

# Welcome!

## Forest Service Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science Community of Practice

Audio: 1-888-844-9904 Access Code: 701-0327

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✓ Your Name, Title, and Location

This meeting  
is being  
recorded



## Community of Practice Team



**Michelle Tamez**



**Daniel Silvas**



**Matthews Smith for  
Tricia Suchodolski**

### Agenda:

- ❑ Public Participation Through Citizen Science: Engaging our Communities in Forest Planning and Beyond
  - ❑ 2012 Planning Rule Policy
  - ❑ Case Study – Youth Forest Monitoring Program, Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest
- ❑ Discussion

## Purpose and Intent

FSCCS

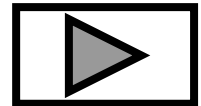
Through the FSCCS you can:

- **Network**
- **Learn** from colleagues and partners
- Get connected to **resources** and information
- Be **inspired** to develop new projects or expand your existing citizen science and crowdsourcing projects



Adobe Connect is our virtual meeting space

**Email Us!**  
**FSCCS@FS.FED.US**



**Access Recorded  
Material Later!**



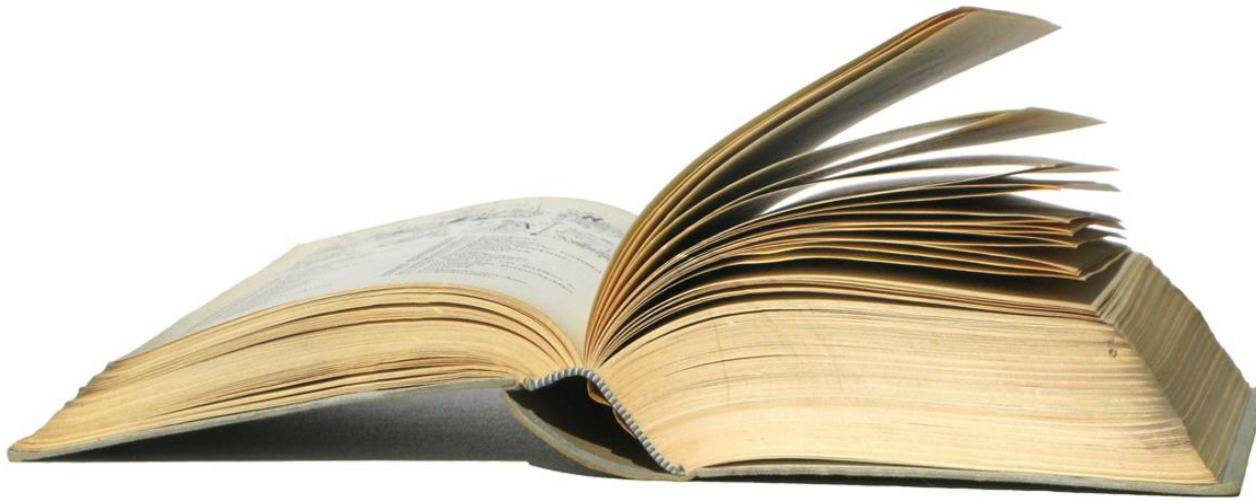
# CLUB RULES

1. Join in! Tell us you're there
2. Share your questions and insights
3. Be respectful when sharing and responding to opinions
4. Discussion during Q&A will not be recorded
5. Be open to colleagues reaching out to you
6. Share with other colleagues who did not attend
7. Provide feedback to your CoP Team

Do you currently have citizen scientists/volunteers collecting data that contributes to forest management, research, or forest planning?

Are you or your forest/region interested in developing citizen science and crowdsourcing opportunities that support forest planning efforts?





# Policy



# Policy

## 2012 Planning Rule



Forest Planning Cycle

- **Assessment** (Ch. 10) – Report on current ecological, social, cultural and economic conditions, trends and risks to sustainability in and around the forest; Develop Need to Change
- **Forest Planning** (Ch. 20) – Develop the forest plan desired conditions, objectives standards and guidelines, and monitoring program; address items in the Need to Change
- **Monitoring** (Ch. 30) – Once plan implementation begins, apply the monitor program to ensure management towards desired conditions and make changes as necessary

## Policy

Public Participation (Ch. 40)



Region 5

- Meet public needs and protect natural resources
- The *public* includes all stakeholders external to the Forest Service
  - Individual community members
  - Organizations and private entities
  - State, local, tribal governments
  - Other Federal agencies

“ The Responsible Official shall engage the public early and throughout the planning process. In providing opportunities for engagement the responsible official shall encourage participation by...**youth, low income populations and minority populations**” (36 CFR 219.4(a) (1)). ”





# Assessment

## Public Participation

- Public share information and data related to the social, cultural, economic, and ecological systems affected by forest conditions
- Local knowledge about resource conditions and trends to augment available data
- Communities' values and concerns related to the national forest
- Ensure that relevant data sources are considered

The screenshot shows the 'Talking Points Collaborative Mapping' application. It features a map on the left with various colored overlays. On the right, there are several interactive windows:
 

- Leave a Comment:** A form with fields for First Name, Last Name, Email Address, and Full Address. It also includes radio buttons for 'Post Comment' and 'Post Comment and Notify Me', and a 'Submit' button.
- Show Comment:** A window displaying a comment from '06/18/2012 03:26' with a 'Reply' button. The comment text discusses the history of the area and the impact of logging.
- Reply:** A window showing a reply from '01/23/2012 11:00' with a 'Reply' button. The reply text discusses the history of the area and the impact of logging.
- Table:** A table listing comments with columns for Reference ID, Date Created, Keyword, Comment and Replies, Name, Email, and Map. It includes a 'Show' button for each entry.

