CFLRP Annual Report: 2023

CFLRP Project Name (CFLR#): Southwest Colorado CFLRP

**National Forest: San Juan 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.

Southwest Colorado (SW CO) CFLRP FY23 key accomplishments:

#### **Funding:**

- Leveraged \$24,402,294 for planning and implementation of projects on NFS and non-NFS lands in line with the goals and objectives articulated in the proposal!
- Executed a 7.2-million-dollar good neighbor authority (GNA) agreement with the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) to assist the implementation of restoration and fuels reduction work.

### **Restoring Fire-Adapted Landscapes and Reducing Hazardous Fuels:**

- Accomplished 27,666 acres of all-lands hazardous fuels reduction collectively in the SW CO CFLRP landscape!
- Accomplished 23,246 acres of hazardous fuels reduction treatments (including 11,411 acres by prescribed and natural fire) to reduce wildfire hazard and risk and improve landscape resistance and resilience to fire on NFS lands.
- Managed the Dry Lake natural-ignition wildfire for 1,372 acres of hazardous fuels reduction and reduction of long-term risk from future wildfire events.
- Partners completed 700 acres of private land wildfire hazard mitigation and defensible space work in the home ignition zone (HIZ) and wildland urban interface (WUI) by leveraging funding, innovative thinking, and through very close coordination and collaboration to reduce wildfire risk to communities.
- La Plata and Montezuma Counties revised their <u>Community Wildfire Protection Plans</u> (CWPPs). In addition, Edgemont Highlands and Enchanted Forest Estates, subdivisions within La Plata County, revised their local CWPPs.

#### **Additional Ecological Goals:**

• Completed 3,204 acres of invasive weed treatments, 8 miles stream habitat enhancement and native fish population restoration, 7,414 acres of terrestrial wildlife habitat improvement, and the Chicken Creek Watershed Action Plan (WRAP).

#### **Socioeconomic Goals:**

- Expanded wood utilization from the project area through the San Juan Wood for Life (WFL) program in
  partnership with regional Tribes and the National Forest Foundation (NFF). In 2023, 200 loads of firewood (2400
  cords) were delivered to tribal communities (up from 50 in 2022) with 3 new wood banks serviced in the region.
- Over a dozen outreach and education events took place in FY23 across the SW CO CFLRP landscape. Volunteers
  and Ambassadors with San Juan Mountains Association connected with 17,692 forest visitors across all three
  districts of the San Juan NF; volunteer hours totaled over 2,000.

#### **Collaboration:**

 Developed a collaborative process to identify projects, activities, and locations to achieve the landscape scale strategy of the Southwest CFLRP. Developed project-wide desired future conditions (DFCs) to achieve the goals of the CFLRP.

- Established a SW CO CFLRP Cross-Boundary Subcommittee and appointed a chair.
- Updated the SW CO CFLRP Coordinating Council governance structure.
- Appointed a new chair to the Forest By-Products Subcommittee.
- Appointed a new chair to the Science and Monitoring Subcommittee. Made considerable gains in the development of a multiparty monitoring plan.
- Developed the <u>SW CO CFLRP website</u> to be launched in January 2024 to provide information to public and an internal hub and document storage for the CFLRP governance group.
- Developed and executed a long-term contract for a professional facilitator to support the SW CFLRP and subcommittees.

# 2. Funding

### **CFLRP and Forest Service Match Expenditures**

Fund Source:	Total Funds Expended
CFLN and/or CFIX Funds Expended	in Fiscal Year 2023
CFLN23	\$2,750,158
CFLN22	<u>\$1,163,775</u>
TOTAL	\$3,913,933

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

Fund Source:	Total Funds Expended
Forest Service Salary and Expense Match Expended	in Fiscal Year 2023
NSCF2623	\$1,050,203
	\$ 116,780
CFHFPD22	\$ 79,157
<u>CFRT2622</u>	\$1,246,140
TOTAL	

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 <a href="Program Funding Guidance">Program Funding Guidance</a>.

Fund Source:	Total Funds Expended
Forest Service Discretionary Matching Funds	in Fiscal Year 2023
CFHFPD22	\$ 1,610,364
IRHFPD22	\$ 519,310
CFDS0422	\$ 133,472
HFDS0422	\$ 849,127
CFHXPD22	\$ 5,000,000
CFRT2622	\$ 1,388,908
CFHF2623	\$ 100,000
NFHF1323	\$ 795,617
CFHXPD23	\$ 4,280,542
NIHXPD23	\$ 235,969
<u>CFTX2623</u>	\$ 942,03 <u>5</u>
TOTAL	\$15,855,344

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 <a href="Program Funding Guidance">Program Funding Guidance</a>, federal dollars spent on non-NFS lands may be included as match if aligned with CFLRP proposal implementation.

# Partner Match Contributions<sup>1</sup>

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
Wildfire Adapted Partnership	☑ In-kind contribution ☐ Funding	\$744,157	Assisted residents in creating defensible space, planning wildfire evacuations, and preparing for wildfire through neighborhood education and grant opportunities. Wildfire hazard assessment, and wildfire risk reduction fuel treatment in the WUI for structure protection. 542 acres treated; 435 structures protected. 15,452	<ul> <li>☑ National Forest</li> <li>System Lands</li> <li>☑ Other lands within</li> <li>CFLRP landscape:</li> </ul>
Colorado State Forest Service	☑ In-kind contribution ☐ Funding	\$48,450	Forester salary and support for private landowners, GNA, and. Ute Mountain Ute Tribe - Adams Ranch: sanitation/salvage 20 acres treated, forest Inventory (700 acres). Admin Zwicker GNA Aspen Sale 176 acres completed four private land management plans completed (308 acres).	☑ National Forest System Lands ☑ Other lands within CFLRP landscape:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Addresses Core Monitoring Question #13

Fund Source –	In-Kind Contribution or	Total Estimated	Description of CFLRP	Where activity/item is
(Partner	Funding Provided?	Funds/Value for	implementation or	located or impacted
Match)	runung rrovideu:	FY23	monitoring activity	area
<u>La Plata</u>		1123	Completed 83 acres of	uicu
County	☑ In-kind contribution	\$382,885	private land fire	☐ National Forest
County	Es in kind contribution	7552,555	mitigation work and 128	System Lands
	☐ Funding		acres of roadside	System Lanas
	La randing		mitigation along county	☐ Other lands within
			road easements under	CFLRP landscape:
			the LaPlata County Safe	
			routes program with	
			SWIFT (State Wildland	
			Inmate Fire Team)	
			crews.	
Falls Creek			Hand wildfire risk	
Ranch	☑ In-kind contribution		reduction mitigation on	☐ National Forest
Association			71 acres common	System Lands
	☐ Funding	\$84,000	property. Provided	
			education and support	☑ Other lands within
			in defensible space	CFLRP landscape:
			management to 98	
			homeowners: revised	
			CWPP. Burned >1000	
			bags of pine needles.	
			Donated 3 loads of	
			firewood to Shiprock	
			Chapter House (a Tribal	
			community wood bank)	
<u>Colorado</u>			Completed 306 acres	
Parks and	☑ In-kind contribution		hazardous fuels	☐ National Forest
<u>Wildlife</u>		\$131,750	reduction and terrestrial	System Lands
	☐ Funding	\$131,730	wildlife habitat	<b>57</b> 0.1 1 1
			improvement in the	☑ Other lands within
			Hydroaxe Project in the	CFLRP landscape:
			Perrins Peak State	
Duron: Lond			Wildlife Area. WUI wildfire risk	
Bureau Land	☐ In-kind contribution		reduction fuel	☐ National Forest
Management (BLM), Tres	ווייאוווע נטוונווטענוטוו		treatments across 1982	System Lands
Rios Field	☐ Funding	\$760,000	acres (prescribed	System Lanus
Office	La runding	,	burning, hand and	☑ Other lands within
<u> </u>			mechanical thinning).	CFLRP landscape:
			Completed 723 acres of	C. Z. I. Idiidoupei
			Invasive weed	
			treatments	
San Juan			Forest Ambassadors	
<u>Mountains</u>	☑ In-kind contribution	\$66,685	public education and	☑ National Forest
Association		_	engagement. Trail	System Lands
	☐ Funding		maintenance, and	
			hazard tree mitigation.	
	Ū		-	

