

# *Colville National Forest*

*Land & Resource Management Plan Revision*



# Forest Plan Purpose

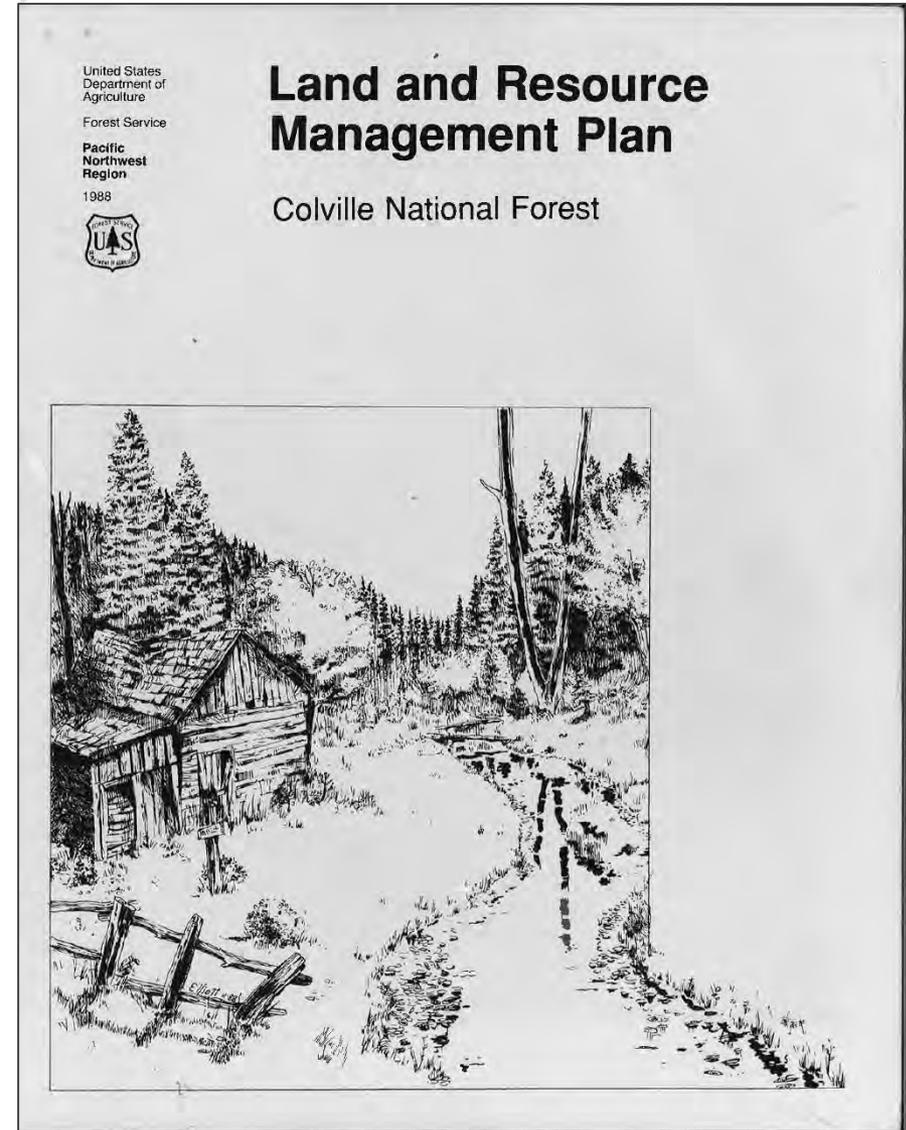
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- 15-year strategic document providing land management direction by guiding programs, practices, uses, and projects
- Adaptive - can be changed based on ecological and social conditions
- Designates management areas allocating zones of the forest for different activities
- Designates suitability of areas for various uses
- Honors continuing validity of private, statutory, or pre-existing rights

# Need for Change (why are we doing this?)

Currently following a  
land management plan  
signed in 1988

Includes 40 Forest  
Plan Amendments



# Need for Change

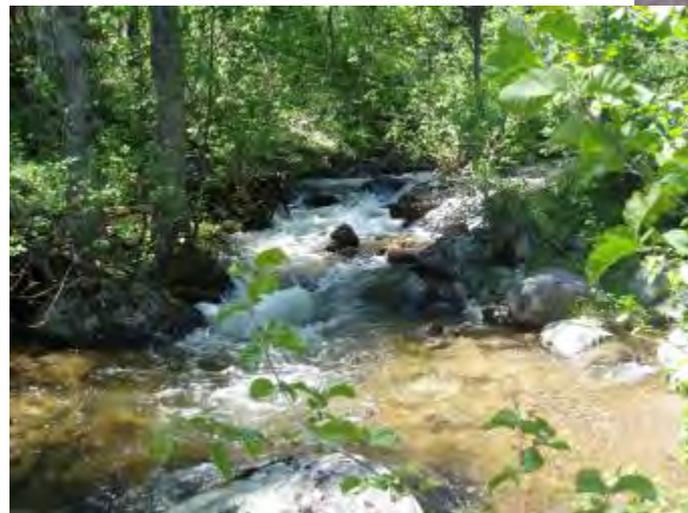
Wildlife Habitat

Vegetative Systems

Climate Change

Social Systems

Aquatic and Riparian Systems



# Analysis Process

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- Revision started in combination with the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF
- 2011 - Proposed Action (Okanogan-Wenatchee & Colville) provided to public for comment
- After review of forest-specific public comments and resource issues, Colville and Okanogan-Wenatchee revision processes separated in 2014
- Comments from the public and government agencies generate issues that drive development of alternatives (comments were refined to reflect resource and public issues specific to Colville NF)



# Key Issues for Alternative Development

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Analysis of public concerns and resource issues produced 6 issues for development & comparison of alternatives

