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Subject: FY 2018 Funding for 5-Year Integrated Restoration Plans

To: Forest and Grassland Supervisors and CRGNSA Manager

For FY 2018, the field units developed 5-year integrated restoration plans to describe their restoration plans. These plans were built using the restoration funding the units identified within their planning level for the performance budget submission and fully utilizing their permanent and trust funds. The R6 Operating Budget was issued in September; it did not include this level of funding since we had not received the regional operating levels from the Washington Office.

In November, we received the operating levels from the Washington Office, as well as our expected funding level in restoration. R6 has allocated the funding available, including the expected funding, to bring the field units up to the restoration planning level used to develop the 5-year restoration plans. The Region will meet the Chief's expectation that we move out on fully implementing the FY 2018 program of work. The financial risk associated with fully implementing the FY 2018 program of work is held in the Regional Office. The enclosure displays the additional funding to date.

Targets are assigned to units in the R6 Operating Budget based on the full funding level from the 5 year plans, not based on the R6 Operating Budget. Because the targets are assigned based on the 5-year restoration plans, and additional funding has been allocated, I expect units to move out on their program of work and fully meet the assigned targets. We recognize there may be some additional funding needed to meet the full Fuels Reduction target and there is \$3MM remaining. RO staff will be working in early January to allocate this to ensure we meet the fuels target. Once that is also met, any remaining funding (and additional funds that become available) will be used to increase our readiness for a further increase in targets over the next few fiscal cycles.

Additionally, we will be working in January to allocate the remainder of the restoration Regionally Managed Funds (RMF) and Regional Priority Projects (RPP), such as Wildlife and Fish Challenge Cost Share RMF and Fish and Watershed Management RPP.

As we have discussed, units are to move out to deliver the program described in your 5 year plans. We are increasing our regional program outputs and outcomes without large increases in funding. This is only possible by using all the tools we have available and operating as a single region rather than 17 individual units. To facilitate this, I am tasking some of the RO staff to develop procedures to track where we have certain skill sets and where we have unmet needs for these skills. That would allow us to support specific units/projects, as needed. In late January or February, units can expect a data call request for this information.



Similarly, it is critical that we take advantage of all the tools that we have available to us to implement an integrated restoration program. These include, but are not limited to, simpler NEPA analysis, virtual boundaries, weight scaling, DxP and DxD, Good Neighbor, Tribal Forest Protection Act and stewardship contracting authorities. Just as use of these types of tools are part of my performance standards, they will also be part of your performance standards. Please expect a request to all Forest Supervisors and the Area Manager specifically identifying the tools that you are currently using and those that you plan to implement during FY 2018.

If you have questions about restoration funding or targets, please contact either Carol Boyd, Deputy Director Natural Resources or Debbie Boggess, Director of Budget and Financial Management.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James M. Peña".

JAMES M. PEÑA
Regional Forester

Enclosure (1)

cc: M.L. Smith, Carol Boyd, Debbie Boggess