

CFLR Project (Name/Number):

National Forest(s):

Please review the “CFLR Annual Report Instructions” document before filling out the template below. 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 [CFLRP Ecological Indicator report](#) is due along with this annual report. Please reach out to lindsay.buchanan@usda.gov 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 December 18, 2019 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
CFLN19	\$452,626

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
NFHF	\$339,054

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	\$1,243,114
NFRG	\$34,118
NFRW	\$1,237,989
NFTM	\$132,376
NFVW	\$15,481
NFWF	\$28,426
SPFH	\$33,824

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
NFXN	\$898,840

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
National Wild Turkey Federation Stewardship Agreement	\$143,220
Forest Steward’s Guild Zuni CFLR Monitoring Agreement	\$10,000

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	\$544,000

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. **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
Forest Health Initiative – Private Lands Forest Conservation Treatments	96 acres of forest health treatments in CFLR landscape.	\$90,562	Partner Funds (NM State Forestry, Forest Stewards Guild, Private Landowner)	Forest Health Initiative and Private Funds
Forest Stewards Youth Corps – Mt. Taylor Summer Crew	9 weeks of conservation projects (fire line, tree marking, trails, recreation, etc.) in the landscape	\$35,000	Partner Funds (NM Youth Conservation Corps, Forest Stewards Guild, Taos Ski Valley Foundation, Santa Fe Community Foundation, etc.)	Forest Stewards Guild
BRL Logging CFRP implementation grant	Cibola National Forest	\$120,000	Region 3 Forest Service funds awarded to partner	Forest Service Region 3

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

In 2019, project partners continued the successful leveraging of multiple funding sources to accomplish important restoration projects, support the multi-party monitoring program, and provide employment and training opportunities

to local youth. The CFLR remains an anchor for project partners to pursue other funding and opportunities. For example, the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) grant awarded to BRL Logging supported operations in the Zuni Mountains. The Forest Stewards Guild’s CFRP to increase capacity for prescribed fire in the Zuni Mountains supported 10 jobs in FY 2019 and helped prep prescribed fire units that were mechanically treated using CFLR funds.

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
Number of acres treated by prescribed fire	3,713
Number of acres treated by mechanical thinning	823
Number of acres of natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under strategies that result in desired conditions	0
Number of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are maintained in desired condition	0
Number of acres mitigated to reduce fire risk	4,536

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.

The winter of 2018-19 had better than average snowpack and came later in the year leading to a reduced operating season. Acres treated by mechanical thinning were greatly reduced by the loss of one of the logging contractors early in the summer. Prior to this year, the project had ramped up and maintained a consistent amount of treatment over the past several years (2,000 acres/year).

- **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.

The areas treated were prioritized using two factors; 1. Progressing east to west for out-year planning and to work through analyzed acres for treatment under the Bluewater EIS before moving into the Puerco Project, 2. Areas available to work that were accessible and available without excess soil moisture.

