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## CFLRP COLLABORATION INDICATOR 2012 SURVEY RESULTS

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### ABOUT THIS SUMMARY

The following responses reflect a survey administered in 2012 by the CFLR Coalition in partnership with the National Forest Foundation. The purpose of the survey was to gather information on the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program “collaboration indicator,” one of five national indicators designed to report on whether or not CFLRP is meeting the legislation’s intent. The responses below reflect the thoughts of the collaborative groups participating in CFLRP, not that of individual members of the collaboratives.

### WHAT COLLABORATORS ARE SAYING

*“The collaborative process has definitely facilitated accomplishment of the goal of increasing landscape resilience. The process has brought everyone to the same table, has provided a common and accepted base of information (information obtained in part by the participants themselves), and has encouraged discussion of potentially controversial issues in an open and non-confrontational manner. As an aside, I drove through one of the treated areas on the Uncompahgre Plateau on the first day of hunting season, 2012, and visited with a hunter who had just bagged a magnificent bull elk. He was not a member of the collaborative process; in fact, he said that he avoided such things. Nevertheless, he commented on how much he liked the forest structure in the treated area – not even realizing that it had been treated to improve resilience until I told him about the project.”*

### PARTICIPATING CFLRP PROJECTS

Colorado Front Range

Dinkey Landscape

Four Forest Restoration Initiative

Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative

Lakeview Stewardship Project

Ozark Highlands

Southern Blues

Southwest Jemez Mountains

Southwestern Crown of the Continent

Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative

Uncompahgre Plateau

Weiser-Little Salmon Headwaters

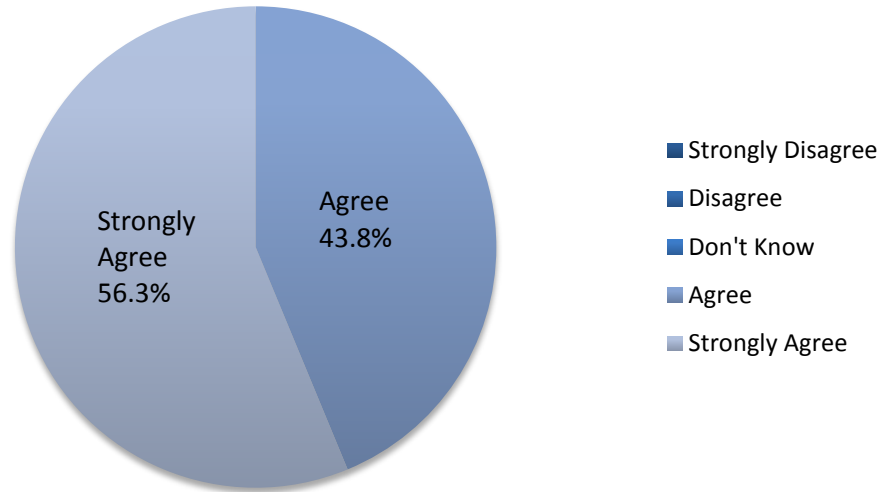
Zuni Mountain

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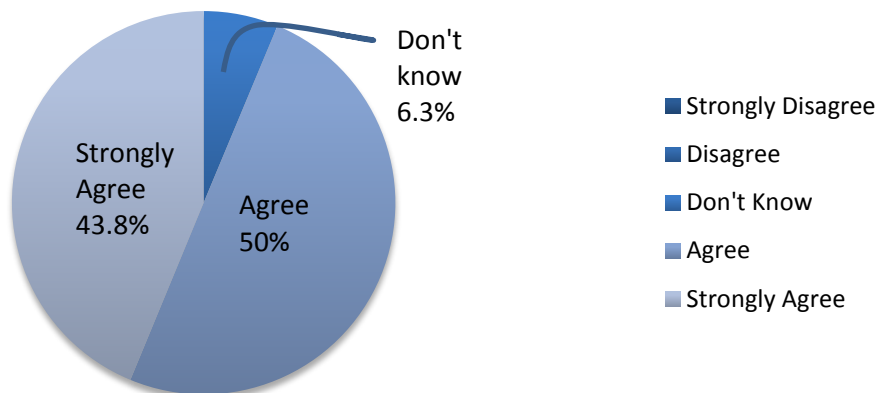
**QUESTION 1: ORGANIZATIONS WITH A STAKE IN OUR CFLR PROJECT ARE ENGAGED OR HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COLLABORATIVE GROUP.**

