

TONTO NATIONAL FOREST PUBLIC MEETINGS

Needs for Change – What do you see as needing to change on the Tonto National Forest?

Payson

Agency Processes & Decisionmaking

- Please continue this openness with the citizens
- Coordination with local government so you can get ongoing work done
- Coordination with local government
- Would like to see decisions made locally by District Ranger
 - Want to deal with the person who has authority to make decisions
- Funds stay locally (if generated locally)
- Have Forest Service work with Game & Fish to institute a hands-off policy on wildlife management. Roads are not necessary for wildlife management
- Not be pressured by special interest groups who have agendas but lack the facts

Agency Outreach, Information Dissemination, Public Education

- Education
- Better, i.e. more accurate, up-to-date information, maps trail guides, signs, etc.
- Signs explain what is appropriate
- Education for all regarding appropriate use areas
- Education for all

Use of Volunteers

- Volunteerism to assist Forest Service ease expenses

Law Enforcement, Education, & Litter Control

- Exercise more supervision over the activities in the forest. Many problems caused by activities in the forest
- More staff at the district level
- Fines of littering be a higher punishment – enforcement
- There is a need for more “people” to monitor the different things that are going on in the forest (need for patrols)
- Policing/Enforcement of ATV/dirt bikes tearing up the forest and making new trails
- Increased enforcement – clean forests, ATV access/issues
- How to better enforce – litter problem (trash dumping)
- The need for someone to be on call when needed (reporting forest abuses)
- Need for the FS to acquire trails for ORV enforcement of unaffiliated ORV users
- Better enforcement of off road activities where misuse is occurring
- Fines too low/lack of enforcement
- Stiffer fines/better enforcement for littering

- Clean up - trash dumping
- More law enforcement
- Poaching
- Trash enforcement
- Finding a way to cut the trashing of the forest, fines?
- Police manage/control forest use
- Better law enforcement on Forest Service land
- Better control of off road travel and trashing area
- Abuse by motorcycles and quads – Forest Service should focus on the 5% of users that are careless and thoughtless, not just close roads
- Pursue those that dump trash, abuse or damage forest lands and clean up sites as soon as possible
- More rangers or officials to enforce the rules, designated trails for OHV, trash, fires, off-road vehicles, poaching, etc.
- Law enforcement:
 - Trash pick up
 - Enforcement of illegal activity
- Wants to see more authority on illegal dumping – Need more law enforcement, 24/7 on dumping trash
- More personnel for safety/law enforcement issues
- More law enforcement in forests, more grooming of undergrowth for fire protection on the forest
- More enforcement of rules so privileges of law abiders are not taken away
- Get a grip on irresponsible forest behavior/activity
- Big concern lack of adequate numbers of law enforcement
- Lack of law personnel could lead to closure of forest areas
- Better info to public on who to contact with problems – weekend coverage
- Public incentives/self policing of behavior
- Would like to see more – at least some – law enforcement of all National forest regulations. Restrictions on off road vehicles and signs to that affect
- Enforcement of trails without closing them down

Travel Management

- Access. Keeping our roads open for jeeps; leave all numbered trails open for jeep & ATV usage; Improve some roads – FS 60 (188-288) across roads when Tonto Creek
- Improve Trail Management “With Public Help”
- Reopening trails that have been closed due to fire when they can, instead of forgetting about them
- More adopted trails that are for many users
- More separate trails for non-motorized use
- Better trail maintenance
- Keep trails and roads open but limit new roads
- Encourage trail adoption
- No closures of roads for convenience of Forest Service
- User created trails stopped – sign it, define it
- If trails not maintained leave it open for public use

- Back country trail development and maintenance
- Protection of trails from trash and abuse, signage of trails
- Eliminate and prevent user created roads
- Open forests – no road closures
- Open up the places that have been closed
- All roads open so no concentration of area use
- Keep all established roads – logging, mining, etc. – open
- Roads & trails (designation & maintenance)
- Don't close any roads to motorized travelers
- Need some control by designating specific areas (trails) (mountain bikes)
- Limit the creation of new roads (too many on the forest)
- Maintain trails and roads for recreation
- Keep roads open so everyone can travel, see game, hunting
- Better signage regarding which roads or trails are open for what
- Lessen road/trail density without lessening forest access so existing roads can be maintained with shrinking Forest Service budget
- Improve access thru boundary fencing. Why – at least in public roadways, example: town and county roads
- Improve trail/road maintenance – more enjoyable visit, control erosion
- Roads provide access to fire fighting
- Lessen road density so that our budget can handle maintenance, same with trail system
- Improve forest access – especially around town boundaries (boundary fence gates for trails)
- Stay on roads

Recreation Management

- Create trails for hiking & horseback only
- Everything open so not concentrated in one area – horses, ATV's, etc.
- Forest Service sensitive to wants and needs of users
- Concentration of recreation is detrimental
- Toilets in heavy use, throw down [trash] campsites at Water Wheel [Campground]
- Open forests
- Multi-use facilities
- Want to see more special use permits
- Want to see more campgrounds (expansion)
- Plan for future population in area of recreation
- Want to see use permits for day use to help support law enforcement
- Tourism stats – knowing where people are coming from and knowing what needs and uses are needed. Treat forest as a business, not a hobby
- Open up camp grounds all year long
- Collaboration with town and county for litter drop off places instead of “leave it behind”
- Collaborate with town and county on litter deposit boxes for visitor use

Motorized Recreation

- Need more/better places for ATV's to recreate
- Better education, permits, special license, for ATV activities
- I don't like ATVs being lumped in with jeeps (as destroyers). Not to group OHV together for off road use
- Need to control ATV use and repair ATV damage
- Maintenance – Need for FS to allocate more funds for maintenance of motorized/un-motorized trails. Many un-motorized trails have been damaged by fire
- Better control of off-road vehicles
- Enforcement of ATVs going where ever they want and making trails where there aren't any
- Control ATVs – Controlling damage in over-used areas
- Better enforcement of the existing forest rules during high use periods, summer months
- Quiet exhaust/spark arresters on off road vehicles\all vehicles, not just ATVs
- Higher degree of OHV management
- Management tactics – Coordinate/Collaborate efforts of public and government
- ATV's & 4-wheel = drive ruts & erosion

Firearm Safety

- Need for Forest Service to work with Game & Fish to improve notification during hunting seasons so hunters and hikers/campers aren't trying to use the same space – reduce conflicts. Create a monthly calendar & map

Back-county Airstrips

- Air Strips – Preserve back country airstrips – emergency landings, life saving med evac
- Back country air strip accessibility; would like to see some of the back country airstrips that are currently closed for use by light aircrafts, opened for recreational use & for use as emergency landing strips for aircraft; concern regarding drug smugglers, law enforcement, if accessible, easier to police, work with law enforcement
- Aviation access forest wide
- Open/create airstrips
 - 1) Areas not available by land access by air
 - 2) Several other forests have this available
- Would like to see aviation included in recreational activities. Aviation is currently not even mentioned. Aviation should be allowed to facilitate pilots to participate in camping hiking, all recreational activities
- Airstrips are located in most areas managed by USFS. Aircraft leave little or no foot prints
- Other states (Utah, Idaho, Montana) all have airstrips on Forest Service lands accessible to aircraft
- Areas not accessible by road may be accessible by air

Fees & Use Permits

--

Social, Historic, Cultural Resources

Economic/Commercial Uses, Multiple Use

- Assurance of resource supply for industry – encourage economic uses of renewable resources
- Restoration of logging & grazing
- Better utilize resources to better support forest
- Logging & grazing
- Use of products/economically renewable resources
- Encourage local economics – logging (timber management), grazing, ranching
- Seeing too much discouragement of loggers, ranching
- Removal of harvestable timber prior to decay
- Allow for voluntary permanent retirement of grazing allotments
- Restore livestock grazing in riparian
 - Grazing needs to be compatible with long term ecological health of the land
- Let the ranchers put their cows back in the forest to eat the grass
- Effect of over grazing – eliminate the grazing especially during draught – we are in a 10 year draught period
- Cattle grazing open up on all districts
- Loggers to thin forest, local economics
- Let the loggers thin the forest
- Timber & range management

Forest Health/Adaptive Management

- Use the forest as the renewable resource that a forest is. Utilize the income from the use of the forests renewable resources to keep the forest clean and healthy
- Let outcomes drive management and those outcomes be steps towards the overall stated goals of a broad public synthesis of values
- Proactive forest management – Thinning/cutting, manage the health of the forest. Currently forest has a dirty, unhealthy unmanaged look to it
- Have an annual or at the least a 5-yr review, evaluation and re-plan process. Follow true adaptive management principles/practices
- Forest health/ecosystem – invasive species concerns - control, education
- Use real-time monitoring of indicators—real indicators—of health, functioning and productivity: Fund this, do this
- Improve Forest management; forest management for health – helping forest return to historical condition. Strengthen forest management efforts – thinning, grazing, etc.
- Soil erosion
- Health of forest
- Restoration
 - Logging & grazing
 - Effects of overgrazing
 - Fire management
- Create a healthier watershed: 1) Less stress per acre 2) Include livestock 3) Allow timber sales 4) Develop uses for the small diameter trees

- Education of what forest should look like
- Work toward forest health
- Thinning throughout forest – many reasons why: 1) Fuel reduction 2) Water yield increase 3) Biodiversity (increase) = diversity of plants/wildlife
- Managed for sustainability, return healthy functioning
- Overall environmental concern (outcome management)
- Work toward sustainability
- Managing for single species (i.e. MSO) has repercussions, i.e. fuel loads greater
- Model after nature, management
- Bring back water, plants, etc.
- Insect infestation concerns
- Stop over development of land
- Protect threatened/endangered species as population of AZ increases (and forest use increases)
- Give it all back to Indians
- More emphasis regarding quiet places for animals and for people
- Encourage timber and range management

Water Resources and Riparian Areas

- Back county water for wildlife
- More recognition/cooperation with municipal water users in adjacent forest/communities
- Lack of USFS awareness of future/present water needs. Greater recognition/cooperation with adjacent forest communities

Fire and Fuels Management

- I would like to see better fire management
- Re-structure out approach to fire management, from suppression to prevention – clean out fuel loads (re-direct money)
- Manage the fire fuel load of the forest overall, but particularly near populated areas
- Allow grazing again in the forest to reduce fire fuel
- Forests are logged exclusively to remove “doghair” small trees from our forest. No large or old growth trees should be removed. For fire prevention/leave big stuff reduce small fuels
- Need to continue and increase forest thinning for health of forest and wildlife prevention. Leave big tuff, reduce small fuels
- Healthy forest management – Fire prevention/management
- Fire Management – maintain fuel breaks around communities; thin the forest back to pre-fire suppression condition, this will make any uses safer; avoid closures and provide more groundwater and surface streams. I noticed Sycamore Wash has been wet since the pine dieoff in Pine/Strawberry
- Industry building roads in coordination with USFS
- Bring back grazing [fine fuels reduction]
- More funding for thinning for safety of homes
- Unattended fires
- Fire management – more aggressive thinning, cattle?

