

**CFLR Project (Name/Number): Uncompahgre Plateau Project/CFLR003**

**National Forest(s): Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests**

**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. FY12 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2012(\$)
CFLN Funds Expended <sup>1</sup>	\$733,237
Carryover funds expended (HPRP funds or Carryover to supplement CFLR/CFLN) <sup>2</sup> (please include a new row for each BLI)	
Forest Products (CFTM04)	\$120,635
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management (CFWF04)	\$10,000
Vegetation and Watershed Management (CFVW04)	\$40,905**
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (CFHF04)	\$50,000
CFLRP FY11 Carryover Supplement Total	\$221,540
CFLN and Supplement Funds Total	<b>\$954,777</b>
FS Matching Funds (please include a new row for each BLI) <sup>3</sup>	
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (CFHF03)	\$149,777
Range Betterment Fund (CFRB03)	\$148
Capital Improvement and Maintenance - Roads (CFRD03)	\$4,506
Reforestation Trust Fund (CFRT03)	\$107,895
Salvage Fund (CFSS03)	\$16,381
Capital Improvement and Maintenance - Trails (CFTL03)	\$16,992
Forest Products (CFTM03)	\$247,873
National Fire Plan – Forest Health Management, Federal Lands (CFS403)	\$17,951
Vegetation and Watershed Management (CFVW04)	\$0
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management (CFWF03)	\$54,434
Cooperative Work – Other, Agreement Based (CWFS)	\$10,000
Total	<b>\$625,957</b>
Funds contributed through agreements <sup>4</sup>	

\*\* Unit received \$50,000 in CFVW03 FY11 carry-over funds. Of this amount \$40,905 was spent in FY12 with the balance to be spent in FY13.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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 entitled Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year minus the below matching funds.

<sup>3</sup> This amount should match the amount of matching funds obligated in the PAS report titled CFLR Job Code Listing and Expenditure Report – Detailed Analysis by Fiscal Year minus the above carryover/HPRP funds.

Fund Source	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2012(\$)
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	\$60,000
Mule Deer Foundation	\$5,000
Tri-State	\$12,000
Western Area Power Administration (WAPA)	\$14,000
National Wild Turkey Federation	\$10,000
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	\$10,000
Western Slope ATV Association grant	\$48,750
Colorado Forest Restoration Institute	\$30,000
Colorado State University Grant	\$10,000
Total	<b>\$199,750</b>
Partner In-Kind Contributions <sup>5</sup>	
Colorado Forest Restoration Institute	\$9,978
Delta County Joint School District	\$7,750
Delta High School students	\$15,688
Montrose High School students	\$4,100
Delta Correctional Facility	\$6,720
Uncompahgre Partnership	\$19,200
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	\$1,080
Mesa County	\$20,000
National Forest Foundation (Uncompahgre Project grant)	\$10,000
Citizen groups	\$4,092
Back Country Hunters	\$168
Southwest Conservation Corps	\$36,364
Audubon Society	\$336
Western Area Power Administration	\$6,000
Western Slope ATV Club	\$37,716
Total	<b>\$179,192</b>
Service work accomplishment through goods-for services funding within a stewardship contract <sup>6</sup>	<b>\$86,047</b>
Grand Total	<b>\$2,045,723</b>

b. Please provide a narrative or table describing leveraged funds in your landscape in FY2012 (one page maximum)

Colorado Parks and Wildlife completed the Native Seed Warehouse in cooperation with several federal agencies and non-profits. Total cost of the warehouse was \$800,000. The facility will provide storage for approximately 300,000 pounds of seed. Having native seed on-hand will better facilitate restoration efforts on the Plateau.

Approved by:  /s/ Sherry Hazelhurst  
 Forest Supervisor

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> This should be the amount in the "stewardship credits charged" column at the end of the fiscal year in the TSA report TSA90R-01.

**2. Discuss how the CLFR project contributes to accomplishment of the performance measures in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan<sup>7</sup>, dated December 2006.** Please comment on the cumulative contributions over the life of the project if appropriate. This may also include a description of the fire year (fire activity that occurred in the project area) as a backdrop to your response (please limit answer to one page).