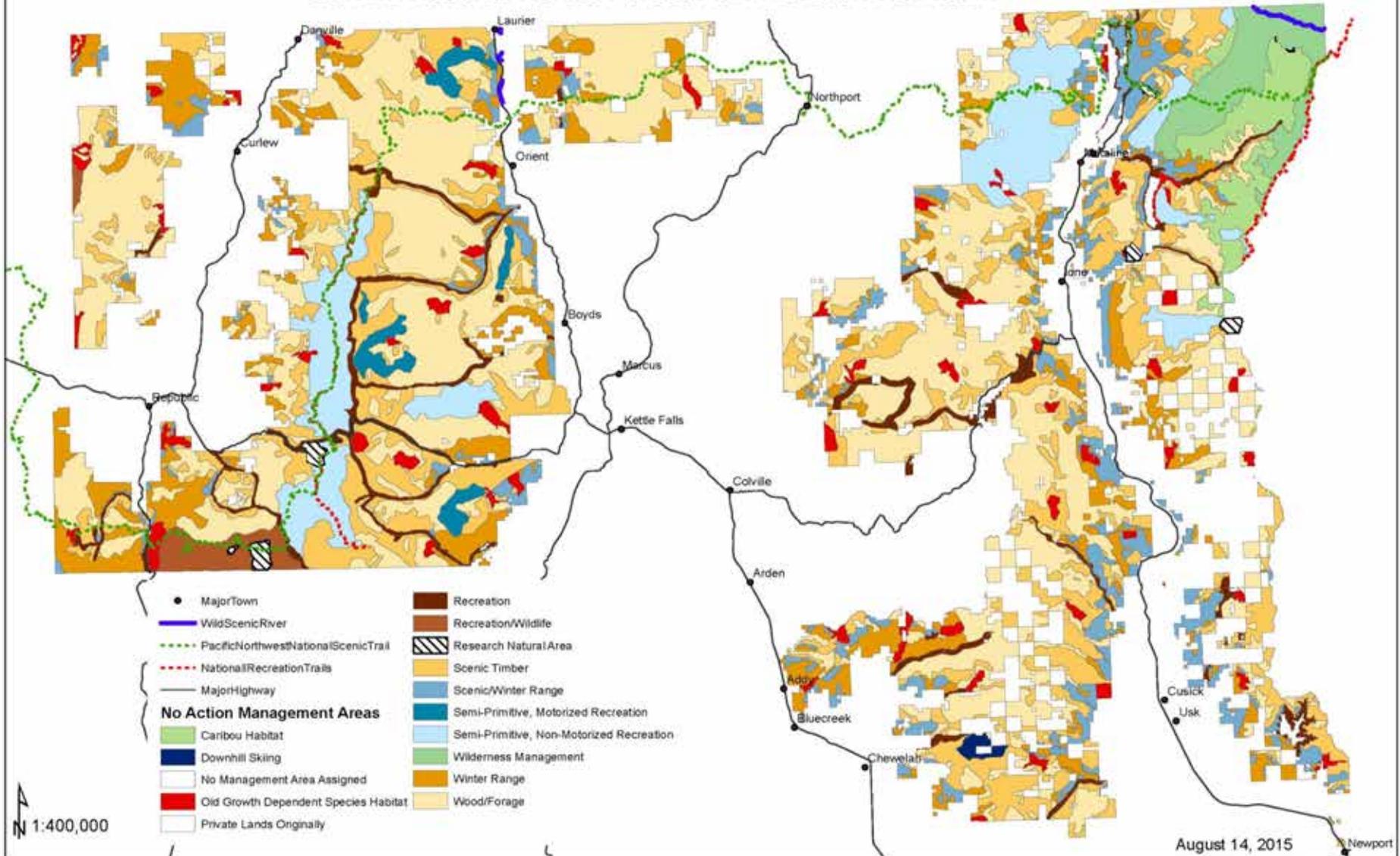
1. Old Forest (Late Successional) Management & Timber Production
2. Motorized Recreation Trails
3. Access
4. Recommended Wilderness Areas
5. Wildlife Habitat
6. Riparian & Aquatic Resource Management



# No Action

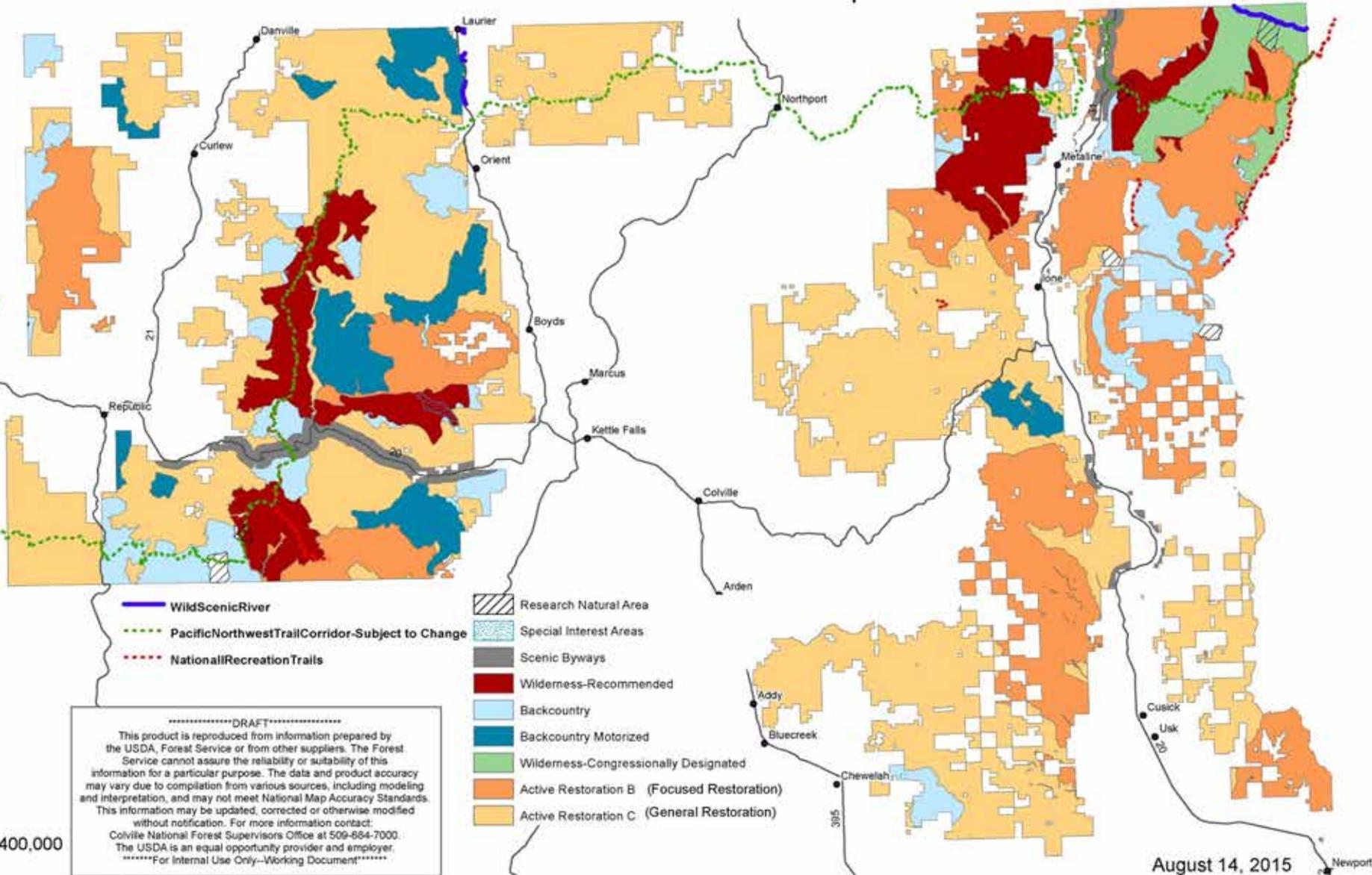
- Continues 1988 LRMP direction (as amended)
- Retains inland native fish strategy (INFISH) & Eastside screens
- 0% recommended wilderness; 3% in fixed reserves

