

CFLR Project (Name/Number): Southwest Jemez Mountains/CFLR006

National Forest(s): Santa Fe National Forest and Valles Caldera National Preserve

Responses to the prompts on this annual report should be typed directly into this template, including narratives and tables.

1. Match and Leverage funds:

a. FY14 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLR Funds Expended¹)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
CFLN0613 0310	\$421,651
CFLN0614 0310	\$1,526,727
CLFN0614 1510 ¹⁵	\$688,715
	Total=\$2,637,093

Fund Source – (Carryover funds expended (Carryover to in addition to CFLR/CFLN)² (please include a new row for each BLI))	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)

Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds (please include a new row for each BLI)³)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
CFHF0614 0310	\$67,372
CFRR0614 0310 (NFRR0614)	\$1,053,684
CFRD0614 0310	\$6,698
VCVC0614 1510	\$673,648
CFLM0614 0310	\$22,289
CFRR0614 0310	\$730,700
	Total=\$2,554,391

Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements⁴)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
N/A	\$0

¹ This amount should match the amount of CFLR/CFLN dollars obligated in the PAS report titled CFLR Job Code Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year.

² This value should reflect the amount of carryover funds allocated to a project as indicated in the program direction, but does not necessarily need to be in the same BLIs as indicated in the program direction. These funds should total the matching funds obligated in the PAS report.

³ This amount should match the amount of matching funds obligated in the PAS report.

⁴ Please document any partner contributions to implementation and monitoring of the CFLR project through an agreement (this should only include funds that weren't already captured through the PAS job code structure for CFLR matching funds). Please list the partner organizations involved in the agreement.

¹⁵ The Valles Caldera National Preserve funds do not show up in the PAS accomplishment reporting

Fund Source – (Partner In-Kind Contributions ⁵)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
<u>Partner in Kind Implementation</u>	
WildEarth Guardians (WEG) 1,464 Volunteer Hours	\$31,900
WEG YCC	\$141,920
WEG North American Wetland Conservation Act Funding	\$24,630
WEG 319	\$2,500
WEG In-kind contribution (seedlings, equipment and supplies)	\$63,460
Los Amigos de Valles Caldera (Los Amigos) 3028 Volunteer Hours	\$65,980
Los Amigos 319 (Six Tributaries)	\$62,625
Los Amigos 319 (Jaramillo)	\$42,793
Los Amigos 106b (Sulphur Watershed Wetlands)	\$17,670
NM Forestry Inmate Program	\$18,000
Forest Guild YCC Crews (7920 Work Hours)	\$108,000
Nature Conservancy International Fire Crew	\$32,000
<u>Subtotal:</u>	<u>\$611,478</u>
<u>-Partner In Kind Monitoring</u>	
USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station Fire-lab	\$125,000
NOAA	\$24,000
USDA Forest Service	\$10,000
NPS/Volunteers	\$19,774
DOE, Jemez Pueblo	\$10,000
BLM/JFSP	\$3,622
DOE/LANL	\$330,000
USFS	\$1,500
USDA SEL/SI	\$269,815
CFRP (USDA)	\$86,537
Texas Tech University	\$54,000
KOB TV, Albuquerque	\$4,800
Texas Tech University	\$34,000
UNM	\$5,000
NSF EPSCoR	\$11,000
NSF, Univ. Arizona, UNM	\$870,000
National Park Service	\$35,003
NSF/UNM	\$10,000
Univ. Maryland	\$35,300
NSF	\$306,000
NSF, SMU	\$66,000
Bur. Reclamation/UNM	\$46,080
NSF	\$499,500
ABC	\$4,500
Volunteer	\$1,000
Volunteer	\$2,000
Volunteer	\$50,000
<u>TOTAL IN KIND CONTRIBUTIONS</u>	<u>\$3,480,909</u>

⁵ Total partner in-kind contributions for implementation and monitoring of a CFLR project. Please list the partner organizations that provided in-kind contributions. See “Annual Report instructions” for instructions on how to document in-kind contributions.

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Fund Source – (Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract⁶)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
Los Indios Stewardship	\$88,619.74

b. Please provide a narrative or table describing leveraged funds in your landscape in FY2014(one page maximum)

Implementation (I) or Monitoring (M)	Project Title (abbreviated)	Funding Source	Funding Amount	Description of Project
I	Youth Conservation	NM YCC, NFWF, and FG	\$108,000	22 youth worked on a suite of conservation projects in the landscape for 9 weeks
M	Climate Reference Network Station	NOAA	\$24,000	Reference Conditions for climate change
M	Gambel Oak Study	USFS	\$10,000	Wildlife herbivory impacts on Gambel oak
M	Breeding Bird Surveys	NPS/Volunteers	\$19,774	Dispersal in gray-headed juncos; breeding bird surveys.
M	ARCBURN	BLM/JFSP	\$3,622	Fire impacts on archaeological resources.
M	Seismic Monitoring	DOE/LANL	\$330,000	Seismic monitoring of Valles Caldera using the Los Alamos Seismic Network (LASN)
M	Forest Pest Survey	USFS	\$1,500	Forest insect pest inventory
M	Air Quality Monitoring	DOE/Jemez Pueblo	\$10,000	Air Quality Monitoring at the Valle Grande Weather Station
M	Forest Pest Survey	USFS/SEL/SI	\$269,815	Beneficial and pest insect biodiversity survey
M	Mixed Conifer JMS	CFRP	\$86,537	Developing reference conditions for Jemez mixed-conifer forests and habitat for the Jemez Mountains Salamander
M	Water Resources	UNM	\$5,000	Watershed Assessment
M	Trout Movement Study	Volunteer	\$2,000	Study of trout movements of the Rio San Antonio and East Fork
M	Wildfire dwelling bats Study	Texas Tech U	\$54,000	Effects of Wildfire and Rx fire on Forest Dwelling bats and their Prey
M	American Pike study	ABQ Bosque School	\$850	Changes in distribution of Pike moderated by changes in climate and forest fires
M	Habitat monitoring	Texas Tech U	\$34,000	Monitoring wildlife and habitats of the VCNP and SFNF
M	Dendrochronology of the VCNP	U of A	\$35,003	Dendrochronology of trees study
M	Ancient WUI Study	NSF/SMU	\$499,500	Long term resilience of ecosystems to fire regime and climate change in the ancient WUI

