjoins a similar effort on private lands funded by USDA Secure Rural Schools program, (10 acres, \$14,600), USDA NRCS EQIP program, (10 acres, \$18,600), The Nature Conservancy Rio Grande Water Fund, (14.2 acres, \$29,466), as well as matching funds from private landholders (\$9,000). In addition to protecting private homes, this area was selected because it is major source of drinking water for the area.



Coordinated fuels treatments on private and public ownerships, summer 2019

The Landscape Restoration Strategy states that: "Beginning with an emphasis on ponderosa pine and dry mixed conifer forests, dense forests will be mechanically thinned in irregularly-spaced patterns using chainsaws, masticators, or feller-buncher equipment. These actions will reduce excess tree densities and shift species composition and structural characteristics toward the desired reference conditions and fire regime condition class (FRCC-1), to meet the restoration goals and objectives previously outlined. Several different thinning and burning methods, prescriptions, and design criteria will be used depending on area-specific objectives. Proposed treatments will break-up large areas of continuous closed-canopy mid-age forest and increase structural and age-class diversity while also reducing the density of small trees growing under larger trees to reduce the potential for surface fire to move into the tree crowns". These areas are in high to very high fire risk, as documented in the Landfire wildfire hazard map. The map below shows areas that have been treated with fire and/or mechanical thinning, in FY19 and previously. We are applying for an extension of three years in order to fill in some of the as-yet untreated areas. Note that the southern end of the SW Jemez landscape is in the pinyon/juniper forest type, which in our

area is not at high risk of severe wildfire, despite indications to that effect in the Landfire map, due to sparse stocking and lack of vegetative understory to carry fire. This is supported by the lack of evidence of fire history in this forest type.



As documented in the Ecological Indicators report, all treated areas have been moved from Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) 3 to FRCC 2 (thinning alone) or FRCC 1 (thinned and burned). The success of these treatments was demonstrated when crown fires in the Cajete Fire (within the SW Jemez landscape) and the Venado Fire (just outside the SW Jemez boundary) hit our treatment blocks and immediately dropped to the ground.

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.

Treatment prioritization has focused on areas closest to private inholdings initially, to help protect homes and infrastructure. The scale of the WUI treatments has typically been smaller in acreage to avoid creation of large amounts of contiguous slash near values at risk. The treatment of the smaller areas facilitates a future increase in scale of treatments. As the WUI has initial treatments, the risk nearby is reduced and larger thinning and burning projects can be implemented. The cost is reduced as the landscape is tied together with larger areas treated with fire only, or reduced thinning preparation needed prior to burning. The treatments have been very successful, and have generally garnered the support of local residents, with the exception of the inevitable complaints about smoke.

| <u>Category</u> | <u>\$</u> |
|---|--------------------|
| FY2019 Wildfire Preparedness ¹ | \$685 <i>,</i> 000 |
| FY2019 Wildfire Suppression ² | \$105,500 |
| The cost of managing fires for resource | \$161 <i>,</i> 000 |
| benefit if appropriate (i.e. full suppression | |
| versus managing) | |
| FY2019 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (CFLN) | \$107,706 |
| FY2019 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (other BLIs) | \$416,456 |

Expenditures (Forest Service)

How may the treatments that were implemented contribute to reducing fire costs?

Some comparisons of treatment costs vs wildfire suppression costs:

In 2019 we treated 90 acres adjacent to private lands in the San Diego WUI at a cost of \$966/acre. The Cajete Fire in 2017, also adjacent to residential areas, cost \$3,400/acre to control. This fire started from an abandoned campfire in June, the height of fire season in the Southwest, quickly becoming a crown fire, threatening homes and resulting in evacuations. A significant portion of the cost of the 1,400 acre fire was retardant drops.

¹ 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).

