

Colorado Forest Restoration Institute-Colorado State University
FY2014 ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

For FY2014 for Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) at Colorado State University was allocated \$150,000 to meet the intent of the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004.

This annual report for FY2014 contains information on the following:

- A comparison of actual accomplishments to the goals established for each work plan project. Where the output of a project can be readily expressed in numbers, a computation of the cost per unit may be required if that information is useful.
- Reason for delay if established goals were not met.
- Additional pertinent information including, when appropriate, analysis and explanation of cost overruns or high unit costs.

Explanations are provided for changes or incomplete deliverables. A federal financial report is submitted separately from the Office of Sponsored Programs at Colorado State University to the Southwest Regional Office.

Project 1: Supporting Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Projects

Project components:

- Coordinating the implementation and adaptive management of the multi-party monitoring plan for the Front Range Collaborative Landscape Restoration Program
- Provide field-based assessments and trainings for federal and non-federal forest land and wildfire risk managers concerning new knowledge
- Ongoing technical assistance for the Uncompahgre Plateau Mesas Forest Restoration Project: treatment design, ecological and socio-economic monitoring, and adaptive management

| <i>Supporting Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Projects</i> | |
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| Proposed Project Deliverable | Actual Project Deliverable |
| Calendar year 2013 ecological and social-economic monitoring report for the Front Range Collaborative | Socio-economic monitoring report is under development. The reason for the delay is due to a change in CFRI personnel; CFRI staff have compiled data and are undergoing analysis. The ecological monitoring report is complete can be downloaded at http://coloradorestoration.org/wp- |

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| Forest Landscape Restoration Program. | content/uploads/2014/11/FR_CFLRP_EcologicalMonitoringReport2013_Final1.pdf . Primary contact: Mark Martin, Arapaho-Roosevelt NF and Pawnee NG. |
| Calendar year 2013 ecological and social-economic monitoring report for the Uncompahgre Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program. | In progress. The CY2012 socio-economic monitoring report is complete and can be downloaded at http://coloradoforestrestoration.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/UP-CFLR-2012-Social-Economic-Monitoring-Report_Final.pdf . The CY2013 socio-economic data are being compiled; CFRI personnel change has delayed this work. The ecological monitoring report is completed and can be downloaded at http://coloradoforestrestoration.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/2014_UP-Forestry-Forensics-Final.pdf . Primary contact: Tammy Randall-Parker, Ouray District Ranger, and Clay Speas, CFLR coordinator for the GMUG NF. |
| At least two (2) field-based workshops per CFLR project to review and deliberate treatment effects and desired conditions | 1) Co-organized and –sponsored a multi-stakeholder field workshop to the Uncompahgre Plateau July 26-27 and September 12-13, 2014 to visit the Uncompahgre Mesas Forest Restoration treatment areas. Attended by over 20 individuals from federal and state agencies, research institutions, industry, and non-governmental organizations. Primary contact: Tammy Randall-Parker, District Ranger, Ouray Ranger District. 2) Co-organized and –sponsored a multi-stakeholder field workshop to Colorado Front Range CFLR project sites on the Pike National Forest, August 20, 2014, and the Arapaho-Roosevelt NF, July 23, 2013. Attended by over 40 individuals from federal and state agencies, research institutions, industry, and non-governmental organizations. Primary contacts: Sara Mayben, Renewable Resources Staff Officer, Pike-San Isabel National Forest, and Mark Martin, Acting Ecosystem Staff Officer, Arapaho-Roosevelt NF and Pawnee NG. |

Project 2: Addressing Knowledge Needs for Post-Bark Beetle Forest Recovery

Project components:

- Assist efforts to prioritize and assess the effects of post-bark beetle forest treatments