*“We have strong and consistent representation from most of our target stakeholder categories, but we are light on representation from the following categories: planning, recreation, insurance, and fire response. We have reached out to groups in these categories, and sometimes members of these groups attend quarterly meetings, but there is not consistent representation, especially on working teams.”*



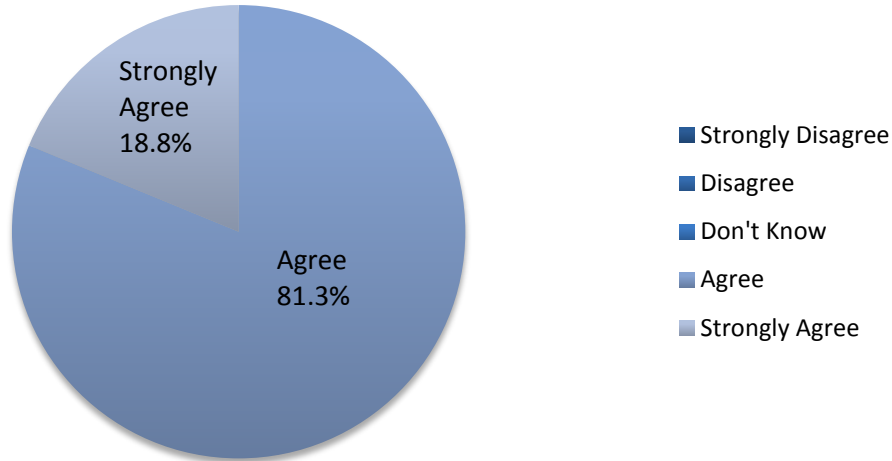
**QUESTION 2: PEOPLE IN OUR COLLABORATIVE ARE WILLING TO WORK TOWARD AGREEMENT ON IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF OUR PROJECT.**

*“The people in our collaborative have high levels of trust and the collaborative has had a positive influence on internal relationships. However, there is some concern about philosophical differences and a need to see results.”*



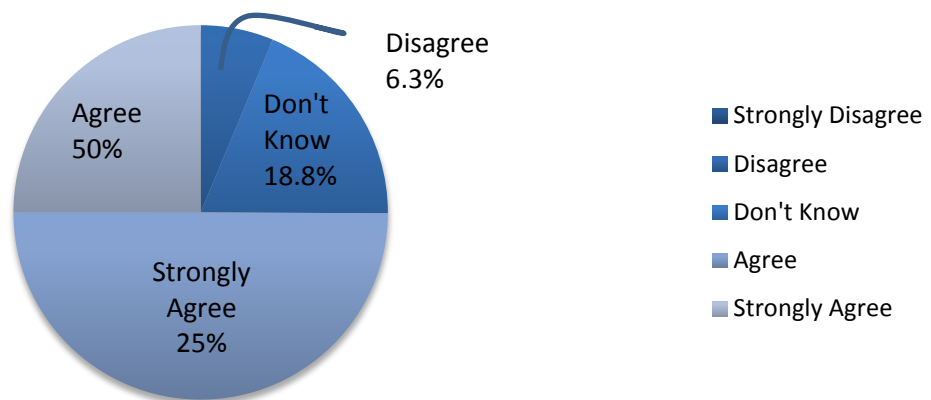
**QUESTION 3: PEOPLE IN THIS GROUP COMMUNICATE OPENLY WITH ONE ANOTHER**

*“We strongly agree that we have open and frequent communications and regularly scheduled meetings and phone calls. There are also frequent informal side conversations between members.”*



