

New Mexico's Collaborative Forest Restoration Program



A sawyer for Griegos Logging, Inc. thinning ponderosa pine in the Las Vegas Municipal Watershed as part of a Wildland Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Project to protect the water supply for the town of Las Vegas (CFRP 28-10*).

Objectives

- What Is The CFRP?
- What Have We Accomplished?
- What's Next? Where Are We Going?

The core purpose of CFRP is to 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.

Sustainable Forests



Sustainable Communities



Develop, demonstrate, and evaluate ecologically sound forest restoration techniques.

CFRP Competitive Grant Funding History

CFRP 2001-2011

387 proposals submitted

154 projects funded

Yearly Average

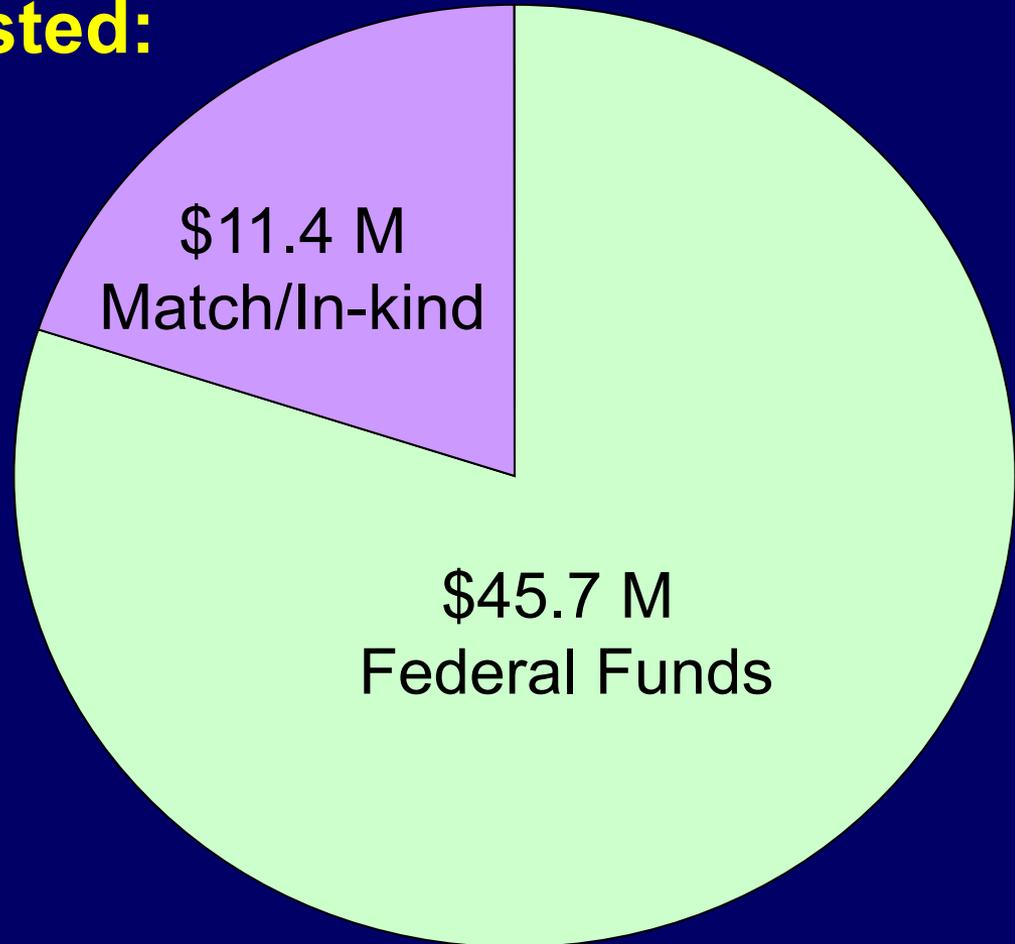
40%

35 proposals submitted

14 projects funded

Total CFRP Project Funding

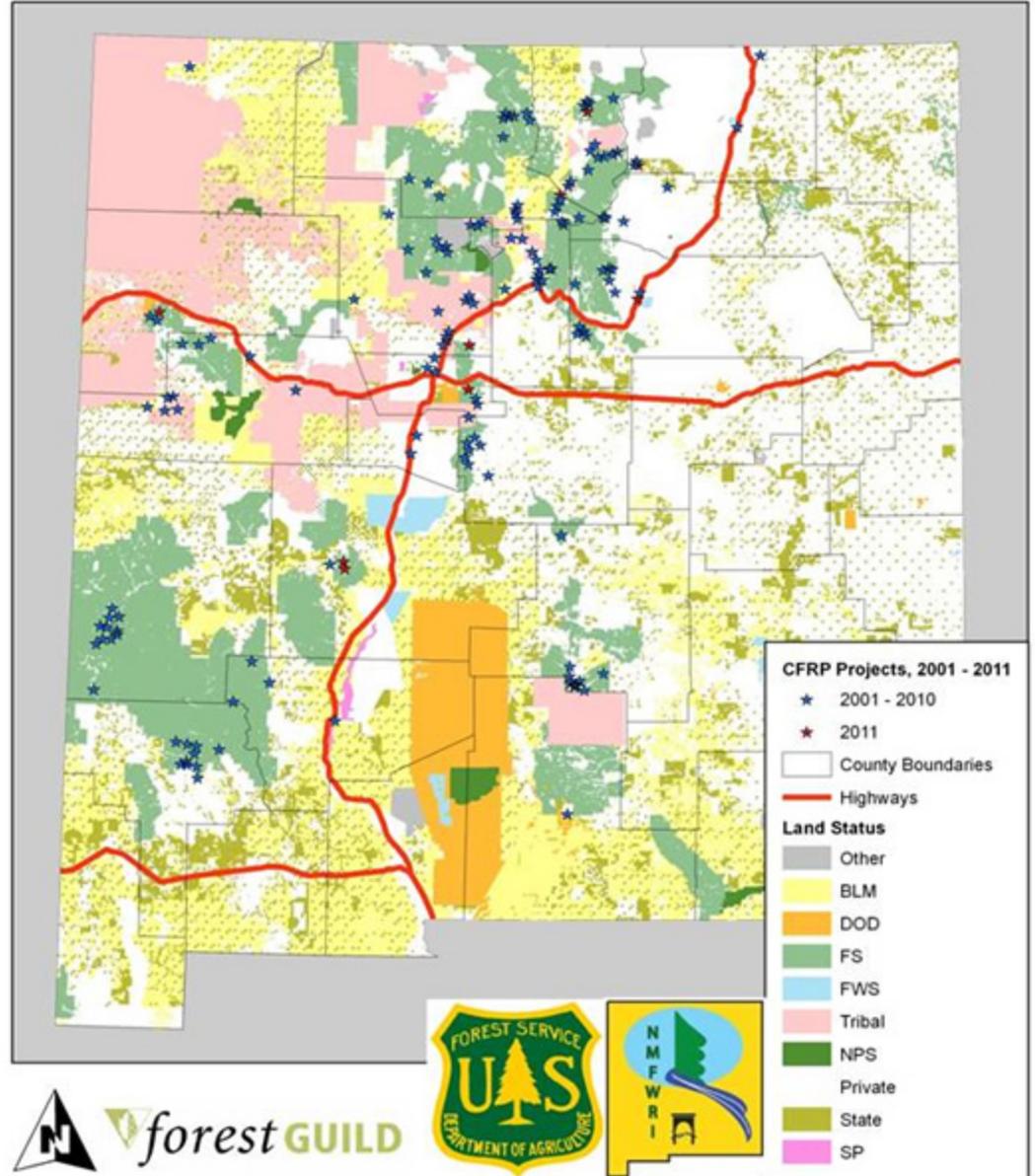
\$57.1 million invested:



