

PREPARING FOR PLAN REVISION

PROCESS OVERVIEW

STEPS AND EXPECTATIONS

Inyo National Forest

November 16-17, 2012

What is a Forest Plan?

- Required for all national forests/grasslands
- Provides broad, integrated management direction
 - Programmatic, not site-specific
 - Ten to fifteen year planning period
- All uses of the forest need to conform with plan direction



The Inyo's Forest Plan

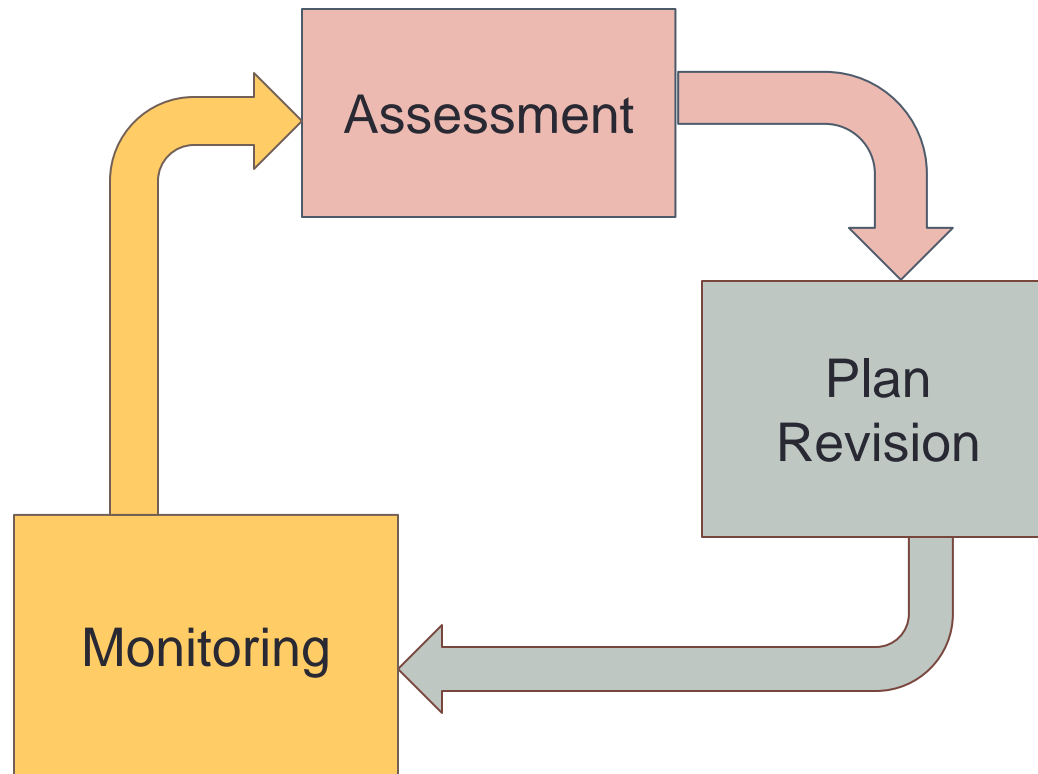
- Inyo's Forest Plan was completed in 1988; multiple amendments
- Established management direction for forest resources such as wildlife, recreation, and timber
- Delineated geographic management areas and prescriptions
- All forest projects and activities need to conform with plan direction



Why is the Plan being revised?

- A lot has changed since 1988!
- Need to develop improved management direction based on new information and changing conditions
- Use results of 24 years of project implementation, other information
 - Carry forward management direction that is still effective / valid; revise what is not

Three Phases to Revise a Forest Plan



What will the revised Plan include?

- Five required plan components:
 - Desired Conditions
 - Objectives
 - Suitability of Uses
 - Standards
 - Guidelines
- Other plan content such as:
 - Distinctive Roles and Contributions
 - Management Areas - Zones - Geographic Areas
 - Recommended Areas (e.g., Wilderness, Wild & Scenic Rivers)
 - Priority Watersheds
 - Monitoring Program

What won't the Plan include?

- Site-specific decisions or actions, such as:
 - Construct 5 miles of new trail from Bluebird Lake to Feather Falls
 - Close Road #12S34 to motor vehicle use from April 1 – June 1 each year
 - Conduct forest thinning on 125 acres immediately adjacent to the community of Forest Hill



Multi-year process

2012

- C & C Plans
- Bioregional Science Synthesis

2013

- Bioregional Assessment
- Inyo NF Assessment
- Begin identifying Need for Change

