Weiser Little Salmon Headwaters CFLRP (CFLR013) Payette National Forest

1. CFLRP Expenditures, Match, and Leveraged Funds:

a. FY21 CFLN and Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLN Funds Expended)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year		
	2021		
CFLN1320	\$49,996.51		
<u>CFLN1321</u>	<u>\$431,468.47</u>		
TOTAL	<u>\$481,464.98</u>		

This amount should match the amount of CFLN dollars spent in the FMMI CFLRP expenditure report. Include prior year CFLN dollars expended in this Fiscal Year. CFLN funds can only be spent on NFS lands.

Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year		
2021		
<u>\$3,442,000</u> ¹		
<u>\$3,442,000</u>		

This amount should match the amount of matching funds in the FMMI CFLRP expenditure report for Salary and Expenses. Staff time spent on CFLRP proposal implementation and monitoring may be counted as CFLRP match – see <u>Program Funding Guidance</u> for details.

Fund Source – (Forest Service Discretionary Matching Funds)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year
	2021
CMRD	\$107,844
CWF2	\$22,500
CWK2	\$-4,154
NFNF	\$162,073
NFTM	\$136,330
NFWF	\$17,699
RTRT	\$86,040
SSSS	<u>\$4,382</u>
TOTAL	\$532,714

This amount should match the amount of matching funds in the FMMI CFLRP expenditure report, *minus* any partner funds contributed through agreements (such as NFEX, SPEX, WFEX, CMEX, and CWFS) which should be reported in the partner contribution table below. Per the <u>Program Funding Guidance</u>, federal dollars spent on non-NFS lands may be included if aligned with CFLRP proposal implementation within the landscape.

¹ Dollar amount captured is reflective of the S&E BLI of 0497, not 0412. The CFLRP initiative code is stated in the workplan.

Fund Source – (Partner Match)	In-Kind Contribution or Funding Provided?	Total Estimated Funds/Value for FY21	Description of CFLRP implementation or monitoring activity	Where activity/item is located or impacted area
Idaho Department of Lands	 In-kind contribution Funding Budget Line Item, if relevant: 	\$43,545.50	Cultural resources contracted survey for Woodhead South and Moonshine North project areas.	 National Forest System Lands Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
(USGS) NIDGS Research Agreement ²	 ☑ In-kind contribution ☑ Funding Agreement # 18-IA- 11041200-005 	Funding - \$80,000 In-Kind (estimate for partner funding) USGS (in kind) - \$15,000 USFWS – in kind logistics, technical support \$20,000 IDFG - \$25,725 OX Ranch – (student housing) - \$14,400 UOI (tuition waiver, indirect reduction) -	Threatened and Endangered Species Research to support NIDGS Recovery Plan	 National Forest System Lands Other lands within CFLRP landscape: Some work on private lands adjacent to FS lands (i.e., OX Ranch – under FWS Safe Harbor Agreement for NIDGS Recovery efforts)
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Prescribed Burn	□ In-kind contribution ⊠ Funding Budget Line Item, if relevant:	\$2,000	Prescribed burning in RREMB 1000 acres	 ☑ National Forest System Lands □ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:

² NIDGS: Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel

Fund Source – (Partner Match)	In-Kind Contribution or Funding Provided?	Total Estimated Funds/Value for FY21	Description of CFLRP implementation or monitoring activity	Where activity/item is located or impacted area	
	FY2021 RMEF Proposal Funding				
Idaho Conservation Corps—Resource Stewards Agreement 16-PA-11041200-037	⊠ In-kind contribution □ Funding	\$10,250	Funding to support hiring interns with the AmeriCorps/Northwest Youth Corps/Idaho Conservation Corps	 ☑ National Forest System Lands □ Other lands within CFLRP landscape: 	
Southwest Idaho RC&D 21-CS-11041200-006 18-CS-11041200-008	 ☑ In-kind contribution □ Funding \$15,480 		Funding to support facilitation services for Payette Forest Coalition	 ☑ National Forest System Lands □ Other lands within CFLRP landscape: 	
University of Idaho Intern Agreement		6,500	Funding to support hiring forestry interns with the University of Idaho	 National Forest System Lands Other lands within CFLRP landscape: 	
TOTALS	Total In-Kind Contributions: \$133,046 Total Funding: \$125,545.50				

Total partner in-kind contributions for implementation and monitoring of a CFLR project across **all lands** within the CFLRP landscape. For CFLRP projects under the CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy, note that this table addresses the <u>core CFLRP common monitoring strategy</u> <u>question</u>, "If and to what extent has CFLRP investments attracted partner investments across the landscapes?"

Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract (for contracts awarded in FY21)	Totals
Total <u>revised non-monetary credit limit</u> for contracts awarded in FY21	\$0.00
Revenue generated through Good Neighbor Agreements	Totals

Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract (for contracts awarded in FY21)	Totals
Crystal GNA and Rocky Goose GNA Timber Sales	\$302,576

<u>Revised non-monetary credit limits</u> should be the amount in contract's "<u>Progress Report for Stewardship Credits, Integrated Resources</u> <u>Contracts or Agreements</u>," the "Revised Non-Monetary Credit Limit," as of September 30. Additional information on the Progress Reports is available in CFLR Annual Report Instructions document.

<u>Revenue generated from GNA</u> should only be reported for CFLRP match if the funds are intended to be spent within the CFLRP project area for work in line with the CFLRP project's proposed restoration strategies and in alignment with the CFLRP authorizing legislation

b. (OPTIONAL) Describe additional leveraged funds in your landscape in FY21, if relevant. Leveraged funds refer to funds or in-kind services that help the project achieve proposed objectives *but do not meet match qualifications*-examples include research (not monitoring) and planning funds.

Description of item	Where activity/item is located or impacted area	Estimated total amount	Forest Service or Partner Funds?	Source of funds
Road Maintenance and improvements	Crystal GNA, Cold Bug, Hot Potato and Rocky Goose GNA	\$331,167	Partner	Purchasers included as appraisal item

Some road maintenance and improvements targets were accomplished (see Accomplishments Table, p. 21) through specified road work as an appraisal allowance by timber sale contracts. Costs associated with these accomplishments were not included in the separate BLI or partner match column. The Payette National Forest accomplished a significant amount of road work through timber sales or stewardship contracts. The Forest had approximately \$2.1 million in road work as an appraisal allowance plus approximately \$700,000 as stewardship service items/KV to date.

The Payette National Forest entered a new four-year agreement in 2021 with the Idaho Conservation Corps (ICC), Agreement # #21-PA-11041200-019 of the amount of \$350,000 to engage youth and young adults in natural resource management education and job opportunities. This successful partnership will allow approximately 60 to 70 young adults to gain valuable internship experience in a natural resource field.

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 wildfire risk reduction goals.

FY2021 Overview

FY21 Activity Description (Agency performance measures)	Acres
Number of acres treated by prescribed fire	9,304
Number of acres treated by mechanical thinning	11,964
Number of acres of natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under strategies that result in desired conditions	0

Number of acres mitigated to reduce fire risk	11,509

Please provide a narrative overview of treatments completed in FY21, 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?

The hazardous fuels reduction activities that were completed in FY21 were a part of the Mill Creek-Council Mountain, Middle Fork Weiser, Weasel, Brundage – Bear Basin, Little Red Goose, and Meadows Slope project areas, all of which are encompassed by the WLSH CFLRP. These projects were developed with input from the Payette Forest Coalition (PFC): <u>www.payetteforestcoalition.org</u>. The areas treated in FY21 focused in high fire hazard areas near and adjacent to the communities of Council, McCall, and New Meadows and infrastructure including the Highway 95 corridor, powerlines, campgrounds, municipal watersheds, livestock grazing allotments, research study areas (NIDGS), etc. In addition, approximately 305 bushels of ponderosa pinecones (improved seed) and 6 bushels of white bark pinecone were collected to help restoration efforts.

