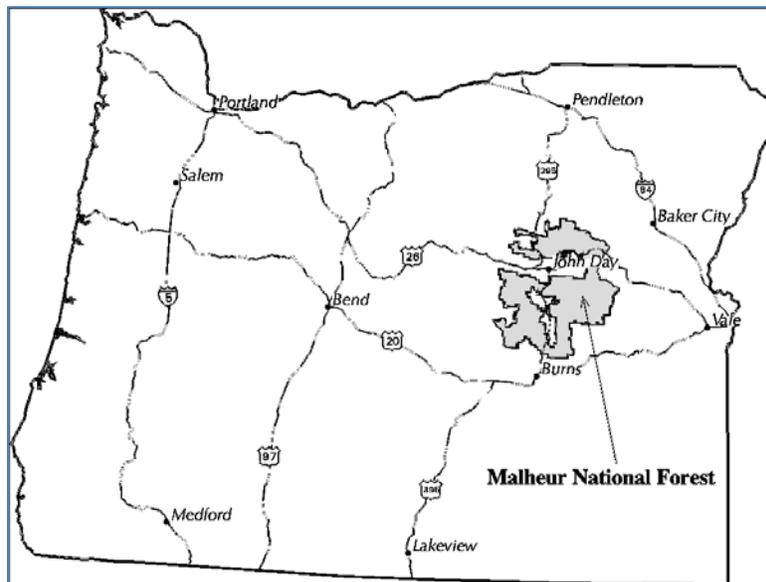




Malheur National Forest

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Proposal



May, 2010

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Proposed Treatment

The Blue Mountains Forest Partners, Harney County Restoration Collaborative and the Malheur National Forest (MNF) have combined their common priorities and investments for this Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP) proposal. The goal is to promote and accomplish collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration on National Forest System (NFS) lands on the Malheur National Forest (referred to as the Proposal Area).

The MNF is faced with significant management challenges to modify current vegetative conditions and accomplish restoration objectives. Approximately 75% (286,000 acres) of the Proposal Area is classified as Fire Regime 1, which historically had high frequency fire. About 115,000 acres is in Condition Class 2 or 3. These areas are at high risk for uncharacteristic severe fire behavior.

There is an ever-pressing responsibility to improve threatened and endangered species habitat and restore key watersheds and stream functions. Conditions have been degraded by historical uses including mining, harvesting, roads, grazing, water diversions, and fire suppression. These activities have resulted in multi-storied stands of tree species not characteristic of historic conditions, and are not ecologically sustainable.

Another challenge is the high unemployment and declining social and economic conditions in Grant and Harney counties. Local firms or firms that hire local loggers, truck drivers, mills, and contractors have provided the infrastructure for accomplishing much of the restoration activities on the Forest. These employers, employees, and associated businesses, and the social/economic health of communities, are at risk and affected by changes in National Forest management.

The Proposal Area totals about 625,000 acres which includes 478,000 acres of National Forest System lands, 18,000 acres of BLM managed public lands, 126,450 acres of private lands, 1,800 acres of Burns Paiute Tribal lands, and 400 acres of State of Oregon lands. The Proposal Area is located approximately 10 miles south of John Day, Oregon. The Strawberry Mountains form the northern boundary of the Proposal Area and contain the headwaters of the Malheur River. The southern boundary encompasses the headwaters of the Silvies River, which drains to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Highway 395, a major transportation corridor from John Day to Burns (70 miles), intersects the Proposal Area (See Map 1 in Maps Section).

This proposal comprises 86% of the planning areas (Emigrant East and Grant County) currently under consideration by two active collaboration groups working with the MNF: Blue Mountains Forest Partners, located in John Day focusing on projects in Grant County; and Harney County Restoration Collaborative, based in Burns working on proposals in Harney County. The groups share some common membership, but maintain distinct identities.

Our shared vision with these groups and local communities is of restored landscapes and sustainable ecosystems resilient to uncharacteristic wildfire and adaptive to disturbance regimes and climatic influences. Whole watersheds are healthy, functional and provide a diversity of native aquatic, wildlife, and plant habitats and species. Wood products and contracting

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infrastructures are viable and responsive to existing and new opportunities for restoration-based industries. Visitors and residents enjoy dispersed recreation, local history and traditional cultures and contribute to the health of the whole ecosystem, including the social and economic well-being of surrounding communities. Through collaborative processes and adaptive learning, the MNF and partners use science-based decision-making to support and foster landscape-scale approaches to restoration.

There are four restoration **goals** tiered to this shared vision: 1) Restore landscape resiliency by increasing our ability to achieve multiple objectives in vegetation and fuels, maintain or restore high priority watersheds and riparian sites to healthy condition; 2) Improve collaborative and social capacity by focusing on large landscape-scale areas where we have collaborative support and emphasize building trust and common ground to create a path to restore more complex areas; 3) Increase economic and organizational capacity by maintaining a sustainable flow of work and outcomes, and contribute to retaining current infrastructure, supporting new and emerging markets, and local economic benefits; and 4) Ensure efficiency and effectiveness by linking restoration of landscapes across all land ownerships and demonstrating a logical progression across the landscape with all partners.

There are multiple treatment objectives to meet the restoration goals. Fuel treatment objectives are to reduce surface, ladder, and crown fuels. Vegetation treatment objectives are to reduce stand density, reduce insect risk, and improve growth and health of forest stands.