- Continue thinning the forest, keep it healthy
- Health of forest – proper management by Forest Service. Eliminate over growth – proper thinning, logging, grazing, etc. More use of private contractors
- Add fuel breaks and maintain around the community and continue to maintain.
 - Don't strip forest to bare necessities
- Promise establishment of Biomass (power plant) and/or cellulose ethanol plant
- Thin trees for fire protection – use livestock to reduce vegetation
- Monitor burns more closely, during the night
- More cutting & thinning opposed to burning
- Continue to lessen fire fuel on forest. Allow natural fires to reoccur when possible
- Allow access/cutting standing dead trees for firewood (forest wide)
- Allow more access to cutting standing trees which have no other value than for firewood
- Need for more thinning
- Continue fuel reduction work
- Forest wide thinning, proper stocking levels (biodiversity, water, wildlife diversity)
- Lessen fire
- More thinning, work toward forest health
- Improve specific management policy regarding certain species – US Oak management.
- Why – Reduce dead bio mass, increase firewood supply
- Continue fuels reduction so that we can allow for natural fires to occur (forest wide)
- Continue with fuel reduction
- Grazing to help reduce fuels
- Oak management to allow for cutting to reduce fuel loads, manage the species (oak < 100 tree no use for cavity use (birds))
- Regulations hamper thinning/wood removal (use White Mountain tribal lands as example)
- Inmate labor to help with thinning, trash

Lands, Land Exchanges, and Special Areas

- Maintain Forest size; toughen restrictions against land [reduction], resist pressures to reduce forest
- Would like to see IRA's recommended for wilderness designation. Ex: There are 2 IRA's that would make additions to the Hells Gate Wilderness
- Archeological sites should be allowed to age naturally. Vandalism of sites could be curtailed by limiting access to non-motorized sites
- Protect roadless areas that qualify as wilderness areas

Other

--

Pleasant Valley

Agency Processes & Decisionmaking

- More sensible use of funds
- Make more control of funds local
- Increase finances available to local national forest offices and give them the power to disburse those funds. Local offices can identify and improve local issues
- Forest Service needs to do their job. Find the money to get mandated projects done (ex: spotted owl surveys)
- Get money to do mandated projects
- Fund projects that are necessary
- Prioritize funding
- Incentives to increase performance
- Less waste
- More management flexibility on a local level District is able to make decisions on district level
- Somehow to hire more people to staff the Forest Service office here in Young, AZ - - -
- More help at district, more employees on the ground
- Accountability – Who’s the decision maker? Decision makers held accountable
- Use forest for what it was intended for – recreation, logging, grazing, fire
- Use a constructive approach Mgmt – integrated approach
- Management strategies. Open with choice of management
- Manage on the ground – don’t fear litigation, use good science
- Rangers with cajones (balls) to manage their area in a positive, responsive manner
- Keep decisions local – given power and backed by supervisor’s office
- Keep funds at local level
- Management of forest lands adjacent to private lands
- Remove federal court use by environmental groups to dictate policies for forest management which circumvent local, intelligent management of forest Congressional education from the Forest Service. “Realistic”
- Use better science – substantial science not feel good science
- Cooperate with Game & Fish for wildlife management
- More efficient use of Forest Service vehicles

Agency Outreach, Information Dissemination, Public Education

- Better communication – Inform the stakeholder! Better communication with the stakeholders – have a say in decisions
- Mutual respect
- Increase personnel to monitor the forest areas and educate users in sustainability More interactive approach
- Need someone that is trained to educate groups (children & adults) on a regular basis on how to appreciate and take care of their forest
- Education like “Pack it in, Pack it out”

Use of Volunteers

- Allow community volunteers to reduce fire hazard to community
- Utilize community to accomplish fuels reduction, volunteers
- Build into plan [that] landowners can enter into forest to manage adjacent areas (fire buffers)
- Freedom to clear and clean areas adjacent to landowners to provide protection from fire and wildlife
- Allow non-invasive and practical clearing of areas neighboring private property
- Increase private citizen use of public lands for forest management benefit (i.e. fire barriers, stewardship)
- Allowing private property owners next to forest the ability to manage vegetation
- Forest plan incorporate adjacent private property owner access to forest for mowing, dead tree removal, and low limb pruning for prevention/control of fire hazard
- Suggested new horse trails by public and be able to be maintained by users More friendly horse campgrounds, collaboration for adopting of trails from community
- Allow private land owners to remove deadwood from NFS land adjacent to their property (defensive firebreaks). Also to reduce brush and other flammable material
- Adopt a highway litter program is needed and encourage Boy Scout troop to adopt

Law Enforcement, Education, & Litter Control

- Enforcement improved. Enforce illegal activities
- Increase litter monitoring, keep cost down, keep bums/dopes out – pick up/arrest
- Forest protection from vandalism including public education and law enforcement
- Same as above – lack of law enforcement
- Same as above – education of forest use recreation (ex: riding)
- More education rather than more regulation of public from school age up on the care of a precious asset of forest and wildlife. Education at an early age
- Law enforcement is lacking on district level (FS) Better law enforcement
- Lack of enforcement of fire restrictions and lack of response. Direct line to report violations
- Available phone number for reporting ATV violations
- Restrict use of off road vehicles to specific roads. Be able to enforce those restrictions
- Improved coordination between Forest Service, county and state law enforcement. For public safety and reduce duplication of effort

Travel Management

- More road maintenance
- Maintain Forest Service roads
- Pave Forest Road 512
- Put all traversable roads (especially old logging roads and firefighting access roads) that were taken off the map in 2001 revision back on the map to help people who ride horses, hike on them to know where they are
- Create a designated bike trail adjacent to town and connected to Hwy 288
- Stop off road travel by ATVs. Do not close existing roads
- Make maps match road system
- Create bicycle trail

- Keep existing roads open
- Maintain service roads better than they are. Maintain roads, specifically Young North Road
- Pave and/or maintain 512 North road better. Preferably pave North 512 and reduce curves where possible
- Need to pave the dirt road north to Hwy 260
- Maintain trails by cutting trees from trails Keep trails open – down trees
- I would like to see the forest left open on existing roads, 2 track, logging roads, etc.
- Don't close roads – want forest to be accessible to users
- Road improvements (travel), maintain Rd 512
- Utilize existing logging roads
- Horse trail maintenance – not manicured but kept open Maintain designated trails
- Has the Coon Creek Trail been rebuilt from CC spring to the Rim tail in SA Wilderness?
- Rehabilitation of present trails
- Conversion of non-motorized trails
- Open forest up for more diverse recreation use and economic opportunities using existing roads, including old logging roads
- Improve/maintain forest access roads (FR 512, for example) Improve forest access roads
- Need loop hiking trails

Recreation Management

- Have a small picnic area in Young. Request for picnic area in Young
- Be careful with recreation, maybe too many people in a delicate area overuse of delicate recreation areas
- Don't fence off forest – keep open areas and trail there. Keep open what is currently open
- Want to increase tourism by increasing and improving access and maintaining areas (ex: trash pick-up, etc.)
- Increase service value (services and infrastructure)
- More dispersed camping
- Well at the Reynolds Creek area site was badly damaged
- Look at specific areas that are accessible to campers that don't have 4x4s
- Horse friendly campgrounds and trail heads
- Maintain public access for hunting and fishing
- Need more bathrooms along FR 512
- Need more litter cans along FR 512 and 288

Motorized Recreation

- Restrict ATVs to existing roads and trails
- Keep ATVs on roads

Firearm Safety

Back-county Airstrips

Fees & Use Permits

- Charge reasonable entry fees to developed sites to off set expense to empty trash cans, clean out port-a-potties, repaint picnic tables, etc.
- Unimproved site fees are unreasonable
- Shouldn't have to pay to use unimproved sites
- Free wood cutting permits to citizens of Young for self use, wood cutting permits for citizens of Young for free

Social, Historic, Cultural Resources

- Relax policy for utilizing forest wood products for individual use

Economic/Commercial Uses, Multiple Use

- Fence maintenance on grazing allotments needs to be addressed
- Create more economic activity to benefit forest, county, community Create economic activity to fuel local economy – town, county, state
- Guzzlers/tanks need to be better maintained for both cattle and wildlife Maintain improvements – guzzlers, fences, roads, trails
- Limits on juniper diameters increased to [be] economics/feasible
- Focus on new forest growth for sustain yield
- Bring back woodcutting and thinning for economic reasons. Provide job opportunities
- Bringing tourism to Young through services (horse and quad trails, camping and roads) being made available to the public Benefit to local tourism
- Increase the availability of forest land for recreation (hunting, horses, quads) and economic uses (guiding, timber, etc.) Open up forest for more diverse use
- Early access to distressed tree to enable economic harvesting – i.e. prior to rot and disintegration Utilizing in a timely manner (trees & lumber)
- Revise constraints on logging (not including clear-cutting) to regain economic viability of the lumber business. This would include utilization of existing roads specifically built for logging access, but never utilized
- Work with manufacturers that can utilize the resources (logging, fuelwood)
- Reasonable grazing of the forest to maintain a healthy forest
- Balance the grazing needs of domestic and wild animals
- People need to be able to make a living form Forest Service land (ranching, logging, mining, recreation)

