

CFLR Project (Name/Number): Accelerating Longleaf/CFLRP10 2014
National Forest(s):Osceola Florida

Approved by (Forest Supervisor): _____

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

1. Match and Leverage funds:

a. FY14 Matching Funds Documentation

Fund Source – (CFLR Funds Expended¹)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
CFLN	\$984,542

Fund Source – (Carryover funds expended (Carryover to in addition to CFLR/CFLN)² (please include a new row for each BLI))	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
WFHF	\$184,682
NFTM	\$83,304
NFWF	\$3,069
NVFW	\$415,033

Fund Source – (FS Matching Funds (please include a new row for each BLI)³)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
WFHF	\$779,639
NFTM	\$298,356
NFWF	\$247,274
SSCC	\$40,143
CMRD	\$11,971
CWKV	\$532,413

Fund Source – (Funds contributed through agreements⁴)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
National Forest Foundation	\$34,000

Fund Source – (Partner In-Kind Contributions⁵)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
NWTF (National Wildlife Turkey Federation)	

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

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

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

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

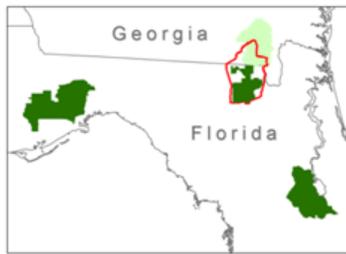
⁵ Total partner in-kind contributions for implementation and monitoring of a CFLR project. Please list the partner organizations that provided in-kind contributions. See "Annual Report instructions" for instructions on how to document in-kind contributions.

Fund Source – (Service work accomplishment through goods-for-services funding within a stewardship contract ⁶)	Total Funds Expended in Fiscal Year 2014(\$)
Hutto Stewardship	\$6,593.5 (Credits Charged)
Yellow Stewardship	\$159,920.87 (Credits Charged)

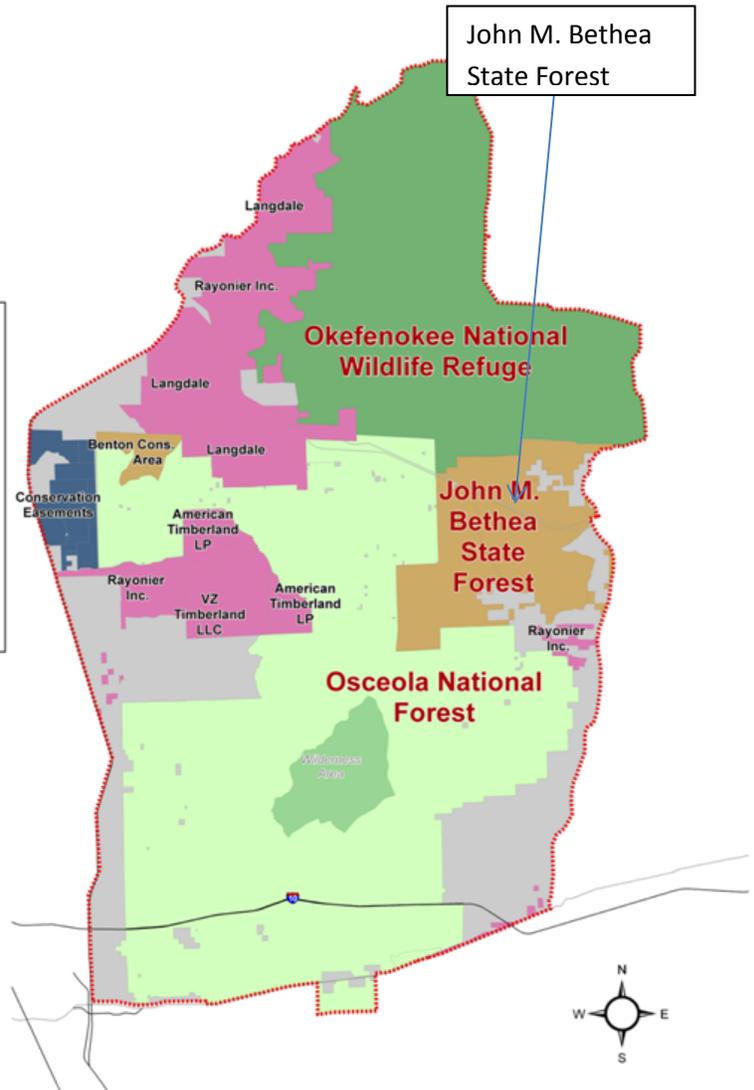
b. Please provide a narrative or table describing leveraged funds in your landscape in FY2014 (one page maximum)