Watershed/aquatic objectives are to protect existing high quality habitats and address limiting factors including fish passage barriers, altered hydrology and sediment routing, degraded floodplains, riparian communities, stream channels, water quality, and flow. Wildlife and plant objectives are to maintain and increase old and warm dry forests, aspen, mountain mahogany, cottonwood habitats and to reduce invasive plant species and control and/or eliminate exotic aquatic species.

Primary forest restoration treatments will focus on removal of biomass and small diameter trees, to maximize large tree retention. Consequently, an important objective for vegetation and fuel activities is to utilize wood fiber in the form of saw timber, biomass, and associated wood products. An objective for all restoration activities is to contribute to local employment and integrate multiple outcomes in a cost-effective manner, consistent with the various resource objectives, environmental standards, and contracting authorities.

The overall desired outcome for the Proposal Area is that all lands are at lower risk for losing key ecosystem components. Specific desired outcomes are:

1. Reduced fire risk in wildland-urban interface areas, Increased forest stands in Condition Class 1 (low severity, high frequency fire regime) Restored single stratum stand structure in ranges of variability and resiliency with reduced crown fire
2. Minimized conditions for uncharacteristically severe insect and disease outbreaks
3. Improved air quality and human health by reducing smoke from wildfires
4. Improved habitat for a diversity of wildlife species
5. Enhanced ability to recover threatened and endangered species and their habitat
6. Improved watershed, riparian, aquatic health and water quantity and quality

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7. Native aquatic species are enhanced
8. Local job retention and creation of new industries
9. Creation and maintenance of infrastructure as a tool to assist forest management
10. Increased ecological, social and economic adaptive actions that address climate change

The [Malheur National Forest Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Strategy](#) prioritizes the strategic placement of treatments over a 10-year period and will be used as a roadmap (Click the link above for the MNF Landscape Strategy). When coupled with restoration activities, following this road map will contribute to whole watershed restoration of the entire Proposal Area. Based on our collaborative experience, the MNF expects to treat 30-50% of the Proposal Area. Without CFLRP proposal funding, the Forest will only be able to treat approximately 12% of the Proposal Area within 10 years.

Implementation of *Grant and Harney County Community Wildfire Protection Plans* will strategically place escapement corridors, treat wildland urban interfaces, modify uncharacteristic wildfire behavior, and increase forest health and resiliency to climate change. The Forest and its collaborative groups have used fire behavior modeling software provided by The Nature Conservancy. This software assists in designing projects which strategically locates treatment sites that contribute to controlling fire behavior on the landscape.

There are completed NEPA decisions for Canyon Creek, 16 Road Stewardship, and Knox Stewardship projects. From those decisions 8,356 acres of thinning, 420 acres of burning, and eight miles of road decommissioning/closures have been implemented. To fully implement these decisions an additional 500 acres of thinning, 12,000 acres of burning, 3.5 miles of road decommissioning and 25 miles of road closures needs to be accomplished. By 2015, 377,000 acres or 80% of the total Proposal Area will have collaboratively developed NEPA decisions. Refer to the Landscape Strategy section for a complete list of projects by year. Anticipated projects with expected NEPA decision dates and total project acres are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 – Projects in Proposal Area	NEPA	Total Project Acres
Canyon Creek, 16 Road, Knox	Complete	21,276
Damon, Jane	2010	52,000
Starr, Soda Bear, Marshall Devine	2011	91,000
Upper Pine, Antelope, Elk 16	2012	85,000
Summit, Sage Hen, Wolf	2013	60,000
Upper Bear, Lake Creek, Cliff, Rattlesnake	2015	89,000

A variety of ecological restoration activities will occur in the Proposal Area, including vegetation treatments (commercial and pre-commercial thinning, biomass removal), fuels treatments (whole tree yarding, grapple pile, hand pile, jackpot burning, underburning); aspen and cottonwood restoration (thinning of conifers, riparian fencing, hinging); riparian, aquatic, watershed and wildlife habitat improvements (road closures and decommissioning, remove/replace stream barriers, remove exotic species, provide screens on diversions, improve road drainage, large wood additions, noxious weed treatments, wetland/meadow enhancement, hardwood plantings,

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log weirs, and in-stream structures). Table 2 summarizes activities planned for accomplishment in 10-years.

Activities-Mechanism (Measure)	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	10 years
Commercial Thin- Timber Sale & IRTC(Acres)	0	6,600	3,850	4,700	6,000	6,250	7,500	4,750	2,500	2,225	44,375
Commercial Thin/Biomass - IRSC Acres	0	3,400	4,650	5,300	6,000	6,250	7,500	4,750	2,500	2,225	42,575
Pre-commercial Thin and Biomass -IRSC, Service (Acres)	287	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	12,887
Underburning-Service, Agency (Acres)	0	2000	3000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	54,000
Roads decommission/ - Service (Miles)	0	0	14	21	28	28	28	28	28	28	203
Fish passage /instream improvements & exotics – Agency, Service(Miles)	5	0	5	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	73
Aspen protect & restore-Service, Volunteer (Acres)	0	100	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	1,700
Wildlife forage enhancement-Service, Agency (Acres)	0	1,700	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200	19,300
Creation of Large Wood in Riparian-Agency, Service(Miles)	0	0	5	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
Riparian Planting/Fencing-Service (Miles)	0	0	3	3	6	10	10	10	10	10	62
Noxious Weeds –Agency (Acres)	0	100	100	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	1,600

The Forest will use all available tools to implement planned treatments (i.e. Healthy Forest Restoration Act, stewardship, agreements, service contracts and timber sales, etc.) The treatments are strategically located to compliment restoration activities undertaken by adjacent tribal, federal, state, and private landowners. Tools available for private lands include: Oregon Department of Forestry’s Stewardship Cost Share Program; County Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board grants.