Forest Health/Adaptive Management

- Encourage cutting of juniper
- Find ways to cut more juniper (in appropriate areas)
- T&E species management T&E species – use best science, historical data
- Management adaptability
- Decisions based “on the ground”
- Decrease threats to the forest sustainability
- Change harvesting rules for juniper/weeds – increased diameter. Bringing about better

watershed management Change harvesting rules on juniper
- Rewrite 1872 Mining Law so as to render more difficult mining for uranium in Workman Creek watershed. We need to sustainable and renewable energy – not nukes
- Limit mining – cause of forest health and watershed (uranium)

Water Resources and Riparian Areas

Fire and Fuels Management

- Allow property owners adjacent to Tonto National Forest permission and access to thin brush and clean up dead vegetation to reduce fire hazard/danger
- Forest management – Use fire to improve forest (i.e. reduce brush), Thinning of the forest to improve the growth of trees (Land of many uses)
- Better manage fire money
- Do prescribed burns on forest adjoining Young prescribed burns next to Young
- Dead fall needs to be cleaned up Dead and down trees and fire danger
- More logging for forest health
- In reference to WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) and concerns for fire protection – if the process was profitable, we would provide resource and protection
- Lessen restrictions for clearing underbrush and dead wood from around private property into public land surrounding private land for fire protection Reduce fire threats to private property
- Need a solution for removal of the large amount of dead trees in the forest

Lands, Land Exchanges, and Special Areas

- Revisit wild and Scenic River status for Cherry Creek and potentially reintroducing native fish
- Rectify thru the Wilderness Act the long standing boundary discrepancy on the eastern boundary of the S.A. Wilderness

Other

Globe

Agency Processes & Decisionmaking

- Change the impact of Endangered Species Act
- Willingness of Forest Service to participate in travel management process with BLM & AZ state land within the MGCP planning area (near Florence)
- Tonto Supervisor's Office – Long term staff. Need to make some major personnel changes in the Tonto Supervisor's Office in some of the old, long term staff
- Acknowledgement to Pete Weinel for work on Salt River
- Personnel changes
- Environmental assessments are paid for by others than USFS. Place responsibility on public to complete EIS
- Need Forest Service expertise to process permit applications – all types
- EIS – have national plan similar to BLM to do activities; get thru paperwork to get it done
- Streamline government processes (Forest Service processes)
- Put Control Closer to Home
- Relinquish control of non-essential acreage. Vest control in smaller, more responsive organizations. Decision would be more productive
- Tax payers – local citizens comments should have more weight
- Move Forest Service offices onto land it manages
- More coordinated resource management on TNF with the Natural Resource Conservation District. Need more collaboration with NRCS
 - Terminology is different
 - Could cause conflict between the two
 - Duplication of efforts
 - Management direction is different
 - Sometimes opposite directions
 - Management equilibrium leads to nothing getting done
- Put the burden of proof on the group proposing a potentially harmful activity. If a proposal could be detrimental, put burden of proof on originator of proposal
 - Need dialogue between opposite sides
 - Equal burden of proof [will cause harm/will not cause harm]
- Erring on the side of caution
- Citizens within Gila County need more say concerning multiple uses on TNF
- Reopen Bushnell Tanks – Why is Mesa District so restrictive on getting private land access and Tonto Basin pro access to private land
- Access to private land and through private land

Agency Outreach, Information Dissemination, Public Education

- Public does not know where they can go or do. More signs and/or maps. Some of this is needed BEFORE forest or transportation plans are complete. People need more education through signing & maps. They don't know where they can go or do. Need on-site information, need immediate change. Respectful and ethical riding

- Need better information about what is going on in the forest. Difficult to find information [on what is] being proposed

Use of Volunteers

- Use partnerships for grant money

Law Enforcement, Education, & Litter Control

- Rangers at popular wilderness trail heads
- Manage ORV abuse on TNF thru enforcement and a policy of no new motorized trails
- Law enforcement increased, realistic law enforcement
- Designate and enforce roadless and wilderness/primitive defined areas
- Attempt to enforce the rule: 'No Vehicles' in areas where no vehicles are allowed. Reason – people are running ATVs and jeeps on closed roads and foot paths
- Severely minimize use of recreational vehicles that degrade the land, cause noise pollution. Limit use to work related needs
- Increased education and enforcement for off road vehicles
- FPO attitudes – either pay or leave. Seem more like they are only patrolling to catch violators not for providing security

Travel Management

- Less access because there are too many open access points that allow motorists in particular causing ruin to the terrain. Lots of roads that people can get on – safety concern
- More access for the handicapped on the open roads and trails
- Access to the forest roads so people can access the forest for recreation. Seniors and physically impaired people cannot walk far, so need roads to enjoy nature More access for handicap, easier access by roads to forest (ex: Schoolhouse in Tonto Basin Ranger District)
- The trail system is too old to enable management of the numbers of OHV recreationists. Make or designate new trails or loops. No closures unless there is absolutely no way to mitigate Don't close trails – reroute so people have options when there are issues
- Improve road signs – amount, placement, etc.
- Decrease overall forest road density

Recreation Management

- Multiple users on top of each other (ex: Pipeline)
- Like to see reduction of access points to curtail overlapping activities
- Do not have private interest operate the camp sites Existing private campsites – don't privatize
- Need to return to recreational use of resources (including lakes) to the people.
- Get noisy jet skies and dirt bikes out Designated use areas (boats, jet skies – noise control)
- Motorized accessibility to camping (next to the Roosevelt Lake) without pavement – doesn't like the paved roads, paved camping areas. Restrict development. Less development, too organized. Take out "smurf village"

Motorized Recreation

- Identify areas not suitable for OHV use through geography, maps
- Identify areas that are not suitable for ORV use. Get travel management plan completed
- Identify areas not suitable using geography, maps. Existing travel management plan obsolete
- Forest Service has no or very few specialty OHV areas. Designate special areas outside trail system (ex: Oak Flats – rock OHV crawling, Pipeline – ATV responsible riding)
- Look outside the box for specialty areas that can be managed for all types of recreation
- Retain the number of operators and users at the same level in Salt River Wilderness
- Remove cameras out of the restrooms [Roosevelt Lake]

Firearm Safety

Back-county Airstrips

Fees & Use Permits

- Giving permits to cut down trees for firewood in the winter
- Too many fee regulations
- Need to look outside the box regarding charging educators a fee to host OHV safety education workshops or training
- OHV education – permit fees concern, education groups should have fee waivers, special use fee areas need monetary support
- The new fee policy on the TNF has everyone confused. The changing of fees on Forest Service lands needs to be further discussed and clarified New fee policy confusing, more education needed especially to special use groups
- Special use fees are needed in special areas. Access pass systems inadequate and misleading
- No access fees
- Incorporate “realistic” recreation fees on TNF – ways to enforce or manage violations (ex: ATVs going off trails), consistency between TNF, state, and BLM land
- User friendly fees and access
- Allow fee free access to the shoreline of Roosevelt Lake to areas accessible by car
- Have lost freedom of movement, want less control of access into lake [Roosevelt]
- Open dispersed areas to accessibility – without fees
- Less fee areas around Roosevelt Lake
- Parked vehicles must display recreation pass; all vehicles must display proof of fee payment [confusing, which is it?]

Social, Historic, Cultural Resources

- Leases – Renew leases as long as owners are abiding by agreement. Many leasees are concerned about the area and are willing to contribute to the forest community. Plus the

lease dollars are helpful to the Forest Service Strengthen existing leases, enforce, consistently renew, brings revenue to forest and recreation
- Allow people to collect dead/down wood

Economic/Commercial Uses, Multiple Use

- Logging of fire and bug killed trees. These trees should be removed to reduce fuel for future fires. They should be removed in a timely manner to preserve the value for lumber.
- Logging – fire, bug killed trees, remove trees for reforestation, more timely removal of these trees
- Salvage logging and logging in general on public lands exists only because of taxpayers subsidies. Also, there is lots of scientific evidence that says salvage logging is a bad idea. We need more discussion of this
- Salvage logging – expensive, deficit sales, risk of invasive/non-native plants, need honest discussion
- Loss of ability by TNF to properly manage grazing. Would like to see management authority that existed prior to 2000 restored. Would like to see Tonto get back to pre 2000 era. Recent rules & regulation changes not successful, improved grazing management
- Grazing – Cattle, sheep and goats have played an important part in settling the Tonto. Grazing should be reintroduced as a viable use. Should be reintroduced as a viable use, should continue
- Reintroduced at a reasonable level based on on-going grazing analysis
- Mining has been and should remain an important use of the Tonto. The development of the natural resources of the federal lands is what has made this nation great. Be allowed in mineralized areas
- Need to restore the economic base from the resource to the people (grazing, minerals, recreation, etc.)
- Recognize and reward ranchers as essential stewards of forest lands
- There is a need for timber – for forest health, jobs and building materials Bring back timber industry

Forest Health/Adaptive Management

- Planning environmental actions on a watershed minimal basis Watershed management (not to exclude grazing)
- Introduce native fish in Ash Creek within the Picacho IRA (Inventoried Roadless Area)
- Forest Service approach for exotic crayfish management
- Need to manage forest for forest health through grazing forestry, thinning, cutting trees, etc.
- Use “drought conditions” (rather than the average year) as the benchmark for setting conservative management thresholds Use drought condition rather than average year as benchmark
- Base land use (i.e. grazing, recreation, fire management) on quantitative monitoring and data collection Use tools (grazing, timber harvest, thinning, etc.) based on quantitative monitoring and data collection
- There are too many dry and dead bushes and trees taking water that the living trees

could use

- Employ the most modern peer review, scientifically proven methods to ensure forest sustainability
- Consider the impacts of different forest uses (recreation types, resource extraction, etc.) and allow or limit those based on impacts
- A complete EIS needs to be done to cover entire TNF, covering more burning and use of weed chemicals

Water Resources and Riparian Areas

- Better watershed health

Fire and Fuels Management

- Safety concern – timing of timber cuts, too dry = fires
- Cleaning undergrowth in heavily vegetated areas – decrease fire intensity, wood could be given to groups doing the cleaning, wilderness can remain untouched
- Wildland Urban Interface forest management for community protection Fire protection with WUI concept/retain prescribed burning
- Do more back burning along highways that go through Tonto National Forest. Reason – It would make it more difficult for mentally challenged drivers to start forest fires (throwing lit cigarettes from cars)
- If fire risk is a problem in dry months, don't use chain saws
- Administrators on fire details leaving duties not completed. Excuse used is “we are short-handed”