⁶ This should be the amount in the “stewardship credits charged” column at the end of the fiscal year in the TSA report TSA90R-01.

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M	Black carbon Study	NSF/EPSCoR	\$11,000	Black carbon from wildfires and impacts on watersheds
M	Fire Origin shrub study	NPS	\$35,003	Dendroecological analyses of fire-origin shrub lands in former conifer forests
M	Critical Zone Observatory Program	NSF/U of A	\$870,000	Carbon/water/energy cycles in upland watersheds on the VCNP
M	Gunnison's Prairie Dog	U of Maryland	\$35,300	Studies on Gunnison's Prairie dog on the VCNP
M	NM EPSCoR Study	NSF EPSCoR	\$11,000	E. Fork Jemez river water quality monitoring from fire and climate change effects
M	Fungi and Lichen Inventory	Relf Price	\$50,000	Inventory of Fungi and Lichens following fire

Approved by (Forest Supervisor): *Diana T. Seru*

Approved by (Forest Supervisor): _____

2. Discuss how the CLFR project contributes to accomplishment of the wildland fire goals in the 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan, dated December 2006. In a narrative format, describe the progress to date on restoring a more fire-adapted ecosystem, as identified in the project's desired conditions. This may also include a description of the current fire year (fire activity that occurred in the project area) as a backdrop to your response (please limit answer to one page).

The Southwest Jemez Mountains project addresses the 10-year strategy, as demonstrated by these accomplishments:

- One hundred percent of the acres treated are within a Wildland-Urban Interface area.
- Treatments are governed by the goal of reducing fire intensities that conform to the National Fire Management Plan by reducing hazardous fuels.
- Treatments are also designed to restore fire-adapted ecosystems.
- The Lead Partners' selection of acres treated was guided by the priority areas identified in the CWPPs.
- Fuel loads on a total of 6,258 acres were reduced by thinning and prescribed/managed fire this fiscal year.
 - All treatments are located near forest communities.
 - All mechanical treatments and prescribed fire treatments were within priority areas (CWPP)
 - Thinning prescriptions were aimed at moving towards conditions that could be maintained by fire.
 - Opportunities to use prescribed fire (or management of unplanned ignitions) as well as the success of fire management is increased by our activities.
 - The 4313 Acre Pino fire was proactively managed for resource objectives in the already prepped area in the planned Paliza burn area.
- All of above activities are aimed at making natural systems more resilient to future climate trends as well as climate events.
 - We are working with WildEarth Guardians to develop a proposal for funding in 2015 to plant climate adapted assemblages within burned areas.
- The SWJM CFLRP project partnered with Jemez Pueblo and T.C. Company through a Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) grant to remove and utilize small diameter trees from 784 acres thinned in 2011. The CFRP grant supported the creation of the *Walatowa Timber Industries, LLC*, a joint venture between T.C. Company and Jemez Pueblo Development Corporation. The goals of the Walatowa Timber Industries, LLC (WTI) are to create economic development in the Pueblo of Jemez and the surrounding community while restoring the landscapes that contain Jemez Pueblo ancestral lands. Establishing this viable point of utilization is critical to achieving the goals of the CFLR and the 10-year strategy within the SWJM. The VCNP has contracted thinning with Walatowa Timber Industries to thin its Bonco Bonito area and other thinning units to provide local jobs and wood to the local community including the Jemez Pueblo.
- We continue to address post-fire impacts within the Las Conchas and Thompson Ridge fire footprint to reduce damage to natural and cultural resources.

3. What assumptions were used in generating the numbers and/or percentages you plugged into the TREAT tool?

For FY14, TREAT results reflected data provided by the VCNP and SFNF and was paired with the dialogues with the local wood utilizers. Across both jurisdictions TREAT estimated a decrease in total jobs from all sectors from FY13 to FY14 from 144 jobs to 82 jobs representing a 43% decrease. FY14 total funding was more than in FY13 by \$1,202,559 or an increase of 26%. This decrease in total project jobs is likely a result of the dearth of NEPA-ready acres as both jurisdictions were completing landscape scale NEPA assessments. On-the-ground investments in FY14 were primarily focused on road preparation for treatments and watershed restoration treatments that did not generate substantial wood volumes, a main driver in the TREAT model.