The Uncompahgre Plateau Project has and will continue to work towards meeting performance measures identified in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy and Implementation Plan. Although many of the performance measures listed in the 2006 implementation plan will be better answered at the end of the 10 year project, we feel that we made good progress in meeting the following performance measures:

- Number and percent of WUI acres treated that are identified in CWPPS or other application collaboratively developed plans
  - County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) signed in 2011 is being implemented.
  - 723 WUI acres mechanically treated in accordance with CWPP. Fiscal-year 2012 was an extreme fire year in Colorado and as such use of prescribed fire was severely curtailed. The Forest focused on construction of line with hand crews and mowing and hydro-axe.
  - Prepared approximately 3,500 acres for burning in 2012. Total acres prepared to burn are 8,000.
- Number and percent of WUI acres treated that are identified through collaboration consistent with the *Implementation Plan*
  - All acres (100%, 723 Acres) were identified through a collaborative effort.
- Number and percent of non-WUI acres treated that are identified through collaboration consistent with the *Implementation Plan*
  - 572 Non-WUI acres treated; All acres collaboratively developed
- Number and percent of acres treated by prescribed fire, through collaboration consistent with the *Implementation Plan*.
  - No acres were treated by prescribed fire due to Regional fire restriction.
- Number and percent of acres treated by mechanical thinning, through collaboration consistent with the *Implementation Plan*.
  - 1,295 acres of mechanical work
- Number of acres and percent of the natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under strategies that result in desired conditions
  - No fires were allowed to burn under approved strategies.
- Number of green tons and/or volume of woody biomass from hazardous fuel reduction and restoration treatments on federal land that are made available for utilization through permits, contracts, grants, agreements or equivalent
  - None of the material removed from the project is available through permit, contract, grant or agreement for use as biomass. Currently there is no market for the material.

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

<sup>7</sup> The 10-year Comprehensive Strategy was developed in response to the Conference Report for the Fiscal Year 2001, Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (Public Law 106-291).

Description	CFLN Grant expenditures only	Total expended funds
Percent of this funding that is going to be used for contracted work within the impact area (see comment box for list of counties in your impact area).	68%	52%
Percent of this funding that is going to be used for Force Account Implementation & Monitoring	32%	48%
<i>Contracting Funding Distribution by work category:</i>		
Facilities, Watershed, Roads and Trails	0	5%
Abandoned Mine Lands	0	0
Ecosystem Restoration, Hazardous Fuels and Forest Health	35%	75%
Contracted Monitoring (Does not include in-kind and volunteer contributions)	11%	10%
Thinning and Biomass Harvesting	54%	10%

**FY 2012 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY12 CFLR/CFLN/HPRP/Carryover funding only):**

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income <sup>8</sup>
Commercial Forest Product Activities	23.2	47.9	\$754,822	\$1,547,699
Other Project Activities	6.4	7.4	\$159,750	\$172,491
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>55.3</b>	<b>\$888,532</b>	<b>\$1,720,190</b>

**FY 2012 Jobs Created/Maintained (FY12 CFLR/CFLN/HPRP/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 <sup>9</sup>
Commercial Forest Product Activities	29.4	60.3	\$949,944	\$1,948,604
Other Project Activities	31.8	36.4	\$602,464	\$779,247
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>96.7</b>	<b>\$1,552,408</b>	<b>\$2,727,851</b>

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

During FY 2012, numerous projects were accomplished that created jobs for our local communities, contractors, and youth. Communities surrounding the project area are rural and rely on the use of public lands to create job opportunities through recreation, hunting, grazing, and resource extraction. As project implementation continues, we expect an increase in wood products, which in turn will result in an increased opportunity for timber industry and/or biomass businesses to develop or at least sustain at their current levels. Project implementation is leading to healthier ecosystems that will support business activities of surrounding rural communities, as well as restore our fire adapted

<sup>8</sup> 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>.

