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CFLRP produce outsized result for their size and money invested

Taken together, the NFS acreage across the 23 **CFLRP landscapes represent about 11% of the total** NFS lands not in wilderness or roadless area designation, and total agency spending on CFLR landscapes was 10% of total agency restoration-related spending in FY 2017. CFLR landscape acreage represents priority acres for restoration treatment to produce ecological, economic, and social outcomes and outputs – and areas where there is high capacity in place to support increased returns on investment. While they are only 11% of the NFS treatable acreage and 10% of restoration spending in FY 2017, these acres provided **17% of the Agency's total hazardous fuels** reductions accomplishments in 2017, **16% of the timber volume** sold, **19% of the terrestrial habitat** enhanced, and **22% of the forest vegetation improved**. They also contributed 6% of the stream habitat enhanced accomplishments and 5% of trails maintained to standard.

In the last five years, CFLRP projects contributed the following percentages to Agency-wide accomplishments:

13% of bioenergy
27% of forest vegetation improved
18% of hazardous fuels treated
5% of stream habitat improved
8% of roads decommissioned
18% of soil and water resources enhanced
17% of timber volume sold
3% of trails maintained to standard

USFS investments in CFLRP are commensurate with their footprint

The total 2017 **Forest Service investments[1] within CFLRP landscapes** ($86M) includes all restoration-related work on that landscape, and **is commensurate with the CFLRP projects' 11.3 million acre NFS footprint**. Agency-wide, we expended an estimate $1.2 billion for comparable restoration-related work across the 99 million acres of the National Forest System not in wilderness or roadless area designation ($12/acre). For CFLRP, we invested $86 million on 11.3 million acres ($10/acre).

CFLR funding and focus acts as leverage to bring in more resources

The strategic investments in CFLRP projects help to attract and leverage partner dollars: in FY17, **the $40 million in CFLN appropriated brought in $17 million in partner match on NFS lands and an additional $38 million in investments across the full CFLR landscape boundary**. For Forest Service partnership agency-wide, the goal is to generate between 20% and 50% match from partners. The CFLR program exceeds these standards.

[1] By FS investments we mean agency appropriated funds in addition to the CFLR BLI. This is in contrast to "total agency spending" on CFLR landscapes which includes the CFLR BLI. For details see the Appendix.

- **(2017) Colorado Front Range Project (Colorado):** Partnerships continue to contribute significantly to matching treatments within the CFLRP area in 2017. With a little over 900 acres of reforestation being partially funded by partnership funds, and over 700 acres of fuels reduction, partnership contributions are an important component in being able to fund activities within the CFLRP area. The combined contribution of partnership funds in FY17 to fund treatments on NFS lands was a little over $8 million. Partners provided approximately 50 percent of the total matching funds**.**

Working at a landscape scale for integrated social, economic, and ecological outcomes produces tangible results[2]

Impacting Fire Risk and Costs

(2017) Mount Hall Fire in Idaho Quickly Contained Due to CFLR Treatments (Idaho)

The Kootenai Valley Restoration Initiative (KVRI) CFLR project on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest brings local, state, tribal, environmental and business interests together to improve the health of the Kootenai Valley landscape and communities. Since it began in 2012, the KVRI project has completed over 13,000 acres of hazardous fuels treatments to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and in August 2017 these treatments were put to the test. Weather leading up to discovery of the fire had been extremely hot and dry with no significant moisture since June. **However, due to previous fuels treatments and resulting lack of fuels, observed fire behavior was low and well within the local capabilities to directly suppress the fire.** Due to minimal fire behavior, even under extreme fire danger conditions, the fire was controlled within two days of discovery at one acre. Local firefighters observed that had the fire spread into the adjacent untreated forest, there would likely have been crown fires with high rates of spread.