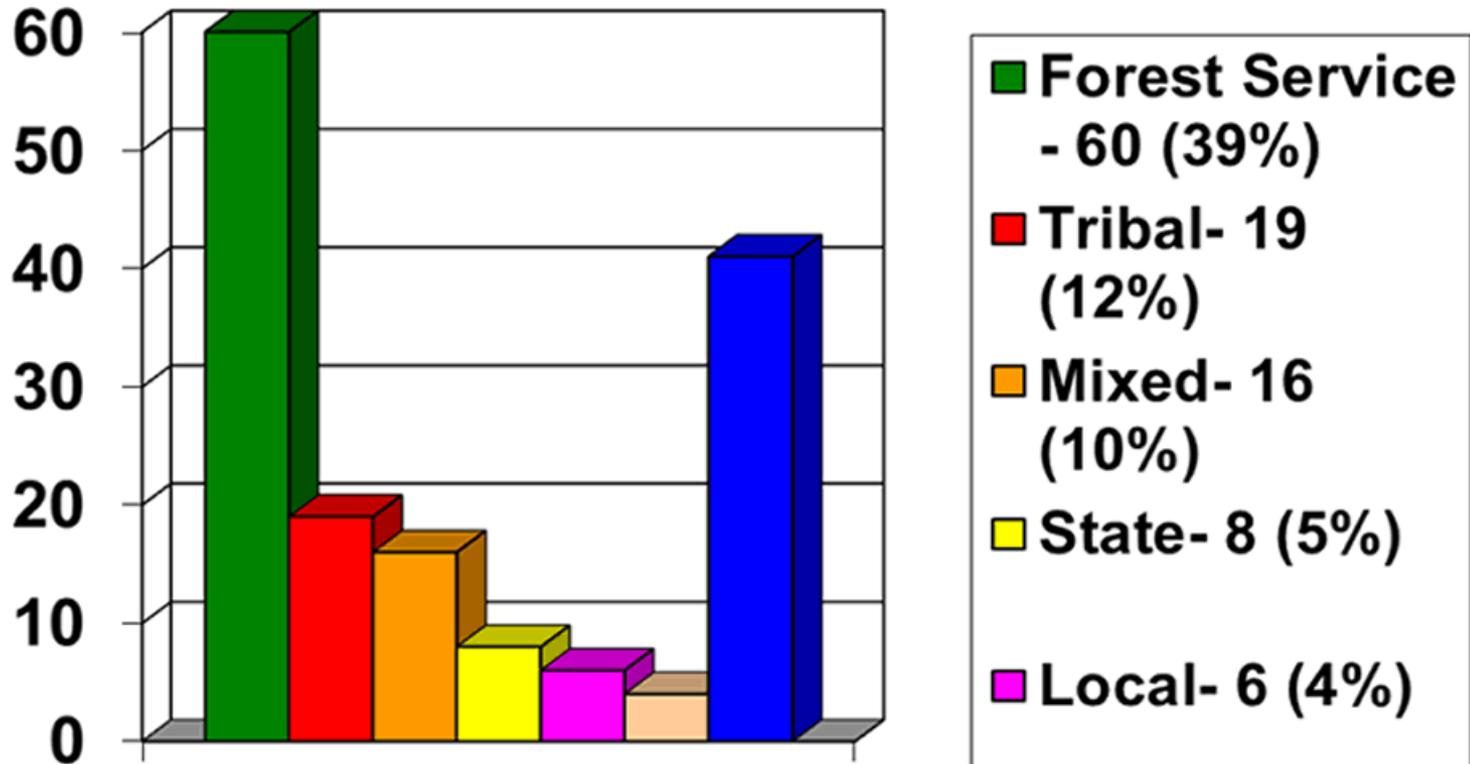
Project Locations

- 20 Counties (out of 33)

Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP)