The Florida Forest Service expended \$190,000 on landscape restoration activities including fuels management, site preparation, reforestation, and wildlife habitat improvement on John M. Bethea State Forest which is depicted in the map below. These state lands are within the CFLRP-Accelerating Longleaf footprint. \$50,000 of these funds was expended in reforestation from conversion of off-site slash pine to longleaf and/or reforesting wildfire scars.

CFLR GOAL Area Land Ownership



Land Owner	Acres	Percent
Federal	355,161	62.6
State	41,632	7.3
Private Cons. Easement	9,362	1.6
Private Ind. Timber	75,098	13.2
Private Nonindustrial	86,489	15.2
Total Acres	567,742	



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

2. Discuss how the CLFR project contributes to accomplishment of the performance measures in the 10 year Comprehensive Strategy Implementation Plan⁷, 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).

Performance Measure	Units
Percent change from 10-year average for wildfires controlled during initial attack	-5.0% Change
Percent change from 10 year average for number of unwanted human-caused wildfires	+40% Change
Percent of fires not contained in initial attack that exceed a stratified cost index	0%
Number and percent of WUI acres treated that are identified in CWPPS or other application collaboratively developed plans	25,424 acres
Number and percent of non-WUI acres treated that are identified through collaboration consistent with the <i>Implementation Plan</i>	4,200 acres
Number of acres treated per million dollars gross investment in WUI and non-WUI areas	29,624 acres
Percent of collaboratively identified high priority acres treated where fire management objectives are achieved as identified in applicable management plans or strategies	N/A
Number and percent of acres treated by prescribed fire, through collaboration consistent with the <i>Implementation Plan</i> .	29,624 acres
Number and percent of acres treated by mechanical thinning, through collaboration consistent with the <i>Implementation Plan</i> .	5,267 acres
Number of acres and percent of the natural ignitions that are allowed to burn under strategies that result in desired conditions	850
Number and percent of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are moved toward desired conditions	29,624
Number and percent of acres treated to restore fire-adapted ecosystems which are maintained in desired conditions	1,531 acres
Number and percent of burned acres identified in approved post-wildfire recovery plans as needing treatments that actually receive treatments	N/A
Percent of burned acres treated for post-wildfire recovery that are trending towards desired conditions	N/A

⁷ 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).

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

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

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ⁸
Commercial Forest Product Activities	4.8	8.4	\$226,334	\$369,447
Other Project Activities	64.7	68.3	\$543,098	\$655,099
TOTALS:	69.4	76.7	\$769,432	\$1,024,545

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

Type of projects	Direct part and full-time jobs	Total part and full-time jobs	Direct Labor Income	Total Labor Income ⁹
Commercial Forest Product Activities	79.0	138.7	\$3,737,289	\$6,100,400
Other Project Activities	132.6	140.8	\$1,164,176	\$1,416,151
TOTALS:	211.6	279.5	\$4,901,465	\$7,516,551

4. Describe other community benefits achieved and the methods used to gather information about these benefits

(Please limit answer to two pages). Contracts were awarded to small corporations within the commuting area. Forest management activities led to the harvest of 3,465 ccf of timber volume in Fiscal Year 2014 with an additional 57,215 ccf sold for out-year harvests. These activities have added product to local wood markets at competitive market rates.