The Forest is working in partnership with research stations, universities, and collaboration groups to leverage resources to perform long-term monitoring and establish protocols for multi-party monitoring efforts (See Collaboration section). Based on the implementation schedule, monitoring will occur over several years, beginning in 2010. Monitoring will occur before, during, and after project implementation for the following areas: vegetation and fuels (i.e., ensure pre-harvest compliance with prescriptions and post-harvest conditions); fire (i.e., effective ground cover, fuel reduction, mortality and crown scorch); and wildlife (snags and down woody validation and effects to goshawk nesting). Habitat specific monitoring includes aspen stands (i.e., effectiveness of protection measures); watershed and aquatics (i.e., monitor best management practices, fish distribution, sediment transport and temperature.); visual quality related to timber harvest and prescribed burning; forage recovery after prescribed burning; and identifying any spread of noxious weed sites. Success will be measured by monitoring to determine whether we have achieved the desired outcomes listed above.

Malheur National Forest - Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Ecological Context – Page 1

Ecological Context

Currently, within the Proposal Area many landscape and forest stand-level species compositions, structures and stand densities have been modified by past logging, fire suppression, grazing, road building, and invasive plants. There has been a reduction of large (20 inches DBH and greater) and medium (15 to 20 inches DBH) trees across the landscape. Warm and dry, old forest single-story (OFSS) has been greatly reduced from pre-1900 levels. The amount of old moist and old cold forests is believed to be within the range of what occurred historically on the landscape, although there have been shifts from single-layer to multi-layer conditions in the dryer end of these environments. Based on current data, 54% of the dry forests on the MNF are currently in the high stocking class.

There have been increases in susceptibility, duration, extent, and severity of disturbances from bark beetles, defoliators, mistletoe, and root diseases due to changes in species composition, stand densities, and structure (Schmitt and Scott 2008). There is also a continued loss of high elevation whitebark pine and isolated populations of western white pine due to blister rust and beetles. Recent modeling of the potential mortality from disturbances from insects and disease indicates that approximately 30% of the forested stands on the MNF (including the Proposal Area) have the potential to lose over 25% of the total volume in the next 10 years.

Changes in forest composition, structures, and densities have resulted in reduced habitat for some wildlife species, and increased occurrence of severe disturbances. Multi-layer stands have contributed to the increased susceptibility to severe fires and insect and disease attacks. Aspen and hardwood presence, abundance and vigor have been reduced by the encroachment of conifers, lack of fire disturbance and utilization by ungulates.

Past activities have affected water quality and watershed function. Most watersheds have high road densities (greater than 2.4 miles per square mile) with increased sediment delivery from road surfaces, drainage features, and road-stream crossings. Roads in riparian areas provide substantial sediment delivery to stream channels.

Approximately 125 miles of streams are listed (303(d) DEQ List) as not meeting water quality criteria due to elevated stream temperatures and high bacteria levels. However, fewer than 100 stream miles on the Forest are listed due to excess stream sedimentation. The flow regimes of many streams are affected by dams and water diversions. Removal of instream wood, changes in channel morphology, loss of floodplain connectivity, and alteration and loss of riparian vegetation have all contributed to declines in water quality.

Within the Proposal Area, there are 2,300 miles of high clearance roads and 260 miles of passenger car roads and 3,600 culverts. Of the 2,200 miles of streams, 1,200 miles flow through one or more culverts. There has been an active culvert replacement program on the Forest to meet fish passage standards.

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Ecological Context – Page 2

New permanent road construction has markedly declined and the current transportation system includes a backlog of maintenance needs. The average annual allocated road maintenance budget for the past three years was \$100,000 within the Proposal Area. The total backlog of deferred maintenance is \$3,000,000. The deferred maintenance includes aggregate replacement, drainage on level 2 (high clearance roads), road brushing and culvert replacements. Over the life of the project, it is expected that a minimum 200 miles of road will be analyzed for decommissioning or closure to help benefit aquatics and wildlife.

A large portion of the Forest is characterized as susceptible to invasive plants (Quigley and Arbelbide 1996). The current level of invasive plant species on the entire MNF is about 55,000 acres. An example of an invasive species of concern is an insect, the balsam woolly adelgid affecting 40,000 to 60,000 acres per year in the Blue Mountains from 2005 to 2006, and causing substantial mortality in high-elevation true firs. Several localized outbreaks of Western Spruce Budworm are within the Proposal Area. In the past three years approximately 21,000 acres within the Proposal Area have been continuously subjected to Western Spruce Budworm attack. Within these areas incidental mortality is occurring and with continued attack more wholesale mortality would be expected in stands dominated by Grand Fir and those with a mixed Grand Fir/Douglas Fir component.

The Proposal Area also includes 3 species (gray wolf, bull trout, mid-Columbia steelhead) listed under the Endangered Species Act by either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service. In addition, designated Critical Habitat for Bull Trout, Mid-Columbia River Steelhead, and Essential Fish Habitat (Magnuson-Stevens Act) for Chinook salmon, is present.