<sup>9</sup> 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>.

ecosystems so that the risk of catastrophic wildfires are reduced. Beyond these broad accomplishments for FY12, specific benefits to communities in Western Colorado include:

- Neiman Enterprises, Inc. of Hulett, WY purchased the assets of Intermountain Resources sawmill in Montrose, CO in 2012. The company estimates the direct and indirect jobs to the community is expected to exceed 500. The Uncompahgre Plateau as well as the rest of the lands administered by the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forest will play a key role in support of mill operations in Montrose.
- Generated over 90 fulltime and part-time jobs in our community. Because many of the projects were designed to accommodate readily available equipment, nearly all contracts went to local contractors. Of the two that went to out-of State contractors, one sub-contracted with a local vendor to complete the work.
- The project is supporting job and learning opportunities for local high school students, the Western Colorado Conservation Corp, Youth Conservation Corps, the Collbran Job Corps, and even local college students. We hope to encourage lifelong interests in natural resource management. Eight high school student and 2 teachers were involved in 2012.
- A Veterans Green Crew completed numerous projects in 2012. These twenty-person crews received on-the-ground training on the use of chainsaws and in-class and field experience in fire management and suppression. The Forest plans to utilize the Veterans Crew again in 2013.
- Organizations and individuals provided approximately 1800 hrs. of volunteer labor to the project. Approximately value of these efforts is \$70,000.
- Work accomplished in cooperation with County government proved to be mutually beneficial and strengthened Forest Service-County relationships. Two projects were completed in cooperation with local county governments.
- Continued funding of this CFLRP project has allowed us to accelerate our restoration implementation and monitoring efforts. Strong community and stakeholder involvement has helped build a scientific foundation for establishing trust and support for traditional and adaptive forest management activities. We expect this community commitment to continue.

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

Monitoring is a vital component of our landscape restoration approach. It allows the partners to assess how effective restoration treatments achieve our objectives, and whether any unintended outcomes (such as proliferation of noxious weeds) developed. We have developed a “multi-party” approach to monitoring that ensures high quality information that supports high confidence among all collaborators. The key pieces of our monitoring approach are:

- 1) Collaborative development of goals and specific objectives for each major project;
- 2) Collaborative design of general approaches to monitoring, leading to detailed designs by appropriate experts and stakeholders on behalf of all collaborators;
- 3) Conducting field measurements; sometimes these are performed by agency personnel as part of normal operations, and other times by combinations of agency personnel, outside experts, and stakeholder volunteers.

- 4) Synthesis of monitoring data to inform all collaborators about what we have learned and to support insightful discussions about what we might modify to improve our restoration work.

As in prior years, the Forest held the annual monitoring workshop with our stakeholders. Approximately 13 groups and numerous private citizens were represented at the meeting. Results from the 2011 monitoring effort were presented to the group. Presenters also recommended changes to monitoring approaches as needed, to better address monitoring goals and questions. Because there are many details that need to be developed and addressed throughout the year, the Forest continues to use a Monitoring Guidance Committee (MGC) for operational details. The MGC will include key Agency personnel, the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, and other key people needed for particular projects. The work of the MGC will be very transparent, with prompt communication to all stake holders about issues, decisions, etc.; everyone's input is welcome at all times, though no one is asked to volunteer for all the time-demanding tasks.

For 2012, we prioritized available funding on 11 projects. Progress on each of the projects is displayed below:

- Uncompahgre Mesas Monitoring Plots – Establishing pre-treatment conditions
  - In June 2012, citizen scientists collected data from treatment acres completed in 2011. Pre-treatment stand conditions were over 100 trees per acre (basal area of 100-170 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre). The number of trees post-treatment averaged 32 trees per acre, which approximates historical basal area within the stand. Mechanical treatments will be followed with prescribed fire, preparing the landscape for naturally ignited fires which will burn at low to moderate severity.
  - Paper published displaying current conditions for the Uncompahgre Mesas Forest Restoration Project. See Project Website for copy of results (Project Website: <http://uplandscape.org>).
- Escalante Project landscape Monitoring
  - Characterized current and historic conditions in 11 stands of ponderosa pine, 10 of dry mixed-conifer, and 9 of wet mixed-conifer. Three pine plots were on Kelso Mesa, and the rest were in the Escalante project area.
  - Preliminary results by vegetation type:
    - Ponderosa pine – 50% of the sampled stands were within historic range of variation for conifer basal area. Fifty percent far exceed historic basal area. Other conifer types increased from 5% in 1875 to 25% in 2012.
    - Dry mixed conifer – 40% of the sampled stands were within historic range of variation for basal area. Sixty percent exceeded these historic levels by more than 100%. Species composition shifted from 95% ponderosa pine and Douglas fir in 1875 to being dominated by sub-alpine fir and Engelmann spruce in 2012.
    - Wet mixed conifer – In 8 out of 9 sampled stands basal area of conifers increased by more than or equal to 100% as compared to 1875. Blue spruce and Douglas-fir had the highest average basal areas in 1875, whereas Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir had the highest average basal areas in 2012.
    - Aspen - About 55% of sites with aspen had no stems in the smaller size class. This finding is consistent with observations that young aspen are missing from many stands on the Plateau. Browsing by ungulates and fire exclusion are believed to be the primary factors for the lack of smaller size classes in sampled stands.
  - Data is being used to develop silviculture prescriptions for targeted timber stands. Data will also serve as baseline condition to judge effects of treatments.
- Aspen Browse - Characterizing browsing and aspen regeneration on the Uncompahgre Plateau
  - Crew's re-visited 11 exclosures established in 2011 and established plots in vacant cattle allotments in 2012.