Category	Santa Fe National Forest	Valles Caldera National Preserve	Notes
CFLN funding	\$2,184,997	\$421,651	Total CFLN funding by jurisdiction
All other funding	\$3,153,256		Access to detailed reporting at the VCNP was limited this year and a combined amount is being reported.
Force Account FTEs CFLN	7	7.4	Direct reporting from each jurisdiction.
Force Account FTEs non-CFLN	2.8	7.9	Direct reporting from each jurisdiction.
% for contracted work in landscape	Averaged based on reporting from each jurisdiction.		
% of Force Account implementation and monitoring	Averaged based on reporting from each jurisdiction.		
Contract funding distributions	Averaged based on reporting from each jurisdiction.		
Wood volume data (CCF)	4,670	3,615	Direct reporting from each jurisdiction.
Wood product categories	Based on dialogues with utilizers.		

FY 2014 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY14 CFLR/CFLN/ Carryover funding only):

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ⁷
Commercial Forest Product Activities	36.9	67.3	\$1,249,980	\$2,152,297
Other Project Activities	12.2	14.5	\$357,342	\$433,543
TOTALS:	49.2	81.8	\$1,607,321	\$2,585,839

⁷ Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet, "Impacts-Jobs and Income" tab. Spreadsheet and directions available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/submittingproposals.shtml#tools>.

FY 2014 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY14 CFLR/CFLN/ Carryover and matching funding):

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ⁸
Commercial Forest Product Activities	36.8	67.1	\$1,246,628	\$2,146,057
Other Project Activities	13.0	15.1	\$346,367	\$414,200
TOTALS:	49.8	82.2	\$1,592,995	\$2,560,258

4. Describe other community benefits achieved and the methods used to gather information about these benefits (Please limit answer to two pages).

Forest Guild worked with project partners and contractors on an assessment report in FY14. This report is based on data from the 2013 calendar year and was not reported in the FY13 Annual Report. A similar effort is underway to capture FY14 and it will be shared at the All-Hands Monitoring Meeting. Excerpts from this report in relation to thinning and wood processing contractors and restoration and monitoring contractors are provided here.

Thinning and Wood Processing

Only one thinning contractor completed a survey. One did not believe that he performed work during the survey period and another was identified only after the survey completion deadline.

TC Company reported mechanical thinning of 140 acres during calendar year 2013 (Los Indios Stewardship Contract for 174 acres total). Ninety percent (90%) of the material was claimed for value-added use, while 9.5% was masticated and left on site, and 0.5% was left for wildlife habitat. Five New Mexico based for-profit entities purchased the value added material, according to the following distribution:

- Taos County - 2%
- Bernalillo County - 5%
- Sandoval County - 69%
- Santa Fe County - 25%

Approximately 2,575 green tons of material was sold by TC Company, with approximately 2,000 tons being reserved for saw timber and higher value products and 575 tons for low value chips.

Additionally, the TC Company reported that it is virtually impossible to report on how the material was used, post-sale, and the location of the purchasers. His operation does not currently record that level of detail, and will not be doing so in the future. Only one secondary producer's material usage was included in the reporting. Walatowa Timber Industries, a partnership between TC Company and Jemez Pueblo, reported processing raw material into the following categories:

- Firewood - 4%
- Dimensional lumber - 31%
- Vigas - 19%
- Posts and poles - 11%
- Animal bedding - 6%
- Chips - 29%

⁸ Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet, "Impacts-Jobs and Income" tab. Spreadsheet and directions available at <http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/CFLR/submittingproposals.shtml#tools>.

Restoration and Monitoring

Identifying restoration and monitoring entities to survey was not as straightforward as anticipated. A number of contractors were unsure if the work they performed was part of the greater CFLRP. Additionally, a number of contractors did not undertake any work during calendar year 2013 because, according to them, cost-share agreements had not been finalized in time. Additional qualitative feedback indicated a concern for excessive reporting requirements and the potential for duplicative reporting.

The eight (8) restoration entities that completed the survey reported the following -

- Job types supported:
 - 45% forester/biologist/ecologist
 - 17% project managers
 - 17% graduate students
 - 13% equipment operators
 - 5% manual laborers
 - 5% field technicians
- Seven (7) full time equivalent (FTE) field jobs and .6 FTE non-field jobs supported
- Approximately 75% of funds supported labor while approximately 25% of funds supported non-labor costs
- Offsite work locations included the following:
 - Nevada
 - Texas
 - Santa Fe County, NM
 - Sandoval County, NM

Six respondents reported on how their non-labor costs were spent. The majority of non-labor funds were spent on travel. Four (4) companies reported spending 50% or more on travel while only one company reported spending 30% and another just 5%. Other non-labor costs included supplies, materials, equipment rental or maintenance, and overhead.

A further breakdown of travel costs attempts to quantify the local impact felt by the restoration efforts. Travel costs included per diem and fuel/vehicle costs. The vast majority of these funds were spent on fuel and vehicle costs, primarily in the local area.

The final question asked to help gauge the impact on the local community from restoration activities concerned material purchases and whether or not they were retail or wholesale transactions. Of the five (5) entities that responded to this question, 100% reported purchasing retail supplies for their effort.