Lands, Land Exchanges, and Special Areas

- NEPA should always be done on land exchanges, including land exchanges that involve mines. NEPA should include a proper review of mining plan of operations. Always do NEPA when mining involved, especially in land exchanges, we lose access, no proper study of environmental impacts
- The SC [Sierra Club] has identified an area north of the BLM's White Canyon Wilderness Area as suitable for wilderness. The FS [Forest Service] should recommend this area for Wilderness
- Salt River, river wilderness and river management plans remain the same
- More Wilderness
- Less Wilderness
- Have the Forest Service recommend the Picacho IRA (Inventoried Roadless Area) for wilderness designation
- Designate new wilderness areas by using the IRA's (Inventoried Roadless Areas)
- Review all roadless areas for wilderness
- Southern Gila County needs more privately owned land next to town
- Isolated tracts. Plan exchanges to consolidate

Other

--

Mesa

Agency Processes & Decisionmaking

- Cross jurisdictional planning – other forests, districts, BLM, state trust land, private, etc.
 - for routes/trails, access
- Seek funding sources outside forest system Grants, alternative funding sources for projects
- More emphasis on scientifically based decisions, less/fewer political based decisions
- Need to have data presented first
- The Arizona Trail Association has observed some differences from one ranger district to another regarding how the rangers work with our segment stewards (i.e. level of independence they impose on them, restrictions, etc.). Should be consistent Along with other agencies as well. Trail stewards need to be given consistent treatment throughout forest
- We have all these ideas, but not a lot of hope of implementation
- How do we make decisions in an age of declining budgets?

Agency Outreach, Information Dissemination, Public Education

- More trails on map. Designate ATV trails, road maintenance/trail heads, LNT training
- More accurate forest maps: Up to date maps; which areas are which, road numbers, roads that aren't shown, accuracy
- Something to educate about open/closed areas
- Better and more signs on primitive roads
- More information on the website

Use of Volunteers

- Partnerships between all stakeholders – i.e. sportsman groups, cattle men, sierra club, etc. Stakeholder partnerships (i.e. Malpai Borderlands Group for landscape enhancement
- More partnerships (adopt-a-road/ranch, clean-up, etc.) Retaining ability to use volunteers to implement forest activities
- Continue friends groups/partnerships – Continue with friends groups to plan, maintain and use of wilderness areas, by ways, national monuments, OHV specialized areas, riparian or sensitive resources
- Tonto trying to work with public
- Need OHV education – signs, designations, kiosks, law enforcement, peer patrols – work with stakeholders in obtaining grant dollars Volunteer groups interested in clean-up and restoration – Tonto unresponsive

Law Enforcement, Education, & Litter Control

- Better enforcement of wilderness access by non-legal vehicles. Better enforcement of wilderness boundaries
- Tonto need more law enforcement employees, more personnel
- Stop and enforce encroachment of new OHV trails – IRAs, continuity between state and feds Inter-agency enforcement
- Better law enforcement – i.e. trash dumping, motor vehicles in wilderness \$200 fine

Stiffer penalties for trash, off roads (assigned trails)

- Better enforcement of rules (i.e. no dumping of trash, keep unwanted vehicles off wrong trails, quads & 4x4s off single track)
- Enforcement of rules (littering, off-road, hunting, etc.)
- Education/Enforcement – Increase on the ground presence, take advantage of volunteer time
- Address dumping issues, provide funding behind the issue Bi-lingual signs, i.e. dumping
- More cooperation between users and Forest Service, and better education for users - Education for users
- Education of land users of their impact on the land and their activities Be educational not confrontational
- Better policing of areas to enforce littering and vandalism laws
- Enforcement of violations such as pollution, trash, vandalism Education is not sufficient, enforcement necessary – deterrents
- More money towards litter pick-up and enforcement of existing laws Need to control access with entry points, more money goes to enforcement
- People who cause problems not here today
- More available information on rules and regulations
- More funding/personnel for education
- Permits to use forest to educate
- More law enforcement in heavily used (eroded) areas. Help protect areas by adding law enforcement in heavily used areas
- Enforcement
- Enforcement of no glass or Styrofoam on lower Salt River. Some way to encourage self clean up of river areas
- You can go places and think you're in the middle of nowhere, but lots of people need better enforcement of rules
- Lower Salt needs enforcement – trash, willing to pay fees, need education
- We've tried education for years – not working
- Need moral and legal enforcement. Need education and information (especially in conflict areas)
- Can't legislate intelligence
- Off-road vehicles and accessibility – a growing number of ORV/OHV people see the remoteness of the TNF as being opportunity to breach wilderness boundaries and riparian areas, the latter leading to serious degradation of the resource for both people and wildlife. Tonto NF significant urban-interface; cultural problem
- Accessibility and Abuse – Tonto NF is unique with regard to urban interface. As more people make use of the resource, an increasing number of people with little (or no) outdoor ethics see “open space” as a convenient dumping ground or shooting gallery. This is leading to numerous areas, particularly riparian, suffering a large degree of abuse
- Education/Information on etiquette for use. Need to start programs in grade school (remember the Iron Eyes Cody campaign)
- Nice to say we could educate everyone, but if not enough penalties; need education and enforcement hand-in-hand: “Traffic School” – if caught littering, spend time picking up trash

- Better education/monitoring of low impact practices for all users
- Environmental/educational trails – Development of educational trails needed forest wide, guided tours may be an option
- Needs more Forest Service personnel, more “presence” and interaction, signage itself not enough
- More levels of enforcement (ex: firefighters, volunteers, wilderness)
- Need to take opportunities for positive interaction/education
- Better enforcement of laws and regulations concerning the boundaries, and management of wilderness areas and other special management areas (too much damage from unauthorized intrusions) Enforcement of wilderness areas, boundaries, etc.
- More enforcement of OHV trail use (have OHVs stay on designated trails)
- More enforcement of OHV trails, for example: Lower Sycamore – people veering off trails, tearing up area
- Would like to see enforcement of people staying on current designated trails
- Improved/more efficient enforcement of illegal back country uses (unauthorized off-road trails, littering, shooting, unattended campfires, destruction of historic and archeological sites)
- Trailhead education, ex: personnel with maps at entrances to educate “manned access” or educational signage
- Forced education = fines (Bulldog Canyon)
- Strict fines for littering that are forest enforced. Lay out penalty options/work with state
- Stricter fines for littering, need to educate the public
- Better litter control from the permittee on the Salt River; stuff that can’t be easily picked up from tubers on the Salt is being dumped
- Work with the State [on litter control]
- Monitor ecological health and mitigate to recover when indicated. Keep water in the streams and rivers and native species on the land Monitor health to see affects of uses on land
- Manage use so they do no harm to long term values. Maintain the wild
- More law/rule enforcement Effective plan resourcing
- At Sycamore picked up trash for 1 hr – need more enforcement
- ATV owners must have license and training for use
- More/consistent & quality of education on recreation use
- Educate people on proper way to legally dump

Travel Management

- Access control (i.e. Bulldog Canyon) Need for access control in other areas besides Bulldog Canyon
- More organized OHV trail system – making of trail routes, mapping More trail signage, indicating users
- Legal access to trail heads
- Securing access across jurisdictional boundaries to trails
- Higher percentage of challenging roads Less road maintenance, “Increased maintenance=increase trash, overuse”
- Need OHV dedicated routes with diverse challenges. Identified areas will help decrease the misuse and impact of many trails “Maintained does not mean graded every month”

- Prevent damage from new trails being created randomly by motorized vehicles
- Education is important
- ORV damage at certain wilderness trailheads – ex: Mormon Grove trailhead (Trail #91)
- Wilderness trailhead roads lead to misuse. Need to look at bigger picture
- Rebuild fire damaged wilderness trails in a timely manner. Many trails are no longer suitable for equestrian use because of fire damage. Trail maintenance so trails can be used, especially by horses
- Route markings – Need better mapping & routing of roads and trails, especially in Superstitions
- Mapping route markings. Need signs on the ground, Just a few sign markings would go a long way, use volunteers
- Clear knowledge (inventory & description) of ATV trails available. This could be available on the web. It would give you a quick view to see if you wanted to ride an area
- Place info on web so people can just download – save printing money – list points, riding experience, etc.
- On Tonto NF there is no routing. Forest Service maps are worthless
- Has Forest Service considered placing routes on CD? Forest Service could work with land mapping office (in BLM) – custom maps, etc.
- Make available linked ATV routes for multi-day rides – this would permit overnight stays in small towns & provide economic life blood to them
- Link OHV/ATV routes to provide multi-day ride. Economic stimulus to small communities (ex: Utah Piate Trl)
- A drive to keep as much open as possible to public use. Keep forest open
 - Some places have lots of access – some is limited, blocked by private
 - Roads not maintained anyway – why close them
 - Some are so washed out – Prevent access
 - Should maintain the ones that are on the map
 - Maintain the roads that provide access to trails
 - Some roads (river crossing at Childs) that provide only access – hear Forest Service wants to close, this was original road to Childs
- Agency interface with travel management needed
- Better designated trails through maps, signage
- Provide trails people want to use
- Trail regulations, allowing for competing uses, that make sense to different types of users
- More resources devoted to trail rehabilitation in the wake of forest fires and floods. Some trail conditions are still very bad years after fires and floods have occurred
- Trail rehab after fire & floods
- Only street legal, licensed, registered vehicles allowed on primitive roads. Only licensed drivers also Buggies and motorcycles that shouldn't be there
- Keep the four wheelers, off-roaders, motorcycles at lower Sycamore Creek. Leave them near town. Every time an area next to town gets restricted the problem just moves farther out. USFS allowed the Tonto, Enduro, and Sycamore Creek desert races. Then the off-roaders continued to use that track.
- Sacrifice areas