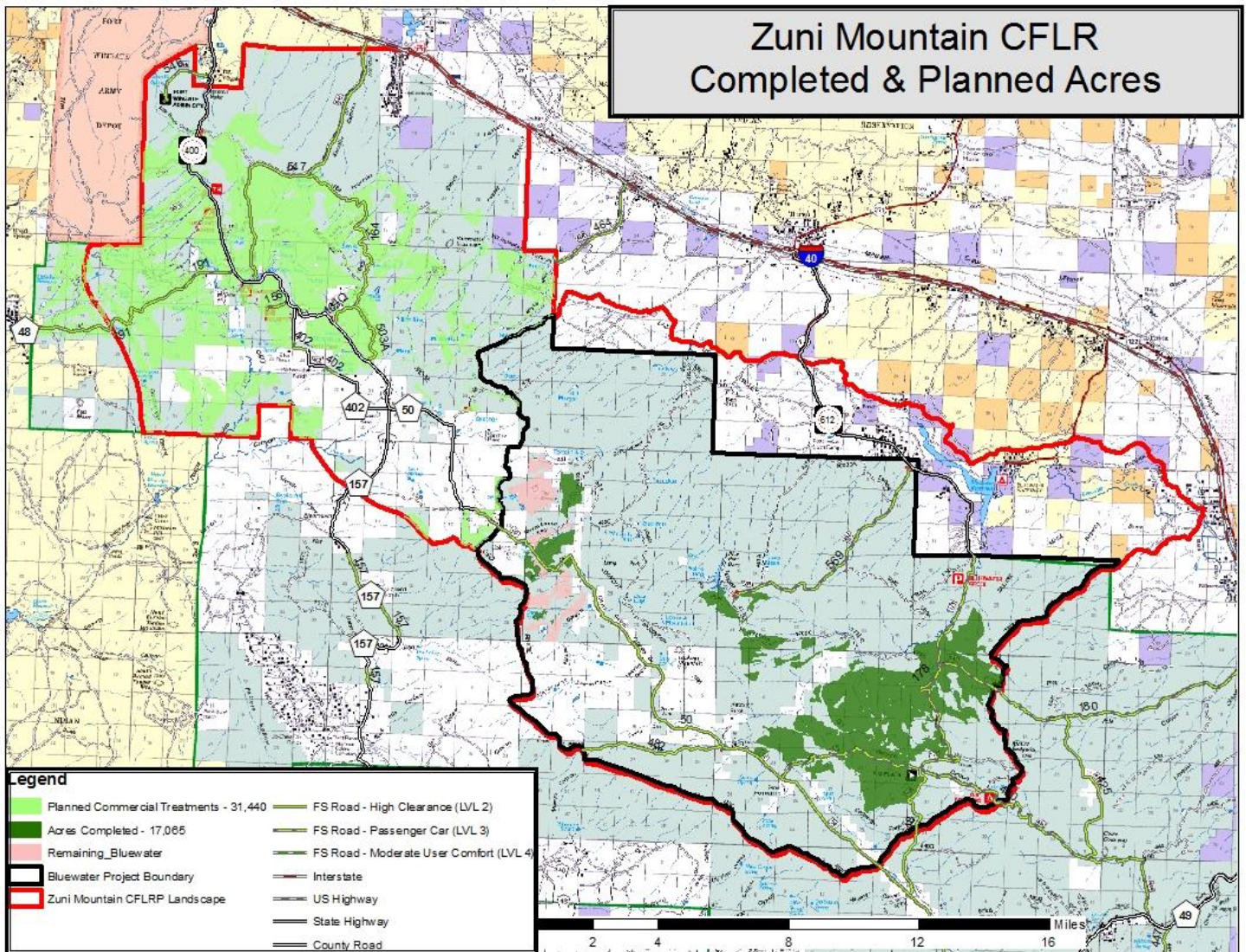
- **Please tell us whether these treatments were in “high or very high wildfire hazard area from the “wildfire hazard potential map”** (<https://www.firelab.org/project/wildfire-hazard-potential>)
 - Were the treatments in **proximity to a highly valued resource** like a community, a WUI area, communications site, campground, etc.?

All treatments occurred within moderate wildfire hazard areas, according to the map linked above. All treatments occurred within WUI, an in particularly, adjacent to a developed recreation area (Ojo Redondo Campground), a historical cabin, and also within areas surrounded by private inholdings within the Forest.

- **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.

As treatments have progressed to the east, farther away from the mill, and transportation costs increased we had to modify the agreement to account for the additional costs. This was anticipated, but this year's reduced operating season, changing stand characteristics and issues with access, it culminated sooner than originally thought. The increased cost per acre modified in the agreement was not expected until treatments in Bluewater were completed.

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.





Expenditures

Category	\$
FY2019 Wildfire Preparedness ¹	\$304,220
FY2019 Wildfire Suppression ²	\$15,000
The cost of managing fires for resource benefit if appropriate (i.e. full suppression versus managing)	0
FY2019 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (CFLN)	\$11,343
FY2019 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (other BLIs)	WFPR- \$42,565 NFHF- \$59,435

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.

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.

All of the mechanical restoration treatments in ponderosa pine reduce canopy cover and alter the arrangement of trees to a more historical clumpy-groupy arrangement that reduces crown fire potential and supports low-intensity surface fire. When a fire does occur within a treated area, it is much easier to contain and control.



