

**USDA Forest Service
Alaska Region – Roundtable to Discuss
the National Planning Rule**

**Tuesday, April 13, 2010
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Centennial Hall, Ballroom #1 – Juneau, Alaska**

Roundtable Objectives

- Stakeholders have the opportunity to provide their thoughts about what the Forest Service planning rule should contain, in the context of planning issues of particular interest in the Alaska Region.
- Stakeholders understand the process that will be followed to develop the new planning rule and how they can provide input in the future.

Outcomes

- A summary of the Alaska Region roundtable will be provided to the national planning rule writing team so that, to the maximum extent possible, the proposed rule and alternatives evaluated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process take into account the diverse interests and perspectives of the public.

AGENDA

Coffee, tea, light refreshments available

- 2:00 pm **Welcome / Introductions / Agenda Review**
- 2:10 pm **Welcome from Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell** (video)
- 2:20 pm **Welcome from Regional Forester Beth Pendleton**
- 2:25 pm **Planning Rule Process** – Presented by Randy Coleman
- Introduction to the Forest Service planning rule and its role in guiding development of forest land and resource management plans
 - How Region 10 roundtable summary will be used in the national rule-writing effort
 - Next steps in rule-making process and opportunities for public input

2:40 pm **Facilitated Group Discussion**

As they sign in, meeting participants will be polled regarding which two or three of the substantive topics and/or planning process requirements listed in the Notice of Intent, or other topic areas, they think are most important to discuss collaboratively during the afternoon session (see topics shaded below). The facilitated group discussion will focus on the several topics that are identified by the most meeting participants.

Substantive topic areas that could be addressed in forest management plans:

1. Plans could address the need for **restoration and conservation** to enhance the resilience of ecosystems to a variety of threats.
2. Plans could proactively address **climate change** through monitoring, mitigation and adaptation, and could allow flexibility to adapt to changing conditions and incorporate new information.
3. Plans could emphasize maintenance and enhancement of **watershed health** and protect and enhance America's **water resources**.
4. Plans could provide for the **diversity of plant and animal species and habitat**.
5. Plans could foster **sustainable NFS lands and their contribution to vibrant community economies**.
6. Plans could address the **recreation use of NFS lands**.

Guidance for the planning process:

1. The planning process could involve **effective and proactive collaboration with the public**.
2. Plans could incorporate an “**all-lands approach**” by considering the relationship between NFS lands and neighboring lands.
3. The **planning process** could be based on the latest planning science and principles to achieve the best decisions possible.

Short mid-afternoon break provided

4:50 pm Closing Remarks

5:00 pm Adjourn Group Discussion

5:00-6:00 pm Room remains open for work on written comment forms / informal discussions.

Written and email comment forms accepted until 9:00 p.m.