Findings:

- There is significant confusion regarding what efforts are part of the CFLRP and should therefore be reported.
- Less work was completed during this time period than anticipated because agreements were not in place.
- Jobs reported are significantly lower than projected and reported by TREAT and in the FY2013 Annual Report.
- Only two off-site work locations were reportedly out of state.
- The majority of non-labor funds were spent on travel and the majority of those funds were spent locally.
- Restoration workers purchased supplies at retail outlets, benefiting the local economy.

5. Describe the multiparty monitoring, evaluation, and accountability process (please limit answer to two pages).

Multiparty Monitoring: The monitoring program for the Southwest Jemez Mountains CFLRP project is coordinated through the Valles Caldera Trust (VCT), Scientific Services Division, and the Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF). The Nature Conservancy (TNC) functions as a neutral party, compiling the monitoring data sets and holding an annual “all hands” meeting of collaborators to evaluate the project’s accomplishments, past and future. In addition to the VCT, SFNF, and TNC, our collaborators include Jemez Pueblo, Bandelier National Monument (National Park Service), the US Geological Survey’s Jemez Mountain Field Station and the USGS Fish & Wildlife Coop Unit at New Mexico State University, Hawks Aloft, the USDA Systematic Entomology Laboratory/Smithsonian Institution (SEL/SI), WildEarth Guardians, the Forest Guild, the New Mexico Environment Department, Los Amigos de Valles Caldera, Trout Unlimited, New Mexico Trout, the Albuquerque Wildlife Federation, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the Desert Research Institute (DRI), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), University of New Mexico, New Mexico Tech, Highlands University, Texas Tech University and the University of Arizona.

Youth Conservation Corps: The Jemez Ranger District again had a Forest Guild Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) crew consisting of 22 local youth and 1 trainer stationed at the District for 9 weeks in the summer. This has been occurring for the past 15 years. This year college credits and AmeriCorps awards were distributed. The Valles Caldera National Preserve also hosted a new Youth Conservation Corps crews from the WildEarth Guardians. Together these crews are supported by state, foundation, private and federal funds that include cash and in-kind funds. The VCNP and the SFNF often support these crews with training, materials, vehicles, and staff time. These YCC crews worked on a multitude of projects across the district such as fence repair, trail work, and arch site fuels removal.

Observed Ecological Shifts: As with last year, these monitoring observations fall under 3 categories: The first is **forest biomass (fuel) reduction** through thinning operations and prescribed fire. Initial prescriptions for thinning second-growth Ponderosa pine forests were simply defined as removing all trees <11” dbh. This effectively removed all trees <60 years old, eliminating those age classes. Prescriptions were modified in 2011 to remove most white fir, and leave

different age classes of aspen, Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine, as well as large logs that provide habitat for the endangered Jemez Mountains Salamander. Monitoring for responses of large mammals, birds, and vegetation to thinning operations continued in 2014, with control and treatment areas established and sampled before treatment, and data are being analyzed this fall and winter. Results of vegetation monitoring indicate steady increases in grasses and herbaceous wildflower species. Merriam's wild turkeys continue to use thinned areas for mating and foraging. Pre-treatment bird sites were sampled in 2012, and post-treatment sampling was conducted in 2013 and 2014; data are still be analyzed at the time of this report (Nov. 2014).

The second ecological monitoring shift observed was in **riparian areas** that were restored with woody shrubs and trees by our collaborators with WildEarth Guardians. Survival of plants set out in 2011 was only ~10%, due to the extreme drought of that year. Woody plants planted in 2012 and 2013 had much higher survivorship, and are thriving as of the date of this report (2014). Some of these areas were hit by floods following the Thompson Ridge fire in summer 2013, causing some mortality. Additional plantings are planned for 2015, and all will continue to be monitored.

The third major ecological shift was observed following **the Las Conchas wildfire** in summer, 2011, which burned ~30,000 acres of the project area, and **the Thompson Ridge wildfire** in 2013 that burned ~25,000 acres on the Valles Caldera National Preserve. Monitoring sites were established in burned and unburned grasslands, forests and streams, including many from before the fire. Monitoring results indicate that grassland vegetation recovered in <8 weeks for total cover, litter and bare ground, but that individual species exhibited significant increases/decreases in cover and height. Grassland pest insects (grasshoppers) were significantly reduced post-fire, but were recovering by late summer 2012 and during 2013, with nearly complete recovery in 2014; some other species of pest/beneficial grassland insects did not decline in burned sites. Grassland birds generally were less abundant, with fewer species in burned grasslands 1 and 2 years after the fire; some species (crows, sparrows) increased after the fire. Prairie dog populations in grasslands did not decline following the fire. Forest understory vegetation and forest-floor litter were significantly reduced by the fire, with concomitant increases in bare ground; however, by the end of 2014, herbaceous ground cover exceeded 80% in Ponderosa pine forests and over 85% in mixed-conifer stands that had suffered high-severity burns in 2011. Aspen sprouts were up to 4 m tall by September 2014 in some areas, but had been heavily browsed by elk and cattle in other areas. Forest birds remained abundant in both burned and unburned stands of Ponderosa pine and mixed-conifer, with 3 species significantly more abundant (Three-toed Woodpecker, American Robin, Mountain Bluebird); only two species significantly declined. Small mammals were generally unaffected by fire in the short term, as they sheltered underground during the fire; tree squirrels were killed by the fire. In 2013, populations of chipmunks and ground squirrels were in decline in burned forest stands, but deer mouse populations were growing. In 2014, the first sustainable populations of voles (*Microtus* spp.) were established in burned forests that are now montane meadows. Most forest invertebrates exhibited little impact from the fire, and were recovering quickly through 2013; moths were the exception, with significantly reduced species numbers and abundances. Flash floods in streams caused reductions of trout by 95%; however, native non-game fish survived in good populations, and were increasing in the absence of brown trout, their major predator. Ammonia concentrations likely caused the fish kills (streamwater ammonia was 2-3 times above the concentration needed for killing trout). Aquatic invertebrate assemblages survived the floods, and although reduced somewhat in species diversity and abundance, were found to be largely intact in 2012-2014. Water quality continues to suffer from high turbidity during and after spring snowmelt and summer thunderstorms in 2014.