Ecological adaptation is a focus of restoration treatments in this area. Climate change is expected to increase temperatures and decrease overall precipitation. Additionally, during the winter in lower elevations, precipitation will fall as rain rather than snow resulting in the disappearance of snow pack. At higher elevations snow packs may decline by up to 65%. Spring runoff will be earlier with lower late season water flows. There will be an increased likelihood of rain-on-snow floods, with higher flood peaks, and extended drought risk. Research indicates a potential for reduction in habitat for cold-water fish species (ISAB 2007). There is expected to be an alteration of disturbance regimes with increased fire severity and frequency of insect and disease outbreaks.

Restoration projects will incorporate ecological adaptive strategies by favoring species that are better adapted to the expected climate. Projects focus on: creating lower stand densities, especially in areas that are uncharacteristically dense; reducing multi-layer stands; emphasis on retaining early seral tree species (ponderosa pine and larch); and creating a greater portion of the landscape with larger diameter overstory trees along with reduced amounts of smaller diameter understory.

Following forest restoration activities, the distribution, abundance, and density of forest structural conditions will be more resilient, sustainable, and compatible with natural disturbance

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Ecological Context – Page 3

processes. Large and medium size trees will be more common across the landscape, and uncharacteristically high tree density will be reduced. Spatial and temporal landscape patterns resulting from restored vegetation structures will provide connectivity (wildlife corridors) allowing wildlife to move across landscapes. Aspen and hardwood sites will be improved through the removal of encroaching conifers, protection from ungulates and, where appropriate, the reintroduction of natural disturbances such as fire.

Restoration projects that reduce forest stand density, restore historic structure, and encourage fire and drought resistant tree species are expected to result in endemic levels of insect and disease disturbances that fulfill their natural role by creating diverse landscapes and important habitat components, such as hollow trees, dead wood, and snag patches. Forest stand conditions favor normal populations that are within the range of variability, given the current and projected climate conditions.

Restoration activities will result in “right-sizing” the road system associated with projects, creating a road system that is safe and responsive to public needs and desires, affordable and efficiently managed, has minimal effects on aquatic and terrestrial systems, and is in balance with available funding. As a result of restoration activities, road densities are at an appropriate level to meet resource concerns. Also, through the implementation of best management practices, monitoring, and remediation, restoration projects are expected to control the introduction and spread of invasive exotic species. With proposed restoration, no additional fish, plant or wildlife species are expected to be listed, and the status of existing species will be on an upward trend.

Malheur National Forest - Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Collaboration – Page 1

Collaboration

Convened in 2006, Blue Mountains Forest Partners (BMFP) is a partnership of diverse interests who have come together with a mission to enhance forest ecosystem health, economic opportunities, and public safety in Grant County, Oregon. BMFP was organized by Grant County residents with assistance from Sustainable Northwest. Participants include elected officials, the local forest products sector, local and regional conservation organizations, forest contractors, county organizations, community residents, landowners, ranchers, and state, tribal and federal land management agency representatives.

Harney County Restoration Collaborative (HCRC), convened in 2008 with assistance from Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council working with the Governor's Oregon Solutions Team. HCRC is comprised of Harney and Grant County residents, ranchers, conservation organizations, city, county, and federal government officials, timber products representatives, and representatives from the Oregon Governor's office. The goals of the HCRC include restoration of forest health and the return of natural ecosystem processes enhanced and improved community economic resiliency, improved efficiency and efficacy of federal, state and local agencies to carry out their missions, enhanced social capacity to solve problems in ways that build and sustain desired environmental, economic and community conditions.

To date, the two collaborative organizations have created manuals that outline modes of operation for the organization and participating members as well as a group decision making process. Both groups have operating and decision-making processes that ensure open, transparent, and inclusive involvement and consensus-based decision making. They have created governance and project level committees, have secured paid staff support, and rely on volunteers and in-kind contributions of participating organizations to design, implement, and monitor projects. Additionally, both organizations have close working relationships with personnel in the Forest Service and information is shared between all organizations.

BMFP and HCRC have successfully developed and planned forest restoration projects covering 58,000 acres. Project accomplishments include:

- Blue Mountains Forest Partners: The Dad's Creek project (7,000 acres) was designed to protect lives and property within the adjacent wildland urban interface, and was identified in the Grant County Community Fire Protection Plan. The Dad's Creek project has sold and implementation will take place in the near future. The Damon project (20,000 acres), located within the WUI proposes thinning of timber stands to reduce fire hazard, insect and disease risk, and enhance old-growth; treat slash with mechanical and prescribed; restore riparian and stream function; and reduce road and weeds impacts. A decision on the Damon Project is anticipated in May 2010.

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- Harney County Restoration Collaborative: In March of 2009 the HCRC participants gathered to sign a Declaration of Cooperation. Each of the participating stakeholders signed statements of support that will offer multiple benefits for the citizens of Harney County, including wildfire risk reduction, increased forest health, local jobs, as well as improving water resources, and fish and wildlife habitat. The HCRC recently reached consensus on prescriptions for treatments involving 14,000 acres within the 32,000 acre Jane Project. The Jane Project Environmental Assessment is currently out for review and objection period closes in June 2010. The collaborative group is now focusing on a second planning area of similar size, known as the Marshall Devine Project.

