

FLNF Plan Revision

May 1, 2003

Land Adjustment Priorities

Recreation

Agenda

- Announcements
- Plan Revision (trails next meetings)
- Land Adjustment
- Recreation
- Small Group Work

Announcements

- Meeting notes
- Past issues
- Missed previous meetings?
- Vegetation and Timber Meeting
- Public input meetings – No Decisions

NEXT PUBLIC PLANNING MEETINGS

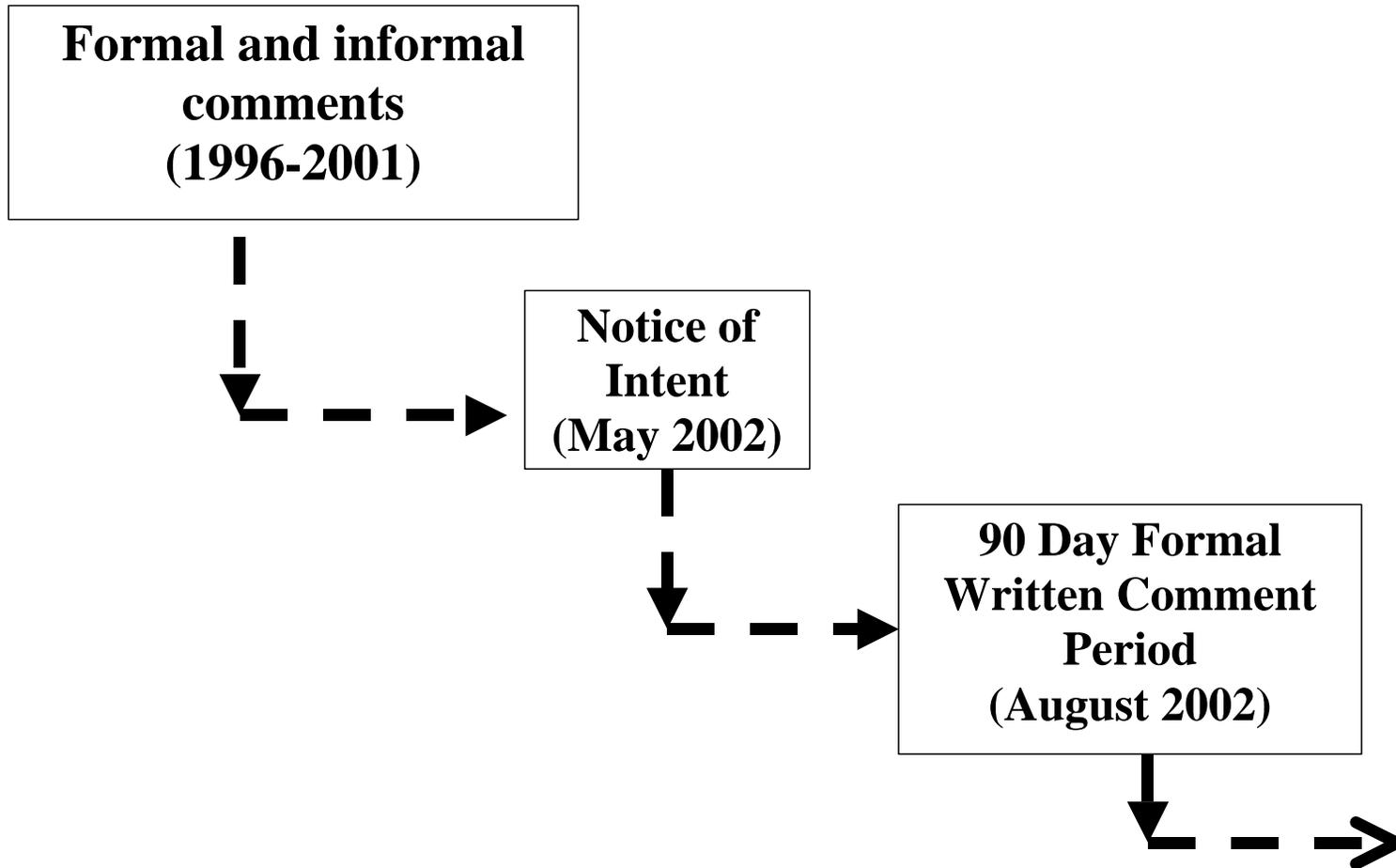
- **Thursday, June 5th 7:00-9:00pm**
Hector Fire Hall
Trails
- **Tuesday, July 1st 7:00-9:00pm**
Hector Fire Hall
Trails (continue discussion)

