

Chronology of National Forest Management Act Planning Regulations

- 1976 - National Forest Management Act (NFMA)
- 1979 - First planning regulations for NFMA
- 1982 - Existing NFMA planning regulation was developed
- 1989 - Forest Service initiated a comprehensive review of its land management planning process. Results were published in May 1990, in a summary report, 'Synthesis of the Critique of Land Management Planning' (Vol. 1) accompanied by ten other, more detailed reports. The 1990 Critique documented lessons learned since passage of NFMA and described recommendations to address the planning and management challenges of the future.
- 1991 - (February 15) Forest Service published an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (56 FR 6508 with a public comment period concluding May 16, 1991. The Advanced Notice included preliminary regulatory text revising the existing, 1982 rule. Four public informational meetings were held to stimulate public interest and comment regarding the proposal in the Advanced Notice. Over 600 groups and individuals submitted written comments. These comments were used in the development of a proposed rule.
- 1995 - (April 13) Forest Service published the proposed rule on (60 FR 18886).
- 1997 - (December) Secretary of Agriculture convened a 13-member Committee of Scientists to review the Forest Service planning process and offer recommendations for improvements.
- 1998 - (July) Forest Service Rule Writing Team established

- 1999 - (March) The Committee of Scientists releases their report.
 - 1999 - (October 5) Forest Service publishes proposed regulations.
 - 1999 - (October-December) Forest Service held 23 national public meetings to discuss the proposed rule.
 - 2000 - (February) Forest Service received over 10,000 public comments on proposed rule.
 - 2000 - (November 9, 2000) Forest Service publishes final rule in Federal Register.
 - 2002 – (December 6, 2002) Forest Service publishes proposed rule in Federal Register
 - 2003 – (February, 2003) Diversity Options Workshop
 - 2004 – (December, 2004) Forest Service publishes final rule in Federal Register
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