## Colville National Forest-Forest Plan Revision-No Action



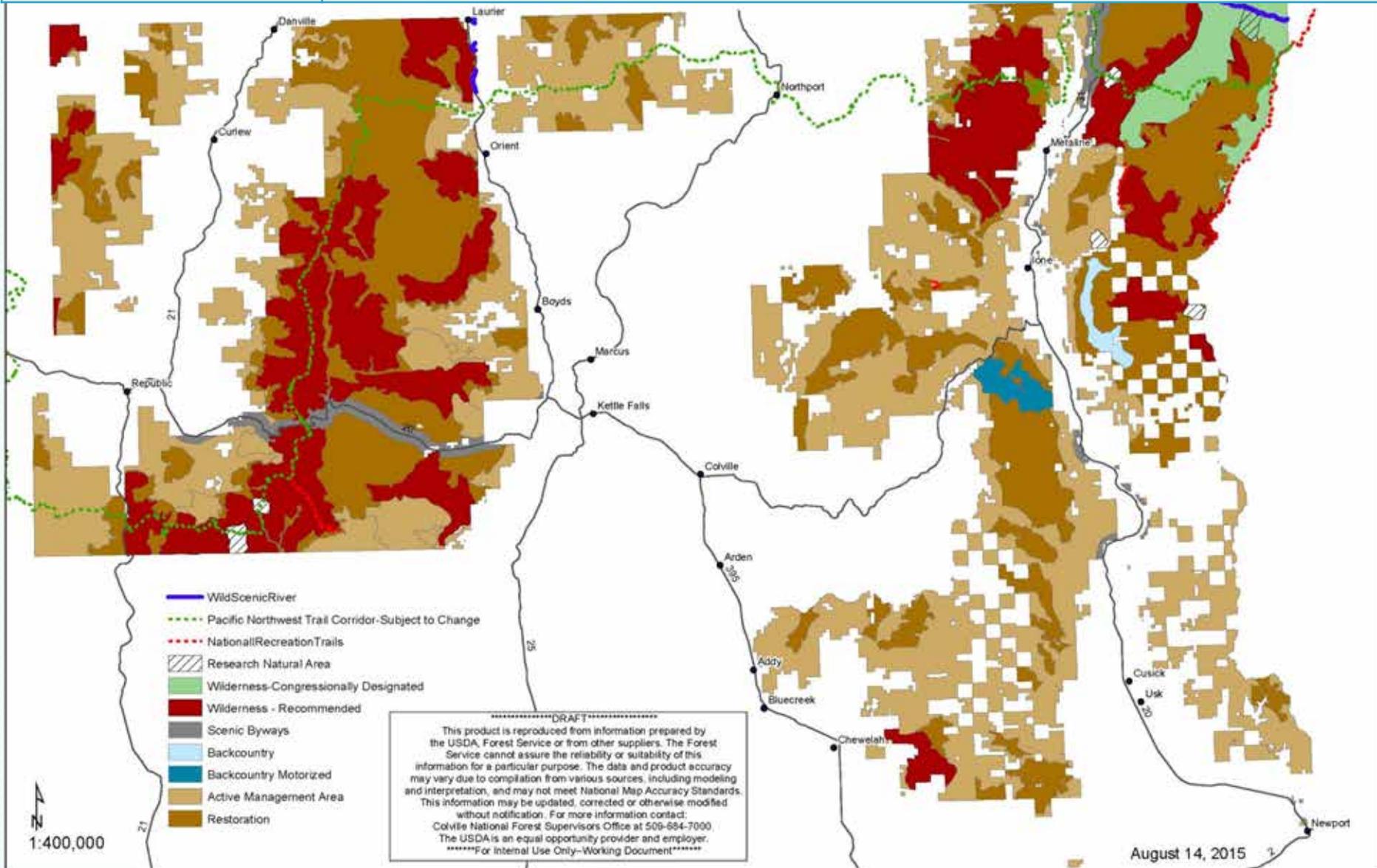
# Proposed Action (June 2011)

- Landscape scale management
- Replaces eastside screens w/Desired Condition for veg. mgmt.
- Incorporates aquatic restoration & conservation strategy (ARCS)
- 9% proposed as recommended wilderness; 0% fixed reserves