An economic impact study conducted by Southwick and Associates and Responsive Management was conducted for the first three years of the Accelerating Longleaf Project. An excerpt from this study states, "This program has contributed over \$10 million to Gross Domestic Product, over \$1 million in state and local tax revenue, \$1.2 million in federal tax revenues were returned to the federal government, and \$7 million in salaries and wages were generated. In economic output, which is the sum of all personal and business spending resulting from the CFLR Program, over \$16.6 million in activity has been stimulated by this project over the past three years (2010-2012). For every \$1 invested in this program, \$0.20 is returned to the federal government in tax revenues, \$1.50 in GDP is created, and \$2.40 in total economic activity is generated".

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

A suite of ecological and biological data is being collected from randomly selected plots to monitor effects which can be extrapolated across the landscape. Forty sites were surveyed in 2014, focusing on avian diversity and abundance; plant diversity and cover; and ecological condition utilizing a ranked tier system. Additionally, vegetation treatments were monitored by the collaborative to determine efficacy of treatments for ecological restoration in pine flatwoods. Preliminary data findings support on-going work is generally moving the Osceola landscape to an improved ecological condition. While the majority of monitoring is being conducted by a Tall Timbers Research Station (TTRS) umbrella, the Cooperative for Conserved Forest Ecosystems: Outreach and Research (CFEOR) is also measuring efficacy of treatment

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

⁹ 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>.

types. Data from these monitoring efforts are utilized to update the Osceola National Forest's management techniques and Ecological Condition Model (ECM).

Photo points in addition to the aforementioned activities are being collected and are represented below. The first photo is before treatment and shows heavy fuels primarily composed of gallberry and palmetto. The second treatment was taken immediately post-treatment showing the reduction of these fuels via light roller chopping. This area also received a growing season burn during 2014. The third photo was taken one year after initial treatment showing the effectiveness of this fuel reduction activity. The panoramic photo at the bottom shows the condition of the stand today. Note the response of the herbaceous plants that were released by these treatments.



Photo Credits

Photos 1-3: Billy Taylor, USFS

Photo 4: Scott Ray, USFS

6. FY 2014 accomplishments

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished ¹⁰	Total Treatment Cost (\$)	Type of Funds (CFLR, Specific FS BLI, Partner Match) ¹¹
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	3,200 (1,693 reported in PAS)	\$232,000	CFLR
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	6,100	\$383,418	GSRV CFLN
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	1,600	NA	NA
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	173 (0 reported in PAS)	\$51,900	CFLN
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles	NA	NA	NA
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	2,685 (0 reported in PAS)	\$629,916	SPFH
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	20,790	114,430	SPFH
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	57,215	\$38,115	NFTM
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG	NA	NA	NA	N/A
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	4,320	\$56,000 \$61,600	CFLN WFHF
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	37,817	\$291,872 \$420,000	CFLN WFHF

¹⁰ Units accomplished should match the accomplishments recorded in the Databases of Record.

¹¹ 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.

7. FY 2014 accomplishment narrative (summarize key accomplishments and evaluate project progress) (please limit answer to three pages).

Increasing Prescribed Fire Acreage - On average, the ONF has been able to prescribe burn an average of 25,000 acres of the forest annually prior to CFLRP with most burns occurring in the dormant season. This equates to a fire return interval of 4-5 years (too long to achieve ecological restoration). The widely accepted fire return interval associated with healthy LLP forests is a return interval of 2 to 3 years. To achieve this, the ONF will double the annual prescribed fire acreage to 50,000 acres over the life of the project. In 2014, 29,424 acres were treated by prescribed burning. Heavy and frequent rainfall greatly reduced available burn days on the ONF, however, increased water levels in swamps allowed for burns to occur in high priority areas within the wildland-urban interface. Also, many of these prescribed fires were conducted during the growing season which is key to the establishment and maintenance of native herbaceous ground cover. Baker County completed its CWPP during 2014 so now a greater percentage of the forest is labeled as WUI. This designation change resulted in a much a greater number of acres being burned in the WUI than anticipated. (Performance Measure FP-FUELS-ALL)

