FY23 Annual Report - Rogue Basin CFLR30

Rogue River- Siskiyou National Forest



1. Executive Summary

Briefly summarize the top ecological, social, and economic accomplishments your CFLRP project participants are most proud of from FY23 and any key monitoring results. This is a space for key take-home points (< 500 words).

Ecological	Social	Economic
 9,980 of wildfire risk mitigation¹ on NFS lands 	 Convened over 44 organizations in the Rogue All Lands Resiliency Forum 	 96% of RBCFLRP funding was spent in local counties²
 2,769 Acres of hazardous fuels reduction in the Wildland Urban Interface 	 Tribal engagement strategy formalized, and a huge Peer to Peer Tribal Summit was organized for meaningful participation 	 \$ 9,614,061 expended in Rogue Basin
 90 ignitions across the forest with less than 80,000 acres burned 	 Engagement with industry on local workforce and increased local wood processing. 	 \$6,614,061 of partner match funding into the Rogue Basin

¹ Wildfire risk mitigation includes: hazardous fuels reduction within and outside of the wildland urban interface (WUI), and prescribed fire.

² The following counties are considered the local workforce area to the RBCFLRP: Jackson, Klamath, Douglas, Coos, Curry, and Josephine counties in OR; Del Norte, Siskiyou counties in CA.

2. Funding

CFLRP and Forest Service Match Expenditures

Fund Source:	Total Funds Expended
CFLN and/or CFIX Funds Expended	in Fiscal Year 2023
CFLN23	\$1,770,829.05
CFIX23	\$1,269,894.24
TOTAL	\$3,040,723.29 *

*This amount should match the amount of CFLN/CFIX dollars spent in the FMMI CFLRP expenditure report. An additional \$1,060,127 of FY22 CFLN funds were expended in FY23, but we're captured in the CFLRP FMMI report, making for a total of \$4,100,851. Include prior year CFLN dollars expended in this Fiscal Year. CFLN funds can only be spent on NFS lands.

Fund Source:	Total Funds Expended
Forest Service Salary and Expense Match Expended	in Fiscal Year 2023
NFSE	\$2,580,575.93
WFSE	\$1,431,663.79
TOTAL	\$4,012,240

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</u> <u>Guidance</u>.

Fund Source:	Total Funds Expended
Forest Service Discretionary Matching Funds	in Fiscal Year 2023
BDBD	<u>\$88,818</u>
TOTAL	\$88,818

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 as match if aligned with CFLRP proposal implementation.

Partner Match Contributions³

Fund Source: Partner Match	In-Kind Contribution or Funding Provided?	Total Estimated Funds/Value for	Description of CFLRP implementation or	Where activity/item is located or impacted
		FY23	monitoring activity	area
BLM Rogue Basin Fire & Fuels Support	□ In-kind contribution	\$96,200	Community wildfire risk reduction engagement	⊠ National Forest System Lands

³ Addresses Core Monitoring Question #13

Fund Source: Partner Match	In-Kind Contribution or Funding Provided?	Total Estimated Funds/Value for FY23	Description of CFLRP implementation or monitoring activity	Where activity/item is located or impacted area
	⊠ Funding			☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape
BLM Title II Prescription for	□ In-kind contribution ⊠ Funding	\$117,817	Cooperative Agreement, professional services to perform outreach/	National Forest System Lands
Safety		+,	engagement on fuels treatment	☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape: BLM
BLM Title II Pilot Joe	□ In-kind contribution ⊠ Funding	\$24,357	Cooperative Agreement to technical services,	National Forest System Lands
		<i> </i>	plus labor contribution	☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape: BLM
SOFRC/LRP/ OWEB	□ In-kind contribution	Professional services for		⊠ National Forest System Lands
Engagement	⊠ Funding	\$25,600	community outreach and education	☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
SOFRC/ODF Prescription for	□ In-kind contribution	\$277,482	Small forest grant for professional services and	National Forest System Lands
Safety	⊠ Funding	<i>¥271,</i> 402	labor	☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
OWEB Rogue Forest Resiliency	□ In-kind contribution	¢.co. 000	Professional and	National Forest System Lands
Initiative Capacity	⊠ Funding	\$60,000	technical services	□ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
SOFRC/ OWEB FFR	□ In-kind contribution	Collaborative canacity		National Forest System Lands
Collaborative	⊠ Funding	\$66,033	building	□ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
USFS CCS 2022	□ In-kind contribution	\$381,656	Project Planning & Implementation Support	National Forest System Lands
SPA CFLR	⊠ Funding	9201,020	with modification	□ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
USFS CCS 2022 SPA	□ In-kind contribution	\$41,157	CFLRP Prioritization Feasibility Study	⊠ National Forest System Lands

Fund Source: Partner Match	In-Kind Contribution or Funding Provided?	Total Estimated Funds/Value for FY23	Description of CFLRP implementation or monitoring activity	Where activity/item is located or impacted area
	⊠ Funding			Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
USFS CCS 2023	□ In-kind contribution		Monitoring of treatment	⊠ National Forest System Lands
SPA CFLR	⊠ Funding	\$222,816	effects including vegetation and spatial data analysis	⊠ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
USFS CCS 2023	□ In-kind contribution		CFLR Engagement &	⊠ National Forest System Lands
SPA	⊠ Funding	\$56,826	Communication – Basin Wide	☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
USFS CCS 2023	USFS CCS 2023		Workforce Development &	National Forest System Lands
SPA CFLR	⊠ Funding	\$36,000	Early Education	Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
Rogue Basin	□ In-kind contribution			National Forest System Lands
Partnership	⊠ Funding	\$40,920	Workforce Development	Other lands within CFLRP landscape:
OSFM Community Wildfire Risk	□ In-kind contribution			National Forest System Lands
Reduction FireWise	⊠ Funding	\$12,100	Community Education	Other lands within CFLRP landscape:

Total Funding: \$1,458,964

Total partner in-kind contributions for implementation and monitoring of a CFLR project across all lands within the CFLRP landscape.

Goods for Services Match

There were no goods for services match funding in 2023 for the Rogue Basin CFLRP.

Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract (for contracts awarded in FY23)	Totals
Total <u>revised non-monetary credit limit</u> for contracts awarded in FY23	\$N/A

Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract (for contracts awarded in FY23)	Totals
Revenue generated through Good Neighbor Agreements	Totals
	\$N/A

"Revised non-monetary credit limit" should be the amount in the "<u>Progress Report for Stewardship Credits, Integrated</u> <u>Resources Contracts or Agreements</u>" as of September 30. Additional information on the Progress Reports available in CFLR Annual Report Instructions. "Revenue generated from GNA" 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 proposal and work plan.

3. Activities on the Ground

FY 2023 Agency Performance Measure Accomplishments⁴ - Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record. Please note any discrepancies.

Core Restoration Treatments	Agency Performance Measure	NFS Acres	Non- NFS Acres	Total Acres
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) in the Wildland Urban Interface	FP-FUELS-WUI (reported in FACTS) ⁵	896 reported 3358.8 actual		3358.8
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) in the Wildland Urban Interface - COMPLETED	FP-FUELS-WUI-CMPLT (reported in FACTS) ⁶	1566.8	1204	2770.8
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) outside the Wildland Urban Interface	FP-FUELS-NON-WUI (reported in FACTS) ³	859 reported		1744
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) outside the Wildland Urban Interface - COMPLETED	FP-FUELS-NON-WUI-CMPLT (reported in FACTS) ⁴	885 reported 2053.2 actual	3,380	5,433.2
Wildfire Risk Mitigation Outcomes - Acres treated to mitigate wildfire risk ⁷	FP-FUELS-ALL-MIT-NFS (reported in FACTS)	377 reported 2,451.8 actual	3,876	6327.8
Prescribed Fire (acres)	Activity component of FP-FUELS- ALL (reported in FACTS)	1755	78	1,833
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Noxious weeds and invasive plants	INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC (reported in FACTS) ³	358.6 reported		358.6
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Noxious weeds and invasive plants - COMPLETED	INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC-CMPLT (reported in FACTS) ⁴	358.6 reported		358.6

⁴ This question helps track progress towards the CFLRP projects lifetime goals outlined in your CFLRP Proposal & Work Plan. Adapt table as needed.

⁵ For service contracts, the date accomplished is the date of contract award. For Force Account, the date accomplished is the date the work is completed

⁶ New Agency measure reported in FACTS when completed

⁷ Wildfire risk mitigation includes prescribed fire and hazardous fuels reduction.

Core Restoration Treatments	Agency Performance Measure	NFS Acres	Non- NFS Acres	Total Acres
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Terrestrial and aquatic species	INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC (reported in FACTS) ³⁸	30,138 reported		30,138
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Terrestrial and aquatic species - COMPLETED	INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC- CMPLT (reported in FACTS) ⁴⁹	0		0
Road Decommissioning (Unauthorized Road) (miles)	RD-DECOM-NON-SYS (Roads reporting)	0		0
Road Decommissioning (National Forest System Road) (miles)	RD-DECOM-SYS (Roads reporting)	0		0
Road Improvement (High Clearance) (miles)	RD-HC-IMP-MI (Roads reporting)	2.33		2.33
Road Improvement (Passenger Car System) (miles)	RD-PC-IMP-MI (Roads reporting)	17.89		17.89
Road Maintenance (High Clearance) (miles)	RD-HC-MAINT-MI (Roads reporting)	185.16		185.16
Road Maintenance (Passenger Car System) (miles)	RD-PC-MAINT-MI (Roads reporting)	340.57		340.57
Trail Improvement (miles)	TL-IMP-STD (Trails reporting)	0 reported 17 actual		17
Trail Maintenance (miles)	TL-MAINT-STD (Trails reporting)	0 reported 30 actual		30
Wildlife Habitat Restoration (acres)	HBT-ENH-TERR (reported in WIT)	30,138		30,138
Stream Crossings Mitigated (i.e. AOPs) (number)	STRM-CROS-MITG-STD (reported in WIT)	0 reported		0
Stream Habitat Enhanced (miles)	HBT-ENH-STRM (reported in WIT)	1		1
Lake Habitat Enhanced (acres)	HBT-ENH-LAK (reported in WIT)	0		0
Water or Soil Resources Protected, Maintained, or Improved (acres)	S&W-RSRC-IMP (reported in WIT)	1062		1062
Stand Improvement (acres)	FOR-VEG-IMP (reported in FACTS)	277 reported	4,215	4,492
Reforestation and revegetation (acres)	FOR-VEG-EST (reported in FACTS)	0 reported	1,596	1,596
Forests treated using timber sales (acres)	TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC (reported in FACTS)	0 reported	1,806	4,041
Timber Sale Volume	TMBR-VOL-SLD-MMBF	5.76679		5.76679
Watershed Improvement	WTRSHD-LDSCP-RSTR-ANN (reported in FACTS)	31836.29		31836.29

³ For service contracts, the date accomplished is the date of contract award. For Force Account, the date accomplished is the date the work is completed

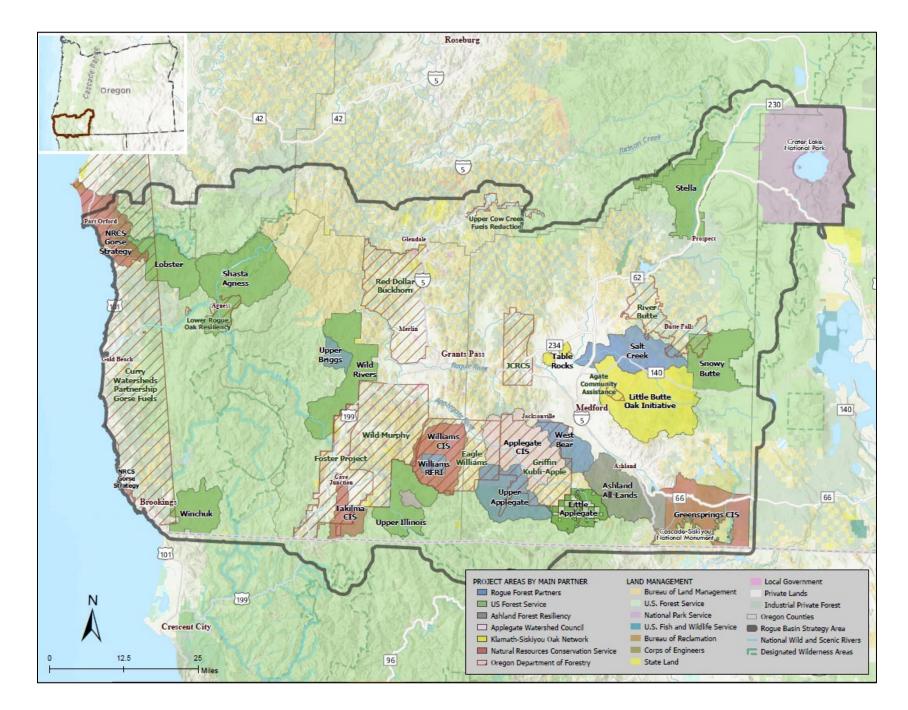
⁴ New Agency measure reported in FACTS when completed

Core Restoration Treatments	Agency Performance Measure	NFS Acres	Non- NFS Acres	Total Acres
Rangeland Vegetation Improvement (acres)	RG-VEG-IMP (reported in FACTS)	0 reported		0

• Is there any background or context you would like to provide regarding the information reported in the table above?