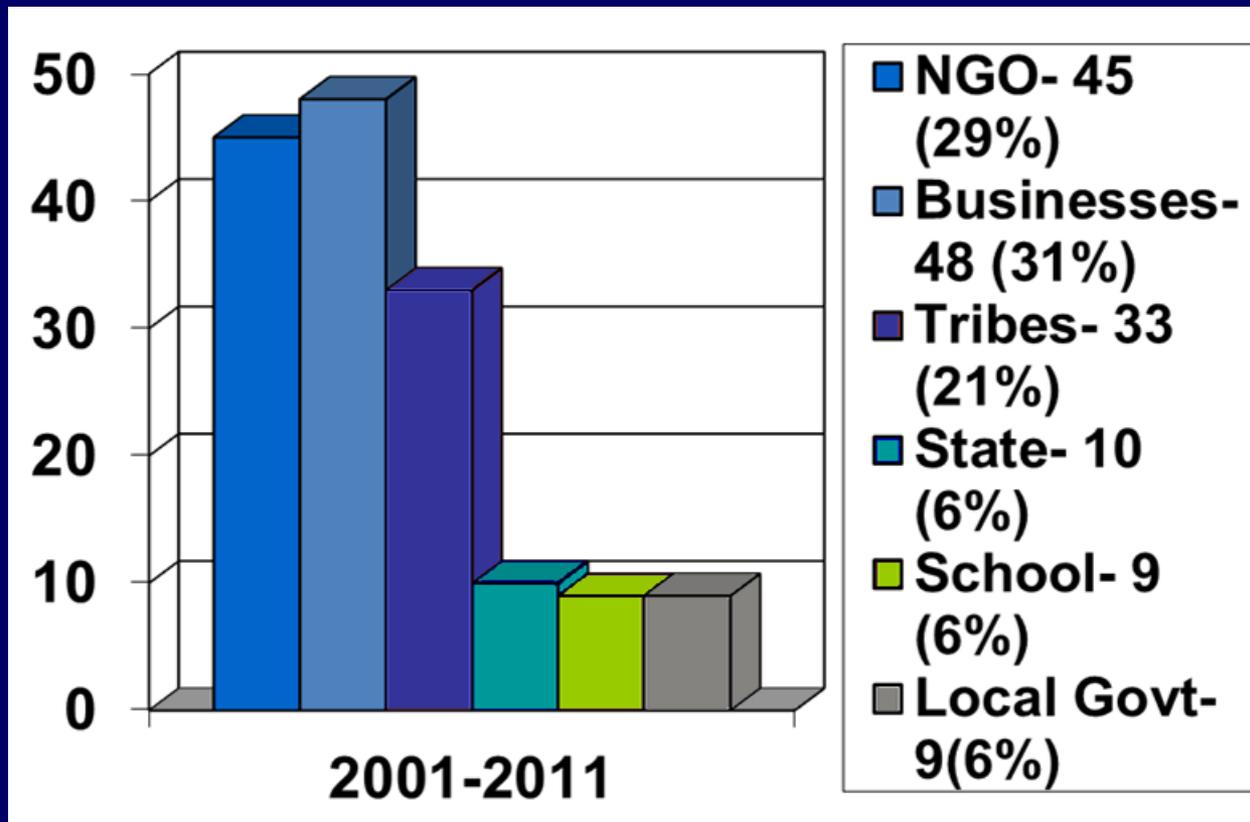


Land Tenure of CFRP Treatments



Recipients

(111 Recipients, 154 Projects)