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:

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.*

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.**

- Please describe if/how partners or community members engaged in the planning or implementation of the relevant fuels treatment.
- Did treatments include coordinated efforts on other federal, tribal, state, private, etc. lands within or adjacent to the CFLR landscape?
- What resource values were you and your partners concerned with protecting or enhancing? Did the treatments help to address these value concerns?
- 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.
- What is your key takeaway from this event – what would you have done differently? What elements will you continue to apply in the future?
- What *didn't* work as expected, and why? What was learned?
- 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.

When a wildfire occurs within the CFLR landscape on an area planned 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.

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.

- Include expenses in wildfire preparedness and suppression, where relevant
- Include summary of BAER requests and authorized levels within the project landscape, where relevant

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 [here](#).

The Cibola National Forest, the Forest Stewards Guild, and project partners continued to collect socioeconomic data for TREAT as well as for the additional socioeconomic monitoring that occurs every project year. In gathering the numbers and percentages for use in TREAT, the Guild contacted all available relevant entities and asked for direct and specific information. Given that this project is focused on one key wood products manufacturer, the data gathering and associated interviews were consistent with previous year's methods. Data collected in interviews was shared with Forest Service Economists as "local economic data" as per TREAT instructions.

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

Copy/paste the totals from TREAT spreadsheet provided for each project from USFS EMC Economics Team:

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	10	11	450,003	568,668
Forest and watershed restoration component	3	4	39,907	55,358
Mill processing component	6	12	187,718	403,731
FS Implementation and monitoring		1	90,712	101,914
Other Project Activities	1	1	13,052	17,210
TOTALS:	20	28	781,392	1,146,880

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

Copy/paste the totals from TREAT spreadsheet provided for each project from USFS EMC Economics Team:

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	10	11	450,003	568,668
Forest and watershed restoration component	32	36	390,735	517,281
Mill processing component	6	12	187,718	403,731
Implementation and monitoring	3	4	275,982	310,063
Other Project Activities				
TOTALS:	51	63	\$1,304,438	\$1,799,743

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).

In addition to TREAT, the Forest Stewards Guild also track jobs directly through surveys and interviews with contractors and others employing people to get restoration work done in the landscape. Full time equivalent (FTE) does not always tell the whole story regarding jobs and economic impact. With a single FTE multiple people may have benefited from the wages and training that one FTE represents. The Forest Stewards Youth Corps (FSYC) is a good example of this. While the program only accounted for 1 FTE due to its seasonal nature, six young people were employed and gained skills and experience working in the Zuni Mountains CLFR landscape that will help them find employment in the future.

When you compare the total FTE accounted for in surveys and interviews in the table below, there were almost twice as many people as there are indicated by the FTE. It is also encouraging that the ratio of FTE to individuals employed is the highest for the mill processing and harvesting & trucking sectors. This indicates that those jobs are closer to full time as opposed to seasonal, which provides more stable employment and better economic conditions for local workers. Furthermore, “individuals employed” does not take into account staff turnover meaning that if the ratio were calculated using FTE to positions the ratio would likely be higher and further indicate more stable employment in those sectors.

Another important figure to note is the \$2,099,719.45 in wages that supported the 93 individuals employed to support restoration work in the Zuni Mountains. The majority of individuals employed and wages paid were within McKinley and Cibola Counties, which are two of the most economically disadvantaged counties not only in New Mexico, but in the country. In many ways, it is fair to say that a job in McKinley or Cibola County is “worth” more than a job in a more affluent area where there are more jobs and wages tend to be higher.

FY 2019 Jobs and Wages

Employment sector	Full time Equivalent	Wages	Number of people employed	Ratio of FTE to jobs
Youth	1.0	\$ 18,657.90	6	.17
Field workers	1.5	\$ 41,606.15	10	.15

Mill Processing	36.0	\$ 1,033,233.00	41	.87
Project management	0.2	\$ 16,312.88	7	.03
Harvesting & Trucking	17.8	\$ 968,641.00	23	.77
Monitoring	0.3	\$ 21,268.52	6	.005
Total	56.7	\$ 2,099,719.45	93	.61