Fund Source –	In-Kind Contribution or	Total Estimated	Description of CFLRP	Where activity/item is
(Partner	Funding Provided?	Funds/Value for	implementation or	located or impacted
Match)	runuing Provideu:	FY23	monitoring activity	area
iviatelly		F123	\$6000 cash match +	aica
			\$60,685 in-kind	☐ Other lands within
			volunteer hours.	CFLRP landscape:
Nintinual			NFF cash contribution +	Crike ialiuscape:
National	☐ In-kind contribution	\$560,750		National Forest     ■ National Fore
<u>Forest</u>	M in-kind contribution	\$560,750	\$400,000 in-kind	
<u>Foundation</u>	<b>—</b>		volunteer time and	System Lands
	☐ Funding		salary for wood	<b>☑</b> Other lands within
			processing and delivery.	CFLRP landscape:
			Supported improved	Crear ialiuscape:
			trail stream crossing, 3	
			miles of trail finish	
			work, 6 miles of trail	
			restoration. Grant	
			awarded to CSFS for	
6:1			project administration.	
City of			Hazardous fuel	
<u>Durango and</u>	☐ In-kind contribution		reduction completed on	☐ National Forest
<u>WWPF</u>	<b></b>	\$100,200	27 acres of City of	System Lands
	☐ Funding	\$100,200	Durango owned lands	
			within the WUI in the	☑ Other lands within
			Sky Steps, Twin Buttes,	CFLRP landscape:
			and Horse Gulch	
			projects	
<u>Mountain</u>	<u></u>	<b>6465</b> 000	Installation of beaver	
<u>Studies</u>	☐ In-kind contribution	\$465,000	dam analogs.	■ National Forest
<u>Institute</u>	<b>—</b>		Establishment,	System Lands
	☐ Funding		measurement, and re-	
			measurement of long-	☑ Other lands within
			term vegetation	CFLRP landscape:
			monitoring, snowpack,	
			water quality	
			monitoring points.	
			Education, outreach,	
			collaborative	
			coordination.	
Mancos	_	4	Adams Ranch 90-acre	
<u>Conservation</u>	☑ In-kind contribution	\$43,000	fuel break layout, prep,	☐ National Forest
<u>District</u>			cruise (by CSFS)	System Lands
	☐ Funding		Establish pre-treatment	
			monitoring plots (CFRI) -	☑ Other lands within
			implementation	CFLRP landscape
			anticipated 2024.	
			Private forestland	
			management plan	
			development (35 acres)	

Total In-Kind Contributions: \$3,386, 877

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

### **Goods for Services Match**

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
Revenue generated through Good Neighbor Agreements	Totals
	N/A

<sup>&</sup>quot;Revised non-monetary credit limit" should be the amount in the "Progress Report for Stewardship Credits, Integrated Resources Contracts or Agreements" 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 Accomplishments<sup>2</sup> - 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) <sup>3</sup>	13,444	3,359	16,803
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) in the Wildland Urban Interface - COMPLETED	FP-FUELS-WUI-CMPLT (reported in FACTS) <sup>4</sup>	7,504	3,359	10,863
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) outside the Wildland Urban Interface	FP-FUELS-NON-WUI (reported in FACTS) <sup>3</sup>	9,802		9,802
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (acres) outside the Wildland Urban Interface - COMPLETED	FP-FUELS-NON-WUI-CMPLT (reported in FACTS) 4	5,206		5,206
Wildfire Risk Mitigation Outcomes - Acres treated to mitigate wildfire risk	FP-FUELS-ALL-MIT-NFS (reported in FACTS)	10,827		10,827

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This question helps track progress towards the CFLRP projects lifetime goals outlined in your CFLRP Proposal & Work Plan. Adapt table as needed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> New Agency measure reported in FACTS when completed.

Core Restoration Treatments	Agency Performance Measure	NFS Acres	Non-NFS Acres	Total Acres
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Noxious weeds and invasive plants	INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC (reported in FACTS) <sup>3</sup>	2,481	723	3,204
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Noxious weeds and invasive plants - COMPLETED	INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC-CMPLT (reported in FACTS) <sup>4</sup>	2,481	723	3,204
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Terrestrial and aquatic species	INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC (reported in FACTS) <sup>35</sup>			
Invasive Species Treatments (acres) - Terrestrial and aquatic species - COMPLETED	INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC- CMPLT (reported in FACTS) <sup>46</sup>			
Road Decommissioning (Unauthorized Road) (miles)	RD-DECOM-NON-SYS (Roads reporting)	1 mi		1 mi
Road Decommissioning (National Forest System Road) (miles)	RD-DECOM-SYS (Roads reporting)			
Road Improvement (High Clearance) (miles)	RD-HC-IMP-MI (Roads reporting)	17.2 mi		17.2 mi
Road Improvement (Passenger Car System) (miles)	RD-PC-IMP-MI (Roads reporting)			
Road Maintenance (High Clearance) (miles)	RD-HC-MAINT-MI (Roads reporting)	67.3 mi		67.3 mi
Road Maintenance (Passenger Car System) (miles)	RD-PC-MAINT-MI (Roads reporting)	357.9 mi		357.9 mi
Trail Improvement (miles)	TL-IMP-STD (Trails reporting)	9.8 mi		9.8 mi
Trail Maintenance (miles)	TL-MAINT-STD (Trails reporting)	318.2 mi		318.2 mi
Wildlife Habitat Restoration (acres)	HBT-ENH-TERR (reported in WIT)	6,609	805	7,414
Stream Crossings Mitigated (i.e. AOPs) (number)	STRM-CROS-MITG-STD (reported in WIT)			
Stream Habitat Enhanced (miles)	HBT-ENH-STRM (reported in WIT)	7.68 mi		7.68 mi
Lake Habitat Enhanced (acres)	HBT-ENH-LAK (reported in WIT)	2,015		2,015
Water or Soil Resources Protected, Maintained, or Improved (acres)	S&W-RSRC-IMP (reported in WIT)	75		75

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> New Agency measure reported in FACTS when completed.

Core Restoration Treatments	Agency Performance Measure	NFS Acres	Non-NFS Acres	Total Acres
Stand Improvement (acres)	FOR-VEG-IMP (reported in FACTS)	3,505		3,505
Reforestation and revegetation (acres)	FOR-VEG-EST (reported in FACTS)	406		406
Forests treated using timber sales (acres)	TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC (reported in FACTS)			
Rangeland Vegetation Improvement (acres)	RG-VEG-IMP (reported in FACTS)	41,590		41,590

- Is there any background or context you would like to provide regarding the information reported in the table above?
- Reflecting on treatments implemented in FY23, if/how has your CFLRP project aligned with other efforts to accomplish work at landscape scales?

The SW CO CFLRP is uniquely positioned with a robust group of partners, state/local/federal government cooperators, and other interested and engaged people committed to advancing the goals and objectives of the project. The level of communication, coordination, and collaboration between cross-boundary partners in SW CO is highly developed. For example, La Plata County has established a "Meta" structure that provides a network and forum for strategic thinking, engagement, and coordination among practitioners committed to community wildfire risk reduction. This established structure of committed cross-boundary professionals, partners, stakeholders, and interested parties is resilient to singular conflicts given their resolve to working together to achieve their goals and objectives. This network worked tirelessly in 2023 and the CFLRP structure provides an additional forum and funding to assist these efforts.

Communication, coordination, and leveraged funding are essential components of cross-boundary wildfire mitigation success. In Colorado, state level initiatives and grant programs, and the willingness of state agencies to serve as a fiscal agent for federal grants, has helped enable this group of innovative partners and industry working together to become fire adapted. SW CO CFLRP partners are leveraging CFLRP program dollars with funding from a suite of initiatives and grants including: the Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP), Forest Restoration and Wildfire Mitigation Grant Program (FRWRM), Restoration and Stewardship of Outdoor Resources and Environment Program (RESTORE), Wood Innovations Grant Funding (WIG), State Fire Assistance (SFA) WUI, Community Assistance Funds Adjacent to Federal Lands (CAFA), Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Coalitions and Collaboratives Action Implementation Mitigation Grant (AIM), Community Wildfire Defense Grants (CWDG), Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (FAC Net), Fire Adapted Colorado (FACO), Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Grant, the Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative (RMRI), Wildfire Crisis Strategy funding, La Plata and Montezuma county funding, and match funding (e.g. homeowner) (see Section 2: Funding above). These programs, initiatives, and funding sources, in conjunction with innovative and dedicated partners, and willing landowners, enabled successful advancement of the SW CO CFLRP goals and objectives in FY23.