(2017) Grandfather Restoration (North Carolina)

To date, the project has made significant progress in restoring fire-adapted ecosystems. Since 2012, over 15,000 unique acres on the landscape have been treated with prescribed fire. **Monitoring results show a significant change in understory composition as a result of those burns. The FY2017 wildfire season and the interaction of wildfire with the prescribed fire units provides a picture of how these burns are also reducing the risk and spread of catastrophic wildfire.** FY2017 was a very active year for wildfires. There were 21 wildfires within the project area for a total of 11,172 acres. The areas burned by the Paddy's Creek Fire (Dobson Knob unit burned in 2015) and the Buck Creek Gap Fire (Singecat unit burned in 2014) have both seen prescribed burning under the Grandfather Restoration Project. These areas had established containment lines that allowed managers to move quickly in suppression, and reduced fuel loads that slowed wildfire spread. Since 2014, the Grandfather district has managed 6 natural ignition wildfires for resource benefit. Managing natural ignitions allows for more fire on the landscape, and the district's move toward managing fire for resource benefit has been **influenced by management and communication established under the CFLR**.

(2017) Uncompahgre Plateau (Colorado)

Restored and maintained forest conditions, with reduced tree density and fuels hazards, will enable broader use of prescribed fire and wildfire, providing more natural ecological functions and reduced fire-fighting cost with approximately 27,300 acres of mechanical treatment and 55,000 acres of broadcast burning planned.

- Monitoring continues to indicate **attainment of desired forest conditions and reducing tree density and fuel hazards**.

[2] All information in this section comes from the CFLRP projects' 2017 Annual Reports

- **All of the prescribed fire and mechanical treatments were designed to accomplish multiple objectives** for wildlife, reducing hazardous fuels, timber production and restoring ecological function. Wildlife species benefitting from the treatments include: Gunnison sage-grouse, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, numerous Forest Service sensitive and Management Indicator Species.
- **Partners continue to be a huge factor in attainment of project objectives** with contributions made from Rocky Mountain Elk, The Mule Deer Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, Montrose County, Tri-State Generation & Transmission, and Colorado Parks and Wildlife. These contributions total $392,906.
- Fuels treatments in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), including 650 acres of power line treatments, in coordination with Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP).
    - Since 2010, approximately 9,646 acres of treatment has occurred in WUI. Of this amount, 1,852 acres were associated with power lines. We have completed 285% of our stated goal from 2010 for powerline treatments.
    - In 2017, approximately 321 acres were treated in WUI.

(2017) Lakeview Stewardship (Oregon)

Integrated treatments of understory thinning followed by prescribed fire are changing the fuel strata, reducing the threat of severe fire across the landscape, and promoting healthy forest conditions. There were 2 notable wildfire starts within the CFLRP landscape in FY2017, and successful suppression efforts lead to only 457 acres burned. The Vee Lake fire burned 35 acres on NFS lands with desired fire intensity that is restoring the natural process of fire to our landscape. The Jade Creek fire was started by lighting on private timberlands and burned onto the National Forest**. It burned 422 acres of FS lands within the CLFR landscape and 335 of the acres burned had fire effects in line with desired mortality of 0-25%.**

(2017) Southwest Jemez Mountains (New Mexico)

Results of vegetation monitoring indicate steady increases in grasses and herbaceous wildflower species. Large mammals (elk, deer, bear and cougar) are using restored areas; elk in particular are using burned forested sites that have new herbaceous vegetation. Also, junipers are being removed from riparian areas along Jemez Creek. This is being monitored with photopoints.

Supporting Local Economies

(2017) Southwest Jemez Mountains (New Mexico)

One unique aspect of the relationship between the Pueblo of Jemez and the SW Jemez Mountains CFLRP is that a single contractor conducting harvest and service work through the Integrated Resource Service Contract (IRSC) processes all the material removed from the project area at a mill located within the Pueblo, **employing mostly Tribal members**. The Forest Guild has been doing socio-economic monitoring since the project began, and is starting to have enough data to show some trends. **The number of jobs at the mill has doubled, and the number of non –mill, restoration jobs has almost tripled. The amount of wood removed from the forest has risen from about 1,000 ccf in the first year of the project, to about 19,000 ccf.** Walatowa Timber Industries, and T.C. Company, **the saw mill and restoration contractors working to remove and process material from the CFLR landscape are providing 17 jobs and $572,050 in wages to the local economy**. Walatowa Timber Industries and T.C. Company also created a diverse amount of wood products from materials harvested in the CFLR landscape helping to offset the costs of restoration. **These materials are sold to other local businesses such as Old Wood LLC to make furnishings, wood floors and other products**.