The restoration work being accomplished through the CFLR remains the foundation for many other benefits to local businesses and communities in and around the CFLR landscape. Several Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) grants have been awarded to local businesses and other collaborative partners to build on the success of the CFLR. In FY 2019 no CFRP projects were funded, but several proposals were prepared and will be submitted in FY20. One is for milling Equipment for Mt Taylor Manufacturing, the processor of all of the wood coming off of the Zuni Mountain CFLR. The Forest Stewards Guild was awarded a CFRP grant in 2018 that continues to focus on prescribed fire implementation in the CFLR landscape and training for local tribes and agencies. Without the success of the CFLR to mechanically thin forests within the CFLR landscape, the return of fire, whether it be prescribed or wild, would not be prioritized as it currently is. In addition to the ecological benefits of returning fire to the Zuni Mountains, there are also training and employment opportunities that are being created because of the groundwork of mechanical thinning and building collaborative relationships.

Forest restoration is also supporting increased recreational opportunities in the CFLR landscape. The Zuni Mountains are home to several mountain bike races that support the tourism industry in Cibola and McKinley Counties. In addition to existing races such as the “Zuni Mountain 100” and “24 hours in the enchanted forest” a new race, the “Quartz Crusher” was held in 2018. Forest restoration projects like the CFLR and CFRPs are important to protect the growing tourism industry in the area and recreational opportunities for local residents.

In 2019, local ancestral lands youth corps crews, funded by Recreational Trails Program grants completed a number of small scale relocations along 6 miles of trail to improve sustainability and watershed health. Additionally, a new trailhead (Milk Ranch Trailhead) near Ft. Wingate to provide expanded public access to trail opportunities in the Zuni Mountains.

Choose at least four of the socioeconomic indicators below that are most relevant and important for your project.

Next, fill out the table below: please provide a brief description of any **qualitative or quantitate** information on CFLRP impacts, as well as links where available. Please indicate successes and where there are opportunities for improvements. **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.

- Responses to surveys about collaboration conducted locally
- Ease of doing business
- % Locally retained contracts
- Contributions to the local recreation/tourism economy
- Volunteer/outreach participation

- Duration of jobs
- Job training opportunities/per capita normalize
- Seasonal housing capacity
- Economic dependency/sectors impacted/expanding market development
- % Minority owned local business contracts
- Special Use authorizations
- Project partnership composition
- Social media analytics
- Agency requests for information/data
- Media citations
- NFS Visitation - Distance Traveled
- Regulatory compliance
- Public input in political processes
- # Cross-institutional agreements/policies
- Community support for relevant initiatives
- Relationship building/collaborative work
- Preserving cultural heritage of sites/resources
- Subsistence
- Tribal Connections

Enter your four (or more) most important indicators in the table below (*the table that is currently filled out is for an example*):

Indicator	Brief Description of Impacts, Successes, and Challenges	Links to reports or other published materials (if available)
Contributions to the local recreation/tourism economy	Mt. Biking continues to become an important source of recreation and tourism dollars in the Zuni Mountains. Events such as the 24-hours in the enchanted forest, the Quartz Crusher, and the Zuni Mountain 100 draw cyclists from around the Southwest to the Zuni Mountains. Forest restoration in the Zuni Mountains is providing important benefits to recreational users that support the local economy in the Zuni Mountains.	This article is from 2017 but the work described for the Zuni Mountains Trails Project is ongoing https://www.abqjournal.com/1024514/zuni-mountain-network-aims-to-become-the-ultimate.html
Project partnership composition	Collaboration amongst diverse partners within the CFLR landscape remains a cornerstone of forest restoration work in the Zuni Mountains. Members of the collaborative include state and federal land management agencies, county government, tribes, soil and water conservation districts, residents, recreation user groups,	http://www.zunimountaincollaborative.org/partner-directory

