

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND DRAFT FOREST PLANS PHASE

Purpose

Our purpose is to efficiently and effectively lead and assist the Region with defensible land management plan revisions that support the attainment of our ecological restoration goals, are developed in collaboration with our internal and external stakeholders and are completed within expedited timeframes.

Overarching Responsibility

We will hold ourselves and others accountable to all responsibilities listed here, to the accompanying schedule, and to decisions made and priorities established by leadership.

Regional Forester and Deputy Regional Forester

Role

The role of the Regional Forester and Deputy Regional Forester is to provide overall strategic guidance.

Responsibilities

- According to the Steering Committee Charter, the Deputy Regional Forester is the decision-maker when the Steering Committee needs resolution on an issue.
- Approve requests for extensions or time or significant changes to the schedule.

Responsible Official

Role

The Forest Supervisors will oversee the planning process for their units and are responsible for approval of revised forest plans and the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) in accordance with the 2012 Planning Rule.

Responsibilities

- Follow responsibilities identified in the 2012 Planning Rule.
- Ensure that plan components and plan content are within Forest Service authority, the inherent capability of the plan area and the fiscal capability of the unit.

- Manage the scope of the DEIS, identifying significant issues, range of alternatives, ultimately selecting an alternative and the monitoring program.
- Be the ultimate authority for reviewing and ensuring that the content of the environmental analysis is consistent with agency objectives, appropriate in tone and characterizes agency goals and mission correctly.
- Be the “face of revision” to the public and the champion of plan revision for the forest.
- Ensure that the distinctive role and contribution of the forest is adequately captured and communicated in environmental documents and with the public.
- Approve the issues that will drive alternatives for the forest, as well as adjustments to the proposed action.
- Identify forest priorities, budgets and work plans.
- Assign work to forest staff as agreed upon in the timeline and process/staffing analysis plan, and balance the workload to meet forest plan revision staffing needs.
- Provide leadership, resources and decision-making to keep revision on schedule and on budget.
- Provide oversight and leadership for collaborative efforts according to the forest collaboration and communication plan.
- Ensure that official government-to-government consultation occurs.
- Make decisions on resource allocation if there is a significant change in resource needs being requested.
- Make decisions on document format, process methodology and approach.
- Make decisions on public meetings management, approach and information dissemination.

Forest Plan Revision Steering Committee

Role

The directors who serve on the Steering Committee are Ecosystem Management, Ecosystem Planning and Public Services. The Office of General Counsel serves in an advisory role. Budget and Information Management serve as ex officio members. The Steering Committee guides the revision process, offers strategic direction for collaboration, thinks critically and collaboratively to provide direction and develops strategies for accomplishing plan revision and resolving emerging issues of process, substance and organization.

Responsibilities

- Ensure that forest plans are revised in a timely, consistent and cost effective manner.
- Create shared expectations for collaboration and public engagement.
- Provide leadership in the development of forest plans in a collaborative atmosphere with communities of interest, place and culture, guided by the communication and collaborative plans.
- Coordinate so that appropriate resources are available to accomplish tasks.
- Assist the responsible official in the development of a revised forest plan that meets regional objectives, including identification of the project scope, the need for change, identifying significant issues, determining range of alternatives, and an effective and cost efficient monitoring program.
- Make decisions to reconcile differences in approach and resolve disputes arising from them.

- Ensure consistency across administrative boundaries, considering the effects of early adopter decisions on upcoming revision efforts of other forests nationally and in the Region. Elevate any issues that are unresolvable at the Steering Committee level to the Deputy Regional Forester.
- Ensure adequate communication is occurring with Steering Committee, Forest Planners and forest staff, so appropriate forest staff are knowledgeable and understand the current situation and assignments.

Director of Ecosystem Planning

Role

The Ecosystem Planning Director provides the strategic vision, overall leadership and management of the forest plan revision process for the national forests of California.

