



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP 16 2013

The Honorable Jack Reed
Chair
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the Forest Service's Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund report on National Forest System lands covering the period from fiscal year (FY) 2010 to FY 2012, as required by the FY 2013 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, P.L. 113-6.

In compliance with section 435 of Public Law 111-88, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/congressional-directives.shtml>.

A similar letter and report are being sent to Senator Murkowski and Congressmen Simpson and Moran.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Vilsack". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP 16 2013

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

Enclosed is the Forest Service's Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund report on National Forest System lands covering the period from fiscal year (FY) 2010 to FY 2012, as required by the FY 2013 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, P.L. 113-6.

In compliance with section 435 of Public Law 111-88, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/congressional-directives.shtml>.

A similar letter and report are being sent to Senator Reed and Congressmen Simpson and Moran.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Vilsack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Vilsack" clearly legible.

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP 16 2013

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson
Chair
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is the Forest Service's Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund report on National Forest System lands covering the period from fiscal year (FY) 2010 to FY 2012, as required by the FY 2013 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, P.L. 113-6.

In compliance with section 435 of Public Law 111-88, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/congressional-directives.shtml>.

A similar letter and report are being sent to Congressman Moran and Senators Reed and Murkowski.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Vilsack". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

SEP 16 2013

The Honorable James Moran
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Moran:

Enclosed is the Forest Service's Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund report on National Forest System lands covering the period from fiscal year (FY) 2010 to FY 2012, as required by the FY 2013 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, P.L. 113-6.

In compliance with section 435 of Public Law 111-88, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/congressional-directives.shtml>.

A similar letter and report are being sent to Congressman Simpson and Senators Reed and Murkowski.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Fiscal Years 2010-2012

The CFLR program consists of 23 projects, 10 in fiscal year (FY) 2010, 10 in FY 2012, and three that were implemented as High Priority Restoration (HPR) projects in FY 2012 and were selected as a part of CFLR in FY 2013. The projects selected in FY 2012 were from proposals submitted in FY 2011. The HPR projects were treated like CFLR projects but not funded as CFLR until FY 2013. The tables below give a general description of each of the projects.

FY 2010 selected CFLR projects

Region	Project Name	Project Description
Northern Region	Southwestern Crown of the Continent	The Southwestern Crown of the Continent covers 1,449,670 acres, 70 percent of which is public land. The project seeks to restore native forests through thinning, prescribed fire, road ripping, Best Management Practice implementation, exotic species removal, bridge and culvert upgrades and replacement, planting in riparian areas and stream channel restoration.
Northern Region	Selway-Middle Fork Clearwater Project	The Selway-Middle Fork Clearwater Project is located in Idaho and is a collaborative effort between the Clearwater Basin Collaborative and the Nez Perce and Clearwater National Forests. The basin contains 380,000 acres of Forest Service lands and is renowned for its pristine waters, fisheries, big games species and scenic vistas.
Rocky Mountain Region	Uncompahgre Plateau	The Uncompahgre Plateau, which will include restoration of seven ecosystem types, includes key watersheds that feed the Colorado River. It is located on the Uncompahgre National Forest and includes 160,000 acres.
Rocky Mountain Region	Colorado Front Range	The Colorado Front Range Landscape Restoration Initiative, located in the Arapaho, Roosevelt, Pike, and San Isabel National Forests seeks to increase resilience and lower wildfire risk in a ponderosa pine forest ecosystem.
Southwestern Region	4 Forest Restoration Initiative	The 4 Forest Restoration Initiative, located on the Apache-Sitgreaves, Kaibab, Coconino and Tonto National Forests focuses on the restoration of the southwestern ponderosa pine ecosystem and will treat up to 50,000 acres per year.
Southwestern Region	Southwest Jemez Mountains	The Southwest Jemez Mountains project comprises 210,000 acres, 93 percent of which is divided between the Santa Fe National Forest and the Valles Caldera Trust-Valles National Preserve. The project will focus on restoring the areas' forested ecosystems, which are dominated by ponderosa pine and dry mixed conifer forest types.
Pacific Southwest Region	Dinkey Landscape Restoration Project	The Dinkey Landscape Restoration Project includes 130,000 acres on the Sierra National Forest and 20,000 acres of private land in California. Targeted ecosystems include coniferous forest, foothill hardwood and chaparral vegetation, mountain meadows and riparian forests. The project aims to create resilient ecosystems and enhance the ability to adapt to wildfire.

<p>Pacific Northwest Region</p>	<p>Tapash</p>	<p>The Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative aims to enhance the resilience and sustainability of forests by treating approximately 168,600 acres over 10 years. This project is a joint effort between the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, the Yakama nation, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife.</p>
<p>Pacific Northwest Region</p>	<p>Deschutes Skyline</p>	<p>The Deschutes Skyline Landscape project is located on 97,000 acres in the Deschutes National Forest in Oregon. The majority of the landscape is ponderosa pine and dry mixed conifer forest types. The goal of the project is to restore forest ecosystems to be resilient to natural processes.</p>
<p>Southern Region</p>	<p>Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration in Northeast Florida</p>	<p>The Longleaf Pine Restoration project in Northeast Florida is comprised of approximately 235,000 acres in the Osceola National Forest. The project seeks to restore forest ecosystems that have been significantly altered by fire exclusion and hydrologic alteration.</p>