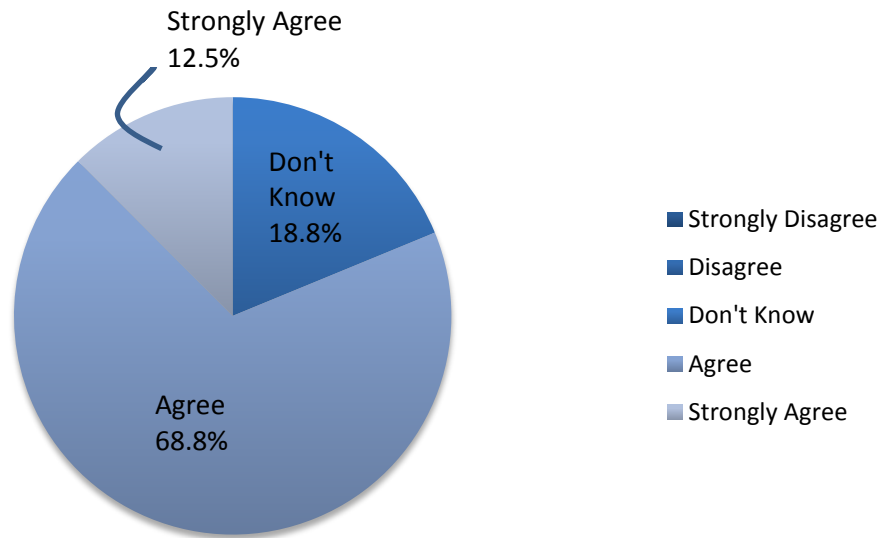
**QUESTION 4: THE PEOPLE WHO LEAD THIS COLLABORATIVE GROUP COMMUNICATE WELL WITH THE MEMBERS.**

*“I generally agree with this statement but since I have been, and plan to continue to lead the collaborative, my opinion here is clearly biased. Trying to step outside my role on this project, there is always room for improved communication in a collaborative. I plan to solicit feedback from the collaborative on ways to improve communication and then adjust my communication approach and strategy to address the feedback.”*



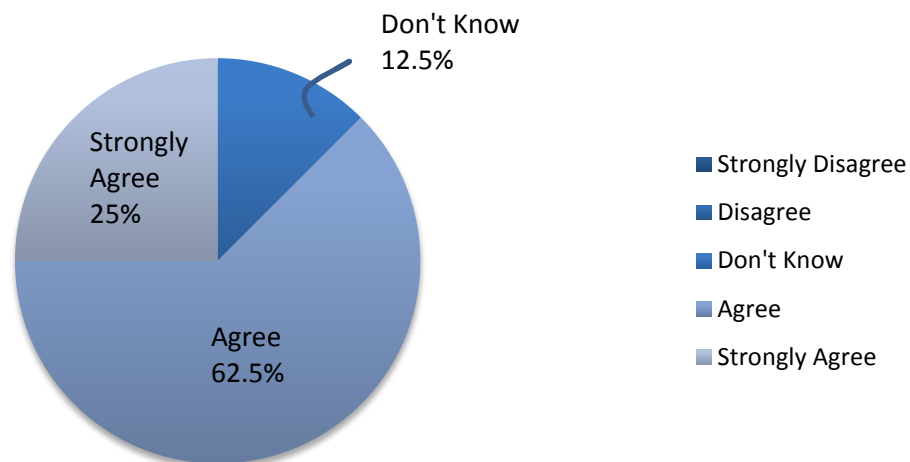
**QUESTION 5: THE CFLRP IS UP TO DATE ON HOW IMPLEMENTATION IS PROGRESSING.**

*“This could be better. When projects go from “design” to “implementation,” they often get cut up into smaller chunks that have various names that may or may not reflect the NEPA document from which the decision came. Thus, it can be difficult to follow every aspect of a project through from design to implementation.”*



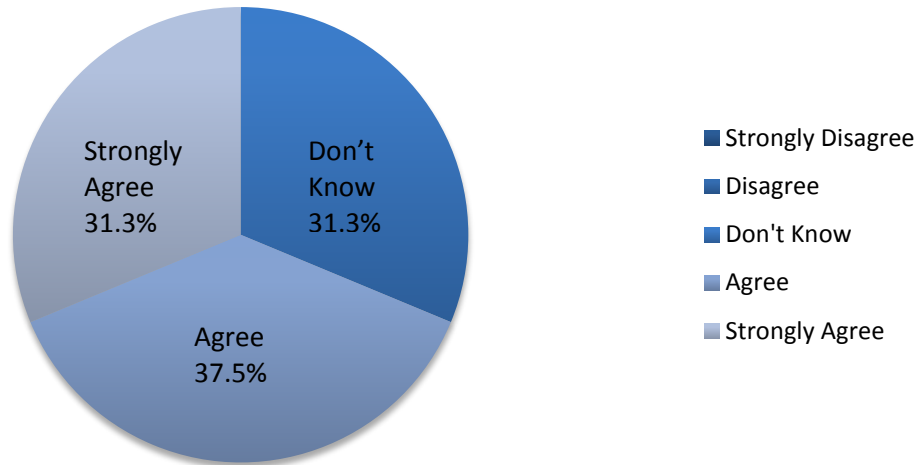
**QUESTION 6: IMPLEMENTATION OF TREATMENTS IS IN ALIGNMENT WITH OUR CFLR PROJECT OBJECTIVES.**