Several large wildfires occurred on the RRSNF in the summer of FY23 (Anvil, Flat, Smith River Complex), which significantly contributed to reported metrics of forest improvement, due to the fact that most of those fires burned at low to moderate severity, with corresponding beneficial ecological effects in many environments, especially where they overlapped previous fuels treatments. In addition, the Slater Fire of 2020 and associated disaster relief funds were finally able to be invested in road infrastructure within the fire footprint with the signature of the Slater Safe Re-Entry EA in the summer of FY23. This led to a significant increase in needed road improvement and maintenance throughout the CFLRP footprint and focal area.

Reflecting on treatments implemented in FY23, if/how has your CFLRP project aligned with other efforts to accomplish work at landscape scales? In the large landscape of the Rogue Basin, there are many ongoing cross-boundary efforts that have been enhanced with CFLRP funding. A few examples are described in detail below:



West Bear All Lands Restoration

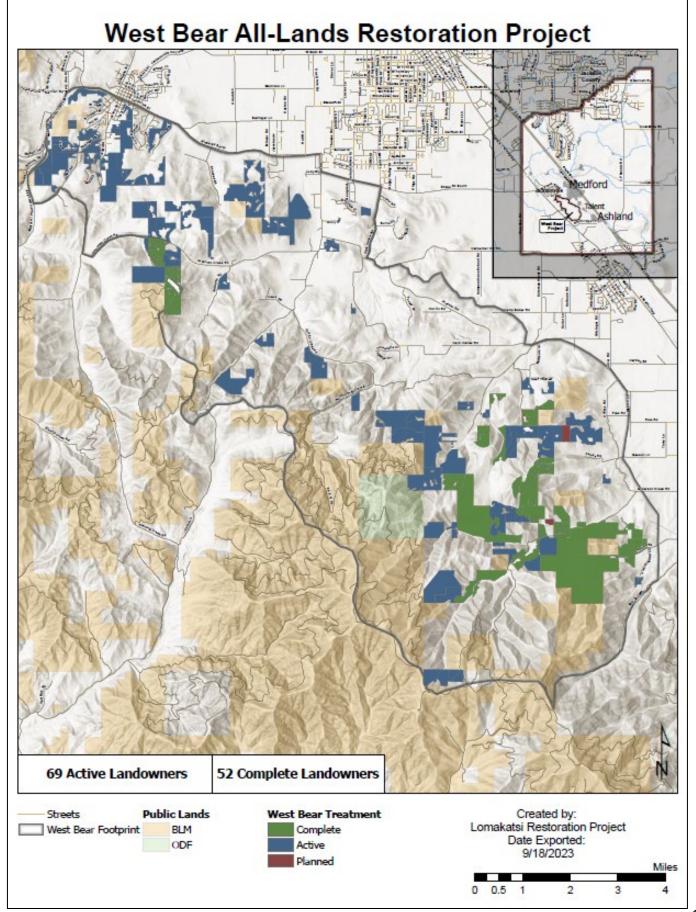
West Bear began with a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program award for \$500,000 to Lomakatsi Restoration Project through the Oregon Office of Emergency Management in 2020. West Bear All-Lands Restoration Project (West Bear) implements strategic forest health and wildfire reduction treatments adjacent to communities and important human and natural assets across a contiguous landscape extending from Ashland to Medford, west of the I-5 corridor, and across into the Jacksonville foothills.

Additional funding and partner co-investment for West Bear has since grown to over \$11 million. Most recently, the Rogue Forest Partners, including Lomakatsi, and collaborating agencies have begun coordinating with a diverse suite of public and private organizations to develop and implement the project. No previous forest and wildfire management project has sought this level of public engagement, partnership, applied scientific theory, and rigorous monitoring to provide clear and demonstrable public benefit at a significant scale.

This landscape is part of a region that harbors some of the most biodiversity on the continent, providing habitat to a variety of threatened and endangered species. The region has also experienced socio-economic challenges following the decline of the timber industry and is attempting to sustain quality stewardship and manufacturing jobs, while developing new recreation and tourism-oriented opportunities.

Administered by Rogue Forest Partners, West Bear builds upon over a decade of successful collaborative forest restoration, hazardous fuels reduction, and community wildfire protection and response to recent emergencies by leveraging and deploying targeted resources into an area of urgent need. The partnership coordinates a large, sustained effort that incorporates tribal rights and perspectives, workforce development, public health and safety, and social equity. The project now includes 110 landowners and continues to grow with planned connected actions.

Lomakatsi is the principal recipient of grant funding for West Bear and the lead partner for West Bear planning and design, implementation and monitoring, prescribed fire prescription development, community outreach, workforce, and engagement.

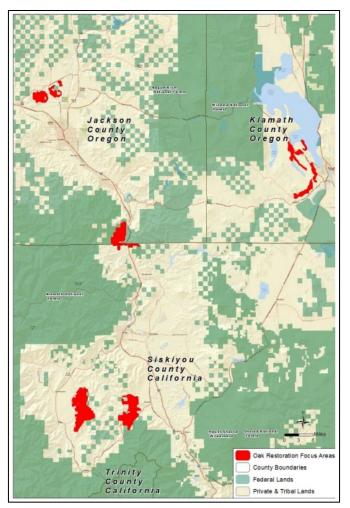


Upper Rogue Oak Initiative



The Klamath Bird Observatory is one of the Rogue Basin CFLRP's primary partners in pre and post implementation monitoring of the efficacy and effects of treatments on wildlife habitat. ODFW in partnership with the Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network (KSON) received a \$2.78 million federal grant from the America the Beautiful Challenge program to conduct oak-prairie habitat restoration in the Upper Rogue watershed. The funding comes from multiple federal agencies and compliments match funding from private donations designated for landscapescale conservation work directed by state, tribal, nonprofit, and working-lands partners.

The Upper Rogue Oak Initiative builds on a recently awarded \$7 million investment from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and \$3 million in matching funds to KSON's Little Butte Oak Initiative. Support for both initiatives will create landscape resiliency and wildlife connectivity, especially with Rogue Basin CFLRP funds at play in adjacent areas.



The additional investment expands the initiatives' geographic reach by restoring 800 acres of oak habitat using prescribed fire, ecological thinning to reduce conifer encroachment, noxious weed reduction, and native understory planting. For time immemorial, oak ecosystems have provided and continue to provide culturally important plants and other resources that sustain indigenous communities. Over the past century, oak-prairie ecosystems have experienced dramatic loss and degradation.

Through Lomakatsi's Tribal Partnerships Program and the Inter-Tribal Ecosystem Restoration Partnership, tribes and inter-tribal crew members have been supporting oak habitat restoration as part of KSON and related initiatives for over two decades. A central part of the grant application focuses on engaging with tribes and tribal communities with ancestral ties to the project area, to ensure indigenous voices and the incorporation of culturally beneficial resources and subsistence "first foods" into restoration planning.

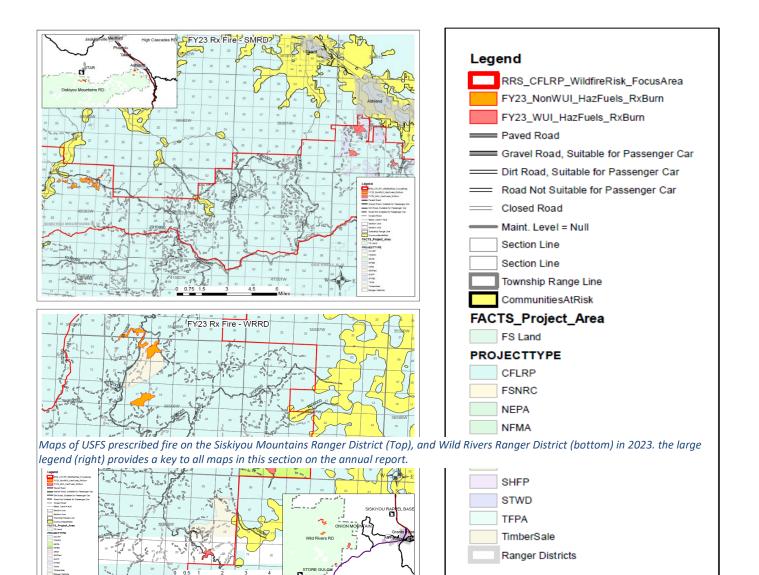
KSON partners anticipate equally distributing restoration actions across both private and BLM-administered public lands. Restoration treatments on BLM-administered lands are planned under various environmental analysis, including the Integrated Vegetation Management for Resilient Lands (IVM-RL) Environmental Assessment (EA). This project highlights the importance of an all lands, all hands approach to ecosystem restoration and fuels reduction projects.

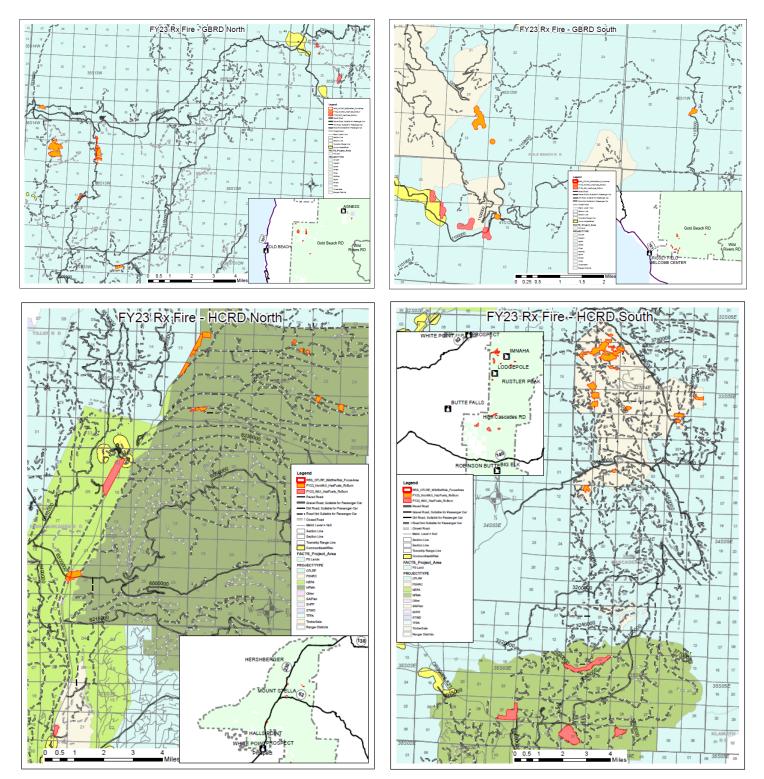
It is estimated that less than 25 percent of historic prairie-oak habitat remains across Oregon and the largest percentage of remaining oak habitat in the Pacific Northwest is in southwest Oregon. These remaining habitats are threatened by both land conversion and human-induced ecosystem process alterations. Oak habitat loss is a major threat to wildlife species in Oregon including Oak Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Black-throated Gray Warbler, and game animals such as deer and elk.

Forest Wide Prescribed Fire

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The Rogue Basin CFLRP has supported many partner-led projects across the landscape of the Rogue River – Siskiyou National Forest, such as those described above; however, the program funding has also been instrumental in empowering on-forest staff to execute projects, and catch up on prescribed fire and pile burning on NFS lands. The following maps illustrate the prescribed fire that has been applied on the RRSNF by fuels crews in 2023, as well as the strategic focus of these burns around communities at risk, and adjacent to other fuels reduction projects executed by Rogue Basin partners. In addition to implementing the following fuels treatments, the RRSNF had a record year of wildland fire suppression, with over 90 ignitions – both human and naturally caused – in some of the most challenging terrain in the continental United States, with less than 60,000 acres burned in total during the highest risk conditions in the Rogue Valley. This offense is supplemented by proactive defense provided by CFLRP funding throughout the year.