FY 2012 selected CFLR projects

Region	Project Name	Project Description
Pacific Southwest Region	Burney-Hat Creek Basins Project, California	Controlled burns and mechanical reduction of brush and overgrowth will boost wood production and reduce the threat of destructive mega-fires in this area, which will become more resilient to pest infestation, drought and climate change.
Eastern Region	Pine-Oak Woodlands Restoration Project, Missouri	Through thinning and prescribed burn treatments, the Pine-Oak Woodlands Project will make the forests of the woodlands more resilient to wildfire, drought, insects and climate change and maintain the area's value for people, water and wildlife.
Southern Region	Shortleaf-Bluestem Community Project, Arkansas and Oklahoma	Through thinning and controlled burn treatments, the Shortleaf-Bluestem Community Project will make the forests of the woodlands more resilient to wildfire, drought, insects, pollutants and climate change to maintain the area's value for people and wildlife.
Intermountain Region	Weiser-Little Salmon Headwaters Project, Idaho	Approximately 87 percent of the Payette National Forest is forested with a continuous landscape of low- to mid-elevation forest, making an ideal home for about 300 land species, including elk, deer, moose, black bear, mountain lion, wolverines and fishers.
Northern Region	Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative, Idaho	Thinning treatments in this project will provide ample commercial timber and biomass opportunities, while controlled burns will reduce the risk of damaging mega-fires, improve water quality, enhance wildlife habitat and address insect infestation.
Pacific Northwest Region	Southern Blues Restoration Coalition, Oregon	Project will provide a dramatic increase in the availability of small diameter forest products, including biomass, for the nearby communities of John Day and Burns. Controlled burns will be used to improve forage habitat for big game.
Pacific Northwest Region	Lakeview Stewardship Project, Oregon	Project treatments will improve water conditions, reduce the risk of destructive mega-fires and fight beetle infestation through brush removal and controlled burns. Project yield will be provided to the soon-completed Iberdrola Renewable Resources biomass plant.
Southwestern Region	Zuni Mountain Project, New Mexico	Through thinning and controlled burn treatments, this project will make the forests of Zuni Mountain more resilient to wildfire, drought, bark beetles and climate change and maintain the area's value for people, water and wildlife.
Southern Region	Grandfather Restoration Project, North Carolina	Restoration activities will improve forests in Linville Gorge and along Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River, reducing fire risk and providing small diameter tree materials for firewood, pulp, bioenergy and specialty furniture and building products.

Pacific Southwest Region	Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group Cornerstone Project, California	Project activities will benefit people, water and wildlife by removing surface and ladder fuels, thinning overgrown brush, restoring meadows and streams, improving road quality, constructing fuel breaks, replanting burned areas, treating cultural sites and conducting controlled burns.
--------------------------	--	---

The following three projects were identified as high priority restoration activities in FY 2012 and were selected as CFLR projects in FY 2013.

Region	Project Name	Project Description
Pacific Northwest Region	Northeast Washington Forest Vision 2020, Washington	Project goals are to remove brush and do small diameter tree thinning and controlled burns. These activities will produce material for local sawmills and secondary manufacturers, as well as provide biomass for a local power producer.
Southern Region	Ozark Highlands Ecosystem Restoration, Arkansas	Through thinning and controlled burn treatments, this project will expand elk habitat and hunter opportunities while making this forest more resilient to wildfire, drought, insects, pollutants and climate change.
Southern Region	Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration and Hazardous Fuels Reduction, Mississippi	Through longleaf pine re-establishment and thinning treatments, red-cockaded woodpecker habitat will be expanded. The project will also make the De Soto forests more resilient to wildfire, drought, insects, pollutants and climate change to maintain the area's value for people, water and wildlife.

CFLR accomplishments from FY 2010-FY 2012

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished*
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	Acres	0
Acres of forest vegetation established	Acres	34,345
Acres of forest vegetation improved	Acres	72,320
Manage noxious weeds and invasive plants	Acres	39,380
Highest priority acres treated for invasive terrestrial and aquatic species on NFS lands	Acres	0
Acres of water or soil resources protected, maintained or improved to achieve desired watershed conditions	Acres	18,114
Acres of lake habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	3,000
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	Miles	363
Acres of terrestrial habitat restored or enhanced	Acres	415,229
Acres of rangeland vegetation improved	Acres	10,613
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	1,871
Miles of passenger car system roads receiving maintenance	Miles	2,601
Miles of road decommissioned	Miles	249
Miles of passenger car system roads improved	Miles	241
Miles of high clearance system roads improved	Miles	121
Number of stream crossings constructed or reconstructed to provide for aquatic organism passage	Number	22
Miles of system trail maintained to standard	Miles	2008
Miles of system trail improved to standard	Miles	97
Miles of property line marked/maintained to standard	Miles	95
Acres of forestlands treated using timber sales	Acres	11,451
Volume of timber sold (CCF)	CCF	889,731
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production	Green tons	1,157,984
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the wildland/urban interface to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acre	224,294
Acres of wildland/urban interface high priority hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildland fire	Acres	310,495
Number of priority acres treated annually for invasive species on Federal lands	Acres	181
Number of priority acres treated annually for native pests on Federal lands	Acres	907

*Accomplishments are not included for the three High Priority Restoration projects.

The CFLR program is supporting strong rural communities. In FY 2011, CFLR and matching funds spent through this program created or maintained more than 3,375 full and part time jobs, generating more than \$125,326,126 in labor income. Building off of this success, in FY 2012, the program created or maintained 4,174 jobs and generated \$147,485,912 in labor income. More definitive outcomes such as reduction of wildfire management costs, re-establishing natural fire regimes and reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire are determined over a longer period. We expect to be able to show measurable outcomes when the 5-year report to Congress on the CFLR program is produced in 2015.