The past few years' activities have transformed prioritization of hazardous fuel treatments on the Payette National Forest. The Forest has been focused on non-commercial thinning along roadways and strategic ridges that essentially prepare larger blocks for future prescribed burning activities. This has enabled the Forest to increase the pace and scale of treatments as well as reducing costs associated with the treatments.

The Forest has learned that this increase in the number of acres treated requires diligent communication with the Forest, our partners, and the community and over time these actions have become routine for the community.

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. You may copy and paste or provide a link.

Prescribed burning in Bear Basin



Prescribed Burning in Rapid River EMB



Expenditures

Category	\$
FY21 Wildfire Preparedness. ³	1,346,800
FY21 Wildfire Suppression. ⁴	718,329
The cost of managing fires for resource benefit if	Not within the
appropriate (i.e., full suppression versus managing)	CFLRP boundary
FY21 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (CFLN)	432,100
FY21 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (other BLIs)	718,329

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.

Many of the projects completed may contribute to a reduction in suppression costs. Prescribed fire removes the fine fuels which allows the fire to move across the landscape. By reducing fine fuels firefighters can contain fire spread with less personnel. Prescribed fire and non-commercial thinning increase canopy base heights and limit the vertical continuity. By increasing canopy base heights torching and spotting is decreased, thereby reducing the control issues on the fire and reducing costs. The greatest advantage of our treatments is the transition from fire in the crowns to fire remaining on the surface.

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:

The vast majority of the large and most costly wildfires over the last 35 years have been in untreated landscapes.

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 (see expenditures table above)

Firefighters responded to approximately 49 wildfire starts within the CFLRP on FS ground in 2021 (6 human-caused, 28 lightning-caused. Only four fires were greater than an acre in size (size ranged from 2-18 acres).

Include summary of BAER requests and authorized levels within the project landscape, where relevant.

³ 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).

⁴ 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 Woodhead BAER request was approved by the Intermountain Regional Office in early November 2020 for a total of \$153,282. BAER work will include improving drainage on roads and trails most likely to be impacted by increased runoff as a result of the fire and on treating new or expanding noxious weed infestations. Some road work was completed in the fall of 2020, and in the spring and summer of 2021 much of the work completed included road and trail work and weed treatments.

In addition to the original BAER funds, the Forest received another \$94,087 from a Fire Rehab Pilot Program for fence replacement around the Brownlee Campground including funding an ICC crew to complete the work, grazing allotment fence repair and replacement, the reconstruction of several range spring developments, and the replacement of a burned wingwall on a bridge. The cost of the wingwall replacement was greatly underestimated and an amendment to the original amount was approved later this summer increasing the original funds by \$27,857 for a total of \$121,944 funded by the Pilot Program.

If a wildfire interacted with a previously treated area within the CFLR boundary:

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.



Mill Creek Wildfire Fuel Treatment Effectiveness Report

Prepared for: Michael Elles 11/10/2021, 2:07:43 PM

Map

FTEMWildfireReport_Mill Creek_USFS_111021

11/10/0001 0.07.10



Mill Creek Incident Data

FTEMWildfireReport_Mill Creek_USFS_111021 Final fire size:0.4 acres Total Treatment acres burned:1.6 acres Date when fire entered first treatment: June 16, 2021 Fire Number:2021-IDPAF-000222 Discovery date and time: Jun 16, 2021 8:28:00 PM Containment date time: Jun 17, 2021 12:50:00 AM Control date and time: Jun 17, 2021 12:50:00 AM Out date and time: Jun 21, 2021 9:40:00 PM Fire Cause:Human Has Perimter:Yes Unit Name: Payette National Forest Agency:USFS Agency Region:04 GACC:IDPAF **Monitor Name:elles** Date Monitoring Completed:Nov 10, 2021



Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment

Treatment	Treatment	Agency	Treatment and	Treatme	Date	Did The	Did the	Was the
								I
COTTONWOOD - UNIT112	1205441003	USFS	Wildfire started inthe treatment	0.39	June16, 2021	Y es	yes	ye s
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Wildfire started inthe treatment	0.39	June16, 2021	Y es	yes	ye s
COTTONWOOD - UNIT112	1205441003	USFS	Wildfire started inthe treatment	0.39	June16, 2021	Y es	yes	ye s
COTTONWOOD - UNIT112	1205441003	USFS	Wildfire started inthe treatment	0.39	June16, 2021	Y es	yes	ye s



Fire Effects Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment 5/6

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	How Did The	How Did The	How Did The		How Did The
							f
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Able to do direct Attack	Null	Arrested Fire Spread	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Able to do direct Attack	Null	Arrested Fire Spread	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Able to do direct Attack	Null	Arrested Fire Spread	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Able to do direct Attack	Null	Arrested Fire Spread	Null	Null



Fire Effects Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment 6/6

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	Flame Length Inside Treatment?	Flame Length Outside Treatment?
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null



Fire Effects Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment 7/6

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	Inside Fuel					
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null



Fire Effects Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment 8/6

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	Outside	Outside Fuel	Outside	Outside Fuel	Outside	Outside Fuel
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null



Fire Effects Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment 9/6

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	Dominant Fire	Dominant Fire	Dominant Fire	Dominant Fire
			-	-	-	-
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null



Fire Effects Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment 10/6

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	Dominant Fire	Dominant Fire	Dominant Fire	Dominant Fire
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null



Weather Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Agency	Observation Date	20' WS	20' WD	Temp	RH	Observation Source
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	USFS	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null



Fuel Conditions When Wildfire Entered Treatment

Treatment Name	Treatment Id	Date	ERC %	1hr	10hr	100hr	1000hr	Live	Sample	Measures or
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	Jan 19,2021	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
SPRING 2016 MC	1600310001	Jan 19,2021	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	Jan 19,2021	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null
COTTONWOOD - UNIT 112	1205441003	Jan 19, 2021	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null	Null

The FTEM report above along with a summary of FTEM data on the Payette National Forest also be found here: https://usfs.box.com/s/eyyzxe5m0lff0eks190cftnw11a29x33

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

These projects are part of the Payette National Forest's CFLRP area and do meet the PFC's goals for restoration, wildlife, wildfire, and watershed health as well as provide forest access and recreation opportunities and contributes to the economic vitality of adjacent communities. Activities would help restore historical patch and pattern on the landscape as well as creating fire-adapted communities. These areas are priority targets for fuels treatment by SITPA (Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association), Adams County, and the Payette National Forest. The Forest has and will continue to plan, implement, and evaluate our treatments as a larger group working to improve conditions for the communities we serve.

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

Treatments included coordinated efforts on the federal, tribal, state and private lands within or adjacent to the CFLR landscape. The Payette National Forest, Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), SITPA, Adams County, and the Payette Forest Coalition are working together to reduce fire risk, promote fire resilient systems and communities, improve recreational opportunities, and protect or improve wildlife habitat. Adams County uses federal grants to fund their fuels crew's efforts to reduce fire risk on private lands.

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

Timber values in and adjacent to the project areas were of high importance. Thinning the density of large and small diameter trees, in conjunction with prescribed fire to reduce ground and surface fuels as well as ladder fuels were objectives of the projects. These treatment actions have been shown to reduce impact to timber values, improve ecological integrity of the systems, and improve resilience of these areas to drought, insect and undesirably intense fire severity. In addition to timber values, these project areas were adjacent to private property and infrastructure. Having these treated areas near private property allowed fire managers to operate in situations where fire behavior was minimized to the point that ground resources could choose from different options (i.e., direct or indirect attack) based on their objectives. In other words, the fire managers could dictate to the fire in a proactive manner rather than entirely reactive or defensive manner based on fire behavior.