(2017) Jobs and Job Training on the Uncompahgre Plateau in Colorado

The Uncompahgre Plateau CFLR project in western Colorado works to restore forest health, increase forest resilience to future disturbances and protect nearby communities and resources. **There has been active harvest associated with the project since 2010, which supports jobs for loggers in the forest, truck drivers, and mill/firewood operators**. From 2011-2017 the project supported an average of 117 jobs per year and generated a total of $28.5 million in labor income. Youth engagement and job training with local high school students has also been a project highlight. Students gain valuable experience in natural resource management through internships monitoring the results of the restoration treatments. Since 2010, 63 high school students and ten teachers have participated in the program.

(2017) Weiser Little Salmon Headwaters (Idaho)

The WLSH CFLRP program brought several community benefits from implementation of stewardship contracts. The projects have **generated increased jobs in Adams County as well as some stability to the timber volume offered each fiscal year**. Between 2012 and 2017, the Payette awarded, within the WLSH CFLRP, an average of three stewardship contracts each year, for a total of eleven stewardship contracts. Two stewardship contracts from the Lost Creek Boulder Creek EIS were awarded in FY 2017: Rough Finn and Restornation. **Seven of the stewardship contracts were purchased by Evergreen Forest, the family-owned company that manages the last remaining local sawmill.** Thanks to the project area contracts, the mill was able to sustain 35 full time jobs over the past several of years. This has resulted in total labor income of $6 to $10 million per year. **The mill has now added an additional shift, and created even more local positions, helping to promote economic growth in surrounding communities**. These projects are contributing to improvement of forest and watershed health and fish and wildlife habitat through thinning, road improvement, riparian enhancement, management of invasive species, and fuels treatment-community fire protection. **Revenue from timber harvest in stewardship contracts has helped offset the restoration treatment costs** for road and trail improvements, timber stand improvement, aquatic organism passage (AOP) projects and prescribed fire. The timber value sold in 2017 was approximately $2,528,000. The total value to date of sales sold from 2012 through 2017 is $13,028,000.

(2017) Dinkey Landscape Restoration Project (California)

The one major remaining "local" mill, Sierra Forest Products in Terra Bella, has directly benefited financially from restoration activities on the DLRP footprint. Since the beginning of the DLRP project, the mill has received wood coming from the project footprint. While the DLRP has not itself created additional jobs at Sierra Forest Products, it has supported existing positions. Important to point is the reciprocal relationship between this mill and the Dinkey landscape work. The presence of this mill is important for creating a market for DLRP products.

(2017) Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative (Idaho)

The logs coming off of timber sales within the CFLRP area help support loggers, log truck drivers, mechanics, and mill workers to name a few. A single project may result in multiple timber sales and the sales may take several years to complete**. This steady flow of timber from Forest Service sales combined with timber coming from other ownerships is critical to maintaining the local timber infrastructure and supporting the local timber jobs.** This consistent source of timber **allowed the local mill to modernize their equipment in 2012, increase efficiency, stay competitive and continue to employ local workers**. The other forms of restoration activities such as **road maintenance, culvert replacement, bridge replacement, and AOP replacement provide a consistent source of work for local contractors.** These types of restoration contracts are typically accomplished in less than one year's time, but **the contractors have invested in the types of equipment and skills necessary to accomplish this type of work and it makes them very competitive** when bidding on projects both locally and in neighboring areas.

Shared Stewardship

(2017) Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative (Idaho)

CFLRP has provided the opportunity for increased amounts of work to be planned and accomplished within Boundary County. **Public participation has increased throughout the life of the project and has resulted in stronger projects that can be supported by the public.** The public feels comfortable sharing their ideas with the IDT during project development and has been a valuable source of local insight. This participation has led to improved trails, trailheads, snowmobile parking areas, transportation planning, and vegetation management. **In 2017, volunteers from across the country joined members of local user groups, conservation groups, and Forest Service employees to restore approximately 343 miles of trail as well as improving plant communities along lakeshores. These volunteers and partners accounted for 10,367 hours of combined restoration work across the project area**.