Recently, the collaborative groups completed work on a large landscape approach to planning treatment projects on the Malheur called the “Bigger Look”. With facilitation by The Nature Conservancy, BMFP and HCRC created sets of ecological, social and economic values that were mapped on the Malheur to determine areas of importance for the collaborative groups. The Bigger Look encompasses the area proposed in the CFLRP. A major strength of this proposal is that the Bigger Look and the Forest Service’s 10 year management plan for the CFLRP overlap and have strong similarities.

To better understand the on-the-ground results of the projects the organizations have planned, and to increase the effectiveness of future projects, both collaborative groups are currently working to develop a multi-party monitoring protocol in consultation with the MNF. The multi-party monitoring process, is complementary and in coordination with the current MNF monitoring , and will evaluate the effectiveness of project activities on achieving ecological, social, and economic objectives.

Phase I of the multi-party monitoring protocol will include a facilitated process to determine: 1) What project activities will be monitored; 2) What type of data is needed to determine project impacts; 3) Best methods and processes for data collection, including needed level of rigor and use of existing data collection activities; 4) How data collected will be analyzed and used to inform adaptive management strategies for current and future project implementation; and 5) How results will be shared with local and distant interested stakeholders. Phase II will develop a monitoring and funding plan, including who will collect what information, and when. Phase III will involve the collection and analysis of data. Both collaborative groups expect to have a multiparty monitoring plan proposed to Malheur National Forest for concurrence in fall of 2010.

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Wildfire – Page 1

Wildfire

In the Proposal Area, wildland fire processes have been altered due to fire exclusion, timber harvest, climate change, and grazing, and fires are now larger and more severe than historic levels, especially in the dry forest types (Quigley and Arbelbide 1997). During the 1960s and 1970s, the Forest had only 2 fires that exceeded 100 acres, and during the 1980s, large fires burned 14,000 acres. In the 1990s, the acres burned by large fires skyrocketed to nearly 130,000 acres, and during the last decade, the number of acres burned by large fires expanded even more, to nearly 170,000 acres. While most of the fires occurred within frequent or mixed severity regimes, an analysis of the burn severity on these large fires found that 50% of the acres burned with moderate to high severity. Under current conditions, without active management, a continued increase in acres burned and uncharacteristic fire severity is expected.

Parallels can be drawn between two recent MNF fires which occurred in areas of high negative departure. Adjacent to the Proposal Area the Flagtail and Egley fires burned with very high intensity, often as a crown fire, where there were no fuel treatments. This was confirmed by post fire behavior studies which discovered recent treatments had significantly reduced fire intensity and severity.

About 75% percent of the area is classified Fire Regime 1 (dry forest environment). Historically, 5 to 15% of the dry forest had the potential for high severity fires. Currently, 40 to 60% of the dry forest has the potential for high severity fire as a result of the abundance of multi-layer stands with high stocking levels. Forty percent of the dry forest has a high negative departure from sustainable stand conditions (Condition Class 3). The amount of potential stand replacing fire in the dry forest threatens the attainment of desired conditions for vegetation structure and economic outputs (see Maps 2, 3 in the Map Section).

The proposal is designed to reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire, but not to eliminate fire from the landscape. Treatments are designed to begin moving the area towards historic conditions, which were more fire tolerant. Treatments are strategically located to reduce the threat to sensitive areas such as private lands and structures, community escape corridors, and large trees. Commercial and pre-commercial fuel reduction treatments would be accomplished by thinning small diameter trees and retaining larger trees with variable spacing. There would be conversion from fire and insect-prone late seral tree species to more resistant early seral species by selective thinning. Mechanical treatments generally will be followed with prescribed fire, to reintroduce fire into these ecosystems.

The focus of thinning would be largely on trees found either below the main forest canopy or within the canopy where tree crown density would allow the spread of crown fire. Mechanical treatments would remove ladder fuels that carry fire into tree crowns. During the next 10 years, with these thinning treatments, much of the area would shift from condition class 2 or 3 towards a landscape of greater resistance to severe fire (condition class 1 or 2).

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Once the proposed treatments are completed, wildfires will be much easier and less costly to control. Frequency and severity of wildfires on the restored landscape would more closely mimic historic conditions. Fire behavior will be moderated across much of the landscape with less potential for crown fire and much less intensity. Fire managers will be able to use wildfire and prescribed fire as tools to maintain areas that have been restored to withstand fire, permitting managers to concentrate on aggressively suppressing wildfire in other high value areas.

Approximately 300,000 acres have been identified as WUI by the locally developed community wildfire protection plans (both Grant and Harney Counties). Much of this area is moderately to highly-departed from the desired vegetation condition. Current restoration work concentrates on priorities listed within the community wildfire protection plans, such as areas adjacent to communities and private lands, along escape corridors, and reducing the negative economic impacts on the surrounding communities from these fires.

On the MNF, direct suppression costs have averaged \$7.6 million annually over the past 10 years with some years exceeding \$20 million. There are many unseen costs incurred from wildfires, such as the indirect cost to communities from lost recreation opportunities, property values, lost wood products and rehabilitation costs. Upon completion of forest treatments, large uncharacteristic wildfire acreage could be reduced to 25% of historic average. Cost benefit estimates of forest restoration treatments could save up to \$21 million¹ in fire suppression costs over a ten year period. Treatments are designed to reduce the potential fire behavior and are strategically placed to aid firefighters in the protection of high value areas such as private property and escape corridors. As fire severity is reduced the potential rehabilitation costs needed to restore and protect soil and water and the costs to replant burned areas will be greatly reduced.