² 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 Venado Fire in 2018, just outside the SW Jemez boundary, and more removed from values at risk, cost \$738/acre to control, the Conejos Fire in 2019, in a similar type of setting, was managed for resource values at a cost of \$205/acre. In addition the severity of the managed fire was far less, resulting in virtually no resource damage as compared to the Venado Fire. One debris flow alone resulting from that fire is costing around \$191,000 to replace a culvert and remove debris threatening to cause a road fill to fail. Most economical: the Tent Rocks broadcast burn cost \$40/acre, and protects the community of La Cueva.

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

No wildfires interacted with our treatments within the SW Jemez CFLRP boundary

in 2019. The following describes our process over the 10 years of SW Jemez CFLRP:

• Please describe if/how partners or community members engaged in the planning or implementation of the relevant fuels treatment.

The SWJM CFLRP has 37 collaborating organizations, and we hold an annual "All Hands" meeting each spring to summarize the past year's accomplishments. During these public meetings, Day 1 covers project implementation over the previous year, and then our collaborators present updated monitoring results so the entire collaborative can understand how each project is progressing. We then hold a half-day meeting (Day 2) where we present detailed proposed plans for implementation projects the next year, so that members of the collaborative can comment on protocols, objectives, locations, etc. Following this discussion and consensus of upcoming projects, we then continue the detailed planning for implementing the next year's projects.

• Did treatments include coordinated efforts on other federal, tribal, state, private, etc. lands within or adjacent to the CFLR landscape?

Yes, projects are coordinated across the boundary between the Santa Fe National Forest and the NPS Valles Caldera National Preserve (which share a boundary within the CFLRP project area).

• What resource values were you and your partners concerned with protecting or enhancing? Did the treatments help to address these value concerns?

We follow the goals and objectives listed in the Forest Landscape Restoration Act (PL 111-11, Sec. 4003(c)):

(1) contribute toward the restoration of the structure and composition of pre-fire-suppression old growth stands,

- (2) reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire, and/or maintain or re-establish natural fire regimes,
- (3) improve fish and wildlife habitat, including endangered, threatened and sensitive species,
- (4) maintain or improve water quality and watershed function,
- (5) prevent, remediate, or control invasions of exotic species, and
- (6) utilization of small diameter trees.

The treatments thus far are indeed addressing these resource values.

• 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.

Yes, the post-treatment responses of vegetation and wildlife are consistent with our expected outcomes; fuel loads are reduced, herbaceous vegetation is becoming established in the forest understory, and wildlife continues to use the treated habitats (in the case of elk and deer, utilization of the habitat has increased as forage develops).

What is your key takeaway from this event – what would you have done differently? What elements will you continue to apply in the future?
The key to our success has been the collaborative nature of everyone involved, and the contributions of people with expertise, knowledge and passion who have participated in this 10-year program. We

of people with expertise, knowledge and passion who have participated in this 10-year program. We have not spent any funds on attorneys or court litigations, but have devoted all financial resources to implementation and monitoring. This is clearly the track to follow for future successes in forest restoration.

• What <u>didn't</u> work as expected, and why? What was learned?

Administrative actions, particularly in Acquisitions/Purchasing, proved challenging, given the large number of contracts and agreements that were established among members of the collaborative.

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>.

Total spending is the sum of commitments, obligations, expenditures and disbursements; therefore funds awarded under contract may not properly reflect jobs created. The narrative and pie chart data on pages 10 and 11 were analyzed and provided by the Forest Stewards Guild, under a Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the Santa Fe National Forest.

| 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 | 16 | 20 | 740,717 | 1,144,595 |
| Forest and watershed | | | | |
| restoration component | 3 | 3 | 46,959 | 67,316 |
| Mill processing component | 10 | 19 | 312,895 | 746,426 |
| FS Implementation and | | | | |
| monitoring | 11 | 13 | 446,710 | 538,636 |
| Commercial firewood and | | | | |
| contracted monitoring | 5 | 8 | 260,656 | 379,650 |
| TOTALS: | 45 | 63 | 1,807,937 | 2,876,622 |