(2017) Four Forest Restoration Initiative (Arizona)

Volunteer work across the project area was strong again in 2017. The **Arizona Elk Society again put together impressive numbers of volunteers and project accomplishments completing the first phase of the Long Valley Meadow Restoration project** Long Valley meadow restoration. **TRACKS continued with their impressive contribution of nearly 11,000 volunteer hours** of trail maintenance and stewardship on the trail systems on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. The **Grand Canyon Trust continued to lead the way in marshalling volunteers for citizen science projects** using a phone app to gather ephemeral stream course and wet/dry stream course data across the Coconino Forests. **Trout Unlimited continued being a major contributor of volunteer hours to gather stream temperature monitoring data** across the 4FRI footprint, primarily on the Apache-Sitgreaves and Tonto National Forests. The **Friends of Northern Arizona Forests continue their impressive work providing the workforce to construct and maintain ungulate proof fencing** around 70+ aspen or riparian areas on the Coconino National Forest.

(2017) Grandfather Restoration (North Carolina)

Job training programs were utilized for veterans and youth in FY17. **A VetsWork intern was sponsored through the Mt. Adams institute to help with volunteer coordination. The intern was subsequently hired on as a temporary USFS employee.** The students in fire program brought on 2 student trainees to assist with prescribed fire implementation. 2 youth crews from American Conservation Experience (ACE) were used for invasive species treatments.

(2017) Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration (Florida)

All original members are still actively supporting this project. Plus our **collaboration with The Nature Conservancy and the Jacksonville Job Corps Center is notably strengthening**. In addition, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provides supplemental support through the Longleaf Stewardship Fund grant**.** The Osceola provides **prescribed fire training to underserved youth** and places those qualified on federal prescribed fire crews as trainees within the Florida and Georgia area/ the CFLRP boundary. In FY 2017 the Osceola received 20 new recruits; they were trained and deployed to join established Conservancy fire crews for six-month assignments with the Conservancy's longleaf pine operations in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas. This supports our efforts to accelerate longleaf restoration.

What have we learned from CFLR?

- **Through its community-driven approach to restoration and shared stewardship for multiple benefits, CFLRP has taught us important lessons** about how to work collaboratively at the landscape-scale to achieve forest restoration goals and build sustainable, thriving rural communities.

- **Several elements of CFLRP have been highly effective** at promoting healthy forests, reducing fire risk and building strong local economies.
    - **10-year funding commitment and requirement for partner match** –10-year funding enables projects to leverage partner dollars and work at the needed scale to make an impact.
    - **Collaboratively developed and implemented projects** – Bringing business, environmental, state, tribal and local government interests to project design leads to a durable project. It also enables us to leverage partner resources and expertise.
    - **Adaptive management in action** – Dedicated funding and requirements for multi-party monitoring are critical to ensure projects are on track to meet their goals and make adjustments when needed. Multi-party monitoring builds trust across diverse interests.
    - **Investing in ecological, economic, and social sustainability (you need all three)** – A major strength of CFLR is that it invests in restoration for the resilience of landscapes and communities, including focused attention on the goods and services that communities value.
- *Please see report published in 2017, "Strategies for Success Under Forest Service Restoration Initiatives" for additional data and perspectives on lessons learned.*

Appendix

Updated FY2017 Funding Table – Expenditures on NFS Lands

Category	FY 2015	FY 2016 (Projected)	FY 2016 (Actual)	FY 2017 (Projected)	FY 2017 (Actual)
CFLRP Appropriation[1]	$40,000,000	$40,000,000	$40,000,000	$40,000,000	$40,000,000
CFLR Appropriation Expenditures[2]	*$27,627,280*	*$28,000,000*	*$29,800,759*	*$28,000,000*	*$31,401,139*
Total FS Investments in Restoration-Related Work[3]	$60,382,180	$60,000,000	$90,782,952	$60,000,000	$86,058,486
Partner Match	$15,225,920	$18,000,000	$18,686,186	$20,000,000	$17,245,890
Estimated Goods for Services[4]	$5,917,780	$6,000,000	$12,199,779	$12,000,000	$11,858,526