Recreation Management

- Expand facilities to accommodate the growing number of users to prevent over crowding
- Overcrowded areas function of population increase, Control urban sprawl. Tonto has less funding
- Need designated shooting areas Design a shooting area just for shooting, designate safe shooting areas
- Need shooting areas the don't conflict with other areas
- Economic Viability of Commercial Use & Competitive Events
 - Term limits of permits need to be extended to ensure economic viability of business operating on the forest As outfitter, we have artificially low user days, currently outfitters are limited to 5-yr permit – not long enough to establish business
 - User days for lower river outfitters must be increased. The original basis for determining the use numbers were not based on reality
 - We bring folks onto the forest (guided), we teach how to act on the forest. Need to bring more, educating corporate America
 - Availability for competitive events Attitude regarding competitive events is poor (esp. mountain biking events), not in management plan
 - Opportunity to educate people at events. Also opportunity to make money, keep folks in controlled space
 - Events are properly permitted, insured
 - Gives focal point for these activities
 - Agencies need to coordinate better
- Salt River Regulations:
 - Consider Salt River Regulations & Management (i.e. noise ordinances, no alcohol areas). Consider sections of river for tubing only and others for alternative water crafts Public needs more rules
 - Consider regulations on the Salt River, ex: noise ordinances, tubing only sections, kayaking & boater sections with more access
 - Can't pollute upstream
 - One permittee is harming other with no recourse

Motorized Recreation

- Management/control of access to multi-use areas. What is an acceptable number of off-road vehicles in a given area (ranchers have stocking rates)? Need system to limit numbers
- Access determination – areas open for ORV use but not grazing Specify use of trails, close points of entry to certain use
- ATVs only allowed in special designated places Let off-roaders keep small areas they've ruined, designated places
- Limit where it has already been torn up and contain it
- Devastation occurred from here to Sunflower from ATV recreation users
- Manage areas of concentration – better management of ATVs
- Better education on responsible OHV & recreation use – tread lightly
- Dust problems

Firearm Safety

- Limit shooting to designated areas
- Keep people from leaving trash (shells, etc.)
- Safety concern – separation of shooters and other recreationers needed
- Unorganized shooting needs to be managed
- Encourage Game & Fish to educate about lead, paintballs and its effects on wildlife
- No target shooting, hunting still allowed. Target shooters leave too much trash and are too careless People take garbage out to shoot and then leave it there
- Limit where they shoot. Can't educate them, but need to
- The shooters have trashed lower and upper Sycamore Creek Ban one area and they move to the next

Back-county Airstrips

Airstrips – Planning for multi-use of airstrips: emergency, recreation, law enforcement, management of land, fire
Airstrip access, identify and legitimize

Fees & Use Permits

- Elimination of user costs
- Fees are getting too high for average person
- Day fees – when you can't buy at gate, it's crazy
- People that are honest are going home – violators still go
- Don't mind fees, but want to know the money is coming back to site where collected – If collected on Tonto, stay on Tonto
- New parking permit policy re-thought
- Responsible users just don't go out; people who don't pay are the ones now using it more
- Blue Point stations to sell Tonto Passes?

Social, Historic, Cultural Resources

- Any historical heritage cabins should not be demolished, but should be considered for National Forest Rent-a-Cabin program
- Preservation – as much as possible archeological and historical values (why tearing down flume/mining shacks/old cattle corrals)

Economic/Commercial Uses, Multiple Use

- Split multi-use
- Compensation for loss of use of resource – ranchers can't use areas due to urban pressure. Ranchers have to pay for “improvements” on allotments due to damage/vandalism. Compensation for loss of use of resource due to urban pressure. Promote Adopt-a-Ranch program
- Sustainable use logging with fire control
- Encourage wood product industry, especially for smaller diameter trees, but leave 100 yr old trees

- Charge more for logging – the loggers build and maintain the roads, not the Forest Service
- Paying people to log & then burn the trees – need to get away from this

Forest Health/Adaptive Management

- Ecosystem protection and restoration
- Manage invasive species to avoid additional watershed health problems, impacts on fish and wildlife Invasive species ex: bufflegrass, salt cedar, mussels, golden algae
- Upland and riparian veg health. All species riparian and upland, ecosystem health
- Manage to conserve all wildlife, including fish Diversity – native & non-native
- Manage the forest for drought conditions and consider climate change (global warming) in your overarching management strategies
- More consideration/study of wildlife corridor protection, riparian and critical habitat areas and native plants
- Reduce air pollution (particulate) caused by vehicles – local and then national
- Manage for drought
- Manage for wildlife corridors
- Need changes to preserve natural beauty and/or scenic views as much as possible
- Preservation of wildlife
- Degraded biological diversity – The reduced quality of riparian areas due to ORV/OHV intrusions and the introduction of “exotic” and invasive species (plant, aquatic, etc.) is degrading the biological diversity of the resource
- Invasive weeds and animals:
 - Needs to be prevention-based policy
 - Vectors – people’s clothing, wheel wells, animal fur and feed (non-certified hay), boating
 - Bad news economically (zebra mussels, etc.)
 - Multi-agency effort – needs to be seamless, need policy, need state and national plan
 - Hard to say how to approach – key to be consistent with other agencies, need to talk to each other, need money
 - Will be tremendous issue – needs to be in plan
 - AZ Game & Fish and USFWS have oversight (crayfish – work with private nurseries)
- Native species protection needed. Maintain ecological conditions to protect and restore the full spectrum of native species
- Manage recreation to protect and restore ecological values. Effective recreation management needs strategic plan
- Manage livestock grazing to protect and restore ecological integrity Reduce impacts to grasslands and Sonoran Desert
- Restore and maintain wildlife connections
- Integrate restoration with development, of wildlife habitat, like Tempe Town Lakes
- Restore or maintain integrity of Sonoran Desert Needs to be managed so that it can flourish
- [Sonoran Desert] Needs recognition

- Maintain ecological integrity of the Sonoran Desert is first priority
- Current fire management destructive to desert. Concentrate on protecting natural resources versus manmade structures
- More emphasis on controlling invasive species, especially along Salt River
- Manage invasive & non-native species so they don't alter the environment. Landscape has been dramatically altered in short period of time, changing the landscape of the Tonto
- Grasses affecting fires, species changes
- Respond to urban growth and climate change/hold accountable
- Increasing population, how it effects the recreation and land

Water Resources and Riparian Areas

- Improve watershed health, i.e. manage stand densities, natural role of fire, impacts of human use so we have properly functioning watersheds and riparian areas
- Implement better riparian protection from cattle grazing, emphasis on drought conditions Areas of emphasis for wildlife and recreation
- More native fish (or other imperiled species, species of concern, etc.) introductions or reintroductions in perennial watersheds
- Sycamore clear flowing stream, government introduced crayfish and bullfrogs destroyed the stream

Fire and Fuels Management

- Urban interface
- Thinning trees
- Utilize prescribed fire more aggressively in fire adapted ecosystems to restore and maintain forest health

Lands, Land Exchanges, and Special Areas

- Keep all roadless areas roadless
- Increase number and/or size of wilderness areas Protect more waterways, likes wilderness because it is protected
- I would like to see the Forest Service recommend foe wilderness designation all of the roadless areas on TNF Roadless areas recommended as wilderness areas
- Establishment of Quiet Zones within forest. Establishment of off road vehicle zones and hunting areas Would like to see separation of uses/activities, i.e. shooting, OHV, etc.
- Protect roads that exist within the designated Roadless areas. No new routes would be ok – just don't close existing. Maybe designate BC [back country] by ways
- Provide protected areas for wildlife, ex: wilderness, inventoried roadless areas

Other

Tonto Basin

Agency Processes & Decisionmaking

- Let public be involved in solution
- Collaborating with public will be good if ideas are considered and not filed away
- Public needs to know how taxpayer money was spent, what benefits did they get from local district
- Add Information from: Gila County Land Use Plan, Tonto Restocking Plan
- Cooperation between Forest Service, state, federal
- Change some district rangers
- Forest Service regroup/new people, less environmentalists (Supervisor's Office)
- Facilitation group between people/groups using the forest to assist the forest with multi-use areas – collaboration effort/grass roots
- Get rid of the Endangered Species Act
- Where have the deer gone?
- Improve game management between Forest Service and AZ Game & Fish (New Mexico allows ranchers to issue hunting permits)
- Attitude adjustment – National forests are lands held for the public, managed by USFS
Need for Forest Service accountability, attitude of Forest Service personnel needs to change, violation of Forest Service rules by Forest Service personnel
- Remove the federal lands recreational enhancement act – duties of personnel back to protect forest and manage for people
- A coordinated land use plan with local government (ongoing coordination)
- Forest Service personnel should research the statute/authority (ex: RS 2477)

Agency Outreach, Information Dissemination, Public Education

- Would like to see better training of employees to share accurate information with public
- Have meetings on weekends for more turnout
- Media – make sure to notify small communities' newspapers
- Willow Fly Catcher:
 - Get a picture of a Willow Fly Catcher
 - How far can they fly?
 - Holding up bridge
 - Holding up certain access
 - Could not fill lake because of Willow Fly Catcher
- Public education of law enforcement policy changes and other policy changes

Use of Volunteers

Law Enforcement, Education, & Litter Control

- Littering violation enforcement – litter bags with Tonto pass?
- Local people as well as visitors need way to address violations – need patrols similar to sheriff's posse
- What is the fine for littering?

