

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

The Grandfather Restoration Project is an ecological restoration program on the Grandfather Ranger District of the Pisgah National Forest in western North Carolina. Restoration priorities include: returning fire-adapted communities to their natural vegetation; treating non-native invasive species in high priority areas such as the Linville Gorge Wilderness Area and along the Wild and Scenic Wilson Creek; soil injections to protect hemlocks from the hemlock woolly Adelgid; as well as trail and road improvements, silviculture treatments and timber sales to enhance wildlife habitat, streamside restoration, and aquatic passage improvements. Our partnership includes 10 active, partner organizations with a collaborative of more than 20 non-Forest Service employees and growing.

The long-term restoration goals of our Project are outlined in detail on page 2 of this report. Because we are anticipating 8 years of funding instead of 10, and because attachment A of our proposal did not account for all of our projected accomplishments, together with our partners we reassessed the intent of our proposal and the projected annual capacity through fiscal year 2019. Implementation began early this fiscal year including three prescribed burns last winter. We've hosted two well-attended partnership meetings, and one monitoring meeting. We've also drafted measures of success for restoration treatments by resource area. Finally, we're hosting a non-native invasive species training in Wilson Creek on June 2nd; this will be the first jointly-hosted outreach program by the Grandfather Restoration partnership.

We will continue to use our proposal, as well as our anticipated annual treatments and expenditures, to guide our implementation schedule. Our current focus is to establish monitoring priorities and coordinate the development of plots and protocols. Our partnership intends to meet regularly (approximately every few months) to review progress and assess the effectiveness of our treatments. We've also established a core committee to review new information and provide feedback on behalf of the larger group. Our coordinator continues to track expenditures and treatments in detailed spreadsheets, and she monitors program and project WorkPlans to ensure consistency. A system for sharing updates internally and externally is in development.



Resource Area	Performance Measures	CFLR Treatments	CFLR Funds	FS Treatments	FS Funds	Partner Treatments	Partner Funds	Total Treatments	Total Match
Fuels	Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce wildland fire risk	31014	\$1,344,008	15576	\$639,322	0	\$81,450	46590	\$720,772
Habitat	Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	0	\$118,484	2	\$360,989	0	\$263,506	2	\$624,495
	Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	879		3,164		0		4043	
	Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	0		0		0		0	
HWA	Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands (includes re-treatments)	300	\$109,500	286	\$104,390	0	\$35,000	586	\$139,390
Landlines	Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	24	\$18,951	152	\$103,500	0	\$0	176	\$103,500
NNIS	Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	2125	\$678,883	700	\$257,284	0	\$65,252	2825	\$322,536
	Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	2125		700		0		2825	
Roads	Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	58.5	\$203,184	117	\$441,367	0	\$0	175.5	\$441,367
	Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	177		354		0		531	
	Miles of high clearance system road improved	4.5		6		0		10.5	
	Miles of passenger car system roads improved	0.1		0		0		0.1	
Silviculture	Acres of forest vegetation established	168	\$232,311	405	\$426,580	0	\$0	573	\$426,580
	Acres of forest vegetation improved	840		2200		0		3040	
Timber	Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	500	\$90,047	500	\$87,774	0	\$4,060	1000	\$91,834
	Volume of timber sold or traded for restoration service work (CCF)	9350		9350		0		18700	
Trails	Miles of system trail maintained to standard	16	\$312,500	37	\$656,250	0	\$99,296	53	\$755,546
	Miles of system trail improved to standard	3.5		0		1		4.5	
Watershed	Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	49	\$225,000	60	\$193,155	0	\$18,550	109	\$211,705
	Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	4		0		0		4	
Monitoring	Challenge Cost-Share & Placeholder Funds		\$423,254						
8-year Total				\$3,756,122			\$567,114		\$3,837,725



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

Performance Measure Code	Average Historic Unit Cost	Cost Reduction per Unit	Assumptions
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce wildland fire risk	\$55/acre	10%	Assumptions are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – that \$55/acre accurately reflects the unit cost of prescribed burning; and – that rotational burns will only require planning costs for the first rotation.

Region 8’s established cost estimate for prescribed burning is \$55 per acre. As part of the Grandfather Restoration Project, we will complete repeat treatments, or rotational burnings, which will require less planning, layout, and line construction after the initial treatment. We’ve estimated a \$5 reduction from reduced planning costs, although this will not be realized within CFLR cost estimates because we are not expanding funds on planning.

We also anticipate efficiency gains (and small salary savings) based on understanding resource needs as we expand the size of our prescribed burn units.

3. Anticipated costs for infrastructure needed to implement project:

We do not anticipate investments in infrastructure over the life of this project.

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

Fiscal Year	Number of acres to be treated	Projected Green Tons Removed per Acre	Total Green Tons Available
2012	250	10.96	2741
2013			
2014			
2015	350	6.21	2175
2016			
2017			
2018	400	6.53	2610
2019			

The table above outlines small diameter trees used for pulpwood following a timber sale. Beyond these numbers, we do not anticipate a supply of woody biomass or small diameter trees removed in ecological restoration treatments. We have a small amount of demand for small diameter material, but it is not sufficient for landscape-scale restoration. Our timber management assistant plans to work directly with small businesses to provide wood products from sustainably managed forest lands, but we do not foresee that resulting in many acres treated for restoration. Landscape-scale treatments would require biomass utilization facilities to make that possible, which are not available in the area.

5. Projected local economic benefits:

Anticipated CFLR Funds:

Type of projects	Direct jobs	Total jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ¹
Commercial Forest Products	3.0	6.5	\$147,130	\$252,516
Other Project Activities	10.2	11.7	\$129,478	\$170,486
TOTALS:	19.1	24.9	\$370,936	\$540,289

Anticipated Total Funds:

Type of projects	Direct jobs	Total jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ²
Commercial Forest Products	6.1	13.0	\$294,260	\$505,031
Other Project Activities	18.6	21.2	\$225,764	\$299,525
TOTALS:	36.6	48.1	\$737,484	\$1,074,947

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

Source of Investment	Amount of Investment	Description of Use	Will these funds be used on NFS lands?
NC Wildlife Resources Commission	\$12,000	Prescribed burning and post-burn monitoring on Lake James Burn Unit.	Yes
NC Wildlife Resources Commission	\$200,000	Game lands management activities.	On and off NFS lands.
NC Bridge Crews	\$48,000	Assistance with prescribed burns.	Yes
The Wilderness Society SAWS Program	\$20,000	NNIS monitoring and tail maintenance.	Yes
The Wilderness Society Wilderness Ranger Program	\$20,000	HWA and NNIS monitoring.	Yes
National Wild Turkey Federation	\$2000	Timber sale assistance.	Yes
Western North Carolina Alliance	\$48,000	Hemlock woolly Adelgid and non-native invasive species treatments; timber sale assistance.	Yes
Wild South	\$15,000	Trail maintenance and bird monitoring.	Yes

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

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

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

At this time, we do not plan to identify any roads for decommissioning. We do have plans to convene a collaborative group to look at road issues over the life of the Project. This group could identify roads that would need to be decommissioned to meet ecological needs.