Forest Plan Revision

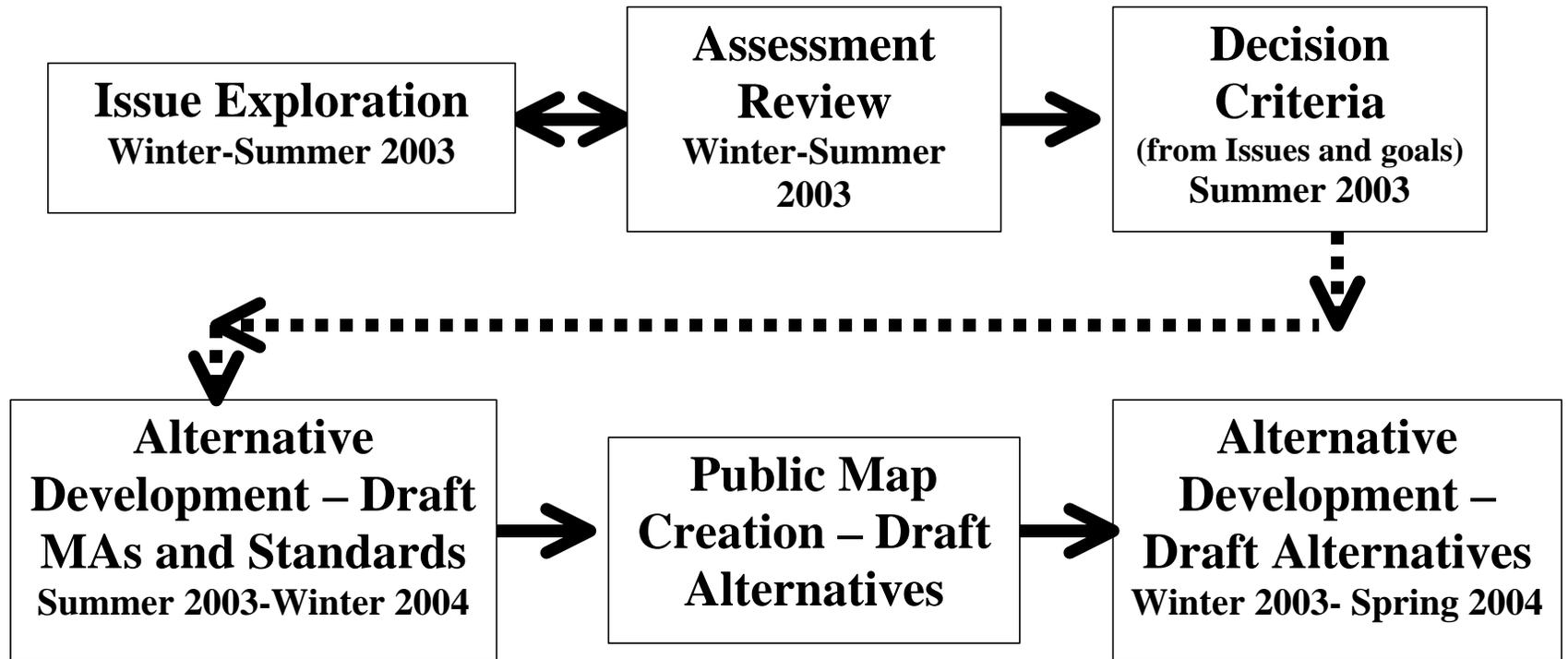
- Why are we revising the plan?
- How can you get involved?
- Where are we in the process?

FLNF Forest Plan Revision Timeline

Where we have been...