• Did the treatments do what you expected them to do? Did they have the intended effect on fire behavior or outcomes?

From a fire management standpoint, treatments had the intended effect on fire behavior or outcomes. Treatment areas were used as anchor and holding features. Burnout operations actively utilized the treatments, and containment in these areas was far easier and more efficient than in other areas. Firefighters were able to manage the fire in safer environments with fewer resources, and values such as timber and ecological integrity were protected and enhanced in these areas. When compared to areas without treatment, treated areas performed as expected or surpassed expectations.

• What is your key takeaway from this event – what would you have done differently? What elements will you continue to apply in the future?

A key takeaway from these events would be to continue to look for opportunities to manage wildfire to create for resilient landscapes—in areas actively managed with vegetation manipulation, such as overstory or understory thinning AND prescribed fire were instrumental in containing the fire, protecting timber resources, and in some cases improving the ecological integrity of the Forest. In areas without active management, these results were more mixed than in areas with active management.

If a wildfire occurred within the CFLR landscape on an area planned for treatment but not yet treated:

Firefighters responded to approximately 49 wildfire starts within the CFLRP on FS ground in 2021 (6 human-caused, 28 lightning-caused. Only four fires were greater than an acre in size (size ranged from 2-18 acres).

Firefighters responded to 28 wildfire starts within the CFLRP area in 2020 (11 human-caused, 16 lightning-caused, and 1 with an unknown cause). Only six fires were greater than an acre in size. Fires less than an acre ranged from \$1500 - \$3,000 per fire suppression cost.

• Acres impacted and severity of impact

Less than 100 acres total were impacted in the CFLR area in areas planned for treatment. All initial attack operations held wildfires to their smallest possible size. No fire starts were managed for resource objectives during the 2021 fire season as per National direction.

A letter from the chief gave direction to use suppression tactics on all fires. Monitoring fires for resource benefit was not an option.

- Brief description of the planned treatment for the area
 A combination of commercial and non-commercial thinning and prescribed fire has been planned throughout the
 CFLRP. Most of our NEPA decisions within the CFLRP allow for prescribed fire on all acres. Non-commercial
 thinning has been prioritized to roadways and other barriers that can be used and control lines for prescribed fire
 operations.
- Summary of next steps will the project implement treatments elsewhere? Will they complete an assessment? FTEM monitoring has been completed for all fires within a treatment area. Initial attack fires outside of active treatment were contained and controlled as small as possible and did not affect the planning process already in place. No changes to implementation are expected.
- Description of collaborative involvement in determining next steps.
 Plans already in place have not changed. The Forest and collaborative are looking at new areas for treatment inside and outside of the CFLR. Shared stewardship and fire sheds are being considered as a high priority for future projects.

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 (TREAT) inputs and assumptions available <u>here</u>.⁵

⁵ For CFLRP projects under the CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy this and the responses below address the <u>core CFLRP common</u> <u>monitoring strategy questions</u>, "How have CFLRP activities supported local jobs and labor income?" and "How do sales, contracts, and agreements associated with the CFLRP affect local communities?

In FY21, timber volume harvested was based on the Cut and Sold Report (CUTS203F) and BioEnergy & BioBased Products report (BIOW201F) generated in the TIM database. The 50,867 CCF reported for the TREAT model includes saw logs and firewood within the WLSH CFLRP area. A report was generated for contracts within the CFLRP associated with timber and restoration and percentages were developed for funding and contract funding distributions. FY21 Jobs Supported/Maintained (FY21 CFLR/CFLN/ WO funding), see TREAT Model results below.

Looking at your CFLRP project's TREAT Data Entry "Full Project Details" Tab, what percent of funding was used for contracts within the local impact area? (see cell D13).⁶ If you have data on what percent of funding was used for agreements within the local impact area, please note.

Contract Funding Distributions ("Full Project Details" Tab):

Description	Project Percent
Equipment intensive work	29%
Labor-intensive work	71%
Material-intensive work	
Technical services	
Professional services	
Contracted Monitoring	
TOTALS:	100%

Please provide a brief description of the local businesses that benefited from CFLRP related contracts and agreements, <u>if known</u>. Consider characteristics such as tribally owned firms, veteran-owned firms, women-owned firms, minority-owned firms, and business size.⁷

Three local sawmills purchased a total of four timber sales on the Payette in FY21. One of these purchasers qualifies as a small business owner in the local area. Southern Idaho Timber Protection Association (SITPA) assisted in prescribed fire activities and constructed a mechanized fuel break, through an agreement.

⁶ If you would prefer to use other data collected locally, you may include that here. Do not include dollars that were contracted to firms outside of the local area.

⁷ This information is publicly available through usaspending.gov, there are other firm characteristics that may be more relevant for your CFLRP project or important for tracking over time.

FY 2021 Jobs Supported/Maintained	Jobs (Full and Part- Time) (Direct)	Jobs (Full and Part- Time) (Total)	Labor Income (Direct)	Labor Income (Total)
Timber harvesting component	52	74	\$2,726,757	\$3,324,462
Forest and watershed restoration component	4	6	\$145,490	\$201,390
Mill processing component	83	155	\$4,867,766	\$7,041,702
Implementation and monitoring	63	70	\$2,351,437	\$2,565,373
Other Project Activities				
TOTALS:	202	305	\$10,091,450	\$13,132,927

FY 2021 Modelled Jobs Supported/Maintained (CFLN and matching funding):

*Please note: Jobs and Income results for CFLR Funds dropped as compared to FY20. This is because of reduced CFLR funding levels due to Budget Modernization and reduced commercial timber volume. Jobs and Income results for Full Funds also dropped, which was due in part to a reduced overall funding level. The WLSH CFLRP economic model was corrected to add one more county, which resulted in lower indirect and induced effects for the Mill Processing Component.

4. Briefly describe community benefits that align with the CFLRP proposal and strategies socioeconomic goals. How has CFLR and related activities benefitted your community(ies) from a social and/or economic standpoint? Please link to monitoring reports or other relevant information if available.

Preserving cultural heritage of sites/resources - CFLR projects on the Payette National Forest have assisted the Heritage Program with preserving the cultural heritage of archaeological sites and cultural resources. Through the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Heritage Program has conducted inventory surveys and site monitoring on a CFLR landscape scale. Inventory surveys have resulted in the identification of new archaeological sites and cultural resources. In addition, Heritage Program staff have been monitoring previously recorded archaeological sites and cultural resources on a landscape level. This has led to the Program staff being able to draw comparisons, connections, and patterns among sites on a landscape level rather than the piece-meal approach that would occur through smaller project boundaries.

Locally retained contracts- Local jobs at mills and subcontracting jobs have been created and/or sustained through CFLR contracts offered by the Forest. A total of 10,401 CCF of timber volume has been produced and delivered to 3 different mills over the course of FY21. Despite litigation, the Forest was able to award four timber contracts in FY21 to local purchasers who are utilizing local contractors to complete the work. The timber value sold in these contract totals \$4,080,326. The total value of contracts awarded from 2012 through 2021 is \$21,040,617. Of this revenue, \$13,603,000 is from stewardship contracts and has been or will be used to complete restoration work on the forest over the coming years that will include non-commercial thinning, road decommissioning, aquatic organism passage installation, road maintenance, and recreation improvements. Contracts awarded in FY21 include: Crystal GNA (1/8/2021), Cold Bug Timber Sale (9/23/2021), Hot Potato Timber Sale (9/23/2021), and Rocky Goose Good Neighbor Authority (5/5/2021).