- Solve problem of areas with lots of trash
- Uniformed presence
- More rangers present in the trail areas – ATV, jeep, or picnicking (sticky note)
- Opportunity to pick up trash instead of paying fine?
- Vandalism of range improvements (bolts pulled out of windmill) by environmental group? Windmill had been used by wildlife only for last 6 years and it is not feasible to fix it
- Pot farms on forest – gun battles on allotments between growers and law enforcement. Reports of farms are not being investigated very quickly – danger to hikers
- Garbage on trails – hunters using glass bottles for target practice, shot gun shells all over. Camp sites left messy with cans and other trash
- Dumpsters are needed at Poison Spring wash
- Provide dumpsters at major trailheads
- \$500 fines for litter, ENFORCEMENT!
- OHV education/enforcement needed. OHV use is a serious problem. Any funding for this problem needs to focus on enforcement and education, no promoting OHV use or building new motorized trails. OHV use is self-promoting and we already have more than enough motorized trails
- Increased enforcement of law. Increase enforcement, not personnel, better implementation of existing law
- Reduce penalties for minor offences (i.e. not buying a pass)
- Nail garden growers when found Concern about marijuana gardens

Travel Management

- Trails to creeks have been closed – would like to know why road was closed to everyone and not just to people committing violations
- Old existing roads used by ranchers – roads are being closed now that livestock is being removed
- Washes are being closed to travel
- Old existing roads used by ranchers – roads are being closed now that livestock is being removed
- Washes are being closed to travel
- Why close any roads?
- Vehicles off road should be punished, existing roads should be left open
- Stop blocking access to trails
- More/updated control roads for fire protection/prevention
- More trails with trail heads, diversify uses. Need more trails, trailheads with diverse uses
- Quad trails maps of the Roosevelt area and Tonto Basin Improve forest map as far as trail systems versus roads
- Highlighted trails from the highways and roads
- Bridge over Tonto Creek – Access to homes during high water, Bar-X area crossing
- Lots of roads closed around the lake
- Add culverts, plus blacktop, to creeks (i.e. Greenback). Needed during high water times
- Better signs on trails
- Trail maps

- More blacktop (i.e. Cline Road) to help with excessive dust/speed
- Set boundary signs back far enough to pull off road (Indian Point)
- Fix Forest Service roads- Road maintenance/improve existing roads
- Make sure all roads are left open that are now open, plus some of the ones that have been closed in the past. These roads were closed so the people will have to go to a pay only campground Keep washes open for travel
- The trend of closing roads should come to a halt Reopen closed roads, keep roads that are now open, open
- Maintain existing roads - Cherry Creek road needs improving
- Remove all pavement except Cholla Campgrounds and Windy Hill – plus remove the picnic armadas, picnic tables, concrete pads from all areas except Windy Hill and Cholla
- Maintain hiking trails marked on national forest map.
- Open roads that were closed due to endangered species study

Recreation Management

- Would like to see primitive camping on the back side of Roosevelt Lake
- Open the Salt River for fishing from the banks (sticky note)
- Only two spots in proposal where you can access river
- Would like to fish both sides of river – SW Willow Flycatcher – are we done with that?
- Problems don't get resolved – areas just get shut down
- Taxpayers are endangered species – people own forest and are being kicked out
- Have passed many petitions signed for primitive camping that Forest Service is not doing anything with
- Need swimming areas/sandy beaches
- Trails from camping areas to lake [Roosevelt]
- More fishing from banks
- Need to clean areas
- More group sites
- Hiking trail around lake
- Need tiered areas along lake to ensure good access during fluctuating lake levels
- Camping – open one between 188 and lake (i.e. Black Hills)
- Unlock areas for hiking/hunting/fishing
- Indian Point is closed (open closed areas)
- Make handicap only fishing docks. Handicap access
- Campground and any hot and cold running bathrooms except Windy Hill and Cholla - - Campground more primitive/dispersed area camping, keep Windy Hill and Cholla
- Boat/vehicle registration allowed on different vehicles by same owner

Motorized Recreation

- Holes on ATV trails are being dug
- Motorized access to Salt River thru Pinto Creek for fishing and picnics
- Regulate OHV use in same way as cattle, boats, hikers, etc. Regulate the number of OHV users under the same principles that are used to determine the safe number of boats on a lake or the proper number of cattle on an allotment, or the proper number of folks allowed into a wilderness area from a popular trailhead.
- Need to sign trails for ATV users

- When camping with motor-home and track not to have it attached to motor-home

Firearm Safety

- No shooting within ½ mile of any trailhead, both motorized and non-motorized

Back-county Airstrips

- Add/make provisions for back country airstrips

Fees & Use Permits

- Fire wood cutting permits - would like to cut in areas where wood is available and accessible, would like to buy permit that covers pine and other woods in same area and not visit different districts and obtain multiple districts
- Need to issue more permits for dead/down fuelwood
- Better support of family use – constraints of FLREA covers only purchaser of pass and 3 adults over age 16 in one vehicle
- More access to fee areas, more bang for your buck
- More accessibility to the forest (free) Free access by all modes of transportation
- I believe having to pay for access to the lakes is double taxation as we already pay for forest administering through taxes Civil rights violation, annual passes should be eliminated (no fee)
- Open up dispersed areas that are currently fee areas

Social, Historic, Cultural Resources

- Old mines are being closed and bulldozed – they are part of history that shouldn't be lost. Forest is doing as much damage by widening roads to bulldoze mines
- Preserve what's left of Camp Reno – good road to site, signs on highway
- Quit closing old mine sites, they have historical significance Quit covering up old mine sites; ruins trying to show kids geology resources. As price of metal fluctuates so does profitability of mining ruins as landmarks
- Identify and protect historical sites during fires (Reno Cemetery) Preserve and identify historical site

Economic/Commercial Uses, Multiple Use

- Current drought situation which has become the norm would dictate a reduction in stocking rates Current drought situation would dictate reduction in stocking rates
- Why is livestock grazing such a big environmental issue today, when it was accepted 100 years ago?
- Need to salvage burned timber
- Bring the cattle back to the forest. This will help in the fire prevention and erosion of the ground
- Multiple use of all forest, including Wilderness Areas. Multiple use (economic & ecological) of all forest areas
- Sell the trees for lumber and use the money to keep up roads and campgrounds
- More harvest of available fuel woods after a fire has destroyed forests

Forest Health/Adaptive Management

- Allow more tree thinning
- Dead trees close to highway
- Tree disease, insects, fungus
- Some dead snags need to remain for wildlife use Leave some snags for wildlife when salvage logging
- Wilderness & roadless areas are an excellent tool for wildlife management. When you consult with AZ Game & Fish you should remind them of this
- Manage forest uses (recreation, industry, develop) so that the forest can be sustained into the future. Use precautionary approach Manage all forest uses for sustainability, use precautionary approach/take smaller slower steps in implementing management
- Rehabilitate after fire, not just trash
- A cleaner forest Proactive forest management

Water Resources and Riparian Areas

- Riparian areas – enhance/improve
- More water stays on Tonto- Can not build dirt tanks because of SRP
- Enhance riparian areas - smaller dams uphill

Fire and Fuels Management

- Downed wood and thick brush – would like to see this cleaned up to prevent fires, wood is being left to rot
- Need to clear trees that fall across roads
- Clean-up slash after timber harvest
- More aggressive fuels management – reduce fires: more cattle allowed, more prescribed burns, move rocks to mow areas around houses, more grasses along roads removed. Cut grass at Indian Point
- Creating and assistance of residents increasing defensible areas around subdivisions
Creating larger defensible space for fires around communities

Lands, Land Exchanges, and Special Areas

- Land trades need to be economically viable – dollar for dollar Acre for acre. More public involvement needed in the process - Notification of affected public
- Tonto borders to private property – more boundary makers, closer monitoring of encroachments
- Have Forest Service recommend for wilderness all of our inventoried roadless areas
- Protection for roadless areas. Maintain what few areas there are without roads. Protect remaining roadless areas through management

Other

--

CAVE CREEK

Agency Processes & Decisionmaking

- Greater access to survey results & explanation on decision processes once Forest Service asks for public input
- Example: Widening of road through Cave Creek – asked for public input. Be more open with decision process, more information provided to public how the decision was made.
- Sometimes decisions are made without it being clear why
- No changes in management until we have a clear understanding of existing laws and decisions that have been made
- Many people here would want to make changes if the process exists. Plan should disclose what current situation is before making changes.
- Based on peer reviewed science & collaboration
- Make suitability delineations & determinations as objective as possible (current plan too general/subjective)
- No change to management as a result of this planning process. It's a "strategic" plan using a categorical exclusion under NEPA. This plan won't make decisions. Talks more generally.
- After reviewing all of our input tonight is it put in the garbage?
- Greater responsibility to promise & dates for completion when Forest Service says something will be done by a certain date. Timeliness in follow our timeframes.
- The public has to meet deadlines but the Forest Service doesn't (from residential areas on forest or border forest).
- Facilitators between FS & other agencies to coordinate the agencies in the management of the land.
- Better coordination with other agencies, i.e. BLM especially in the planning arena. For Example – planning in the middle Gila, coordinate with FS for travel mgt. planning.
- Post fire Cave Creek Complex – dealing w/several agencies, diversity of opinions, micro-management.
- We need oversight with compassion. The SW Region Forest Plan supplement is trivia management from HELL! 30 pages, no resources to police (fortunately), people who live in Cave Creek love it and take care of it.
- Put resources into fire prevention, safety, environmental/ecology. Resources should be put to something good and not negative.
- Comprehensive management
- Plan that incorporates proactive and frequent monitoring of conditions to facilitate habitat protection/archaeological resources conservation
- Planning for increased future use (proactive vs. reactive). Being proactive instead of reactive – better plan for future growth
- Plan needs to be thought out – more organization
- Compatibility of uses – uses to be separated if incompatible
- Increase funding to implement the management plans – more \$ as Phoenix grows
- More funds from gov't to hire more FS staff as well as funds used for enhancement & protection of forest lands.

- Quicker response time to issues that affect Forest lands (faster implementation of forest plans) & (less gov't red tape)
- Consistency – management of some area changes with staff changes wreaking havoc & stress on environment
- More coordination with other state agencies
- Structures, roads, culverts, campground tables, benches. Consistency in management – less change between rangers' mgmt style
- Want to have realistic requests – e.g. vinca and iris removal – now plants coming back (applies to several res areas)

Agency Outreach, Information Dissemination, Public Education

- Better access to information for public - Awareness by public of what's available in terms of forest uses
- There needs to be better signing of the trail in the areas on the fringe. Better maps too. Will this happen in this plan?
- Better signage & maps for all uses; what trails are open & where are the GPS coordinates
- Possibly more info availability to those during restriction seasons; i.e. fires/snow
- More availability of current conditions on site.
- Better communication between groups as to activities– sign in logs at trails? – forum thread by forest to better inform groups
- The Forest Service could communicate more often & before changes happen rather than post-changes (or not at all). Communicate before action is taken, not after or during. Example: White Xs, what are they? Why are they here?
- The Forest Service could respond to the surveys it send out to the public
- FS informing public on what happens w/urban encroachment on wildlife
- Better signage on the ground – road signs, info signs, update maps
- Clearer fee area rules & better access to purchase. Needle Rock – not sure where to pay fees. Pull into areas and have to go back to Circle K to buy passes – something out at site to buy pass.
- Would like to see education for usage etiquette & regulations – hikers, OHV, horseback riders, hunters, etc
- More education for etiquette on trails & for regs.
- Also general etiquette for forest users – Pack In Pack Out. More info needs to be available.
- No literature at ATV sites (it should be available at them)

Use of Volunteers

- Stewardship (programs) for maintenance in general
- Better outreach to NGOs/volunteers
- Work with groups (all groups) to meet management objectives. Example: NPS use mtn. bike volunteers to spread rules on trails.
- Peer to peer program. Responsible land users can meet & educate other users in the forest.