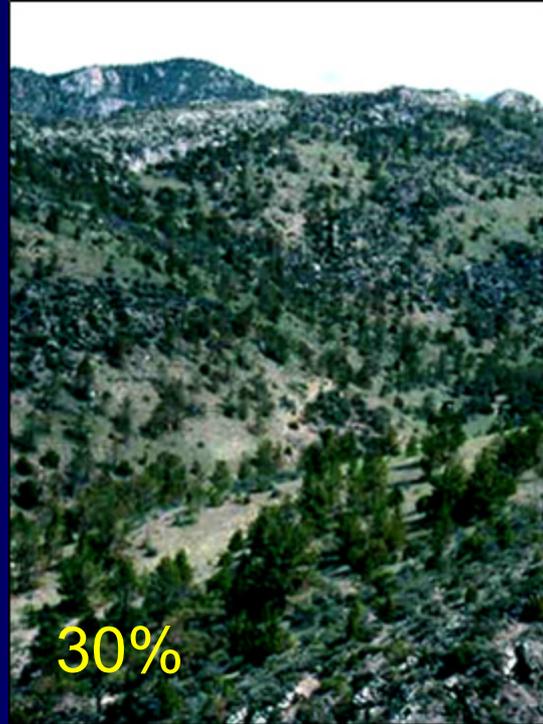


Acres treated by CFRP projects



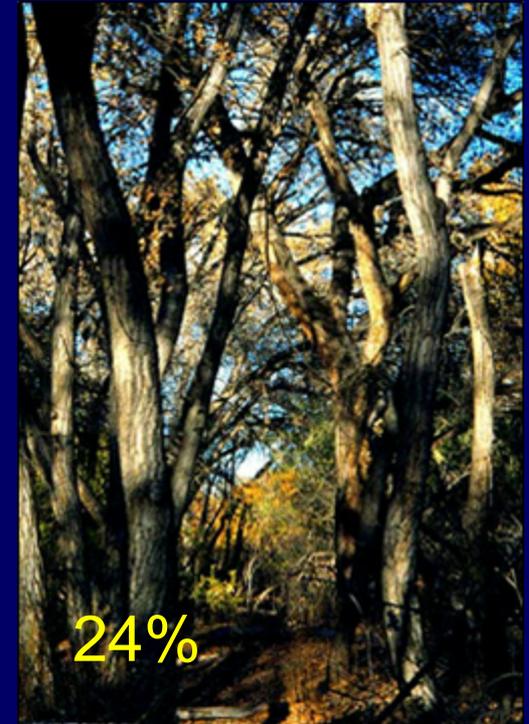
46%

**Mixed Conifer/
Ponderosa Pine**



30%

Piñon Pine/Juniper



24%

Bosque

~ 25,101 completed to date

Forest Watershed Restoration



Volunteers plant cottonwoods and install erosion control structures as a part of waterway restoration in Bog Spring for the Ruidoso Outdoor Learning Center Project. Treatment areas are connected by an ADA accessible interpretive trail (CFRP 13-07).



Photos courtesy of Jack McCaw

Training and Forest Related Employment



**Over
700 Jobs**

Photo courtesy of Bill Ferranti

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



Photo courtesy of Gary Hathorn

After removal of Russian olive and salt cedar along the San Juan river, Shiprock 4-H youths plant cottonwood trees on the Navajo Reservation for the Shiprock Hazardous Fuel Reduction and Restoration. CFRP 17-08

CFRP Projects have prioritized youth involvement over the years.