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 | 20 | 24 | 891,022 | 1,376,855 |
| Forest and watershed | | | | |
| restoration component | 8 | 10 | 136,259 | 216,441 |
| Mill processing component | 9 | 17 | 288,260 | 686,236 |
| FS Implementation and | | | | |
| monitoring | 38 | 49 | 2,122,153 | 2,558,858 |
| Commercial firewood and | | | | |
| contracted monitoring. | 5 | 8 | 264,393 | 385,369 |
| TOTALS: | 81 | 109 | 3,702,087 | 5,223,758 |

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

The wood products industry in the SW Jemez CFLR landscape continues to produce a diverse suite of products generated from forest restoration activities. Utilizing as much material as possible and making use of small diameter timber is integral to accomplishing project objectives. The graph below displays the product breakdown for material harvested in FY18 by Walatowa Timber Industries (Walatowa), which is a joint venture between TC Company and Pueblo of Jemez. The value added wood products from FY 2019 are similar to those in FY 2018, except that Walatowa added a pellet mill and in FY 19 it contributed to 30% of their market share. Walatowa supported about 17 FTE through harvesting and mill operations. This includes work completed within the Santa Fe National Forest and the Valles Caldera National Preserve. It is important to acknowledge that it is only by leveraging multiple contracts and funding sources that the jobs supported by Walatowa are possible.



Several jobs were also supported in the landscape from leveraged sources through ecological monitoring contracts and grants and youth programs outside of Forest Service funding covered in the TREAT analysis. The

WildEarth Guardians fielded crews in FY19 to accomplish conservation projects. Ecological monitoring conducted by non-profit and university partners also provide jobs for project partners. The graph below displays leveraged and direct FTE for FY19 work in the landscape. A total of 55.45 full time equivalent (FTE) jobs were tracked for work completed by partners within the CFLR landscape.



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 |
|--|---|
| Relationship building/ collaborative work | Our collaborator WildEarth Guardians has continued to conduct riparian restoration on San Antonio Creek, expanding ungulate exclosures in New Mexico meadow jumping mouse critical habitat, and installing 16 beaver dam analogs. |

| Indicator | Brief Description of Impacts, Successes, and Challenges |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| % Locally retained contracts | As in past years, most of the restoration work, and support for the project, was provided by local contractors. The Integrated Resources Stewardship Contract is held by a local contractor and 100% of the byproducts go to the local mill, employing mostly Tribal members. In addition contracts for a boundary survey (\$159K) and a road fill/culvert replacement contract (\$191K) to mitigate debris flow following a wildfire. |
| Tribal Connections | The Forestry Crew from the Pueblo of Jemez continued thinning and piling operations on Forest Service lands adjacent to Pueblo lands. 35 acres were thinned to reduce the risk of stand-replacing fire. In addition to the non-monetary benefits of fire risk reduction, this project contributed around \$84,000 of in-kind contributions (RTRL funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs) to the SW Jemez CFLRP. The Santo Domingo Natural Resources Forestry Crew with four members worked with the Jemez Forest District on the West Mesa Project from August 20, 2019 through September 19, 2019. Three areas within the West Mesa Project included Stable Canyon, Schoolhouse Mesa and Holiday Mesa. The Forestry Crew completed about 5 miles of fire handline prep and about 2.5 miles of fireline prep along roads. As with the Pueblo of Jemez contributions, the BIA funded this work, resulting in around \$56,000 of in- kind contributions. |
| Project partnership composition | The New Mexico Department of Forestry has contributed \$500,000 to fund prescribed burning within the SW Jemez project area in 2020-2021. |



YCC crew employed by WildEarth Guardians conducts riparian restoration on San Antonio Creek, August 2019



Removing debris and replacing a culvert plugged by debris flows following thr Venado Wildfire. Plugging of the culvert threatened to cause the 30" high road fill to fail, which would have resulted in massive sediment inout into the Rio Guadalupe. September 2019



Forestry Crew member from the Pueblo of Jemez conducting fuels management, April 2019



Forestry Crew members from the Pueblo of Santo Domingo conducting fireline preparation, August 2019 5. Based on your project monitoring plan, describe the multiparty monitoring process. <u>You may simply</u> <u>reference your 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.