Project Partnership Composition, Job training opportunities for students (Wildlife) - The Payette National Forest continues to work on the strength and diversity of partnership composition within the CFLRP. In FY21 the Forest continued successful partnerships in conjunction with CFLRP. Partners include Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USGS, USFS volunteers, University of Idaho, Idaho Conservation Corps (ICC) crews, Council Education Resource Crew (CERC), and private landowners (OX Ranch). Supporting documentation includes: Annual UOI NIDGS Research Project report (expected late 2021) and Annual IDFG NIDGS Population Monitoring Report (expected early 2022)

Relationship Building/Collaborative Work - The Payette Forest Coalition (PFC) continues to be committed to the WLSH CFLRP to provide recommendations for large scale landscape restoration. The PFC has maintained its membership at 25 voting members this year. The PFC helped strengthen the design, analysis, and ultimately the decisions with the CFLRP projects. In FY21 there have been 10 virtual full PFC meetings, 3 group field trips, and 2 vegetation and roads/recreation subcommittee meetings. There continues to be relatively strong attendance and participation and the field trips have been great for reconnecting with folks in light of mostly virtual meetings due to covid concerns. The PFC focused their work on reviewing and providing input and support for the: Cold July Forest Restoration Project (provided treatment recommendation and a letter of support), Sloans Point Forest Restoration Project (provided a letter of support, and the decision was signed December 2021), Little Weiser Forest Restoration Project (provided treatment recommendations, a letter of support, and the decision was signed), and the decision was signed), and the decision was signed), and the decision was signed December 2021).

The PFC and the PNF are continuing to work through challenges related to the loss of the Lost Creek Boulder Creek lawsuit, the Woodhead fire from 2020, and response to insect outbreaks in 2019 and 2020. Those incidents have resulted in the Forest moving from some of our larger more holistic planning projects to more focused planning projects to address forest health issues associated with wildfires and insects as well as to address concerns with several awarded timber sale/stewardship contracts that no longer have valid NEPA. This shift from larger holistic projects to focused projects has strained the relationship between the PFC and the Forest, and we have been working to maintain the healthy relationship we have until we can get back to projects that better lend themselves to collaboration. Despite these challenges, the PFC and Forest have maintained a positive working relationship with continued support from the PFC of numerous projects as described above.

Volunteer/Outreach Participation - The WLSH CFLRP continues to work on building and strengthening volunteer participation working in conjunction with the partners and members of the Payette Forest Coalition (PFC) on projects within the CFLRP boundary. The Forest is currently working with the PFC to build new ideas to strengthen volunteer participation in citizen science efforts and opportunities and forming a motivated sub-committee to discuss ideas and participation on monitoring work. The Forest continues to build a foundation to develop stronger participation within the CFLRP boundary, including citizen science and monitoring projects and continues to encourage and assist partners to develop tools to be successful.

- 5. Based on your project monitoring plan, describe the multiparty monitoring process. Consider:
 - 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 FY21.

Fire Regimes are monitored within areas treated by prescribed fire or mechanical thinning (commercial and/or noncommercial). Pile burning is not involved in the monitoring plan. Fixed plots are utilized in measuring surface fuel loading, canopy base height, fire return interval, species composition, stand structure, and canopy closure.

Only a small portion of each type of treatment within the various vegetation and fuel conditions are monitored due to limitations in funding and resources. Acres treated per year are recorded within the FACTS database. Project-scale monitoring captures the effectiveness of thinning and/or burning among areas treated since 2012. Landscape-scale monitoring captures the progress made in achieving landscape objectives across the various treatments in all projects within the WLSH CFLRP area. Effectiveness monitoring is accomplished yearly and sometimes monthly by the Payette Forest Coalition, where the group was involved in all aspects of restoration type work within the CFLRP area.

Range and Weed technicians continued surveying and inventorying system and non-system roads. Technicians traveled by vehicle, UTV, ATV and sometimes on foot for noxious and invasive weeds within the Lost Creek/Boulder Creek. Crews also began work surveying the Granite Meadows project area. Data collected will be used for baseline information. Weeds typically infest ground disturbed areas associated with road work activities, harvest units, prescribed burns, etc. Monitoring these areas will need to be completed as activity units are identified throughout the project to collect baseline information to detect a change in weed infestations. At the same time these noxious weeds are detected, they are inventoried in the FACTS database, and monitored later in the season. Crews will use this monitoring data to treat the weeds the next year and at the same time continue to monitor the progress of the treatments.

Due to continuing COVID-19 restrictions and resulting adjustments, the Payette National Forest and PFC field trips were limited in FY2020 and FY2021. To verify the effectiveness of restoration actions for areas of concern, the Forest, in collaboration with RMRS, completed monitoring focused on evaluating the success of restoration activities on reestablishing low-elevation ponderosa pine dominated- forest habitats and associated wildlife species in CFLRP project areas. The monitoring focused on habitat for the white-headed woodpecker (R4 sensitive species). Data collection was completed for a RMRS CFLRP-based research project conducted across three Forests in two FS Regions in FY2020. Research was designed to assess how well the WLSH CFLRP is meeting forest restoration and wildlife habitat conservation goals. This work contributes to on-going, regional efforts to monitor occupancy and effectiveness of silvicultural treatments for white-headed woodpeckers across their range in western Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. RMRS researchers, with leads Dr. Vicki Saab and Dr. Jon Dudley, are currently processing research results. The M.S. Thesis (Space Use and Foraging Patterns of the White-headed Woodpecker in Western Idaho, Kehoe; January 2017) (T:\FS\RD\RMRS\Science\WTE\Research\RMRS-WHWO\Payette CFLRP\AKehoe thesis) completed in 2018 from this project provides a baseline of information for the continued research on white-headed woodpeckers in CFLRP areas. Forest Service wildlife crews continued long-term wildlife monitoring, including the use of baited camera stations for meso-carnivores and extensive deployment of ARUs (Acoustical Monitoring Units), to evaluate habitat use by both bats and birds, inside and outside of the greater WLSH CFLRP boundary.

The Payette National Forest continued the partnership with the University of Idaho (UOI), Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support research assessing the effectiveness of forest restoration treatments in support of recovery actions for Northern Idaho Ground Squirrels (NIDGS), a Federally listed species. The primary research project, led by Dr. Courtney Conway (UOI / USGS Cooperative Research Unit) is evaluating thin-and-burn treatments aimed at restoring NIDGS habitat, including site treatment effects on key forage plants/native plant species. (See photos, Appendix A p. 39-40.) Three of five research plots have been treated with commercial and pre-commercial thinning, followed by prescribed fire. Additional treatments are awaiting completion, but treatment schedules have been impacted by on-going litigation and the pandemic. This research project provided funding for three UOI graduate students: one doctoral student (graduated 2018) and two M.S. students (one anticipated to graduate in spring 2022 and the other just started.) To date, nine scientific articles have been published, with a 10th paper currently in peer-review. The final product produced by the project will be a published article documenting the response of NIDGSs populations to thin-and-burn treatments.

Anticipated products in peer-reviewed journals	Fiscal Year
Occupancy of white-headed woodpeckers with reference to CFLRP treatments across two USFS regions	FY22
Woodpecker movements in the context of CFLRP treatments	FY22
Nesting distribution and survival of white- headed woodpeckers in the context of CFLRP treatments	FY23
Integrated population modeling to inform forest management of woodpeckers in dry forests	FY23

The Payette Forest Coalition (PFC) has a monitoring sub-committee assigned with gathering information on implementation and post-project trends and results. The PFC Monitoring Committee's goal is to review monitoring updates from Forest resource specialists. This monitoring committee periodically summarizes results and communicates those to the larger PFC group. In FY21, primarily due to COVID, only one field trip to monitor post treatment outcomes was completed on the Little Red Goose Forest Resiliency Project.