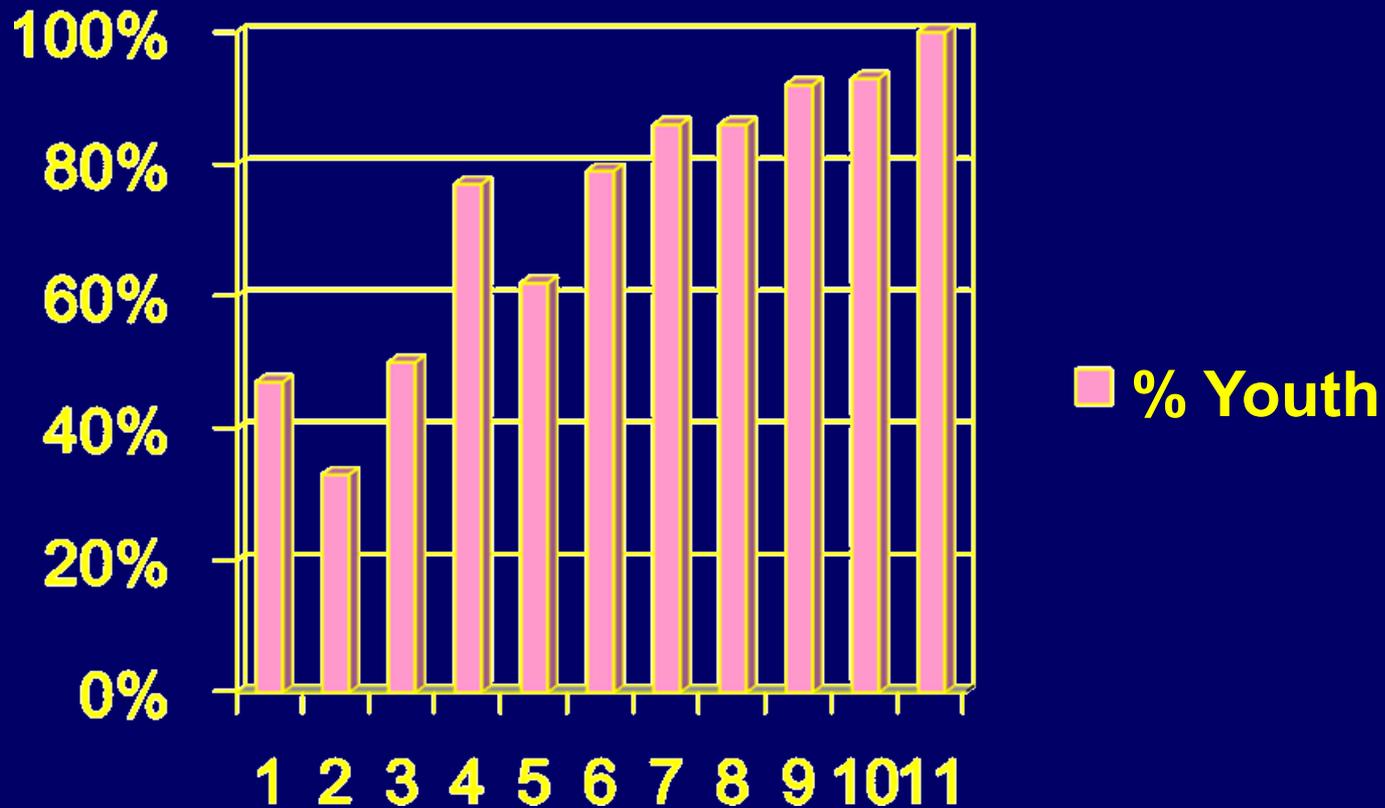




Photo courtesy of Benjamin Thomas

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps crew standing in front of firewood harvested from the 175 acre La Jara Canyon CFRP Project. This firewood was distributed to Northern NM families in need of wood for heating and cooking. CFRP 07-08

Small Diameter Utilization



BM&N Shaker Screen separates woodchips into different sizes for uses such as landscaping, animal bedding, and biomass fuel.