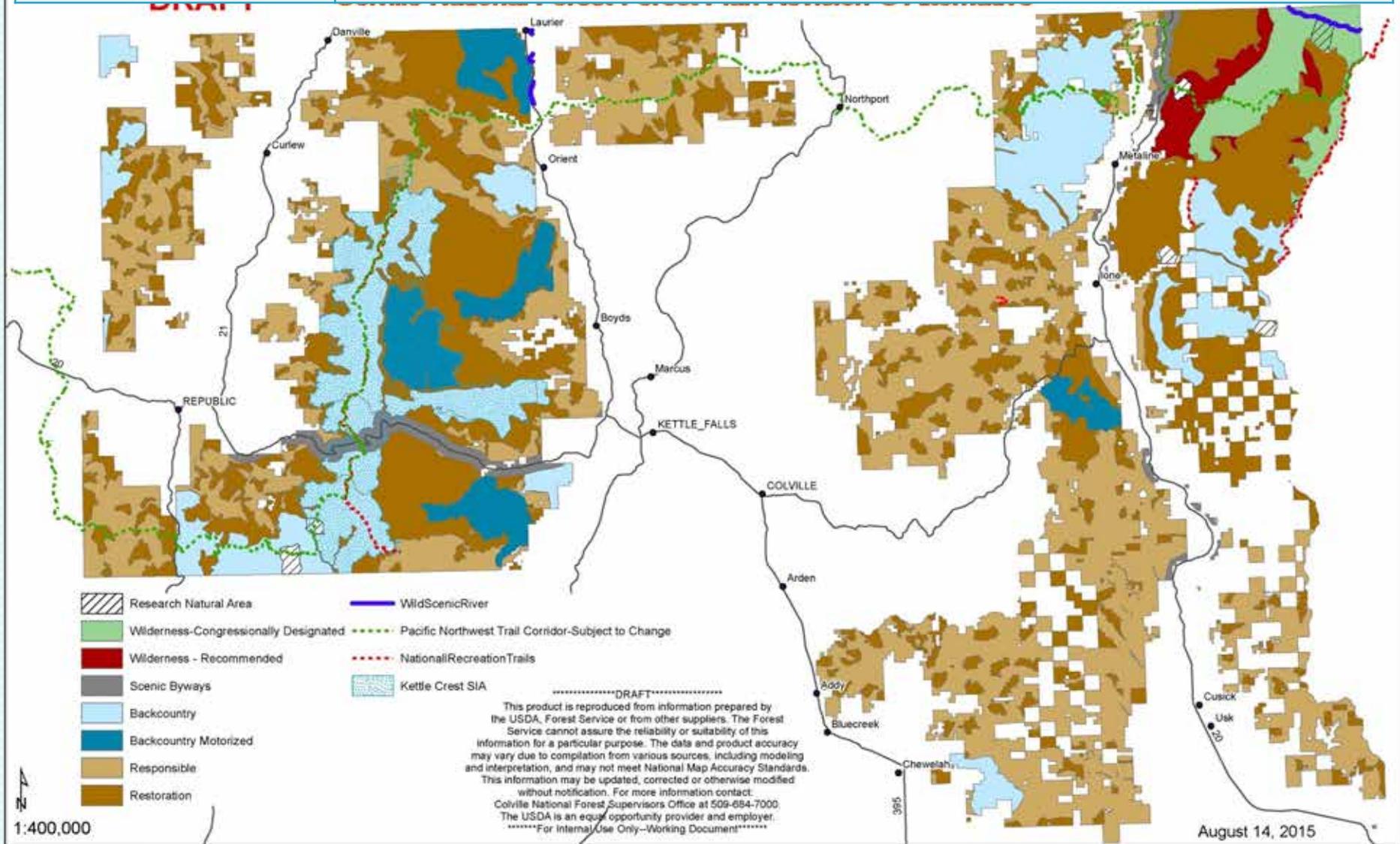
# Alternative B

- Based on NEWFC 'blue print' & points of consensus from public workgroups
- Keeps inland native fish strategy (INFISH) and Eastside screen direction
- 20% proposed as recommended wilderness; 31% fixed reserves



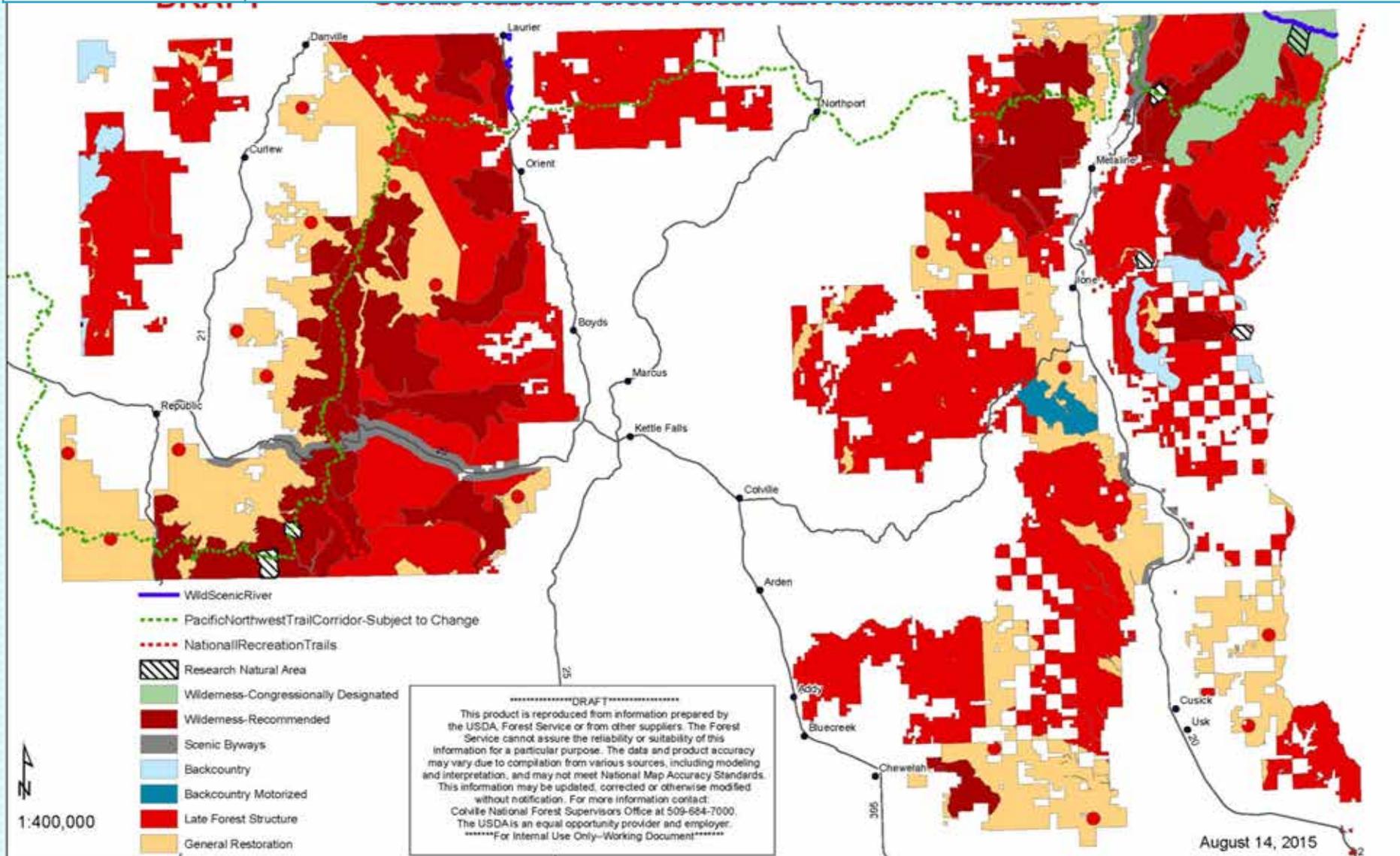
# Alternative O

- Based on points of consensus from public workgroups
- Retains Eastside screen direction
- Incorporates ARCS
- 1% proposed as recommended wilderness; 34% fixed reserves