The Payette National Forest in conjunction with the Intermountain Regional Office worked to acquire 1,001,000 acres of LiDAR data in 2017 (all of Washington County and the Granite Meadows Project). Approximately 204,700 acres were on National Forest System Land and 113,800 acres is within the Granite Meadows (Project #5) CFLR area. This effort was coordinated with partners such as the USGS, FEMA, USFS – Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS), Idaho Department of Lands, University of Idaho (U of I), and Oregon State University (OSU). The preliminary LiDAR was provided by the contractor to the Forest in April of 2018. The Forest collected field data during the FY18 field season and put in approximately 150 plots with the RMRS and OSU to train vegetation metric models. The Forest worked with RMRS and U of I to process and model secondary LiDAR products. The Forest and Intermountain Regional office again partnered with USGS and FEMA in 2019 to acquire Adams County, 358,800 acres of non-Forest Service land and 417,700 acres of National Forest System Land. This data set will be used in conjunction with the data plots collected

for the 2017 data and additional plots collected in 2021 to model vegetation metrics across this landscape. In partnership with the Intermountain Regional Office, the Forest again leveraged large scale acquisitions and partner funding to acquire the balance of the shared stewardship boundary (782,700 acres) and 660,800 acres of the South Fork Salmon River corridor. The Forest's LIDAR data is utilized to help design the projects and complete the environmental analyses that informs the decisions on the large landscape scale projects. See map below:



6. FY 2021 Agency performance measure accomplishments:

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units	Total Treatment
		Accomplished	Cost (\$)
			(Contract Costs)
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	0	\$0
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	428	\$58,020
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	2,250.60	\$154,327
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	Did not commit to measure under CFLRP	N/A
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	25.1	This performance measure is integrated with RD-DECOM
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	Did not commit to measure under CFLRP	N/A
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	2	Rolls up from other performance measures
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	5,659.53	Rolls up from other performance measures
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	Did not commit to measure under CFLRP	N/A
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN	Miles	219.90	\$87,600
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	220.70	\$176,000
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM (RD-DECOM-NON-SYS)	Miles	2.90	\$22,000
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	15.70	\$222,000
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	54.00	\$81,000
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	0	\$0
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	0	\$0
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles	216.37	\$90,000
Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD	Miles	1.75	\$97,686
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT	Miles	All work was completed in the CFLR area in FY17	N/A
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	224.00	

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units	Total Treatment		
		Accomplished	Cost (\$)		
			(Contract Costs)		
Volume of Timber Harvested	CCF	Did not commit to	N/A		
TMBR-VOL-HVST*		CFLRP			
Volume of timber sold	CCE	50 866 80	\$7,180,000		
TMBR-VOL-SLD*		50,800.89	\$7,180,000		
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed					
from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	11,263	\$280,600		
BIO-NRG*					
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban					
interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	5,123	\$102,460		
FP-FUELS-NON-WUI					
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority					
hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic			\$319,300		
wildland fire			, ,		
FP-FUELS-WUI					
	Acres	6,386			
Acres mitigated	Acres	11.509	\$421,760		
FP-FUELS-ALL-MIT-NFS		,===			
Please also include the acres of prescribed fire accomplished	Acres	9,304	\$466,200		
HBT-ENH-STRM-ECO-AC	Acres	250.25	Rolls up from other performance measures		
(Optional) Other performance measure not listed above	Acres				

Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record. For CFLRP projects under the CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy, items marked with a * help to address the <u>core CFLRP common monitoring strategy question</u>, "Did CFLRP increase economic utilization of restoration byproducts?"

7. The Washington Office (Enterprise Data Warehouse) will use spatial data provided in the databases of record to estimate a treatment footprint for each CFLRP project's 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, note the total acres treated below.

Fiscal Year	Footprint of Acres Treated (without counting an acre of treatment on the land in more than one treatment category)	
FY 2021	15,910 acres	
Estimated Cumulative Footprint of Acres (CFLRP start year through 2021)	178,835 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?

A query utilizing FACTS spatial data combined with FACTS tabular data was completed for FY21. This process

involved selecting any Sub-Unit Identifications (SUIDs) associated with the CFLR013 implementation project that were reported as accomplished and/or completed in FACTS in FY21 and joining that tabular data with the spatial data. The acres of these polygons were then calculated and reported as footprint acres for FY21. The Forest also refers to the prior year reports developed. Data was also analyzed and compared with the results from the Washington Office.

8. Describe any reasons that the FY 2021 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?

Due to litigation from LCBC and the resulting Record of Decision being vacated by the court resulted in lower amounts of the following performance measures being accomplished and/or completed in FY21: FOR-VEG-EST; FOR-VEG-IMP; S&W-RSRC-IMP; HBT-ENH-STRM; RD-DECOM; STRM-CROS-MTG-STD; TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC; & FP-FUELS-NON-WUI.

As reported in previous years, at the time of the original proposal the Forest was anticipating that an additional cogeneration facility was going to be built within the WLSH CFLRP area to produce large amounts of biomass material, and the facility plans were cancelled. The Forest continues to subsidize the removal of biomass with stewardship contracts to achieve this performance measure and meet the target goals.

(OPTIONAL) FY 2021 Additional accomplishment narrative – If desired, please use this space to describe additional accomplishments the CFLRP project participants are proud of from FY21 not already described elsewhere in this report.

In FY21, seven sites were revisited in the Brownlee Little Pine CFLRP area, and their documentation was updated. Four of these previously identified sites are eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). An additional eleven sites were newly identified within the project area, of which eight are eligible for NRHP inclusion. A total of 1695 acres of new survey was completed withing the Brownlee Little Pine CFLR boundary. To facilitate this work, the Heritage program collaborated with Idaho Department of Lands to contract out the Heritage surveys, site visitation, and report production. In addition, a total of 1,900 acres of new survey was conducted in both the Middle Fork Weiser River and Huckleberry CFLR boundaries. Survey in these project areas facilitated the completion of timber harvest, fuels treatments, and road decommissioning activities. This work was completed by Payette National Forest Heritage Program Staff and was augmented by three Idaho Conservation Corps internships, one of which was a part of the Resource Assistant Program. These internships provided the technicians with the experience necessary to apply for permanent and seasonal positions on the Payette. Despite challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Heritage Program was able to monitor new and existing culturally significant archaeological sites, conduct a total of 3,595 acres of new survey, and strengthen relationships between partners such as the Idaho Department of Lands. See photos, Appendix B p.41.

In FY21 Council Ranger District began work on the Great American Outdoors Act-funded Little Weiser River Trail Rehabilitation Project and approximately 85% percent of the proposed work was completed. The remaining work will be completed in the FY22 field season using remaining GAOA funds. The project involved several reroutes of varying lengths to eliminate two cumbersome and potentially hazardous fiords of the Little Weiser River and eliminated use of areas with severe erosion problems or which were located on wet, saturated soils through the majority of the use

season. In addition, areas of eroded, worn, or damaged trail tread were re-constructed and drainage structures added, as necessary. Environmental Analysis and clearance for this were completed under the 2021 Little Weiser River Forest Resiliency Project. In addition to the obvious benefits to trail users (hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians), the project benefits the watershed and aquatic resources in the Little Weiser River and its tributaries, including ESA-listed Bull Trout. Work was completed by Idaho Conservation Corps crews, as well as Forest personnel. The Council Ranger District also addressed significant erosion on the Warm Springs Trail, which posed a significant hazard to trail users, with an approximately 500 ft. reroute and erosion control/restoration actions. The erosion was a result of the 2018 Mesa Fire. See Weiser River and Warm Springs photos, Appendix C p. 42-43.

