

# LANDS

## A VISION

The Forest has the lands it needs to fulfill its mission.

This looks into the future, although some may be happening now. It is stated in the "present tense" as if it is already that way. This gives a feel of where we are heading. It paints a general picture with a broad brush.

## MANAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Acquire through land exchange those lands which are needed for landownership consolidation and more effective National Forest management.
- Acquire through purchase, those lands needed for developed and dispersed recreation.
- Acquire the road and trail rights-of-way necessary for administration of the National Forest and production of the resource outputs.
- Maintain an up-to-date Forest Plan which states how the Carson will be managed.
- Locate, sign, and protect survey monuments and property boundaries.

This snaps a more detailed picture. It gives a feel of the intent, purpose and goals. It is the framework for the standards and guidelines.

## Setting The Stage

There are about 138,000 acres of private lands within the boundaries of the Forest. Some of these lands remain natural and if under federal ownership could contribute to forest resource management. Also, private lands often provide road and trail access to Forest lands.

Some private land boundaries are not adequately surveyed. Consequently, private development can inadvertently occur on Forest land. This would result in title claims, Small Tracts Act applications, or occupancy trespass.

## Standards And Guidelines

### BASE-IN-EXCHANGE LANDS...

- Recommend no leasing on lands designated as base-in-exchange.
- Do not issue special use permits for improvements that would place encumbrance on lands designated as base-in-exchange.
- Investment in structural and non-structural improvements will not be made on lands designated as base-in-exchange, unless there is an overriding public need or a legitimate use that cannot be accommodated elsewhere on the Forest.

## C. Forest-wide Prescriptions

**REVIEW WITHDRAWALS...** Review existing withdrawals to insure compliance with FLMPA by 1991 on 17,134 acres.

**CRITERIA FOR EXCHANGE...** Exchange for lands that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Lands within designated wildernesses.
- Lands that contain vital threatened and endangered species habitat, or vital wildlife habitat (i.e., calving areas).
- Lands needed for developed and dispersed recreation.
- Wetlands, riparian areas, and other water oriented lands.
- Lands that contain unique, natural, or cultural values.
- Lands that will improve public land management, meet specific administrative needs, or benefit other National Forest programs.
- Lands that provide needed access, or protect public lands from fire, or trespass or prevent damage to public land resources.
- Lands that need rehabilitation or stabilization to restore their productivity.
- Lands that are needed to block up public land ownership or meet research needs.
- Lands that are needed to meet programs prescribed or endorsed by acts, or reports of Congress, or the Department of Agriculture.

**PURCHASE CRITERIA...** Purchase available lands as funding permits within the following categories:

- Congressionally designated areas.
- Private land within wilderness.
- Land containing threatened and endangered species habitat and critical wildlife habitats.
- Identified private land within recreation acquisition composites.

**COUNTY ROADS...** Encourage counties to designate Forest roads as County roads when private land-owners use exceeds 50%. Execute easements for operation and maintenance responsibilities when roads are designated on both systems.

**BOUNDARIES...**

- Survey and mark boundaries.
  - Protect present corners or reference of same when the possibility of disturbance during land use activities exists.
  - Locate boundaries near on-going resource projects and special management areas such as wilderness.
  - Resolve or prevent encroachments.
  - Assist Forest users in identifying their public lands.
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- Maintain posted property boundaries and corners.

**RIGHTS OF WAY...** Acquire rights-of-ways:

- Acquire road and trail ROWs across non-National land in amounts and locations required to implement and support other resource management activities.
- Cooperate with intermingled and adjacent landowners and local governments in developing roads or road systems that serve the needs of all parties.

**LAND ACQUISITION...** Forest lands are classified as desirable for acquisition (classes 1, 2 &3), undesirable for acquisition and base-in-exchange. Maps displaying these classifications are located at the District offices and in the Lands office at the Forest Supervisor's office.

**TITLE CLAIMS/SMALL TRACTS ACT APPLICATIONS...** Process title claims and applications submitted under the Small Tracts Act.