Responsibilities

- Manage internal and external processes to ensure timely decisions are made by the appropriate decision-making body.
- Coordinate efforts with state and federal agencies to align planning processes.
- Facilitate resolution of issues raised by the Steering Committee, Forest Supervisors, Regional Directors and Core Team.
- Communicate planning goals internally and externally.
- Chair Steering Committee meetings, and design and coordinate the agendas for Steering Committee meetings.
- Develop and execute the budget for forest plan revision, in consultation with the Steering Committee.
- Advocate for resources to ensure plan revision progresses on schedule.
- Ensure that Regional Forester and Washington Office expectations are met.
- Coordinate with the Office of General Counsel.
- Makes decisions about when to bring issues before the Steering Committee or the Responsible Officials.

Regional Directors and Pacific Southwest Research Station

Role

All Regional Directors and staff from the Pacific Southwest Research Station are responsible for ensuring that their programs and staff support are consistent with the strategy and processes outlined by the Regional Forester for forest plan revision.

Responsibilities

- Provide staff and logistical support for forest plan revisions as identified in work plans.
- Establish work priorities with their staffs to support forest plan revision consistent with Regional Forester expectations.

- Direct program staff to provide technical guidance under appropriate timelines for program area as requested.

Forest Planners

Role

Forest Planners participate in drafting forest plan revision documents and lead forest-level coordination and communication with the Forest Supervisor, the forest leadership team, forest staff, stakeholders and the Core Team on forest plan revision.

Responsibilities

- Bring issues impacting work plans, budgets and timelines to the Forest Supervisor and Team Leader.
- Serve as single point of contact for forest employees involved in forest plan revision.
- Identify and resolve issues regarding policy and procedural requirements for the Forest Supervisor and Team Leader.
- Coordinate with the Regional Social Scientist, Public Affairs Officers and the Core Team on collaboration and communication plans and scheduling and conducting public forums.
- Work with forest specialists to provide necessary data, information, analyses and documentation to the Core Team for specific work products.
- Coordinate with the forest specialists and the Core Team to develop forest plan revision work products, including specialist reports.
- Maintain the administrative record for forest plan revision work products in the following ways: the forest will maintain the public/tribal outreach information and documents related to the project that are unique to the forest, including public notice flyers, mailing lists, sign-in sheets, newspaper articles, website or Facebook screen shots, notes from meetings with elected officials or other stakeholders hold with forest staff, copies of tweets, handouts at the meetings, feedback captures, and maps generated by the forest. This will be placed on the O drive in the forest's file with the same file structure as the Regional Office.
- Prepare products as defined in forest work plans and the forest plan revision timeline.
- The Sequoia Forest Planner is responsible for hosting and coordinating the posting of products on the CARA database.
- Provide completed conversion documents to the Core Team and create a strategy between the three forests for the appropriate level of consistency and alignment.
- Respond to questions from forest staff.
- Participate in national early adopter planning calls.
- Coordinate with Team Leader on resource needs for discrete tasks and conflicts.

Regional Social Scientist

Role

The Regional Social Scientist provides leadership for the full range of public participation activities as directed by the 2012 Planning Rule. Public participation strategies will be designed to:

- Build and maintain working relationships, trust, capacity and commitment to the plan.
- Allow for shared learning and understanding between and among the Forest Service and public participants.
- Promote a common understanding of the context for planning and the planning process.
- Encourage public feedback through the planning process.
- Support development of plans through an inclusive, transparent process that increases the integrity of plans and adds clarity to the decision-making process and the rationale for decisions.

Responsibilities

- Provide strategic guidance to the Steering Committee to ensure synchronization of public participation with plan processes and timelines.
- Coordinate with the Regional Tribal Program Manager and Forest Tribal Program Managers to ensure collaborative opportunities with the tribes exist outside of consultation.
- Coordinate with Public Affairs Officers and Forest Planners to develop and implement public participation plans in consideration of:
 - interested individuals and entities, including those at the local, regional and national levels;
 - youth, low-income populations and minority populations;
 - private landowners whose lands are in, adjacent to or otherwise affected by, or whose actions may impact, future management actions in the plan area;
 - federal agencies, states, counties and local governments, including state fish and wildlife agencies, state foresters and other relevant state agencies; and
 - interested or affected federally and non-federally recognized Indian tribes.
- Serve as strategic advisor for the Core Team.
- Supervise the Team Leader.
- Provide FACA guidance.
- Develop public participation strategies for future rounds of forest plan revision.
- In conjunction with the Sustainable Forest Action Coalition (SFAC), develop a series of socioeconomic roundtables.
- Administer the Center for Collaborative Policy agreement and work with them to design a series of workshops.
- Oversee development and implementation of Sierra Cascades Dialogs, and serve as chair of the Sierra Cascades Dialog Steering Committee.
- Provide national-level expertise on social science issues such as: understanding and responding to changing values, beliefs, and attitudes; the role of networks and network governance structures; and collaboration and interest-based problem solving.