¹ Estimate is based on average fire suppression cost of wildfires greater than 5,000 acres at a cost of \$500 per acre.

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Utilization

Woody material generated from restoration treatments will be available for many products that can be processed locally. Saw logs, which are generally produced from trees 11” DBH and larger can be processed at the two local mills. Approximately 173 million board feet of saw logs are estimated to come from the Proposal Area over the next 10 years.

Additional woody material would be available in the form of biomass, which is material less than 11” DBH. Biomass would come from tops of saw logs and small diameter tree thinning. In the past, this material would have been piled and burned in the woods at cost to the government of \$300 to \$600 per acre. Using stewardship authorities, the biomass is removed and made available for many wood products. The woody fibers will be used locally for either pulp or pellets and the smaller trees and limbs can be used for hog fuel at the local co-generation facility. The MNF estimates that with **current** funding, about 750,000 green tons of biomass will be available for removal over the next 10 years within the Proposal Area. With CFLRP funds as much as 1.5 million green tons of biomass will be available over the life of the proposal. Availability of CFLRP funds could contribute to the sustainability of local wood products industries and jobs for contractors.

In current markets, the removal of biomass alone is not economical. When biomass and saw logs are removed concurrently, biomass removal becomes more feasible. On recent contracts, the saw log/biomass volume ratio is about 50/50. We have found that it is important that this ratio remain relatively constant so that restoration treatments are economically viable.

The MNF has a 5 year/\$50 million dollar “Collaborative Restoration Stewardship” contract in place that makes combining the removal of biomass and low value material economically feasible. The value of the products will return nearly 75% of the cost of the restoration thinning. These receipts will be used to accomplish additional restoration work that otherwise may not get funded within the Proposal Area. Strategically using our receipts in this manner provides the Forest an opportunity to shift appropriated funds typically used for implementation to other restoration needs and planning.

Prairie Wood Products in Prairie City operates a 9 MW co-generation facility which utilizes 200,000 green tons per year of biomass (hog fuel) for electricity generation to operate the dry kilns. Excess electricity is sold to the electrical grid. This plant utilizes waste materials from various sources, including non-merchantable logs converted to chips. The plant can also use chipped biomass from the byproducts of commercial and pre-commercial restoration treatments in the woods. Landing piles from whole tree logging are sold as part of the MNF Timber Sale and Stewardship programs, chipped on site and delivered to the plant.

Malheur Lumber Company and Bear Mountain Forest Products in John Day were recently awarded a grant for construction of a pellet and briquetting plant, which will allow for utilization of biomass. This process will require 40,000 green tons annually of biomass in the form of clean wood chips. Any biomass waste from processing pellets can be burned to operate the dry kiln.

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Malheur Lumber Company is also adding a whole log shaver to their plant which will utilize non-merchantable material to make shavings for bedding material, pellets and briquettes. These products have a greater added value than hog fuel. At the cost of \$30 to \$50/green ton to cut, gather and deliver material for pellets or the whole log shaver, and a price of \$16-\$20/ green ton, retained receipts returned to the MNF would be around 40-50%. These receipts are used to invest in additional restoration treatments.

Both of these local companies, Malheur Lumber and Prairie Wood Products are primarily saw log manufacturers. As stated above, when the MNF schedules the removal of moderate amounts of saw logs at the same time as the biomass, the biomass removal becomes more economical. See Table 3 for a comparison of the cost for the different methods of meeting the restoration goals. The stewardship removal methods not only cost the same or less than the cost to pile and burn, the removal methods provide needed products, and reduce smoke impacts.

Table 3 – Restoration Activity Cost Comparison			
Restoration Activity	Cost per Acre	MNF Returned Receipts/Acre (minus)	Final Cost/Acre for Restoration Activity (equals)
Thin, Pile & Burn	\$300 - \$600	\$0	\$300 - \$600
Stewardship Removal (non-commercial biomass)	\$600 - \$900	\$300 - \$450	\$300 - \$450
Stewardship Removal (50/50 mix of low value saw log and Biomass)	\$600 - \$900	\$450 - \$675	\$150 - \$225

The Proposal Area has enough biomass material to supply the post and pole mill in Seneca, Oregon, which is not operating at this time. Additional saw log and pulp processors are in the surrounding counties and also compete for products from the MNF. The Grant County Airport recently received a grant to add a pellet-fueled boiler for heating the new airport building. Harney County constructed a new hospital complex several years ago, heated by a pellet fired boiler system. This system has been enormously successful with the higher cost of the pellet boiler over traditional systems amortized by the cheaper fuels in about a year. Because of the extremely successful hospital project, Burns High School is in the process of implementing a pellet fired boiler system. All of these facilities could utilize biomass from restoration projects implemented under this proposal. See Map 4 for location of these facilities.

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Investments – Page 1

Investments

Forest Service investments will be drawn from normal appropriated budget, Regional earmarks, and from retained receipts collected from Stewardship projects. Specifically, the MNF will be committing funds from the following line items: Hazardous Fuels Reduction; Timber Sale Preparation; Vegetation Management; Road Maintenance; Aquatic and Wildlife; and Stewardship project receipts. Additional program areas may become contributors as specific restoration activities are identified over the proposal period. Past investments in the Proposal Area, which are not included in this proposal, but will contribute to expediting the Forest's collaborative planning process are: \$3.63 million from the American Recovery and Restoration Act, for data collection; LiDAR flights and data collection across the majority of the Proposal Area, funded in partnership with Grant County Title II dollars. Using LiDAR data increases efficiencies in data collection for cruising, layout and project implementation. Additionally, the MNF has partnerships with BMEI, OWEB, Title III funding for education projects, Grant & Harney Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Burn's Paiute Tribe, Oregon Department of Forestry and Dogami.

