



# HOW YOU SHAPED THE ASSESSMENT



Beginning in February 2017, the Salmon-Challis Forest Plan Revision Team started asking members of the public, elected officials, tribal members, and students what kinds of questions the Assessment Report should answer. We heard common themes from stakeholders throughout the planning area.

We also asked members of the public, tribes and federal, state, and local agencies if there was any data we should consider. Many organizations responded to this request for data.

In November 2017, the Salmon-Challis National Forest released a Draft Assessment of current conditions and trends, as well as a Needs for Change Document. The Forest hosted meetings throughout the planning area to discuss these findings and explain how members of the public could provide feedback.



The Forest had originally requested feedback by January 2018, but, because of requests from the public, Forest Supervisor Chuck Mark extended the feedback period to May 2018.

The Forest met with a variety of stakeholders during this time to respond to requests for more information about the assessment. This included meeting with cooperating agencies, the Central Idaho Public Lands Collaborative, the Lemhi-Custer Grassroots Advisory, and permittees.

The Forest received about 150 pieces of written feedback about the Draft Assessment and Needs for Change Document. In July 2018, the Forest released a final Assessment Report and a revised Needs for Change document.



The Salmon-Challis National Forest leadership and forest plan revision team worked hard to be responsive to feedback and new information provided by stakeholders. Below are just some of the changes between the draft and final versions of the Assessment and the Needs for Change Document.

## ASSESSMENT CHANGES INSPIRED BY YOUR FEEDBACK

### OVERALL ORGANIZATION

- We added a section detailing the Forest's Unique Roles and Contributions.
- We highlighted primary sources of information, existing plan direction, and scale of analysis in each section.

### SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

- We added more data to support our recreation discussion.
- We provided more information about the Shoshone-Bannock and Nez Perce tribes.
- We described the impact of litigation on Salmon-Challis operations and budget.

### RANGELAND & GRAZING

- We detailed plan direction and concepts not adequately addressed in existing plans.
- We described range resource conditions, types of monitoring, and results of long-term monitoring.
- We detailed levels of grazing activity.
- We covered range improvements.
- We added a "Grazing Case Study."

### RECREATION

- We discussed impacts of changing climate.
- We explained how existing plans don't meet the needs of recreation staff.

### TIMBER RESOURCES

- We emphasized that timber harvest projections will take place during the environmental analysis phase of planning.

### DESIGNATED AREAS

- We added information about the Challis Experimental Range Stewardship Area.
- We added Endangered Species Act critical habitat areas.
- We expanded our description of Inventoried Roadless Areas.
- We discussed potential need and opportunity for additional designated areas.

### ECOSYSTEMS ASSESSMENT

- We increased the level of detail throughout.
- We listed stressors and drivers according to their order of impact.
- We integrated the Intermountain Adaptation Partnership's 2018 climate vulnerability and adaptation report.
- We expanded on impacts of fire suppression policy and provided further explanation of wildfire risk analysis.
- We provided a more thorough description of insects and disease.

### TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS

- We added a more thorough description of conditions and trends.
- We described how far vegetation communities have departed from historic disturbance cycles.
- We added subsections on old forest structure, snags and downed wood, threats to shrublands, and importance of pollinators.

### RIPARIAN & GROUNDWATER-DEPENDENT ECOSYSTEMS

- We provided more sources of data.
- We provided graphic examples to support discussion of impacts.
- We expanded discussion of beaver activity channel and floodplain dynamics.

### AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

- We provided greater description of the PACFISH and INFISH guidance and its implications.
- We expanded the discussion of habitat quality, quantity and connectivity.
- We better summarized what aquatic issues the revision should address.

### AT-RISK SPECIES

- We provided more detail about the Threatened and Endangered Species known to have occurred on the forest.