



Status of Wildlife Monitoring for CFRP Projects: A Phone Survey of Current Grantees

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Wildlife monitoring technical assistance has been available upon request to Collaborative Forest Restoration Program (CFRP) grant recipients through the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute (NMFWR I) and other organizations.

A phone survey was conducted to (a) determine the status of wildlife monitoring on CFRP projects; (b) assess wildlife monitoring technical assistance needs; and (c) document the wildlife monitoring approaches that were being employed.



Wildlife monitoring was occurring in 29% of all projects surveyed in which ecological monitoring was appropriate (Table 1). Among those who conducted wildlife monitoring (11 projects), about half articulated project goals that specifically addressed wildlife, while the other half were interested in general information about wildlife responses to forest restoration and/or felt that the inclusion of wildlife monitoring strengthened their project and provided opportunities to interface with the community.



The majority of the projects engaged in wildlife monitoring hired contractors to conduct the monitoring. Only a few projects used CFRP-developed methods for monitoring wildlife, specifically *NMFWR I Working Paper 3*.

Table 1. Summary of phone survey results related to CFRP wildlife monitoring.	n
Total Active Projects	48
Non forest treatment projects	6
No response	4
Projects for which ecological monitoring was appropriate	38
Projects conducting wildlife monitoring	11
Of those:	
Projects with the central goal being wildlife related	5
Projects monitoring wildlife for general information	6
Projects that employ contractors to do wildlife monitoring	10
Projects using Non-CFRP Monitoring Protocol	5
Grantees tentatively requesting Technical Assistance from NMFWR I	4

The principal reasons for not conducting wildlife monitoring were that it was not required for CFRP projects and wildlife habitat was not the primary goal of the project. While vegetation monitoring of the six core ecological indicators was consistently performed for all projects, benefits of wildlife monitoring may include enhanced citizen interest and participation in CFRP project monitoring, as well as a more ecologically holistic monitoring effort.

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