

**90-DAY
NOTICE TO
COMMENT**

USDA – Forest Service, Ashley National Forest

As directed by the National Forest Management Act, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, is revising the Ashley National Forest's 1986 Land and Resource Management Plan (plan) in compliance with the 2012 planning Rule (36 CFR 219.17 (3)(b) (1)). The Forest Service has prepared a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for its draft revised plan. The area affected by the proposal includes nearly 1.4 million acres of National Forest System land in northeastern Utah (Daggett, Duchesne, Summit and Uintah counties) and southwestern Wyoming (Sweetwater County). The Responsible Official is the Ashley National Forest Supervisor, Susan R. Eickhoff.

The purpose of the Ashley National Forest Land Management Plan is to provide for long-term sustainability of ecosystems and desired ecosystem services. The draft plan describes the Forest's distinctive roles and

contributions within the broader landscape and includes forest-wide and management area desired conditions, objectives, standards, and guidelines. The draft plan identifies suitable uses of National Forest System lands and provides for sustainable levels of goods and services. The plan is a strategic document that does not authorize any specific actions but does guide Forest Service management decisions for the next 15 to 20 years.

The draft land management plan and draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) with appendices are now available for public review on the Ashley NF plan revision website: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/ashley/land-management/planning>. Printed versions will be available to review, and electronic versions will be available for distribution at the Duchesne, Uintah, and Sweetwater Counties libraries, Duchesne, Vernal and Manila District Ranger offices as

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF UTAH,

}S.S.

County of Uintah


I, KAYLENE ELLIS, on oath, say that I am the Legals Manager of the Vernal Express, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published at Vernal, State and County aforesaid, and that a certain notice, a true copy of which is hereto attached, was published in the full issue of such newspaper for 1 consecutive issues, and that the first publication was on November 24, 2021, and that the last publication of such notice was in the issue of such newspaper dated November 24, 2021, and that said notice was published on Utahlegals.com on the same day as the first newspaper publication and the notice remained on Utahlegals.com until the end of the scheduled run.

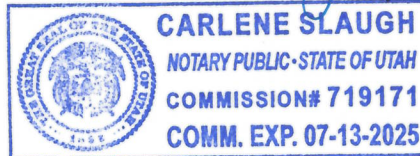
This page is not a billing statement or invoice, but a proof of publication. Please make payment from billing invoice.


Legals Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24 day of

November, 2021 by Kaylene Ellis.


Notary Public



(OVER)

well as the front desk at the Supervisor's Office in Vernal, Utah.

A Notice of Availability for the DEIS was published on November 19, 2021, in the Federal Register. Electronic, written, or hand-delivered comments concerning these documents will be accepted for 90 days from the publication date of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register, which is the exclusive means for calculating the official comment period for the draft plan and DEIS. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions. The submission of timely and specific comments can affect a reviewer's ability to participate in the 2012 Planning Rule Objection Process. Comments received

in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the respondent the standing to participate in the 2012 Planning Rule Objection Process.

Electronic comments are preferred and may be submitted through the online commenting tool at: (CARA link: <https://cara.ecosystem-Management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=49606>). Written comments may be dropped off weekdays 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday (except holidays) at any Ashley National Forest office. Comments delivered by U.S. mail may be sent to Ashley National Forest ATTN: Plan Revision Team; 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal,

Utah 84078. To be accepted, all comments must be postmarked by the last date of the official comment period.

The Ashley National Forest planning team will host two webinars to provide opportunities for the public to ask questions of subject matter experts and get assistance with submitting comments. Please check the website (<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/ashley/landmanagement/planning>) for specific days and times, anticipated to be held the week of December 6.

The decision to approve the final land management plan for the Ashley NF will be subject to the objection process identified in the 2012 Planning Rule Objection Process at 36 CFR 219 subpart b (219.50 to 219.62). Only those individuals and entities who have submitted substantive comments related to the Ashley NF plan revision during the opportunities provided for public comment will be eligible to file an objection (36 CFR 219.52(a)).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Published in the Vernal Express November 24, 2021.