Public Involvement Timeline Winter 2003 - Spring 2004

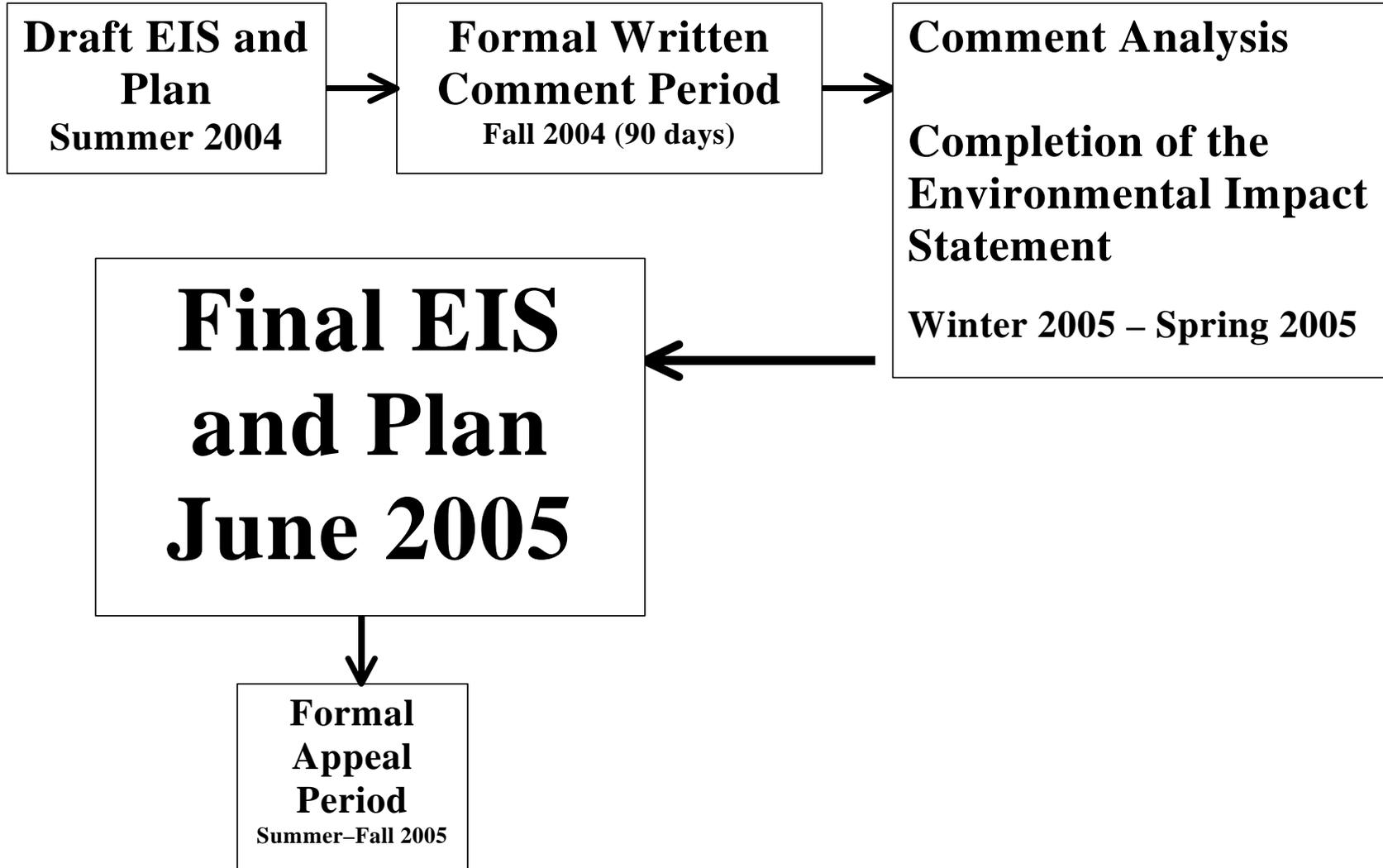


Continuous Informal Public Input through phone calls, letters, emails, public meetings, local planning group, work shop, and field trips



Formal Public Involvement Timeline

Summer 2004 - June 2005



What is in a Forest Plan?

- Goals and Objectives
- Standards and guidelines
- Management Areas
- Land suitable for timber harvesting and upper limits on timber sales
- Monitoring and Evaluation Requirements

Land Adjustment Program

Finger Lakes National Forest

What is Land Adjustment?

- Land Acquisition
- Rights-of-Ways
- Exchanges
- Conservation Easement Acquisition
- Land and Facility Sales
- Donations
- Trespass & Encroachments

USDA Forest Service Objectives

- Landownership pattern to provide
 - Resource use
 - Meet the needs of the American Public
- Settle land title claims equitably and promptly
- Provide FS managers accessible and understandable information

FLNF Land Adjustment Goal

Consolidate National Forest ownership for more effective management

FLNF Land Adjustment Objectives

- Meet management needs
 - soil and water protection
 - scenery preservation
 - wildlife habitat
 - timber
 - special areas
 - recreation

FLNF Land Adjustment Objectives (continued)

- Accomplish public law or regulation
- Meet public demand
- Efficient landownership
- Lower resource management costs
- Protection of existing values or benefits
- Free and unencumbered access

FLNF Land Adjustment Objectives (continued)

- Resolve trespass and encroachment onto Federal lands
- High priority resource needs like Endangered Species habitat
- Protect important existing lands or uses

What has been accomplished?

