

What is a Forest Plan & a Plan Revision?

Revising the San Juan
National Forest Plan

Want more information?

Forest Plan Revision

USDA Forest Service

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... a document that guides all natural resource management activities on a national forest;

... translates national laws, regulations and policies that give direction into real action at the local and regional level;

... lasts one to 15 years before it its next revision;

... is flexible and can be adjusted (amended) for a variety of changing conditions during its lifespan.

A Forest Plan . . .

- 1) sets general management direction across the forest.
- 2) sets forestwide goals and objective - what we want to achieve, and how and when we'll reach our goals.
- 3) prescribes what uses are allowed and even given precedence.
- 4) describes and maps lands suitable for harvesting timber and sets an "allowable sale quantity" (ASQ), which is an upper limit on timber sales.
- 5) recommends either to manage certain areas as wilderness or for other uses.
- 6) sets monitoring and evaluation requirements to tell how we are achieving goals and objectives.

Planning doesn't work without community participation

- √ Follow the plan revision process as it develops and comment at key stages (see calendar on reverse).
- √ Share your values, your issues, and you sense of what is important.
- √ Get on our newsletter mailing list to stay informed.
- √ Attend open houses and workshops.
- √ Write letters.

The San Juan National Forest is revising its plan, because . . .

- √ The current plan has reached its 15-year lifespan.
- √ New scientific information and ideas, and new issues and concerns have evolved.

For example:

Ecosystem Management —working to balance human needs and environmental realities in broader scales.

Community Stewardship —providing residents greater chances to care for forests through citizen participation.

These and other fresh opportunities are emerging to integrate ecological sustainability with community social, cultural and economic sustainability.