For example, Wildfire Adapted Partnership, working in concert with La Plata County, Mancos Conservation District, WWPF, and a suite of partners, volunteers, and collaborators continued to provide strong leadership in SW CO in coordination and execution of defensible space, wildfire risk assessment, and of wildfire mitigation. These efforts serve as a model of how groups can leverage funding and efforts working together to complete cross-boundary

wildfire risk reduction. Throughout this report, vignettes of featured projects will be used to demonstrate how the SW CO achieved the objectives of the project and respond to the questions in this report. For example, see La Plata County and Montezuma County Priority Areas below in <u>Section 4: Restoring Fire-Adapted Landscapes and Reducing Hazardous Fuels</u> below for vignettes of these successes. The collaborative leadership provided by the partners committed to this effort is the foundation for the success stories of the SW CO CFLRP.

Noteworthy SW CO CFLRP partner accomplishments and successes in FY 23 include:

- 3,359 acres of hazardous fuels reduction treatments in the WUI
- 896 acres of home ignition zone (HIZ) and private land treated for wildfire mitigation.
- 435 structures protected by thinning for defensible space.
- Completed 242 home wildfire hazard risk assessment.
- 5 forest management plans written for 343 acres of private land.
- 1 GNA project completed on 176 acres with 8,592 tons of wood products removed and \$48,222 of revenue generated.
- 1 state/tribal land contract completed with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe treating 20 acres of tribal land (Adams Ranch)
- Completed a 700-acre forest inventory of Ute Mountain Ute Tribal lands (Adam's Ranch).
- 495 acres of BLM land prescribed burned on Animas City Mountain, adjacent to Durango, Colorado
- 200 acres of private land treated by prescribed fire under Wyden Authority
- 306 acres of mechanical fuels reduction and terrestrial wildlife habitat improvement completed in the Perrins Peak State Wildlife Area
- Hosted one wildfire mitigation demo day (see Summit Lake Wildfire Mitigation Workshop below), six slash disposal depot days (see Vallecito Slash Depot below), and one demonstration mitigation tour.

# 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 San Juan National Forest and its partners carried out a variety of treatments across multiple jurisdictions to restore fire-adapted landscapes and reduce hazardous fuels (see also, narrative in Section 3 above). Collectively, cooperators accomplished 27,666 acres of all-lands hazardous fuels reduction in the SW CO CFLRP landscape in FY23! The San Juan NF was able to accomplish over 23,000 acres of prescribed fire and mechanical treatments, including harnessing over 1,500 aces of resource-benefitting managed wildfire to reduce long-term risk from future wildfire events. Given the scale and strategic nature of annual accomplishments within the SW CO CFLRP landscape, as noted, this report uses vignettes to highlight key accomplishments to demonstrate how the SW CO CFLRP met project objectives and respond to the questions herein. This method aims to provide examples and approaches of how collective efforts scale up to achieve the goals and objectives of the CFLRP.

As previously addressed, Southwest Colorado includes numerous overlapping initiatives and programs that, when combined, aim to achieve landscape scale cross-boundary outcomes including the RMRI, COSWAP, and numerous others. Treatment prioritization, as outlined in the proposal, is based on these, and other partner priorities including

those identified by the three place-based collaboratives<sup>7</sup> that cover the SW CO CFLRP. Furthermore, in FY23, the SW CO CFLRP Coordinating Council (CoCo) developed project-wide desired future conditions (DFCs) to achieve the goals of the CFLRP. Subsequently, the SW CO CoCo approved a collaborative process to identify projects, activities, and locations to achieve the landscape scale strategy of the SW CO CFLRP with implementation anticipated in 2024.

#### Vignettes of featured SW CO CFLRP all-lands accomplishments to restore fire adapted ecosystems in FY2023:

Vallecito-Piedra Prescribed Fire Project – USFS: In FY23, 3,179 acres of NFS lands, and 200 acres of private land were treated in the Vallecito-Piedra (V-P) Prescribed Fire Project. The project is adjacent to the largest subdivision in Southwest Colorado. The Wyden Authority enabled seamless cross-boundary prescribed fire application in the WUI, reduced costs, increased efficacy, and optimized outcomes. The V-P project reduced hazardous surface and ladder fuels, wildfire risk, restored ponderosa pine ecosystems, and improved big game wildlife habitat. Additionally, the project restored forest structure, function, species composition, and fire regimes across the treated area, advancing the goals and objectives of the SW CO CFLRP. Additionally, implementation during spring, fall, and holiday weekend burn windows maximized treatment accomplishments and increased public awareness and acceptance. The VP project was ignited by unmanned aerial systems (UAS) or drones, enabling ignition of 1000 acres per day, safer conditions for fire personnel, and significantly reduced prescribed fire treatment costs (\$37/acre).

Vallecito-Piedra Prescribed Fire Project Videos:

- Prescribed Fire Timing for V-P Burn
- Putting "Good Fire" on the San Juan National Forest

Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire – BLM: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) treated 495 acres in the Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire Project between May 8 and May 12th, 2023. Both hand ignition and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) (drones) were used to light the fire. The project is part of the BLM's ongoing commitment to promote human health and safety while maintaining or enhancing forest and woodland health and function. Animas City Mountain is immediately adjacent to the city of Durango, and this was the first prescribed fire project of its kind in such close proximity to the city. The Animas City Mountain area was masticated in 2010 to manipulate surface and ladder fuels in preparation for the burn.

#### **Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire video**







After underburning treatment

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership (SJHFHP), Four Rivers Resilient Forest Collaborative (4Rivers), and Dolores Watershed Resilient Forest Collaborative (DWRF).

**Turkey-Devil Mastication Project - USFS**: The San Juan NF Pagosa Ranger District's Turkey Springs and Devil Creek projects reduced hazardous fuels through mastication and shredding of shrubs and small diameter trees across approximately 1,200 acres. Both projects reduced ladder fuels and increased tree crown spacing and growing space, reducing competition for water and nutrients. The treatments also improved terrestrial wildlife habitat and forest resilience and resistance to fire, insects, and climate change. By reducing crown fire initiation potential, the project reduced the likelihood of a wildfire transitioning from a surface fire to a crown fire, significantly reducing wildfire hazard and risk to firefighters and the public.





Before mastication treatment

After mastication treatment

La Plata County and Montezuma County Priority Areas: Both La Plata and Montezuma Counties have coordinated cross-boundary landscape-scale efforts funded through the Colorado Department of Natural Resources Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Programs (COSWAP); one managed by La Plata County and the other managed by the Mancos Conservation District in Montezuma County. COSWAP projects focus on reducing wildfire risk to communities and critical infrastructure. COSWAP funds thinning, egress clearing, defensible space, and pile burning on private land that complements SW CO CFLRP efforts. Both COSWAP projects were awarded in late 2022 and will be funded through 2025. Additionally, Montezuma County and La Plata Counties revised their Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) in FY23 outlining goals, strategies, and partner roles, thereby providing a roadmap for collective efforts. Considerable gains were made in FY2023 within the two COSWAP geographies:

#### La Plata County – Florida Municipal Watershed Geography – Private Lands

Collaborative	La Plata County, Wildfire Adapted Partnership, Wildfire and Watershed Protection Fund
Leadership	(WWPF) (includes Durango Fire Protection District, City of Durango and La Plata County)
<b>Key Partners:</b>	Colorado State Forest Service, Mountain Studies Institute, Bureau of Land Management,
	Columbine Ranger District.
Type of work:	Wildfire Risk Assessments, defensible space, WUI fuels reduction, roadside thinning, education
	and outreach, mitigation demos, chipper rebates
Leveraged	COSWAP, FACO, State Fire Assistance Wildland Urban Interface (SFA WUI) USFS funding
Grants in FY23:	managed by CSFS, Federal - BLM Community Assistance, WIIN funding managed by Colorado
	Department of Public Health and Environment