- Study published on aspen age across the Uncompahgre Plateau. See Project Website for copy of results (Project Website: <http://uplandscape.org>).
- Unroaded Mesas Research
  - Field work completed by graduate students from Colorado State University on two un-roaded areas.
  - Located several “heritage trees” use to characterize pre-1900 vegetative conditions.
- Riparian Monitoring
  - Riparian pasture established on upper Dominguez Creek.
  - Pre- and post-grazing monitoring transects established using students from Delta High School.
  - Students used the project in Science Fair winning at the Regional level and advancing to State. Students plan to expand project in 2012/13 as a Science fair project.
  - Long-term transects will be re-done in 2014.
- Student Internship Program
  - Seven students from Delta and Montrose High Schools participated in the program.
  - Monitoring projects include:
    - Evaluation of barriers on Dominguez Creek to fish movement and genetic testing of cutthroat population on the Uncompahgre Plateau.
    - Big Creek Road and Burwell Cabin land surveying.
    - Dense Horizontal Cover (DHC) to determine snow shoe hare cover in Escalante Project area.
    - Weed establishment risk assessments.
    - Uncompahgre Mesa treatment monitoring.
- Travel Management Monitoring
  - Program well established on North-end of the Uncompahgre Plateau.
  - Program expanded to South-end of the Plateau (Norwood and Ouray RDs).
  - Data will allow evaluation of effectiveness of route closures and the public’s attitudes toward implementation of the Uncompahgre Plateau Travel Plan.
- Fire Monitoring
  - Completed first year post-fire monitoring on two fires: 1. Big A Fire (NFS, 2011) in ponderosa pine-gambel oak, 2. Jeep Fire (NFS, 2011) in gambel oak. Completed second-year post-fire monitoring on Beaver Fire (BLM-NFS, 2010).
  - Finished comprehensive report on monitoring of eight fires on the Uncompahgre Plateau (Johnston 2012).
- Invasive Species Monitoring
  - Used established protocols for general field form; rangeland health; and noxious weeds to develop a noxious weed risk assessment. This assessment was completed on the Monitor and Sawmill Mesa stewardship contracts in 2012. The data will be used to develop mitigation and/or to modify contracts to minimize the risk of noxious weed spread. Additionally, post treatment monitoring on Monitor and Sawmill will assist us in future planning assessments to develop design criteria aimed at minimizing the risk of increasing invasive weeds; and also to determine the effect of fuels/timber treatments on existing invasive populations.
- Monitoring of National Indicators
  - Four teams were formed to develop both project and landscape-level desired conditions for the UP CFLR Project: Watershed Condition, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Condition, Fire Regime Restoration, and Non-native Invasive Species Severity.
  - Each team identified available, what monitoring is currently being conducted, and has looked at goals and desired condition statements in the CFLR grant, Forest Plan, and other documents.
  - Teams are working to develop desired condition statements that are appropriate, realistic, able to measure change over the life of the CFLR Project and informs management decisions.

- Draft products expected February 2013 and finalized by April 2013.
- Web-skin development for citizen science
  - Draft web-skin developed.
  - Roll-out of website expected February 2013.
- Biomass Assessment and Q Study
  - The Rocky Mountain Research Station (Nate Anderson – Research Forester) continues to work on a project assessing the economic feasibility, energy balance and net greenhouse gas emissions for producing bioenergy from Forest and land treatment residues from the Uncompahgre Plateau. The final report is due out in late fall 2012 with tech transfer and application support beginning in 2013.