Team Leader

Role

The Team Leader ensures timely completion of planning process documents in compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, coordinates all phases of work between Forest Planners, the Extended Team and the Core Team, and ensures planning documents reflect a scope and scale appropriate to the requirements of the 2012 Planning Rule and directives and responsible official direction.

Responsibilities

- Overall coordination and development of forest plan revision products.
- Coordinates with the Pacific Southwest Research Station on science consistency review.
- Facilitates Core Team meetings.
- Participates in weekly Steering Committee meetings and provides necessary staff work for those meetings.
- Tracks progress and ensures assignments meet objectives and due dates.
- Manages and supervises activities of the Core Team.
- Holds authority to uncover facts in conflict situations and create appropriate and timely plans for resolution.
- Coordinates plan revision needs with Directors and with Extended Team and their supervisors, as appropriate.
- Coordinates with Forest Planners regarding assignments needed for plan revision by Extended Team members.
- Facilitates the weekly forest plan revision calls, develops agendas, notes, speakers and work products.
- Helps develop out year budgets.
- Collaborates and works with cooperating and regulatory agencies on forest plan revision.
- Drafts and maintain work plans, project implementation plan and Microsoft Project timeline.
- Prepares day-by-day, two week schedule for Steering Committee and Early Adopters.
- Supervises Core Team members.
- Participates in national early adopter planning calls, and reports on key information useful to the Region's planning efforts.
- Identifies resources to accomplish tasks that are handled by the Regional Office staff.
- Coordinates the updating of the Roles and Responsibilities for next phases of forest plan revision as soon as possible and before needing to be implemented.

Core Team

Roles

The Core Team is made up of an ecologist, an economist, a social scientist, a wildlife biologist/regional analyst, a fire/fuels planner, a recreation planner, a hydrologist, the regional planner and a writer/editor.

Responsibilities

- Prepare sections of the environmental analysis documents, as assigned.

- Daylight conflicts that will require Team Leader assistance with resolution.
- Work closely with the Team Leader and the Regional Planners to meet requirements of the 2012 Planning Rule.
- Participate in public meetings and collaborative activities as identified in collaboration and communication plans.
- Write specialist reports in accordance with the means/ends analysis.
- Strategically update Roles and Responsibilities for next phases of forest plan revision as soon as possible and before needing to be implemented.
- Develop ecological planning for future rounds of forest plan revision.
- Strategically develop the DEIS proposed alternatives and a strategy to limit the alternatives and meet the identified issues.
- Respond to questions and issues raised by the Forest Planners and Extended Team members.
- Establish and maintain relationships with scientists and subject matter experts in other units, agencies and organizations to apply state of the art knowledge and science in land management planning across all lands and environmental analysis practices that apply best available science.
- Establish and maintain relationships across disciplines within the Extended Team, Region and forests to foster interdisciplinary planning.
- Participate in strategic planning for future improvement of planning process, including efficiencies that will streamline the process.
- Develop, evaluate and document lessons learned throughout the planning process.
- Create templates and examples for assessments, plans and environmental analyses that can be used by other revision efforts in the future.

Specific Core Team Member Responsibilities

Regional Planners

- Provide information on other national forest planning efforts that would benefit the efficiency of the R5 planning process.
- Lead authors on the draft forest plans.
- Draft overall environmental content, bringing together various products which make up the DEIS, using the specialist reports and conversion products.
- Document processes and procedures in development of plan revision work products.
- Provide technical expertise in the understanding and intent of the 2012 Planning Rule.
- Monitor progress of other forests in plan revision and reports out as needed.
- Ensure processes are consistent with regulation and policy and document processes and procedure for their use in the project record and project documents.
- Identify vulnerabilities, risks and weaknesses in documents and approaches.
- Provide advice and counsel to ensure that Responsible Officials' intentions are met.
- Monitor national planning calls and reports to the Core Team and the forests through notes, briefings and reports.
- Participate in national early adopter planning calls.
- Participate in monthly Regional planners call.