2014

- Complete Need for Change
- Develop and analyze Proposed Plan

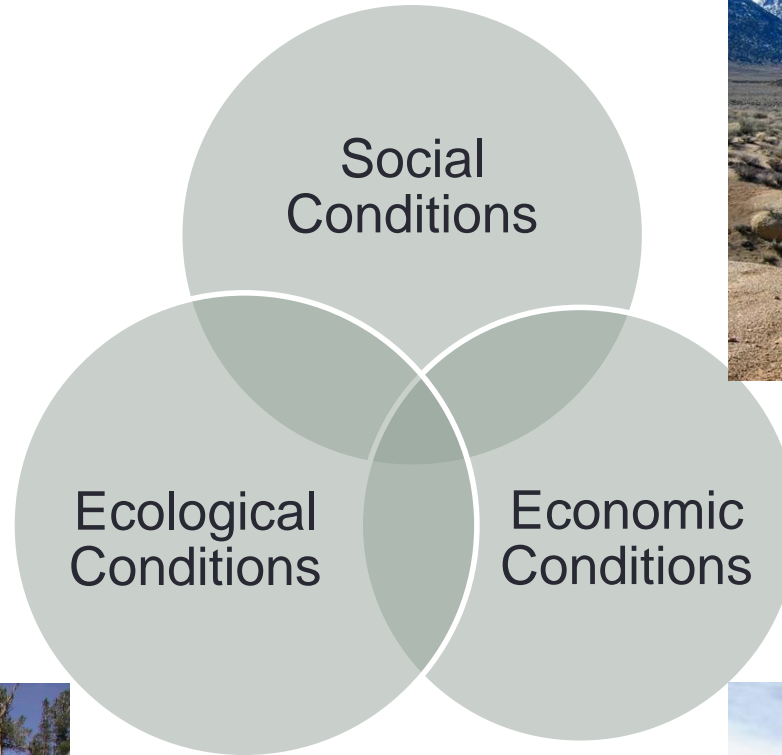
2015 to
2016

- Public review of draft Plan and EIS
- Approve revised Plan
- Monitoring

Assessment Report

- What is an assessment?
 - A report synthesizing existing information related to social, economic, and ecological conditions and trends
 - To be conducted rapidly, using readily available information and existing data
 - Identify knowledge or information gaps
 - Provides a source of information and context for plan revision
- Forest-level vs. bioregional assessment

Assessment Content



Purpose of Assessment

- Develop relationships
- Develop understanding of existing and predicted future conditions
- Focus attention on resources that affect, or may be affected by, forest management decisions



Next Steps

- **December 2012:** Complete Communication & Collaboration Plan
- **Winter 2013:** Initiate collaboration on development of Inyo NF Assessment Report
- **September 2013:** Finalize Inyo NF Assessment Report



Inyo National Forest

Tour of Collaboration and Communication Plan For Forest Plan Revision

*Prepared by Laura Kaplan
Center for Collaborative Policy
California State University,
Sacramento*



Presentation Roadmap

1. Initial data collection for C&C Plan
2. C&C Plan table of contents
3. Every-time tools and some-of-the-time tools: Tier 1 and Tier 2
4. Recommended activities for each planning phase
5. Key public input opportunities for assessment phase
6. Discussion questions for today's workshop
7. Next steps

1. Initial data collection for C&C Plan

Initial data collection – a good start, but just the beginning!

Who: 50+ diverse individuals with experience working with the Forest Service

What: Participated in group or individual interviews or provided written responses to neutral 3rd party facilitator. Over 100 pages of notes. No attribution of remarks.

When: October, 2012

Why: Share insights to help the Inyo design a Collaboration and Communication Plan for meaningful, effective stakeholder involvement in Forest Plan Revision.

Then what: Laura Kaplan, Susan Joyce, and Nancy Upham created draft C&C plan.

Power Point of findings available.

List of interviewees' affiliations

- Bishop Paiute Tribe
- BLM
- Cal 4x4
- Cal Trout
- California Native Plant Society
- California Cattlemen's Association
- Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Devils Postpile National Monument
- Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association
- Esmeralda County
- Friends of the Inyo
- Friends of the River
- High Desert Multiple Use Coalition
- Hispanic community (unaffiliated)
- Inyo County
- Inyo National Forest
- LA CAUSA
- LADWP
- Lone Pine Paiute Tribe
- Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access
- Mammoth Nordic
- Manzanar National Historic Site
- Mining
- Mono County
- Mono Lake Committee
- Mono Lake Indian Community
- Mountain bikers (unaffiliated)
- Mt. Whitney Store
- Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility
- Researchers (unaffiliated)
- Sierra Club
- Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab
- Snowmobilers (unaffiliated)
- The Wilderness Society
- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
- Trout Unlimited

2. *Collaboration & Communication Plan*
table of contents (p.1)

***3. Every-time tools and some-of-the-time tools:
Tier 1 and Tier 2 (starts on p.9)***

4. Recommended activities for each planning phase (p.20)

***5. Key public input opportunities for
assessment phase (p.24)***

6. Discussion questions for today's workshop

#1: What does success look like to you?

#2: Tier 1 Activities – Do we have the right list?

#3: Prioritizing Tier 2 Activities

#4: Community Support and Commitments

And now?

4. Next Steps

- Input from stakeholder workshops November 16 and 17 will be used to refine and finalize (for now) the C&C Plan. **Send additional input to Laura Kaplan (lkaplan@ccp.csus.edu) by November 30, 2012.**
- **Revised C&C Plan will be presented in February** at public workshops for kick-off of Assessment phase of Plan Revision.
- **Overview of public involvement in 2013** is in the draft C&C Plan.
- **Detailed schedule for public involvement** in 2013 will be in revised C&C Plan presented in February.
- Forest Assessment scheduled for completion by September 2013.

Special thanks!

Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor

Susan Joyce, Forest Planner

Nancy Upham, Public Affairs Officer