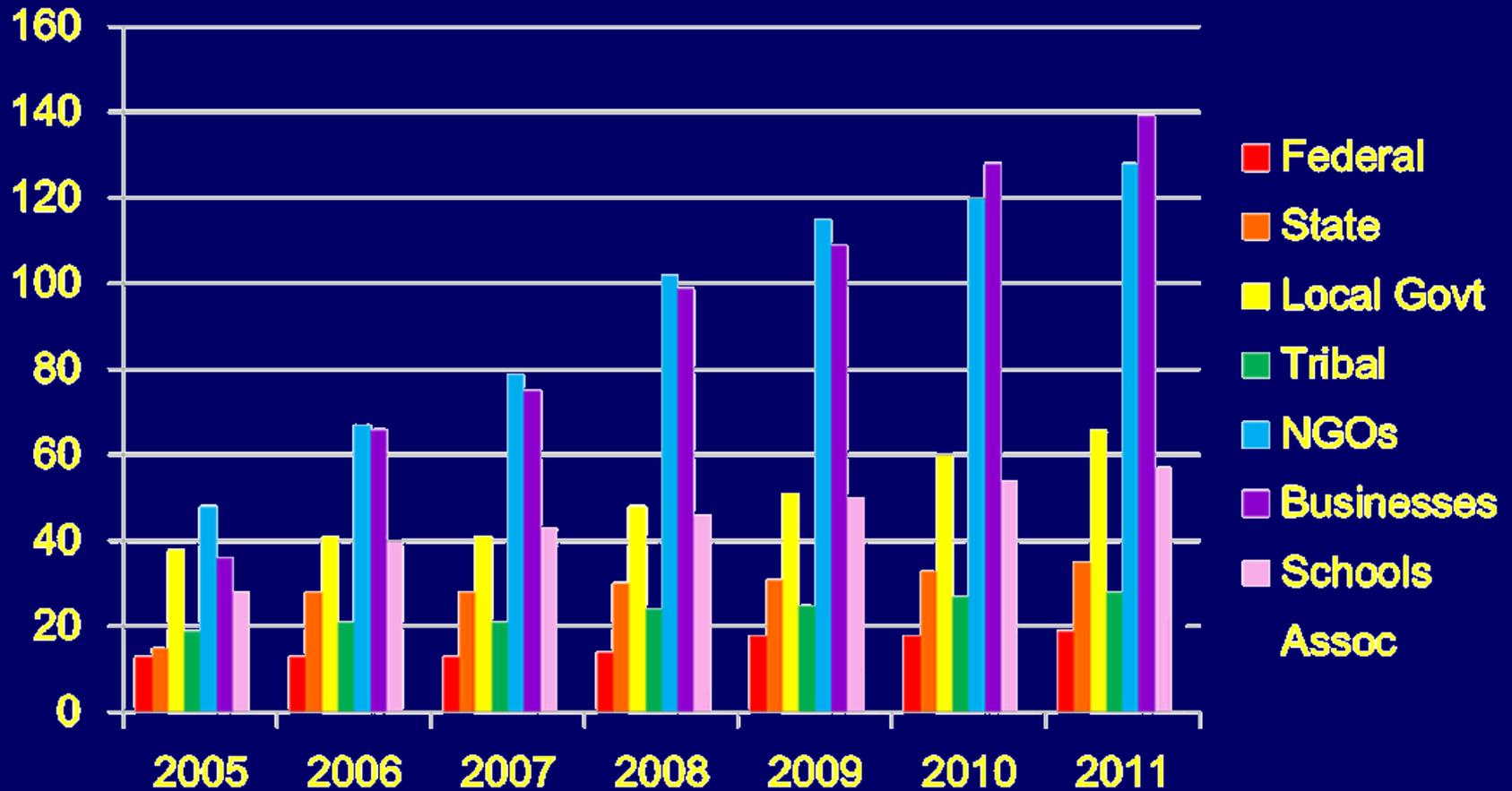
Woodbine Firewood Processor

CFRP funded the purchase of equipment for Roger Tucker, Inc., who employs seven people and creates firewood and woodchips from small diameter trees. As a result he harvested 900 acres of small diameter forest in 2011 (CFRP 04-11).



Santo Domingo Tribe restores degraded ecosystems and turns forest waste into valuable compost for land restoration and community development (CFRP 28-07).

Involving Diverse and Balanced Stakeholders



(494 Partners)