6. FY 2014 accomplishments

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished ⁹	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹⁰
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience WTRSHD-RSTR-ANN	Acres	14,837.6 (14,997.9) ¹³	\$2,030,893	\$611,478 Partners in kind \$688,715 VCVC0614 1510 \$730,700 CFRR01614 0310
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	0	N/A	N/A
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	106	\$32,000	CFLN0614 0310
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	59.6 (139.6) ¹³	\$36,000	\$30,000 CFLN0614 0310 \$6,000 CFLN0614 1510
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	0	N/A	N/A
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	10,190 (10,270.3) ¹³	\$792,540	P3JC414 0310
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	0	N/A	N/A
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	0 (4.75) ¹³	\$10,000	Matching WEG 319 Money Los Amigos Volunteer Hours
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	4000	\$792,540	P3JC414 0310
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	482	\$40,000	P3JC414 0310
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN	Miles	34 ¹⁴ (48.6) ¹³	\$515,110	\$51,110 CFLN0614 1510 \$464,000 WFHF0613 0310
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	47 ¹⁴ (83) ¹³	\$540,000	\$55,000 VCVC0614 \$15,000 CFLN0614 1510 \$470,000 WFHF0613 0310
Miles of road decommissioned	Miles	0	\$73,260	CFLN0614 1510

⁹ Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record.

¹⁰ Please use a new line for each BLI or type of fund used. For example, you may have three lines with the same performance measure, but the type of funding might be two different BLIs and CFLR/CFLN.

¹³ The Measures were underreported in PAS due to the lack of the VCNP access into the Database of Record FACTS

¹⁴ This was over-reported in PAS and these are the actual number of miles.

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Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished ⁹	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹⁰
RD-DECOM		(19.8) ¹³		
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	47 ¹⁴	\$470,000	WFHF0613 0310
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	34 ¹⁴	\$510,000	WFHF0613 0310
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	0	N/A	N/A
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles	9.5	\$3,500	CFLN0613 0310
Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD	Miles	1.5	\$10,000	CFLN0613 0310
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT	Miles	5	\$44,862	CFLN0614 0310
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	0	N/A	N/A
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	1183	N/A	CFLN0613 0310
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	3,487.9 (4103.9) ¹³	\$80,000	CFLN0613 0310 CFLN01613 1510
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	10,463.6 (16,084.6) ¹³	N/A	N/A
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	0	N/A	N/A
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	8,431 (10,264) ¹³	\$1,796,120	P3JC414 0310 \$792,540 CFLN0613 1510 \$1,003,580
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSP-FED-AC	Acres	0	N/A	N/A

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished ⁹	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹⁰
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands SP-NATIVE-FED-AC	Acres	0	N/A	N/A

7. **FY 2014 accomplishment narrative** – Summarize key accomplishments and evaluate project progress. (Please limit answer to three pages.)

Santa Fe National Forest

Currently the Santa Fe National Forest is working on its Environmental Impact Statement which will cover the 110,000 acre project area and for approximately 30,000 acres of mechanical thinning and 77,000 acres of prescribed fire. The Forest completed its draft Record of Decision and Final EIS in July but is waiting for the Biological Opinion from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service prior to release of the documents. We thinned the remaining mechanical thinning NEPA shelf stock this year and have been treating activity fuels across the landscape. We are also working on the Pino area thinning units to have them marked in time for the signing of the EIS, and we are doing associated road work for these areas. Our stewardship contract is in the Regional Office for review currently and we are moving forward with that for award concurrent with the signing of our EIS.

Forest Thinning: The Santa Fe has thinned the 775 acres of shelf stock NEPA from other years and we currently are out of any NEPA ready areas for thinning ahead of the EIS. We are currently marking boundaries and laying out 3000 acres in high priority areas adjacent to the communities of La Cueva and Sierra de los Pinos for community protection. We have put money into a TEAMS contract while we continue to build our internal timber organization for marking with hiring of vacant positions.

Prescribed Fire: In 2014 we accomplished the 4, 31 acre Pino managed fire in the north footprint of our larger Paliza prescription fire, which was a huge success for the SW Jemez project and the Jemez District. This is a critical piece of the landscape protection of the community of Sierra de los Pinos. Part of the success of this burn was the burning of 530 acres of piles in the thinned areas on the northeast corner of the north block of Paliza. We had tried to get the south half of the Paliza Rx but did not have the conditions in place but we plan to burn this in 2015. In all we have burned 4,843 acres in 2014 between the Pino fire and the burning of our activity fuels on the district.

