

# 2014 Collaborative Forest Restoration Program Annual Workshop



CFRP Eligibility: Attend an annual workshop with other stakeholders for the purpose of discussing the CFRP and the projects implemented under it.

# Objectives

- ✓ What Is The CFRP?
- ✓ What Have We Accomplished?
- ✓ Guidelines to Develop a Great Proposal.
- ✓ Keys to Success and Challenges.

## CFRP core purpose:

### Encourage Collaborative Partnerships.

- ✓ Improve communication and joint problem solving.
- ✓ Encourage sustainable communities and sustainable forests.
- ✓ Include diverse and balanced groups of stakeholders in project design, implementation, and monitoring.

Develop, demonstrate, and evaluate ecologically sound forest restoration techniques that encourage sustainable communities and sustainable forests

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- Reduce the Threat of Wildfire
  - Restore Ecosystem Functions and Fire Regimes
  - Reduce Non-native species
  - Preserve old and large trees
  - Include a Diverse and Balanced Group of Stakeholders
  - Utilize small diameter trees
  - Create forest related employment

# CFRP Competitive Grant Funding History

## CFRP 2001-2014

481 proposals submitted

184 projects funded

## Yearly Average

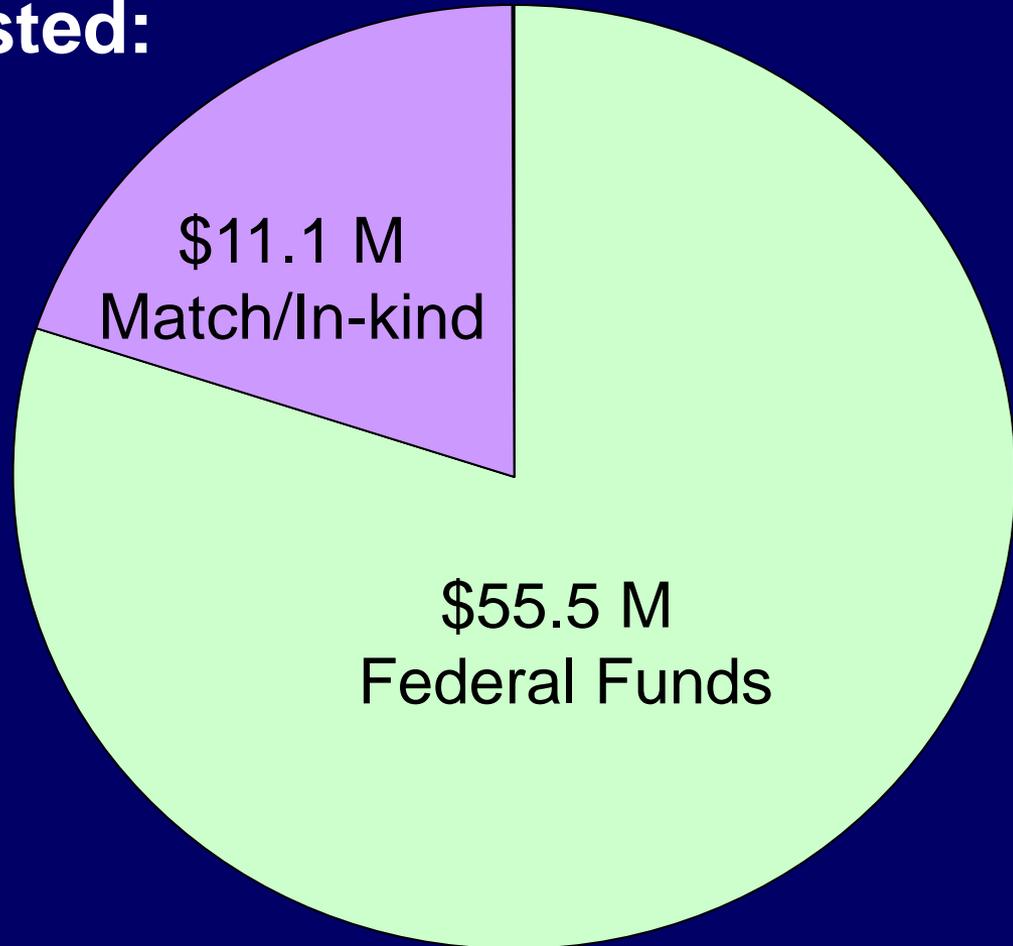
**38%**

34 proposals submitted

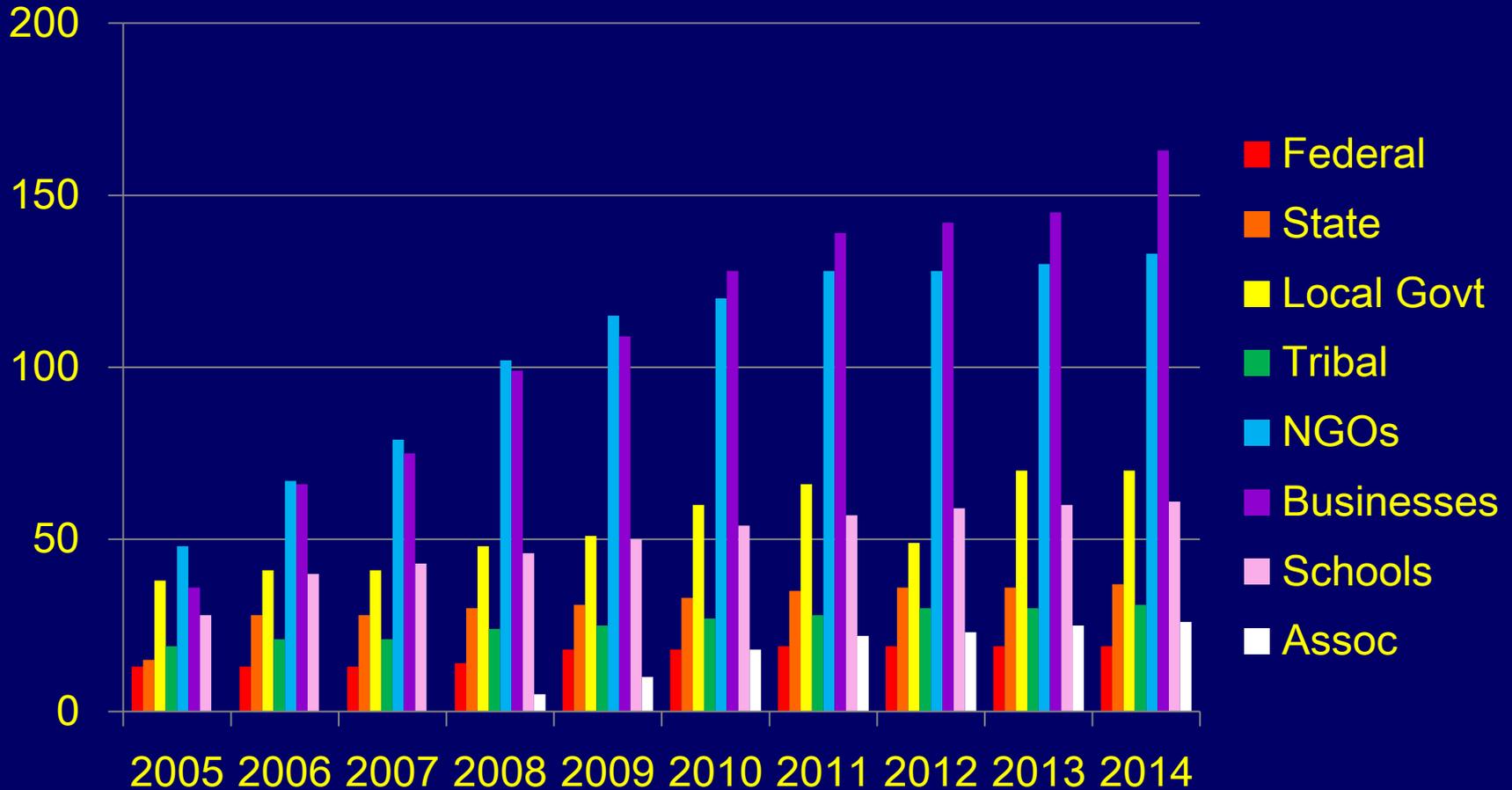
13 projects funded

# Total CFRP Project Funding

**\$66.7 million invested:**



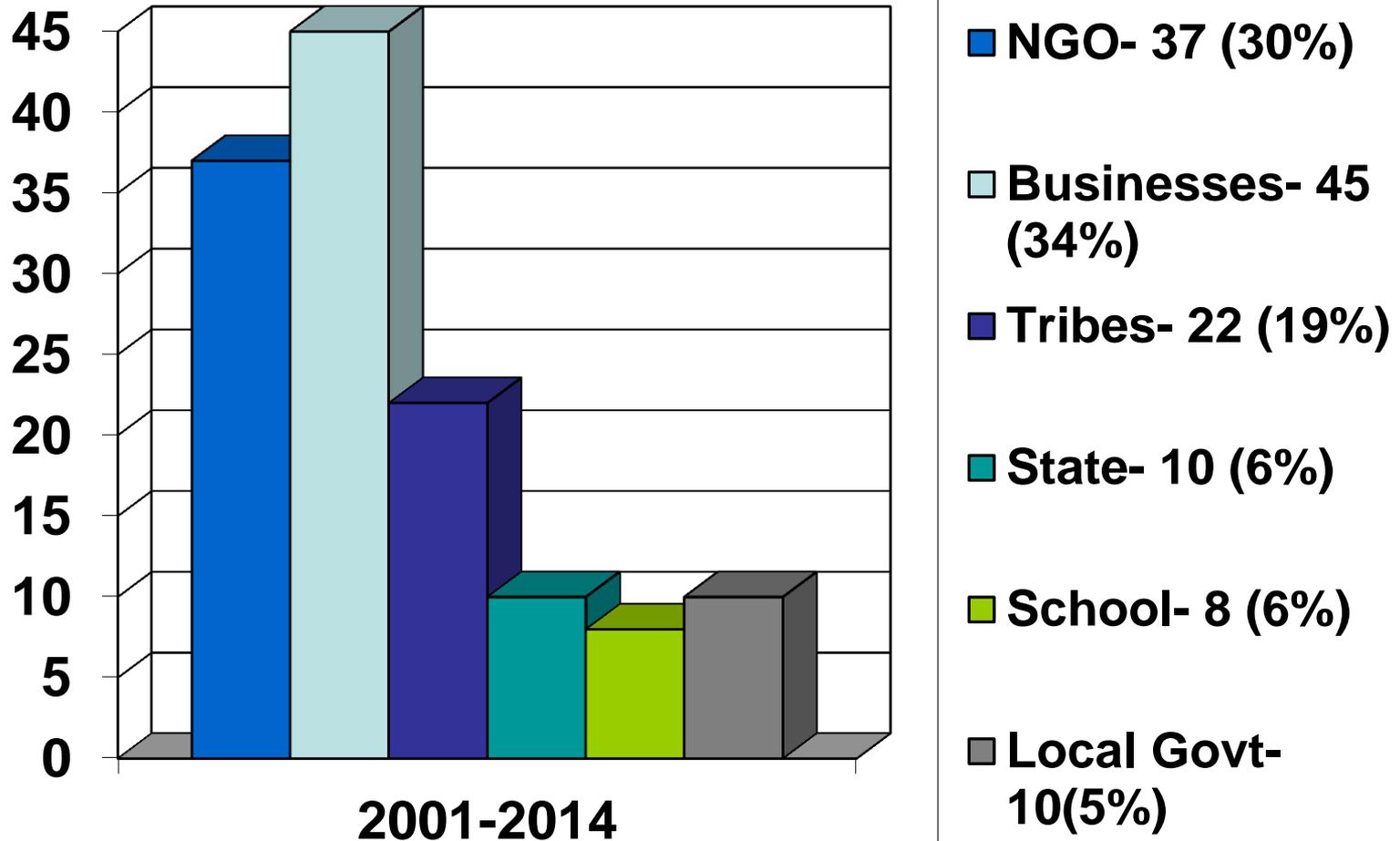
# Involving Diverse and Balanced Stakeholders



(542 Partners)

# Recipients

(132 Recipients, 184 Projects)