*“We have a challenge of “disappearing acres,” which is when an area is designated on a high level map as a possible project area but when we get on the ground, it is not appropriate strategically or operationally. Another challenge is that our CFLR project is following previously approved NEPA plans, which have to be followed. Finally, we have a continuing desire to see more prescribed burning used.”*



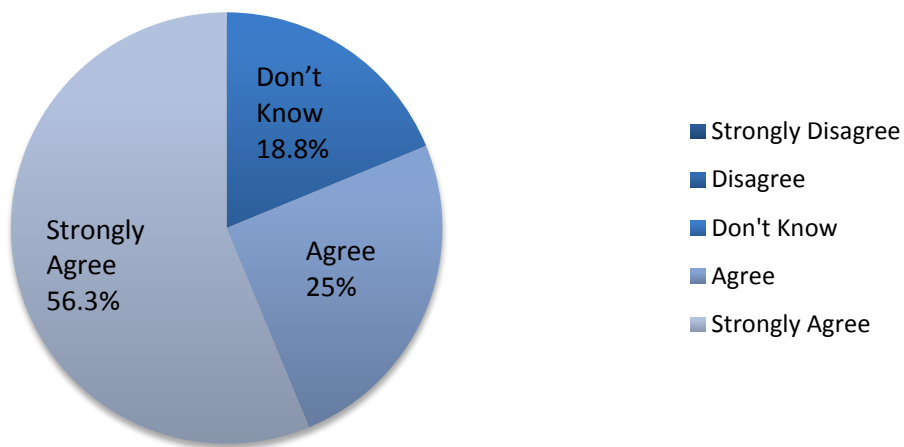
**QUESTION 7: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION IS MOVING THE LANDSCAPE TOWARDS MORE RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS.**

*“Many suppositions have yet to be objectively evaluated. We’re making a great first step, but there is still a lot of work to be done! Our challenge will be to maintain momentum and focus over the long-term.”*



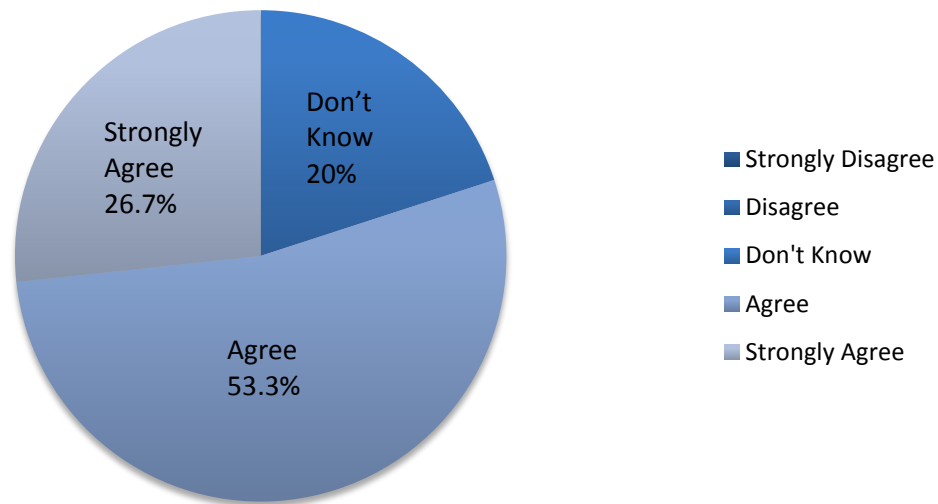
**QUESTION 8: MORE RESTORATION IS HAPPENING ON THE GROUND AS A RESULT OF THE COLLABORATION.**

*“Due to regular communication, collaborators are constantly working to leverage projects that directly or indirectly (assisting with planning or increasing wood utilization) increase acres thinned and burned. Collaboration has led to several key secondary projects (led by collaborators) that are doing just this.”*