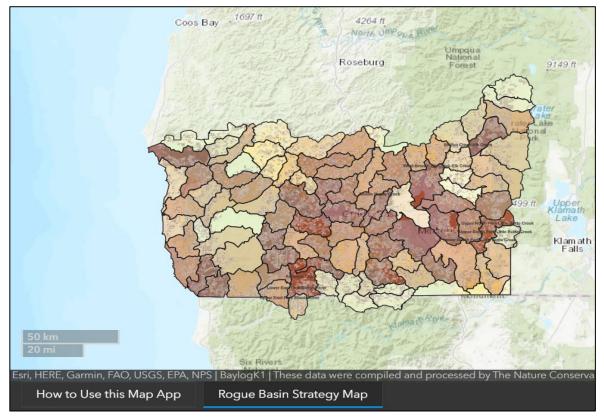




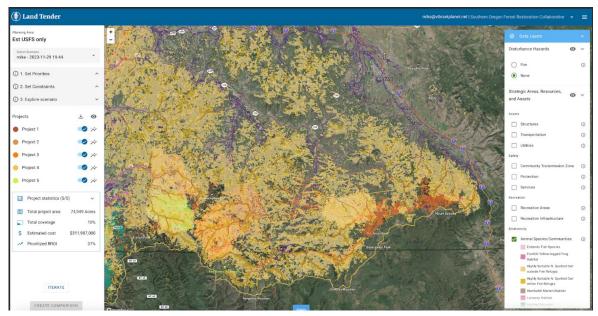
Maps of USFS prescribed fire on Gold Beach and Powers Ranger Districts N (top left), Gold Beach Ranger District South (top right), and the High Cascades Ranger District North (bottom left) and South (bottom right). Legend is enlarged on previous page.

4. Restoring Fire-Adapted Landscapes and Reducing Hazardous Fuels

Narrative Overview of <u>Treatments Completed in FY23</u> to restore fire-adapted landscapes and reduce hazardous fuels, 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 top figure shows the Rogue Basin All Lands Explorer, which has been integral in project area selection and prioritization of treatments in the Rogue Basin to date. This tool is being adapted into a new geospatial prioritization and monitoring tool - Land Tender in 2024 (shown in the figure below), which will allow for more granular analysis.



In addition to prioritization tools such as the All-Lands Explorer and the pending products by Land Tender, The Rogue Basin CFLRP has developed a number of ways to align with the Federal agencies (USFS and BLM) priorities across their public land jurisdictions, as well as the communities of private citizens and professionals to improve project outcomes.

- Detail the USFS POW that tailored/tailors to CFLRP implementation.
- Add detail of Quarterly Field reviews and adaptive mgmt to improve prescription/ outcomes

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

There are two prime examples of wildfire interactions with previously treated areas within the CFLRP boundary in 2023. There were over 90 discrete ignitions on the RRSNF in 2023 that we could pull from; however, the smaller Lamb Fire and the larger Flat Fire demonstrate both recent and longer-term successes at affected fire spread and intensity based on forest health and fuels reductions treatments.

The Lamb Fire (2.5 acres) burned through 2 acres of surface and ladder fuels reduction unit in the Ashland Forest Resiliency project. The treatment type that triggered FTEM completion was 'burning of piled material', which were completed in 2015. The Flat Fire burned over 30,000 acres, originating 1.2 miles south of the community of Agness. Landscape Resiliency Project funds administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry were utilized to completed thinning fuels treatments on 720 acres surrounding the community of Agness and adjacent to planned timber sale with the same goals – to reduce fuel loading and risk of catastrophic fire. These prior treatments were instrumental in reducing intensity and rates of spread (ROS) of these wildfires in 2023.

- <u>FROM FTEM (can be copied/summarized)</u>: Did the wildfire behavior change after the fire entered the treatment? Yes.
- <u>FROM FTEM (can be copied/summarized)</u>: Did the treatment contribute to the control and/or management of the wildfire? YES, contributed to ability for use direct attack and fire spread was slowed as it moved through treatment (decreased R.O.S)
- <u>FROM FTEM (can be copied/summarized)</u>: Was the treatment strategically located to affect the behavior of a future wildfire? Yes.
- 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? Yes, Ashland Forest Resiliency was a project completed with the City of Ashland, Lomakatsi, and The Nature Conservancy. This project had an all-lands aspect, and adjacent private land was treated as well. The majority of the FTEM interactions within the CFLRP boundaries occurred on the western edge of the Flat Fire on the Gold Beach Ranger District. These treatments were an accumulation of previously treated then maintained fire lines from major past fires occurring within the footprint of the Flat Fire in 2023. The community and partners recognized the importance of these treatments on the landscape due to their utilization on past fires in the area the Biscuit (2002), Collier Butte (2015), Chetco Bar (2017), Taylor/Klondike (2018) and supported projects to enhance and maintain them.
- What resource values were you and your partners concerned with protecting or enhancing? Did the treatments help to address these value concerns? These treatments were part in a series of treatments aimed at protected the Ashland Watershed and the community of Agness from catastrophic wildfire, while improving forest resiliency and unique habitats.
- How are planned treatments affected by the fire over the rest of the project? Was there any resource benefit from the fire that was accomplished within the CFLRP footprint or is complementary to planned activities?

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The Lamb fire will not affect any planned treatments. The fire burned at low and moderate severity, which moved all 2.5 acres towards a desired condition. The Flat Fire did interact with a pre-marked timber sale called Oak Flat. While the timber sale is anticipated to create conditions for future under burning in the area, there are some contractual obligations and re-work to be done to accommodate for impacts of the wildfire – particularly in regard to estimated timber values and wildlife habitat considerations. Some of these footprint acres experienced fuels reduction benefits complementary to the project planning. The fire was human caused with a full suppression strategy, though the previous treatments allowed suppression personnel to respond quickly, take an aggressive response strategy to fire out areas appropriately while allowing for lower impacts to natural resources.

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

The fuels reduction treatments in this unit moderated wildfire behavior and contributed to successful initial attack. Continuing treatments of this type and maintaining those treatments are important for reducing wildfire risk throughout the forest, especially adjacent to human communities. The Flat Fire occurred under extreme conditions in rugged terrain at the confluence of two major river systems. The area just north of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness is conducive to extremely large, hard to control, long duration fire events. The frequent fire history has led to many reactive and then proactive fuels reduction efforts to build and maintain fuels treatments in strategic locations to protect communities including Agness and Gold Beach.

FY23 Wildfire/Hazardous Fuels Expenditures

Category	\$
FY23 Wildfire Preparedness*	\$5,000,000 - 10,000,000
FY23 Wildfire Suppression**	\$170,000,000
FY23 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (CFLN, CFIX)	\$1,176,000
FY23 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (other BLIs)	\$1,400,000

* 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).

** Include emergency fire suppression and BAER within the project landscape.

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. (If not relevant for this year, note "N/A")

We do not have a great model developed to measure the cost savings in fire suppression exactly to date; however fuels treatments were utilized during the Flat fire and other fires containment in 2023. Having these treatments in place allowed for suppression personnel to quickly take action and begin burning out fuel between the main fire and the containment edge. Had these treatments not be existing on the landscape, many weeks of work would have been required before successful implementation could have taken place. Fire spread was moving extremely quickly at a pace of multiple miles per day. The fire would have likely outpaced suppression efforts making it much more likely that communities, forest resources and private land would have been impacted.

5. Additional Ecological Goals

Narrative Overview of <u>Treatments Completed in FY23</u> to achieve ecological goals outlined in your CFLRP proposal and work plan.

One of the best examples of leveraged funding towards strategic wildfire risk reduction and unique habitat maintenance within the Rogue Basin CFLRP Project area occurred with the collaboration of the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative, and the Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest's Gold **Beach Ranger District to implement** 720 acres of Landscape Resiliency Program funding around the community of Agness, in advance of the human caused Flat Fire in 2023, that threatened the community of Agness. The 720 acres across 19 units within the Shasta Agness restoration planning area that were implemented in FY2023 were designed for several ecological goals



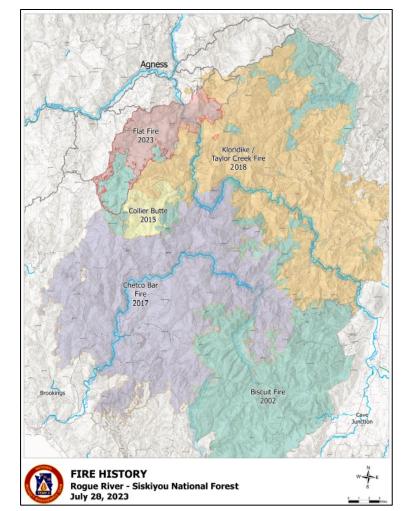
Photo of one of the ODF Landscape Resiliency Program funded units around the community of Agness and anticipated Oak Flat timber sale, which aims to reduce conifer encroachment for the health of native oaks (Photo by Matt Timchak, 2022). Photo taken prior to the Flat Fire.

including oak and hardwoods habitat restoration, wildlife habitat improvement, and grassland/meadow restoration and maintenance (that were historically maintained by indigenous burning). Recent preliminary evidence from fire scar analysis indicates a very frequent historic fire return interval in the Agness area, reflecting frequent fire use by native American tribes.

For many years, the landscape around Agness OR – a remote community 27 miles east from the community of Gold Beach, on the Rogue River – has witnessed encroachment by dense coniferous forests, slowly replacing the unique oak and meadow habitats native to the region. The community of Agness is no stranger to wildfire and the escalating threat of uncontrolled wildfires, as the community has faced numerous fires over the past two decades, as shown in the fire history map below. Therefore, the oaks and meadows are more than just picturesque features surrounding the community; they are vital to maintaining the ecological balance and preserving the rich biodiversity and safety of the community from rapid fire spread.

The WRCFC applied for funds to implement oak restoration on 720 acres around Agness in December 2022. The application was one of the largest and most successful applications, though with a short timeline – the units were to be implemented and monitored for effectiveness by July of 2022. Luckily, these treatments were proposed and included in the Environmental Impact Statement entitled Shasta Agness, which was signed by the Gold Beach District Ranger in 2019, and therefore allowed for a shortened planning turnaround from funding to implementation, which is often the largest barrier to landscape scale projects such as this. Ecological thinning by radial release of oak trees within each unit followed a finely tuned prescription, and selective cutting of conifer species 16 inches in diameter and under would allow the sun's nourishing rays to breathe life back into the oak savannas and meadows, as well as reduce ladder fuels and fuel loading which contribute to the intensity of fire and rapid fire spread.

Each of these units were monitored preimplementation with a fuels and vegetation



protocol that was developed by collaborative partners on the East side of the Basin, and was adjusted for the vegetation types in the coastal zone that Agness lies on the boundary of. As the seasons change, the restored oak savannas and meadows reveal their ecological significance by empirical evidence of treatment; however post-implementation and now post-fire monitoring will be conducted in 2024 to produce scientific evidence of the success of these treatments for oak and other meadow species recovery. They not only support native plant species and provide a sanctuary for a diverse array of wildlife but become a formidable ally in the fight against wildfires. These habitats have adapted over millennia to harness the power of low-severity burns, reducing fuel loads, and mitigating the risk of destructive wildfires.

This effort is a great example of where the resilience of nature meets the determination of a community, and by this methods the meadows and oaks became the guardians of Agness in the face of uncontrolled wildfire during the hottest and driest parts of the year. Low-severity burns cleanse and renew the land, and furthermore these LRP units were critical holding features in preventing fire spread during the 2023 Flat Fire in the Agness area. The rejuvenation of these ecosystems have not only protected the community from the devastating impact of wildfires in 2023, but are contributing to the health of the surrounding environment in the provision of unique habitats into the future.

These projects are not just about land management; they are about restoring and safeguarding the natural heritage of the region, ensuring its resilience in the face of adversity. This is a testament to what collaboration, dedication, and responsible stewardship can achieve.

6. Socioeconomic Goals

Narrative overview of <u>activities completed in FY23</u> to achieve socioeconomic goals outlined in your CFLRP proposal and work plan.

Education Programs: The following two education programs are coordinated by Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative (SOFRC) with more than 14 partners including the USFS supporting these efforts. **Activities completed** include completing publication of the FireBright curriculum through Oregon State University, working with teachers in Butte Falls, Phoenix and Central Point high schools to implement the FireBright curriculum, working in outdoor school in the Applegate, teacher training and bringing the SOFEE curriculum under the umbrella of SOFRC.

