

SW Jemez Mountains Collaboration Forest Landscape Restoration Monitoring Team Update - Jan. 28, 2011

On December 9th, the SW Jemez Mountains (SWJM) Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Lead Partners group held a 2nd Monitoring Workshop, at the Santa Fe National Forest Supervisor's Office in Santa Fe. The 1st monitoring team workshop was held on July 1, at the BLM office in Santa Fe. The purpose of these workshops and other on-going efforts by this team is to develop the details necessary to implement the monitoring plan that is part of the nationally-selected SWJM CFLR project. The monitoring plan is described in Section 13 of the CFLR Strategy and Proposal for Funding (online at http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/jemez_mtn_rest/docs.htm).

Bob Parmenter, Valles Caldera Preserve Chief Scientist and the CFLR Monitoring Team Leader, kicked off the December 9th meeting with an overview of the project and intent of the monitoring plan. Key elements of the plan are that it 1) addresses objectives of the Forest Landscape Restoration Act, 2) helps evaluate the effectiveness of the restoration treatments, and 3) is collaborative. Small groups spent the rest of the meeting answering questions to develop the recommended monitoring plan details, such as:

- **Variables to be monitored**, to address each monitoring issue or question
- **Methods** per variable (plot size, within-plot distribution of sampling sites, size of sub-sample unit, method of sampling, equipment, supplies needed, staffing, ...)
- **Timing and frequency of sampling** (monthly, annually, every 5 years, every 10 years...)
- **Locations** for sampling (if known) and **numbers of sample sites** required for statistical analysis
- **Who** will be responsible for **collecting the data** through field sampling
- **Who** will be responsible for **entering the data** and **conducting the statistical analyses**
- **Costs**, such as hourly/daily wages, travel, supplies, equipment, and one-time vs. recurring costs
- **Cost-share sources and amounts** (itemized if possible)
- **Related pre-work tasks** that need to be done

The workgroups included specialists for upland vegetation, water, large mammals, birds, amphibians, (esp. the Jemez Mountains salamander), social and economic factors, and invasive weeds. The degree of progress made in developing these details varied by workgroup.

Members from each workgroup who volunteered to be the group contact are as follows:

Upland Vegetation: Kent Reid	Birds: Gail Garber
Riparian Vegetation: Bruce Bauer	Amphibians: Michelle Christman
Water Quality: Erica Nevins	Invertebrates: Bob Parmenter
Hydrology/Water Yield: Bob Parmenter	Social and Economic: Eytan Krasilovsky
Large Mammals: James Cain	Invasive Weeds: Pete Grinde

The CFLR funding expected for fiscal year 2011 is currently on hold until legislation is passed to approve the agency's appropriated budget, which is under a continuing resolution until early March. Once we have more information about funds available for monitoring, we will call for another meeting of the monitoring team to complete our plans. Fortunately, we were able to use some of the 2010 CFLR funds received to purchase essential monitoring equipment (RAWS weather station, flumes, etc).

We thank all who participated, and all those who continue to help support the SWJM landscape restoration project. Many organizations are providing professional staff time and various funding sources to help make this restoration and associated monitoring effort a success.