The screenshot shows the 'Living Assessment' website. It features a navigation menu on the left with links to 'Home', 'Recent Changes', 'Pages and Files', and 'Members'. The main content area includes:
 

- Welcome to the Living Assessment**
- NEWS:** A section titled 'FINAL Bio-Regional and Forest Assessments now available' with a link to 'assessment documents in list below'.
- Introduction:** A paragraph explaining the purpose of the assessment and the role of the public in the process.
- Helpful tips on working in the wiki**
- Go To Assessment Chapters**

 On the right side, there is a map of the Sierra Nevada Bioregion with three 'Early Adopter Forests' highlighted in red. The map includes labels for various locations such as Kings Canyon, Sequoia, and Sierra Nevada.



# Forest Planning

## Public Participation

- Specific requirements
  - Species of Conservation Concern
  - 4-Step Wilderness process
  - Wild and Scenic River process
  - Suitability of Lands
  - **Monitoring Program**
- Remember the citizen science definition:

Voluntary public participation in the scientific process

- Form research questions
- Collect and analyze data
- Interpret results
- Make discoveries



Glacier Peak Wilderness



Eastern Hellbender



Project BudBurst

# Monitoring

## Two Levels

### 1. Monitoring Program - specific to each Forest's Plan

Forest

- "...designed to inform the management of resources on the plan area, including testing relevant assumptions, tracking relevant changes, and measuring management effectiveness and progress toward achieving or maintaining the plan's desired conditions or objectives." (36 CFR 219.12(a)(2))

### 2. Broader-scale monitoring strategies – two or more forests

- "...plan monitoring questions that can best be answered at a geographic scale broader than one plan area." (36 CFR 219.12 (b)(1))

Region



# Forest Plan Monitoring Program

## Public Participation



Remember the rule:

### Public participation early and often

- The Responsible Official shall...provide opportunities for **public participation, collaboration, and multi-party monitoring in the development and implementation of monitoring for the plan area...provide** for the collection and public reporting (except for sensitive data) of plan monitoring data on a regular basis. (FSH 1909.12\_32, p. 8).
- The intent of public participation during monitoring is **full transparency, to give people access to all information that is developed through monitoring activities, and to obtain public feedback** on what monitoring information suggests about the effectiveness of the land management plan (FSH 1909.12\_42.14c, p. 14).



madison  
**AUDUBON**  
society



**THE KLAMATH TRIBES**  
Klamath-Modoc-Yafooskin



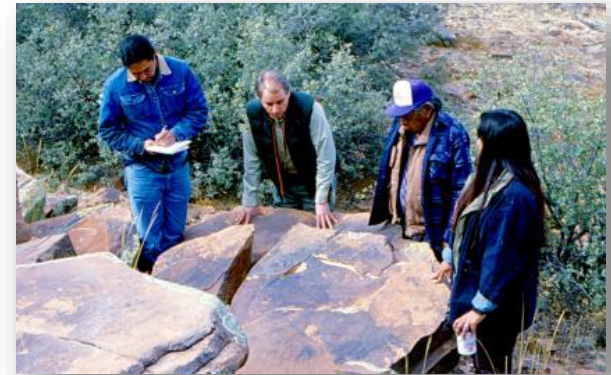
# Broader-Scale Monitoring Strategy

## Public Participation



Broader-scale strategies must be designed to take into account:

- **Existing** national and regional **inventory, monitoring, and research programs** of the Agency, including from the NFS, State and Private Forestry, and Research and Development, and of other governmental and non-governmental entities;
- Opportunities to **design and carry out multi-party monitoring** with other Forest Service units, Federal, State or local government agencies, scientists, partners, and members of the public; and
- Opportunities to **design and carry out monitoring with Indian Tribes or Alaska Native Corporations** to the extent practicable and appropriate (36 CFR 219.12(c)(3)).



# **Case Study – Youth Forest Monitoring Program, Helena- Lewis and Clark National Forest**



# Join Our Mailing List!

To get future messages about the community of practice:

Email to [fscs@fs.fed.us](mailto:fscs@fs.fed.us) with the

Subject: Add me to the FSCCS Mailing List

**FSCCS Information and Webinar Recording:**

[https://ems-team.usda.gov/sites/fs-nrm-  
imac/SitePages/Citizen%20Science!.aspx](https://ems-team.usda.gov/sites/fs-nrm-<br/>imac/SitePages/Citizen%20Science!.aspx)



**The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.**

*100 Years of caring for the land and serving people*