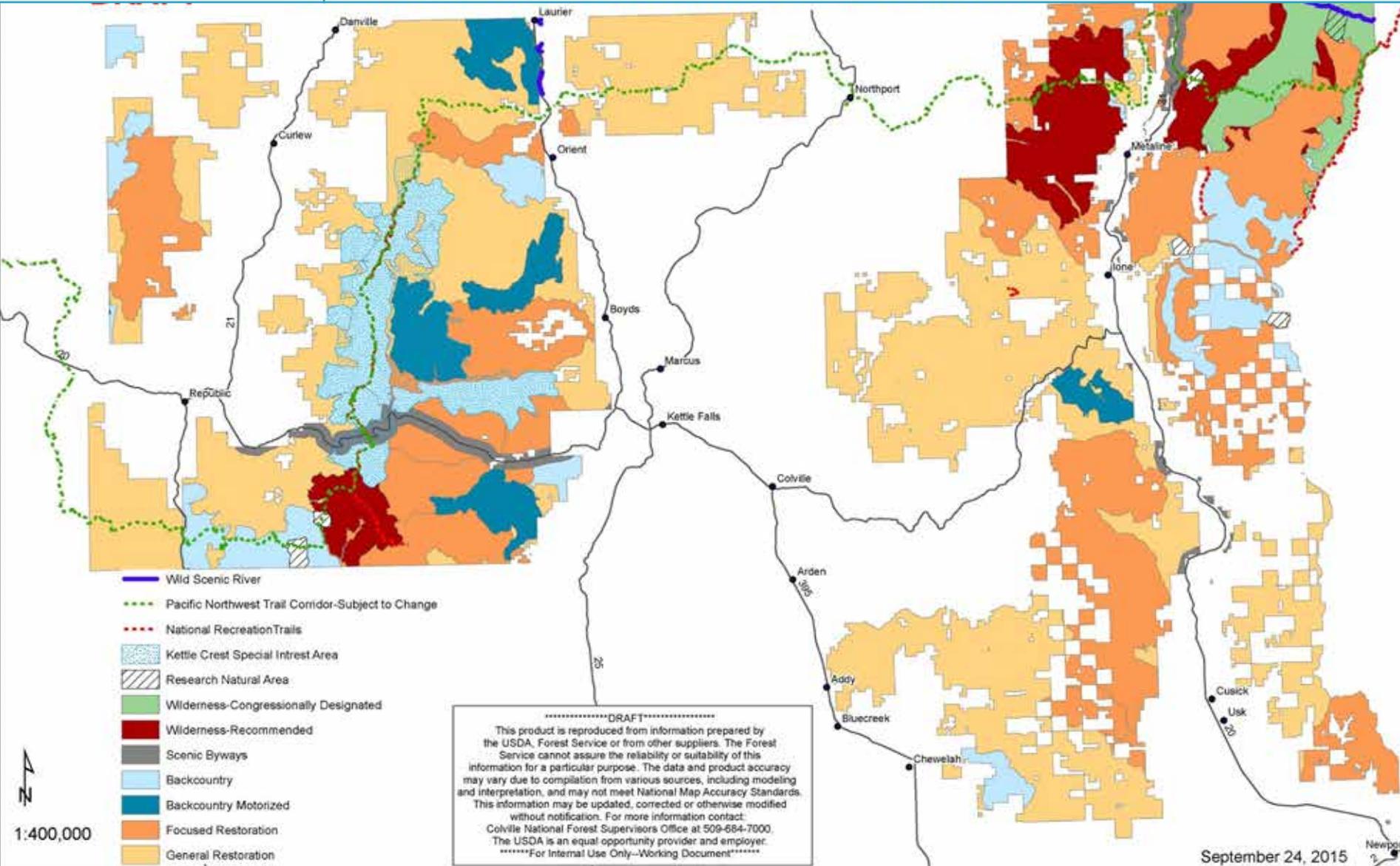
# Alternative R

- Large-scale reserve approach for late-successional forest structure (represents passive mgmt. approach)
- Retains eastside screens
- Incorporates ARCS-modified
- 19% proposed as recommended wilderness; 51% in fixed reserves