- Over the past 10 years we have acquired 28 tracts of land or about 2,885 acres
- The FLNF is currently over 16,000 acres

How does the FLNF acquire land?

- Willing seller (we don't look for land)
- Price is determined by FS appraisers
- Price is non-negotiable
- Town and County Board support

Examples of Acquisitions and Criteria they Meet

- Satterly Hill
 - Protect part of the North Country Trail corridor from development
- Camp Seneca or Caywood Point
 - Ensure continued public access to Seneca Lake

Forest Plan and Land Adjustment

- The Forest Plan provides the Forest Service with priorities for land adjustment
- The Forest Plan does not purchase land

How is the Program Funded?

- Congressional line item appropriations.
 - This can't be used for other purposes.
 - Funding is allocated from different laws like the 1965 Land and Water Conservation Fund Act

*What should be the priorities
for the Land adjustment
program on the Finger Lakes
National Forest?*

Finger Lakes National Forest

**What is the Mix of Developed
and Undeveloped Recreation
Opportunities to Provide on
the Finger Lakes National
Forest?**

Developed and Undeveloped Recreation

- **Developed Recreation**- Activities occurring in areas with Forest Service constructed facilities.
- **Undeveloped Recreation**- Activities in the general forest areas without facilities.

Plan Revision

- **Consider the effects of recreational use on the ecosystem.**
- **Consider conflicting recreational uses.**
- **Consider current and projected use, carrying capacity and the economic value of recreation.**

Plan Revision

The effects of recreation should not damage the ecosystem. We propose to more clearly define:

The appropriate mix of dispersed-use opportunities and more developed, higher density opportunities.

What is Developed Recreation?

Recreation on areas with structures:

- campgrounds**
- picnic areas**
- trail shelters**
- parking areas**

Current Facilities

Blueberry Patch

- **9 units, 65 person capacity**
- **\$5.00 fee/night**
- **collected \$2,930 in 2000**
- **collected \$3,395 in 2001**
- **collected \$3,560 in 2002**
- **20% Increase in 3 Years**

Current Facilities

Potomac Group Camp

- 1 large unit, 40 person capacity**
- Charge for entire area is \$10.00 for up to 20, then .50/person up to 40 people**
- \$260 in 2000**
- \$590 in 2001**
- \$680 in 2002**
- 250% Increase in 3 Years**

Current Facilities

Backbone Horse Camp

- Horse Use Only with Permit
- 7 units and 65-person capacity

Finger Lakes Trail Shelter

- Walk-in site, first come/first served
- 10-person capacity
- Tables, fire rings, outhouse

Un-Developed Recreation

Recreation use in General Forest areas without built facilities.

Driving for pleasure,

bird watching,

berry picking,

horseback,

camping,

Un-Developed Recreation

viewing wildlife,
x-country skiing,
snow shoeing,
snowmobiling
hunting,
hiking

Recreation Events

Events in 2002 included

- 2 Competitive Horse Races
- 50 km Running Race
- Snowshoe Race
- X-C Ski Event

Un-Developed Recreation

- Typically the Forest Service manages the settings and the habitat for these activities
- State regulations for hunting, fishing
- Few areas on the FL distant from roads for primitive or even semi-primitive recreation

Undeveloped Recreation

Entire forest is open to camping, some tables or fire rings have been placed in “undeveloped areas”.

Adding facilities to undeveloped areas may change the character and the expense of managing the areas.

Fishing Sites

Ballard Pond

- Accessible trail design

Foster Pond, Potomac Pond, Teeter Pond

- Dispersed camping sites

Evaluations Required During Plan Revision

- Roadless Inventory- Large tracts of unroaded areas.
- Wilderness- Designated by an act of Congress on federal land.

Wild & Scenic Rivers-Act of Congress on federal, state or private lands.

Finger Lakes National Forest

**What Mix of Developed
and Undeveloped
Recreation Opportunities
should the Finger Lakes
National Forest Provide ?**

Questions

- ***What should be the priorities for the Land adjustment program on the Finger Lakes National Forest?***
- ***What Mix of Developed and Undeveloped Recreation Opportunities should the Finger Lakes National Forest Provide?***