Areas treated in	Edgemont Highlands Communities, Ute Pass, Songbird, Timberline View Estates, Cliffs of
FY 23:	Durango, Durango Hills, Los Ranchitos, Wilderness Lakes Mountain Estates, Florida River Estates
	Wild Turkey Canyon, and Baby Bear.
Acres treated in	Acres private treated: 115 acres. BLM completed machine slash piling following 40 acres of
FY 23:	mechanized wildfire risk reduction fuel treatments in 2022. 25 miles of county roads treated.
Featured	Florida Municipal Watershed COSWAP and Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation
Projects in	(WIIN) Mitigation Implementation Roadmap
FY23:	

The **Florida River Municipal Watershed** provides water to over 20,000 residents and visitors to the City of Durango, Colorado, and the Durango La Plata County Airport. Within the watershed, La Plata County, Wildfire and Watershed Protection Fund (WWPF) (that coordinates this local government entity), and Wildfire Adapted Partnership secured funding for private land cross-boundary wildfire hazard mitigation by leveraging grants, cost-share, rebates, workforce sources, and constant and continual coordination and collaboration. The Florida River project area received a COSWAP and a WIIN (Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation) grant with work underway in eight neighborhoods within the WUI. The WIIN grant program is designed to assist public water systems serving underserved, small, and disadvantaged communities to increase their resiliency to natural hazards.

Within the combined COSWAP and WIIN grant geography, there are 20 subdivisions ranging from those no established homeowner's association (HOA) to well-established HOAs. Neighborhoods with HOAs are well-positioned for wildfire mitigation work in the WUI as established neighborhood bodies are logistically easier to coordinate with than a suite of individual homeowners. HOAs may also have common land, wildfire mitigation related covenants, and in the case of one neighborhood in the area, an established wildfire mitigation fund. For example, within the area, 5 HOAs have common land, and grant funding is being used to complete fire mitigation work across these areas. Where HOAs are established, but own no common land, grant funds contributed to roadside fire mitigation within HOA road easements. Common land fuels mitigation in the Florida Watershed in FY23 was strategic and impactful with one common land treatment mitigating wildfire risk to 53 adjacent residential properties and providing safer conditions near the main travel corridor. Other adjacent private area lands were treated through match reimbursement funding through the grant.

Within the Florida Watershed, 115 acres of private land defensible space and fuels reduction work were completed, and two water quality monitoring stations were installed on the Florida River in 2023. WWPF and Wildfire Adapted Partnership completed home assessments, developed the scope of work, implemented treatments, and funded private land common area treatments. Local contractors, Durango Fire, and the Southwest Youth Conservation Corps completed the fuels mitigation work. These treatments balance mitigation and privacy objectives by breaking up fuel continuity while retaining pockets of vegetation for aesthetics and ecosystem function. The Columbine Ranger District is currently developing the Durango Hills Fuelbreak proposal to mitigate fuels on National Forest System land adjected to this area.

**S.W.I.F.T:** In addition to the grants described above, La Plata County received a COSWAP workforce grant for 10 weeks of State Wildland Inmate Fire Team (S.W.I.F.T.) to complete fuel mitigation within the county roads right-of-way. In 2023, 25 miles of county roads were mitigated in six weeks by SWIFT.

Montezuma County Cross-Boundary Geography - Private Lands, Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Lands

Collaborative	Mancos Conservation District, Dolores Watershed Resilient Forest Collaborative (DWRF),
Leadership	Wildfire Adapted Partnership
Tribal Nation:	Ute Mountain Ute
Key Partners:	Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, Dolores Ranger District,
	Short Forestry, Ramirez Natural Resource Stewardship, LLC, NRCS, BLM, Dolores Fire Protection
	District, Cortez Fire, Underwood Forestry
Type of work:	Home assessments, defensible space, WUI fuels reduction, roadside thinning, Forest
	Management Plan development, education and outreach, mitigation demos, chipper rebates
Leveraged	FRWRM, COSWAP, FACO, EQIP, AIM
Grants in FY23:	
Areas treated in	Jackson Lake, Rouge Ranch, Cedar Mesa Ranches, Adams Ranch Defensible Space, Zone 3 fuels
FY 23:	red, roadside thinning
Acres treated in	Acres private treated: 11.35 (type of work: defensible space, WUI fuels reduction, roadside
FY 23:	thinning), 20 acres treated Adams Ranch
Featured	Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Lands - Adams Ranch Fuel Break, Summit Lake Wildfire Mitigation
Projects in	Workshop
FY23:	

Adams Ranch Fuel Break - Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Lands: The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe is working with Mancos Conservation District (MCD) in partnership with Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) and Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) to implement a 90-acre fuel break and forest restoration treatment on tribal lands. The fuel break lies on a collaboratively identified Potential Operational Delineation (POD) boundary. In FY23, partners completed sale layout, sale preparation, and established pretreatment monitoring plots. The group also leveraged COSWAP funding to complete a 700-acre forest inventory of Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Lands to update the Adams Ranch Forest management plan. In addition, MCD hired a career development intern to support field efforts working with CSFS and CFRI. CSFS also completed a 20-acre sanitation and salvage project on Adams ranch. These efforts, toward common goals, advanced relationships between partners, and the Ute Mountain Ute and will continue in the coming years.



Partners gathered to discuss Adams Ranch project - Summer, 2023

Summit Lake Wildfire Mitigation Workshop – Private lands: In April 2023, Dolores Watershed Resilient Forest Collaborative and Wildfire Adapted Partnership hosted the Summit Lake Wildfire Mitigation Workshop, funded in part by Fire Adapted Colorado's Opportunity Fund. Over 30 people attended this public demo day to increase awareness of defensible space and the risk of wildfires. Attendees learned how to conduct fuels reduction treatments, home assessments, and mitigation work. Workshop segments focused on chipping, pile construction and burning, and chainsaw safety and use. The Summit Lake area has the highest wildfire hazard and risk in Montezuma County and this single demo day resulted in 8-12 home assessments and generated 5 wildfire hazard mitigation projects.







A lesson on chainsaw safety, maintenance, and use

Dry Lake Fire – USFS: This summer the San Juan NF managed the Dry Lake wildfire to reduce hazardous fuels, encourage the growth of native plants, increase understory species diversity, restore ecological role of fire, and reduce the potential for future high-severity wildfires. Firefighters discovered the lightning- sparked Dry Lake Fire on July 30, 12 miles northeast of Bayfield, CO. The single tree was burning in a prescribed fire unit that had been first burned in 2019 and was planned for a second prescribed burn in fall, 2023 as part of the Vallecito-Piedra Prescribed Fire Project. Fire managers used the existing roads and trails as containment lines to blackline and fire the interior of the unit using hand ignition and UAS. The Dry Lake Fire burned at the northeast edge of a Potential Operational Delineation (POD). PODs are developed by local wildland fire management specialists to pre-identify a network of best-available control features. The work previously done near the POD boundary northeast of the Dry Lake Fire served its purpose as a control feature. This managed wildfire resulted in 1,372 acres of fuels reduction just east of Southwest Colorado's largest subdivision.



Dry Lake Fire firing operations

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

A San Juan National Forest wildfire (Dry Lake Fire) did interact with a previously treated area in FY2023; however, this wildfire was not reported in FTEM in 2023 and will be included in the 2024 report.

#### FY23 Wildfire/Hazardous Fuels Expenditures

Category	\$
FY23 Wildfire Preparedness*	3,369,235
FY23 Wildfire Suppression**	\$19,262,742
FY23 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (CFLN, CFIX):	815,400
FY23 Hazardous Fuels Treatment Costs (other BLIs):	2,194,650

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

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"):

The prescribed fire and mechanical fuels treatments that were implemented in FY 23, in addition to larger wildfires that were managed, will most likely contribute to reducing overall fire suppression costs related to future wildfire occurrence interacting with previous hazardous fuels treatments by significantly reducing overall fire behavior requiring less suppression resources (including Aviation).

# 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. This may include, and isn't limited to, activities related to habitat enhancement, invasives, and watershed condition.

