How have CFLRP activities supported local jobs and labor income?

Mechanical thinning treatment (left), FSYC crew conducting ecological monitoring (right)

Intended monitoring:	Completed monitoring:
Analyze TREAT model outputs.	Local project economic data, from key informant interviews, was entered into the Treatment for Restoration Economic Analysis Toolkit (TREAT) model generating local impact results.
Record the number of full time jobs, part time jobs, and number of employees reported by partner surveys.	Key informant interviews were conducted across the project area and respondents reported jobs and number of employees.
Record the average commute time of employees reported by partner surveys.	Key informant interviews were conducted across the project area and some respondents reported average commute times of employees.
Record the percent of wages paid reported by partner surveys.	Key informant interviews were conducted across the project area and some respondents reported the percent of wages paid.
Record the ratio of people hired annually vs. employed reported by partner surveys.	Annual hiring vs. employment was captured through TREAT and key informant interviews.

Overview of results:

Jobs supported and maintained in fiscal year 2023 (data from TREAT):

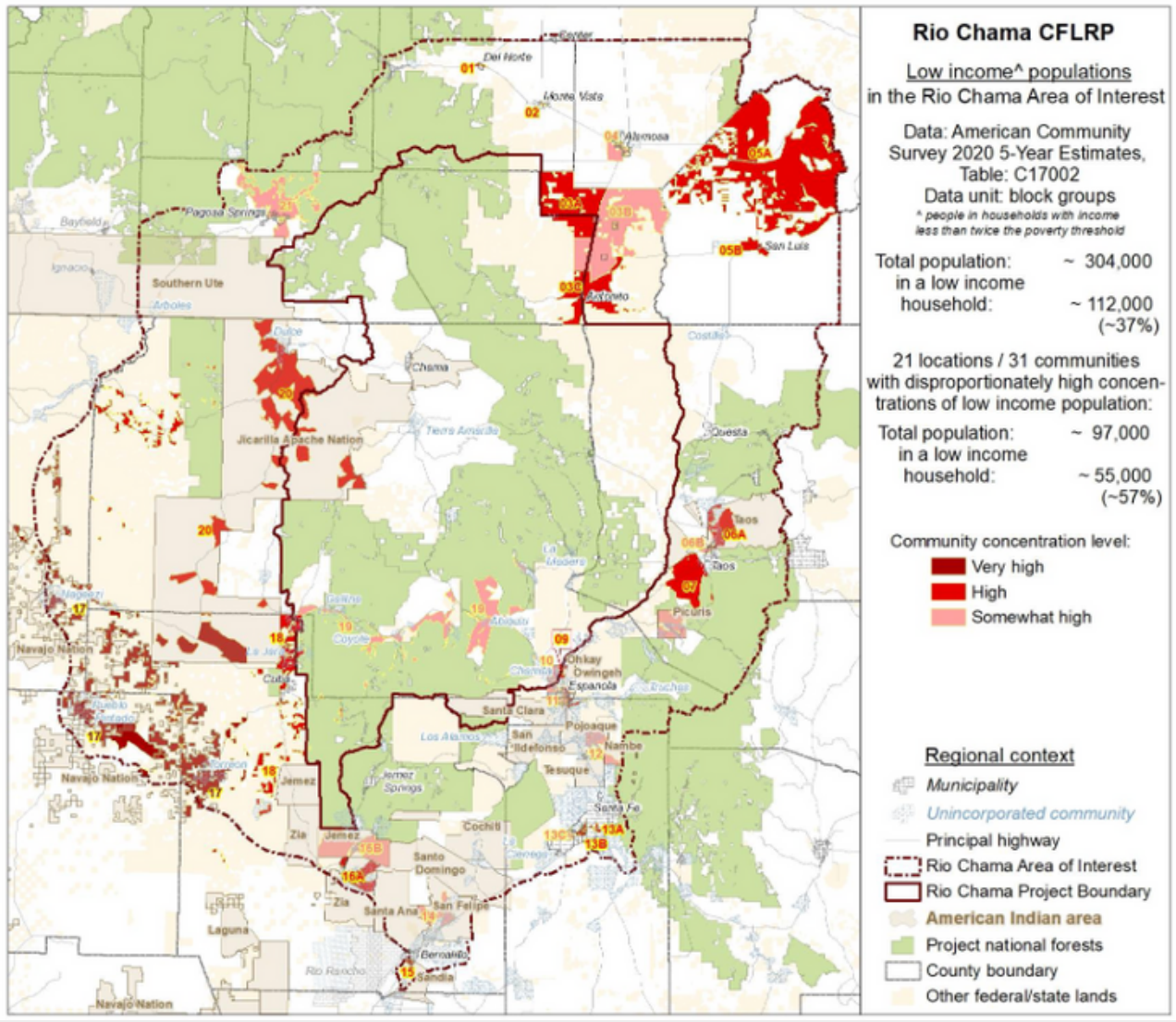
Component	Jobs Supported	Jobs Maintained	CFLRP Funding	Matching Funding
Timber harvesting component	122	168	$6,439,529	$8,656,470
Forest and watershed restoration component	80	116	$3,754,332	$5,681,859
Mill processing component	104	215	$3,869,906	$8,316,290
Implementation and monitoring	22	26	$900,839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