- Expand opportunities to link managerial monitoring of forest recovery and management effects with RMRS post-outbreak research on forest recovery and management effects

| Supporting Post-Bark Beetle Future Forest Planning, Analysis, and Monitoring | |
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| Proposed Project Deliverable | Actual Project Deliverable |
| 1-3 technical report or brief on new knowledge about post-beetle forest structure and composition. | <p>1) Refereed journal publication: Pelz, K.A. and F.W. Smith. 2013. How will aspen respond to mountain pine beetle? A review of literature and discussion of knowledge gaps. <i>Forest Ecology and Management</i> 299(1):60-69. Downloadable at: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112713000352</p> <p>2) A framework for assessing hazards associated with forest disturbances for the Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative. Downloadable at: http://coloradorestoration.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/CBBC-Hazards-Narrative.pdf</p> |
| Participate in assessment and planning events of the Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative | <p>Participated in the Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative re-focusing exercise January 16, 2014.</p> <p>Participated in organizing committee for October 24, 2014 annual stakeholders meeting.</p> <p>US Forest Service contact: Jan Burke, Renewable Resources, White River National Forest</p> |
| Convene at least one (1) workshop in partnership with RMRS research scientists and federal and private forest land managers to link managerial monitoring and scientific research | <p>Ongoing. CFRI is collaborating with RMRS to monitor vegetation response in unlogged and logged sites that were impacted by the Church Park Fire that burned in October 2010. The study is the first of its kind and will inform how salvage logging of bark beetle might affect tree regeneration following fire. Field workshops are planned once data have been analyzed and a publication has been written. Contact: Chuck Rhoades, Research Scientist, RMRS.</p> |

Project 3: Assessing Treatment Effectiveness

Project components:

- Analyze currently available information on restoration and hazard reduction treatments relative to desired conditions.

Assessing Treatment Effectiveness

| Proposed Project Deliverable | Actual Project Deliverable |
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| Between 1-3 field-based workshops to review and deliberate treatment effects and desired conditions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Two workshops to present draft of the Colorado Front Range Ponderosa Pine Forest Restoration Guidelines General Technical Report (will be similar to RMRS-GTR-310 for Region 3), January 29 and February 5, 2014 for the Pike-San Isabel and Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests, respectively. Contact: Claudia Regan, Regional Vegetation Ecologist, Region 2. 2) In collaboration with the Redstone Wildfire Mitigators group in Northern Colorado, CFRI participated in a field trip April 5, 2014 to examine the effect of fuel reduction treatments in managing the High Park Fire that burned June 2012. US Forest Service contact: Dave Cawrse, Director, Forest Management Service Center, Fort Collins. |
| Between 1-3 written reports on current available evidence or scientific research on treatment effectiveness on wildland fire behavior | <p>CFRI staff are being leveraged to assist with monitoring fuel treatment effectiveness for the Colorado Department of Natural Resources Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant Program (WRRG). Preliminary field data have been collected and analyzed. The WRRG monitoring program can be downloaded at: http://coloradoforestrestoration.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/2013-WRRG-Monitoring-Summary-final.pdf</p> <p>The monitoring protocol can be downloaded at: http://coloradoforestrestoration.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/DNR-WRRG-sampling-protocol.pdf</p> <p>CFRI will be collaborating further with Roger Ottmar, Fire and Environmental Research Applications Team, PNW Research Station.</p> |

Project 4: Supporting Collaborative Capacity-Building

Project components:

- Current information on biophysical and social science pertaining to forest restoration and fuel reduction
- Current analysis and interpretation on policies and programs pertaining to forest restoration and fuel reduction
- Coordinate and facilitate learning within and between place-based forest collaboratives

| Supporting Collaborative Capacity-Building | |
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| Proposed Project Deliverable | Actual Project Deliverable |
| <p>Between 2-4 site visits or field-based workshops for place-based forest collaboratives to deliver current knowledge and analyses</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) In cooperation with the Ecological Restoration Institute, co-organized and – sponsored a joint Region 2 and Region 3 CFLR Peer-Learning Workshop in Montrose, CO, October 29-31. Contact: Lauren Marshall, Washington Office – National CFLR Program Coordinator. 2) Co-organized and facilitated Uncompahgre CFLR Annual Stakeholder Meeting to review prior year accomplishments and monitoring results, and define current year work plan, March 4, 2014. Contact: Clay Speas, Uncompahgre CFLR Coordinator. 3) Co-organized and facilitated forest health summit involving Under Secretary Robert Bonnie, Colorado US Senator Michael Bennet, and Colorado forest collaboratives, March 14. Contact: Noah Koerper, western Colorado field office for Sen. Bennet’s office. 4) Co-organized and facilitated the Colorado Front Range CFLR “Monitoring Jam Session” to conduct 3-year evaluation and adaptive management with collaborators, April 23, 2014. Contact: Mark Martin, Acting Ecosystem Staff Officer, Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest. |