Road Maintenance and Decommission: Our road system is in extremely poor condition since we haven't had timber haul on it for more than 30 years and the geology of the area lends itself to highly erosive road conditions. We have taken steps to put money into our road system IDIQ for the main haul road of FR10. We have graveled this stretch of road in anticipation of the timber haul coming out of the Pino area. Further we have put the first couple of years proposed thinning units roads system into an IDIQ contract for roadwork.

Cultural Site Management and Arch Site Thinning: Since cultural resources protection is part of the purpose and need of SWJM we have a robust cultural protection arch-thinning program. The District has one of the highest site densities in the country with an estimated 4500 cultural sites in the SWJM project area. We thinned 140 sites on the west mesas of our project area in 2014 and have identified and assessed for fuels treatments another 500+ sites on the west mesa once we sign our EIS. Overall through the years we have thinned some 700 sites in the SWJM project area using various resources such as Hotshot crews and Veterans crew.

Valles Caldera National Preserve

NEPA: The Valles Caldera Trust completed the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision for the Landscape Restoration and Stewardship Plan. The preferred alternative was the “Collaborative Landscape Restoration Strategy and brought forward the proposed action/strategy developed in a three day workshop and submitted for funding under the CFLRP. The plan proposes over 21,000 acres of thinning, over 50,000 acres of prescribed burning, riparian and wetland restoration, road maintenance/repair/closure/decommissioning, noxious weed control, and post burn rehabilitation. Only one negative comment was received on the draft EIS which we attribute to the use of the collaborative process.

Forest Thinning: 1302 acres of thinning was awarded this fiscal year. This contract also included 19.8 miles of road closure/decommissioning and 14.6 miles of high clearance road repair and maintenance.

Prescribed Burning: A prescribed fire plan was approved for 818 acres of burning within completed thinning units. We did not have the right prescriptive condition to burn prior to the end of the fiscal year so the project will roll into FY15. We are preparing a prescribed burn plan for a grassland burn later in the season. We have increased our capacity for preparing and implementing prescribed burns through agreements with Bandelier and the City of Santa Fe Fire Department. We are also developing an agreement with the State of New Mexico to use inmate crews.

Riparian Restoration:

WildEarth Guardians:

- Planted approximately 24,000 native trees and native forage species including:
- Plantings covered 1.05 miles of stream
- Constructed three elk exclosures on Sulphur Creek to protected .4 miles of stream and 6 acres of wetland habitat from elk and livestock use
- Created 8 acres of wetland habitat in Redondo Meadow
- Converted 5,800 meters livestock fencing into wildlife friendly fencing
- Repaired and constructed 2,000 meters of livestock fencing
- Removed 4,800 meters of livestock fencing
- Conducted 40 acres of felling within burn perimeter of Thompson Ridge and Los Conchas
- Removed lower fencing for the 12 elk and livestock exclosures constructed for the Redondo Creek Riparian Restoration Project which were impacted by the Thompson Ridge fire.
- Harvested 50 lbs. of grass seed within the Valles Caldera National Preserve for future project use
- Removed 50 acres of weeds within the Valles Caldera National Preserve

Los Amigos De Los Valles Caldera:

- Completed 4.4 miles of riparian restoration and created/restored 80 acres of wetland
- Assessment of Valle Seco/Sulphur Creek for 2015 work, over 100 work sites identified for restoration.
- Annual monitoring of completed restoration work.
- VC02/04 intersection erosion gully work completed.
- Identification of work sites for proposed Indios 319 grant application.
- Work in lower San Antonio tributaries to treat channel erosion and re-establish wetland areas.
- Two volunteer workshops in lower San Antonio and one in Jaramillo to re-establish wetland areas, treat incised stream channels, and prevent bank erosion, fence cattle out of small sensitive wetland areas.

State of New Mexico Watershed Initiative:

- The State of New Mexico Watershed Initiative will be providing \$249,000 of cash and in-kind work (direct contract) on the VCNP over the next three years. This fiscal year we completed work planning and community meetings.

Road Maintenance/Repair/Closure/Decommissions: We have included 19.8 miles of road closure and decommissioning and 14.6 miles of maintenance on high clearance roads, in the thinning contract for Bonco Bonito. Soil monitoring shows a measurable level of disturbance present from historic logging/road building. We have been using the existing road network as skid trails in order to minimize new disturbance resulting from the forest treatments.

We completed road maintenance and repair on roads impacted by post burn flooding.

Noxious Weed Control: We have seen a boom in weed populations within the Las Conchas and Thompson Ridge fire areas. The EIS allows for over 1000 acres of herbicide treatment per year, at this time weeds are still occurring as points rather than extended over acres. Approximate 80 acres were treated with herbicide and 50 acres treated by hand/herbicide combination.

