

APACHE-SITGREAVES NATIONAL FORESTS



"Forest Plan Revision Update-June 2009" *A Message from the Forest Supervisor*

Dear Friends of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests:

We appreciate your continued interest in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests' (ASNFs) plan revision. This plan revision under the 2008 Planning Rule marks a new way of planning for the national forests. It establishes a divide between planning concepts and proposed actions—the revised plan will establish desired conditions we would like the ASNFs to reflect, but it does not dictate the specific actions that will be required to get there (e.g. implementation of the Travel Management Rule). By separating these distinctly different aspects of management, the revised plan will provide a clearer vision of what the public wants. Forest management will concentrate on projects and activities to achieve these desired conditions. Ultimately, this means the revised plan will be user friendly and strategic in nature.

My staff has assembled a Working Draft Land Management Plan (Working Draft) for your review. The Working Draft is an important part of the revision process as it is meant to provide a foundation for collaborative discussion and feedback in developing the Proposed Land Management Plan. In addition, I would like your input on whether there is a need for additional wilderness areas on the ASNFs.

The Working Draft and associated documents are available on the ASNFs' web site at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/asnf/plan-revision/documents.shtml>. You may want to start by reading the **User's Guide**. It provides an overview of the Working Draft, user tips, and a comment form. Other information on the web site includes maps associated with the Working Draft. Your comments will be most useful if received by August 31, 2009.

You can obtain a printed copy or CD of the Working Draft by calling the ASNFs' Supervisor's Office, located in Springville, AZ (928) 333-4301 or TTY at (928) 333-6292.

We intend to schedule open houses to provide an opportunity for you to ask questions about the Working Draft. Meeting locations and times will be announced in the local media and on the ASNFs' web site.

As Forest Supervisor of the ASNFs, this is an exciting time to see the Working Draft take form! I am eager to work with you.

Chris Knopp
Forest Supervisor

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