Ecologist

- Acquire Climate-Fire Trend Benchmark Analysis from Dr. Westerling. Interpret results and develop output products at appropriate technical levels of detail to describe modeled future wildfire outcomes given various restoration scenarios related to potential alternatives.
- Coordinate and exchange information with owl and fisher conservation strategy teams.
- Provide examples of project-level compliance with revised forest plan vegetation desired conditions (i.e. vegetation types and large tree distributions).
- Write the terrestrial ecosystem portions of forest plan revision documents in coordination with and support from forest specialists.
- Contribute to the cumulative effects analysis for terrestrial ecosystems.
- Coordinate with cooperating and regulatory agencies on ecological issues.
- Provide ecological expertise during the issue identification, alternatives development and analysis period.
- Respond to and revise documents based on stakeholder comments received.
- Manage cost-share agreement 14-CS-11052006-025 between USFS and UC-Merced.

Economist

- Write the economic portions of assessments as well as the economics specialist report and economic information for inclusion in the DEIS.
- Develop and implement a strategy for integrating ecosystem services into forest plan revision.
- Contribute to the DEIS cumulative effects analysis for economics.
- Coordinate with cooperating and regulatory agencies on economic issues.
- Provide economic expertise during the analysis period.
- Respond to and revise economics portions of documents based on stakeholder comments received.
- Lead the process and works with the Forest Planners to write the “Forest Roles and Contributions” component of forest plan revision documents.
- Coordinate with programs that have economic effects, and proactively seek areas that are economically affected to provide modeling and effects analysis appropriate to the timeline and resources available.
- Integrate into plan revision associated duties developing project-level NEPA guidance for economics; serving as Regional representative to the Forest Climate Action Team for ecosystem services; contributing to the Southern California Ecosystem Services Project; contributing to the Regional Climate Change Socioeconomic Vulnerability Assessment Project; serving as representative to the Regional Economic Roundtable and developing the Regional economic program.

Social Scientist

- Participate in the development of the Regional Social Science Program.
- Write the social science portions of forest plan revision documents, including the DEIS and forest plans.
- Contribute to the cumulative effects analysis for social science.
- Coordinate with cooperating and regulatory agencies on social science issues.

- Provide social science expertise during the analysis period.
- Respond to and revise documents based on stakeholder comments received.
- Lead environmental justice analysis for forest plan revision.
- Lead the civil rights impact assessments, in partnership with the civil rights and forest staff.
- Coordinate with programs that have social science effects, and proactively seek areas for modeling and effects analysis.
- Coordinate with cultural resources, tribal, recreation and others as needed for integration of social science into forest plan revision documents.
- Serve on the Regional Climate Integration Team.

Wildlife/Regional Analyst

- Carefully evaluate potential analysis issues related to biological resources (wildlife, fish, plants) and coordinate with Team Leader and Core Team on potential adjustments in alternatives to mitigate issues or streamline the analysis process.
- Coordinate preparation of biological assessments prepared by biological assessment team composed of Greg Schroer (w/ Sacramento FWS Office) , Leeann Murphy (w/ Reno USFWS Office) and Michelle Slaton and facilitate consultation with USFWS with Greg and Leeann taking the lead.
- Coordinate Regional strategy for addressing Sierran amphibians with Ecosystem Management staff.
- Write or coordinate (TBD – may bring in additional outside assistance) 2012 Planning Rule specialist report for compliance with species of conservation concern process.
- Lead for coordination and information exchange with spotted owl and fisher conservation strategy teams.
- Write the biological (fish, wildlife, plants) portions of forest plan revision documents, including the DEIS and forest plans, in coordination with Extended Team Aquatics Ecologist and Botanist and with the Biological Assessment Team.
- Write the cumulative effects analysis for at-risk species.
- Coordinate with the monitoring coordinator on monitoring program components related to biological resources.
- At the Regional level, coordinate with cooperating and regulatory agencies on ecological issues, particularly the California Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Nevada Department of Wildlife.
- Provide biological expertise during the analysis period.
- Contribute to and revise documents based on response to comments.
- Coordinate geographic information system (GIS) analyses and modeling needed to support the planning process and official documents.
- Participate with writing on various work products, included but not limited to modeling, analysis and monitoring.
- Coordinate and manages The Living Assessment as a collaboration support tool providing updated information from this tool at strategic periods of time.
- Serve as the chair of the California Biodiversity Council's Interagency Alignment Team.
- Participate with related external planning processes such as the Indicators Work Group of the California Biodiversity Council, the California Wildlife Action Plan, California Forests and