**6. FY 2012 accomplishments**

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>	<b>Total Units Accomplished<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>Total Treatment Cost (\$)</b>	<b>Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)<sup>11</sup></b>
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	Acres	0	0	
Acres of forest vegetation established	Acres	295	\$107,895	CFRT
Acres of forest vegetation improved	Acres	1,205	\$191,777	CFHF
			\$66,000	CFLN
			\$13,000	CFXN
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acre	222	\$40,905	CFVW
			\$32,000	NFXF
			\$73,042	CFLN
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	Acres	0	\$40,905	CFVW
			\$32,000	NFXF
			\$73,042	CFLN
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions.	Acres	26	\$4,506	CMRD
			\$40,905	CFVW
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	0		
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles	2	\$1,000	SWS2
			\$20,000	NFXN
			\$4,000	CFLN
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	8,202	\$4,506	CFRD
			\$64,434	CFWF
			\$139,032	CFLN
			\$86,000	NFXN
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved	Acres	0		
Miles of high clearance	Miles	133.7	\$4,506	CMRD

<sup>10</sup> Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record.

<sup>11</sup> 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.

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>	<b>Total Units Accomplished<sup>10</sup></b>	<b>Total Treatment Cost (\$)</b>	<b>Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match)<sup>11</sup></b>
system roads receiving maintenance				
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	191.9		Work completed under Schedule A agreements
Miles of road decommissioned	Miles	30.3	\$4,506	NFRD
			\$15,000	NFXN
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles	0.1		Work completed under Schedule A agreements
Miles of high clearance system road improved	Miles	2.9		Work completed but not captured by proper match code.
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	Number	1	\$1,000	SWS2
Miles of system trail maintained to standard	Miles	48.1	\$16,992	CFTL
			\$86,466	NFXN
			\$12,500	CFLN
Miles of system trail improved to standard	Miles	0	\$16,992	CFTL
			\$86,466	NFXN
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	1	\$2,000	CFLN
			\$3,000	NFXN
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	240	\$21,500	CFTM
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	5,115	\$347,008	CFTM
			\$16,381	CFSS
			\$41,292	CFLN
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	0		
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	771	\$100,000	CFHF
			\$64,434	CFWF
			\$70,000	CFLN

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished <sup>10</sup>	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) <sup>11</sup>
			\$50,000	NFXN
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	723	\$98,777	CFHF
			\$51,000	CFLN
			\$43,000	NFXN
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	0	\$40,905	CFVW
			\$32,000	NFXF
			\$73,042	CFLN
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	0		

**7. FY 2012 accomplishment narrative** (summarizes key accomplishments and evaluates project progress) (please limit answer to three pages).

The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison NF (GMUG), and its diverse group of partners (please see our proposal for a full listing of partners) in 2010 collaboratively developed goals and desired outcomes for the restoration of the Uncompahgre Plateau. Below are the desired outcomes for the 10-year project followed by brief details of how we moved towards accomplishing each this year.\

- a) Restored and maintained forest conditions, with reduced tree density and fuels hazards, will enable broader use of prescribed fire and wildfire, providing more natural ecological functions and reduced fire-fighting cost with approximately 27,300 acres of mechanical treatment and 55,000 acres of broadcast burning planned.
  - 1,494 acres of hazardous fuels reduction treatments were accomplished. All treatments were completed using mechanical methods due to a ban on the use of prescribed fire.
  - A second long-term stewardship contract was awarded with 529 acres of both timber harvest and hazardous fuels reduction projects.
  - All treatments are designed to achieve multiple objectives for wildlife, reducing hazardous fuels and restoring natural ecological function. Wildlife species benefitting from the treatments include: Gunnison sage-grouse, mule deer, Rocky Mountain elk, numerous Forest Service sensitive and Management Indicator Species.
  - Since 2010, approximately 9,000 acres of mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, Pinyon-juniper, aspen and spruce fire have been treated toward desired conditions.
  - Since 2010, approximately 12,000 acres of vegetation have been treated mechanically or with use of prescribed fire.
  
- b) Fuels treatments in WUI areas, including 650 acres of power line treatments, in coordination with Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP).

