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USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CONSERVATION FINANCE eBulletin

Region 5 Conservation Finance 2023 Annual Report

Region 5 Conservation Finance (CF) Funding & Financing

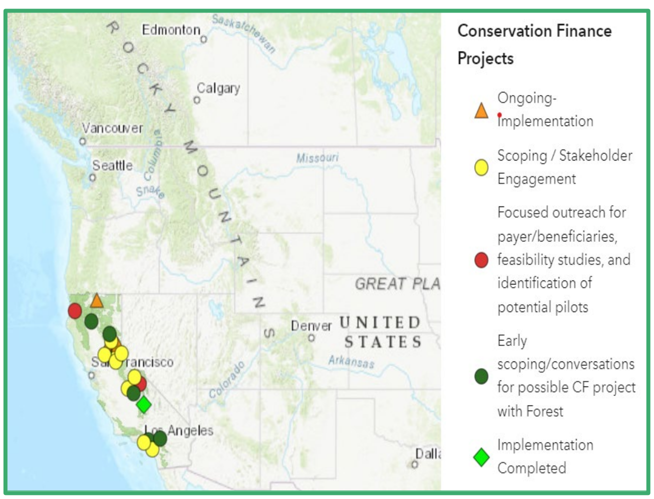
Total $$ received from FY23 WO NPO Budget for Conservation Finance (CF) is $1,535,000

- Money leveraged = Total: $73,595,000
    - Funding $53,095,000 & Financing $20,500,00 secured for implementation

WO NPO IFNF R5 Funding from ~$2.2M Pool of Funding Annually:

- Round #1 (2021): 3 of 10 awards for $770k out of $1.9M
- Round #2 (2022): 6 of 11 awards, for almost $1.5M out of $2.2M
- Round #3 (2023): 4 of 11 awards, for $775k out of $2.2M

Photo taken during implementation of the Yuba II Project on the Tahoe National Forest.



Map of R5 CF Projects and their status posted on the R5 CF

Region 5 CF Program Capacity Building

- **7 R5 Trainings, Office Hours and Presentations provided by R5 CF Team and Cadre**
- **Enlarged R5 Conservation Finance Cadre from 8 to 13 individuals covering all four R5 Zones**

Region 5 CF Program Status Update

17 Region 5 Forests with a total of 18 Conservation Finance Projects in either: 1.) early discussions, 2.) project & beneficiary scoping, or 3.) implementation

7 CF Projects Sited on Wildfire Crisis Strategy Priority Landscape Forests

4 USFS Conservation Finance (CF) Project Developers

- Blue Forest Conservation, Quantified Ventures, Conservation Investment Management, and World Resources Institute

2 Forest Resilience Bonds launched with BFC:

- Yuba I completed
- Yuba II being implemented

1 Completed FRB & 2 Completed In Lieu Fee Compensatory Mitigation Projects

Blue Forest Conservation’s CA Wildfire Innovation Fund (CWIF)

The CA Wildfire Innovation Fund (CWIF) supports equity investments and loans for biomass-related equipment, infrastructure, and contractor capacity. On the heels of the BFC Heartwood equity investment **See Heartwood Mill,** BFC invested in Tahoe Forest Products (TFP), a new sawmilling business founded to support restoration goals in the broader Tahoe and Central Sierra region **Blue Forest Makes Investment in Tahoe Forest Products — Blue Forest Conservation.**

- Blue Forest via CWIF expects to make 20 investments (equity grants and loans) over the next 4 years in the areas of infrastructure, capacity; and w/IFNF money, technical assistance to small businesses.

Contact your R5 CF Team: Sherry Reckler and Madison Kirshner