

## Plan Revision IDT Meeting

### April 27, 2016

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Participants: Michelle A., Susan P, Logan F, Erik C., Gary K, Sheryl B, Heather L, Jason R, Holly S, Carly L, Tom C. (phone), 2 observers

#### **Meeting topics**

- Update from James at NFF Collaboration workshop
- Review of steering team comments on objectives
- Stakeholder forum update
- Next steps for this summer

#### **Update from James at NFF Collaboration Workshop**

James presented this week at the National Forest Foundation's Collaborative Restoration workshop. He heard accolades from FS and Department leadership for NFsNC's collaborative plan revision efforts.

#### **Objectives**

- 7 criteria were used to develop objectives
- Objectives were sorted by theme and by time frame – annually vs. over the life of the plan
- Michelle used information from the assessment to fill in some info in the background/rationale for objectives. Many of the objectives still need background/rationale to be written
- Discussion today is to review objectives in detail and ensure this list of collective objectives can be reasonably accomplished
- There was a goal of getting to 25-40 objectives, so some objs were lumped together
- The team should be thinking about what objectives might differ across alternatives

#### **Theme 1 - Enhancing and Restoring Ecological Resiliency**

Coarse filter objectives –

Results of NRV were used to identify the objectives for different forest conditions across all ecozones over the life of the plan.

Annually – silvicultural objectives look at increasing the average regeneration, thinning and other treatments annually.

Burning and treating NNIS objectives represent an increase over the past 5-year average.

Fine filter objectives –

Objectives for elk, federally listed species and SCC, rare habitats, PETS and SCC. More fine filter plan components may be identified if we analyze the current plan components and identify gaps for particular species or species groups.

#### **Providing Clean and Abundant Water**

Objectives related to maintaining the road system, priority watersheds, drinking water, aquatic organism passage, brook trout, freshwater mussels and other aquatic SCC, restoration in streamside zones, stream channel improvement, groundwater dependent ecosystems, acid neutralizing capacity.

## Connecting People to the Land

Objectives related to moving towards a sustainable recreation program, a sustainable trail system, conservation education, protection of cultural resources, working with Federally Recognized tribes, Trail of Tears, non-timber forest products, volunteers.

**Next Steps** – get these objectives polished and loose-ends tied up over the next couple of weeks with the intent of sharing these online soon as a piece of the plan we are sharing this summer.

**Stakeholders Forum update** – At the last Stakeholders Forum meeting, the Forum shared recommendations for recreation. The Forum did not come to a recommendation on Management Area assignments across the forest. Carly shared some scenarios developed by the Map Committee that displayed how Natural Area Priorities (NAPs) and Wildlife Habitat Active Management Areas (WHAMAs) could be allocated into different MA buckets. Some folks in the forum were concerned that not all interests were captured in these two layers and so were not comfortable moving forward with the mapping process until that additional information could be incorporated.

It will be important that the May meeting (next Forum mtg) highlights the accomplishments of the group and recognize all the valuable input the group has provided and how this input will be used moving forward in the development of the plan.

May Forum meeting format will consist of people working in small groups to help identify what the summer process/strategy looks like.

### Elements of summer rollout

- Objectives
- Wilderness evaluation results and how we'll move towards alts and analysis
- WSR evaluation results
- Special interest areas
- Priority watersheds
- Management area mapping that merges initial SF input with FS knowledge
- Plan components, rolled up with feedback from Forum
- Monitoring Program
- Thematic alternative comparison
- Tony Tooke visit
- Field Trip

The Forest will be sharing a proposed process for next steps (roadmap) on the mapping of management areas to be discussed at the next Forum meeting.

There is a need to share more information on the wilderness evaluation process with the Forum. There may be a potential to roll out those areas that we have identified as not having wilderness character.

*Next IDT meeting Wed, May 4<sup>th</sup> – discussing Management Area 4A and 4B and the roadmap for moving forward this summer.*