Additional ecological goals met on the NFS and adjacent lands included projects reaching DFCs for 8 miles of stream habitat enhanced, 31 acres of NFS land acquisition, 3204 acres of invasive species treatment, and 7414 acres of terrestrial wildlife habitat improvement. There was also extensive road and trail maintenance and improvement work with primary and secondary benefits to watersheds and wildlife. The San Juan National Forest also completed the Chicken Creek Watershed Action Plan in 2023 that provides a roadmap for watershed improvement work in a high priority, at-risk, watersheds. Areas were prioritized as described in <a href="Section 4">Section 4</a>, coupled with terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat, data collected from the Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative, and the Watershed Condition Framework. Please see featured 2023 SW CO CFLRP vignettes below.

Bear Creek Invasive Species Control – USFS: The San Juan NF awarded a contract in FY23 to complete treatments for a thistle infestation in the remote Bear Creek drainage on the Dolores Ranger District. 177 acres and 10.4 miles of trail in the popular recreation destination were treated for Canada and musk thistle. The infestation has made sections of the trail difficult to traverse and has reduced wildlife habitat and rangeland vegetation quality. This treatment should improve rangeland condition, big game winter range habitat, and recreation experiences.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Include emergency fire suppression and BAER within the project landscape.







Bear Creek Meadows Treated (2020) Area

Sun Side Mining Claim Acquisition – USFS: USDA Forest Service - San Juan National Forest Columbine Ranger District purchased three mining claims totaling 31 acres in the Ice Lakes Basin Area approximately 7 miles west of Silverton, Colorado, from a private landowner. Acquisition of the Sun Side Mining Claims enhances recreational opportunities by securing access along the heavily used Ice Lakes Trail, which crosses the property, and ensures protection of the wild, undeveloped view sheds and water sources of Island Lake and the surrounding area. The NFS land surrounding the property is part of the San Miguel Colorado Roadless Area. In addition to improving recreation access and experiences such as hiking, wildlife watching, hunting, and angling, the San Juan NF's acquisition will conserve potential habitat of the Federally Protected Canada lynx, elk, mule deer and other wildlife species.

Hermosa Creek eDNA Sample Collection and Stocking of Native Cutthroat Trout — USFS: Native Colorado River cutthroat trout were restocked along the upper section of the East Fork of Hermosa Creek in June 2023. Twenty-three miles of the upper Hermosa Creek and the East Fork are isolated from the rest of the watershed and have previously been restored as Colorado River cutthroat trout waterways beginning in the late 1980s. Prior to the 2023 restocking, environmental deoxyribose nucleic acid (eDNA) samples were collected from the upper mainstem and East Fork of Hermosa Creek. The population of Colorado River Cutthroat Trout is greater than ninety percent pure and a targeted conservation population. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW), Trout Unlimited volunteers, and Forest Service employees released Colorado River cutthroat trout, restocking the upper section of the East Fork of Hermosa Creek resulting in nearly 8 miles of stream habitat enhanced.



eDNA collection

### 6. Socioeconomic Goals

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

 Examples may include activities related to community wildfire protection, contribution to the local recreation/tourism economy, volunteer and outreach opportunities, job training, expanding market access, public input and involvement, cultural heritage, subsistence uses, etc.

Socioeconomic achievements were widespread and varied throughout the SW Colorado CFLRP landscape (see featured 2023 SW CO CFLRP vignettes below). New opportunities for funding and job creation were realized because of project momentum throughout local communities. Three open houses were held on two ranger districts to involve public in landscape-scale decision-making processes. Forest Health Collaboratives and partners hosted no fewer than nine field tours for projects ranging from prescribed fires to silviculture prescriptions. A public film release of the independent film, "Plumtaw: A Future with Fire," was hosted by the local forest health collaborative and drew over 200 members of the public. The film covered the use of POD boundaries to stop an emerging wildfire that was covered in the 2022 report. See also Section 3: Activities on The Ground and Section 4: Restoring Fire Adapted Landscapes and Reducing Hazardous Fuels.

#### Tribal:

Wood for Life: The Wood for Life Tribal Fuelwood Initiative delivers small-diameter and low-value wood products from fire mitigation projects, restoration efforts, and salvage sales on the San Juan NF to tribal communities on the Navajo Nation and Ute Mountain Ute Agency. In FY23, 200 loads of firewood were delivered to two tribes and five wood banks—that's over 2,400 cords of firewood delivered to the homes of tribal members (a fourfold increase over the prior year)! Several partners are involved in the coordination, processing, and delivery including the National Forest Foundation and Conservation Legacy (through Southwest Conservation Corps and Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps). In FY23, all Wood for Life fuelwood was from non-sawlog material generated from the Lone Pine Project on the Dolores Ranger District. Socioeconomic benefits to tribal communities have been widespread, with the most valuable being realized by tribal communities in receipt of the fuelwood. One contractor purchased a new log truck, an estimated \$400,000 went into small business for log hauling, and another \$330,000 supported Conservation Legacy's work.



Fuelwood being delivered to a home

**Ethnobotany:** Using Tribal Forest Protection Act Funding, the SJNF has entered into the first 638 agreement in Region 2 with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe to ethnobotanical and traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) studies of Native American communities who are culturally associated with the San Juan NF. The primary goal of the project is to identify plant species, locations, and varying uses of cultural significance to Southern Ute peoples and other tribal peoples that are culturally associated with the Forest. Other goals of this project are to provide written documentation for cultural preservation and management recommendations to the U.S. Forest Service for vegetation management and ecological restoration activities to promote shared stewardship of these resources and priority landscapes.

**Research Fuels Reduction and Tribal Values:** The SJNF is currently working with a researcher from the University of Colorado and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe to understand how social and cultural values are affected by fuels treatments and managed wildfire. The proposed research will be located on the Columbine Ranger District on FS lands that boarder the Southern Ute Indian Reservation.

**Wood Innovations Grants:** Two USDA Wood Innovations Grants were awarded to local businesses in FY23 on the heels of the prior two WIGs awarded to local businesses in 2022. Phoenix Biomass Solutions was awarded \$200,000 to design and permit a 25-acre wood management facility in La Plata County. Table to Farm Compost was awarded funding to study carbon acquisition and transportation. Progress was made this year on the prior Community Wood Energy Grant for the purchase and installation of a pellet mill at Aspen Wood Products, and Timber Age Systems continues to grow and benefit from the WIG to harvest small diameter pine from NFS and non-NFS lands for Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) building manufacturing.

Vallecito Slash Depot – Private Lands: Wildfire Adapted Partnership (WAP) and their Neighborhood Ambassadors convened a band of volunteers from Vallecito to host the Summer Slash Depot at Vallecito Reservoir. In 2023, WAP funded the chipper rentals, compost boxes, and protective equipment through the Action Implementation and Mitigation grant from Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc. The compost boxes from Phoenix Recycling were filled with woodchips, composted, and donated to SOIL Outdoor Learning Lab at Riverview Elementary to enhance their community garden. WAP and their Neighborhood Ambassadors brought together 166 volunteers dedicated to reducing the wildfire risk in the Vallecito community, removed over 2,800 cubic yards of mitigation slash, and brought the community together for collective action.





Wood chipper in operation

Heavy equipment moves a slash pile

San Juan Mountains Association Forest Ambassador Program: The San Juan Mountains Association (SJMA) Forest Ambassador Program promotes exploration and protection of public lands in Southwest Colorado through stewardship and conservation education for people of all ages. SJMA Forest Ambassadors greet and engage with hikers, alert visitors to fire restrictions, maintain trails, monitor conditions, and educate users about alpine environments, initiative-related projects, and forest health, threats, and restoration work. In FY 23, SJMA volunteers and Ambassadors connected with 17,692 forest visitors across all three districts of the San Juan NF; volunteer hours totaled over 2,000. On-the-ground trail maintenance and trash removal moved the San Juan NF closer to trail maintenance desired future conditions.