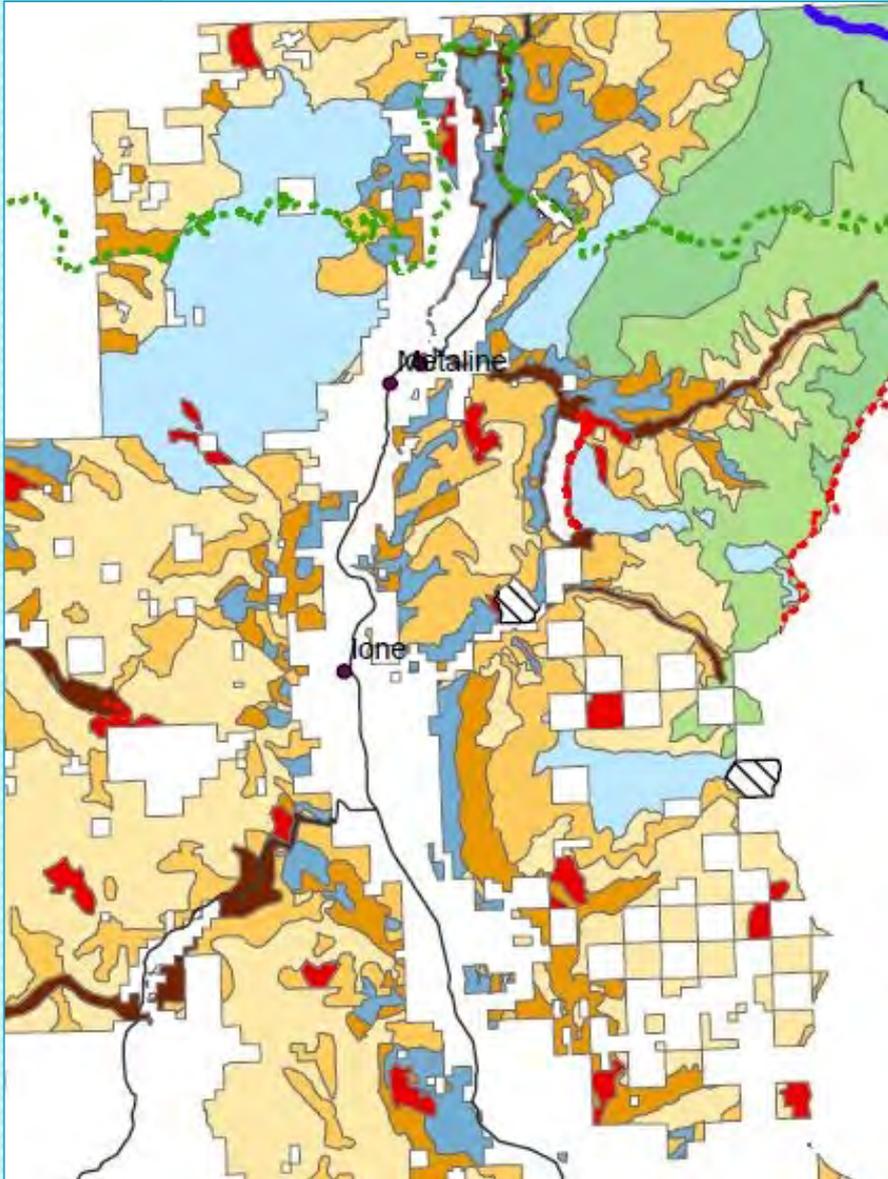


# Alternative P (preferred alternative)

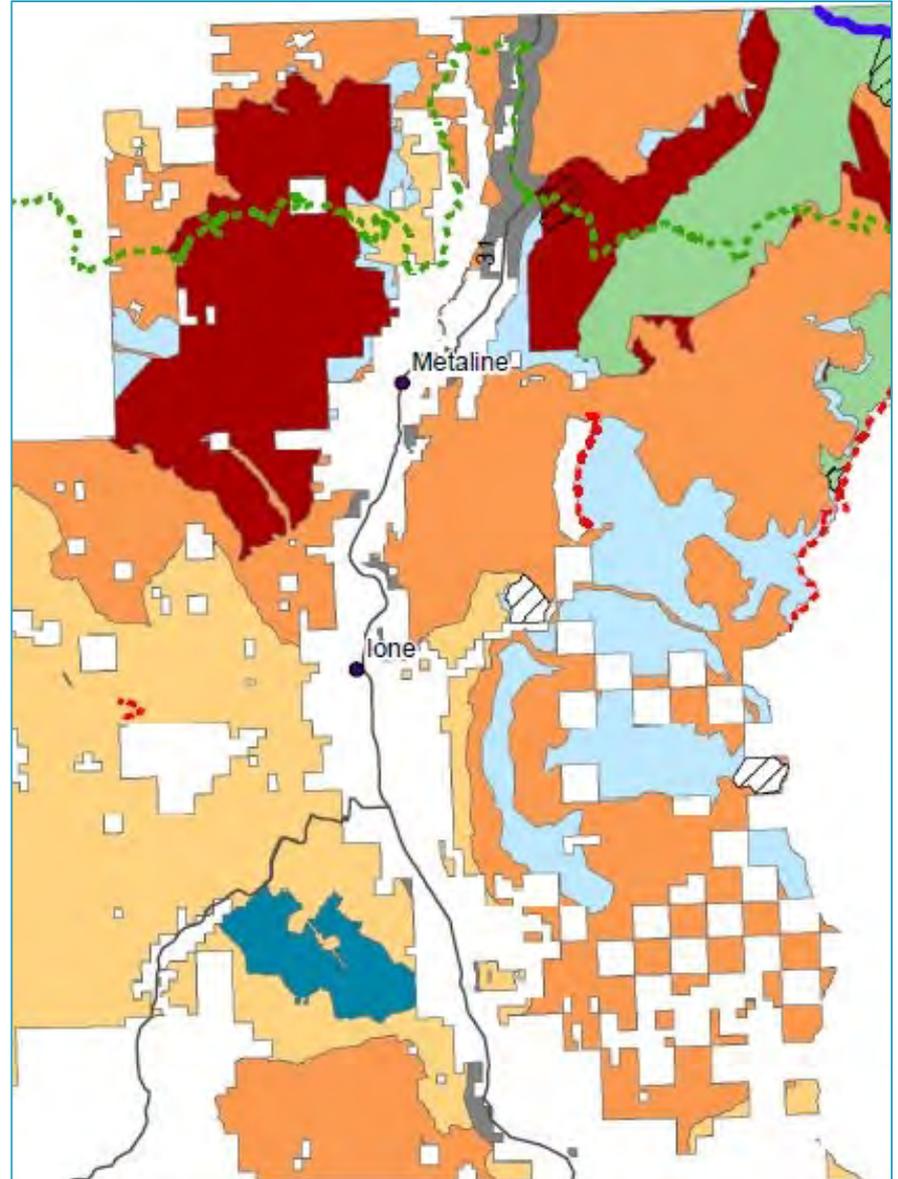
- Landscape scale management
- Replaces eastside screens w/Desired Condition for veg. mgmt.
- Incorporates ARCS-modified
- 6% proposed as recommended wilderness; 0% fixed reserves



No Action (current 1988 plan)

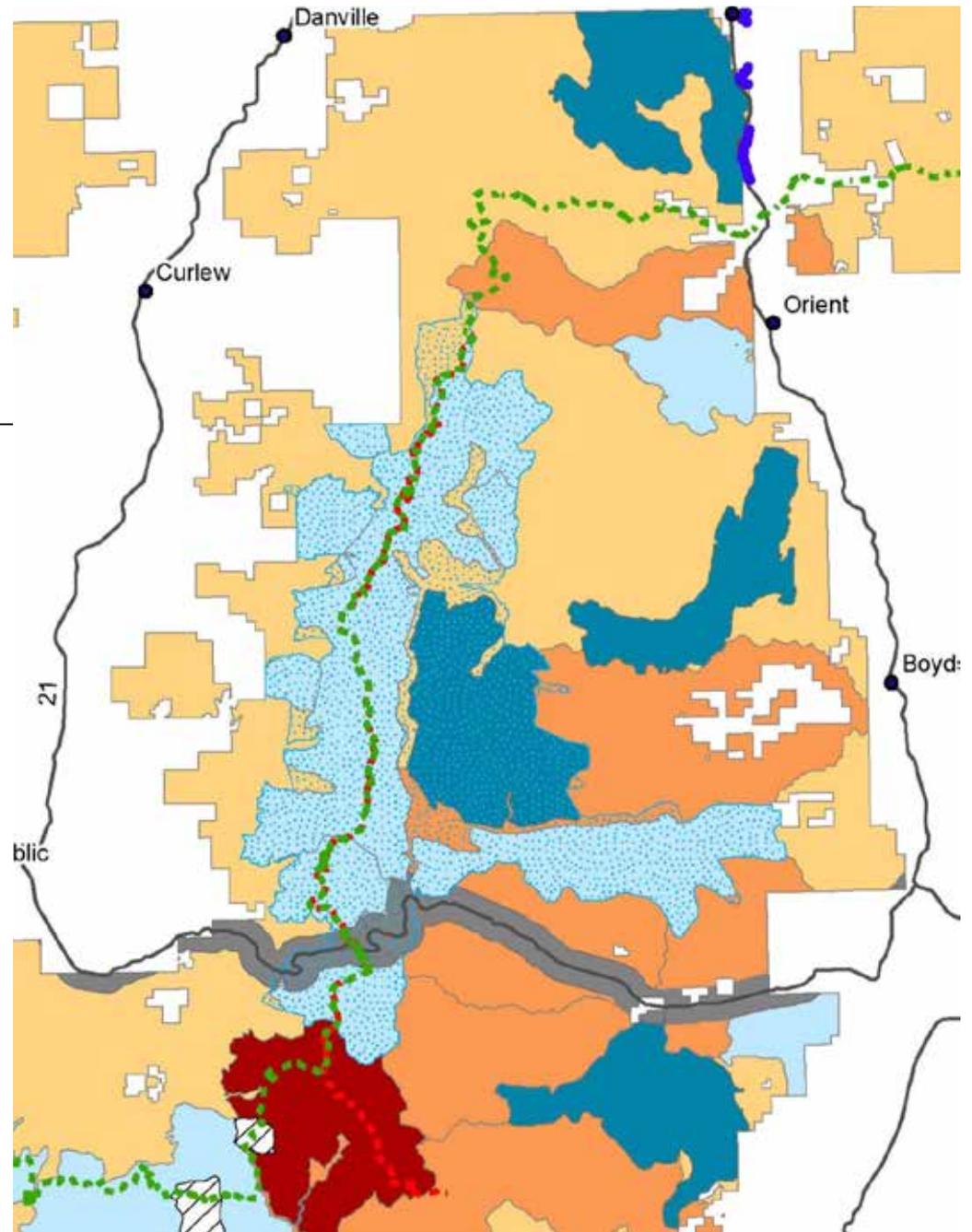


Proposed Action (2011)



# Recreation Special Interest Area

Included in Alternatives  
O and P



# Key points – commercial timber

Resource and Indicator	No Action (existing plan)	Proposed Action	B	O	R	P
Acres/Percentage of NFS Lands Suitable for Scheduled Timber Production	535,725 48%	653,242 59%	384,485 35%	347,535 32%	129,420 12%	656,628 60%
Acres/Percent of NFS Lands Where Harvest Allowed for Other Resource Objectives	323,025 29%	205,508 19%	474,265 43%	511,215 46%	729,330 66%	202,122 18%
Predicted Wood Sale Quantity (PWSQ)						
MMBF	41	62	37	38	14	62
CCF	82,800	125,900	77,000	77,000	28,900	125,400