Please see our Ecological Indicator Report, with links to our 2009 CFLRP proposal.

6. FY 2019 Agency performance measure accomplishments:

| Performance Measure | Unit of measure | Total Units Accomplished | Total Treatment Cost (\$) (Contract Costs) |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST | Acres | N/A | N/A |
| Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP | Acres | 224 | CFLN0619 - \$107,706 CFHF0619 - \$203,056 |
| Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC | Acre | N/A | N/A |
| Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC | Acres | N/A | N/A |
| 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 | N/A | N/A |
| Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM | Miles | 14.4 | NFWF1016 - \$80,274 CMRD1019 - \$2,961 |
| Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR | Acres | 2,475 | CFLN0618 - \$319,706 CFHF0619 - \$65,500) P3MJK8 - \$161,000 |
| Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP | Acres | 10,531 | CFLN0619 - \$28,672 CFVW0619 - \$44,430 NFRG1019 - \$15.915 |
| Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN | Miles | N/A | N/A |

| Performance Measure | Unit of measure | Total Units Accomplished | Total Treatment Cost (\$) |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT ¹ | Miles | 22.3 | CMRD1019 - \$27,394 |
| Miles of road decommissioned RD- DECOM | Miles | See explanation in Item 9 | 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 | 0.5 | CFLN0617 - \$37,192 CFLN0619 - \$9,610 CFVW0619 - \$20.000 |
| Road Storage | Miles | N/A | N/A |
| Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG- | Number | N/A | N/A |
| Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD | Miles | N/A | N/A |
| Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD | Miles | N/A | N/A |
| 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 | 632 | (awarded in previous years) |
| Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR- VOL-HVST | CCF | 5,177 | (awarded in previous years) |
| Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD | CCF | 3,780 | CFLN0619 - \$21,275 CFHF0619 - \$4,847 |
| Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio- energy production BIO-NRG | Green tons | 11,340 | (awarded in previous years) |

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| Performance Measure | Unit of measure | Total Units Accomplished | Total Treatment Cost (\$) (Contract Costs) |
|---|--------------------|---|--|
| Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI | Acre | N/A | N/A |
| Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI | Acres | 2,812 | CFHF0619 - \$270,456 P3MJK8 - \$161,000 CFLN0619 - \$107,706 |
| Acres mitigated FP-FUELS-ALL-MIT- NFS | Acres | 2,812 | CFHF0619 - \$270,456 P3MJK8 - \$161,000 CFLN0619 - \$107,706 |
| Please also include the acres of prescribed fire accomplished | Acres | 1,310 +784 acres of managed wildfire | CFHF0619 - \$65,500 P3MJK8 - \$161,000 |
| 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.

¹ Reporting was "farmed out" to another unit in the Zone Engineering group, and information on tagging the CFLRP Initiative was not provided, so roads accomplishments did not show up in gPAS.

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.)

Cultural Site Treatments

We continued in 2019 to treat cultural sites by removing excess vegetation to protect them from fire damage. 108 sites were treated in the fiscal year under a 3 year contract with Quicksilver Contracting Company.



An ancestral field house of the Pueblo of Jemez being treated to protect from fire, October 2018

In addition, we have had recurring problems with road use next to a pueblo ruin, with people moving rocks to access the road which was improperly constructed on the edge of the site. Through our Service First Agreement with the Bureau of Land Management roads crew, a pipe barrier was installed in July 2019, effectively sealing off access to the road.



Pipe barrier installed to prevent vehicle access to a pueblo ruin. July 2019

Conejos Managed Burn

In late July of 2019, a lightning strike started a fire on Conejos Peak. This area was adjacent to two previously managed wildfires, and conditions were favorable to also manage this one, increasing the contiguously treated area. One complication was that the area encompasses a portion of a previously awarded task order under the IRSC. The contractor was consulted, and was amenable to our managing the fire despite the potential for loss of timber value. Conditions were such that, and through the efforts of fire managers, no merchantable trees were lost, and in fact removal of some of the understory and sub-merchantable trees has the potential to facilitate future harvesting operations.