SJMA Ambassadors make trailhead public contacts

**Results from the Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Toolkit (TREAT).** For guidance, training, and resources, see materials on <u>Restoration Economics SharePoint</u>. 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: 98%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Addresses Core Monitoring Question #7

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

Description	Project Percent
Equipment intensive work	88%
Labor-intensive work	11%
Material-intensive work	1%
Technical services	0%
Professional services	0%
Contracted Monitoring	0%
TOTALS:	100%

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

Jobs Supported/Maintained	Direct Jobs	Total Jobs	Direct Labor	Total Labor Income
in FY 2023	(Full & Part-	(Full & Part-	Income	
	Time)	Time)		
Timber harvesting component	137	180	7,213,979	9,214,119
Forest and watershed	63	120	2 202 776	C 100 933
restoration component	63	120	3,302,776	6,108,823
Mill processing component	96	209	3,482,252	6,624,243
Implementation and	10	10	05.007	117 222
monitoring	10	10	95,987	117,233
Other Project Activities	0	0	4,256	11,253
TOTALS:	306	520	14,099,250	22,075,670

 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?

The SW CO used a very large geographic area that spans eighteen counties in four states for the TREAT analysis. This area was selected based on the anticipated far-reaching impact of the San Juan NF Wood For Life program managed in partnership with the National Forest Foundation.

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.<sup>9</sup> For resources, see materials here (external Box folder).

The San Juan National Forest utilized a broad range of contract and agreement mechanisms, and agency authorities to complete work towards the goals of the SW CFLRP Proposal in support of local businesses. This included five Integrated Resource Service Contracts where revenue from timber sales was reinvested in important stewardship and restoration activities. Additionally, we executed and worked with multiple Stewardship Agreements with partners, utilized Good Neighbor Authority with Colorado State Forest Service, and utilized the funding to support partners implementing 3<sup>rd</sup> party monitoring and outreach and education. These activities provide numerous benefits to our partners, local businesses, contractors, and entities relying on healthy forests and watersheds. In FY 23, over 1.5 million dollars went into partnership agreements advancing the SW CO CFLRP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Addresses Core Monitoring Question #8

Beneficially, SW CO CFLRP related contracts are directly supporting small, disadvantaged, and women, minority, and veteran-owned businesses. In FY 23, CFLRP related contract awards exceeded five million dollars with seventy-four percent awarded to small, women-owned businesses! All but one of these women-owned businesses is considered economically disadvantaged. Overall, in FY 23, eighty-six percent of CFLRP contractual awards went to self-certified small, disadvantaged businesses; seventy-three percent to DOT certified disadvantaged businesses. Additionally, seventy-two percent of the FY23 contract value went to HUB (Historically Underutilized Business) Zone minority-owned businesses, two percent to American Indian owned businesses, and twelve percent to veteran-owned businesses. The SW CO CFLRP's considerable positive socio-economic impact to these societal areas is direct and measurable.

### 7. Wood Products Utilization

### Timber & Biomass Volume Table 10

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	26,347
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees		
removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-	Green tons	10,227
energy production BIO-NRG		

- 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)?
- Based on the information in this section, (and any other relevant monitoring information and discussion), what (if any) actions or changes are you considering?

Please see Section 6. Socioeconomics Goals for a vignette on the Wood for Life program and Wood Innovations Grants.

# 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 or last annual report (if it has not changed, note below).<sup>11</sup> 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.

Additions and changes have been noted on the spreadsheet. In FY23 the SW CO CFLRP:

- Developed a collaborative process to identify projects, activities, and locations to achieve the landscape scale strategy of the Southwest CFLRP. Developed project-wide desired future conditions (DFCs) to achieve the goals of the CFLRP.
- Established a SW CO CFLRP Cross-Boundary Subcommittee and appointed a chair.
- Updated the SW CO CFLRP Coordinating Council governance structure.
- Appointed a new chair to the Forest By-Products Subcommittee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Addresses Core Monitoring Question #10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Addresses Core Monitoring Question #11

- Appointed a new chair to the Science and Monitoring Subcommittee. Made considerable gains in the development of a multiparty monitoring plan.
- Developed the SW CO CFLRP website to be launched in January 2024 to provide information to public and an internal hub and document storage for the CFLRP governance group.
- Developed and executed a long-term contract for a professional facilitator to support the SW CFLRP and subcommittees.

# 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.

2023 established the baseline condition, or first year, for the SW CO CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy. The SW CO CFLRP also made considerable gains in the development of a multiparty monitoring strategy in FY 23. A dedicated science and monitoring committee is developing an adaptive multiparty monitoring plan and anticipates completion by June 2024 with technical plan development likely occurring through partnership. The SW CO Science and Monitoring committee includes individual community members and people representing the following organizations: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Colorado State University, Hermosa Ditch Company, Mountain Studies Institute, Southwest Ecological Restoration Institutes, Colorado Forest Restoration Institute. National Forest Foundation, Forest Stewards Guild, DWRF, San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Collaborative, USFS - San Juan National Forest, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Phoenix Recycling, Trout Unlimited, New Mexico Highlands University.

While the SW CO CFLRP made strides documenting baseline conditions though implementation of the CFLRP Common Monitoring strategy in FY23, given staffing limitations, some monitoring questions and baseline conditions remain in progress. The San Juan NF elicited technical support from the Washinton and Regional Offices and is working on establishing baseline datasets in accordance with the CFLRP Common Monitoring Strategy. The SW CO CFLRP multiparty monitoring plan will identify the suite of workforce options (e.g., third party, interns, Enterprise, other) to meet the elements of the forthcoming plan and the Strategy. Any CFLRP Strategy gaps will be addressed in the pending multiparty monitoring plan.

Furthermore, the multiparty monitoring plan will use and likely expand ongoing monitoring efforts within the landscape including Forest Inventory and Analysis, snowtography and others. For example, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) data will be used to quantify landscape level metrics and their change over time. In the conterminous West, FIA collects a comprehensive field-sampled inventory of forest, vegetation, and down wood conditions on forested lands of all ownerships, with a spatially balanced portion of plots collected each year, and a full inventory of plots collected every 10 years. There is approximately one plot per 6,000 forested acres. This field-sampled dataset can be used to provide landscape-scale information about the proportion of lands with various forest types, and more specific forest conditions (such as species composition, tree size and density distributions, vegetation cover, and regeneration patterns). FIA program staff are working with the SW CO CFLRP to provide information on the baseline of forested conditions in the area and will repeat this analysis as FIA data are updated through time to track change on the landscape. In Colorado, the Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS) partners with the CSFS to collect FIA field data.

#### 10. Conclusion

Working across boundaries to restore forests/watersheds and associated habitat, reduce wildfire risk to communities, and enhance social/ecological resilience is a core element to collaborative efforts in SW Colorado. The SW CO CFLRP is

an important component to restoring resilient ecosystems of SJNF lands and works in tandem with other efforts and initiatives on USFS, BLM, state, municipal, Tribal, and private lands. Stitching these efforts together across all lands is a core goal of the three place-based collaboratives and the SW CO Coordinating Council and considerable gains were made in FY23 in alignment with the SW CO CFLRP work plan.

Collaborative stakeholders and Agency partners continue to work together to align efforts at the landscape-scale while also aligning efforts undertaken and values articulated by place-based forest and watershed collaboratives in the SW CO CFLRP geography. One key component of this effort will be continuing to identify, refine, and implement priority projects that support desired CFLRP outcomes and advanced the SW CO DFCs finalized in FY23.

# **Optional Prompts**

FY 2023 Additional Accomplishment Narrative and/or Lessons Learned Highlights

#### Media Recap

- Partnership Peaks Newsletter
  - o <u>Winter 2022</u>
  - Spring 2023
- Vallecito-Piedra Prescribed Fire Project Videos:
  - o Prescribed Fire Timing for V-P Burn
  - Putting "Good Fire" on the San Juan National Forest
- Animas City Mountain Prescribed Fire video
- National Forest Foundation Blog: <u>San Juan Wood For Life Partnership Continues to Make Impacts in Southern</u>
   Colorado
- Durango Herald Article about Managed Fire on the San Juan National Forest: Working with Good Fire
- <u>Plumtaw: A Future with Fire</u> short film

# Signatures

Recommended by (Project Coordinator(s)): /s/Jason Lawhon, /s/Sheryl Gunn

Approved by (Forest Supervisor(s)): /s/David Neely

Draft reviewed by (collaborative representative): /s/Danny Margoles

# **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

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?"
- Question 2: "What is the effect of the treatments on moving the forest landscape toward a more sustainable condition?"
- 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?" (SWERI assessment tool)
- 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?" (Baseline)

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

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

IFTDSS Auto- 97 <sup>th</sup> percentile flame length output	Non- burnable	0 – 1ft. flame lengths	1 - 4 ft. flame lengths	>4 - 8 ft. flame lengths	>8 - 11 ft. flame lengths	>11 - 25 ft. flame lengths	>25 ft. flame lengths
Initial	133,852 ac.	399,456 ac.	682,960 ac.	217,092 ac.	68,029 ac.	385,711 ac.	419,970 ac.
landscape	6%	17%	30%	9%	3%	17%	18%
model							
(Baseline under							
CMS)							

Landscape	N/A						
model 2							
(Second year of							
CMS)							

• 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.

