Changes between Preliminary Draft Plan and Final Draft Plan

Santa Fe National Forest Plan Revision

June 2019

The Santa Fe National Forest (NF) Draft Forest Plan is expected to be published in the Federal Register in summer of 2019. This is not the first version of the new Forest Plan the forest has made available to the public for comment. In January 2017, the Santa Fe NF released a document titled Initial Plan Components (IPC) which was essentially a preliminary draft of the new Forest Plan. Public comments on the IPC from cooperating agencies, governmental agencies, non-governmental agencies, tribes, and other members of the public were incorporated into the plan, along with additional internal work by the Santa Fe NF and language on traditional uses consistent with the Carson and Cibola NF draft Plans. This document will help members of the public review and comment on the Draft Forest Plan by highlighting some of the differences between the IPC and the draft plan.

Overall

New sections in Draft Plan

- Chapter 1 the introductory chapter which includes information on the purpose of the Forest Plan, description of the plan area, contents of the Forest Plan, and information on Forest Plan implementation
- o Complete narratives for each resource and the designated areas throughout Chapters 2 and 3.
- All management areas. The IPC only included the Oil and Gas leasing management area (with plan components) and a Geothermal Leasing Management Area (with no plan components).
- Added Geographic Areas (Chapter 4), the Forest Plan Monitoring Program (Chapter 5), and all of the appendices for maps, fire-return intervals and at-risk species for the Ecological Response Units, proposed and possible future actions, and relevant laws, regulations, and policies.

Chapter 2

Forest-wide plan components for each resource, each with its own narrative, plan direction, and management approaches.

Changes in Sections

- o Added 'Alpine and Tundra' as an ERU under Vegetation
- o Added 'Partnerships'
- o Added 'Recreation: Special Uses'
- Added 'Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Caves'
- o Added Timber Suitability to the 'Forest Products' narrative
- 'Riparian Management Zones' moved from Vegetation to a standalone section and renamed 'Riparian and Wetland Ecosystems'
- o Changed title of 'Traditional and Cultural Ways of Life' to 'Northern New Mexico Traditional Communities and Uses'
- o Changed title of 'Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Minerals' to 'Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Solid Minerals'

Changes in Plan Components

- Condensed 'Forest Products' from 9 guidelines to 3;
- Modified the local forest product industry goal from 150,000 CFF (cubic hundred feet) to 177,000 CCF and added an objective for personal use of 92,850 CCF (972,539 cords) per decade of fuelwood
- Updated detailed objectives and added guidelines for 'Developed Recreation' and removed standards
- Added objective section to 'Dispersed Recreation'
- o Removed objectives for 'Facilities'
- o Added guidelines section to 'Lands and Realty: Cross-Boundary Management'
- o Added 5 new desired conditions and 3 new guidelines to 'Lands and Realty: Special Uses'
- o Added 9 new standards to 'Energy, Minerals, Caves: Solid Minerals'

Changes in Management Approaches

- o 'Federally Recognized Tribes' has 7 new management approaches
- o Added 8 new management approaches to 'Rural Historic Communities'
- Added 4 new management approaches to 'Facilities'

Chapter 3

Plan components for designated areas and management areas, which require different management than the forest-wide plan direction found in chapter 2.

Changes in Sections

- Added 'Wild Horse Territory (WHT)'
- Added 'Significant Caves'
- o Added 'National Historic Trails'
- o Added 'Caja Del Rio Wildlife and Cultural Interpretive Management Area'
- o Added 'Cañada Bonita Recommended Research Natural Area'
- o Added 'Cultural Interpretive Management Area'
- Added 'Recommended Wilderness' as a management areas (recommended wilderness areas had not been identified when the IPC was released)
- Added 'Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers' as a management area (eligible wild and scenic rivers had not been identified when the IPC was released)
- o Changed title of 'Oil and Gas Leasing Area' to 'Oil and Gas Leasing Management Area'
- Replaced 'Geothermal Energy Leasing Area' with a standard on geothermal leasing in the 'Leasable Energy Minerals' section

Table 1. Level of Changes, by Section, between IPC and Draft Forest Plan. '-' denotes small changes which include little to no change, minor to moderate language changes that do not impact the plan component content, and/or condensing the number of plan components in a given resource. '+' denotes larger changes which include addition or omission of a sub-section (ex: entirely new standards section added), title changes, creating a new standalone section, and adding/removing a significant number of plan components.

| | Ch | apter 2 | |
|---|----|---|----------|
| Vegetation | + | Sustainable Rangelands and Livestock | - |
| Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) | | Recreation (Common to All Subsections) | - |
| Fire and Fuels | - | Developed Recreation | + |
| Water Resources | - | Dispersed Recreation | + |
| Riparian and Wetland Ecosystems | + | Recreation Special Uses | + |
| Wildlife: Aquatic Species and Habitats | - | Roads | - |
| Wildlife: Terrestrial Species and Habitats | - | Facilities | + |
| Wildlife: Non-native Invasive Species | - | Lands and Realty: Cross-Boundary Management | + |
| Wildlife: At-risk species | - | Lands and Realty: Land Status | - |
| Soil Resources | - | Lands and Realty: Special Uses | + |
| Air | - | Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Leasable Energy | - |
| | | Minerals | |
| Partnerships | + | Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Renewable Energy | - |
| NNM Traditional Communities and Uses: Federally | + | Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Solid Minerals | + |
| Recognized Tribes | | | |
| NNM Traditional Communities and Uses: Rural | + | Energy, Minerals, and Caves: Caves | + |
| Historic Communities | | | |
| Cultural Resources and Archeology | - | Scenic Resources | - |
| Forest Products | + | | |

| Chapter 3 | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| All Designated Areas | - | Wild Horse Territory (WHT) | + | Caja Del Rio Wildlife and Cultural Interpretive Management Area | + | |
| Wilderness Areas | + | Significant Caves | + | Cañada Bonita Recommended Research Natural Area | + | |
| Inventoried Roadless Areas | - | National Trails | - | Cultural Interpretive Management Area | + | |
| Research Natural Areas | - | National Historic Trails | + | Oil and Gas Leasing | - | |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers | - | National Recreational Trails | - | Recommended Wilderness Management Area | + | |
| Jemez National Recreational Area | - | Scenic Byways | - | Eligible Wild and Scenic River Management Area | + | |