

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Fiscal Year 2010

Introduction

The Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) program was established by Congress under Title IV of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Omnibus Act). Its purpose is to encourage the collaborative, science-based ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. Title IV of the Omnibus Act establishes the CFLR Fund and authorizes up to \$40 million annually for fiscal years (FY) 2009 through 2019. The CFLR Fund provides authority to cover up to 50 percent of the cost of carrying out and monitoring ecological restoration treatments on forested National Forest System (NFS) lands for projects where a landscape restoration strategy has been completed and that also meet the eligibility criteria specified within the Omnibus Act. This report addresses:

- The projects selected for implementation;
- The estimated project costs; and
- The criteria used for the project selection.

Selected Projects

The Omnibus Act limits the number of proposals selected for funding to ten in any one fiscal year and no more than two per year in any one Forest Service region. Table 1 provides a brief description of the selected projects in FY 2010.

Table 1: FY 2010 Selected CFLR Projects

Region	Forest	Project Name	Project Description
Northern Region	Lolo, Flathead, Helena	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 (BMP) implementation, exotic species removal, bridge and culvert upgrades and replacement, planting in riparian areas, and stream channel restoration.
Northern Region	Nez Perce, Clearwater	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 game species, and scenic vistas.
Rocky Mountain Region	Uncompahgre	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.

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Rocky Mountain Region	Arapaho, Roosevelt, Pike, San Isabel	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	Apache-Sitgreaves, Kaibab, Coconino, Tonto	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	Santa Fe/Valles Caldera Trust & National Preserve	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 that are dominated by ponderosa pine and dry mixed conifer forest types.
Pacific Southwest Region	Sierra	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.
Pacific Northwest Region	Okanagon-Wenatchee	Tapash	The Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative aims to enhance the resilience and sustainability of forests by treating approximately 168,600 acres over ten 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.
Pacific Northwest Region	Deschutes	Deschutes Skyline	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.
Southern Region	National Forests in Florida (Osceola)	Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration in Northeast Florida	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.

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Estimated Project Costs

Congress appropriated \$10 million in FY 2010 for CFLR projects, which was allocated to the selected projects as displayed in Table 2. Table 3 provides the estimated cost of each project over its ten-year lifespan; however, these values are estimates and will be updated annually.

Table 2: Distribution of FY 2010 CFLR Funds

Project Name	FY 2010 Partnership Funds	FY 2010 Agency Match	FY 2010 CFLR Funding	FY 2010 Total Costs
Southwestern Crown of the Continent	\$432,829	\$596,463	\$1,029,292	\$2,058,584
Selway-Middle Fork Clearwater Project	\$1,000,000	\$15,758,000	\$1,000,000	\$17,758,000
Uncompahgre Plateau	\$575,000	\$421,600	\$446,000	\$1,442,600
Colorado Front Range	\$0	\$3,028,000	\$1,000,000	\$4,028,000
4 Forest Restoration Initiative	\$972,000	\$24,023,000	\$2,000,000	\$26,995,000
Southwest Jemez Mountains	\$262,000	\$458,000	\$392,000	\$1,112,000
Dinkey Landscape Restoration Project	\$593,947	\$565,139	\$829,905	\$1,988,991
Tapash	\$1,217,000	\$414,803	\$1,631,803	\$3,263,606
Deschutes Skyline	\$255,500	\$2,430,000	\$500,000	\$3,185,500
Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration in Northeast Florida	\$87,000	\$2,701,650	\$1,171,000	\$3,959,650
TOTAL:	\$5,395,276	\$50,396,655	\$10,000,000	\$65,791,931

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Table 3: Estimated Funding Needs Over the Ten-Year Lifespan of FY 2010 CFLR Projects

Project Name	Partnership Funds	Agency Match	CFLR Funding	Total Costs
Southwestern Crown of the Continent	\$23,700,373	\$29,687,869	\$37,029,292	\$90,417,534
Selway-Middle Fork Clearwater Project	\$16,011,501	\$42,342,622	\$36,861,840	\$95,215,963
Uncompahgre Plateau	\$3,615,900	\$5,883,400	\$7,720,600	\$17,219,900
Colorado Front Range	\$9,000,000	\$30,616,000	\$37,000,000	\$76,616,000
4 Forest Restoration Initiative	\$7,272,000	\$159,532,000	\$38,000,000	\$204,804,000
Southwest Jemez Mountains	\$14,719,000	\$27,128,000	\$34,614,000	\$76,461,000
Dinkey Landscape Restoration Project	\$3,980,793	\$5,255,608	\$8,907,205	\$18,143,606
Tapash	\$2,939,999	\$30,503,701	\$11,844,237	\$45,287,937
Deschutes Skyline	\$1,743,000	\$10,521,600	\$10,057,000	\$22,321,600
Accelerating Longleaf Pine Restoration in Northeast Florida	\$870,000	\$20,153,056	\$17,181,682	\$38,204,738
TOTAL	\$83,852,566	\$361,623,856	\$239,215,856	\$684,692,278

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Selection Criteria

A Federal Advisory Committee, consisting of 15 members, was established to evaluate and recommend Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration proposals for selection and funding. The advisory committee's recommendations were considered by the Chief of the Forest Service, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, to make final project selections. Special consideration was given to the following criteria:

- Strength of the proposal and strategy;
- Strength of the ecological case of the proposal and the proposed ecological restoration strategies;
- Strength of the collaborative process and the likelihood of successful collaboration throughout implementation;
- Whether the proposal is likely to achieve the reductions in long-term wildfire management costs;
- Whether the proposal would reduce the relative costs of carrying out ecological restoration treatments as a result of the use of woody biomass and small-diameter trees;
- Whether an appropriate level of non-Federal investment would be leveraged in carrying out the proposal; and
- Benefits to the local economy and job market.