2023 is the first year, or baseline condition, so no trends are established. The information presented is based on the IFTDSS Auto97 analysis for flame length by entire boundary and crown fire activity for the entire boundary tabulated by HUC 10 watershed. The analysis is considered as baseline and uses Landfire 2022 with 2020 effective fuels so does not account for work or changes in the project area from 2021-2023.

Table 2. Crown fire activity from IFTDSS - IFTDSS Auto-97<sup>th</sup> crown fire activity output by watershed - Initial landscape model (Baseline under CMS)

Watershed Name	Unburnable	Surface Fire	Passive Crown Fire	Active Crown Fire	Crown Fire (combined)
West	6,206 ac.	65,396 ac.	30,859 ac.	5,690 ac.	36,549 ac.
Dolores River	6%	60%	29%	5%	34%
Headwaters	9,261 ac.	90,145 ac.	65,168 ac.	13,524 ac.	78,692 ac.
Dolores	5%	51%	37%	8%	44%
River					
McPhee	4,893 ac.	53,624 ac.	60,572 ac.	3,613 ac.	64,185 ac.
Reservoir-	4%	44%	49%	3%	52%
Dolores					
River					
Plateau	1,100 ac.	84,740 ac.	25,178 ac.	238 ac.	25,416 ac.
Creek	1%	76%	23%	0%	23%
Disappointm	947 ac.	65,921 ac.	33,229 ac.	1,859 ac.	35,088 ac.
ent Creek	1%	65%	33%	2%	34%
Ponderosa	592 ac.	44,372 ac.	37,131 ac.	1,265 ac.	38,396 ac.
Gorge-	1%	53%	45%	2%	46%
Dolores Rive					
Naturita	342 ac.	1,538 ac.	736 ac.	114 ac.	850 ac.
Creek	13%	56%	27%	4%	31%
East Fork	4,021 ac.	25,957 ac.	21,160 ac.	7,012 ac.	28,172 ac.
San Juan	7%	45%	36%	12%	48%
River					
West Fork	4,045 ac.	38,087 ac.	12,986 ac.	1,897 ac.	14,833 ac.
San Juan	7%	67%	23%	3%	26%
River					

Pagosa	4,210 ac.	71,730 ac.	43,635 ac.	4,583 ac.	48,218 ac.
Springs-San	3%	58%	35%	4%	39%
Juan River		3373	3370	1,75	3373
Cat Creek-	271 ac.	30,246 ac.	23,434 ac.	1,599 ac.	25,033 ac.
San Juan	0%	54%	42%	3%	45%
River					
San Juan	192 ac.	5,694 ac.	15,941 ac.	1,888 ac.	17,829 ac.
River-Navajo	1%	24%	67%	8%	75%
Reservoir					
Upper Los	9,053 ac.	51,736 ac.	22,019 ac.	4,459 ac.	26,477 ac.
Pinos River	10%	59%	25%	5%	30%
Vallecito	18,080 ac.	38,875 ac.	16,701 ac.	1,874 ac.	18,575 ac.
Creek	24%	51%	22%	2%	25%
Beaver	489 ac	22,379 ac.	15,827 ac.	755 ac.	16,583 ac.
Creek	1%	57%	40%	2%	42%
Middle Los	863 ac.	18,255 ac.	14,412 ac.	773 ac.	15,185 ac.
Pinos River	3%	53%	42%	2%	44%
Lower Los	228 ac.	9,191 ac.	13,042 ac.	1,018 ac.	14,060 ac.
Pinos River	1%	39%	56%	4%	60%
Navajo	18 ac.	2,215 ac.	6,046 ac.	495 ac.	6,541 ac.
Reservoir	0%	25%	69%	6%	75%
Upper	5,775 ac.	55,791 ac.	31,047 ac.	5,332 ac.	36,379 ac.
Piedra River	6%	57%	32%	5%	37%
Middle	2,095 ac.	66,816 ac.	59,981 ac.	9.102 ac.	69,083 ac.
Piedra River	2%	48%	43%	7%	50%
Devil Creek	210 ac.	17,317 ac.	26,662 ac.	2,590 ac.	29,252 ac.
	0%	37%	57%	6%	63%
Stollheimer	3,271 ac.	40,921 ac.	36,028 ac.	1,880 ac.	37,908 ac.
Creek	4%	50%	44%	2%	46%
Lower Piedra	1,207 ac.	22,786 ac.	37,141 ac.	3,917 ac.	41,508 ac.
River	2%	35%	57%	6%	63%
Headwaters	10,925 ac.	18,727 ac.	7,507 ac.	1,107 ac.	8,614 ac.
Animas River	29%	49%	20%	3%	23%
Cascade	6,552 ac.	28,084 ac.	16,827 ac.	2,953 ac.	19,780 ac.
Creek	12%	52%	31%	5%	36%
Animas River	18,375 ac.	22,288 ac.	16,767 ac.	3,212 ac.	19,979 ac.
Canyon	30%	37%	28%	5%	33%
Hermosa	2,563 ac.	69,293 ac.	30,970 ac.	6,149 ac.	37,119 ac.
Creek	2%	64%	28%	6%	34%
Electra Lake-	4,467 ac.	47,423 ac.	32,939 ac.	3,394 ac.	26,278 ac.
Animas River	5%	52%	36%	6%	43%
Lightner	2,965 ac.	32,336 ac.	22,884 ac.	3,394 ac.	26,278 ac.
Creek-	5%	52%	37%	6%	43%
Animas River					
Headwaters	2,750 ac.	40,266 ac.	19,349 ac.	1,246 ac.	20,596 ac.
Florida River	4%	63%	30%	2%	32%
Outlet	189 ac.	307 ac.	549 ac.	3 ac.	552 ac.
Florida River	18%	29%	52%	0%	52%

Headwaters	2,877 ac.	22,863 ac.	6,469 ac.	1,386 ac.	7,855 ac.
La Plata	9%	68%	19%	4%	23%
River					
Upper	4,508 ac.	37,149 ac.	22,625 ac.	2,738 ac.	25,363 ac.
Mancos	7%	55%	34%	4%	38%
River					
Upper	229 ac.	1,199 ac.	151 ac.	49 ac.	200 ac.
McElmo	14%	74%	9%	3%	12%
Creek					
Yellow	0 ac.	89 ac.	5 ac.	5 ac.	11 ac.
Jacket	0%	89%	5%	5%	11%
Canyon					
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- 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?

This dataset provides the baseline condition so trends and actions responsive to trends as a result of monitoring are not applicable in 2023.

# Monitoring Question #2: "What is the effect of the treatments on moving the forest landscape toward a more sustainable condition?"

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).

### The SW CO CFLRP has responded to Indicator 2.

If Region is reporting on indicator 2 (acres burned by wildfire and by prescribed burning annually), fill in this table:

	Fire Regime I	Fire Regime II	Fire Regime III	Fire Regime IV	Fire Regime V
Report in acres and % of total project area (FY23)	1,073,625 ac. (47%)	221 ac. (0.01%)	417,563 ac. (18%)	658,469 ac. (29%)	52,122 ac. (2%)
Suppression only fires	1,222 (.1%)	0	326 (.1%)	2,528 (.4%)	0
Fires managed for multiple resource objectives	1,643 (.2%)	0	122 (.02%)	119 (.03%)	0

Prescribed Fire	6,043 (.6%)	0	1,530 (.04%)	704 (0.1%)	0
Total Acres Burned	8,908 (.8%)	0	3,350 (.5%)	3,350 (.5%)	0
Natural Range of Variation					
Departure					

- 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.