Non-federal investments in the Proposal Area are numerous. Sustainable Northwest (SNW) has embarked on a five-year project called the "Dry Forest Investment Zone" (DFIZ) which aims to build community, business, and nonprofit capacity to address regional challenges related to a) accelerated forest stewardship to produce multiple value streams, including clean water, carbon, biodiversity, as well as traditional and value-added wood products, b) utilization of woody biomass for traditional and value-added products and energy production, c) technical and leadership skills related to facilitating diverse stakeholder groups, project design and implementation, multi-party monitoring, and nonprofit management.

SNW has raised funds from the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, USDA Rural Development, and other private foundations and donors to support activities across the whole DFIZ region. SNW has committed to support the MNF in FY10 and FY11 with \$40,000 for activities in Grant and Harney County, and will leverage additional funds through their work across 10 other eastern Oregon counties consistent with mutually defined objectives. Additional partnership investments are shown in Table 4 under the Funding Estimate Section.

The wood products industry is a significant non-federal investor. Currently, Grant and Harney Counties have a small skilled workforce remaining in the forest industry, which is in decline due to unpredictable work opportunities and an absence of markets for wood products generated. Local contractors are ready to diversify from traditional equipment to systems that better lend themselves to handling small material especially if a foreseeable future is present to merit substantial capital investments.

Local county government has invested in this Proposal Area. Harney County recently updated its Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), which was instrumental in developing the Jane Project. Grant County is currently in the process of updating its CWPP.

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Investments – Page 2

Further, Grant County will introduce the Federal Firewise Program with the goal of becoming a “Firewise County.” The CWPP update and the Firewise program have the potential to generate considerable volumes of wood products from private lands while reducing the potential for damage to the wildland urban interface by wildfire. These investments, with federal investments, will greatly enhance the infrastructure and workforce capacity for both counties.

Once landscapes are restored, management actions to maintain ecologically sound landscape conditions will be less expensive. Additional economic savings will be realized when adaptive management strategies improve project effectiveness. These adaptive strategies will be a direct result of multi-party monitoring results. Restoration costs within the Proposal Area will decrease as landscape treatments applied to a broad spectrum of restoration needs are completed.

The MNF completed an analysis of the economic impact of the potential funding using the Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Tool (TREAT). The analysis (Table 4) compared the potential jobs that would be funded from implementing the regular program using appropriated funding, to the jobs funded using the additional matching from CFLRP funds.

Job Sectors	Jobs Funded without CFLRP	Jobs Funded with CFLRP	Percent Increase
Commercial Forest Products Companies	15	31	106%
Non – Commercial Service Contractors	35	88	150%
Forest Service/Partner Implementation and Monitoring	42	59	40%
Total Funded Jobs	92	178	93%

While all of the sectors analyzed show an increase from funding, the greatest increase in jobs is expected to come in the Commercial Forest Products Companies and Non-Commercial Service Contractor sectors.

Eastern Oregon University (EOU) has a mission to serve the area east of the Cascade Mountains. EOU is seeking opportunities to partner with various groups and communities to provide experiences for students and education opportunities for community members. Students at the University are seeking internships for class credit, thesis projects and summer employment opportunities. There are a variety of ways the MNF could benefit from a partnership with EOU and its students, who have an interest and passion for natural resources and ecosystem restoration. The Forest Service will continue to provide training opportunities for youth through the Training and Employment Consortium (TEC) and OYCC and Job Corps.

Currently Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is partnering with the MNF by sharing a forester. The opportunity exists for ODF to provide additional foresters should economic conditions require the State to reduce overhead costs by laying-off employees.

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Funding Estimate – Page 1

Funding Estimate

The following table provides an estimate of the partner investments.

Partners	In-kind Investments, in Dollars	Funds, in Dollars
Western Environmental Law Center	70,000	0
SNW	40,000	0
BMFP	27,000	25,000
HCRC	15,000	11,000
*RMEF and OHA (Aspen Restoration)	25,000	0
*Title II	0	25,000 – 600,000

*Based on recent amounts

The following tables provide an estimate of the funding expectations and request from 2010 to 2019 (10 years). Partnership Funding includes, Blue Mountain Elk Initiative (BMEI), Blue Mountain Forest Partner Collaborative (BMFP), Harney County Resource Collaborative (HCRC), Sustainable Northwest (SNW), Western Environmental Law Center (WELC), Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and Oregon Hunters Association (OHA).

