



**Greetings!**

In this issue is a progress update on the Forest Plan Revision and description of new documents.

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**Forest Plan Revision**

**Web Site:**

[http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan\\_revision/plan\\_revision.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan_revision/plan_revision.htm)

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**A Revision Update: What Have We Been Up To?**

It has been over two months since our last open house in March. During this time, we have been busy working on numerous Plan details.

First, we are steadily updating the goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines for managing the Forest. Each of these categories is very important because they provide the direction for future project planning and for project implementation in the field.

Second, we have been working on updating the management prescriptions for the Forest. Management prescriptions set the direction for how we manage different sections of the Forest and different forest types. The goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines will tell us how to plan and do the work in each management prescription.

Finally, we have been working on refining and developing the details for each of the draft alternative concepts that we introduced back in February. Public and employee feedback on the draft concepts has been valuable in helping us move forward. One of these draft alternatives will become the draft revised Forest Plan due out for public review in November 2005.

We anticipate making these early pre-drafts public sometime this summer. Currently, there are a few new drafts and one final document available. Each of these documents is described in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued interest and feedback!

Regards,  
 Clyde Thompson

**New Draft Documents**

**Draft Open House Summary:**

This document summarizes the feedback we received during and after the six open houses held in February and March.  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan\\_revision/participate.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan_revision/participate.htm)

**Draft Roadless Area Review & Wilderness Evaluation:**

This document describes the process used to conduct the review and evaluation for the Monongahela National Forest. Roadless areas within the Forest are evaluated for recommendation as potential wilderness areas during the forest planning process. You can access this document on-line or you may request a CD copy. [http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan\\_revision/Information/information.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan_revision/Information/information.htm)

### **Draft Riparian Conservation Corridor Management Prescription Recommendation**

This document provides the basis for the development of a new management prescription for riparian ecosystems. Employee and public input are being considered and incorporated into the recommendation. See the Web: [http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan\\_revision/Information/information.htm](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan_revision/Information/information.htm)

### **New Final Document**

#### **Final Social Assessment**

The "Social Assessment for the Monongahela National Forest" identifies demographic and social trends for 32 communities in and around the Forest, and a summary of tourism and recreation within the area. Some of this information will likely be incorporated into the Plan Revision Draft EIS. Please note that this assessment was produced by West Virginia University. The conclusions and recommendations are those of the authors and do not represent those of the Monongahela National Forest.

The assessment will not be posted on the web because of its large size. Interested parties may request a CD copy or come to the Supervisor's Office to review a hard copy. The Table of Contents and Executive Summary are posted on the Web. [http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan\\_revision/Information/information.htm#anchor3](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan_revision/Information/information.htm#anchor3)

### **Forest Plan Revision Presentation**

This presentation provides a general overview of the Forest Plan Revision. It is the same presentation that was given at the open houses. It is posted on the Web at [http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan\\_revision/Information/information.htm#anchor2](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/plan_revision/Information/information.htm#anchor2)

### **New Information Notebooks**

At each Ranger District office there is a notebook that includes all the Forest Plan Revision documents currently available, draft and final. You are welcome to visit your closest district office during business hours to review the notebook. For District Office addresses call 636-1800 or go to [http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/general\\_info/addinformation.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/general_info/addinformation.shtml)

### **Definitions**

**Management Direction:** Goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines that provide direction for managing the Forest.

**Management Prescription:** Management practices applied to a specific area to attain goals and objectives.

**Need for Change Topics or Issues:** These are the topics identified as most in need of change in the Forest Plan. These topics have been identified through public comments, new science and technology, forest monitoring information, and employee input.

**Plan Revision:** A process to review and update an entire Forest Plan to keep management direction current with changing policies, science, and public interests.

**Riparian Ecosystem:** This is the area adjacent to water that is vital for filtering pollutants & sediment, absorbing flood waters, and providing valuable habitat for many species.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):** This is a statement of environmental effects required for major Federal actions.

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