

Did CFLRP increase economic utilization of restoration by-products?



Timber removed from thinning treatment (left) and a wood processing facility in the Rio Chama landscape (right).

Intended monitoring:

Measure change in the volume and number of types of wood products generated in mills in and around the CFLRP.

Measure change in the volume of wood to various sawmills within the project landscape.

Record the number of trainings or biomass utilization development events offered.

Completed monitoring:

Wood processor surveys focused on the largest sawmills in the Rio Chama CFLRP area of interest, gathering wood product data. The University of Montana is currently processing the Timber Products Output (TPO) data.

Wood processor surveys focused on the largest sawmills in the Rio Chama CFLRP area of interest. Change compared to historical data can be analyzed once TPO data is available.

No biomass utilization events were offered in 2023. No formal system is in place to track biomass utilization trainings.



Overview of results:

Timber and BIO-NRG volume extracted(from FACTS):

Performance Measure	Unit of measure	Total Units Accomplished
Volume of Timber Harvested TMBR-VOL-HVST	CCF	N/A
Volume of timber sold TMBR-VOL-SLD (from FACTS)	CCF	47,921
Green tons from small diameter and low value trees removed from NFS lands and made available for bio-energy production BIO-NRG (from FACTS)	Green tons	95,470

Wood utilization data for CFLRP area of interest: collected through key informant interviews, wood processor surveys, and Forest Service databases.

New Mexico

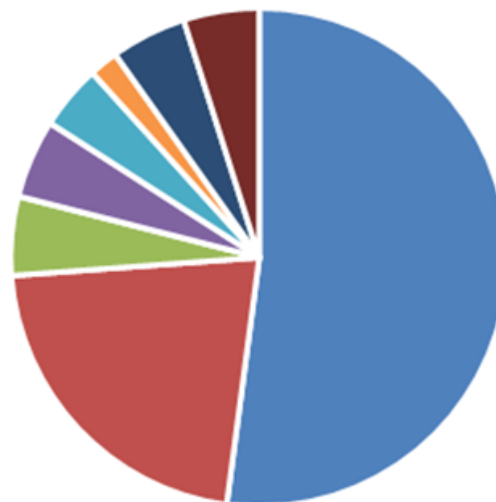
Product	MCF	Percentage of harvest
Bioenergy/fuelwood	27,045	46%
Composite panel	992	2%
Miscellaneous	4,620	8%
Poles, posts, pilings	959	2%
Pulpwood	1,738	3%
Saw logs	22,736	39%
TOTALS	58,091	100%

Colorado

Product	MCF	Percentage of harvest
Bioenergy/fuelwood	9,464	37%
Composite panel	590	2%
Miscellaneous	1,830	7%
Poles, posts, pilings	1,439	6%
Pulpwood	79	>1%
Saw logs	12,254	48%
TOTALS	25,657	100%

Wood products distribution:

FY 2023 Wood Products by Percentage



- Lumber
- Woodchips
- Sawdust
- Shavings
- Excelsior
- Firewood
- Bark
- Hog fuel

Notes from the field:

The area of interest (AOI) counties were determined in 2022 by a socioeconomic sub-group of the 2-3-2 Monitoring Committee. Lists of wood processing firms were acquired from state forestry departments and key informant interviews. Wood processing surveys were conducted by Guild staff via email and phone and targeted the largest wood processors within the AOI. Data is analyzed and shared in aggregate to protect proprietary and sensitive information.

Calculating how much wood went to each mill from non-federal land is difficult to monitor and relies solely on wood processor survey responses. All US Forest Service contracts are reported through the agency's FACTS database, but there is no comprehensive reporting tool for all other contracts. More wood product data will soon be available once the University of Montana finishes analysis of local TPO county data. This 2023 data will provide a solid baseline to analyze change in use and type of restoration by-products.

The 2-3-2 Partnership Biomass Committee is active in engaging local partners and is working to support training opportunities for biomass utilization. There is broad interest across the landscape to connect restoration by products to local communities.

Jobs and funding split by component: (data from the Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Toolkit (TREAT))

Component	Jobs Supported	Jobs Maintained	CFLRP Funding	Matching Funding
Timber harvesting component	122	168	\$6,439,529	\$8,656,470
Forest and watershed restoration component	80	116	\$3,754,332	\$5,681,859
Mill processing component	104	215	\$3,869,906	\$8,316,290
Implementation and monitoring	22	26	\$900,839	\$1,032,405
Other Project Activities	4	6	\$176,476	\$301,262
Totals:	331	531	\$15,141,082	\$23,988,285



Table summarizes adaptive management (AM) watch-outs as defined in Edition 1 of the 232 Partnership Multiparty Monitoring plan. AM watch-outs were determined by the 232 Partnership at the February 2023 meeting in Taos, NM. Yellow boxes indicate the watch-out was met, or not measured, and should be considered for collaborative discussion.

AM Watch-out

Commentary

Decrease in volume of wood products generated.

Baseline data only - no comparative data.

Decrease in variety of wood products.

Baseline data only - no comparative data.

Decrease in volume of wood to mills.

Baseline data only - no comparative data.

Trainings and development of biomass utilization are not offered.

No trainings in biomass utilization were offered in 2023 in the CFLRP landscape. No training tracking system currently exists.

Monitoring Committee Recommendations and Takeaways

- Find out which wood processors are missing from data and what the current landscape coverage is from survey efforts.
- Data needs to explicitly define the source and level of uncertainty.
- Measure and increase survey coverage and survey response rate.
- Increase the level of byproduct utilization and investment.

Rio Chama CFLRP monitoring efforts and collaborative discussions are ongoing. Please direct comments and questions to cody@forestguild.org