- Easily accessible program for clubs or groups of people to volunteer to make improvements, clean ups, or adopt a trail or area
- Program to more easily coordinate clean-up by volunteers, clubs, organizations
- More coordination by the Forest Service regarding clean up activities, or projects where FS needs assistance, to clubs, organizations
- Volunteer activities & what FS is doing
- Other instances where volunteers can contribute: revegetation (when, where), restoration – Seven Springs, more info to the public. Revegetation and/or clean burned areas. I want Seven Springs restored – is anything being done or planned?
- FS doesn't seem open to idea of volunteers
- Allow the OHVs to help keep trails open by pruning, simple construction/repair & trail clean up.
- Use more volunteer efforts to maintain OHV trails. Have seen trails blocked by fallen trees. Users often remove trees.
- Use “adopt a ...” trail, landing strip - Red Creek is cleaned 3 – 4 times a yr by pilots
- Use volunteers for all types of resources, also NNIS, etc

Law Enforcement, Education, and Litter Control

- More law enforcement – there should be more visits to high use areas
- More patrolling for littering, dumping. Possible fines imposed (off Cave Creek Rd)
- Tearing areas up, quads that are unlicensed, shooting.
- Eliminate target shooting at popular campgrounds
- More trash cans
- People partying on the forest – more education so people appreciate how fragile the desert is
- I am fearful of “town” closing in on forest
- More law enforcement
- Act on getting Rolls, Four Peaks, Sycamore area under control. This is one of my favorite areas, but I don't like the deterioration of these areas. I'm sure this is law enforcement issues. Too much trash. Disgusting to go out there.
- Better control of off road use of motor vehicles – destroying land by creating roads where none existed – secondary fire risk is increased as a result
- Better management/control of off road vehicles; destroying feed for wildlife, creating ruts
- Ability to report & identify specific individuals
- Some level of control for those “one time” users/polluters.
- Table Mesa – people dump their junk
- Dumping
- Better manage off-road vehicles. Close areas unless specifically designated open. Keep out of riparian areas. Protect cultural sites. Protect sensitive wildlife (tortoises, for example)
- Sugar Loaf – tortoise project area, but shooting, drinking going on after dark
- We need more law enforcement to top illegal OHV use and private property trespass. Dumping, antiquities, plants. Hotline for illegal use, theft, shooting
- Law enforcement hotline to call or send info to
- Creating new trails should be restricted

- More patrolling for areas
- Serious shortage of enforcement; dumping is terrible
- Hefty fines for littering on forest
- Need funding for enforcing new rules – i.e. license for owners/operators of ATVs, no under age drivers (16 yrs), helmets required. Assess manufacturers or distributors.
- With enforcement, fines for littering in forest – people are dumping everything in forest – “Pack in, pack out”
- Young children driving vehicle/unlicensed drivers
- Increase regulation/limits to off road vehicles. Noise control, limit to forest roads only existing roads – not trails, no vehicles in hiking trails. Enforcement.
- Stronger ranger/law enforcement presence. Stronger presence of Ranger/LEI. More enforcement, checking permits
- Enforcement/education needed. Users not affiliated with groups need to be reached.
- Cutting new trails on OHV problems
- Regulation not enough teeth
- Education program to those selling ATVs
- License plate /# on OHVs to help w/violators
- Use groups/partnerships to help enforce
- Better F.S. presence/awareness on the ground. In the field!
- Increase law enforcement of existing rules
- Hotline to report violations (24 hr)
- Law enforcement – more needed.
- More visibility of rangers. Enforcing regs/rules.
- See the rangers, know where they are
- Fire prevention & enforcement – safety equipment on open vehicles enforced
- More fire prevention & awareness. Stronger penalties for fire violations.
- Law enforcement have hands tied – need more authority – can’t do anything about illegal immigrants
- Dept. of Game & Fish limited
- Education & enforcement – required that they have when on FS land before they go out on forest – specifically OHV – maybe require a license
- More enforcement in Camp Creek & Seven Springs areas due to secluded area – people speeding
- More rule enforcement – enforce existing laws
- Trash – have seen people dumping – what can you do about it. Citizens help, provide repercussions to dumper
- Let the public help police the area by setting up a hotline to report people who abuse the forest. Way to prosecute if we have pictures of license plates.
- Allow public to assist with enforcement.
- Want to see more follow up from agency.
- State of AZ cooperates with pvt airplane users (pilots) – call and AZG&F responds right away.
- Reward good stewardship on NF
- Use volunteer rangers – groups & organizations would do this, e.g. Arizona site stewards for archeological. Check on site once a month.

Firearm Safety

- Minimum distance of hunters needs to be extended from private residences – safety issue, ¼ mile not very far, concern pvt residences/developed sites/congested areas. Coordinate w/AZ Game & Fish
- FS designate shooting areas, backdrop for target areas, signage – no target shooting except in designated areas
- Rifle ranges needed on east side of town

Travel Management

- More hiking trails, less roads
- Better signs on hiking trails at Bartlett Lake – many turned over or removed
- More developed hiking trails off 136th Street – now primarily motorized vehicle trails
- Better access
- Cross country travel ban for horse, mtn. bike
- Multi-use & single use trail coordination
- Existing RATM OHV trails are mostly dead-end trails to water tanks, mines, springs, and hunt sites. Will your new plan make loop trails as part of the plan? Dead-ends create new trails. OHV routes that dead end; people creating own loop trail.
- No new roads. Improve existing.
- Roads that weren't intended to be for motor vehicles. Designate them, some need to be closed.
- Unimproved roads used by OHVs as a necessity.
- Road designation at a degree of difficulty; Forest Service create a level system for roads.
- Trails should be multiple use. Hike w/o vehicles – go to wilderness.
- Allow roads to be unmaintained but still open
- Rds/trails open unless posted closed
- Rds/trails closed unless posted open
- Need more equestrian trailheads
- More resources allocated to recreation/trails
- OHV trails located so as not to be too close to private residences. Concerned about limiting motorized access to the NF. Right-of-way for existing trails. Rd. & trail inventory remain unchanged
- Increase/expand Blue Diamond Trail system in A-S Forest, hiking/horse only (comment shared with A-S)
- Easily interpretable route signage so users know where they are and if route/area is closed.
- Signage – better so you know where you are and allowed to be. Emergency situation – wanting to know road where they are.
- OHV trail system signed
- Trail systems – show variety of loops to take – maps: hiking, ski areas, OHV, horseback riding.
- Knowing what things are available on each trail – like Utah trail system (Dixie NF good example)
- Signage delineating use on each trail like ski trails for example

- Keep roads so as to have access at all times of year. Keeping roads open all year – should keep them all open. Not all people destroy – should have access. Areas where used to go photograph have no access.
- Road maintenance – don't go in and grade them. Let users or nature maintain them (backroad to Crown King)
- The Forest Service should reduce road densities through TMP (Travel Management Planning) & forest planning
- Don't close any more roads (established trails)
- Keep established trails open
- Better trail management
- Better/more trail markings
- A lot of people using trails not maintaining them, Jeff spends 200 hrs a year maintaining trails

Recreation Management

- Keep backcountry camping available & accessible. Uncertainty of area future – possibly being restricted.
- No personal watercraft with gas motors on lakes
- Maintain and/or increase (backcountry) dispersed camping areas in the national forest.
- Stewardship of biodiversity – restrict access in some areas e.g. only hiking or special permits
- Develop special areas for special uses and allow recreation for that area/interest group only e.g. 4-wheeling, boating, camping
- More user specific areas
- Sanitary facilities in high use areas needed, ex: for East Fork & Verde lack facilities
- Adequate and effective staging areas – promote responsible usage/signage
- Desert tours hauling quads out & bus loads of people. 1 person per 50 riders, should be 1 to 5
- Lead and follow vehicles

Motorized Recreation

- More limits on ATVs – land getting ripped up, wildlife frightened, noise pollution, dust
- More trail markings. Some do not exist. Want to keep 4X4 trails open, don't narrow down number of 4X4 trails.
- No motorized vehicles off road.
- Please make sure multi-use stays. I do not want to work myself to death and not be able to four wheel drive anywhere.
- I never go off trails – pick up trash whenever out – max. speed is 5 mph.
- Reopen Bartlett Area (Camp Creek) to ATVs as soon as possible after fire recovery. It is a scenic area
- More monster trucks.
- Separate OHV users w/equestrian & hikers
- Require training for OHV use so they stay on existing trails. Penalize those who go off trail.

