Socio-Economic Assessment
for the
Coronado National Forest

Abstract

This report presents a socioeconomic assessment of the six-county area surrounding the Coronado National Forest. The assessment is based on analysis of secondary data to inform forest staff, stakeholders, and communities of trends in seven topics: 1) demographic patterns and trends; 2) economic characteristics and vitality; 3) access and travel patterns; 4) land use; 5) forest users and uses; 6) designated areas and special places; and 7) community relationships. Findings from the analysis of socioeconomic data are consistent with those from similar studies throughout the region showing significant increases in population and housing, substantial economic shifts from extractive industries toward the service and professional sectors, and a land use policy environment largely affected by an abundance of public land and increasing urbanization. In addition to revealing differences in the demographic, economic, and land use patterns of each county, it also discusses issues of natural and cultural resource protection common to the entire region.