

APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FORESTS



"Forest Plan Revision Update-August 2009"

A Message from the Forest Supervisor

Dear Friends of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests:

First of all, thank you for your involvement thus far in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests (ASNFs) plan revision. Your input is valuable to us, and we are working hard to develop a land management plan that best reflects the needs of the land and those who use it.

We want to take the time to update you on the status of plan revision. For the past year, we have been conducting our plan revision efforts according to the 2008 planning rule. However, on June 30, 2009, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California issued a decision which resulted in the Forest Service being enjoined from implementing and using the 2008 planning rule. To comply with this decision, we have discontinued our use of the 2008 planning rule.

The Forest Service is currently developing a strategy for moving forward. As additional information on the status of plan revision becomes available, we will share it widely with our stakeholders and on our website. Also, we are postponing our public meetings until our strategy is further developed.

In the meantime, we are still accepting comments on the Working Draft of the Land Management Plan (Working Draft) dated June 2009. The Working Draft and associated documents are available on the ASNFs' website www.fs.fed.us/r3/asnf/plan-revision. You can also obtain a printed copy or CD by calling the ASNFs Supervisor's Office, located in Springerville, AZ (928) 333-4301 or TTY (928) 333-6292.

Comments on the Working Draft will be most useful if received by **August 31, 2009**. They can be sent via e-mail asnf.planning@fs.fed.us or by mail:

Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
ATTN: Plan Revision
PO Box 640
Springerville, AZ 85938

As these changes in plan revision take place, we want to reassure you that we are committed to working with you and to moving forward with all of our efforts.

Thank you again,

Chris Knopp
Forest Supervisor

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