- 723 acres mechanically treated in WUI. Of this amount, 482 acres were associated with power lines. Due to severe restrictions on the use of prescribed fire in 2012 no burning was conducted.
  - Since 2010, 3,594 acres total treatment acres in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Of this amount, 1,071 acres were associated with power lines.
  - 3 county-wide CWPPs were finalized in 2011 with implementation initiated in 2012.
- c) Water quality, water yield, and stream habitat enhancement within key Colorado River watersheds.
- Over 30 miles of system roads were decommissioned and 652 miles of road was maintained to standard through various County Road Agreements.
  - 24 miles of non-system roads and trails were decommissioned. Routes were either closed obliterated or ripped/sub-soiled. Since there is no database of record for non-system, user created routes, accomplishments are being tracked in the Watershed Improvement Tracking in NRIS.
  - Since 2010, over 65 miles of system and non-system roads have been decommissioned.
  - One stream crossing reconstructed
  - Construction of a riparian pasture allowing increased control over livestock grazing.
  - Re-monitoring on 2- 600 meter Stream Reaches within the riparian pasture. Reaches will be re-monitored in 2014 to determine condition and trend of riparian vegetation.
  - Through the High School Internship program, genetic status of cutthroat was determined in Kelso and North Fork Escalante. The students also evaluated the effectiveness of a natural barrier in Dominguez Creek to prohibit upstream movement of brook trout.
- d) Weed treatments on over 9,200 acres and reseeded with native seed.
- 222 acres of invasive weeds and 201 acres of native seed were re-seeded.
  - Since 2010, approximately 2,334 acres of noxious weed treatments have been completed.
  - Completed the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Seed Warehouse. This facility is over 9,000 square feet able to store approximately 300,000 pounds of seed.
  - Uncompahgre Plateau Native Plant Program – key accomplishments of this 10-year partnership include:
    - i. Working with four private growers on propagating seed from 10 species on native grasses and forbs.
    - ii. Assisting CPW to bring Seed warehouse on-line. Over half of the 9,000 square-foot facility reserved for seed storage by federal agencies.
    - iii. The Uncompahgre Project has developed and maintains a website with information related to the native seed program (Native Seed Program Website: <http://upartnership.org/native-plant-program/>).
    - iv. Completes seeding of mechanical and burned areas on the Plateau. Seed approximately 200 acres in 2012.
- e) Collaborative multi party monitoring by collecting pre-treatment and post-treatment information to assess effectiveness of restoration over a 15-year period (establish historic conditions and range of variability; determine current baseline vegetation conditions).
- Multi party monitoring protocols established for invasive species, travel management and riparian projects.
  - Pre- and post-treatment plots completed in mixed conifer stands. Post treatment data indicates silvicultural treatments on track to accomplish desired future conditions.
  - Aspen browse study plots established in un-grazed allotments.
  - Two reference plots established in un-roaded areas.
  - Post fire evaluations completed on two fires and a final report completed for 8 past fires.
  - Summer High School student interns completed monitoring on 4 projects.

- Four teams were formed to develop both project and landscape-level desired conditions for the UP CFLR Project: Watershed Condition, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Condition, Fire Regime Restoration, and Non-native Invasive Species Severity. Final report due early in 2013.
- f) Outcomes that benefit threatened, sensitive and endangered species, including Gunnison sage-grouse, desert bighorn sheep, and Colorado River cutthroat trout.
- 8,000+ acres of enhanced habitat through road closures and mechanical treatments.
  - Genetic purity levels of cutthroat in Kelso and North Fork Escalante Creeks determined. Both populations determined to be genetically pure.
  - Water temperature and fish habitat assessment completed on Dominguez Creek. Data is being used to drive cutthroat restoration efforts scheduled for 2016.
- g) Development and integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.
- Local interagency group developed.
  - Strategies being integrated into projects currently being planned.
- h) A biomass supply assessment of the Plateau (funded through a Rocky Mountain Research Station Grant) will inform investments in new bioenergy infrastructure and quantify potential climate change adaptation and mitigation benefits of biomass utilization.
- The Rocky Mountain Research Station (Nate Anderson – Research Forester) continues to work on a project assessing the economic feasibility, energy balance and net greenhouse gas emissions for producing bioenergy from Forest and rind treatment residues from the Uncompahgre Plateau. The final report is due out in late fall 2012 with tech transfer and application support beginning in 2013.
- i) Approximately 292,000 CCF of biomass will be created (approximately half of which is saw log volume), and projects will support the enlargement of biomass markets and sustain local timber mills.
- A 529 acre stewardship contract awarded.
  - 5,115 CCF in biomass.
  - Since 2010, approximately 25,067 CCF of biomass produced.
  - Supply of restoration byproducts being supplied to local Intermountain Timber Mill in Montrose and Delta Timber in Delta, Colorado.
- j) Project implementation through stewardship contracting and other means will require hiring of field crews; over 750 part-time/seasonal jobs will be created.
- Approximately 25 students and summer temporaries with Youth Services, Job Corps and local high schools worked on the project.
  - A 20-person Veterans Green Corps crew constructed fire line preparing over 3,000 acres of prescribed burning.
  - TREAT Model projected 109 jobs (direct, indirect, and Force Account) created, resulting in \$2.8 million dollars of impact from the project in FY 12.
  - Since 2010, the project has produced approximately 350 direct, indirect and Force Account jobs.
- k) Local youth will be involved in projects, providing work, job skill training, and educational opportunities.
- Integration of Youth Services and Job Corps
  - Veterans Green Crew involved in fire line construction. Crews were also trained in Forest Service fire-fighting procedures.
  - A project was undertaken by the High School Forestry Intern Program: Mixed conifer pre- and post-treatment monitoring, Riparian monitoring, Ground validation and monitoring of lynx habitat in the Escalante Landscape project area; cutthroat trout genetics evaluation and habitat suitability on North Fork Escalante and Dominguez Creeks. Colorado State University, University of Montana, and Northern Arizona University had students and professors involved in multiple studies.
- l) Strengthened partner relationships and collaboration among all involved parties with meetings, field trips, outreach and technology transfer.