# Training and Forest Related Employment



Photo courtesy of Bill Ferranti

**767 Jobs  
have been  
created**

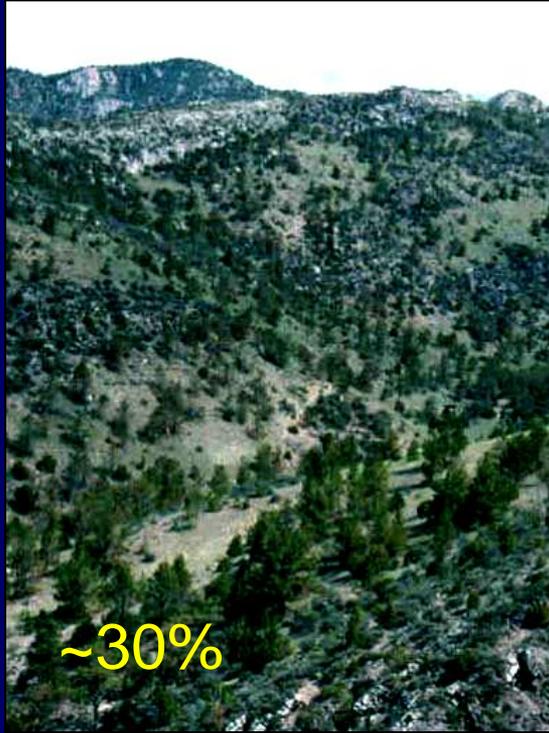
Ramah Navajo and New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute  
training the Alamo Navajo crew.