Reducing Hazardous Fuel Loads - CFLR funding will be used to extend mulching/mastication contracts to reduce hazardous fuels from a total of 10,000 acres during this project's 10-year window. Mechanical reduction of these fuels has and will continue to facilitate the reintroduction of prescribed fire into areas deemed high risk for prescribed fire use. In 2014, 3,804 acres were mulched and some of these acres were subsequently burned in an effort to both reduce shrubby fuels and restore herbaceous species. (Performance Measure FP-FUELS-ALL)

Thinning Small Diameter Trees - CFLR dollars were used to increase timber sale preparation (cruising and marking contracts) and expand the current sales program. The Gator-Findley and the Yellow Robinson Stewardship project facilitated the sale and treatment of 4,496 acres through forest thinning and small conversion harvests. A total of 57,215 ccf of timber was sold and an additional 3,465 ccf of timber was harvested to reduce fuels, enhance native groundcover, and improve wildlife habitat. (Performance Measure TMBR-VOL-SLD)

A timber stand improvement project was completed on 546 additional acres to "release" young longleaf from surrounding competition. (Performance Measure FOR-VEG-IMP)

Harvesting Woody Biomass - Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production through timber harvests were 0.0 green tons. No funds were directly expended for the removal of this biomass. Instead, biomass was a by-product of converting slash pine to longleaf pine. (Performance Measure BIO-NRG)

Groundcover Restoration - Healthy longleaf pine ecosystems harbor some of the richest biological diversity in the country, most of which occurs on the forest floor in the form of grasses and herbaceous vegetation. Many wildlife and plant species, however, begin to decline as sunlight is shaded by an overly dense forest canopy or midstory. Saw palmetto, a naturally occurring shrub in longleaf pine flatwoods, usually occurs in sparse clumps. However, when longleaf pine forests are fire suppressed, saw palmetto densities increase dramatically and replace the diverse understory. When the density of saw palmetto exceeds 33% cover, imperiled grassland birds such as Bachman's sparrow, Henslow's sparrow and bobwhite are no longer present. A common and effective method of reducing saw palmetto coverage, reducing hazardous fuels, and increasing grass and herbaceous species is to use a single pass roller chopper followed closely by the application of prescribed fire. Timber stands with high basal areas of small diameter pines will be thinned, chopped, and burned on a 2-3 year rotation, stimulating the grass and herbaceous ground cover. During the 10 year period of this proposal, 21,000 acres will be treated by roller chopping to restore native groundcover. In 2014, 1,463 acres of palmetto chopping were accomplished. Understory herbaceous restoration is important to partners, the public, and overall ecosystem restoration success. (Performance Measure HBT-ENH-TERR)

Decommissioning Trails and Roads/ Hydrological Restoration - There are approximately 850 miles of non-designated routes on the ONF. Many of these non-designated routes are an artifact of historic management and are located on wet sites. The primary environmental impact of these roads is interrupted sheet flow from ditching or where roads have become incised from repeated surface blading. Since implementing a designated travel management system in 2007

the ONF has been monitoring the status of non-designated routes. On dry sites the results of monitoring indicate that most non-designated routes are naturally revegetating. However, on wet sites more active restoration is required. This proposal will actively restore approximately 309 miles over a ten year time frame by blocking road access, planting containerized trees and shrubs, light disking to increase ground cover and/or recontouring ditches and berms to restore normal hydrologic sheet flow. Numerous historic plowed firelines were created on the ONF for both prescribed fire and fire suppression that are interrupting hydrologic sheet flow and have altered the natural hydrology on the forest. In 2014, 16 miles of roads/trails were decommissioned (Performance Measure RD-DECOM and S&W-RSRC-IMP).

Partnerships have strengthened through a Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA) with NWTF; establishment of the Osceola to Okefenokee Longleaf Implementation Team; and through collaboration with The Nature Conservancy on prescribed burns, invasive species inventory, and planning for future SPAs under the newly signed Stewardship Master Agreement. TTRS continues to monitor ecological impacts in the treatment area. A collaboration meeting with CFEOR and the Southern Research Station will lead to enhanced evaluations of CFLRP treatment efficacy. National Forest Foundation and American Forests provided \$34,000 for the purchase of longleaf pine seedlings used during conversion from slash to longleaf pine.