- Continued discussions and involvement of multiple collaborators and cooperators in planning efforts, studies, and monitoring activities.
- Informal and formal discussions with other grant awardees.
- Significant outreach and education through the Uncompahgre Partnership.

Overall project success will be measured by meeting several key objectives, including; 1) moving toward desired vegetation and fuels conditions, including the reestablishment of native grasses and forbs; 2) sustaining timber mills and creating new biomass markets; 3) reducing long-term fire suppression costs; 4) decreasing catastrophic fire potential and utilizing wildfire for resource benefit; 5) improving wildlife habitat; and 6) adaptive management to adjust to climate change.

Specific treatments associated with the proposal are summarized in the table below by fiscal year.

Treatment Tracking by Type																	
	Mixed Conifer	Ponderosa Pine	Sage	Pinyon Juniper	Oak	Aspen	Spruce/Fir	Riparian	Roads	Mechanical Treatments	RX/Managed Fire	Trails	Native Species	Invasive Weeds	CCF Biomass	Power lines Treatments	Stream
Proposed treatment amounts	11,000	15,000	1,800	2,500	7,000	11,000	4,000	320	130	27,300	55,000	100	37,500	9,200	292,000	650	30
Unit of Measure	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres	Miles	Acres	Acres	Miles	Acres	Acres	CCF	Acres	Miles
FY 10 Accomplishments	1089	300	0	0	0	0	171	0	32.5	1381.4	1893	10	401	457	6,813	117	
FY 11 Accomplishments	1681	3158	0	445	490	800	285	320	4	2874	4052	268	475	1655	13,140	472	1
FY12 Accomplishment	487	511	322	494	0	86	141	50	30	1,494	0	48	201	222	5,115	482	2
Percent of Total	30	26	18	38	7	13	15	116	51	21	11	288	3	25	9	165	10

**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?<sup>12</sup>

Fiscal Year	Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint)
FY12	1,967
FY10, FY11, and FY12	15,694

<sup>12</sup> 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.

**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):

Expenses in Wildfire Preparedness (WFPR):

Expenses on the Uncompahgre Plateau were within the historic norm due to budget cuts within the fire and fuels program. Personnel salaries were approximately \$153,267. Expenses for training and travel for fire/fuels employees was very minimal to none, as employees did not attend formal training off the unit due to budget constraints. All expenses for training were captured as base salaries for local annual fire training and refreshers.

Expenses in Wildfire Suppression (WFSU)

Fire occurrence on the Uncompahgre Plateau was minimal, experiencing 19 vegetation fires mainly caused by natural ignition (lightning). All of the incidents were contained within initial attack at less than one acre in size. Due to extremely dry fuels conditions, large fire occurrence within the geographical area and national direction, the management of wildfires for resource benefit did not occur. All vegetation fires were suppressed as a full suppression strategy was implemented. Approximate expenses towards fire suppression are \$30,000.