# Acres treated by CFRP projects



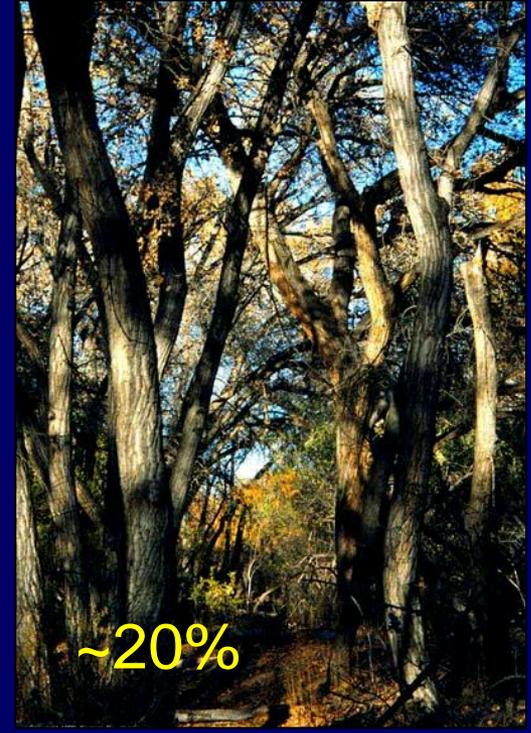
~50%

Mixed Conifer/  
Ponderosa Pine



~30%

Piñon Pine/Juniper



~20%

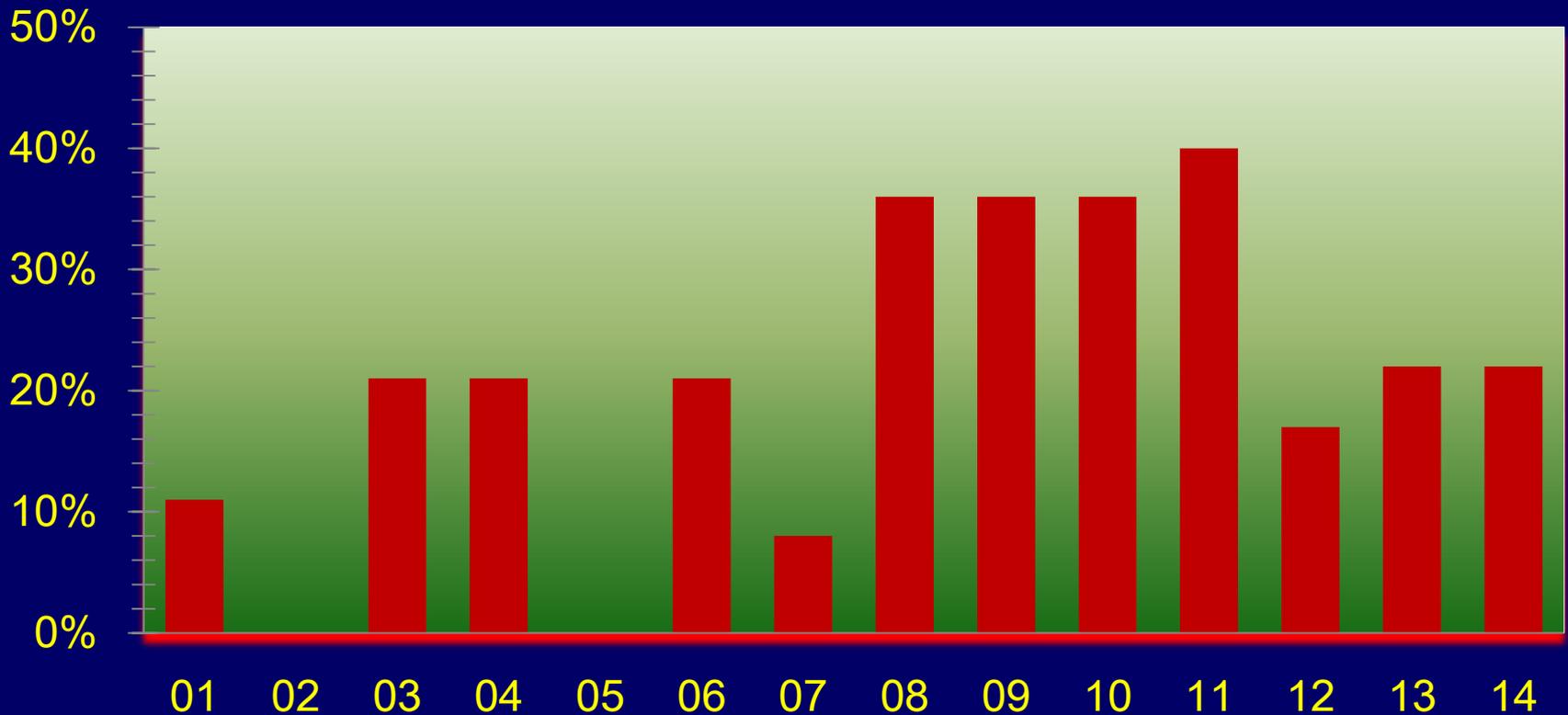
Bosque

**~ 50,000 acres will have been treated**

# Planning Projects

(Up to Four Per Year)

## Planning as % Total Projects



## Implementation (The Majority)

### Forest Treatments in Mexican Spotted Owl Habitat: Improving Forest Health while Recovering a Species.



- ✓ Mechanical treatments in MSO PACs on FS land.
- ✓ Prescribed fire on Mescalero Apache Tribal Lands
- ✓ Improve management and reduce the risk of fire in 60,000 + acres of lands in PACS on the Sacramento Ranger District.

## Restoring Ecosystem Functions (Implementation):



BEFORE



AFTER

Ojo Peak Post-wildfire Remediation and Monitoring Project,  
Claunch Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District

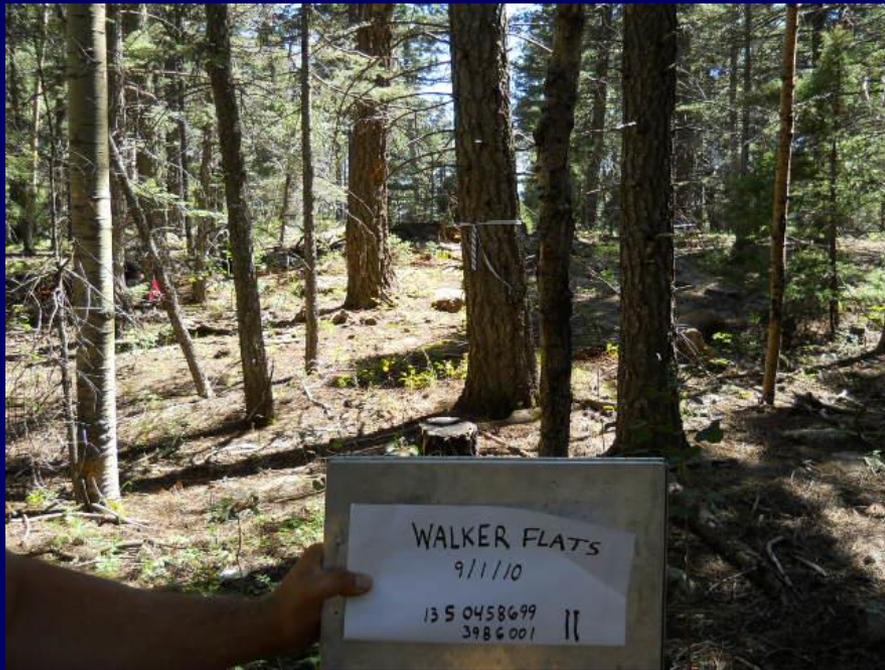
# Utilization

(Up to Two Per Year)



Cody Dines, Silver Dollar  
Racing Shavings.