Rangelands Assessment, and the California Water Plan, and identify opportunities for alignment and integration of interagency planning.

- Serve on the Steering Committee for the Sierra Cascades Dialog.

Fire/Fuels Planner

- Coordinate fire behavior and wildfire risk analyses and modeling needed to support the fire planning process and official documents.
- Respond to and revise documents based on stakeholder comments received.
- Write the fire management portions of forest plan revision documents with support and input from forest fire specialists.
- Move the Region to spatial fire management planning from the old narrative fire management plan.
- Responsible for fire behavior modeling technical and data transfer for the Region.
- Connection between the Regional Fire Management staff and the Ecosystem Planning staff.
- Responsible for coordination with air quality specialist.

Recreation Planner

- Lead the development of instructions for forests to complete new or additional tasks needed for forest plan revision (e.g. how to complete an ROS layer consistency check).
- Lead ROS consistency check for existing ROS layers.
- Lead Visual Management System (VMS) to Scenery Management System (SMS) update.
- Write the sustainable recreation portions of forest plan revision documents pulling from the scenic character and recreation access specialist reports.
- Contribute to the cumulative effects analysis for sustainable recreation pulling from the scenic character and recreation access specialist reports.
- Coordinate with the Public Services staff and forest-level recreation planners on sustainable recreation issues.
- Provide sustainable recreation expertise to core team during the analysis period.
- Respond to and revise documents based on stakeholder comments received.
- Lead the writing of the “places” component of forest plan revision documents pulling from the scenic character specialist report.
- Coordinate with any program that has recreation effects and proactively coordinate with other resource effects analysis.
- Provide sustainable recreation expertise and planning support for early adopter forests.

Hydrologist

- Develop analysis of proposed action and alternatives for forest plan NEPA documents.
- Provide expertise on soil and water-related issues.
- Coordinate and collaborate with Regional EM staff and Extended Team members on plan components and analysis.
- Coordinate and oversee efforts of aquatic and ecological specialists involved in forest plan revision.
- Facilitate communication with non-government and government entities that have an interest or directly manage or regulate water and soil resources.

- Provide expertise on existing regulation and law concerning water and soil resources and forest plan revision.
- Assist public services with water-related issues such as wild and scenic river plan components.

Writer/Editor

- Electronically file non-forest specific products as requested into the project record in partnership with the Regional Planner.
- Record minutes of Early Adopter meetings and Steering Committee meetings, and disseminate them as appropriate. Keep electronic copies filed appropriately.
- Support the Director on Steering Committee business.
- Edit planning and environmental documents for consistency and ease in understanding.
- Provide editing services as deemed appropriate by the EP Director or Deputy Director.
- Lead the “lessons learned” process.
- Establish appropriate format and stylistic requirements and hold writers accountable for submitting products that meet those requirements.
- Assure products are 508 compliant when necessary.
- Obtain official document numbers prior to document publication.

