



COLORADO FOREST
RESTORATION INSTITUTE
Colorado State University

Uncompaghre Plateau Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program:

Social Impacts & Contributions

CFRI-1805

The UP-CFLR program has made tremendous progress building a strong connection with the local community and involving them in the collaborative process. This has led to support for active forest restoration, and increased the likelihood of successful collaboration throughout implementation. Strong local support has resulted in increased planning efficiencies and resulted in 20,938 acres of mechanical treatments and 10,589 acres of prescribed fire without any litigation. Some benefits from our strong collaborative are:

- **Lack of conflict or litigation** with the US Forest Service regarding the projects due to public support for the Uncompaghre Plateau-CFLRP; this in turn fosters support for future projects on the forest (Bergemann, 2017).
- The **collaborative process is viewed by stakeholders as legitimate**, particularly due to the integration of science and the inclusion of monitoring efforts (Bergemann, 2017).
- The collaborative process is viewed by participants to provide **sufficient opportunities for involvement**, including planning, monitoring, and adaptive management discussions (Bergemann, 2017).
- Participants view the collaborative process **as fair and transparent**. Collaboration and fosters timely communication, group learning, and conflict management. **Monitoring was identified as creating a strong level of trust** amongst all stakeholders, **particularly between stakeholders and the US Forest Service** (Bergemann, 2017).

Trust and ongoing collaboration was developed through:

- Field trips and citizen science **activities offered to the public through academic involvement provided learning opportunities and garnered support for the project and US Forest Service** (Bergemann, 2017).
- **Creation of three high school internship programs provides workforce training and job opportunities to local youth while garnering support for the collaborative, the**

US Forest Service, and the projects amongst the local community (see Uncompahgre Plateau CFLRP High School Internship Programs document for more information).

- **Monitoring programs have provided opportunities for collaborative learning, actionable knowledge, and conflict resolution.**
- **A diverse range of interests and organizations have committed to the collaborative process** (not exhaustive):
 - US Forest Service
 - *Other federal agencies:* Western Area Power Administration.
 - *State agencies:* Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Colorado State Forest Service
 - *County agencies:* Mesa, Delta, San Miguel and Montrose Counties
 - *Private industry:* Colorado Wood Company and Montrose Forest Products
 - *Conservation Groups:* Western Colorado Congress, Trout Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Mule Deer Foundation, National Wild Turkey Foundation, Western Colorado Landscape Collaborative, Public Lands Partnership, Uncompahgre Partnership and Uncom.
 - *Academia:* Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, Colorado State University



References:

Bergemann, Hannah. (2017). The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program: Lessons from Two Colorado-Based Forest Restoration Projects Thesis. Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, USA.



COLORADO FOREST
RESTORATION INSTITUTE
Colorado State University

Do you have questions or want more information? Contact Marin Chambers at marin.chambers@colostate.edu. Summary prepared July 2018.