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File Code: 1900  
Date: June 8, 2018

Dear Interested Party:

On April 27, 2018, the Record of Decision (ROD) for the revised Coronado National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan or Plan) was approved by Regional Forester Calvin N. Joyner. The new Plan was built on a foundation of the best available science, and developed collaboratively with local, state, federal, and tribal governments, the public, partners, and conservation organizations. I would like to thank all those who participated and provided comments. I believe that the new forest plan reflects the input we received and the mission of the Forest Service; providing guidance for the management of healthy, resilient ecosystems that meet the diverse needs of the American people. It replaces the previous plan, which was approved in 1986 and any amendments. The new forest plan provides forest-specific guidance and information for project and activity decision making on the Forest over the next fifteen years.

The revised plan recommends three wilderness areas - Ku Chish, Mount Graham, and Whetstone - as well as one addition to a designated wilderness area - the Chiricahua Addition North as an expansion to Chiricahua Wilderness. Recommended wilderness areas will total 108,889 acres. Management direction will focus on maintaining and enhancing their wilderness character, which includes scenic resources, primitive recreation settings, and fish and wildlife habitats.

The final environmental impact statement (FEIS) documents the analysis of four alternatives developed for the programmatic management of the Coronado National Forest. The ROD, FEIS, and revised Coronado Forest Plan may be accessed at:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/coronado/landmanagement/planning>. Paper copies (five volumes totaling approximately 1500 pages) may be requested by sending an email message to [comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-southwestern-coronado@fs.fed.us) or by calling 520-388-8300. Copies are also available from the Coronado National Forest Supervisor's Office, 300 W. Congress Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tucson, AZ 85701.

The Coronado National Forest expects that a Notice of Availability (NOA) will be published in the Federal Register on June 22, 2018. The plan will go into effect 30 days after the publication of the NOA. To file an appeal, a written notice of appeal must be filed with the Chief of the Forest Service and postmarked or received within 90 days after the date the legal notice for this decision is published in the newspaper of record for the Coronado National Forest (The Arizona Daily Star). The legal notice is expected to be published concurrently with the NOA. Exact dates for the appeal period will be posted on the Coronado NF's website when they are known. For more information on filing an appeal, see enclosure.

For more information, or if you have concerns about the revised Forest Plan or Final Environmental Impact Statement, please contact me, or Rose Robinson, Forest Planner, at the Coronado National Forest Supervisor's Office, 300 W. Congress Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tucson, AZ 85701; 520-388-8300.

Sincerely,

  
KERWIN S. DEWBERRY  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