On the McCall and New Meadows Ranger Districts, work within the CFLRP boundary included trail maintenance and improvements by force account labor and volunteer time from the Idaho Conservation Corps, Montana Conservation Corps, Idaho Trails Association, Central Idaho Trail Riders Alliance, Central Idaho Mountain Bike Association, and Backcountry Horsemen Squaw Butte Chapter. Trail bridges were replaced on the Center Ridge and Pete Creek trails, directly benefitting watershed conditions while improving the recreation experience. On the Willow Creek trail, improved signage and rock placement completed in FY21 should prevent motor vehicles from fording Willow Creek. Heavy maintenance and drainage improvements also occurred on the Willow Creek and Hard Creek trails, in partnership with Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR). Two re-routes, funded through the Great American Outdoors Act, were started as well. Portions of the Bear Pete Ridge trail were rerouted to decrease soil erosion (this project is complete). Re-routes were also started on the French Creek trail and will continue into FY22. This project will move the trail out of wet and boggy areas, allowing for more natural water flow in the French Creek drainage. See photos, Appendix D p.44.

The Forest completed 5,672 acres of terrestrial habitat enhancement in CFLRP projects via understory thinning and prescribed burning. In addition, the University of Idaho research project was able to hire a total of four student field technicians, including two MS students.

The Forest Weed crews completed 2,250 acres of noxious weed treatments within the CFLR boundary. These crews use the Early Detection, Rapid Response (EDRR) process to not only treat but monitor the progress of weed control. This work involved looking at previous year's data, treating those areas if needed, and locating new populations, mapping any changes, reporting in databases, and monitoring.

A wide variety of work was accomplished in FY21 through stewardship contracts awarded in prior fiscal years. Work is funded with the timber value on each contract. Accomplishments include road reconstruction as well as road obliteration; non-commercial thinning in natural as well as plantation stands; slash work to include lopping, scattering and pullback around residual timber (to facilitate RX burns) and grinding or chipping of slash piles generated from logging, which is then burned for energy at the local mill's cogeneration plant. Tree seedlings were planted in May by a contractor in the Mesa Fire Salvage area and administered by forest managers from the Council Ranger District. Approximately 57,200 tree seedlings were planted in 260 acres to reforest some areas salvaged in 2019. Idaho Conservation Corps (ICC) crew of four youth and/or young adults in natural resource management assisted in the flagging, marking, tagging, and GPS the boundaries of 1,112 acres of non-commercial thinning units on the Forest. ICC crew's assistance was essential to meeting the target acres in FY20 and FY21.

Soil and water resource improvements accomplished through road decommissioning, erosion control, and revegetation treatments have provided opportunities to engage volunteers and youth groups in actual "on-the-ground" resource restoration. During FY20, the Council Ranger District, through a Challenge Cost Share Agreement,

funded five students and one teacher from Council and Cambridge School Districts as a summer youth crew; these students assisted programs like watershed, range and recreation with riparian planting, fencing, spring restoration, campground and trail maintenance.

The Payette Forest accomplished a total of 25.1 acres of soil and water resource improvements within the CFLRP during FY21. Recovery of soil productivity and hydrologic function was initiated by fully obliterating road prisms for a total of 2.9 miles in Brundage Bear Basin project area. Using the assumption of 5 acres per mile, a total of 14.4 acres of restoration was claimed. Planting occurred on 2.0 acres on Lick Creek (tributary to Wildhorse River). This work was part of a project that placed beaver dam analog structures into a low gradient stream to promote a higher water table and recover riparian dependent vegetation in the stream corridor. The Nez Perce Tribe and the Idaho Fish and Game partnered with the Forest, along with the CERC and YCC crew from Council. The objective of the project was to install BDA (Beaver Dam Analog Structures and PALS (Post Assisted Log Structures) to slow the water velocity, impound water, and raise the adjacent water table of the riparian area. PAL structures were used to divert flow away from eroding banks. The Lick Creek BDA project also reported two miles of habitat improvement. Additionally, two acres of planting in the Mill Creek-Council Mountain project, near No Business Lookout occurred. See photos, Appendix E, p. 45-46.

The Forest also achieved two miles of stream habitat enhancement through road decommissioning adjacent to streams. Most of these accomplishments came from decommissioning system and non-system roads adjacent to stream channels.

The Council High School and Forest Service, with help from grant money, built and operated a greenhouse to grow and then plant native shrubs on watershed restoration projects. On average, approximately 2,000 native seedlings are grown each year by the school as part of a Challenge Cost Share agreement with the FS. The Council Education Resource Crew (CERC) comprised of Council High School students planted upland and riparian vegetation, spread grass seed and assisted establishing monitoring plots with the CFLRP project area.

In FY21 local employment opportunities were provided to youth through the Forest's Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program in both Adams and Valley County. Two YCC crews were established—one crew based out of Council, Idaho and the other based out of McCall, Idaho. Both YCC crews were comprised of four local high school students and a crew lead. All eight students and the crew leads worked and acquired conservation education in natural resource-based areas including recreation, range, watershed, wildlife, and fisheries. These employees worked within the CFLRP area intermittently throughout the summer season. Students from both groups provided the Forest crews with much needed staffing while gaining first-hand experience in natural resources research and management. See photos, Appendix F p.47.

The Payette Forest Coalition (PFC), finished working with the WLSH project in the last year of funding and are in anticipation of the WLSH receiving funding for an extension. The group is consistently committed in decision making and collaboration with the CFLRP program and strengthened the design and analysis of the projects with the large landscape area. The PFC continues to strengthen every year and increase in diversity. Their group has grown from 14 voting members at the beginning of the CFLRP project to now a diverse group of 25 voting members. The PFC's steering committee has also acquired new enthusiastic members to make up a five-member strong and diverse decision-making body. In FY21 all meetings were held virtually due to COVID concerns. Although participation is down slightly, it appears there continues to be relatively strong engagement. The collaborative group continues to

work on dynamics of team building and cohesion at a high, consistent level. The PFC is looking forward to continuing to work on the WLSH when the funding comes in for the extension.

The Payette National Forest issued a new agreement to continue the partnership with Southwest Idaho RC&D to administer the contracts and payments for Payette Forest Coalition facilitator, note keeper, and web services. The Land Allocation Committee (a sub-committee within the PFC) did not meet in FY21 due to COVID concerns. When the committee meets, they evaluate land use designations on the east side of the Forest and works towards recommendations on potential adjustments to recommended wilderness and other backcountry designations on the Forest.

(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?

In FY21, the Agency's budget modernization impacted the Forests workforce and capacity. Limits on how much the Forest could spend on salary and expenses impacted permanent hiring, tour extensions for permanent seasonal employees, the number and timing of our temporary workforce, and overtime available to complete critical work. In addition to impacting the Forests internal capacity due to how appropriated funds could be utilized, only a small amount of the anticipated \$4 million of CFLR funds came to the Forest in FY21. This reduced funding resulted in reduced work and monitoring that we were able to complete (i.e. non-commercial thinning to reduce hazardous fuels, road decommissioning, timber sale preparation, and ESA species monitoring through partners) that we had hoped to achieve.

Vacant timber, silviculture, and hydrology positions and recently hired inexperienced employees have also contributed to a bottleneck in FY21. These vacancies in FY21 caused more challenges in completing quantity and quality of a variety of work on the forest including within Forest Activity Tracking System (FACTS). Most silviculture, timber and fuels personnel are new to using FACTS, and have a steep learning curve. A FACTS lead coordinator position on the Forest would be helpful to train, mentor, and coach FACTS users, and monitor all FACTS data to assure quality and accurate reporting.

While the Forest has been successful at gaining efficiencies on the planning side, it has increased the complexity of Sale Administration. The Forest is seeing an increase in contract modifications due to contractual issues on the ground. This is putting a strain on multiple resource areas (Harvest Inspector, Sale Administrator, Forest Service Representative, Contracting Officer, Engineering Representative and Resource Specialists). The Forest is working through the modifications, but this comes at a cost of shifting work from the presale side to the Sale Administration side.

