

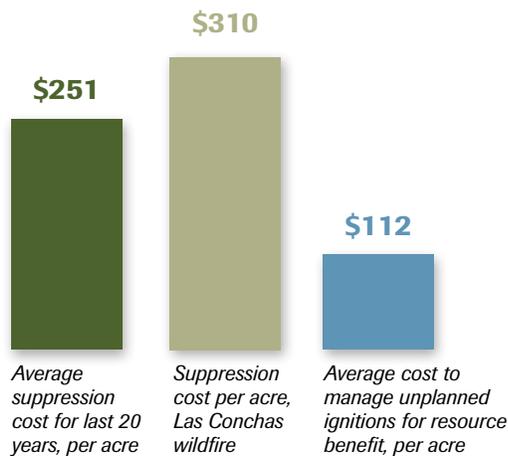


Valles Caldera National Preserve © David Solis

The Southwest Jemez Mountains have a history of devastating fires over the 210,000 acres in the Jemez River watershed in north-central New Mexico. Southwest Jemez CFLRP activities will reduce mega-fire risk while providing local jobs. The Project will also restore perennial trout streams, and improve forest health and wildlife habitat.

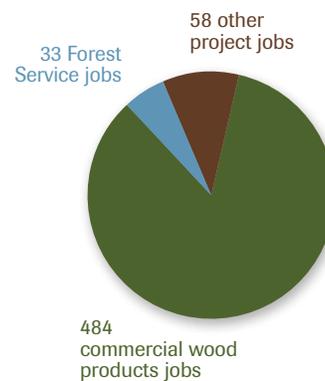
## Partners

- Hawks Aloft
- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
- New Mexico Environment Department
- New Mexico Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute
- New Mexico Forest Industry Association
- Northern Arizona University
- Pueblo of Jemez
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- The Nature Conservancy in New Mexico
- Trout Unlimited
- University of New Mexico
- U.S. Forest Service
- Valles Caldera National Preserve
- Village of Jemez Springs
- WildEarth Guardians



## Fire Suppression Cost Reduction

- The 2011 Las Conchas wildfire burned 156,593 acres and cost \$48.5 million dollars to control. Almost 31,700 acres burned in the project area.
- After the 10-year CFLR project is completed, more lightning-caused fires in the Southwest Jemez Mountains could be managed for resource benefit.



## Estimated Jobs



Map Source: Southwest Jemez Mountains Restoration Strategy proposal to the USDA Forest Service, Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program, May 2010 available at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/selections.shtml>

The Southwest Jemez Project is a collaborative effort to improve forest health and reduce crown fire risk on a 210,000-acre landscape in the Jemez Mountains. The area comprises the upper Jemez River watershed, including the Valles Caldera National Preserve, the Jemez District of the Santa Fe National Forest, the northern arm of the Pueblo of Jemez and smaller amounts of state and private lands.

The collaborative is led by a core set of “restoration partners,” including federal land managers, Pueblo of Jemez, The Nature Conservancy, and the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute. Many other agencies, organizations and universities contributed to the landscape strategy and are engaged in long-term monitoring of the project. The adjacent Santa Clara Pueblo and Bandelier National

Monument managers are coordinating their work with the restoration partners, expanding the scope and effectiveness of forest treatments.

The Jemez Mountains have experienced a number of devastating fires, including the 157,000-acre Las Conchas Fire in 2011. This was the largest fire in New Mexico history, forcing the evacuation of over 12,000 people, destroying 63 homes and endangering the Los Alamos National Laboratory. The Southwest Jemez CFLR project will strategically thin forests and ignite controlled burns to create conditions where fire can play its natural role, including recycling nutrients and creating a more open forest canopy that resists crown fire and retains winter snow on the ground. In the spring, snowmelt recharges the Jemez River, supporting native fish, and providing water for downstream communities.

“My family and I have been working hard to develop a stronger forest products business in the Jemez Mountains over the last two years. The Southwest Jemez project would help me sustain and grow my business. I just finished a forest thinning contract that allowed me to hire four people. The wood chips we removed and sold ended up providing another 15 jobs or so for people who spread them as landscape materials on school yards. A big project like this makes a difference to us and to the people we supply product to.”

— Terry Conley



### 2010 Project Results:

- 1,600 acres of fuels removed near communities
- 1,900 acres of habitat improved
- 3,000 green tons of woody biomass generated

### In 2011, the Project will focus on:

- Treating invasive plants and noxious weeds
- Restoring habitat
- Maintaining and improving roads

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