Regional Public Affairs Specialist

Responsibilities

- Coordinate with the Regional Social Scientist, Forest Public Affairs Officers and Forest Planners to assist with the development and implementation of public and tribal participation plans.
- Coordinate with the Regional Social Scientist, Team Leader, Forest Public Affairs Officers and Forest Planners with regard to planning and support for public and tribal forums.
- Coordinate with the Regional Social Scientist, Team Leader and Forest Public Affairs Officers on creating, updating, and implementing collaboration and communication plans and the associated supporting documentation (e.g., talking points, key messages, media strategies and presentations).
- Work and coordinate with the Regional Social Scientist, Core Team, and Forest Public Affairs Officers to provide necessary data, information, review and feedback on specific public involvement work products.
- Work and coordinate with the Regional Social Scientist, Core Team, and Forest Public Affairs Officers and Forest Planners to develop forest plan revision work products.
- Ensure products are reviewed and delivered to meet assigned timelines and advise the Regional Social Scientist and Team Leader when timelines or products may not be met.
- Suggest solutions to missed deadlines in terms of public perceptions.
- Offers proactive actions to mitigate public and tribal perceptions of possible delays in process.
- Work with applicable staff to maintain and update the Regional planning website specific to the Region’s forest plan revision effort, offering suggestions for clear communication and additional information needs.
- Work with applicable staff to maintain and update the “Our Forest Place” blog about the Region’s forest plan revision effort.

- Build and maintain working relationships, trust, capacity and commitment to the Region’s forest plan revision effort.
- Contribute to shared learning and understanding between and among the Forest Service and public and tribal participants.
- Encourage and support public feedback through the Region’s forest plan revision process.
- Counsel the Regional Social Scientist, Team Leader, Forest Public Affairs Officers and Forest Planners with regard to messages and presentation content.
- Ensure that all milestones and public involvement work is communicated to the national Office of Communications as appropriate via weekly report items and “People, Places and Things”.
- Coordinate media coverage and outreach with PAC media officer, facilitating interviews with appropriate forest plan revision staff as appropriate.
- Participate in weekly PAO calls that include the Regional Social Scientist and Forest Public Affairs Officers. .

Forest Public Affairs Officer

Responsibilities

- Coordinate with the Regional Public Affairs Specialist and their Forest Planner to assist with the development and implementation of public and tribal participation plans.
- Coordinate with the Regional Public Affairs Specialist and their Forest Planner with regard to planning and support for public and tribal forums.
- Coordinate with the Regional Public Affairs Specialist and their Forest Planner on creating, updating and implementing collaboration and communication plans.
- Work and coordinate with the Regional Public Affairs Specialist and their Forest Planner to provide necessary data, information, review and feedback on specific public involvement work products as applicable to their specific forest’s needs.
- Work and coordinate with the Regional Public Affairs Specialist and their Forest Planner to develop forest plan revision work products.
- Ensure products are reviewed and delivered to meet assigned timelines and advise the Regional Public Affairs Specialist and their Forest Planner when timelines or products may not be met.
- Work with applicable staff to maintain and update forest planning webpages specific to their forest’s forest plan revision effort.
- Build and maintain working relationships, trust, capacity and commitment to their forest’s plan revision effort.
- Contribute to shared learning and understanding between and among the Forest Service and public participants.
- Encourage and support public feedback through their forest’s plan revision process.
- Participate in weekly PAO calls that include the Regional Social Scientist and Regional Public Affairs Officer.

Regional Geospatial Data Manager

Responsibilities

- Coordinate with forest GIS specialists, the Remote Sensing Laboratory and other GIS specialists to provide advice on methods of GIS analysis, particularly focused on ensuring analysis is within the limits of GIS capability at the forest or regional level.
- Ensure products are delivered to meet assigned timelines and advises the Regional Analyst when timelines or products may not be met.
- Coordinate the consistent use of GIS data, regardless of who conducts the analysis.
- Document steps and develop metadata that meets minimum data quality standards on or before the final product deadline.
- Ensure GIS data is filed in the administrative record.

Extended Team

Role

Extended team members assist with the development of forest planning work products as necessary. There may be others called on as needed to accomplish forest plan revision work. The Team Leader maintains the organizational chart of Extended Team members.

Responsibilities

- Provide program leadership for planning topics in their program area.
- Provide analytical support to the Core Team as necessary.
- Help identify and document the best available science.
- Provide advice and counsel when requested throughout the process.
- Review and provide feedback on intermediary work products as requested.
- Prepare appropriate sections of forest plan revision and environmental documents.