FireBright Education Program-Wildfire curriculum for community resiliency and career pathways: Grades 9-12. High-school, field-based curriculum focused on Career and Technical Education (CTE) components. Emphasizes community connections and service-learning opportunities. The program cultivates real-world skills in wildfire mitigation, adaptation and response. It integrates mentorship with in-field professionals and provides hands-on, live-fire labs and field activities to develop practical job skills. By fostering student leadership to advance community resiliency in the face of increased wildfire threats, students are exposed to a variety of forestry and natural resource career pathways. A trauma informed teaching approach and training is also incorporated. High schools in high fire-risk rural communities are emphasized.

Southern Oregon Fire Ecology Education (SOFEE): Wildfire Resilience Education for all. This is a K-12, STEAMbased curriculum using an open-source ecology curriculum, adapted from the USFS FireWorks education program. Offering hands-on activities and live-fire science demonstrations, this comprehensive wildfire and smoke curriculum is aligned to fire essential questions and Oregon Department of Education standards. Collaboratively developed with regional agencies, nonprofits, and education, it has been integrated with indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK). The purpose of this program is to connect students to a variety of forestry and natural resources career pathways.

Education and Training for the Next Generation

The Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest continues to partner with Lomakatsi Restoration Project to support workforce training and employment programs serving tribal and multicultural youth and young adults. In October 2022, Lomakatsi launched an expanded version of their Tribal Ecological Forestry Training Program with funding from Oregon Conservation Corps, which was established by Oregon Senate Bill 762. A crew of 10 tribal youth aged 18-26 from Klamath County gained professional certifications in wildland fire, chainsaw operation, cultural monitoring, and First Aid/CPR, then spent the next year supporting landscape-scale forest and watershed restoration projects in the Rogue Basin and in their ancestral homelands in Klamath County. Projects they supported include West Bear All-Lands Restoration Project, Ashland Forest Resiliency (AFR), Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project and Table Rocks. In AFR, and also in the High Cascades Ranger District, the Lomakatsi tribal crew were able to participate in understory burning through the Rogue Basin Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (RBTREX). Lomakatsi expresses their gratitude to the fire management team with the RRSNF for integrating the tribal crew into operations and helping to create such meaningful opportunities to learn and develop experience.

In Spring 2023, Lomakatsi launched a second Ecological Forestry Training Program cohort serving 10 multicultural youth from Jackson County, and third cohort serving 12 tribal young adults. Throughout these programs, youth have opportunities to engage with US Forest Service staff and learn about career pathways in natural resources, while gaining hands-on experience in ecological restoration on a variety of projects on USFS-administered land.

In 2023, Lomakatsi hosted their 11th annual Ashland Watershed Youth Training and Employment Program, employed 20 Rogue Valley high school students for a 4-week program learning the basics of ecological restoration and exploring

natural resource careers. The RRSNF has been an integral partner on this program since its inception, with multiple staff providing presentations on their career paths and areas of expertise throughout the program. This year, the youth crew supported ecological restoration on USFS lands in AFR, where the program is centered.

Outreach and Engagement

Thanks to generous support from the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, the Rogue Forest Partners (RFP) Engagement Subcommittee has effectively produced strategic, timely, relevant, and active community outreach and education campaigns. RFP communication goals focus on increasing public understanding of local fire-adapted forest ecosystems and current health, reducing hazardous fuels, and wildlife habitat status across the Rogue River–Siskiyou National Forest.

Outreach campaigns are critical to our ability to increase the pace and scale of restoration as the public is increasingly interfacing with restoration work close to urban centers, rural communities, and popular recreational areas.

Strategically scheduled throughout the year, these campaigns help residents and visitor groups stay informed of ecological thinning and prescribed fire operations, in addition to fostering an increase of understanding and support for the long-term benefits associated with the short-term inconvenience of forest restoration activities.

2022-2023 Outreach Highlights

In-Person Events

Rogue Forest Partners was represented at several community events, where partners discussed collaborative restoration initiatives with the U.S. Forest Service and other agency, tribal, and nonprofit partners

- UAW Community Field Tours in June 2022 and December 2023
- Tabling at Rogue Valley Earth Day in April 2023.
- Tabling at Bear Creek Salmon Festival in September 2022.
- Jacksonville Community Meeting November 2022.
- Applegate Valley Wildfire Education & Community Connection Fair June 2022 and June 2023.

Print Advertising

- Poster campaign: Informed viewers of upcoming ecological restoration actives and were strategically displayed in high-visibility areas such as community halls, libraries, grocery stores, places of worship, and public meeting spaces. Posters were customized for the nearest project area and treatment objectives.
- Quarterly articles and advertising with the Applegater newspaper.
- Earned media (interviews and sharing of information) from Grants Pass Courier, Rogue Valley Times, and Oregon Public Broadcasting.

Video Advertising

- 30-second television commercial: <u>https://youtu.be/7f6xGbTOgx0?feature=shared</u>
 - Aired in both English and Spanish.
 - Advertising aired on KDRV-TV 12, KOBI-TV 5, and KOTI-TV 2 offering an expansive coverage of Jackson and Josephine Counties.
- 5-minute promotional video featuring then-RRSNF Forest Supervisor (now Region 6 Deputy Regional Forester), Merv George, highlighting the role of Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge in USFS land management practices and collaboration with nonprofit, tribal, and other agency partners. <u>https://youtu.be/T4tZsQ4CWqQ</u>

Radio Advertising

- 20-second radio commercial:
 - Broadcasted in both English and Spanish.
- Advertising broadcasted on KMED, KRWQ, and Jefferson Public Radio to encompass southern Oregon counties.

Results from the Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Toolkit (TREAT). For guidance, training, and resources, see materials on <u>Restoration Economics SharePoint</u>.¹⁰ After submitting your data entry form to the Forest Service Washington Office Economist Team, they will provide the analysis results needed to respond to the following prompts.

Percent of funding that stayed within the local impact area: 96%

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

Copy/paste the totals you provided in the "Full Project Details" Tab from the TREAT spreadsheet

Description	Project Percent
Equipment intensive work	13%
Labor-intensive work	36%
Material-intensive work	17%
Technical services	18%
Professional services	9%
Contracted Monitoring	7%
TOTALS:	100%

Modelled Jobs Supported/Maintained (CFLRP and matching funding):

Copy/paste totals from the All Funds tab of the TREAT spreadsheet – expected 12/3/23

Jobs Supported/Maintained	Direct Jobs	Total Jobs	Direct Labor	Total Labor Income
<u>in FY 2023</u>	<u>(Full & Part-</u>	(Full & Part-	Income	
	<u>Time)</u>	<u>Time)</u>		
Timber harvesting component	28	39	2,727,544	3,581,902
Forest and watershed	59	101	3,505,320	5,847,496
restoration component				
Mill processing component	54	111	3,499,224	5,874,173
Implementation and	13	15	452,045	517,212
monitoring				
Other Project Activities	6	10	344,005	535,268
TOTALS:	160	276	10,528,138	16,356,051

Were there any assumptions you needed to make in your TREAT data entry you would like to note here? To
what extent do the TREAT results align with your observations or other monitoring on the ground?
It is difficult to estimate the type of work completed within existing categories, as many are multiple use
contracts – for example portions of funds used to layout a project area and write prescriptions, versus the same
contract used to implement treatments on the ground, either equipment or labor intensive.

¹⁰ Addresses Core Monitoring Question #7

Please provide a brief description of the local businesses that benefited from CFLRP related contracts and agreements, including characteristics such as tribally-owned firms, veteran-owned firms, women-owned firms, minority-owned firms, and business size.¹¹ For resources, see materials here (external Box folder). Between the local federal land management agencies and collaborative partners, approximately 87 contracts, 28 agreements and local businesses contributed to the success of restoration activities in FY 2023. Collaborative partners, in particular Lomakatsi, but also other Rogue Forest Partners are involved in over \$20 million dollars in existing grants and agreements that support local businesses. Of the 87 contracts let 5% are women owned, 5% women owned and minority owned, and 14% tribally owned. The Rogue Forest Partners has developed a tracking Smartsheet to quantify the contributions by partners, the types of businesses and other information about local businesses and it will be fully functional in 2024.

7. Wood Products Utilization

Timber & Biomass Volume Table¹²

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	20,799.96
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	11,039
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio- energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	3224

• Reviewing the data above, do you have additional data sources or description to add in terms of wood product utilization (for example, work on non-National Forest System lands not included in the table)? No.

8. Collaboration

Please include an up-to-date list of the core members of your collaborative <u>if</u> it has changed from your proposal/work plan (if it has not changed, note below).¹³ For detailed guidance and resources, see materials <u>here</u>. Please document changes using the <u>template</u> from the CFLRP proposal and upload to <u>Box</u>. Briefly summarize and describe changes below. The list of collaborators for the Rogue Basin CFLRP project has not changed from the comprehensive list provided; however, we are increasing efforts to increase the capacity of local Tribes to participate in our forums and collaborative planning processes, as well as seeing increased participation from members that had become nascent over the years since submission of the proposal for funding. The collaborative quality of the Rogue Basin CFLRP is increasing, despite the lack of change in organizations involved from inception, in large part due to the following efforts, which occurred in 2023.

Inter-Tribal Ecosystem Restoration Partnership Peer to Peer Learning Summit

¹¹ Addresses Core Monitoring Question #8

¹² Addresses Core Monitoring Question #10

¹³ Addresses Core Monitoring Question #11

In November 2023, Lomakatsi Restoration Project hosted a 2.5 day Inter-Tribal Ecosystem Restoration Partnership Peerto-Peer Learning Summit in Sunriver, Oregon. This historic event brought together tribal leaders, elders, and cultural practitioners—representing 17 tribes from within and around Oregon, including all 9 federally-recognized tribes of Oregon—with regional and national state and federal agency and nonprofit leadership. The 275 registered attendees spent two and a half days sharing and discussing how to elevate tribal partnerships in collaborative forest and watershed restoration initiatives.

The event opened with an evening Cultural Celebration and welcome featuring heartfelt words of wisdom, storytelling, song, and dance from tribal elders and cultural practitioners. The following two days threaded keynote talks and presentations spanning the integration of Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge into restoration initiatives, the importance of cultural fire, government-to-government relationships and legal frameworks for partnering with sovereign Tribal Nations, and empowering the next generation of ecological and cultural stewards.

The USDA and US Forest Service played a central role at the Summit, with local, regional, and national representatives attending and delivering keynote and panel presentations. Keynote presentations were delivered by Dr. Homer Wilkes, USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources & Environment and Merv George Jr., USFS Deputy Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region. Merv was honored at the event as the first Native American to hold his current position within the US Forest Service, and for his long-time dedication to supporting tribal partnerships in the region. Other USFS staff— all of tribal descent—who participated in panels during the Summit include: Dr. Frank Lake, USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station Fire and Fuels Program, Research Ecologist; Nolan Colegrove, Sr., USFS Six Rivers National Forest, Lower Trinity, Orleans, and Ukonom, District Ranger; Rowena Yeahquo, USFS Region 5, Tribal Relations Specialist; and Markley Smith, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Tribal Liaison.

Lomakatsi is building a webpage that will host video recordings and slides from all presentations, a Proceedings document summarizing the event, and links to resources discussed at the Summit to further tribal partnerships. In the



meantime, view the current <u>Summit webpage</u> which includes the event Program, a <u>photo gallery with captions</u> from the event, and a <u>list of participating tribes</u>, agencies, nonprofits, and other organizations. The event was featured <u>in this</u> <u>article</u> that ran in the Oregonian, Bend Bulletin, and other publications.

Rogue All Lands Resiliency Forum - Inaugural Meeting

In 2023, SOFRC convened the first Rogue All Lands Resiliency Forum, intended to provide an inclusive and transparent forum for coordination, collaboration and integration of planning, implementation and long-term multi-party monitoring around all-lands restoration in the Rogue Basin. The meeting occurred October 26th in Jacksonville, OR and was well attended by 44 diverse organizations with 60 people in attendance.

Guiding Objectives

- Invite diverse perspectives and dialogues to build understanding, clarify agreements and minority views.
- Promote collaborative planning, implementation, and monitoring with the RRSNF and BLM.
- Provide a forum for sharing restoration plans, projects, timelines, maps, and priorities.
- Leverage knowledge and promote dialogue among groups to build supportive synergy that reduces potential inter-organizational redundancies, while fostering local leadership and capacity.
- Identify opportunities for matches to ensure project success.
- Engage interest groups in dialogue about emerging environmental and social concerns around all-lands-watersforest landscape restoration.
- Build relationships through project collaboration.
- Co-manage capacity development among equitable partnerships with Tribal Nations, tribal organizations, and tribal businesses.
- Address workforce development opportunities and issues.