# Key points - Wilderness & Recommended Wilderness

- One designated wilderness (Salmo-Priest) = ~3% of Colville NFS land

Alternative	No Action	Proposed Action	B	O	R	P
Acres/Percent Recommended for Wilderness	0	101,390 9%	220,330 20%	15,950 1%	207,800 19%	68,300 6%



# Key points - Access and Road Management

- Does not make specific travel management decisions
- Identifies areas where motorized & non-motorized uses would be suitable

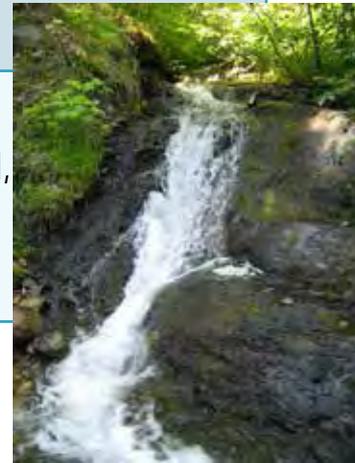
No Action	Proposed Action	B	O	R	P
Road densities between 0.4-2 mi/mi <sup>2</sup>	Desired Cond: Road densities b/w 2-3 mi/mi <sup>2</sup> & no net increase in key watersheds	Cap on existing mile and no net increase in key watersheds	Cap on existing miles	Desired Cond: Road densities b/w 1-2 mi/mi <sup>2</sup> & no net increase in key watersheds and riparian MAs	Road densities between 1-2 mi/mi <sup>2</sup> and no net increase in key watersheds and riparian MAs



# Key Points - Riparian Management Areas

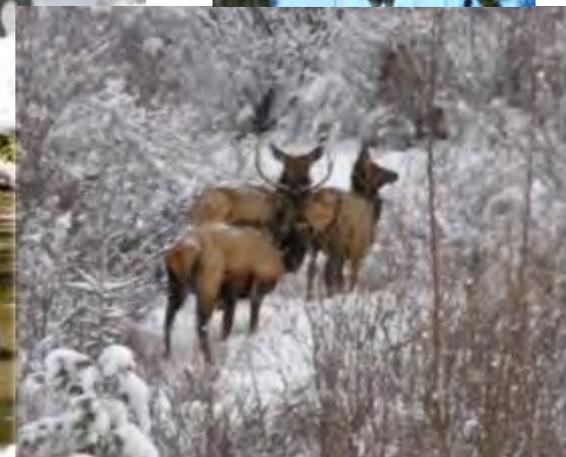
## Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas (INFISH) and Riparian Management Areas (ARCS) widths

Stream Type	INFISH RHCA Width (ft) Alternatives: No Action & B	ARCS RMA Width (ft) All other Alternatives
Fish-Bearing Streams	300 ft. on each side of the stream (600 ft. total)	300 ft. on each side of the stream (600 ft. total)
Permanently flowing Non-Fish Bearing Streams	150 ft. on each side of the stream (300 ft. total)	150 ft. on each side of the stream (300 ft. total)
Constructed Ponds and Reservoirs and Wetlands greater than one acre	150 ft. on each side of the pond, reservoir or wetland (300 ft. total)	150 ft. on each side of the pond, reservoir or wetland (300 ft. total)
Lakes and Natural Ponds	150 ft. on each side of the pond, reservoir or wetland (300 ft. total)	300 ft. slope distance from the lake or pond (600 ft. total)
Intermittent Streams, Wetlands, Seeps and Springs and Unstable and Potentially Unstable Areas	50 ft. slope distance from the stream, wetland, seep, spring or unstable area in non-Key and non-Priority Watersheds. 100 ft. in Key and Priority Watersheds	100 ft. slope distance from the stream, wetland, seep, spring or unstable area (200 ft. total)



# Key Points - wildlife

- Incorporates interagency direction for woodland caribou, grizzly bear, Canada lynx and bull trout habitat
- Addresses habitat for big game and birds
- Includes direction for management of large trees, and retention of snag habitat and down woody debris



# Next Steps

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## On-going

- Consultation, communication and coordination

## February 19, 2016

- Notice of Availability of plan and DEIS published in Federal Register (starts comment period)

## February – May 2016

- Draft environmental impact statement available for review & comment
- Receive public comments
- Engage the public through meetings & web applications

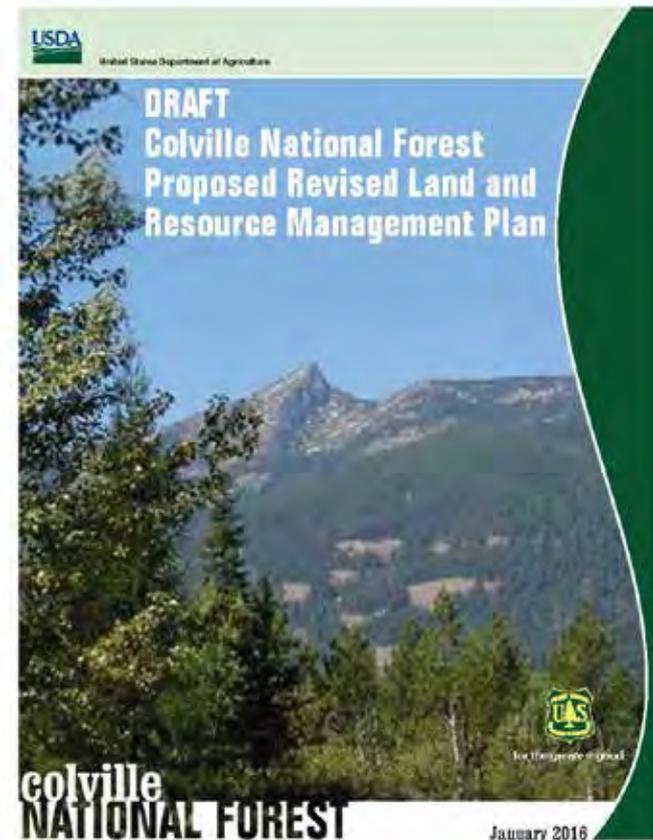


# Draft Revised Plan

Developed based on Alternative P  
(listed as preferred alternative in the Draft EIS)

Document provides:

- Desired Conditions (goals)
- Objectives
- Standards
- Guidelines
- Suitable uses for each management area
- Monitoring direction



# Other Documents

USDA  
United States Department of Agriculture

## Proposed Revised Land Management Plan for Colville National Forest

### Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Volume I. Summary, Chapters 1, 2, and 3  
(through Soil Resources)

colville  
NATIONAL FOREST

January 2016

USFS

## Colville National Forest Plan Revision - 2016

### Reviewers Guide to Commenting

The Forest Service is responsible for managing public lands in the public interest. The comment period is your opportunity to be involved in the Forest Plan revision process, to offer thoughts on alternative ways for the Forest Service to accomplish what is proposed, to comment on the preferred alternative and analysis, and to work with the Forest Service in doing what is best for the land, while also enhancing social and economic vitality.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) "... is intended to help public officials make decisions that are based on the understanding of environmental consequences..." (40 CFR 1501(c)). To achieve this, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) considers the effects of management actions on social, economic, and ecological resources within the planning area. You may have valuable information about places and resources you consider important and the potential effects the proposed federal actions may have on those places and resources. This is your opportunity to work with us so that we finish with a Final Land Management Plan (also referred to as the Forest Plan) that is good for the land and the public it serves.

