



Colville National Forest

Forest Plan Revision Update

Spring 2016

A Message from the Forest Supervisor

In this newsletter I want to give you a brief update on how our Plan Revision comment period is going and to also give you an overview of the types of things we are hearing from the public and interested organizations.

We're about two and a half months into our 135-day comment period, which closes on July 5th. I want to encourage people to check out the draft plan and draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) and to submit your comments by the deadline. Maps and the draft plan and analysis documents are posted to the project website and available at local offices and libraries to view. To learn about the draft plan and analysis, or see how to submit comments... check out the **Online Open House page**: <http://colvilleplanrevision.publicmeeting.info/>.



Rodney Smoldon,
Colville National Forest
Supervisor

To date we've received about 44 letters from interested citizens who care deeply about the management, health and sustainability of their national forests. Comment letters received to date are also available for viewing on the project web page. Look for the link to the **comment reading room** in the quick links menu (upper right corner of the page) or go to: <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public//ReadingRoom?Project=45826>

Comments talk about concerns for forest access for recreation and resource (timber, fuels, wildlife, etc.) management; for the needs of their communities that rely on the forest for the tangible outputs of goods and services to support our communities, like forest products, healthy range lands, clean water and recreation; and for more intangible assets of our forests for providing freedom to access and enjoy the forest. People have noted concerns about how elements of the Forest's preferred Alternative (Alternative P) might positively or negatively impact their communities, their way of life, and ability to enjoy the forest in ways that they have grown accustomed. Some have provided specific comments on how the various alternatives can be improved.

The Colville National Forest is dedicated to enhancing public understanding of the forest plan revision process before, during, and after the public comment period. See page 2 of this newsletter for new details on three upcoming webinars in May and four listening sessions planned for early June. We now have notes from recent meetings with interest groups and organizations posted on the project website, if you'd like to see the types of questions people have about the draft plan.

Thank you for your continued interest and willingness to be part of this process. I really appreciate the time people have invested in reviewing and discussing our draft plan, such as our County Commissioners who took three full days out of their busy schedules to meet with me and provide valuable insights. Please read on to learn about our efforts to get the word out about this forest planning process, and I encourage you to submit your comments on the preferred alternative and draft plan.



for the greatest good

Notes from Informational Meetings Now Available on Web

A variety of informational meetings have been held since the beginning of the comment period to share information about the draft plan, analysis and alternatives. These meetings were by invitation of groups or organizations who asked the Forest Service to come to their meeting to share information about the draft plan, or to have discussions with organized user groups so they could better understand how the revised plan or alternatives may affect their use. Summaries of these meetings are now posted to the project website: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/colville/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd490436>

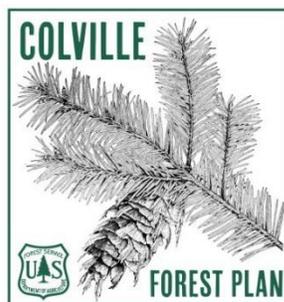
If your group or organization would like a short briefing to learn about the draft plan, etc., please contact Debbie Kelly and Amy Dillon for information about scheduling, etc. See contact information below.

Upcoming Meetings- Mark Your Calendars

Online Meetings (Topical Webinars coming up in May):

Online meetings are an opportunity for you to clarify your understanding about a specific forest plan revision topic without having to leave your home to attend a meeting. Online meetings will include a 10-minute presentation by the Forest Service to introduce the topic, with the remaining time dedicated to questions and Forest Service responses. The topics addressed in each webinar are listed below. **Advance online registration is required and free of charge.** We'll also provide a **toll-free phone number** for you to dial into so that you can hear and be heard during the webinar (audio through computer microphones/speakers will NOT be available). The webinar will be recorded and posted on the Forest Service website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/colville/plan-revision> within 24 hours of the webinar, and a brief written summary of the key discussion points will be prepared and posted within one week of the webinar. Please follow the links below to register for individual webinars (each webinar requires a separate registration). If you have any questions about, or difficulty with, registration, please contact Debbie Kelly, 509-664-9247.

Online Meetings Topic	Date	Time	Registration Link
Forest Access by Roads: Learn how roads affect forest resources, and how access to the forest changes under the alternatives.	Monday, May 16	6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. PDT	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6067461778215153154 Webinar ID: 115-613-675
Forested Vegetation Management: Learn how forested vegetation would be managed and how might this affect fish and wildlife habitat, and wildfire risk.	Monday, May 23	10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PDT	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7732486321017666818 Webinar ID: 130-275-083
Social-Economic Concerns: Learn how the draft Colville Forest Plan accommodates uses important to the local economy.	Monday, May 23	2:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. PDT	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6631482655962816258 Webinar ID: 129-322-051



Listening Sessions-

Upcoming opportunities to share your verbal comments coming up in June

Listening sessions in Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille, and Spokane Counties (four meetings total) convened by the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (www.ecr.gov) will provide interested individuals an opportunity to briefly share their perspective on the draft EIS and draft revised Forest Plan with the listening audience, including the Forest Service. These meetings are being held to accommodate community requests for an opportunity to provide verbal public comment “on the record.” Verbal comments of up to two minutes each will be captured and transcribed by a court reporter. We’ll livestream these sessions where we have the capability to do so, to enable those who cannot attend the opportunity to watch online. The Forest Service will not respond to comments during the meeting to allow the maximum time for comment. If there is time remaining once everyone who wishes to speak has spoken once, a second comment opportunity will be provided for as many people as can be accommodated before the end of the meeting. If you have questions regarding the format of the listening sessions, please contact Susan Hayman, facilitator, at shayman@enviroissues.com or 208.869.2120 (cell phone).

***Please note- All Listening Sessions begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m.
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. – Forest Service informational posters will be on display.***

- **June 1** at the **Colville Extended Learning Center**, 985 S. Elm Street in Colville, WA
- **June 2** at the **Kalispel Tribe-Camas Wellness Ctr**, 1821 N. Le Clerc Road #1 in Cusick, WA
- **June 6** at the **Spokane Community College**, Sasquatch Conf. Rm, 1810 N Greene St. in Spokane, WA
- **June 7** at the **Republic Elementary School**, 30306 East Hwy 20 in Republic, WA

Contact Information

Amy Dillon

Forest Environmental Coordinator
& Plan Revision Team Leader
Phone: (509) 684-7211
Email: adillon@fs.fed.us

Debbie Kelly

Public Affairs Lead
Phone: (509) 664-9247
Email: dlkelly@fs.fed.us

Email: colvilleplanrevision@fs.fed.us

Project Website: fs.usda.gov/goto/colville/plan-revision

Postal Mail:

Attn: Forest Plan Revision Team
Colville National Forest
765 South Main Street, Colville, WA 99114

Subscribe to the Contact List

To ensure that you remain on the contact list for updates or to update your information, please sign up for our electronic messaging system: <http://fs.usda.gov/goto/colville/plan>