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2010 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2010 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2010 Funding for Implementation	\$530,240
FY 2010 Funding for Monitoring	10,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$328,440
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$0
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP, HCRC, SNW, WELC	\$51,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$160,800
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$0
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2010 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$540,240
FY 2010 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$115,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2010 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2010 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

**Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal
Funding Estimate – Page 2**

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2011 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2011 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2011 Funding for Implementation	\$2,470,000
FY 2011 Funding for Monitoring	\$30,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,350,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, Title II, BMEI, BMFP, HCRC, SNW, WELC	\$550,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$400,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2011 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$2,500,000
FY 2011 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$2,500,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2011 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2011 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2012 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2012 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2012 Funding for Implementation	\$2,470,000
FY 2012 Funding for Monitoring	\$30,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,145,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP, HCRC, SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$160,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,130,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2012 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$2,500,000
FY 2012 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$2,500,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2012 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2012 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

**Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal
Funding Estimate – Page 3**

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2013 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2013 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2013 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2013 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP,HCRC,SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2013 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2013 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2013 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2013 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2014 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2014 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2014 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2014 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP,HCRC,SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2014 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2014 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2014 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2014Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

**Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal
Funding Estimate – Page 4**

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2015 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2015 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2015 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2015 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP,HCRC,SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2015 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2015 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2015 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2015 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2016 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2016 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2016 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2016 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP,HCRC,SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2016 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2016 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2016 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2016 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Funding Estimate – Page 5

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2017 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2017 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2017 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2017 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP,HCRC,SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2017 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2017 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2017 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2017 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2018 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2018 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2018 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2018 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP,HCRC,SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2018 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2018 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2018 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2018 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

**Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal
Funding Estimate – Page 6**

Funds to be used on NFS lands for ecological restoration treatments and monitoring that would be available in FY 2019 to match funding from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund	
Fiscal Year 2019 Funding Type	Dollars/Value Planned
FY 2019 Funding for Implementation	\$3,600,000
FY 2019 Funding for Monitoring	\$100,000
1. USFS Appropriated Funds	\$1,620,000
2. USFS Permanent & Trust Funds	\$15,000
3. Partnership Funds, BMEI, BMFP, HCRC, SNW, WELC	\$50,000
4. Partnership In-Kind Services Value	\$185,000
5. Estimated Forest Product Value	\$1,830,000
6. Other (specify)	\$0
FY 2019 Total (total of 1-6 above for matching CFLRP request)	\$3,700,000
FY 2019 CFLRP request (must be equal to or less than above total)	\$3,700,000
Funding off NFS lands associated with proposal in FY 2019 (does not count toward funding match from the Collaborative Forested Landscape Restoration Fund)	
Fiscal Year 2019 Funding Type	Dollars Planned
USDI BLM Funds	\$0
USDI (other) Funds	\$0
Other Public Funding	\$0
Private Funding	\$0

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Funding Plan – Page 1

Funding Plan

Table 7 summarizes the ten-year funding associated with this project on an annual basis:

FY	Regional Funding	Other Funding *	CFLRP Funding	TOTAL
2010	\$313,440	\$211,800	\$100,000	\$625,240
2011	\$1,365,000	\$1,135,000	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000
2012	\$1,160,000	\$1,340,000	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000
2013	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
2014	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
2015	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
2016	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
2017	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
2018	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
2019	\$1,635,000	\$2,065,000	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000
Total	\$14,283,440	\$17,141,800	\$31,000,000	\$62,425,240

* Other Funding: Partnerships, product value and other.

The Regional Forester has been using regional funds for planning, implementation, and monitoring of ecological restoration treatments on NFS lands. The Regional Forester expects to continue funding for implementation and monitoring of treatments in the Proposal Area at levels similar to those summarized above. In addition, the Regional Forester will be providing approximately \$300,000 per year for planning activities in support of these projects.

Work proposed in this document for FY 2010 is contract ready and will be implemented using an existing IDIQ contract for thinning and piling. Additionally in FY 2010, MNF is completing contract preparation and layout for FY 2011 program which will use a variety of contracting tools including the five-year, \$50 million, stewardship contract.

The local collaborative groups have made a commitment to be involved in and support financially the multiparty monitoring expectations of the CFLRA. All parties are committed to the effort and have obtained needed funding from a variety of sources. Working with the Forest Service, the collaborators are developing the protocols for multiparty monitoring including ecological, social and economic effects. The groups are also working on methods to integrate with the existing agency monitoring. It is expected that this monitoring will start in the spring of 2011 and will continue well beyond the next 15 years.

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Maps – Page 1

Maps

Refer to these maps as referenced in the proposal.

Map 1 – Proposal Area and Vicinity Map

Map 2 – Mean Fire Return Interval

Map 3 – Fire Regime Condition Class

Map 4 – Wood to Energy Market

Map 5 – Malheur National Forest Subwatershed Priorities

Map 6 – Big Look Values at Risk Results

For electronic copies of the CFLRP maps click on the following link.

<ftp://ftp2.fs.fed.us/incoming/r6/ro/CFLRP/Malheur/>

Malheur National Forest – Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Proposal Restoration Strategy – Page 1

This proposal is tiered to the [Malheur National Forest Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Strategy](#), which prioritizes the strategic placement of treatments over a 10-year period (Click the link above for the MNF Landscape Strategy). When coupled with restoration activities, following this road map will contribute to whole watershed restoration of the entire Proposal Area.

The two collaborative groups completed work on a large landscape approach to planning treatment projects on the Malheur called the “Bigger Look”. With facilitation by The Nature Conservancy, BMFP and HCRC created sets of ecological, social and economic values that were mapped on the Malheur to determine areas of importance for the collaborative groups. The Bigger Look encompasses the area proposed in the CFLRP. A major strength of this proposal is that the Bigger Look and the Forest Service’s 10 year management plan for the CFLRP overlap and have strong similarities.

More information about the restoration Strategy and the collaboratives’ work on the “Big Look” can be found at the following ftp site: <ftp://ftp2.fs.fed.us/incoming/r6/ro/CFLRP/Malheur/>