Specific Extended Team Member Responsibilities

Tribal Liaisons

- Provide support to Responsible Officials in engaging in formal, meaningful tribal consultation and collaboration with tribal officials.
- Write the tribal relations and uses portions of forest plan revision documents in coordination with forest tribal liaisons assigned to forest plan revision.
- Review and provide input on environmental justice analysis.
- Participate in public meetings and collaborative activities as identified in collaboration and communication plans.

Soils Specialists

- Coordinate through the Team Leader and Forest Planner assistance from other forests in acquiring soil and water information needed for analysis.
- In consultation with Regional and forest staffs, support forest plan revision and objectively evaluate lands suitable for timber management.

- Develop soil and water analysis in consultation with Core and Extended Team members for the proposed action, alternatives and other plan components.
- Provide a specialist report for soil quality.
- Assist the Core Team Hydrologist in providing a specialist report for water quality including meadows and other riparian areas.
- Provide regular updates on status and timelines to the Regional Soil Specialist.

Botanist

- Provide support and input to the Core Team on at-risk and species of conservation concern plants, and on vegetation analyses that pertain to the viability of those species.
- Identify needed input from forest botanists to Core Team, and coordinate with forests botanists to assist with assigned tasks.
- Coordinate the development of forest species of conservation concern plant lists, with assistance from forest specialists.
- Provide input to Core Team on development and feasibility of special habitat areas and species-specific plan components as needed.
- Share information and products with the Regional Botanist and forest specialists for needed input and review.

Cultural Resources

- Lead the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation effort in coordination with forest archaeologists and cultural resources specialists assigned to forest plan revision.
- Write the cultural and historic resources portions of forest plan revision documents in coordination with forest archaeologists and cultural resources specialists assigned to forest plan revision.

Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River Coordinator:

- Coordinate and oversee the development of the wilderness evaluation.
- Coordinate and direct staffing resources to develop the wilderness appendix.
- Write the wilderness section of the EIS and forest plans.
- Coordinate with Forest Planners and Extended Team members, and oversee the development of wild and scenic river evaluation and suitability.
- Coordinate and direct staffing resources to develop the wild and scenic river evaluation and suitability appendix.
- Write the wild and scenic river section of the EIS and forest plans.
- Provide policy and process guidance, templates, and map and dataset specifications.
- Work with Forest Planners to identify the types of resources needed for the different phases.
- Train and direct in order to complete the processes.
- Review and edit documents, web content, maps and metadata.

Monitoring

- Coordinate and oversee the development of the monitoring program.
- Coordinate and direct staffing resources to develop the monitoring program.
- Write the monitoring portion of the forest plans.

Scenic Character

- Inform the Forest Planners, Extended Team members and the Core Team Recreation Planner on national and regional direction and trends.
- Provide expertise on national and regional direction for recreation team discussions.
- Coordinate all efforts with the Core Team Recreation Planner.
- Provide base line conversion of existing VMS layers to SMS layers.
- Contribute to discussions on sustainable recreation.
- Provide specialist report for scenic character including place descriptions and analysis of alternatives.
- Lead the development of instructions for forests to complete new or additional tasks needed for scenic character (e.g. how to complete conversion of existing forest VMS layers to SMS).

Recreation Access

- Inform the Forest Planners, Extended Team members and the Core Team Recreation Planner on national and regional direction and trends.
- Provide expertise on national and regional direction for recreation team discussions. Coordinate all efforts with Core Team Recreation Planner.
- Contribute to discussions on sustainable recreation.
- Provide a specialist report for recreation access including analysis of alternatives.
- Lead the development of instructions for forests to complete new or additional tasks needed for forest plan revision (e.g. how to complete a ROS layer consistency check for roads and motorized trails).

Timber Specialists

- Provide forest-specific timber and vegetation management data such as volumes, acres or information pertaining to treatment methods in support of EIS and forest plan development.
- In consultation with Regional and forest staffs supporting forest plan revision, objectively evaluate feasibility of the range of proposed alternatives given known constraints and opportunities.

Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecological Specialists

- Develop a method of comparison between desired and current fire severity proportions.
- Assist the Core Team in developing a shared understanding of how vegetation desired conditions will be applied at the project level.
- Assist the Biological Assessment Team, as needed, by providing information regarding federally -listed species.
- Provide support and input in refining information related to species of conservation concern relevant to each forest.
- Provide support to develop and evaluate feasibility of special habitat areas and species-specific plan components if they are needed.
- Provide input and review evaluation of benefits to people from biological resources (e.g. multiple uses) and from the range program.

Fire Management Specialists

- Review the fire behavior and wildfire risk analyses and modeling needed to support the fire planning process and official documents.
- Provide local knowledge in the development and validation of the strategic fire management zones.
- Provide validation and local knowledge in the development of fire management “containers”.
- Bring forth suggestions to the Core Team Fire/Fuels Planner on revising documents based on stakeholder comments received of local forest concerns that may have been missed at the large scale.
- Provide support and input to the Core Team Fire/Fuels Planner in completing the fire management portions of forest plan revision documents.
- Provide support and input to the Air Quality Specialist in completing the air management portions of forest plan revision documents.
- Serve as the connection between the Forest Fire Specialists and the Core Team Fire/Fuels Planner.

Air Quality Specialist

- Coordinate air quality analyses and modeling needed to support the forest planning process and official documents. Level of analyses will be based on means/ends for the management actions in the alternatives analyzed.
- Respond to and revise documents based on stakeholder comments received.
- Write the air quality portions of forest plan revision documents with support and input from Forest Fire Specialists and the Core Team Fire/Fuels Planner.
- Connection between the air quality staff and the Core Team Fire/Fuels Planner.
- Responsible for coordination with other specialists as needed.

Biological Assessment Team

Role

The role of the Biological Assessment Team is to work with the Wildlife/Regional Analyst on the Core Team in the preparation and finalization of the biological assessment. The team consists of Greg Schroer representing the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests and Leeann Murphy and Michelle Slaton representing the Inyo National Forest. Consultation will be conducted with both the Sacramento and Reno Fish and Wildlife Service Offices.

Responsibilities

- Prepare biological assessment templates.
- Participate in meetings with the respective Fish and Wildlife Service offices in the development of the draft biological assessment.
- Coordinate the analysis for the listed Sierra amphibians.
- Provide updates on the progress for completing the draft biological assessment to the Wildlife/Regional Analyst on the Core Team and the Forest Planners.
- Meet with responsible officials in coordination with the Forest Planners and Wildlife/Regional Analyst on the Core Team when draft biological assessment is completed.
- Work with the Fish and Wildlife Service in completion of a final biological assessment.

Forest Staff

Role

The role of the forest staff is to assist in the development of forest planning work products as necessary.

Responsibilities

- Provide technical and logistical support for forest plan revision as identified in work plans.
- Prioritize to support forest plan revision consistent with Forest Supervisor expectations.
- Identify work that will not be done in order to accomplish forest plan revision responsibilities.
- Provide technical review, information and implementability feedback under appropriate timelines for program area as requested.
- Implement guidance on wilderness inventory and evaluation.
- Implement guidance on wild and scenic river inventory.
- Implement IDT support for no action alternative and the conversion of existing plan language into the new plan consistent with 2012 Planning Rule direction.
- Staff public meetings and have sufficient knowledge of the subject areas to answer public questions.
- Respond to forest-specific public comments.
- Implement instructions for forests to complete new or additional tasks needed for scenic character (e.g. how to complete conversion of existing forest VMS layers to SMS).
- Support the writing of the tribal relations and uses portions of forest plan revision documents in coordination with the Regional Tribal Liaison assigned to forest plan revision.
- Support the writing of the cultural and historic resources portions of forest plan revision documents in coordination with the Regional tribal liaison assigned to forest plan revision.
- Provide staffing resources to develop the DEIS wilderness appendix.
- Provide staffing resources to develop the wild and scenic river evaluation and suitability appendix.
- Provide staffing resources to develop the monitoring program.
- Provide forest-specific timber and vegetation management data such as volumes, acres or information pertaining to treatment methods in support of EIS and forest plan development.