Conejos managed burn, August 2019

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 | 13,679 acres |
| Estimated Cumulative Footprint of Acres (2010 | 54,871 acres |
| or 2012 through 2019) | |

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?

This varies slightly from the estimate provided by the Washington Office (13,116 acres). We calculated the acres with the same process (dissolving the cumulative footprint of accomplishments in the spatial databases, FACTS and WIT). 400 acres was not accounted for in gPAS (Holiday Mastication), apparently it was not tagged properly in WIT when reported.

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).

Over the life of the project, the most under-achieved outcome has been Volume of Timber Sold. We plan to make up a portion of this fall-down by negotiating the utilization of 6-8.9" diameter materials by the Contractor, as well as separate fuelwood sales for another portion. In addition, a wood utilization plan for Sandoval County is underway, funded through a grant from the forest service, which has the potential to provide a use for 1-5.9" diameter material.

In FY19, two of the three task orders that we prepared and offered to the contractor were not signed by him, pending a requested price renegotiation. He claims that the way the pricing is calculated in the Integrated Resource Stewardship Contract (IRSC), by green tons, made it difficult to accurately estimate his costs on the original bid, and that he loses money handling the smaller material. Thus, we did not sell any volume as part of the IRSC in FY19.

Lesson learned over the length of the project is that it would be preferable to base pricing in the RFP on acres treated (perhaps stratified by average stand diameter), rather than green tons.

It is possible that the number of miles of road that are appropriate for decommissioning within Task Order boundaries was initially over-estimated. We have, and will continue to work through an agreement with a Bureau of Land Management roads crew to decommission and storm-proof high priority roads outside of Task Order areas in addition to those identified within. In FY19 there were 10.8 miles of road decommissioning included in the two task orders that were not accepted by the contractor, thus no accomplishment in this category.

9b. (OPTIONAL) FOR INTERNAL USE: The following responses are directed towards feedback on *internal* bottlenecks or issues that may impact your project.

While harvesting and supply to the local mill continues, due largely to the cooperative nature of the Contractor, there are potential obstacles in the future due to issues with the IRSC and the need to modify it. Lack of capacity and willingness to handle these issues in the Regional Contracting staff has forced the COR to push the boundaries of his authority, and left many issues beyond his authority hanging that could cause operations to shut down in the near future.

Comment on funding monitoring activities with collaborators: One issue that caused significant delays in monitoring operations was USFS acquisitions staff being unfamiliar with multi-party proposals such as CFLRP. The proposal was written by multiple parties, who provided detailed work plans and budgets for monitoring projects, and were listed in the submitted proposal. When the SWJM CFLRP grant was awarded, we began the paperwork to issue agreements/contracts with these parties to do their assigned work; however, USFS acquisitions staff wanted to put these projects out to bid (as per the FAR). This created delays, and some hard feelings with our collaborators.

Our position is that if outside organizations participate in the writing of the proposal, and provide specific

qualifications and workplans, and are listed by name in the project and budget, and the project is reviewed by a panel of experts and chosen for funding, then these organizations should be deemed automatically as "sole source" for the actual project work. We eventually arrived at this conclusion with Acquisitions, but a clear understanding of this situation ahead of time would have saved a lot of time and frustration.

Items 10 and 11 were applicable to 2012 projects only

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.

The only additional representation in the collaborative beyond previous years was the return (from the group that prepared the initial proposal in 2010) of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, who have been attending quarterly meetings in an advisory capacity. New Mexico Department of Forestry has provided \$500,000 in funding for prescribed burning within the project area in 2020-2021.

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.

No media highlights to report in FY19.

| ignatures: |
|---|
| ecommended by (Project Coordinator): |
| pproved by (Forest Supervisor: |
| raft reviewed by (collaborative chair or representative): |
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