Indicator	Brief Description of Impacts, Successes, and Challenges	Links to reports or other published materials (if available)
	students, and non-government organizations.	
% Locally retained contracts	100% of the jobs accounted through socio-economic monitoring efforts were for local contractors and employees based out of the Grants, NM area.	http://mttaylormanufacturing.com/sawmill/
Relationship building/collaborative work	Members of the Zuni Mountains Collaborative continue to work together to manage the multi-party monitoring process. Using meetings and field trips, collaborative partners are collecting data used to support the restoration work in the CFLR landscape.	Meeting notes from Water Quality sub-group meeting in April Summary of multi-party monitoring meeting in March http://www.zunimountaincollaborative.org/
Job training opportunities/per capita normalize	By two important measures, FTE and individuals employed, the Zuni Mountain CFLR continues to provide job training and employment opportunities for local communities. Youth and fire fighter training also provide a bridge to longer term and higher paying jobs through programs like the Forest Stewards Youth Corps and the Forest Stewards Guild CFRP grant.	https://foreststewardsguild.org/fsyc-program/ Hire announcement for Guild CFRP Rx fire crew
Duration of jobs	Seasonal by nature, the mill process and Harvesting & trucking sectors have the closest ration of FTE to individuals employed indicating stable, long-term employment.	

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

- *What parties (who) are involved in monitoring, and how?*
- *What is being monitored? Please briefly share key broad monitoring results and how results received to date are informing subsequent management activities (e.g. adaptive management), if at all. What are the major positive and negative ecological, social and economic shifts observed through monitoring? Any modifications of subsequent treatment prescriptions and methods in response to these shifts?*
- *What are the current weaknesses or shortcomings of the monitoring process? How might the CFLRP monitoring process be improved? (Please limit answer to one page.).*
- *Please provide a link to your most up-to-date multi-party monitoring plan and any available monitoring results from FY19.*

In March of 2019, members of the Zuni Mountains Collaborative met in Grants to discuss the multi-party monitoring process outlined in the [2013 Gap Assessment](#), which has driven monitoring efforts in the project landscape. A summary of that meeting is available [here](#). Following the Collaborative's meeting in March, the water resources monitoring sub-group met in April. Notes from that meeting are available [here](#). An adaptive management approach has been taken with the multi-party monitoring efforts for the Zuni Mountains CFLR as challenges have arisen and new partners have come on board. One challenge partners encountered in 2019 is the ageing-out of water monitoring devices as well as tampering and technology outpacing monitoring equipment. Project partners are working to address these challenges in 2020. For example, the Remote Automated Weather station that has been maintained by the Forest Stewards Guild since 2014 required a new modem in 2019 when the network switched to 5G. Updating the hardware and software to work with the new cell network for the RAWS is ongoing. In August 2019, Guilds staff removed the weather station command center from the field for servicing and maintenance and will re-install it when all updates have been completed.

The Springs Stewardship Institute (SSI) was brought on as a new project partner in 2019 to augment water resources monitoring. Members of the Collaborative representing the Great Old Broads for Wilderness, University of New Mexico, New Mexico Native Plant Society, the Forest Stewards Guild, the Cibola National Forest and the Forest Stewards Youth Corps (FSYC) participated in a joint field trip in June.

The partners will be gathering in 2020 to look at the results of the recent vegetation analysis in partnership with Three Pines Forest Research, Jefferson Natural Resources, and the Forest Stewards Guild along with the two recent University of New Mexico reports. Links to their reports can be found [here](#) and [here](#). This meeting will also share the challenges with the water quality long-term vegetation monitoring efforts that were highlighted in the FY18 report.



Left photo: Collaborative partners from FSYC, UNM, and SSI work together to collect water resources monitoring data.

Right photo: An endangered Zuni Bluehead Sucker observed in June in Tampico Draw.



A post-thinning and post-prescribed fire permanent plot photograph shows large tree retention, new understory growth post fire, retention of large coarse woody debris, and the desired raised canopy base height that can only be achieved with fire as part of the complete restoration process.

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	3,830	This is an integrated target from FP-FUELS-WUI
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	*1,236	1,236,000
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN	Miles	48.6	\$ 38,800
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	26.0	\$ 46,800
Miles of passenger car system roads reconstructed RD-PC-RCNSTR	Miles	2.5	\$155,000
Miles of high clearance system roads reconstructed RD-HC-RCNSTR	Miles	2.2	\$110,000
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	823	\$757,160

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished	Total Treatment Cost (\$) (Contract Costs)
TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC			
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	7,910	Integrated target from acres of forestlands treated
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	9,115.8	Volume was generated from acres funded through the NWTF Stewardship Agreement at \$920/acre
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	106.65	Volume was generated from acres funded through the NWTF Stewardship Agreement at \$920/acre
Acres of forestlands treated using stewardship agreements STWD-CNTRCT-AGR-AC	Acres	544	Integrated target from acres of forestlands treated
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	3,830	\$105,210 (\$27.47/acre)
Please also include the acres of prescribed fire accomplished	Acres	3,713	This is a subset of acres listed above in FP-FUELS-WUI

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

*Acres put into the NWTF Agreement right at the end of the fiscal year, so not accomplished in 2019. These acres will be reported as accomplished in FY20.

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.)

A key achievement in FY19 was the award of an additional 1,236 acres under the NWTF Stewardship agreement for harvest and removal of ponderosa pine which has enabled the local sawmill to have an additional 1 year of material to harvest. Another reason why these new funded acres are significant is due to the fact that New Mexico Game and Fish provided \$898,840 to fund 900 acres of the 1,236. In addition to this, removal of timber occurred on approximately 823 acres of previous year's awarded acres via the NWTF Stewardship Agreement.

Another key achievement has been the continued effort in the planning process of the Puerco Project which has incorporated a wider range of restoration activities. A key lesson learned from implementing the Bluewater Decision were the limitations for only thinning and prescribed burning that prohibited accomplishing entire suite of activities needed to accomplish restoration at a landscape scale.

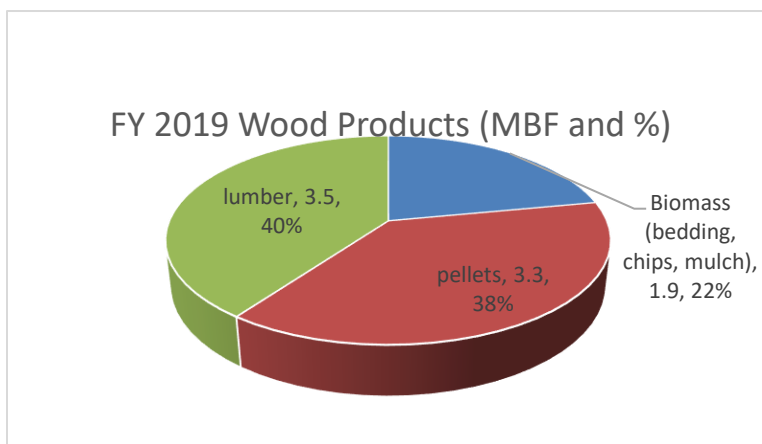
Mount Taylor Manufacturing, the sawmill processing all material harvested within the Zuni CFLR landscape, continues to produce a diverse array of products. The graph below shows the product breakdown for FY 19.

The efficient and creative use of small diameter wood in the Zuni Mountains continued in FY 2019. Wood from the Zuni Mountains is supporting several sectors of Mount Taylor Manufacturing including a sawmill, pellet plant, and machine shop in Milan, NM and the pellet plant in Albuquerque. Each of these sectors is supported by and in turn supports utilization of woody biomass generated by restoration work in the CFLR. The pie chart below provides a breakdown of the types of products being created.

There is mutual benefit shared amongst the harvesters, truckers, and wood products industry in the Zuni Mountains. The success of those supply chains has ripple effects that the court ordered injunction on timber management activities laid bare at the tail end of FY 2019. Harvesters and the sawmill operator both expressed concern regarding the sustainability of their operations if the injunction continues into 2020.



Matt Allen of Mont Taylor Manufacturing inspecting a potential new automated label machine for wood pellets.



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 [posted here](#) 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	3,825 acres
Estimated Cumulative Footprint of Acres (2010 or 2012 through 2019)	128 acres Aspen enhancement, 9,165 acres ponderosa pine thinning, 5,500 acres Rx burning and 1,260 acres of Wildlife Habitat Improvement via road decommissioning

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).

In August 2019, BRL, Inc. decided not to renew its contract with MTM to continue restoration operations in the Zuni Mountain CFLR, leaving just one logger to continue woods operations. Mount Taylor Manufacturing is seeking another partner to fill the gap left by BRL’s departure. In September 2019, USDA Forest Service received an order from the United States District Court for the District of Arizona stating that the agency’s “timber management” actions must cease on five national forests in New Mexico and on the Tonto National Forest in Arizona pending formal consultation regarding potential effects to the Mexican spotted owl. This injunction halted all tree-cutting operations within the CFLR footprint and the injunction has not been lifted at the time of this report. Even if the injunction is lifted before the end of the calendar year, operations are not expected to resume until Spring 2020.