[1] CFLRP appropriation refers to funds authorized by the 2009 Omnibus Public Land Management Act (Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund). Totals do not include cost pool deductions.
[2] CFLR expenditures are lower than the full $40 million appropriation due to cost pool deductions
[3] Includes Agency appropriated, permanent, and trust funds used for restoration implementation and monitoring on NFS lands that was not appropriated through the Collaboration Forest Landscape Restoration Fund.
[4] Goods for Services represents the value of goods traded for services in stewardship contracts expended to implement treatments and monitor a CFLRP project on NFS lands. ***Note that the FY16 and FY17 actual/estimated totals reflect the total credit limit for goods for services traded through contracts awarded in that Fiscal Year (the 2015 total and 2016 estimate only counted specific credits charged in the Fiscal Year for all previous contracts)***

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Updated FY2017 Funding Table – Additional Funding Invested and Generated

Category	FY 2015	FY 2016 (Projected)	FY 2016 (Actual)	FY 2017 (Projected)	FY 2017 (Actual)
Leveraged Funds[5]	$62,166,490	$63,000,000	$29,966,964	$63,000,000	$38,690,372
Estimated Local Labor Income Generated[6]	$264,866,300	$265,000,000	$295,173,495	$265,000,000	$276,385,364

CFLRP projects report all expenditures by BLI in their annual reports, available on the USFS external website.

Methodologies

NFS Footprint within CFLR Boundary (Acres)	NFS "Treatable Acres" Footprint (Acres)	Percent of Total NFS Acreage Comprised of CFLRP NFS Lands
11,280,551	**99,217,485**	**11.4%**

These acres were calculated using the Albers Equal Area Projection (commonly used on a national scale. Analysis clipped the CFLR boundary to the NFS boundary and removed roadless areas, wilderness areas, and major water bodies.

Performance Measure	FY2017 CFLR Accomplishments	FY2017 Agency Accomplishments	% Contribution of CFLRP to Agency Accomplishments
Hazardous Fuels (WUI and non-WUI) (Acres)	452,402	2,600,365	**17%**
Timber Volume Sold (CCF)	889,483	5,556,619	**16%**
Terrestrial Habitat Enhanced (Acres)	444,025	3,064,352	**14%**
Forest Vegetation Improved (Acres)	50,964	235,417	**22%**
Stream Habitat Improved (Miles)	241	3,747	**6%**

[5] Leverage includes funds or in-kind services that help projects achieve proposed objectives within the CFLRP landscape but do not meet match qualifications, such as implementation and monitoring on private, State, and other Federal lands within the CFLRP landscape, but not on NFS lands.
[6] Labor income estimated from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool, a standard interface designed for CFLRP that generates project impacts from proposed restoration activities within the counties where activities occur.

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Performance Measure	FY2017 CFLR Accomplishments	FY2017 Agency Accomplishments	% Contribution of CFLRP to Agency Accomplishments
Trails Maintained to Standard (Miles)	2,653	53,668	**5%**

We used three approaches to check the calculation on restoration spending in 2017. All three methods yielded similar results – see table below.

- **Appropriated Methodology** – Uses the appropriated amount of the relevant Budget Line Items as described below, factoring in the agency cost pool rate. This methodology is consistent with the methodology used for 2016 data.
- **Net Allocations Approach** - Instead of using the appropriated amount minus agency cost pool rate, this method uses total amounts allocated to Regions, which applies the specific cost pool rate per BLI plus additional assessments such as Facilities Assessment. Note that this approach includes the NFRR BLI because a portion of NFTM, NFVW, etc. were transferred to NFRR in the net allocation.
- **Actual Expenditures Approach** - This approach takes actual spending for FY17 for the BLIs when the information was available, and uses net allocations when that information was not available. Using actual expenditures accounts for any PY spending that occurred that year and any unobligated balances to show actual net spending. Note that this approach includes the NFRR BLI because a portion of NFTM, NFVW, etc. were transferred to NFRR and spent as NFRR.