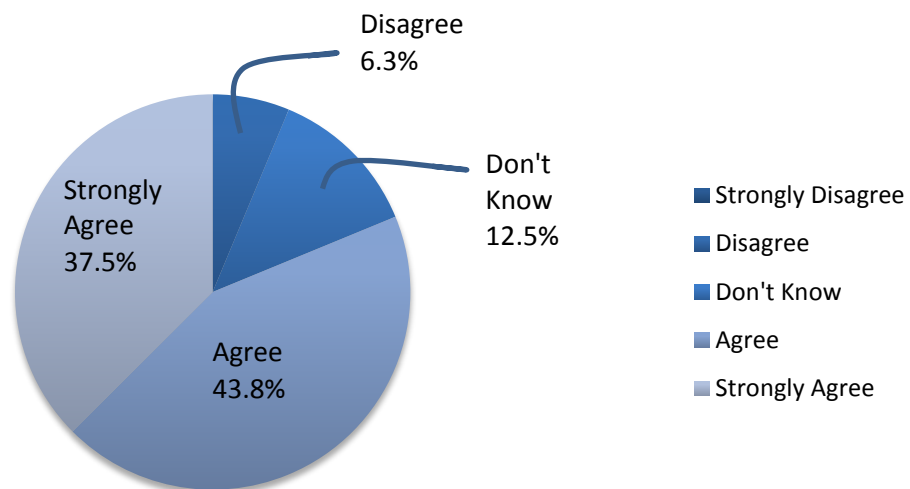
**QUESTION 9: CFLR PROJECT PARTICIPANTS DO A GOOD JOB OF FOLLOWING THROUGH ON COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENTS.**

*“Members are very committed and productive, within limits due to work loads and time constraints. Some people “come and go” but there is a core group of dedicated members.”*



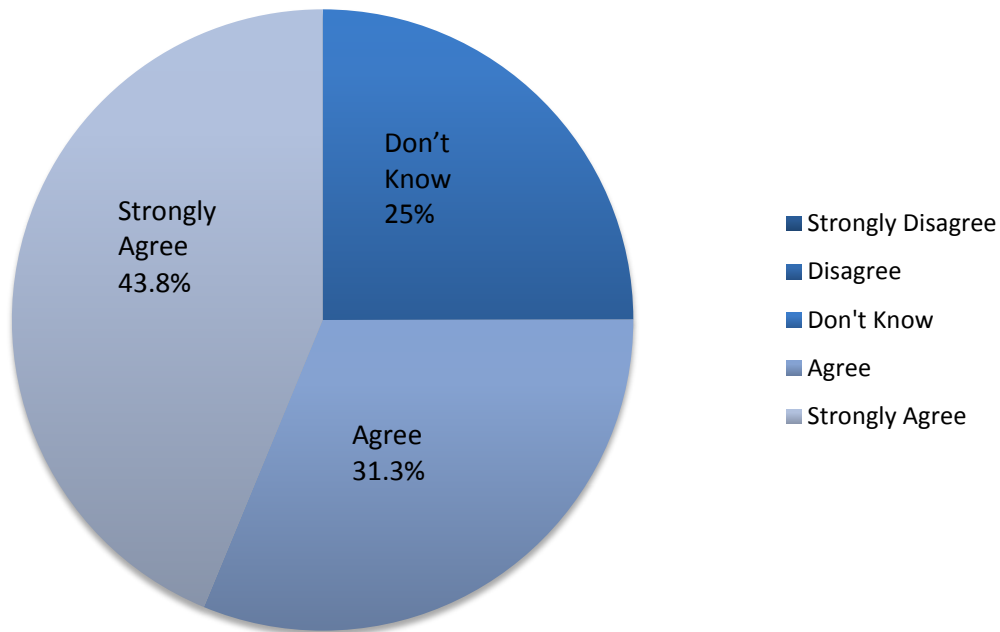
**QUESTION 10: THE COLLABORATIVE GROUP’S PARTICIPATION IMPROVES THE FOREST SERVICE’S DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.**

*“The CFLRP has been a great way to turn Forest Service decision-making from a “black box” into a transparent process where information is shared with the community and input from the community is fed back into final decisions. I commend both community members who take time to participate in meeting and workdays as well as the Forest Service employees who are humble, respectful, and responsive to community needs.”*



**QUESTION 11: THE COLLABORATIVE GROUP’S PARTICIPATION IMPROVES THE FOREST SERVICE’S PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION.**

*“In this case, without the years of collaboration ahead of the CFLR program, the project would not be able to be implemented since there wouldn't be a local wood utilization business appropriately scaled to the landscape. Similarly, without collaborator leveraging, the Forest Service wouldn't have had the funds to pursue NEPA at the scale needed for after project year 5.”*



*If you have questions about this summary please contact the National Forest Foundation at (406) 830-3352.*