**10. Describe any reasons that the FY 2012 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)

- Due to a severe fire year in Colorado, the region imposed a ban on the use of prescribed fire. The forest planned to burn approximately 5,000 acres both within and outside of WUI.
- Cost estimates on several contracted projects came in well below estimates. For example, over \$300,000 was programmed to accomplish the stewardship work in 2012. The contract was awarded at approximately \$77,000 due to the high value of spruce in the treatment area. Since the contract was awarded late in the fiscal year, only a limited amount of funding could be re-directed to other projects.

**11. Planned FY 2014 Accomplishments**

<b>Performance Measure Code<sup>13</sup></b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>	<b>Planned Accomplishment</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	Acres	0	
Acres of forest vegetation established	Acres	0	
Acres of forest vegetation improved	Acres	100	\$80,000

<sup>13</sup> Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2014 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.

<b>Performance Measure Code<sup>13</sup></b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>	<b>Planned Accomplishment</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acre	500	\$140,000
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	Acres	500	\$140,000
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions.	Acres	5	\$50,000
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	0	
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles	0	
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	8000	\$300,000
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved	Acres	0	
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	200	\$240,000
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	100	\$120,000
Miles of road decommissioned	Miles	20	\$90,000
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles	0	
Miles of high clearance system road improved	Miles	0	
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	Number	0	
Miles of system trail maintained to standard	Miles	75	\$300,000
Miles of system trail improved to standard	Miles	10	\$70,000
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	1	\$1,000
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	100	\$30,000
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	8,250	\$400,000
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	0	
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	3,500	\$350,000



<b>Performance Measure Code<sup>13</sup></b>	<b>Unit of measure</b>	<b>Planned Accomplishment</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	3000	\$300,000
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	500	\$140,000
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	0	

**12. Planned FY 2014 accomplishment narrative (no more than 1 page):**

The FY14 program of work is focused on achieving program and vegetative goals described in the original grant proposal (see Planned FY14 Accomplishment Table). To achieve these goals, one of the primary efforts of the FY13 program is to complete NEPA on several projects that will restore structure and function of priority ecosystems across broad landscapes. These projects include but are not limited to using prescribe fire on 4,000-7,000 annually, mechanical treatments using stewardship, hydro-axe, rollerchop and mastication contracts, restoration of native plant communities, riparian area restoration and control and treatment of invasive plants in high risk areas. One project in particular, the Escalante Forest Restoration Project will target restoration in high priority areas within 160,000 acre area. Treatments within the Escalante area are designed to achieve silviculture, fuels, watershed, and rangeland health and wildlife objectives. The Forest anticipates 5 to 8 years of projects generated from the planning effort. Merchantable material harvested from Escalante includes Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, and ponderosa pine.

The Forest is also improving our ability to successfully implement a complex program of work by increasing the use of stewardship contracts and agreements and development of additional indefinite quality contracts. Two such indefinite quality contracts targeted for completion in 2013 for use in 2014 are mechanical (hydro-axe, mowing, mastication, etc.) and road decommissioning.

The Forest continues to expand the number of government and non-government partners. To build on our FY 13 planned program of work, we are expecting over \$300,000 in partnership contributions, either through in kind work or grants and agreements. Multi-party monitoring will also continue in cooperation with the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute and host of other partners. Protocols to assess National Landscape Indicators are being developed in FY13 for full implementation by FY14.

**13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2013/14 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page):**

While it is difficult to anticipate how appropriated and grant funding could change over the next two years, the Forest will continue to maximize whatever funds are provided on on-the-ground restoration efforts. However, if funding is reduced, target goals listed in the project proposal will be decreased accordingly. Our employees and partners remain

actively engaged in the project, particularly as they notice all the positive changes occurring on the landscape. Therefore, we expect to be able to deliver the highest quality program of work regardless of funding level and will continue to work collaboratively toward our long term restoration goals.

The 10-year program of work developed in 2010 as part of the original grant proposal is currently under review and will be modified to better reflect workload capacities and lessons learned over the past 3 years. Obligations regarding outputs and desired future conditions on the Uncompahgre Plateau are being honored through this review. Up-dated programs of work for the next 7 years will be presented at our stake-holder group meeting scheduled for February 2013.