

# Lincoln National Forest Plan Revision Newsletter

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## Latest News

### About Plan Revision

Our overall management plan is being updated and is called 'Plan Revision'. It is a 4-5 year process consisting of:

1. Assessment (year 1)
2. Revision (years 2-5)
3. Monitoring and Evaluating (ongoing after completed)

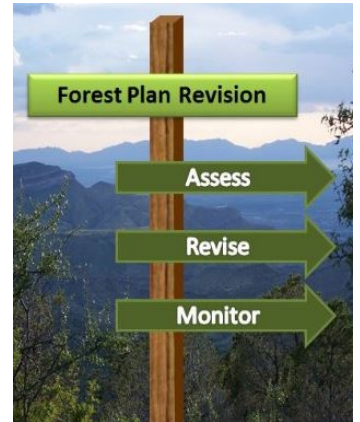
The 1st phase, the assessment, is what we are currently working on which began in July 2015. We are looking at reference and existing conditions along with future trends in order to determine "the need for change", literally deciding what about our existing plan needs to change.

These changes can include:

- Management guidance which need to change
- Management guidance where no change is needed

The 2nd phase, revision, will be done within an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A range of alternatives will be developed, presented and analyzed during this multi-year portion of plan revision. These alternatives will address 'how' management of our resources may change.

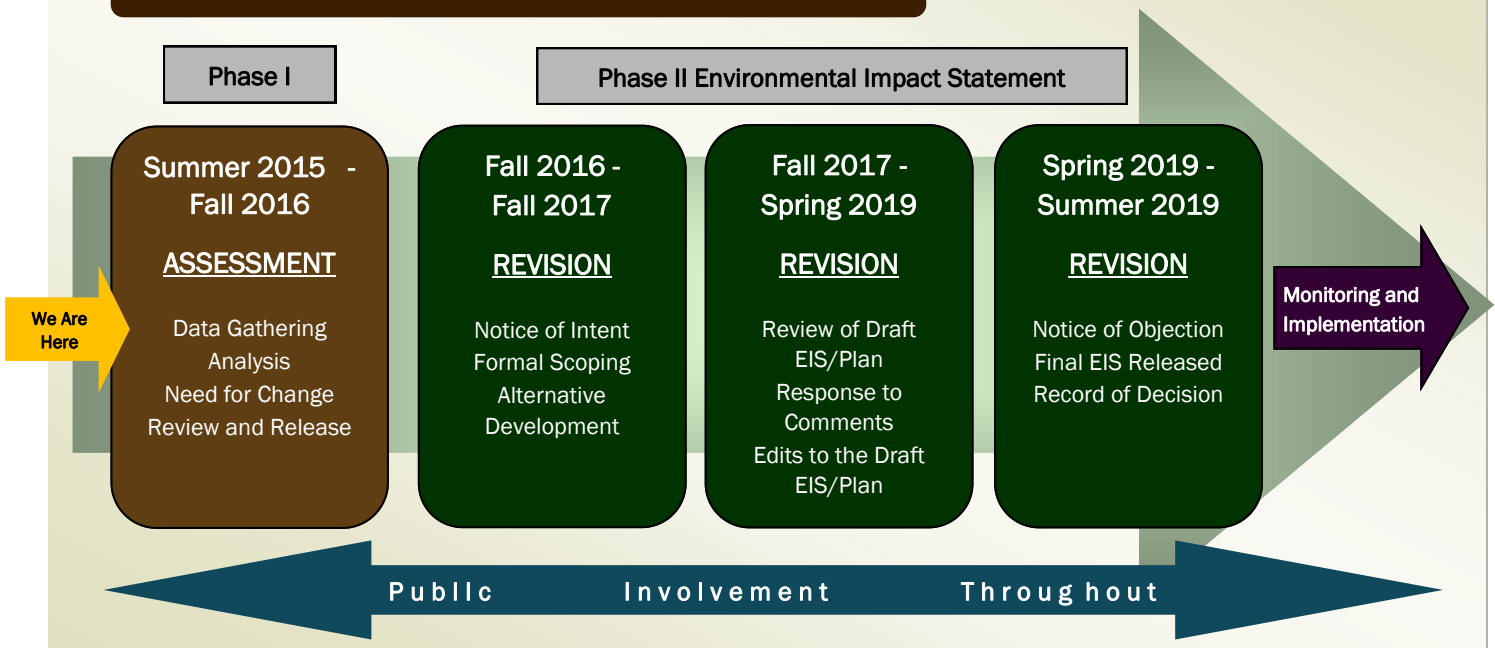
The 3rd phase, monitoring and evaluating, will continue until we update this plan in the future (15-20 years from now).