The SW CO CFLRP is working to establish the natural range of variation (NRV) and current landscape level departure. The forthcoming SW CO CFLRP multi-party monitoring plan will address this NRV analysis gap

# 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?"

The SW CO CFLRP is currently in the process of establishing the baseline condition for question three (see Section 9, Monitoring Process above). The CFLRP baseline condition will focus on at-risk (American marten) and focal species identified in the San Juan Forest Plan and align with the Forest Plan Monitoring Report.

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

# Monitoring Question #4: "What is the status and trend of watershed conditions in the CFLRP area?"

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

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

Summary of Watershear Condition Scores for the priority model watershear within or the Soundary.							
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				
Chicken Creek			Functioning at Impaired				
(140801070103)			Function (2.4) (Poor)				
East Fork Hermosa Creek			Functioning at Functioning				
(140801040401)			Property (1.6) (Good)				

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

Indicator Number	Indicator Name	Avg. Indicator Value	Date
quatic Physical (Weighted 30	<del>)</del> %)		
1	Water Quality	1.4	2023
2	Water Quantity	1.7	2023
3	Aquatic Habitat	1.7	2023
equatic Biological (Weighted	30%)		
4	Aquatic Biota	2.0	2023
5	Riparian/Wetland Vegetation	1.9	2023
errestrial Physical (Weighted	30%)		
6	Roads & Trails	2.3	2023
7	Soils	1.6	2023
errestrial Biological (Weighte	d 10%)		·
8	Fire Regime or Wildfire	2.0	2023
9	Forest Cover	1.8	2023
10	Rangeland Vegetation	1.6	2023
11	Terrestrial Invasive Species	1.8	2023
12	Forest Health	1.8	2023

# Avg. Watershed Condition Score - 1.9

• Briefly interpret the monitoring results in the table above, including whether the indicator is trending toward or away from desired conditions for your landscape.

The monitoring results above are the watershed condition classification values re-evaluated in 2021 and will be the baseline condition for SWCFLRP monitoring.

• Does your CFLRP project have additional watershed condition-related monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.

The forest continues to implement the Rico-West Dolores Travel Management plan by decommissioning roads and trails. In 2023, seven acres of water/soil resources were improved from decommissioning a trail in the Tin Can Basin area.

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

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

Treatment data for priority invasive species:

Common Name	Treatment Action	Acres Treated <sup>1</sup>	Acres Monitored	Avg. "Percent Efficacy"	Acres Restored <sup>2</sup>	Response of Desirable Species <sup>3</sup>
-------------	---------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------	--

Spotted	Harbisida	72.0	14.4	80%	11 5	N/A
Knapweed	Herbicide	72.0		80%	11.5	
Diffuse	Herbicide	0.3	.3	80%	.3	N/A
knapweed	nerbicide	0.5		80%	.5	
Lesser	Herbicide	55.2	0		0	N/A
Knapweed	nerbicide	33.2			U	
Musk Thistle	Herbicide	1057	106.4	80%	85.1	N/A
Canada Thistle	Herbicide	589.7	206.7	80%	166.6	N/A
Oxeye Daisy	Herbicide	12.0	14	80%	11.3	N/A
Common	Herbicide	180.9	75.7	80%	60.9	N/A
Mullein	nerbicide	160.9			60.9	
Bull thistle	Herbicide	170.4	71.4	80%	57.4	N/A
Hounds tongue	Herbicide		1	80%	.8	N/A
Scotch Thistle	Herbicide	29.9	69.5	80%	55	N/A
Leafy Spurge	Herbicide	136.6	90.6	80%	73.1	N/A
Pacific	Herbicide	1	0		0	N/A
Reedgrass	Herbicide	1			0	
	Totals/Avgs	2,479.5	650	80%	522	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Treated" is defined as prevented, controlled, or eradicated.

Please insert table 2 from the reporting template if you are using field plots. Ocular estimates were used, not field plots.

### 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.

During FY23, the San Juan National Forest accomplished 657 acres of invasive plant treatments with CFLRP funding. An additional 1,823 acres of invasive plant treatments were accomplished within the SWCO CFLRP landscape, without CFLRP funding. Total acres completed for noxious/invasive plants (INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC-CMPLT) within the SWCO CFLRP landscape was 2,480 during FY23.

Acres monitored and percent efficacy were from ocular estimates and monitoring in areas that were treated. Professional judgement used in conjunction with knowledge of existing rangeland monitoring trend studies was used to discuss the following invasive species indicators.

Current treatment efficacy falls within code 85, which is "good." Areas with invasive species, which receive treatment applications, respond positively. i.e., an increase in desirable plant species and a reduction in targeted invasives species. Some areas on the landscape which have not received treatments display an increase in invasive species composition. Several contributing factors are likely influencing prevalence of invasive species on the landscape, including past droughts and increased user activity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Agency performance accomplishment code INVPLT-INVSPE-REST-FED-AC, which is calculated in FACTS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Desirable Species" includes everything that is not an undesirable species or bare ground. If not monitored, write N/A.

Making a trend determination across the landscape during a snapshot in time is difficult. In general, those areas where funding has afforded treatment of invasive species populations have displayed a positive trend, i.e., fewer invasive species. Those areas with invasive species populations where lack of funding or resources has negated treatment activity have generally displayed a downward trend, i.e., increase in invasive species. Treatments areas will continue to be prioritized offering the greatest resource benefits.

# 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.

2023 is the baseline condition for the SW CO CFLRP with a multiparty monitoring plan currently in development that will identify, and address, any gaps in the Common Monitoring strategy in assessing attainment of the long-term goals and objectives of project (e.g., Tribal values).

# Monitoring Questions #6: "How has the social and economic context changed, if at all?"

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

Indicators	Response for Initial Year of	Notes
	Common Monitoring	(Optional)
	Strategy	
"Population" most recent year available (tab 2, Forest Service report)	533,390	
"Percent of total, race & ethnicity" most recent year available (tab 11,	White alone – <b>288,449</b>	
Forest Service report)	Black or African American –	
	3,947	
	American Indian - 162,728	
	Hispanic ethnicity – 108,334	
	Non-Hispanic Ethnicity –	
	423,013	
"Unemployment rate" most recent year available (tab 1, Forest Service	4.4%	
report)		
"Per capita income" most recent year available (tab 1, Forest Service	\$49,264	
report)		
"Wildfire Exposure, % of Total, Homes" most recent year available (see	Homes Directly Exposed –	
Wildfire Risk report)	Combined: 58.0%	
	La Plata Co: 62%	
	Homes Indirectly Exposed -	
	39.0%	
	La Plata Co: 38%	
	Homes Not Exposed - 3.0%	
	La Plata Co: 0%	

 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.

- The SW CO CFLRP used a very large area, 18 counties in 3 states given very long-haul distances and the far-reaching impact of the wood products and related industries in the Four Corners region. Within this area, the full socioeconomic spectrum is represented. It is unknown if this approach will capture the impact of the CFLRP program on these indicators of if there is lack of sensitivity given the size of the analysis area.
- The wildfire risk for the SW CO CFLRP landscape and surrounding area shows essentially all homes directly or indirectly exposed to wildfire.
- Would you expect CFLRP activities to directly or indirectly impact any of these social and/or economic conditions? If so, how?
  - See response above.
- Does your CFLRP project have additional socioeconomic monitoring results to summarize and interpret? If so, please provide that here.
  - The SW CO CFLRP is exploring the use of other local economic indicators used by RMRI partners.
- Based on the information reported, (and any other relevant monitoring information and discussion), what (if any) actions or changes are you considering?
  - o This is the first monitoring report for the SW CO CFLRP; none at this stage.

(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?"

• The SW CO CFLRP is awaiting data from the Bureau of Business and Economic Research to respond to this question and baseline condition. When complied data on timber harvest by county and/or product, the number of active processing facilities in the area, or other data about forest products infrastructure is available it will be incorporated into the SW CO multiparty monitoring plan.

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

# Monitoring Questions #12: "How well is CFLRP encouraging an effective and meaningful collaborative approach?"

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 <a href="here">here</a>. Please upload your completed assessment summary provided by the Southwestern Ecological Restoration Institutes here 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?

The SW CO CFLRP is awaiting data from Southwestern Ecological Restoration Institute to respond to these questions.

(Monitoring Question #13 covered earlier in annual report template)