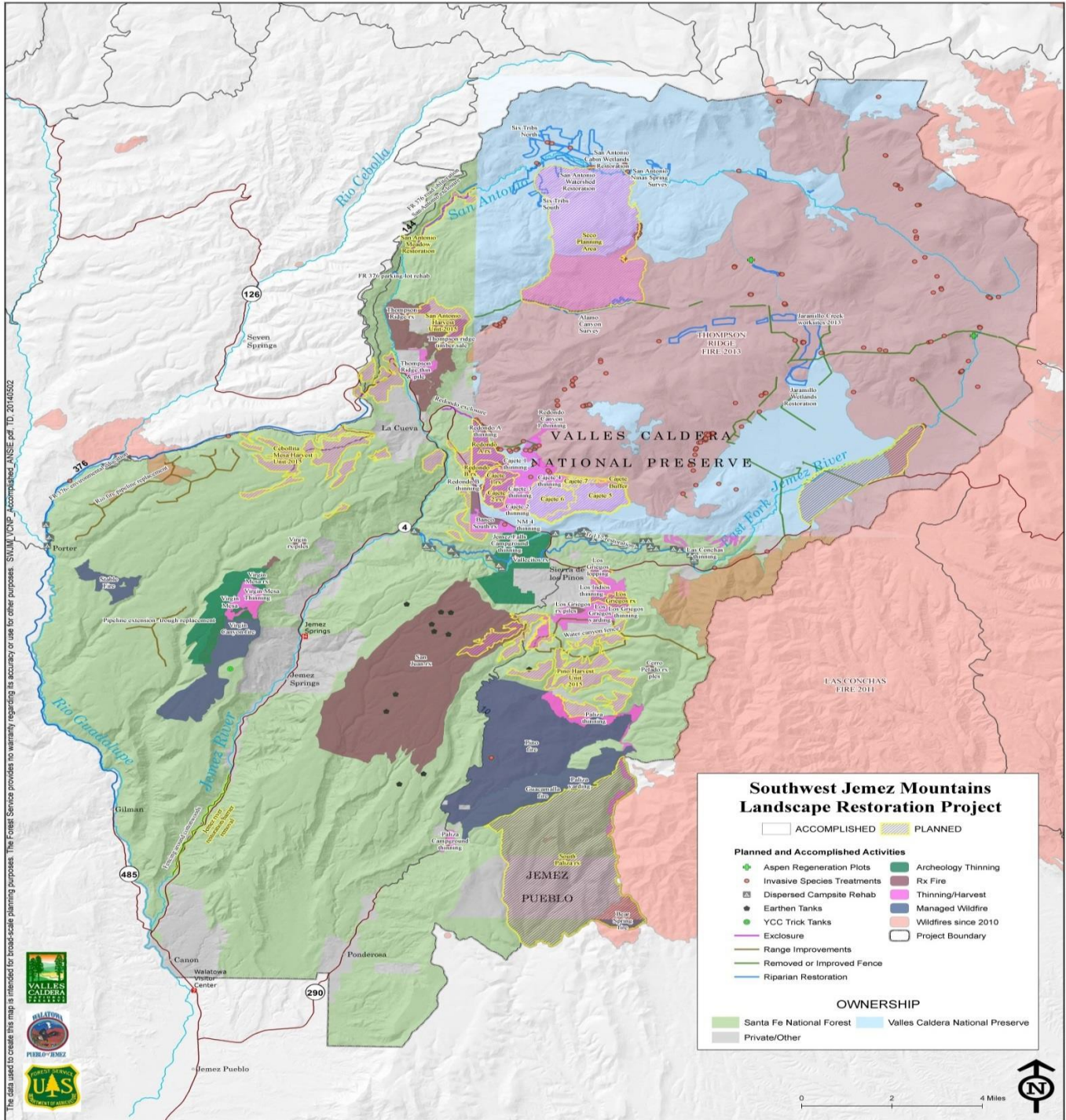
- Bull thistles >4000 treated
- Canada Thistles >2500 treated
- Musk Thistle > 1000 treated
- Oxeye Daisy > 1000 treated

Post-fire Rehabilitation: Post fire rehabilitation has been integrated into the riparian restoration and road maintenance activities especially the contour felling and noxious weed eradication described previously. We also wrapped up work authorized under the Burned Area Emergency Response to the Thompson Ridge fire:

- Finish installing road drainage structures (replace an undersized culvert and install additional rolling dips).
- Hazard sign installations around VCNP.

- Maintenance of erosion control features installed post-fire.
- 'Close-out' report presentation for VCT/SFNF

A map of our combined accomplishments and planning units to reference to Question #8 below:



8. Describe the total acres treated in the course of the CFLR project (cumulative footprint acres; not a cumulative total of performance accomplishments). What was the total number of acres treated?¹¹

Fiscal Year	Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint)
FY14	5,728
FY10, FY11, FY12, FY13 and FY14 (as applicable- projects selected in FY2012 may will not have data for FY10 and FY11; projects that were HPRP projects in FY12, please include one number for FY12 and one number for FY13 (same as above))	26,872

9. In no more than two pages (large landscapes or very active fire seasons may need more space), describe other relevant fire management activities within the project area (hazardous fuel treatments are already documented in Question #6):

The Santa Fe National Forest has fire suppression responsibilities on the both the 237,000 Jemez District and the 89,000 Valles Caldera National Preserve which causes a huge workload due to the complexity and fuel types and the proximity to Albuquerque and the large amounts of human caused fires. During May and June before monsoons hit the district is a mini city with up to 85 firefighters from other regions coming to help out with prevention and initial attack. This is a huge distraction from the prep CFLRP activities that they need to conduct to stay ahead of these activity fuels.

