

July 27, 2016

Plan Revision IDT Meeting

Attendees: Michelle A, Julie M, Erin, Anna Greiss, Heather L., Gary K, Rodney S., Sheryl B, Jason R., Amber V, Holly S., Kelly Balcarczyk, James M., Susan P. (phone), Tom C. (phone), Larry Hayden (phone), 2 public observers

Updates on wilderness

- Note to listserv will go out today to inform the public about updates to the webpage
- Michelle went over the content that is posted online: Full evaluation report, areas proposed for analysis/range of alternatives, interactive map
- District rangers have been connecting with counties
- On Monday the 18th we shared this info with the stakeholders forum members at a meeting convened by National Forest Foundation

Upcoming MA mapping meetings

- Pre-meetings will be held to prep for the open IDT meetings which will start on the Grandfather RD, end of August.
- Larry's cliff notes regarding MA mapping. Need to work on MA descriptions prior to the MA meetings – primarily frontcountry, midcountry, and backcountry.
- Focusing on what will be the areas of highest potential conflict?
 - Looking at each of 3 layers – FS map, WHAMAS, NAPS
 - Looking for automated way of identifying these areas of conflict
 - Consideration of unsuitable lands
 - What criteria do we use to determine the areas of concern
- How will we be managing the vegetation patterns in each of the MAs? What scales should be used to regulate the veg pattern?
- Other considerations to help inform the conflict areas:
 - Need to have further discussion about how riparian areas will factor into these 'conflict areas'
 - Consideration of adjacent non-FS lands
 - Consideration of scenic integrity
 - The need for restoration
 - Road density
 - Previous SNHA evaluation
 - Existing special uses
 - Rare species and rare communities (are these already taken into account in the NAPS layer?)
 - FS Designated old growth patches
 - Tribal landscape areas and sacred sites
 - Outstanding and private mineral rights
 - Existing federal mineral lease on Buck Creek Serpentine Barrens

Nantahala and Pisgah Forest Plan Revision

- Existing FS borrow pits and their use – data from engineering
- Holly will add trails to draft district MA maps
- Who from the IDT should be at the pre-meeting? Gary, Sheryl, Jason, Holly, Amber, Heather...
- Michelle will share some initial plan components for front, mid and backcountry prior to going to district meetings

Future Meetings/discussion

Steering team meeting needed for discussion of MA direction and to get everyone on same page for how district MA meetings will be structured - proposed for August 10th.

Desire from some stakeholders to have additional discussion on objectives and wilderness evaluation.