Trend-Planning Projects

Planning as % Total Projects

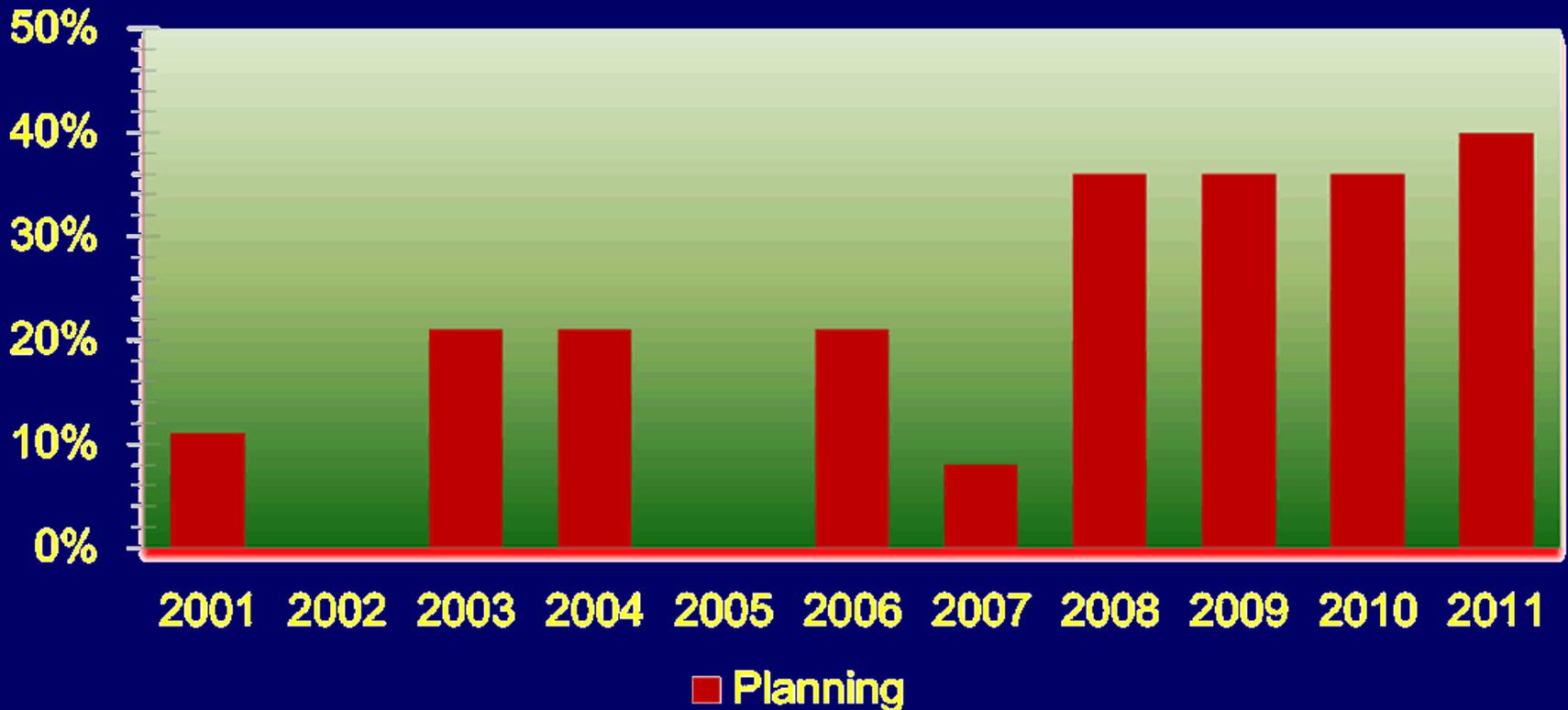




Photo Courtesy of Robyn Tierney

La Calandria Associates technicians collecting forest data for Fire Protection Planning and NEPA Compliance in the Upper Pecos Watershed. CFRP 34-09



This 2008 Flood in Ruidoso led to 2010 CFRP grant titled: Restoration Strategy and Payment for Ecosystem Services in the Rio Ruidoso Watershed (CFRP 17-10*).

Each CFRP project must include a multi-party project assessment.



Before Treatment



After Treatment

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



Velasquez Logging close out with the U.S. Forest Service on the Mesa Poleo WUI Project CFRP 02-06

At the program level we monitor to see cumulative accomplishments or adverse impacts.



A 500 acre fuel break on the Santa Clara Pueblo saved 1500 acres of the Santa Clara Canyon during the Los Conchas fire in the summer of 2011 (CFRP 12-02).

The Road Ahead: Watersheds

“Restoring watershed and forest health will be the primary management objective of the Forest Service.”

-Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture`s “Vision for the Forest Service”,
-USDA Strategic Plan
-FY 2010-15



Photo courtesy of Derek Pierce

Santa Fe Canyon Riparian Forest Restoration NEPA
Clearance, Wild Earth Guardians CFRP 33-09*

Watersheds are universal, well-defined areas that provide a common basis for discussion of water-related resources and landscapes.

The Road Ahead: Watershed Coordination Framework

New Paradigm

Suites of essential projects are completed in a watershed before work emphasis shifts to the next priority watershed.

Partnerships are an essential part of restoration. Skills and resources are strongly leveraged.

The Road Ahead:

All Lands Approach Regional Strategy

- Build internal and external trust:

 - Involve collaborative groups in development, compliance, monitoring, and adapting future actions based on monitoring results.

- Expand partnerships:

 - Leverage non-FS expertise to increase agency capacity for landscape scale work.

- Support sustainable restoration-based economies

The Road Ahead: CFRP Applicants

Include a **diverse and balanced** group of stakeholders as well as appropriate Federal, Tribal, State, County, Land Grant, and Municipal government representatives in the design and implementation of the project.

Letter of Endorsement: The land management official collaborated in the development of the proposed project, will support the implementation of the project, and the project will complement the organization's land management objectives.

Challenges

- Coordinating Forest Service work planning timeline with CFRP project development and implementation.
- Agency adapting to the new paradigm of the All Lands Approach and the new planning rule.
- Implementing long term monitoring and interpreting results across projects for the purpose of adaptive management.

Challenges

- Increasing demand for services, including timber sale preparation and administration, while budgets are declining.
- Unstable timber market and the volatile demand for forest products.

The Keys To Success

- ✓ Identify the Best Roles and Opportunities for Your Group.
- ✓ Get Involved Early and Work with Land Management agencies to Identify Priorities.
- ✓ Work with Forest and District staff and/or other land managers early in the process to identify and develop CFRP proposals that can be incorporated in the units future programs of work.

The Keys To Success

- ✓ Explore opportunities for collaboration that go beyond CFRP in large regional projects, such as Blue Water and Southwest Jemez CFLRP's.
- ✓ Look to other examples of collaboration: region wide stewardship agreement with Wild Turkey Federation and the state wide MOU with the Land Grant Council.