The process for the forum is still under development; however initial hopes are to meet 3-4 times a year (avoiding fire session July through October) to build upon the following collaborative improvements:

Project and Grants:

- Coordinate around planning and implementation
- schedule meetings around grant opportunities
- Communally reference advisory science
- Use capacity from multidisciplinary teams
- Collective structure for collaboration with an all-lands emphasis

Meetings and Convincing:

- Potential to incorporate annual fuels group meeting
- Create committees
- Use polls/surveys to assimilate ideas and suggestions
- Establish forum to compare notes forecast projects
- Do a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) analysis
- breakouts for landscapes led by local managers with opportunities for dialogue

9. Monitoring Process

Briefly describe your current status in terms of developing, refining, implementing, and/or reevaluating your CFLRP monitoring plan and multiparty monitoring process.

Within FY2023, local CFLRP partners worked collaboratively to develop a multi-party monitoring and adaptive management plan to guide ecological and socioeconomic monitoring over the 10-year project period and a five-year post-project period. The Rogue Forest Partners (RFP), a collaborative composed of the most engaged partner groups, had previously developed an all-lands multi-party monitoring plan that largely addressed the requirements of the common monitoring strategy. This monitoring plan was updated to address CMS questions not yet captured in the plan. For ecological monitoring, the multi-party monitoring plan has a robust vegetation and fuels monitoring protocol that captures plot-level information that will be used to more accurately capture vegetation changes (seral state, tree sizes, canopy cover) across many treated units. This local data will be used in place of modeled GNN data to answer Common Monitoring Strategy questions 1-4 and will enable a more accurate local accounting of alterations to vegetation and fuels. One challenge is to expand the implementation of the vegetation and fuels monitoring protocol across more units using limited funding Not all acres treated with CFLRP funds were monitored using the plot-based vegetation and fuels protocol, but collaborative partners are seeking to implement this protocol across a representative sample of all commercial and non-commercial acres on CLFRP units in future years.

While many partner organizations were involved in developing the Rogue Forest Partners multi-party monitoring plan, the partners most engaged with the development of the CFLRP monitoring plan include Southern Oregon Forest Restoration Collaborative (SOFRC), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Lomakatsi Restoration Project (LRP), and Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest (RRS). SOFRC was instrumental in assessing the strength of the RFP multi-party monitoring plan in addressing the socioeconomic questions of the CMS, and recommending alterations of that plan to more adequately address the requirements of the CMS socioeconomic questions. TNC was invaluable in comparing the published RFP monitoring plan with the CFLRP CMS requirements, updating the RFP monitoring plan to incorporate necessary changes, and in developing and implementing the two invasive plant species monitoring protocols. LRP was also involved in monitoring plan development and is responsible for much of the implementation of the vegetation and

fuels protocol and data curation and analysis. RRS staff were also directly engaged in CFLRP monitoring plan development, vegetation and fuels protocol development, and invasive plant species protocols development and implementation.

In FY2023, the RBCFLRP partners successfully implemented the Common Monitoring Strategy question #5 (common invasive plant species). Partner crews established and surveyed 100 circular plots across eight restoration units (four commercial, four non-commercial) and four control units. In addition to the required permanent circular plots to monitor trends in invasive plant cover and diversity, the collaborative also chose to develop and implement a second protocol that aims to answer the question of how restoration treatments are potentially facilitating the introduction and spread of invasive plants over time for both common and uncommon species. This protocol aims to aid with early detection and rapid response to control early detections of particularly noxious non-native species. This protocol essentially surveys entire units using a grid survey method. This protocol was also implemented on the same eight treated units and four control units.

Through FY2023, the collaborative partners continue to be successfully engaged with CMS implementation. Our robust partnerships have provided necessary capacity to address CMS requirements, even going beyond those requirements to address ecological and socioeconomic questions deemed important to the partners that are focused on an all-lands landscape restoration strategy. Challenges include addressing monitoring capacity needs to meet both CFLRP and RFP all-lands monitoring goals, particularly in light of numerous unfilled positions on the RRS.

10. Conclusion

The Rogue Basin CFLRP is taking unique approaches to collaborative land stewardship, which reflect the unique nature of the complex landscape that it encompasses. In the second full year of funding, we are in the process of establishing a strong foundation based on strategic objectives, and equitable outcomes for the natural and human communities of the Rogue Basin.

Optional Prompts

FY 2023 Additional Accomplishment Narrative and/or Lessons Learned Highlights

One of the unique features of the Rogue Basin CFLRP is the inclusion of recreational trail maintenance and improvement towards reducing wildfire risk, suppression costs, and wildland fire fighter safety through access and egress across the RRSNF. In partnership with the Siskiyou Mountain Club based out of Medford, several trails were proactively maintained by the trail crews, for the benefit of recreational users, as well as firefighters during the 2023 fire season.

BEFORE









Media Recap

- Tribal Hands on the Land

This 20-minute short film, centered on Lomakatsi's Tribal Ecological Forestry Training Program, explores how collaboration with tribes and tribal communities through ecological restoration initiatives is helping to heal the land, and heal the people. <u>https://lomakatsi.org/tribalhandsontheland</u>

- News article: Sunriver summit focuses on Indigenous knowledge of forest health, responsible use of fire <u>https://www.oregonlive.com/native-american-news/2023/11/sunriver-summit-focuses-on-indigenous-knowledge-of-forest-health-responsible-use-of-fire.html</u>

Visuals

Please paste here or <u>upload visuals</u> if available, including before/after photos, maps, monitoring graphics, etc.

Signatures

Recommended by (Project Coordinator(s)): Tabatha M Rood (RRSNF) Approved by (Forest Supervisor(s)): Dave Brillenz (Dep. Forest Sup.) and Molly Juillerat (Acting Forest Sup.) Draft reviewed by (collaborative representative): Terry Fairbanks (SOFRC)

Attachment: CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy Core Questions

The 2022 cohort will complete the Common Monitoring Strategy questions in FY23. The 2022 cohort includes: Lakeview, Missouri Pine Oak Woodlands, North Yuba, North Central Washington, Northeast Washington, Rio Chama, Rogue Basin, Shortleaf Bluestem, Southern Blues, Southwest Colorado, Western Klamath, Zuni

2021 funded projects (Deschutes, Dinkey, Northern Blues) will only need to address the annual questions (Q1, Q5, Q7, Q10, Q11, Q13). For CFLRP projects awarded (or extended) in FY23, the Attachment is NOT required. However, please note it will be required in FY24.

The <u>CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy</u> is designed to reflect lessons learned from the first ten years of the program, expand monitoring capacity, and improve landscape-scale monitoring. It is intended to strike a balance between standardization and local flexibility and to be responsive to feedback that more guidance and capacity are needed. Questions are standardized nationally and indicators are standardized regionally. Many CFLRP projects have been implementing restoration treatments and monitoring progress prior to the Common Monitoring Strategy. This effort may not capture the progress of every project over its lifetime but provides an opportunity for all projects to take a step together in a unified monitoring approach.

- Question 1: "What is the reduction in fuel hazard based on our treatments?"
- <u>Question 2: "What is the effect of the treatments on moving the forest landscape toward a more sustainable</u> <u>condition?"</u>
- Question 3: "What are the specific effects of restoration treatments on the habitat of at-risk species and/or the habitat of species of collaborative concern across the CFLRP project area"
- Question 4: "What is the status and trend of watershed conditions in the CFLR area, with a focus on the physical and biological conditions that support key soil, hydrologic and aquatic processes?"
- Question 5: "What is the trend in invasive species within the CFLRP project area?"
- Question 6: "How has the social and economic context changed, if at all?"
- Question 7: "How have CFLRP activities supported local jobs and labor income?"
- Question 8: "How do sales, contracts, and agreements associated with the CFLRP affect local communities?"
- Question 9: "Did CFLRP maintain or increase the number and/or diversity of wood products that can be processed locally?"
- Question 10: "Did CFLRP increase economic utilization of restoration byproducts?"
- Question 11: "Who is involved in the collaborative and if/how does that change over time?"
- Question 12: "How well is CFLRP encouraging an effective and meaningful collaborative approach?"
- Question 13: "If and to what extent have CFLRP investments attracted partner investments across the landscapes?"

The tables in the section below are copy/pasted from the suggested monitoring tracking <u>templates</u> to help organize data across CFLRP projects. Adapt the reporting tables as needed to align with regional monitoring indicators.

Monitoring Question #1: "What is the reduction in fuel hazard based on our treatments?" (Reported Annually)

For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Use it to respond to the following prompts:

	Non	0 – 1ft.	1 - 4 ft.	4 - 8 ft.	8 - 11 ft.	11 - 25 ft.	>25 ft.
IFTDSS Auto-97 th percentile	Non- burnable	flame	flame	flame	flame	flame	flame
flame length output		lengths	lengths	lengths	lengths	lengths	lengths
Initial landscape model	240,218	336,195	1,737,718	753,992	158,816	552,713	857,541
(Baseline under CMS)	(5.2%)	(7.2%)	(37.5%)	(16.3%)	(3.4%)	(11.9%)	(18.5%)
Landscape model 2							
(Second year of CMS)							
N/A in first reporting year							
Area treated in FY23							

Table 1. Fire intensity (predicted flame lengths) from IFTDSS

• Briefly describe monitoring results in table above – include an interpretation of the data provided and whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape. If the data above does not accurately reflect fire and fuel hazard on your landscape please note and provide context. While generally smaller flame lengths are desirable, this isn't the case in all ecosystems – please note if this applies.

Table 1 above shows the initial landscape (through 2022). The results indicate relatively large proportions of the landscape (44.7%) in predicted lower flame length classes (0 - 1ft, 1 - 4ft), though also significant proportions (30.4%) in extreme flame lengths (11 - 25ft, >25ft). This high proportion in extreme flame lengths is concerning and reflects the overall need to reduce stand densities and modify vertical and horizontal structure where there has been no recent wildfire, prescribed fire, or mechanical thinning. These locations are primarily in the coast range of the landscape near the coast where rainfall and productivity are both high, and fire has been excluded for 100 years or more. Recent wildfires in large portions of this coast range in 2017 and 2018 have significantly reduced probabilities of extreme flame lengths. The central portion of the landscape also has mostly extreme predicted flame lengths where land ownership is a mix of mostly private and Bureau of Land Management.

Table 2. Crown fire activity from IFTDSS

IFTDSS Auto-97th crown fire activity output by watershed - Initial landscape model (Baseline under CMS)

Watershed Name	Unburnable	Surface	Passive	Active Crown	Crown Fire
	Unburnable	Fire	Crown Fire	Fire	(combined)
Headwaters South Umpqua	10.7	1069.3	189.5	81.0	270.4
River	(0.8%)	(79.2%)	(14.0%)	(6.0%)	(20.0%)
Hunter Creek	1144.0	7797.2	16289.1	3205.2	19494.2
	(4.0%)	(27.4%)	(57.3%)	(11.3%)	(68.6%)