- Compatibility of uses. ORV/OHV activity is not compatible with non-motorized recreation, wildlife habitat, and agricultural uses.
- Disallow loud off-road 4-wheeling

Back-county Airstrips

- Legitimize & identify backcountry airstrips for emergency access, fire access, etc.
- Don't remove airstrips on NF; include in planning process
- Forest Service accessibility to aviation. Opening airstrips to public use.
- Recreation availability to aviation, hiking camping
- Aviation can provide eyes to USFS for reporting fires and fighting fires
- Airstrips for emergency use. Evacuation of injured visitors
- Grapevine on Roosevelt Lake, Pleasant Valley at Young (historic landing strip)
- Low impact, intermediate surface on landing strips
- Agreements have been written up in other areas (Utah, Montana)
- Recreation use, search/rescue, fire surveillance
- Let private parties use landing strips

Fees & Use Permits

- Put Tonto Passes into more retail locations. Some stores on the way do not have them. Have to drive 8 miles back to (Saguaro) to get Tonto Pass – need more signs instructing that have to have Tonto Pass.
- To increase funding & support Forest Service maintenance, issue permits for use. Via pay per use.
- 7-Springs kiosk where fees are paid; willing to pay
- State Trust Lands charges annual fee
- Annual permit
- Cabin owner fees should stay in area
- Develop more areas at trailheads to collect fees
- Wildcat parking area – develop it to bring in the revenue for maintenance
- Considerations for people of limited income
- Appropriate fees for services, ex: current market values
- Fees?
- User fees for high recreation areas, i.e. Sycamore Creek, like the ISR
- Object to user fees like Red Rock \$5 per day when cattle are charged \$1.30/month & destroy things

Social, Historic, Cultural Resources

- Cabins at Camp Creek for recreation
- There should be a place for cabins in the forest plan. They've been there historically from the early 1900s – some before the Forest Service started in 1907.
- Cabins in national forest are a historical and valuable resource. The Forest Service could protect or offer guidance on how to better protect these properties and assist cabin owners in the process.
- Fire prevention/protection for cabin/historical sites, flood protection
- Resources to help problem solving – example: help build flood walls

- Stewardship programs to assist Forest Service on above issues (recreational cabins)
- Change from micro managing to more goals oriented – Cabin Users’ Fee Fairness Act (CUFFA) needs to be revised.
- Summer residence permittees – have based lease fees based on Carefree multi-million [dollar] homes – can’t afford those prices. 70 years ago invited; now can’t afford
- Respect historic values & ruins that have a long history
- I would like to see Camp Creek “cleaned up” as much as possible from the damage/residue of the 2005 fire
- I would like to see that all existing residences along Camp Creek be allowed to remain for resident use and for historical purposes.
- Repair of CCC projects and historic sites within the Cave Creek district. Deteriorating at rapid rate due to flood waters and fire.
- 7 Springs site
- Camp Creek – rec residential summer home group
- Historic values & prehistoric values should be preserved
- Don’t want the old mining buildings torn down because of liability issues. Historic preservation.

Economic/Commercial Uses, Multiple Use

- Better management of commercial uses – commercial uses of forest resources
- Better consideration of timber management in economic sustainability
- Better control cows/ranching
- Ranching management – limiting ranching during drought
- Limit livestock grazing in arid lands, riparian areas, sensitive areas
- Better management of cattle/ranching in creek beds & riparian areas
- The grazing program needs to be dissolved forest wide (from Mesa to Payson). Impacts forestwide, fees from grazing do not cover the cost of administering permits.
 - There are not many things that a groups would pay a fee and it would cover the costs of administration.
 - Does not need to pay for itself but meeting the needs of all citizens.
 - Does grazing exclude other users?
 - Permittees threatened hikers, etc. Brings in non-native plants & in direct competition with wildlife.
 - Suitability and capability standards have not been adhered to. Keep and adhere to standards, doing so would correct problems and prevent them.
- Remove livestock. They are increasing the spread of invasive plant species. This will ultimately result in a fire cycle which leaves nothing but a barren, treeless plain.
- Remove livestock from forest meadows – Devil’s Canyon, Hackberry, trashed by horses
- Patrol/control where livestock can go
- Livestock grazing should not be allowed to harm the lands & livestock industry should have to demonstrate “no harm” with science before that use is allowed.
- Increased monitoring on grazing allotments & no grazing in riparian areas.
- Hasn’t been any science to show cattle/sheep grazing doesn’t harm riparian areas
- Condition of allotments should be assessed/monitored
- Suitability analysis should be completed & current
- Lag time between science about capabilities & change in mgmt.

- Deer/elk aren't concentrated like livestock – have less impact.
- Many ranchers on Tonto are industries, not local cowboys (family ranches)
- Mines – proposing land trades of NF land Resolution Copper Mines – against FS giving the land away. Trying to do it Congressionally to avoid NEPA – Oak Flats: recreational area established many years ago should stay that way – 3000 acres
- FS giving permission to individual to mine at Lower Camp Creek
- Keep cattle out of riparian areas – 6-7 deer for every cow
- Take cows off till all burns up
- Want more cows
- If managed right, could have some cows
- If true riparian area, flash flood could wash them out
- Pollution comes from Mines (ex: Carlotta)
- Protect streams instead of hiding behind 1872 Law
- Forest Service multiple use mission should allow mines in some areas - With reclamation but not in streams. Keep it beautiful

Forest Health/Adaptive Management

- Better understanding of range of variability – outputs that do not harm the long term sustainability
- Don't do anything until you understand what the land can give you. Manage within the variability.
- Adaptive monitoring plan – not waiting until it is destroyed
- More information on wildlife – plants, soils, hydrology. Less of commodity.
- Have a wide range of wildlife – don't chase it off (fire)
- Control bufflegrass
- Protect wildlife habitat & wildlife corridors
- Protect biodiversity & control invasive species
- Invasive species – more control. OHV, livestock, birds bringing in seeds.
- Invasive species control. Invasive species, specifically plant in this case, is a growing problem. I have recently found fountain grass in a backcountry area that was probably brought here by ORV/OHV activity. Had to tear out because invasive but then erosion became the problem – tell [of] something else to plant instead.
- Tearing out all of the “invasive” plants/species has cause erosion and flood damage in Lower Camp Creek. These plants had not “moved” in 50 years and had not “invaded” there area. Give me an alternative.
- Protection of biodiversity.
- Invasive species increasing the fire possibilities.
- Most important thing to protect NF is to control invasive species. Seamless mgmt & funding by all agencies. No comprehensive plan. Don't focus on just one species at a time.
- Preservation of fish and wildlife – need monitoring programs – not enough.
- Infestation of non-native fish.
- Identification of important wildlife use areas
- Treat all of the forest like wilderness
- Prioritize wildlife (including plants) habitats – put this first in management

- The Forest [Service] should consider the economic value of ecological services when weighing decisions in a socio-economic context
- More emphasis on restoration
- Forests should look ahead in context of global warming
- Multiple use only where those uses don't conflict with core ecological values – i.e. clean water, soil integrity, clean air, wildlife habitat.
- Reverse degradation of the forest. (reversal of eroded roads, removal of non-native & noxious plant species, more restoration efforts of those degraded areas)
- Conserve certain areas by restricting public access when necessary so the area can heal
- I would like to see re-planting/re-seeding around Camp Creek & TNF due to losses incurred via the 2005 fire.
- More protection of native plants/animals. Areas maintained as low impact areas designated as wilderness (removal of noxious/non-native plants)
- Elimination of invasive species. Eliminate invasive species.
- Forest should focus on preventing invasive spp. instead of trying to maintain practices/uses which perpetrate them.
- Prevention of invasive spread (quagga mussels) or keep them from coming in.
- e.g. non-native thistle invasive grasses – in ecosystems that are not fire adapted
- Desert broom, crayfish, mussels
- Riparian & aquatic areas are a concern
- Prevent invasives – avoid mgmt that perpetuates or exacerbates them: roads, OHV, livestock grazing, equestrian trails
- Exotic grasses create fire hazards
- Proactive approach to recovering native fish population
- Maintain existing wildlife populations, game/non-game/special status; maintain existing hunting opportunities (yellow sticky note)
- If reintroduced wildlife, needs to make sense
- Maintain wildlife population, restore hunting at current levels (special status)
- Protect T&E species

Water Resources and Riparian Areas

- No stealing of water from the desert such as 7-Springs
- Keep it as natural and riparian as possible
- Stealing water from Seven Springs – private company trucks run at night & cut people off. Stream is drying up.
- Adequate consideration of drought. Drought was never considered in the plan. Just now (2007) there is a drought policy. Not enough forage/grass. Reduce cattle & recreation.
- Limit water hauling out of 7-Springs – i.e. limit road access
- Riparian rehabilitation/restoration. Numerous riparian areas have been damaged over a long period of time due to off-road vehicle traffic (ATV and 4WD). These areas are primary producers for wildfire reclamation, wildlife habitat, and groundwater recharge. These areas need to have access controlled/restricted and allowed to regenerate naturally or by seeding/planting. (A good volunteer opportunity)
- Riparian restoration/rehabilitation – areas designated: not letting OHV go thru unrestricted. Lower Sycamore area.

- Riparian management – protection from invasive species
- Keep roads that go to riparian areas open – roads that have been there for years
- Signage of sensitive areas
- Seasonal closures of riparian areas for nesting birds
- Sedona Springs Water Co. – selling Seven Springs water – shut off inflow and lowered Camp Creek water table.
- Preserve watershed – i.e. stop allowing massive water extractions by greedy individuals – e.g. Seven Springs. Example: 7 Springs - Sedona Springs Company sell as spring H₂O
- Want a clearer picture of how Forest fits in with water rights. Causing drying up of H₂O downstream
- FS should pursue acquiring surface and subsurface water rights.

Fire and Fuels Management

- Fire prevention should be everyone's job. Forest should embrace fire prevention – friendliness toward fire suppression. Volunteer fire fighters.
- Fire fighting crews were not aware of where residents are located. (from out of state)
- Want a forum to discuss the issues with each fire.
- Better access to WUI properties. How to better protect properties.
- Increase forest thinning in all rural/forest interface in A-S Forest (comment shared with A-S)
- Fire protection
- Resources allocated at the beginning of a fire. Fight fires vigorously at beginning rather than let it get out of hand and letting nature do it.
- Cave Creek Complex fire was in rugged mtn area. Started off forest. Got out of hand within 2 hrs crossing forest boundary. Couldn't see action for a day or so.
- Control fuels – do prescribed burning.
- Focus activity – thinning, prevention in wildland urban interface
- In wildland – have let burn policy – use for restoration
- Need defined plan that is organized across jurisdictions. Need more cooperation.
- Workable space for fire personnel & still maintain healthy ecosystem
- Dog thickets = fire prone
- Design treatments are able to retain wildlife habitat components, while reducing fuel loads
- Component for small trees for regeneration
- Areas of different size trees
- Take advantage of natural fires
- Charge people who live in the forest the costs for fighting fires
- How do we manage it (people living in combustible habitat)?

Lands, Land Exchanges, Special Areas

- Better protect wilderness & wilderness characteristics
- Trespasses into wilderness & wildlife areas – something to keep you from doing it again; steeper punishments/fines- poaching & killing animals at random in these areas – hotline/coordination with game & fish – increase public awareness (ranchers may be able to get permits for hunting on their property)

- Protect roadless areas
- Focus on preserving wilderness characteristics

Other

-How the managing of utility corridors is going to change?