Comments that provide relevant and new information with sufficient detail and rationale are the most useful, and are referred to as substantive comments. The Forest Service reads and considers all comments and identifies the topics that are substantive for consideration in the final EIS and Land Management Plan.

#### The Documents - DEIS and Proposed Revised Forest Plan

We are encouraging the public to view our documents through the following options:

- **Website:** <http://www.fs.usda.gov/rpa/colvilleplanrevision>
- **View in person:** documents to read are available at Forest Service offices in Colville, Kettle Falls, Republic, Metaline Falls, and Newport; documents are also available for viewing at several local community libraries
- **CD or Hard copy:** email request to [colvilleplanrevision@fs.fed.us](mailto:colvilleplanrevision@fs.fed.us) for a compact disc (CD) or photocopy (limited numbers of printed copies are available). These may also be obtained by contacting one of the plan revision team members listed at the end of this guide, or call 509-684-7211.

#### How to Submit Comments

<b>Electronically:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/reviewerdeis">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/reviewerdeis</a> or <a href="https://wpa.fs.fed.us/management/USFS/Comments/2016/2016revdeis/">https://wpa.fs.fed.us/management/USFS/Comments/2016/2016revdeis/</a>	<b>US mail:</b> Colville National Forest Plan Revision Team 765 South Main St. Colville, WA 99114
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To facilitate analysis of comments and information submitted, we strongly encourage you to submit comments via the electronic format (see page 5 for more information). Comments must be postmarked or received electronically no later than 90 days from when the Notice of Availability is published in the Federal Register, currently scheduled for February 11, 2016. If you need assistance in submitting a comment and/or working through the electronic system, please call 509-684-7211 or 509-664-9247.

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USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

# On-Line Information - Colville NF web page

www.fs.usda.gov/goto/colville/plan



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## Contact Information

**Colville National Forest**  
765 South Main Street  
Colville, WA 99114  
  
(509) 684-7000

## Stay Connected



Three Rivers Ranger

## Forest Plan Revision



### Welcome to the Colville Forest Plan Revision Project!

The **Colville National Forest** has been working on a multi-year planning effort to update and revise its **Land and Resource Management Plan**. Many things have changed since the current "forest plan" was signed in 1988. The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 requires each national forest to have a plan, and to periodically revise them to address new economic, social and resource conditions, and to incorporate new scientific information.

The work we are doing in plan revision will guide management of the Colville National Forest for the next decade and beyond. As part of earlier scoping and public collaboration efforts we shared a description of the proposed management approach with interested members of the public and tribes in June 2011. We received and analyzed a broad range of comments on that proposed action. That information helped us to identify the significant issues and to make adjustments to our proposal, and in addition to providing a basis for identifying alternative management approaches to consider.

### Draft Plan Ready for Review

We are pleased to announce that we've reached the next "big step" in our **NEPA** planning process with the release of a draft plan and draft environmental impact statement for public review and comment. The draft plan displays the draft direction for the management activities on the National Forest System lands across the four Colville National Forest ranger districts. A **Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)**, which shows the analysis and comparison of the six alternatives (or approaches) considered for managing the Colville National Forest has also been prepared. The draft plan for this phase of planning is based on the **Preferred Alternative, (Alternative P)**.

The release of these documents initiates the official 90-day comment period during

## Quick Links

- o [Plan Revision Home](#)
- o [Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#)
- o [Draft Revised Plan](#)
- o [Maps](#)
- o [Public Participation](#)
- o [Comment / Contact Us](#)

## Visit Online Open House

[Visit Online Open House](#)

## Submit Formal Comment

[Submit Formal Comment](#)

## Current Forest Plan

[Current Forest Plan](#)

# On-Line Information - On-line Open House

<http://colvilleplanrevision.publicmeeting.info/>

ONLINE OPEN HOUSE: February 19-May 19 Select Language ▾

## colville NATIONAL FOREST PLAN REVISION

Welcome Overview Alternatives Forests/Timber Access/Historic Trails Wilderness Wildlife Habitat Water Public Involvement Comments

### Welcome Next

Welcome to the online open house for the Proposed Revised Land Management Plan for the Colville National Forest Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Proposed Revised Colville Forest Plan (draft plan).

**This open house is available until May 19.**

#### About the DEIS and proposed forest plan

In order to revise the 1988 [Colville National Forest Plan](#), the U.S. Forest Service (Forest Service) has prepared this DEIS and proposed forest plan in cooperation with seven cooperating entities and with input from the public and interest groups. The DEIS describes and analyzes six alternatives for managing the Colville National Forest. The forest plan reflects the preferred alternative identified in the DEIS (Alternative P).

The Forest Service administers the nearly 1.1 million acres that make up the Colville National Forest in northeast Washington State.

[Watch a short video about the project.](#)

#### How to use this online open house

- Visit the tabbed "stations" to learn more about the DEIS, proposed forest plan, and how to submit your comments. You can visit as many times as you wish.
- You can click the "Next" button or select any tab at the top of the page to move around this online open house. Placing your cursor on words or phrases with a dotted underline will show their definition.
- Keep an eye out for the questions posed on some pages, and join the conversation if you like.

Colville National Forest Plan R...

colville NATIONAL FOREST PLAN REVISION  
An Overview of the Project and Process

read THE DRAFT PLAN

read the DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

- Executive Summary
- Full Draft EIS (7 MB)
- Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action
- Chapter 2: Alternatives
- Chapter 3: Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences (3 MB)
- Chapter 4: Consultation and Coordination
- Executive Order, Economic Inventory, Appendices and Index

Remember to submit your comments here!

Next page



Udall Foundation

#### Contact

WEB: [colvilleplanrevision.info](http://colvilleplanrevision.info)  
EMAIL: [colvilleplanrevision@colville.fs.fed.us](mailto:colvilleplanrevision@colville.fs.fed.us)  
PHONE: 509-564-7000

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# **Next Steps** (continued)

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## **Summer 2016**

- Review & respond to public comments
- Additional analysis of modified and/or new alternatives
- Public engagement

## **Summer/Fall 2016**

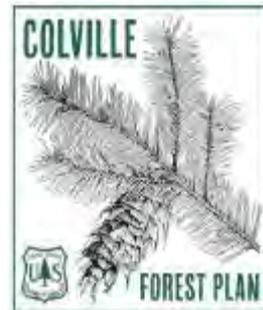
- RO & WO Review

## **Winter 2016**

- Publication of the FEIS and Record of Decision
- Followed by Objection Period

## **Spring 2017**

- Record of Decision signed



Rodney Smoldon, Forest Supervisor, is Recommending Official  
Jim Pena, Regional Forester, is Approving Official