W// L L D:	4496.0	45040.0	20000 6	4470.0	25462.2
Winchuck River	1136.0	15943.9	20989.6	4179.2	25168.8
	(2.7%)	(37.7%)	(49.7%)	(9.9%)	(59.6%)
Elk River	1265.9	17062.1	23243.8	11057.5	34301.3
	(2.4%)	(32.4%)	(44.2%)	(21.0%)	(65.2%)
Rogue River	5016.3	24049.8	43140.1	10437.4	53577.5
	(6.1%)	(29.1%)	(52.2%)	(12.6%)	(64.8%)
Euchre Creek-Frontal	3463.1	18204.3	26717.6	5330.4	32048.0
Pacific Ocean	(6.4%)	(33.9%)	(49.7%)	(9.9%)	(59.7%)
Clearwater River	36.5	653.0	868.2	0.0	868.2
	(2.3%)	(41.9%)	(55.7%)	(0.0%)	(55.7%)
Fish Creek	60.5	2631.4	1216.1	59.6	1275.7
	(1.5%)	(66.3%)	(30.7%)	(1.5%)	(32.2%)
Jackson Creek	44.5	14003.7	1887.7	323.8	2211.5
	(0.3%)	(86.1%)	(11.6%)	(2.0%)	(13.6%)
Diamond Lake	3023.7	11257.6	4799.3	39.1	4838.4
	(15.8%)	(58.9%)	(25.1%)	(0.2%)	(25.3%)
Elk Creek	75.6	4971.0	2483.7	757.0	3240.7
	(0.9%)	(60.0%)	(30.0%)	(9.1%)	(39.1%)
Headwaters Rogue River	6159.4	207757.5	32131.6	1180.5	33312.0
6	(2.5%)	(84.0%)	(13.0%)	(0.5%)	(13.5%)
Elk Creek	422.5	57616.2	25423.3	2014.0	27437.3
	(0.5%)	(67.4%)	(29.7%)	(2.4%)	(32.1%)
Trail Creek	628.9	17643.9	16057.8	1015.9	17073.7
	(1.8%)	(49.9%)	(45.4%)	(2.9%)	(48.3%)
Shady Cove-Rogue River	4816.2	54940.4	13977.1	552.4	14529.5
	(6.5%)	(74.0%)	(18.8%)	(0.7%)	(19.6%)
Little Applegate River	3270.1	38543.7	28791.2	1711.5	30502.8
	(4.5%)	(53.3%)	(39.8%)	(2.4%)	(42.2%)
Evans Creek	5518.1	49095.0	79845.0	8947.4	88792.4
	(3.8%)	(34.2%)	(55.7%)	(6.2%)	(61.9%)
Upper Applegate River	2268.4	26694.5	20679.1	2657.2	23336.3
opper appregate tivel	(4.3%)	(51.0%)	(39.5%)	(5.1%)	(44.6%)
Stair Creek-Rogue River	462.6	12558.2	18317.3	5196.9	23514.2
Stan ereck hogae hiver	(1.3%)	(34.4%)	(50.1%)	(14.2%)	(64.4%)
Shasta Costa Creek-Rogue	1163.6	14477.0	21258.3	8128.1	29386.3
River	(2.6%)	(32.2%)	(47.2%)	(18.1%)	(65.3%)
Lobster Creek	1281.0	14861.3	21325.9	6870.2	28196.1
Lobster Creek	(2.9%)	(33.5%)	(48.1%)	(15.5%)	(63.6%)
North Fork Smith River	985.7	31669.0	28819.7	2229.3	31049.0
North Fork Sinith River					(48.7%)
Althouse Creek	(1.5%) 1498.9	(49.7%)	(45.2%) 6252.0	(3.5%) 459.9	6711.9
AITIOUSE CLEEK					
Most Fork Illingia Diver	(5.0%)	(72.8%)	(20.7%)	(1.5%)	(22.2%)
West Fork Illinois River	3348.4	46703.8	26013.9	943.0	26956.9
	(4.3%)	(60.6%)	(33.8%)	(1.2%)	(35.0%)
West Fork Cow Creek	2204.4	25467.7	23063.2	5196.0	28259.2
	(3.9%)	(45.5%)	(41.2%)	(9.3%)	(50.5%)
Horseshoe Bend-Rogue	3851.0	45785.7	44470.9	10030.0	54500.9
River	(3.7%)	(44.0%)	(42.7%)	(9.6%)	(52.3%)

Drigge Creek	1120.0	20222.4	2001 4	422.2	2204 C
Briggs Creek	1136.9	39222.4	2961.4	433.2	3394.6
	(2.6%)	(89.6%)	(6.8%)	(1.0%)	(7.8%)
Klondike Creek-Illinois River	676.1	54855.0	10766.6	830.0	11596.5
	(1.0%)	(81.7%)	(16.0%)	(1.2%)	(17.3%)
Silver Creek	1249.0	39212.6	10595.8	572.0	11167.8
	(2.4%)	(76.0%)	(20.5%)	(1.1%)	(21.6%)
Indigo Creek	548.0	36233.4	10974.7	1232.1	12206.8
	(1.1%)	(74.0%)	(22.4%)	(2.5%)	(24.9%)
Lawson Creek-Illinois River	1015.9	14313.3	23323.0	2540.6	25863.6
	(2.5%)	(34.7%)	(56.6%)	(6.2%)	(62.8%)
Middle Cow Creek	4730.8	47709.9	50751.3	9978.4	60729.8
	(4.2%)	(42.2%)	(44.8%)	(8.8%)	(53.7%)
Lower Cow Creek	533.7	6160.3	4850.9	1984.6	6835.5
	(3.9%)	(45.5%)	(35.9%)	(14.7%)	(50.5%)
Middle Fork Coquille River	690.3	8853.1	3561.9	1490.0	5051.9
	(4.7%)	(60.7%)	(24.4%)	(10.2%)	(34.6%)
South Fork Coquille River	2743.5	48513.2	34623.3	11649.0	46272.3
	(2.8%)	(49.7%)	(35.5%)	(11.9%)	(47.4%)
171003060500-Pacific	39.1	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ocean	(86.3%)	(13.7%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)
South Fork Rogue River	2335.1	124809.7	32159.2	1484.7	33643.9
	(1.5%)	(77.6%)	(20.0%)	(0.9%)	(20.9%)
Grants Pass-Rogue River	12544.8	19857.2	19773.6	1825.4	21599.0
Grants rass Rogue River	(23.2%)	(36.8%)	(36.6%)	(3.4%)	(40.0%)
Hellgate Canyon-Rogue	5057.3	65385.8	20605.3	2359.2	22964.5
River	(5.4%)	(70.0%)	(22.1%)	(2.5%)	(24.6%)
Middle Applegate River	4527.1	42726.5	31567.6	3788.7	35356.3
Middle Applegate River	(5.5%)	(51.7%)	(38.2%)		
Williams Creek				(4.6%)	(42.8%)
williams creek	2272.9	22991.2	24583.5	3048.6	27632.1
	(4.3%)	(43.5%)	(46.5%)	(5.8%)	(52.2%)
Lower Applegate River	5896.1	36387.3	42176.7	5944.2	48120.9
	(6.5%)	(40.2%)	(46.7%)	(6.6%)	(53.2%)
Grave Creek	5461.1	45977.9	45076.7	8060.5	53137.2
	(5.2%)	(44.0%)	(43.1%)	(7.7%)	(50.8%)
Jumpoff Joe Creek	7059.7	26705.1	31902.1	4061.8	35963.9
	(10.1%)	(38.3%)	(45.8%)	(5.8%)	(51.6%)
Sucker Creek	1533.6	34398.2	21842.7	3799.4	25642.1
	(2.5%)	(55.9%)	(35.5%)	(6.2%)	(41.6%)
Copco Reservoir-Klamath	57.8	5773.4	516.0	1.8	517.7
River	(0.9%)	(90.9%)	(8.1%)	(0.0%)	(8.2%)
Cottonwood Creek	1920.6	20189.9	6643.4	105.9	6749.2
	(6.7%)	(70.0%)	(23.0%)	(0.4%)	(23.4%)
Sixes River	876.2	13064.4	17764.9	8115.6	25880.5
	(2.2%)	(32.8%)	(44.6%)	(20.4%)	(65.0%)
Chetco River	5937.0	163589.9	51721.9	3906.1	55628.0
-	(2.6%)	(72.7%)	(23.0%)	(1.7%)	(24.7%)
Fourmile Creek	1121.8	7937.7	1359.3	11.6	1370.8
	(10.8%)	(76.1%)	(13.0%)	(0.1%)	(13.1%)
	(10.070)	(/0.1/0)	(13.0/0)	(0.1/0)	[13.1/0]

Long Lake Valley Linner	452.0	2242.4	1270.9	20 5	1201.2
Long Lake Valley-Upper	452.8	3243.4	1370.8	20.5	1391.3
Klamath Lake	(8.9%)	(63.8%)	(26.9%)	(0.4%)	(27.3%)
Spencer Creek	151.2	1988.2	15.1	0.0	15.1
	(7.0%)	(92.3%)	(0.7%)	(0.0%)	(0.7%)
Deer Creek	3013.9	26949.8	36453.2	6184.4	42637.5
	(4.2%)	(37.1%)	(50.2%)	(8.5%)	(58.7%)
Josephine Creek-Illinois	3080.6	54584.5	23258.9	802.4	24061.3
River	(3.8%)	(66.8%)	(28.5%)	(1.0%)	(29.4%)
Pistol River	1997.1	31607.6	29929.9	4401.6	34331.5
	(2.9%)	(46.5%)	(44.1%)	(6.5%)	(50.5%)
Headwaters Applegate	4738.8	71785.4	59510.1	6252.8	65763.0
River	(3.3%)	(50.5%)	(41.8%)	(4.4%)	(46.2%)
East Fork Illinois River	3349.3	40733.8	12890.9	811.3	13702.2
	(5.8%)	(70.5%)	(22.3%)	(1.4%)	(23.7%)
Jenny Creek	4451.5	68640.8	35052.1	244.6	35296.7
	(4.1%)	(63.3%)	(32.3%)	(0.2%)	(32.6%)
Days Creek-South Umpqua	93.4	4165.9	3940.8	2018.5	5959.3
River	(0.9%)	(40.8%)	(38.6%)	(19.8%)	(58.3%)
Upper Cow Creek	690.3	12590.2	17311.2	2900.9	20212.1
	(2.1%)	(37.6%)	(51.7%)	(8.7%)	(60.3%)
Middle Fork Smith River	426.1	4120.5	4455.0	492.8	4947.8
	(4.5%)	(43.4%)	(46.9%)	(5.2%)	(52.1%)
Smith River	11.6	310.5	1278.3	213.5	1491.8
Sinti Avei	(0.6%)	(17.1%)	(70.5%)	(11.8%)	(82.2%)
Mack Arch Cove-Pacific	202.8	29.4	8.9	2.7	11.6
Ocean	(83.2%)	(12.0%)	(3.6%)	(1.1%)	(4.7%)
Whalehead Creek-Frontal	5753.8	11010.3	15836.3	1393.1	17229.4
Cape Ferrelo	(16.9%)	(32.4%)	(46.6%)	(4.1%)	(50.7%)
Iron Gate Reservoir-	619.1	20391.8	5144.4	155.7	5300.1
Klamath River	(2.4%)	(77.5%)	(19.6%)	(0.6%)	(20.1%)
Indian Creek	4.4	19.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Indian creek	(18.5%)	(81.5%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)
Thompson Creek-Klamath	0.0	8.9	7.1	2.7	9.8
River	(0.0%)	8.9 (47.6%)			
Clear Creek		0.9	(38.1%)	(14.3%)	(52.4%)
Clear Creek	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0
Lash Cuash Millianses Diver	(0.0%)	(100.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)
Jack Creek-Williamson River	513.3	1396.6	2437.4	9.8	2447.2
<u> </u>	(11.8%)	(32.1%)	(55.9%)	(0.2%)	(56.2%)
Beaver Marsh	596.9	16656.5	4826.0	19.6	4845.5
	(2.7%)	(75.4%)	(21.8%)	(0.1%)	(21.9%)
Big Springs Creek-Klamath	377.2	4067.2	3080.6	3.6	3084.2
Marsh	(5.0%)	(54.0%)	(40.9%)	(0.0%)	(41.0%)
Crater Lake-Williamson	17346.8	10591.3	3267.4	46.3	3313.7
River	(55.5%)	(33.9%)	(10.5%)	(0.1%)	(10.6%)
Hog Creek-Williamson River	0.0	245.5	0.9	0.0	0.9
	(0.0%)	(99.6%)	(0.4%)	(0.0%)	(0.4%)
Wood River	1745.4	29685.2	5068.8	30.2	5099.1
	(4.8%)	(81.3%)	(13.9%)	(0.1%)	(14.0%)

Beaver Creek	2397.4	18110.9	8955.4	250.0	9205.4
	(8.1%)	(61.0%)	(30.1%)	(0.8%)	(31.0%)
Horse Creek-Klamath River	212.6	4019.1	1593.2	73.8	1667.1
	(3.6%)	(68.1%)	(27.0%)	(1.3%)	(28.3%)
Seiad Creek-Klamath River	0.9	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
	(14.3%)	(85.7%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)	(0.0%)
Lost Creek-Rogue River	4118.7	14252.8	12980.7	735.7	13716.4
	(12.8%)	(44.4%)	(40.5%)	(2.3%)	(42.7%)
Big Butte Creek	3367.9	107576.7	45587.3	1718.7	47306.0
	(2.1%)	(68.0%)	(28.8%)	(1.1%)	(29.9%)
Little Butte Creek	10245.3	166827.1	59109.8	2632.3	61742.1
	(4.3%)	(69.9%)	(24.8%)	(1.1%)	(25.9%)
Bear Creek	31475.1	140562.3	56090.6	3125.1	59215.7
	(13.6%)	(60.8%)	(24.3%)	(1.4%)	(25.6%)
Gold Hill-Rogue River	15667.3	70806.0	44884.6	4673.8	49558.4
	(11.5%)	(52.1%)	(33.0%)	(3.4%)	(36.4%)

- Briefly describe monitoring results in table above include an interpretation of the data provided, and whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape. If the data above does not accurately reflect fire and fuel hazard on your landscape please note and provide context.
- Does your CFLRP project have additional hazardous-fuels related monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.
- Based on the information in this section, (and any other relevant monitoring information and discussion), what (if any) actions or changes are you considering?