Forest Plan Revision Logo showing the three phases: Assessment / Revision / Monitoring

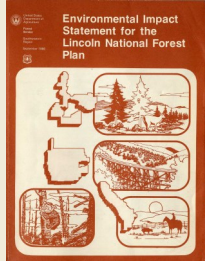
Public participation and public input is key for us throughout the entire multi-year project.

## Our Overall Timeline



## TRIVIA

1. In what year was our current plan finalized?



2. In what year was the Lincoln National Forest (then a 'reserve') established?



3. What US state is the same size as the Lincoln?



- ANSWERS TO TRIVIA
1. 1986
  2. 1902
  3. Delaware

## Assessment Concepts

### 15 Areas of Interest

Our Assessment will be presented both in draft and final format to the public for review and will be structured into 15 chapters or 'areas'.

Within each of these 15 areas of interest will be contained all of the components of all our resources areas.

1. Ecosystems: Terrestrial (Vegetation), Riparian and Aquatic
2. Air/Soil/Water
3. Natural Process: Wildfire, drought, Insect & Disease, etc.
4. Carbon Stocks
5. At-Risk Species: Plant and Animal
6. Caves
7. Social, Cultural and Economic Conditions
8. Multiple Uses
9. Recreation
10. Energy and Minerals
11. Infrastructure
12. Areas of Tribal Importance
13. Cultural and Historic Resources
14. Land Ownership and Use
15. Existing Designated Areas: Wilderness, Wild and Scenic Rivers and more.

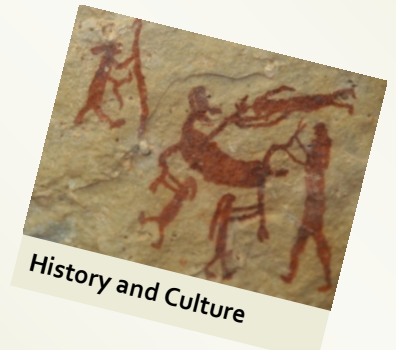
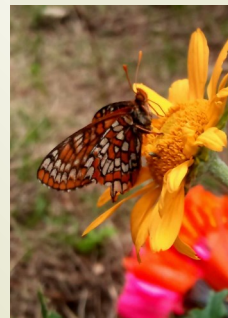


Infrastructure—roads



Natural Processes—Forest

### At Risk Species



History and Culture

## A message from Travis Moseley, Forest Supervisor

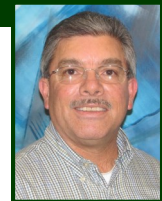
Thank you for your interest in our Forest Plan Revision process and our first issue of *the Lincoln National Forest Plan Revision Newsletter!* As the Forest Supervisor, I'd like to welcome you and ask you to invite friends, neighbors and others in your circle to join in on this collaborative process!

We have a designated Forest Plan Revision team that is coordinating the extensive work that has started, and will continue over the next 3-4 years. A key aspect of this planning effort depends largely on our success to work with

individuals, groups, organizations and *anyone* who is interested in providing input or feedback to us regarding management of the Lincoln National Forest.

I encourage you to get involved, stay engaged and bring others to the table. Our recent experiences during the past 8 months, hosting community meetings and workshops, have been rewarding and productive.