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?¹²

Fiscal Year	Total number of acres treated (treatment footprint)
FY14	31,487
FY10, FY11, FY12 ,FY13 (as applicable- projects selected in FY2012 may will not have data for FY10 and FY11; projects that were HPRP projects in FY12, please include one number for FY12 and one number for FY13 (same as above))	169,228

9. In no more than two pages (large landscapes or very active fire seasons may need more space), describe other relevant fire management activities within the project area (hazardous fuel treatments are already documented in Question #6): The Osceola received heavy and frequent rainfall throughout much of the year as described above. Higher rainfall amounts reduced the overall acreage of fire use this year but there were also fewer wildfires and a greater percent of burning opportunities during the growing season than during the previous years. A number of lightning strikes were identified on the landscape with several strikes occurring within recently treated areas. In at least one case, fire burned around the base of the tree in one of these treated sites, but due to a lack of fuel and possibly subsequent rain, the fire did not spread more than a square meter. A focus continues to be placed on reducing fuels from the areas on the forest within traditional fire corridors and those areas with a high potential for catastrophic wildfire.

10. Describe any reasons that the FY 2014 annual report does not reflect your project proposal, previously reported planned accomplishments, or work plan. Did you face any unexpected challenges this year that caused you to change what was outlined in your proposal? (Please limit answer to two pages)
 Fire accomplishment was lower than projected due to heavy and frequent rainfall. However, this allowed for quality prescribed burns to enhance herbaceous ground cover and accomplish fuel reduction in WUI areas.

¹² 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.

11. Planned FY 2016 Accomplishments

Performance Measure Code ¹³	Unit of measure	Planned Accomplishment	Amount (\$)
Acres of forest vegetation established FOR-VEG-EST	Acres	500	42,500 CWKV
Acres of forest vegetation improved FOR-VEG-IMP	Acres	2,635	\$143,597 CFLN \$22,180 NFWW
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions. S&W-RSRC-IMP	Acres	10	\$3,250 CWKV \$13,000 CFLN
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced HBT-ENH-TERR	Acres	245	\$31,140 CFLN \$1,220 NFWF
Miles of road decommissioned RD-DECOM	Miles	33	26,000 CMRD \$34,000 CFLN
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales TMBR-SALES-TRT-AC	Acres	5,000	\$200,000 CFLN \$100,000 NFTM
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	30,000	\$100,000 CFLN \$25,000 NFTM
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD	CCF	10,000	\$200,000 CFLN \$25,000 NFTM
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface (WUI) to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-NON-WUI	Acre	400	\$160,000 WFHF
Acres of wildland/urban interface (WUI) high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire FP-FUELS-WUI	Acres	49,000	\$533,000 CFLN \$705,000 WFHF

12. Planned FY 2016 accomplishment narrative (no more than 1 page): During the Fiscal Year 2016 management activities will closely follow those in the original proposal. Twice the number acres of forest vegetation establishment will occur than originally proposed (85 acres in proposal vs. 200 acres anticipated) pending delays on timber harvest due to inclement weather. The 200-acre target is an anticipated but marked reduction from previous years' targets which included large scale conversion from slash to longleaf pine in areas devoid of the red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW). Since the majority of timber sales for Fiscal Year 2014 occurred in the core management area for RCW, and are largely thinning activities, very few sites will need to be reforested during 2016. There will likely be a transition to greater

¹³ Please include all relevant planned accomplishments, assuming that funding specified in the CFLRP project proposal for FY 2015 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.

utilization of palmetto roller chopping to enhance fine fuels and native herbaceous species. One of the limiting factors for more heavily utilizing palmetto chopping during the first half of this project has been the high tree density over much of the forest. As timber sales are conducted and basal area is reduced, palmetto roller chopping will increase in use. Mastication activities will continue but there will be a stable to declining rate of this management activity as forest is treated with prescribed fire and as palmetto chopping becomes a greater component of management activities.

13. Describe and provide narrative justification if planned FY 2015/16 accomplishments and/or funding differs from CFLRP project work plan (no more than 1 page): No significant decrease in targets are proposed or expected during FY 2014/2015.