The results by watershed in the table above clearly show that the likelihood of both passive and active crown fires (under extreme fire weather conditions) is very high, especially for passive crown fire. The modeled percent of each watershed expected to experience passive crown fire varies considerably across all watersheds in the Rogue Basin landscape, ranging 0-70%, and the mean value is relatively high at 33%. For active crown fire, the range of watershed proportions is 0-21%, and the mean percentage is 5%. Both modeled passive and active crown fire potential are high, but especially for passive crown fire activity. In our current landscape fuels conditions, the likelihood of passive crown fires across the Robue Basin is much too high at 33%. Wildfires under this extreme scenario would result in about onethird of the landscape experiencing high basal area mortality and being converted into early seral habitat, and is much too high compared to historic conditions. The situation is not dire across the entire landscape, with some watersheds having relatively low likelihood of both passive and active crown fire, though many watersheds have very high likelihood of crown fire activity, exceeding 50% of the watershed area. Our intent is to reduce fuel levels to bring this modeled crown fire proportion down significantly to under 20% combined, on average. Throughout the 10-year project period, we are focusing on reducing fuel levels, ladder fuels, and tree density, while attempting to both protect old growth stands and accelerate the transition from mid-seral states to late seral states, particularly into late seral open stands. This is being and will be accomplished across the landscape using CFLRP funds on NFS lands and other local, state, and national funds on other lands (BLM, state, private) to address landscape-level needs.

Monitoring Question #2: "What is the effect of the treatments on moving the forest landscape toward a more sustainable condition?" (Reporting frequency determined by Regional indicator)

For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Use it to respond to the following prompts:

Regions have standardized on one of the four following metrics to address Indicator 1 for ecological departure. For your region's chosen metric, please insert the matching table that corresponds with your indicator from the reporting template (abbreviated examples below).

Table 1: Vegetation Departure

Succession Class Area (acres)					
& % total project	Early				
area	Development	Mid Closed	Mid Open	Late Open	Late Closed
Disturbance and			-		
successional					
restoration		821,859 ac.			
needed	825 ac. (0%)	(20.5%)	244 ac (0%)	0	19 ac (0%)
Disturbance only					
Restoration		378,548 ac.			
Needs	0	(9.4%)	6,848 ac (0.2%)	2,946 ac (0.1%)	439,358 ac (11%)
Succession only					
Restoration		226,025 ac.			
Needs	167,656 (4.2%)	(5.6%)	41,257 ac (1.0%)	1,369 ac (0%)	0
Rest. Needs					
Treated	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Restored to NRV					
Percent Change					
Running Totals					
[Initial baseline					
under CMS ^[2] ,					
Year 5, and/or					
Year 10]					

Table Option 1: Vegetation Departure (for Haugo et al. 2015 approach)^[1]

Briefly summarize how your landscape has departed from historic ecological conditions including disturbance.

 Briefly describe monitoring results – include an interpretation of the data provided above, and whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape (including resiliency to future disturbances and climate projections). If the data above does not accurately reflect condition on your landscape, please note and provide context.

Succession Class	Early	Mid Closed	Mid Open	Late Open	Late Closed
Area (acres) & % total project	Development 465738 (12%)	1,927,429 (48%)	470,008 (12%)	161,923 (4%)	987,523 (25%)
area					

Area (acres)	39,766	1,513,620	-472.756	-1,112,277	158,288
departed					

^[1] Haugo R., Zanger C., DeMeo T., Ringo C., Shlisky A., Blankenship K., Simpson M., Mellen-McLean K., Kertis J., Stern M. 2015. "A new approach to evaluate forest structure restoration needs across Oregon and Washington, USA". *Forest Ecology and Management*. 335(37-50). <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2014.09.014</u>

^[2] "CMS" refers to "Common Monitoring Strategy"

Our collaborative will use the indicator on vegetation departure using the analysis provided by the Regional Office. In future years, we will supplement this analysis with local plot data within treatment units. Since this is the baseline reporting year, we are reporting only the current conditions for seral state departures across the entire landscape of 4.6 million acres. Since the analysis only includes HUC5 watersheds with at least 10,000 forested acres, the total analytical area was just over four million acres (4,012,621 acres). In Table 1 above, we report acres across this landscape in need of restoration (by type) to restore the landscape to within a natural range of variation, and report acreages as a percent of the total landscape. To summarize, as of the end of 2022, just prior to the initiation of forest restoration and fuels reduction through this project, the proportions of seral states on average across the total landscape are highly departed from the historic natural range of variation. The table below lists current percentages and historic (NRV) percentages for each of the seral states. Proportions of early seral are within NRV, while proportions of Mid Seral Closed (+37%) are overabundant and proportions of Mid Seral Open (-12%) and Late Seral Open (-29%) are underabundant. Proportions of Late Seral Closed are close to within historic NRV (+4%).

Seral State	Current %	NRV %	Difference
Early seral	12	11	+1%
Mid seral closed	48	11	+37%
Mid seral open	12	24	-12%
Late seral open	4	33	-29%
Late seral closed	25	21	+4%

Examining HUC5 watersheds across the CFLRP landscape, some are not highly departed and require small amounts of disturbance and succession to rebalance the watershed back to within NRV. Watersheds in need of only small amounts of disturbance restoration include the watersheds Silver Creek, Klondike Creek-Illinois River, Chetco River, and Josephine Creek-Illinois River that have all experienced large wildfire in the last twenty years that impacted the entire watershed or a significant majority. Wildfires within these watersheds during the recent period were of mixed severity, and had many positive benefits to seral state dynamics. Other watershed also not highly departed and not in need of disturbance restoration include South Fork Coquille River and Sixes River. These both lie in the northern portion of the Coast Range and have not been impacted by wildfire in over 100 years, but are comprised of Biophysical Settings with very long fire return intervals of over 100 years, and so are not significantly departed. Watersheds in need of large amounts of disturbance restoration across the landscape include much of the central portion of the Rogue River Basin that is comprised of mostly private lands and lands managed by the BLM, but also include some watersheds covering large portions of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest. These watersheds are likely in need of large amounts of disturbance restoration due primarily to the lack of wildfire activity in over 100 years.

Monitoring Questions #3: "What are the specific effects of restoration treatments on the habitat of at-risk species and/or the habitat of species of collaborative concern across the CFLRP project area?" (Reporting frequency determined by Regional indicator)

For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Use it to respond to the following prompts:

Late-seral Pro mixed sub conifer Late seral Pro Habitat Mid seral Pro habitat Early seral Pro habitat sub Large Snag Reg habitats								
mixed sub conifer Late seral Pro Habitat Mid seral Pro habitat Early seral Pro habitat sub Large Snag Reg habitats Meadows Pro	Regional or Project- Specific Indicator?	Indicator and Unit of Measure	Target Range	Value in Initial Year of CMS*	Reporting	Desired or Undesired Change? N/A in 2023	Percent Change N/A in 2023	Acres of Habitat Treated to Improve this Indicator in this Fiscal Year
Habitat Mid seral habitat Early seral habitat Large Snag habitats Meadows Pro	Project specific, and sub-regional	Departure from NRV (DeMeo et al., 2018)	Varies by veg type (5-25%)	Varies (1-35%)	NA			
habitat Early seral Pro habitat sub Large Snag Reg habitats Meadows Pro	Project specific	Acres lost to fire	0	Varies				3,766
habitat sub Large Snag Reg habitats Meadows Pro	- <u>-</u>		Acres improved	1,873				1,873
habitats Meadows Pro	Project specific and sub-regional	Departure from NRV (DeMeo et al., 2018)	Varies by veg type (3-15%)	Varies (0-30%)				
	•	Snags/acre (>20" DBH)	2-10	Varies (0-30)				
Franklin's bumblebee	2 1	types and percent	0-20% canopy cover)	Varies (0-40%)				

If reporting on indicator 1 or 2 (wildlife habitat indicators), fill in this table:

*Common Monitoring Strategy (CMS)

If reporting on indicator 3 (wildlife populations and/or diversity indicators), fill in this table:

Wildlife Species	Indicator and	Target Range	Value	Acres of Habitat
Name(s)	Unit of Measure		in Initial Year	Treated to Improve this
			of CMS	Indicator
Coastal marten	Acres monitored	5,000	5,000	0, monitoring only
Marbled murrelet	Number of active			320 acres protected
				due to presence of
	territories			murrelets
Northern Spotted Owls	Number of active	>50	50	
	territories			

Neotropical migratory birds in mesic mixed conifer habitat and	Presence/absence of focal species during the breeding season (Altman	Presence and associated habitat characteristics	Varies (KBO survey data)	
unique habitats	and Bresson 2017)	(from Altman & Bresson, 2017)	,	
Great gray owl	Number of active territories			
Mardon skipper	Number of individuals/acre			
Bumblebee species	Number of species present in suitable habitat			

For the table or table(s) above:

- Briefly interpret the monitoring results in the table above, including whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape. If the data above does not accurately reflect conditions on your landscape, please note that and provide context.
- Does your CFLRP project have additional wildlife-related monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.

CFLRP is funding increased monitoring in restoration project areas for bees, marten, murrelets, and spotted owls. With limited capacity, other important sensitive and collaborative species being monitored include several species of bats, western pond turtle, and several species of amphibians. The monitoring objectives are primarily detecting presence or absence and population size estimates and desired population sizes are mostly unknown at this time, except for Northern Spotted Owls. Northwest Forest Plan monitoring has confirmed that spotted owls are in decline across the Forest, largely due to loss of late seral habitat from recent wildfires, and non-native Barred owls. Other trend information is not available yet for marten, bees, bats, and amphibians.

Monitoring Question #4: "What is the status and trend of watershed conditions in the CFLRP area?" (Reported every 5 years)

For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Use it to respond to the following prompts:

HUC12 Watershed Name and 12-digit HUC	Affected by Treatment, Disturbance Events, or Both?	Date Before Treatment and/or Disturbance Event	Watershed Condition Score in Initial Year of CMS
171003060301 - Upper Elk			1.3 (functioning
River	None	2021	properly)
171003070503 - Sugarpine			1.7 (functioning at
Creek	None	2021	risk)

Summary of Watershed Condition Scores for the priority HUC12 watersheds within CFLRP boundary:

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		2021 (analysis for year after	2.2 (functioning at
171003110302 - Dunn Creek	Wildfire (2020)	wildfire)	risk)
171003090201 – Palmer	Treatments	2021	1.8 (Functioning at
Creek-Applegate River			risk)
171003110203 – Grayback	None	2021	1.5 (Functioning
Creek			properly)
171003110701 – Upper	Treatments	2021	1.7 (functioning at
Briggs Creek			risk
171003070403 – Willow	None	2021	1.9 (functioning at
Creek			risk)

Watershed Condition Score averaged across all affected identified subwatersheds within CFLRP boundary:

|--|

Aquatic Physical (Weighted 30%)

1	Water Quality	1.8	2021
2	Water Quantity	1.4	2021
3	Aquatic Habitat	1.7	2021

Aquatic Biological (Weighted 30%)

4	Aquatic Biota	1.4	2021
5	Riparian/Wetland Vegetation	1.8	2021

Terrestrial Physical (Weighted 30%)

6	Roads & Trails	1.7	2021
7	Soils	1.2	2021

Terrestrial Biological (Weighted 10%)

8	Fire Regime or Wildfire	2.4	2021
9	Forest Cover	1.7	2021
10	Rangeland Vegetation	1.0	2021
11	Terrestrial Invasive Species	1.3	2021
12	Forest Health	1.2	2021
	Avg. Watershed Condition Score	1.6	

- Briefly interpret the monitoring results in the table above, including whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape. If the data above does not accurately reflect watershed condition on your landscape, please note that and provide context.
- Does your CFLRP project have additional watershed condition-related monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.