We look forward to continuing this process, with the end-result - an updated Forest Management Plan that will



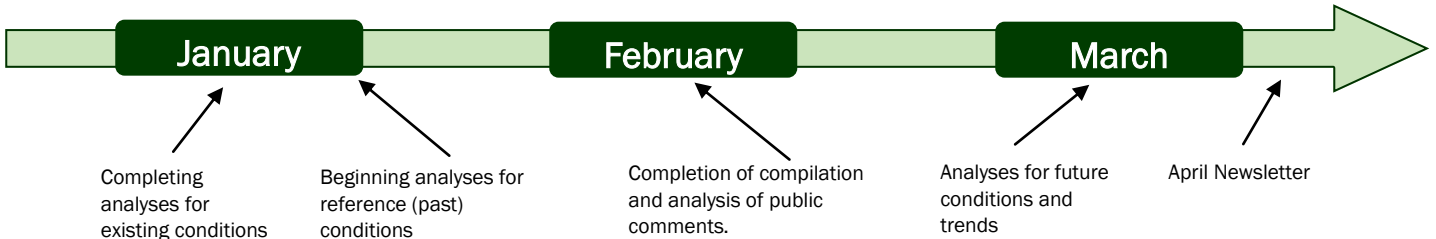
appropriately align the current and future needs so that we can better serve you *in the management of your Lincoln National Forest.*

— *Travis Moseley*

**Status**

1. We formally entered into the 'assessment phase' (phase 1) of plan revision in early July of 2015
2. Currently we are gathering data and information, both internally and externally (public individuals, partners, agencies, groups, and more).
3. We are analyzing 'Existing Conditions' for all 15 areas of interest.
4. We are compiling and analyzing public comments to help us define what "Needs to Change".

**Our Timeline: Next 3 Months**



**Looking Ahead: Analysis of Public Comments**

The Plan Revision Team has met with the public on two different occasions (March and November of 2015) to discuss both the plan process as well as how we should communicate with one another and share information .

We have also asked a number of questions from you, the public, to help in determining what may need to change in reference to the overall management of the forest.

We have gained input on the following:

1. Expectations of how we can best collaborate and work together.
2. How do you use the forest

and for what purpose?

3. What do you value about the forest?
4. What issues or concerns do you have ?
5. How would you rate conditions for your issue (past and present) and what future trends do you see?
6. What suggestions for management do you have?

This input will first be summarized and presented to you along with the original forms (redacted for privacy information). It will secondly be analyzed in greater depth and presented within our draft

assessment due approximately by the springs of 2016. Drafts of this more in depth analysis will be made available as they are completed (late winter—early spring).

The evaluations (item #1) has been completed and is currently available for you to review via our web site.

The remaining items will be compiled and made available throughout January and February. When completed, we will send the information via our email mailing list.



**Public meeting**



**Public Meeting in Ruidoso, NM**



# Questions and Answers

**Q: One of the most prevalent questions asked is “Why has it taken so long to revise your plan?”**

**A:** The Lincoln National Forest’s current plan was written in 1986. During the 1990s and 2000s when the plan would have been revised, the new national planning rule was challenged in federal court and revised several times. In 2012, a new national planning rule was finalized.

**Q: What is the 2012 Planning Rule?**

**A:** The 2012 planning rule is expected to bring stability to planning. It will facilitate planning under modern methods and consistent with current science. This rule will help the Agency protect, reconnect, and restore national forests and grasslands for the benefit of human communities and natural resources. Under the 2012 planning rule, the Forest Service should complete plan revisions more quickly at reduced cost.

For more information on the 2012 planning rule, visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/planningrule/home>

For other commonly asked questions, visit <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/lincoln/home/?cid=stelprd3814313>

Have additional questions? Email us at the address listed in the bottom right corner.

## How Can I Participate?

Public participation may take on a number of aspects including providing input and comments, understanding the process, staying informed and more. Throughout this process, we will offer many different avenues for you to get involved including formal public meetings, presentations and discussions with groups and chatting with individuals.

1. Sign up to our mailing list and we will keep you informed as events and our process continues.
2. Request a meeting/presentation and we will come and meet with your group.
3. Attend a public meeting or workshop.
4. Email us at: [Inf\\_fpr\\_comments@fs.fed.us](mailto:Inf_fpr_comments@fs.fed.us)
5. Call us at 575-434-7200 and we’d be pleased to speak with you.



Public Meeting in Ruidoso, NM

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Our web address for Plan Revision:**  
[www.fs.usda.gov/goto/lincolnforestplan](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/lincolnforestplan)

**Our email address for Plan Revision**  
[Inf\\_fpr\\_comments@fs.fed.us](mailto:Inf_fpr_comments@fs.fed.us)

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