The wildfire activity on the VCNP was light this year with only - 5 lightning fires , < 1 acre each, and no human caused fires. Valles Caldera staff provided 66 person days of wild land fire support of the VCNP and provided facilities, GIS and communications support during the Pino incident.

10. Describe any reasons that the FY 2014 annual report does not reflect your project proposal, previously reported planned accomplishments, or work plan. Did you face any unexpected challenges this year that caused you to change what was outlined in your proposal? (please limit answer to two pages)

We have faced many challenges from the Los Conchas fire of 2011 to the Thompson Ridge fire of 2013 which have caused the staffs of both the Santa Fe and the Valles Caldera to work on these Type 1 and Type 2 fires. From the Santa Fe’s perspective the EIS being delayed has made the Planned FY 2014 Accomplishments significantly lower than expected with full suite of restoration work not yet occurring until mid-FY15. Another challenge has been the significant amount of employee turnover in positions key to the success of the project and our inability to quickly fill vacant positions at the District and Forest Level.

Considering the impact of the fires we (the Valles Caldera) are pleased with the progress in implementing the strategy. Following the completion of the EIS/ROD of decision we were able to double the number of acres awarded under thinning contracts. We have not seen the anticipated reduction in thinning rates (\$/acres), which may be limiting in achieving the overall number of acres. However, it is too soon to say we will not eventually see these rates go down. Contracts, grants and agreements continue to be processes that take an inordinate amount of time. A solicitation submitted in May does not get advertised until mid-August (over 100 days turn around). Grants and agreements are very time consuming to complete (two years to complete a Service First Agreement and participating Agency Agreement, Challenge-Cost Shares require close to a year and often months from submission of a package to receiving

¹¹ This metric is separate from the annual performance measurement reporting as recorded in the databases of record. Please see the instructions document for further clarification.

CFLRP Annual Report: 2014

comments. However, now that we have them in place they should serve to increase our capacity. We received only 7- comments on the draft EIS and only one negative comment. Other comments were positive, neutral or requests for some additional detail (to EPA, once the detail was provided their responded positively). We attribute this to the collaboration that took place in the development of the strategy.

The interest in the landscape through the collaboration has been beneficial beyond our expectations as we attract researchers, students and long-term substantive research projects. Having a long term commitment to implement projects is very attractive.

11. Planned FY 2016 Accomplishments

Performance Measure Code ¹²	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience WTRSHD-RSTR-ANN	Acres	45,000	\$4,000,000
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	0	N/A
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	4,500	\$2,250,000
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	Acre	200	\$80,000
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands INVSPE-TERR-FED-AC	Acres	0	N/A
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	30,000	\$1,000,000
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-LAK	Acres	0	N/A
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-STRM	Miles	10	\$80,000
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	18,000	\$800,000
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved RG-VEG-IMP	Acres	20,000	\$400,000
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance RD-HC-MAIN	Miles	80	\$300,000
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance RD-PC-MAINT	Miles	40	\$150,000
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles	20	\$300,000
Miles of passenger car system roads improved RD-PC-IMP	Miles	20	\$100,000

¹² Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2016 is available. Use actual planned funding if quantity is less than specified in CFLRP project work plan, and justify deviation from project work plan in question 13 of this template.

Performance Measure Code ¹²	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Miles of high clearance system road improved RD-HC-IMP	Miles	20	\$150,000
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage STRM-CROS-MTG-STD	Number	0	N/A
Miles of system trail maintained to standard TL-MAINT-STD	Miles	5	\$7,500
Miles of system trail improved to standard TL-IMP-STD	Miles	4	\$10,000
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard LND-BL-MRK-MAINT	Miles	5	\$20,000
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	0	N/A
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	0	N/A
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	40,000	\$4,000,000
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	Green tons	30,000	\$1,000,000
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	0	N/A Entire project WUI
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	16,000	\$900,000
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands SP-INVSP-FED-AC	Acres	0	N/A
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands SP-NATIVE-FED-AC	Acres	0	N/A

12. Planned FY 2016 accomplishment narrative (no more than 1 page):

By 2016 both the Valles Caldera NP and the Santa Fe NF will be at full implementation mode with the mechanical thinning of up to 4500 acres between the two agencies and the burning of at least 4500 acres of activity fuels as well. Landscape Rx burns could potentially be up to 15,000 acres a year if smoke issues can be mitigated and using the proper ventilation windows. We hope by 2016 that treatments (through a stewardship contract and prescribed fire program) to reduce wildfire risk will have started to show positive effects at a landscape scale across our project area. We also hope by then to build enough local industry capacity with the guarantee of a 10 year stewardship contract to realize decreased project costs across north central New Mexico.

13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2015/16 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):

We should be in-line with the strategy provided that moneys carry over. We are working through the challenges that working in an area with an active fire season presents as we must all drop our SW Jemez CFLRP work and focus on the fires and the BAER rehab work. This has slowed our progress considerably across both agencies. The VCNP has a signed EIS so they will be ahead of the game for FY15 and the SFNF hopes to have its EIS signed in March of 2015 and start thinning the high priority Pino just south of the WUI Community of Sierra De Los Pinos. We will also be conducting meadow and watershed restoration projects in the project area and decommissioning roads up to 30 miles a year.