	2017 - Appropriated Methodology		**2017 - Net Allocated Methodology**		**2017 - Expenditure Methodology**	
	Total FS Investments on CFLRP landscapes for restoration-related work in FY2017	**Total FS Investments Agency-wide for restoration-related work in FY2017**	**Total FS Investments on CFLRP landscapes for restoration-related work in FY2017**	**Total FS Investments Agency-wide for restoration-related work in FY2017**	**Total FS Investments on CFLRP landscapes for restoration-related work in FY2017**	**Total FS Investments Agency-wide for restoration-related work in FY2017**
Dollar investment	**117,459,625.00**	**1,377,543,839**	**117,459,625.00**	**1,184,390,035**	**117,459,625.00**	**1,224,189,608**
Dollar investment/acre	**10.41**	**13.88**	**10.41**	**11.94**	**10.41**	**12.34**
2016 FS investments in CFLR as % of 2016 agency total restoration investment	**8.53%**		**9.92%**		**9.59%**	

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Total FS Investment methodology: *We used a conservative approach to estimate the total FS Agency-wide investments in restoration-related work that is comparable to implementation and monitoring conducted through CFLRP. We pulled together the list of BLI's that are consistent with the intent of the CFLR Act and the CFLR project description and landscape restoration strategy. We then took FY2016 enacted levels of these BLI's, as reflected in the Budget Overview, to determine a conservative total amount spent on relevant restoration work across all NFS lands. BLI list: BDBD, CFLN, CMLG, CMRD, CMTL, CWFS, CWKV, CWK2, NFTM, NFVW, NFWF, PEPE, RBRB, RTRT, SSSS, SPFH, WFHF. For CMRD we estimated that 50% of CMRD funds were spent on road maintenance and improvement equivalent to the roads work happening on CFLR projects. NFRR funds were not included because those funds are represented in the originating BLIs before the transfer to NFRR is made. The average FS cost pool rate was applied to the total to derive an estimate of total dollars spent on the ground. Note we change methodology slightly from FY16 approach: SSCC and SPS2 (stewardship and state fire assistance) now excluded for consistency across national and CFLRP.*

BLI code	BLI name	FY16 National Appropriation	FY17 National Appropriation	FY17 Net Allocations	FY17 Actual Expenditures
BDBD	Brush Disposal	11,801,000	21,455,042	9,817,956	9,817,956
CFLN	Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	40,000,000	40,000,000	29,715,000	25,523,252
CMLG	Legacy Roads & Trails	40,000,000	40,000,000	22,087,306	22,103,886
CMRD*	Roads	86,047,000	87,547,000	65,515,048	66,894,177
CMTL	Trails	77,530,000	77,530,000	52,061,805	52,061,805
CWFS	Cooperative Work, Other	43,744,357	42,506,633	81,445,000	81,445,000
CWKV	Cooperative Work, KV Fund	58,154,191	230,401,575	73,169,500	73,169,500
NFRR				153,999,100	155,097,085
NFTM	Forest Products	359,805,000	367,805,000	188,054,238	201,612,705
NFVW	Vegetation & Watershed Improvement	184,716,000	184,716,000	82,115,071	98,619,714
NFWF	Wildlife and Fisheries	140,466,000	140,466,000	71,523,451	75,825,401
PEPE	Timber Purchaser Elect Road Construction	532,000	207,849	1,900,000	1,900,000

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BLI code	**BLI name**	**FY16 National Appropriation**	**FY17 National Appropriation**	**FY17 Net Allocations**	**FY17 Actual Expenditures**
RBRB	Range Betterment Fund	2,320,000	2,320,000	2,320,000	2,320,000
RTRT	Reforestation Trust Fund	31,769,000	30,486,822	23,803,000	23,803,000
SPFH	Forest Health Management - Fed Lands	58,922,000	55,500	36,380,722	36,380,722
SSSS	Timber Salvage Sales	26,994,000	53,614,043	21,748,000	21,748,000
WFHF	Hazardous Fuels	375,000,000	390,000,000	268,734,838	275,867,404
Total with CFLN; no SPS2 and SSCC		**1,537,800,548**	**1,709,111,463**	**1,184,390,035**	**1,224,189,608**
Adjusted Total		**1,239,467,242**	**1,377,543,839**	**1,184,390,035**	**1,224,189,608**