

Responses to the prompts on this work plan should be typed directly into this template

1. Describe the manner in which the proposal will be implemented to achieve ecological and community economic benefit, including capacity building to accomplish restoration.

The Shortleaf Bluestem Community (SBC) CFLRP Project on the Ouachita will accelerate the on-going 20-year effort to restore the 350,000 acre shortleaf pine-bluestem landscape in west-central Arkansas. This restoration effort requires periodic thinnings, wildlife stand improvement, followed by frequent burning intervals. Maintenance of the system would additionally involve occasional regeneration along with the above treatments. Desired condition is mature shortleaf pine and scattered oaks in the overstory and bluestem grasses and other “prairie” species forming the ground layer. Currently, over 250,000 acres within the project are NEPA ready, with an additional 35,000 acres undergoing NEPA analysis. The remaining acres should have NEPA completed with 3-5 years, allowing restoration work to begin.

In addition to the above activities, we plan to our activities will involve old growth woodland restoration for both pine and hardwood within the project area. We will be conducting NNIS surveys and treating infestations, along with reestablishing native plants, concentrating on milkweed reestablishment within the pine bluestem landscape. Also, timber stand improvement and regeneration activities, T&E habitat enhancement, assisting with prescribed burning on adjacent state lands, and hydrological restoration, including fireline rehabilitation with native seed mix, road closures and decommissioning, road and trail improvement and maintenance, and stream restoration.

This project will work toward restoring both the ecological and economic balance in the Ouachita Mountains. Local communities will benefit with an increase in timber production and related jobs that they depend on for income. Restoration improves habitat for game such as quail, deer and turkey, with increased hunting comes increased revenue to local economies. Prescribed fire crews add their incomes to local communities and this adds or supports service jobs. Increased prescribed burning also decreases the threat of catastrophic fires that damage timber and negatively impacts water resources.

The workforce and timber industry infrastructure is in place in the Ouachita Mountains to accomplish restoration through stewardship contracts, local timber purchasers, multi-year contracts (IDIQ), along with CCS, MOUs, and Interagency Agreements. Additionally, the forest will add additional firefighters, YCC crews, Job Corps, and local students. Contracts with TNC, Audubon, NWTF, and others will help achieve our implementation and monitoring goals.

With CFLRP funding only (excluding all matching funds and in-kind contributions), it is projected that 139 additional jobs would be created in timber and restoration related activities based on TREAT analysis. This includes 103 commercial forest product jobs, 36 jobs from other project activities, and 36 jobs from Forest Service implementation and monitoring.

2. Anticipated unit treatment cost reduction over the life of the project:

Performance Measure Code	Average Historic Unit Cost	Cost Reduction per Unit	Assumptions
FOR-VEG-EST	\$200/ac	\$0	Do not anticipate a reduction in cost.
FOR-VEG-IMP	\$150/ac	\$10-\$50	Reduction in cost per acre will occur as maintenance continues. Assumes biomass market will be up and running within 3-5 years.
INVPLT-NXWD-FED-AC	\$300/ac	\$50	As treatment continues beyond initial investment, populations will be reduced, thus resulting in lower cost per acre for treatment.
HBT-ENH-TERR	\$150/ac	\$10-\$50	Reduction in cost per acre will occur as maintenance continues. Assumes biomass market will be up and running within 3-5 years.
RD-HC-MAIN	\$200/mi	\$0	No cost reductions are expected
RD-PC-MAINT	\$600/mi	\$0	No cost reductions are expected
RD-DECOM	\$1000/mi	\$0	No cost reductions are expected. Once road is decommissioned, no additional costs involved.
RD-PC-IMP	\$80,000/mi	\$0	No cost reductions are expected
RD-HC-IMP	\$60,000/mi	\$0	No cost reductions are expected
TL-MAINT-STD	\$250/mi	\$0	Do not anticipate a reduction in cost.
TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC			Included in TMBR-VOL-SLD below. No cost reductions are expected
TMBR-VOL-SLD	\$24/CCF	\$0/CCF	No cost reductions are expected
BIO-NRG	\$0	Unknown	Bio-energy is timber sales, WSI, and TSI implementation by-product. Sale of biomass could be used to offset treatment costs
FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	\$30/ac	\$0-5	Cost reduction is based on maintenance of treated areas. Fire resources needed for maintenance burning may decrease due to lower fuel loading and holding crew costs.
FP-FUELS-WUI	\$30/ac	\$0-5	Cost reduction is based on maintenance of treated areas. Fire resources needed for maintenance burning may decrease due to lower fuel loading and holding crew costs.

3. Anticipated costs for infrastructure needed to implement project:

Type of Infrastructure	Anticipated Cost	Funding Source (federal, private, etc)
Temporary roads	\$1,000,000	Federal
Biomass power plant, Poteau, OK	\$5,000,000 – \$15,000,000	Private, Federal, State

4. Projected sustainability of the supply of woody biomass and small diameter trees removed in ecological restoration treatments:

Fiscal Year	Number of acres to be treated	Projected Green Tons Removed per Acre	Total Green Tons Available
2012			0
2013			0
2014			0
2015			0
2016	5,000	2	10,000
2017	7,000	2	14,000
2018	10,000	2	20,000
2019	10,000	2	20,000

5. Projected local economic benefits:

Anticipated CFLR Funds:

Type of projects	Direct jobs	Total jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ¹
Commercial Forest Products	43.8	102.9	\$2,279,716	\$4,692,420
Other Project Activities	27.6	35.6	\$1,051,068	\$1,350,052
TOTALS:	71.3	138.6	\$3,330,784	\$6,042,472

Anticipated Total Funds:

Type of projects	Direct jobs	Total jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ²
Commercial Forest Products	111.6	262.6	\$5,816,181	\$11,970,796
Other Project Activities	65.0	83.7	\$2,408,839	\$ 3,107,397
TOTALS:	176.6	346.3	\$8,225,019	\$15,078,192

¹ Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet. See instruction document for more details.

² Values obtained from Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT) spreadsheet. See instruction document for more details.

6. Document the anticipated non-Federal investment in the priority landscape. These funds may be spent on or off National Forest system lands:

Source of Investment	Amount of Investment	Description of Use	Will these funds be used on NFS lands?
TNC, Arkansas Heritage	\$30,000	Monitor Vegetation	Yes
Audubon Arkansas	\$10,000	Monitor Birds and I&E	Yes
Schools, Public	\$5,000	Seed collection and milkweed reestablishment	Yes
Local High Schools	\$2,000	Seed collection and milkweed reestablishment	Yes
Sebascott Economic Dev.	\$10,000	Economics	Yes
National Wild Turkey Foundation	\$30,000	Turkey Research	Yes
AGFC	\$105,4000	Turkey Research	Yes
Arkansas State University	\$37,696	Turkey Research	Yes
Arkansas Trail Blazers	\$16,000	Trail reconstruction and relocation, trailhead	Yes
Ouachita ATV Club	\$16,000	Trail reconstruction and relocation, trailhead	Yes
Arkansas Wildlife Federation	\$15,000	WSI	Yes
ODWC	\$540,000	Prescribed burning, RCW habitat improvement	No, but FS surrounds state lands
Scott County	\$100,000	Road maintenance	Yes
Monarch Watch	\$10,000	Seed collection and milkweed reestablishment	Yes
McCurtain County	\$60,000	Road maintenance	Yes

7. Plans to decommission any temporary roads established to carry out the proposal:

Projected accomplishment year (fiscal)	Number of Miles to be Decommissioned
2012	0
2013	10
2014	10
2015	10
2016	10
2017	15
2018	15
2019	15