Across the Rogue Basin landscape, there are three USFS priority watersheds (Sugarpine Creek, Upper Elk Creek, and Dunn creek). The collaborative elected to add four more watersheds on NFS lands that are important to our project landscape because they either have ongoing restoration work or are anticipated to have restoration work within the life of the project period. These watersheds are: Grayback Creek, Palmer Creek-Applegate River, Upper Briggs Creek, and Willow Creek. The latest Watershed Condition Framework analysis took place in 2021 and the seven watersheds we are tracking had overall condition scores ranging 1.3 – 2.2. Only two of the seven watersheds are functioning properly (Class

1, scores 1.0-1.6) – Upper Elk Creek and Grayback Creek. The other five watersheds are all functioning at risk (Class 2, scores 1.7 – 2.2). The reasons why those watersheds are functioning at risk varies, but the more important factors include recent detrimental effects of wildfire, forest condition health (insect and disease mortality), and high departures from historical fire regimes. Across all seven watersheds, the aquatic indicators are usually Fair or Good. The Rogue River-Siskiyou and surrounding lands have experienced many large wildfires in recent years, and this has contributed to the decline in watershed health in some areas affected. In addition, ongoing and accelerating Douglas-fir and true fir mortality from insects driven by historic drought conditions has also likely decreased watershed heath in areas affected.

Monitoring Question #5: "What is the trend in invasive species within the CFLRP project area?" (Reported Annually)

For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Use it to respond to the following prompts:

Common Name	Treatment Action	Acres Treated ¹	Acres Monitored	Avg. "Percent Efficacy"	Acres Restored ²	Response of Desirable Species ³
Canada thistle	Manual	29.6	29.6	35	29.6	N/A
Scotch broom	Manual	48.12	48.12	85	48.12	N/A
Bull thistle	Manual	93.31	93.31	85	93.31	N/A
Hounds tongue/gypsyflower	Manual	144	144	75	144	N/A
Meadow knapweed	Manual	104.8	104.8	80	104.8	N/A
Dyers woad	Manual	8.3	8.3	85	8.3	N/A
Perennial pea	Manual	2.24	2.24	35	2.24	N/A
Spotted knapweed	Manual & Chemical	8.2	8.2	75	8.2	N/A
Sweet clover	Manual	132	132	85	132	N/A
Yellow star thistle	Manual	2	2	75	2	N/A
Yellowtuft alyssum	Manual	117	117	85	117	N/A
	Totals/Avgs	690	690	73	690	

Treatment data for priority invasive species:

¹ "Treated" is defined as prevented, controlled or eradicated.

² Agency performance accomplishment code INVPLT-INVSPE-REST-FED-AC, which is calculated in FACTS.

³ "Desirable Species" includes everything that is not an undesirable species or bare ground. If not monitored, write N/A.

Treatment Group Name	Brief Treatment Group Description	Date(s) Surveyed	Number of Plots Sampled	Avg. Percent Canopy Cover of Invasive Species per Plot	"Percent Change" ¹ N/A in 2022	Avg. Percent Canopy Cover of Desirable Species per Plot	"Percent Change" ¹ N/A in 2022
Treated Areas	Thinning followed	07/06/23	20			<u>с 0/</u>	
(commercial)	by prescribed burning	- 07/20/23	36	0.5 %		2.5 %	

Treated Areas	Thinning followed	07/06/23				
(non-	by prescribed	-	40	5.1 %	2.6 %	
commercial)	burning	07/20/23				
Non-treated	No thinning, no	07/12/23				
Areas	prescribed burning,	-	24	0.7 %	3.4 %	
	and no wildfire	07/29/23				

For reporting on plot-based field monitoring, please include a summary of the results here:

- Briefly interpret the monitoring results in the table above, including whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape. If the data above does not accurately reflect the condition on your landscape, please note that and provide context.
- Does your CFLRP project have additional invasives-related monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.

In FY2023, the Rogue River-Siskiyou Botany Program continued to control non-native plant species across the forest, treating and restoring almost 2,300 acres on land with significant invasive species populations. The table above highlights the results for a select set of priority invasive species; 690 acres of these invasives were controlled with generally high rates of efficacy. Though populations of invasive species at these sites often persist for years due to on-site seed banks, and require annual visits to control new populations. The priority species listed in the table above have been designated a priority for control by the Botany Program manager.

In FY2023, the RBCFLRP partners successfully implemented the Common Monitoring Strategy question #5. This was the first year of monitoring for this question, and establishes the baseline for future trends. This baseline monitoring for the treated units was completed prior to restoration implementation which is expected to occur in the following several years. The partnership decided to implement this protocol within one planning area (Upper Applegate Watershed, within the core Wildfire Focus area) that represented lower dry mixed conifer and oak/pine forests that are both well represented across the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and the adjacent BLM and private lands, and that are already somewhat invaded by several common invasive plants.

In order to capture invasive plant trends across a range of physical conditions, the partnership stratified the units using a recently developed spatial dataset for climatic water deficit. Although the planning area chosen for this monitoring is generally dry compared to other areas on the RRS, (such as the coastal mountains), rainfall, heat load, and solar load (and the integration of these into CWD) do vary substantially across the landscape. The modeled CWD values were split into classes and this monitoring targeted the four most common CWD classes. Sampling areas were for both protocols were established within units across those four CWD classes.

Partner crews established and surveyed 100 circular plots across eight restoration units (four commercial, four noncommercial) and four control units. Plots were allocated relative to unit size to maintain equal sampling intensity and were randomly placed within those units, using appropriate buffer distances from unit boundaries and roads. Plot allocations across treated and untreated units were slightly different than recommended: 76 plots were placed in treated units and 24 placed in untreated control areas. In addition to the required permanent circular plots to monitor trends in invasive plant cover and diversity, the collaborative also chose to develop and implement a second protocol that aims to answer the question of how restoration treatments are potentially facilitating the introduction and spread of invasive plants over time for both common and uncommon species. This protocol aims to aid with early detection and rapid response to control early detections of particularly noxious non-native species. This protocol essentially surveys entire units using a grid survey method. This protocol was also implemented on the same eight treated units and four control units.

In the circular permanent plots designed to monitor the introduction and spread of a set of common invasive plants across treated and untreated units, the partnership elected to track all non-native species, not just a small set of common invasive plants. In southwest Oregon and within the UAW restoration planning area where this protocol was implemented, there are many non-native annual and perennial plants that have been present in the area for decades. The surveys found what was generally expected. Forests with high canopy cover were mostly absent of non-native species, while lower canopy woodlands and savannas were much more highly invaded by a large number of invasive species. In addition, some of the monitored units are currently, and have a history of cattle grazing; livestock grazing is known to facilitate the introduction and spread of many non-native species. Within the circular permanent plots and the survey grid protocol, the most common invasive plants present in units included non-native Bromus spp. (B. diandrus, B. madritensis, B. hordeaceous, B. sterilis, B. tectorum), Cynosurus echinatus, Torilis arvensis, and Ventenata dubia. In general, these species are abundant along most roadsides within the planning area and across the larger landscape, and disturbances associated with unit restoration as well as canopy cover reduction are likely to facilitate the spread and abundance of these species throughout treated units. For the cover of desirable species, we elected to include all native understory species that were not tree species. Tree species regeneration in most areas was low, while overstory cover of trees was high. Trees were excluded for tracking cover of desirable species since we are focusing on competition witin the understory. Given that most units had a high overstory canopy cover, cover of all understory plants (shrubs, herbaceous, grasses) was usually low as is reflected in Table 2 above. However, in the units and plots that landed in low overstory canopy cover areas, cover of understory species was much higher.

The following questions apply across the topics addressed across Questions 1-5:

• Are there accomplishments towards long-term goals which may not be reflected in short-term monitoring? Are there short-term treatments that work towards long-term goals which may be reflected adversely in short-term monitoring? Briefly summarize short- & long-term tradeoffs of your landscape treatments and goals.

The partners of this Rogue Basin project are focused on all-lands restoration and are capturing plot and unit level vegetation condition metrics in many locations, though currently not all locations funded with CFLRP dollars. When we incorporate that local data into the vegetation condition and fuel hazard questions, we expect to see significant gains throughout the project period on those indicators. There are also other monitoring efforts that are not included in these questions and indicators, but that can tell a fuller story of conditions and trends. These include songbird habitat and population monitoring across several project areas, legacy tree monitoring within two locations, tree heath and mortality monitoring, and fire effects monitoring. Our expectation is to include this monitoring in subsequent reporting years to provide a more complete picture of landscape conditions and trends as the CFLRP project work and other work progresses.

We don't believe any ongoing monitoring would indicate short-term adverse goals as they are focused on indicators that are not impacted by short-term adverse effects such as from logging operations.

Monitoring Questions #6: "How has the social and economic context changed, if at all?" (Reported every 5 years)

CFLRP Project Name: Rogue Basin

Fiscal Year: 2023

Point of contact(s) completing template: Bill Kuhn, Tabatha Rood

Step 1: List counties: Oregon: Jackson, Josephine, Curry, Coos, Douglas, Klamath; California: Siskiyou, Del Norte

Step 2: Across all counties listed above, provide the data below:

Federal land ownership: % of project area (Data available via *Headwaters Economics* report (<u>see Appendix</u> for instructions), see tab 2 of "Forest Service report"): 56.3%

Data for this reporting year is through 2021.

NFS lands within that: % of project area (tab 2, Forest Service report): 42.2%

(OPTIONAL) Within these counties, are there specific communities you would like to describe apart from the county characteristics?_

Describe the current social and economic context for your CFLRP landscape. For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Use it to respond to the following prompts:

Indicators	Response for Initial Year of Common Monitoring Strategy	Notes (Optional)
"Population" most recent year available (tab 1, Forest Service report)	655,122	
"Percent of total, race & ethnicity" most recent year available (tab 11, Forest Service report)	White alone – 563,390 Black or African American - 4,734 American Indian - 11,337 Hispanic ethnicity - 71,393 Non-Hispanic Ethnicity - 577,193	
"Unemployment rate" most recent year available (tab 1, Forest Service report)	6.1%	
"Per capita income" most recent year available (tab 1, Forest Service report)	\$57,686	
"Wildfire Exposure, % of Total, Homes" most recent year available (see Wildfire Risk report)	Homes Directly Exposed - 44% Homes Indirectly Exposed - 49% Homes Not Exposed - 6%	

• Provide a brief, narrative context for the data provided above, including any other key socioeconomic conditions to highlight for your landscape. If the data above does not accurately reflect socioeconomic conditions in/around your landscape please note and provide context.

- Would you expect CFLRP activities to directly or indirectly impact any of these social and/or economic conditions? If so, how?
- Does your CFLRP project have additional socioeconomic monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.
- Based on the information reported, (and any other relevant monitoring information and discussion), what (if any) actions or changes are you considering?

Our landscape includes all of two counties in Oregon (Josephine, and Jackson), most of Curry County in Oregon, and small proportions of several other counties: Coos (OR), Douglas (OR), Klamath (OR), Siskiyou (CA), and Del Norte (CA). The economic health and demographic structure of these counties is similar. Per capita income and average earnings per job in these counties both lag behind the national average while unemployment rate (5.2%) is well above the national average of 3.6%. The percentage of households receiving public assistance is about 50% higher than the national average. The largest industries in these counties includes Health Care and Social Assistance, Forestry-Fishing-Agricultural Services, and Retail Trade.

(Monitoring Questions #7 & #8 covered earlier in annual report template)

Monitoring Questions #9 "Did CFLRP maintain or increase the number and/or diversity of wood products that can be processed locally?" (Reported every 5 years)

Data will be provided to 2022 cohort projects to address this question in the FY23 report. If your CFLRP project
has data available about the current timber harvest by county and/or product, the number of active processing
facilities in the area, or other data about forest products infrastructure please provide here.

(Monitoring Questions #10 & #11 covered earlier in annual report template)

Monitoring Questions #12: "How well is CFLRP encouraging an effective and meaningful collaborative approach?" (Reported every 2-3 years)

Data will be provided to 2022 cohort projects to address this question in the FY23 report. For detailed guidance, training, and resources, see corresponding reporting template <u>here</u>. Please upload your completed assessment summary provided by the Southwestern Ecological Restoration Institutes <u>here</u> and use it to respond to the prompts below:

- Reflecting on the summary provided, do you have any additional context for the results to share?
- Do you have any feedback about the assessment process?
- What have you done, or plan to do, in response to the challenges, needs, and recommendations identified in the collaboration assessment? Please provide up to 3 specific actions.
- What types of support or guidance do you need to address any of the challenges, needs, and recommendations identified in the collaboration assessment?

SWERI Report not yet available, so we're not responsible for this question this year.

Monitoring Question #13 covered earlier in annual report template) Conclusion: The RBCFLRP is still waiting for feedback on Multi Party Monitoring Plan