# Multi-Party Project Assessment



Before Treatment



After Treatment

Southwest Wood Products CFRP 31-10 – Walker Flats Watershed Improvement

# Developing A Successful Proposal

- Make sure your great idea fits the program objectives.
- Talk to the Coordinator/Program Manger to see if your idea fits the program.

# A Good Proposal Takes Time

- Create a timeline with deadlines and stick to them. Overestimate the time you think it will take.
- Identify who needs to be involved. Agree on specific role(s). Get it in writing.
- Get the forms you need and make sure you understand them.

## Between Your Deadline and the Real Deadline

- Walk away from the proposal for a few days.
- Have another look. You'll see things you missed before and be surprised how much you change.
- Ask others to review your proposal (Your CFRP Coordinator).

# Follow Instructions (RFA)

- Format, font size, margins, page limits, page numbers, budget justification, etc. They matter. Don't get eliminated for the easy stuff.
- Find and follow examples of past successful, high ranking applications.
- Budget: Make it easy to understand how you arrived at the numbers. Explain anything unusual in the budget narrative.

# The Essential Executive Summary

- Compose an elevator speech and test it on colleagues. Were they convinced?
- Write the summary first. One or two paragraphs.
- Who, what, where, when? Not a history lesson.
- Ask others to read it. Ask for comments.

# The Essential Executive Summary

- Be clear and concise. Get to the point!
- Lure the reviewer into wanting to know more.
- If the summary makes a good impression the reviewer will treat the rest of the proposal more kindly.

# The Project Narrative

- Explain the broad significance of the project.
  - ➡ Why will this make a difference?
  - ➡ How is this different? Not more of the same.
  - ➡ What will this contribute that would not occur otherwise?
  - ➡ What will continue after the funding ends?

# The Project Narrative (cont.)

- A brief history: Don't explain what reviewers already know.
- Don't flood the reviewer with details that don't pertain to the proposed project.
- Past performance: Show that you know what you're doing and can manage the project. Explain why things went wrong. Don't hide past history.

# The Project Narrative

- Describe 3-4 specific objectives with a short title for each. Explain how the objectives/activities are related to one another.
- Describe quantitative deliverables and milestones for each objective with clear roles identified for partners.
- Include letters of support from partners that confirm their roles in accomplishing each objective.

# Focus on a Few Well Defined Goals

- Don't throw all your diverse ideas into the proposal hoping to impress the reviewers. That gives the impression you can't focus or prioritize.
- It is better to do a few things well than many poorly.

# The Reviewer's Perspective

- The Reviewer should understand what you want to do and who will do what in the first 5 minutes of reading.
- If the reviewer can't figure out what you want to do in the first few minutes they become irritated with the application. It will then be harder to convince them your idea is worth funding/supporting.

# The Reviewer's Perspective

- If the reviewer can quickly understand what you want to do and it fits the program objectives they will look for reasons to fund your proposal.
- What the reviewer wants to know: What will be accomplished? Does that fit the program? What does this add? Does the budget work hand in glove with the work plan? Are the budget figures easily verifiable?

# Plan To Monitor Success

- How will you and your partners know if you have accomplished the objectives of the project?
- How will project partners be kept informed of accomplishments or the need to adapt to unforeseen challenges?
- What indicators will be measured and who will track them?

# Keys To Success

- ➡ Get Involved Early in the Process to Prioritize Watersheds.
- ➡ Identify the Best Roles and Opportunities for Your Group.
- ➡ Work with Forest and District staff early in the process to identify and develop CFRP proposals that can be incorporated in the units future programs of work.

# Challenges

- ✓ Determining the ideal ratio of projects: planning, implementation, utilization
- ✓ Developing projects that will lead something bigger.
- ✓ Unanticipated Delays during project implementation that are beyond the grantee's control.