Because it is still unknown if the Weiser Little Salmon Headwaters CFLRP will receive funding for the project extension in FY22, this table is intentionally left blank.

Performance Measure Code	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment for 2021 (National Forest System)	Planned Accomplishment on non-NFS lands within the CFLRP landscape. ⁹
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG- EST	Acres		
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre		
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		
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles		
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF		
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons		
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		

Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2021 is available.

10. Planned accomplishment narrative and justification <u>if</u> planned FY 2022 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (<u>for CFLRP projects with known ongoing funding in FY22</u>):

Because it is still unknown if the Weiser Little Salmon Headwaters CFLRP will receive funding for the project extension in FY22, this question is intentionally left blank.

⁸ Projects funded beginning in FY21, or extensions of 5 years or more, will be following the new Common Monitoring Strategy and will be asked to provide information on invasives, wildlife habitat, and reduction in fuels that go beyond acre tallies. Please work with your Regional CFLRP Coordinator as these are implemented.

⁹ 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

11. 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.¹⁰

Our collaborative, the Payette Forest Coalition, maintains and manages their own website: <u>www.payetteforestcoalition.org</u>. They also managed Facebook page under Payette Forest Coalition. Their current member list has not changed from FY21. Here is the <u>current member list for the PFC</u>.

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

Payette National Forest CFLRP Media Clips 2021

U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Rovivin Fox • September 24 • •

As part of a continuing effort to manage habitat for the threatened Northern Idaho Ground Squirrels (NIDGS), the Payette NF will be conducting three 10-acre research burns this coming Sunday and Monday, September 26-27, 2021. These controlled burns are designed in cooperation with an on-going research project with the University of Idaho to study habitat suitability for these small squirrels only found in small populations in Adams and Valley County.

Warm fall days are ideal because the fuel moistures have come down enough to reduce risk; but not so much that fire won't burn as prescribed. These burns are several miles away from communities, and clear days are ideal for minimizing smoke impacts.

Click on "Payette NF" tab



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Brian Harris O - June 22 - S

Traffic delay on Goose Creek Road from highway 55 to Last Chance Campground.

Motorists can expect as much as a two-hour delay on Goose Creek Road between highway 55 and Last Chance Campground due to logging operations along the roadway in effect now (June 21 through June 25).

Goose Creek Road north of the campground is temporarily closed to all traffic for this logging operation to the intersection with Meadows Goose Lake Road through the end of this month or until the logging operations are complete.



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Brian Harris • August 19 · @

Resource managers from the Payette and Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, and local contractors picked 305 bushels of ponderosa pine cones from the Marvin Lowry Seed Orchard (a.k.a. Salmon River Seed Orchard).

Pine cones were delivered to Coeur D'Alene Nursery and Lucky Peak Nursery for seed extraction, storage, and future sowing. This ponderosa pine seed collection will create hundreds of thousands of tree seedings for forest managers to utilize and facilitate reforestation efforts on Boise and Payette National Forests, and help to create more resilient forests to insects, disease, and wildfre.



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Brian Harris @ - June 8 · @

The U.S. Forest Service is investing \$250,000 in the Evergreen Mill in Tamarack as part of the agency's Wood Innovation and Community Forest Grant programs.

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The grant funding will support engineering and installation of a new specialized lumber stacker at the Evergreen Mill outside of New Meadows. With this new equipment and improved throughput efficiency, the mill will be able to handle smaller diameter timber in shorter lengths to produce small dimensional lumber products.

This grant helps to provide valuable equipment to our local timber infrastructure. These dollars are going directly towards increasing the capabilities of the mill as this supports our efforts in proactively implementing forest restoration projects.



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Brian Harris O - August 17 · 🕤

With a considerable amount of fire this year on Idaho Department of Lands ground, and across National Forests, together with the Idaho Department of Lands, the Payette National Forest is taking a no boundaries approach to proactive forest management through the Share Stewardship program. While the Payette feeds a great deal of timber to our local mills already (approximately of 13,000 logging trucks just per year), an increased supply equates to additional fuels treatments, a stronger local economy, and forest health work being done on the ground.



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Brian Harris O - June 4 - O

Temporary Road Closure - Upper Goose Creek Road

To facilitate a logging operation north of Last Change Campground, Goose Creek Road will be closed beginning today just north of the campground to the intersection of Meadows - Goose Lake Road. The operation will be taking place on both sides of the narrow single lane road and passage around the operation is not feasible.

To reach Goose Lake from the New Meadows side, use the Meadows-Goose Lake Road that is accessed from Wallace Lane. Be aware that snow pack may still prevent the full travel to Goose Lake.

National Forest System Road #50453 Road Closure Order # 0412-559



¹⁰ For CFLRP projects under the CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy, this table addresses the <u>core CFLRP common monitoring strategy</u> question, "Who is involved in the collaborative and if/how does that change over time?"

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U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by David LaChapelle @ • May 14 • @

Over the last couple weeks West Zone Fuels personnel have completed 3200 acres of Prescribed Fire in the Summit Creek and Dick Ross Creek areas. These burns were to help reduce the effects of wildfire and help improve wildlife habitat.



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Cody Allred O · November 19, 2020 · O

When it comes to determining fish species present on the Forest, often new technologies get all the limelight, and for good cause. Many of these technologies, like eDNA (a process where samples are taken in streams and tested for DNA to monitor fish species) are affordable and efficient means of collecting quality fisheries data and provide options when other techniques are not viable.

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That said, nothing can give you information on what's in the water quite like getting in t... See more





Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) for Summer of 2021!

The Payette National Forest is now recruiting for the upcoming 2021 YCC Field Crew in McCall/New Meadows and in Council (see flyers below).

WHO: Local high school students, boys and girls 15-18 years of age.... See more



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U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Brian Harris O - November 2, 2020 - O

Fire Managers on the West Zone of the Payette have begun prescribed fire operations on some thinning slash units in the East fork of the Weiser River drainage. Managers are hopeful to get 50 acres a day until rain is predicted later in the week. These prescribed fire are a part of the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration project on the Payette National Forest.



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Cody Allred O - November 30, 2020 · O

Nearly 25 years ago, Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station soil scientist Debbie Page-Dumroese installed a soil study site about 20 miles northwest of Council.

This study site is one of about 100 installations across North American that look at how soil compaction and removal of organic matter alter long-term site productivity. Researchers have used this site to measure both tree and soil responses to the treatments.

Specifically, all the study sites measure re... See more



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Cody Allred O · November 2, 2020 · O

Pony Meadows Research Natural Area (RNA), located on the Payette National Forest, was established in 1979. The area features wet meadows, streams, ponds, a shallow lake, a spruce bog, all in a backdrop of burned and unburned forests of several types and rocky slopes.

RNAs, as they are most commonly called, serve as reference sites for how conditions persist or change naturally in absence of management activities. RNAs protect some of the finest examples of natural ecosyste... See more



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Cody Allred O - October 9, 2020 - O

Prescribed fires will be conducted this fall on the Council Ranger District, New Meadows Ranger District, McCall Ranger District and Krassel Ranger District.

In the Council Ranger District, prescribed fires will be conducted to remove landing piles along the Middle Fork of the Weiser River, nine miles southeast of Council.

In the New Meadows Ranger District, prescribed fires will occur to remove hand and landing piles west of Highway 95 near Evergreen Campground, in the L... See more



U.S. Forest Service - Payette National Forest Published by Cody Allred O · October 15, 2020 · O

This summer, the botany crew traveled all across the Payette National Forest to conduct surveys on the variety of plants on the Forest.