As a result of these occurrences, acres treated fell to 823 acres in 2019. In addition, modifications to the National Wild Turkey Federation Agreement amounted to 6,631 acres accomplished that will be claimed in FY20.

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

Performance Measure Code	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment for 2020 (National Forest System)	Planned Accomplishment on non-NFS lands within the CFLRP landscape³
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	4,263	
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	1,500	
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	10	
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles		
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres		
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles		
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	10	
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	10	
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	9,000	
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	100	
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre		
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	4,263	

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 if planned FY 2020 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):

The original proposal had a suite of contractors that were going to work together and manufacture and market wood products jointly for some emerging markets. At that time we estimated the cost per acre of treatment (Goods for Services) via the Stewardship Agreement to be \$300/acre. By the time we submitted the proposal in 2011 and it was awarded in 2012 the industry partnership had dissolved and two businesses went under and one relocated. Mt Taylor Manufacturing was the last one standing. So, Mt Taylor Manufacturing (MTM) had to seek out a new partner to do the woods operations (logging, harvesting, and fuels work). With limited companies to work with, Mt Taylor located a fledgling logging business (BRL, Inc. and WW Logging) from Arizona to relocate and work in New Mexico. Due to both Mt Taylor and the loggers being new businesses, the economy, gas prices, and establishing new markets, we received

³ 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. Give your best estimate at this point; if it's unknown how much work will occur off NFS lands, simply state unknown.

higher bids to do the service work, then originally estimated. In addition, as operations have continued moving westward, away from the mill, transportation costs have increased.

So if we were to maintain an annual output of 2,000-3,000 acres/year at the increased price of \$960/acre instead of the original estimate of \$300/acre then the total harvesting project cost increases from \$1,920,000 to \$2,880,000. The Forest worked very hard to put together a proposal that could be matched with annual anticipated funds for the \$800,000 match. We do not have additional dedicated funds to cover the increased bid cost. The only option the Cibola has had is to pursue additional funds either Nationally, Regionally or with partners such as New Mexico Game and Fish or New Mexico Department of Forestry. The Forest has been successful in securing funds to cover the additional cost through end of year monies and partner contributions.

Because of the loss of BRL and the Mexican Spotted Owl Injunction, several months of operations have been lost. Even if the injunction is lifted before the end of the calendar year, operations are not expected to resume until Spring 2020. In order to stay afloat, MTM has contracted with NM State Forestry to perform forest restoration work on private lands within the CFLR footprint to keep a supply of logs coming into the mill. The tentative short term plan is to have one logger work on private land and another work on NFS Lands at a projected pace of 2-3,000 acres per year on both ownerships.

The Cibola is utilizing a Stewardship Agreement to conduct the majority of the Restoration treatments. Timber Sales are only used on a small scale with a handful of small users.

In FY19 the Forest was committed to the scale-up of prescribed fire in the landscape with the addition of the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) funded prescribed fire crew. The season was very wet so the crew focused on unit prep as there were no prescribed fires during their employment period. In addition to the crew, the CFRP is adding cross-jurisdictional burning to the landscape and bringing the TRES program (Prescribed Fire Training Exchange) to the landscape. These TRES events will begin in 2020. The summer Forest Stewards Youth Corps crew of 16-18 year old's will continued in FY19 and they completed a suite of conservation work projects in the landscape such as improving recreation sites, fence repair, erosion control, and fire-line construction.

12. **Please include an up to date list of the members of your collaborative if 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.

<http://www.zunimountaincollaborative.org/partner-directory>

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.

Signatures:

Recommended by (Project Coordinator(s)): *Jay Turner, Jay Turner, Nat. Res Staff*

Approved by (Forest Supervisor(s)): *Steve Stott*

Draft reviewed by (collaborative chair or representative): *Matt Piccanello, Matt Piccanello, Forest Stewards Guild*