Regional low income statistics from GTAC analysis:

Rio Chama CFLRP area of interest: low income statistics

	Total population		Low income& population		Estimated percent		*High concentration^* =*	
	Lower bound	Upper bound	Lower bound	Upper bound	Lower bound	Upper bound	Lower bound	Upper bound
Rio Chama Area of Interest (AOI)	278,887	290,373	100,485	108,801	36.0%	37.5%	*54.0% - 72.0%*	*56.3% - 75.0%*
Other reference populations for low income:								
All counties in the Rio Chama TREAT scheme	1,387,686	1,389,700	475,804	494,596	34.3%	35.6%	*51.5% - 68.6%*	*53.4% - 71.2%*
New Mexico	2,052,140	2,055,678	797,878	823,000	38.9%	40.0%	*58.4% - 77.8%*	*60.0% - 80.0%*
United States	318,551,821	318,576,435	94,653,361	95,146,511	29.7%	29.9%	*44.6% - 59.4%*	*44.9% - 59.8%*

Low income population concentrations (figure created by GTAC):



FSYC crew prepping a fire line.

Notes from the field:

TREAT results and tracking employment in terms of the abstract metric of full-time equivalent jobs (FTE) may not accurately capture how this employment is distributed in context. In context, many people may share 1 FTE in rural communities where part-time employment is favored as part of seasonal, subsistence lifestyle that includes the provision of goods that are not brought to market, but are consumed within the household (e.g. firewood collection, grazing cattle, hunting, small-scale agriculture). On the ground, one FTE may support a number of people's employment. TREAT does not account for how this economic effect is spread throughout communities by stabilizing multiple households. Furthermore, by framing employment in terms of full-time jobs, TREAT may support the implicit assumption that full-time employment is the goal for workers in rural communities. In reality, the goal for many of these individuals may not be to get closer to full-time employment, but rather to supplement subsistence lifestyles with cash that can be used for market goods.

Based on the TREAT economic model, the All Lands work of the CFLRP will contribute an estimated ~$23 million in labor income and 531 Full-time jobs from CFLN and leveraged funding in the landscape across the Rio Chama AOI.

Local commute time data was captured through key informant interviews. Commute times were highly variable and difficult to measure given the range of work situations. Commute times ranged from 0 minutes to 40 minutes for daily commuters (of those who responded to the commute time question). Feld work, site visits, and fire work resulted in longer drives. Only a few survey respondents reported wages paid and the wages provided were given as salary and hourly. Given the small response and variability, wages paid summary analysis was not conducted.

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
Number of FTE decreases. Proportion of full and part time jobs changes. Number of employees decreases.	Baseline data only - no comparative data.
Average reported commute times increase.	Baseline data only. Only some interview respondents reported commute times.
Wages paid decrease.	Baseline data only - no comparative data.
Increase in turnover. Turnover in CFLRP-specific positions.	Baseline data only. Turnover numbers were not recorded and no tracking mechanism exists to capture this data.

Monitoring Committee Recommendations and Takeaways

- Scalability -> is there a possibility of microgrants for the restoration economy?
- Who are we missing, who isn't getting the funding?
- GTAC data missing leakage and stipends, bigger leakage pressure with business communities.
- What kind of brain leakage is happening?
- Can we measure interest in a restoration economy?

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

RIO CHAMA
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Project

Forest Stewards Guild

Mountain Studies Institute
SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS COLORADO