Some of their most remote and rugged excursions were in search of the Tobias Saxifrage, a rare plant native to Adam's County, nestled away in alpine bedrock (see photo 1). By having updated information on the status of this plant, botanists are able to inform future management decisions on the species and the habitat it occupies. In addi...See more



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Payette National Forest Public Affairs: Brian Harris(208) 634-6945

Payette National Forest

Public Scoping Period Opens for the Lost Ant Recreation Management Project and Aquatic Organism Passage Management Project

Payette National Forest Requests Scoping Comments on Recreation and AquaticOrganism Passage Projects

New Meadows, ID, July 26, 2021—The Payette National Forest invites scoping comments on the LostAnt Recreation Management Project and the Aquatic Organism Pasage Management Project. Comments will help inform project development during the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process.

Scoping comments would be most helpful if received by August 27, 2021. Comments can be submitted through the project webpages at https://www.is.usda.gov/project?project-20525 for the Aquatic Organism Passageway Management Project and at https://www.fs.usda.gov/project?project-60549 for the Lost Ant Recreation Management Project is proposed to enhance recreation opportunities in the Boulder Creek watershed and in the vicinity of Lost Valley Reservoir with an emphasis on improving current trails and trailhead parking, developing new trail opportunities for both motorized and non- motorized use, and providing sanitation facilities.

The New Meadows Ranger is proposing the Aquatic Organism Passage Management Project to enhance aquatic organism and fish passage at road-stream crossings and improve connectivity andhabitat for aquatic species.

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Forest Service News Release

Payette National Forest Public Affairs: Brian Harris (208) 634-6945

Public Scoping Period Opens for the Cold July Forest Restoration Project – Virtual Public Meeting to be Held

Payette National Forest Requests Scoping Comments on Restoration Project

New Meadows, ID, May 10, 2021—The Payette National Forest invites scoping comments on the Cold July Forest Restoration Project. Comments will help inform project development during the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Scoping comments would be most helpful if received by June 10, 2021. Comments can be submitted through the project webpage at https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60060 Click on "Comment/Object on Project".

The Cold July Project is on the New Meadows Ranger District of the Payette National Forest, approximately 5 miles west of New Meadows, Idaho. The project aims to improve the health of forest stands within the project area in order to increase insect and disease resiliency; reduce tree densities and fuel loadings to result in less intense fire behavior and facilitate effective wildland fire response; and enhance habitat for the northern Idaho ground squirref (NIDGS) and white-headed woodpecker. Vegetation management activities are proposed across the 20,000 are project area to meet project objectives. Road management activities would also occur in order to facilitate vegetation management activities.

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Payette National Fores

Forest Service News Release

Payette National Forest Public Affairs: Brian Harris (208) 634-6945 brian.d.harris@usda.gov

Public Comment Period Opens for the Brush Mountain Ecosystem Maintenance Burn Project – Virtual Public Meeting to be Held

Payette National Forest Requests Comments on Shared Stewardship Project New Meadows, DD, April 2, 2021. "The New Meadows Ranger District of the Payette National Forest invites public input on the development of the Brush Mountain Ecosystem Ministenance Burn Project. District Ranger Erin Phelps and her staff value public comment during this scoping period to halp inform Forest Service of thicka as the project is developed. The district request that comments be submitted through the project webpage at www.fs.usda.gov/project/Thronest=SoyTop by clicking on "Comment/Object on Project" by May 2, 2021.

The district will host a virtual public meeting on April 14 from 5:30 to 7 pm (Mountain Time). The meeting can be joined through the web at <u>https://usfs.zoomgov.com/j/1609547522</u> or by phone at 669-254-522, meeting ID 160 594 7522.

Prescribed burning and non-commercial thinning is proposed across approximately 27,000 acress to enhance wildlife habitst and forset stand structure and resiliency in portions of the Lower Little Salmon River, Middle Little Salmon River, Upper Little Salmon River, Middle Little Sal

Addressing Insect Attack in the Goose Creek Area Little Red Goose Forest Resilience Project

"We recognized a need to focus our efforts and do what we can to give the area a chance to bounce back from the high stressors elated to insects and disease." Erin Phelps, New Meadows District Ranger.

THE NEED FOR ACTION!

Central Idaho is being hit hard by insect infestations, fungus-caused root diseases, and parasitic plants that are killing trees. A recent USDA Forest Health and Protection report identified Douglas fir Tussock Moth, Western Spruce Budworm, Balsam Woolly adelgid, mistletoe and root diseases as heavily impacting central Idaho.

On the Payette National Forest, the report highlights the need to "adequately address the Douglas-fir Tussock Moth outbreak" currently impacting the proposed Little Red Goose project area.

LITTLE RED GOOSE FOREST RESILIENCE PROJECT



This project area is 8,800 acres in the Little Salmon River subbasin in Upper Goose Creek, Sixmile Creek, and Lower Goose Creek between McCall and New Meadows.

Aerial view of damage cause by the Douglas fir Tussock

Moth

Proposed treatments would occur on up to 3,000 acres identified within the larger 8,800-acre area with activities including commercial thinning, non-commercial thinning, commercial firewood removal, slash treatments (lop and scatter or pile burning),

and broadcast prescribed burning.

In order to quickly address this insect outbreak and the impacts to our forest, this project would focus vegetation treatments in the areas of high insect activity and tree mortality, as well as adjacent stands that are at risk. Treatments would be designed to increase the resiliency of the remaining trees and also to reduce hazard tree risk to forest visitors and infrastructure found in the Goose Creek area along roadways and the Last Chance Campground, as well as the Rock Flat area.

Return to Forest Home Page Go To Project Page

Bug killed trees in the

Creek Drainage.

A preliminary assessment of the project has determined it falls within a Categorical Exclusion as authorized by the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, specially section 603 regarding insect and disease to reduce the extent of, or increase resilience. This project will be designed to adhere to the specifications of that authority.

PUBLIC SCOPING FOR THIS PROJECT IS OPEN NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 21, 2019 Interested parties should submit issues pertinent to this proposal in writing by October 21, 2019. Comments will help inform the environmental analysis and decision making process. For more information on the project, including more details on the proposal and how to comment, visit the Little Red Goose project webpage at: https:// www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56833.

PUBLIC MEETING-OCTOBER 9, 2019

The Forest Service will host a public meeting on the Little Red Goose project October 9 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 at the Holiday Inn Express in McCall located at 210 North 3rd Street. The meeting will start with a short presentation with a question & answer period, then move to an open house format to provide opportunities for one to one interactions.



Insect damage on a Grand fir in the Goose Creek drainage.

TAKE A FLIGHT AROUND THE PROJECT AREA

Click the video links below and to the right to view aerial drone footage of the project area.



Return to Forest Home Page Go To Project Page

(OPTIONAL) For CFLRP Projects in the final year of their initial 10-year funding plans. Please use thisspace to provide any key reflections on lessons learned and opportunities for improvement for CFLRPmoving forward – this could be bullets, a few brief paragraphs, or links to reports you would like to share on this topic.

Signatures:

Recommended by (Project Coordinator(s)):

	Digitally signed by AMIE ANDERTON
LINDA JACKSON JACKSON Date: 2021.12.	by LINDA 14 12:28:49

Approved by (Forest Supervisor(s)):

Draft reviewed by (collaborative chair or representative): ______

APPENDIX A:

University of Idaho Performing Collaring and Monitoring Operations on the Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel in the <u>CFLRP Boundary</u>





University of Idaho Performing Collaring and Monitoring Operations on the Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel in the <u>CFLRP Boundary</u>





APPENDIX B:

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Warm Springs Trail Rehabilitation Project





Center Ridge Trail Bridge Installation Before and After Photos

Beaver Dam Analog Project



APPENDIX E (Cont.):

Road to Trail Conversion in Brundage Bear Basin Project Area





APPENDIX F:





