

Colville National Forest
Meeting with Pend Oreille County Democrats
April 23, 2016

Attending

Forest Service:

Amy Dillon, Forest Plan Revision Team Lead, and Marcy Rumelhart (notes).

This was the regular Pend Oreille County Democrats meeting and was held at the Sacheen Lake Fire Station, Cusick, WA. The Forest Service had been invited to provide a presentation on the forest plan revision and that discussion started at 10:00.

Amy gave an overview of plan revision history; involvement of public, agencies and tribes; current project status; next steps and planned public involvement in a power point presentation. Reviewed the NEPA process phases and collaboration work that has taken place to get to this point. She reviewed how the alternatives based on proposals from collaboration efforts were developed. The 90-Day comment period began on February 19th and was extended to July 5th. There will be webinars scheduled in May and listening sessions in early June.

The presentation was followed by a few general questions from the group to get more clarification.

Amy provided clarification on modelled numbers used to predict timber output, and on road density and how roads are looked at.

- Concern about closing more areas, and not opening any new areas. Motorized recreation is managed differently at Sullivan Lake RD vs. Newport RD. During 45 years of snowmobiling have never seen caribou. Trying to be responsible but conflicting maps make it hard. Thought he was using the correct Motor Vehicle Use Map and found out it was the wrong map. We were told by a ranger the map was incorrect.
 - The differences between districts is something that needs to be handled outside the forest plan revision process.
 - Provided clarification on how to submit comments – if name is attached have standing to object. The FS needs substantive comments about what is liked and not liked, and what people would like to see in place of something they don't like.
- How much weight is given to comments? Does the squeaky wheel get the grease?
 - All comments are considered equally, but form letters are considered one comment. Comments that come from the public could change the alternatives. There are different ways to comment – on the Forest Plan Revision webpage there is a link to a comment database, and a link to email the Forest Service. There will be listening sessions in early June where verbal comments will be recorded.
 - The public has been involved and providing input, from 2005 to the present.
- When the current plan was amended did public have input?
 - Yes and no. Public input was received at the project level, for individual projects that proposed an amendment. However, some of the amendments came from our regional

office. The process for addressing public review and comment was handled at the regional level.

- Does the FS actively create hiking trails?
 - That is done at the project level. Amy explained mechanized uses vs. nonmechanized. Anything with gears is mechanized, like Mtn. bikes. Many management areas are open for trail construction, just need the budget to design, implement and maintain.
- Question about objectives for creating trails.
 - Objectives are what we are trying to achieve during the life of the plan, such as miles of loops trails.

Question about President Obama's November 15, 2015 memorandum on roadless.

Will look into it.

The forest plan discussion ended at 11:00.

Follow-up

Margaret Schmidt asked to receive a copy of Amy's power point presentation.

Gayle Cain asked to receive information on the listening sessions in June when the dates become available.

Colville National Forest

Land & Resource Management Plan Revision





Forest Plan Purpose

Provide high-level guidance for management of National Forest system lands

– 15-year strategic document providing land management direction by guiding programs, practices, uses, and projects

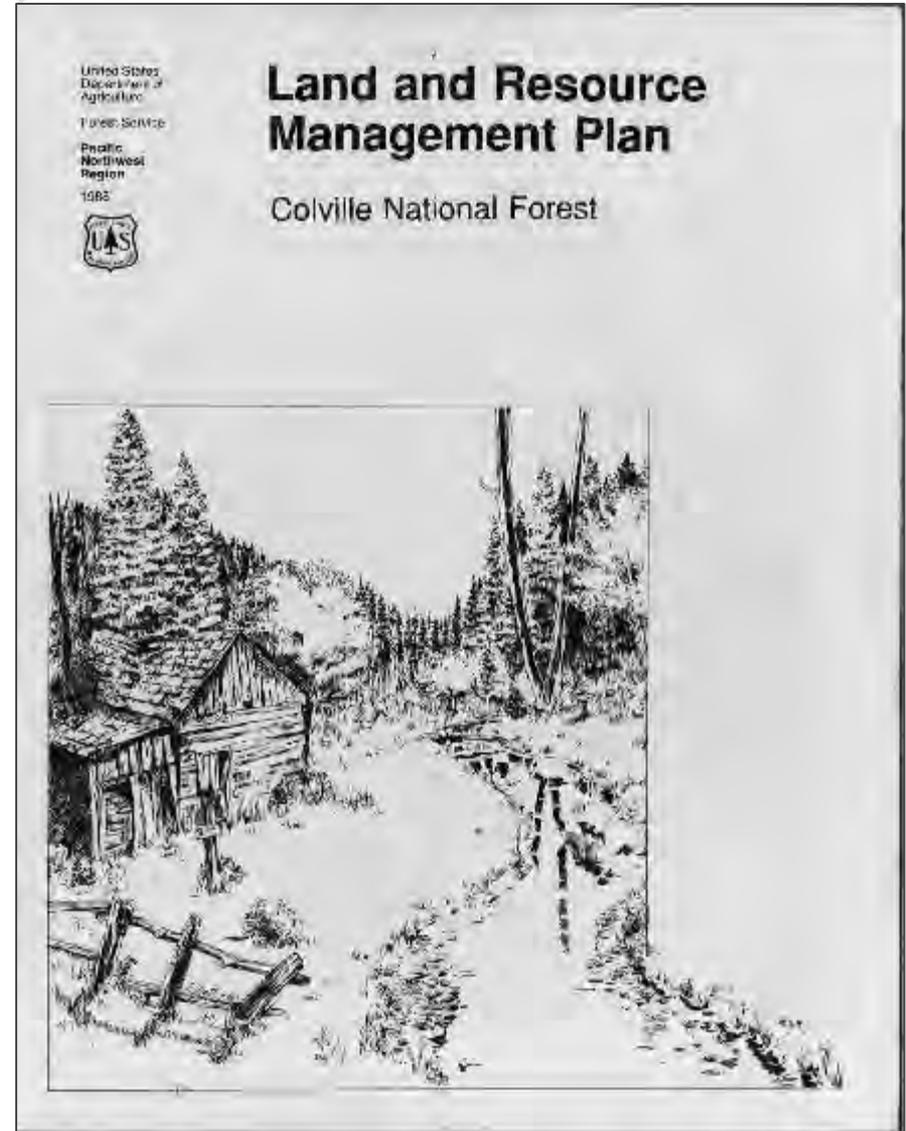
– Designates management areas allocating zones of the forest for different activities

– Designates suitability of areas for various uses

Need for Change (why are we doing this?)

Currently following a
land management plan
signed in 1988

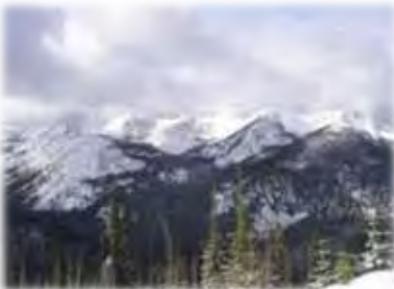
Includes 40 Forest
Plan Amendments



Key Issues for Alternative Development

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 (FS roads)
4. Recommended Wilderness Areas
5. Wildlife Habitat
6. Riparian & Aquatic Resource Management



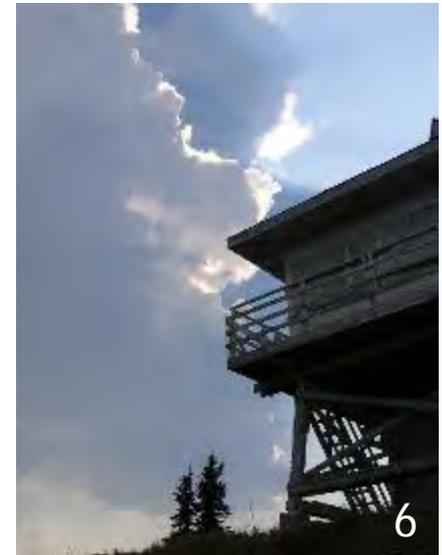
Alternatives

Issues led to development of 6 alternatives:

- ✓ No Action (current 1988 plan as amended)
- ✓ Proposed Action (public comment provided on this in 2011)
- ✓ Alternative R (developed in response to comments supporting large areas as recommended wilderness)
- ✓ Alternative B (developed based on NEWFC proposal and public input during collaborative meetings)
- ✓ Alternative O (developed based on points many participants agreed to during collaborative meetings)
- ✓ Alternative P (developed based on public comment; 2016 preferred alternative)

What the Forest Plan cannot change:

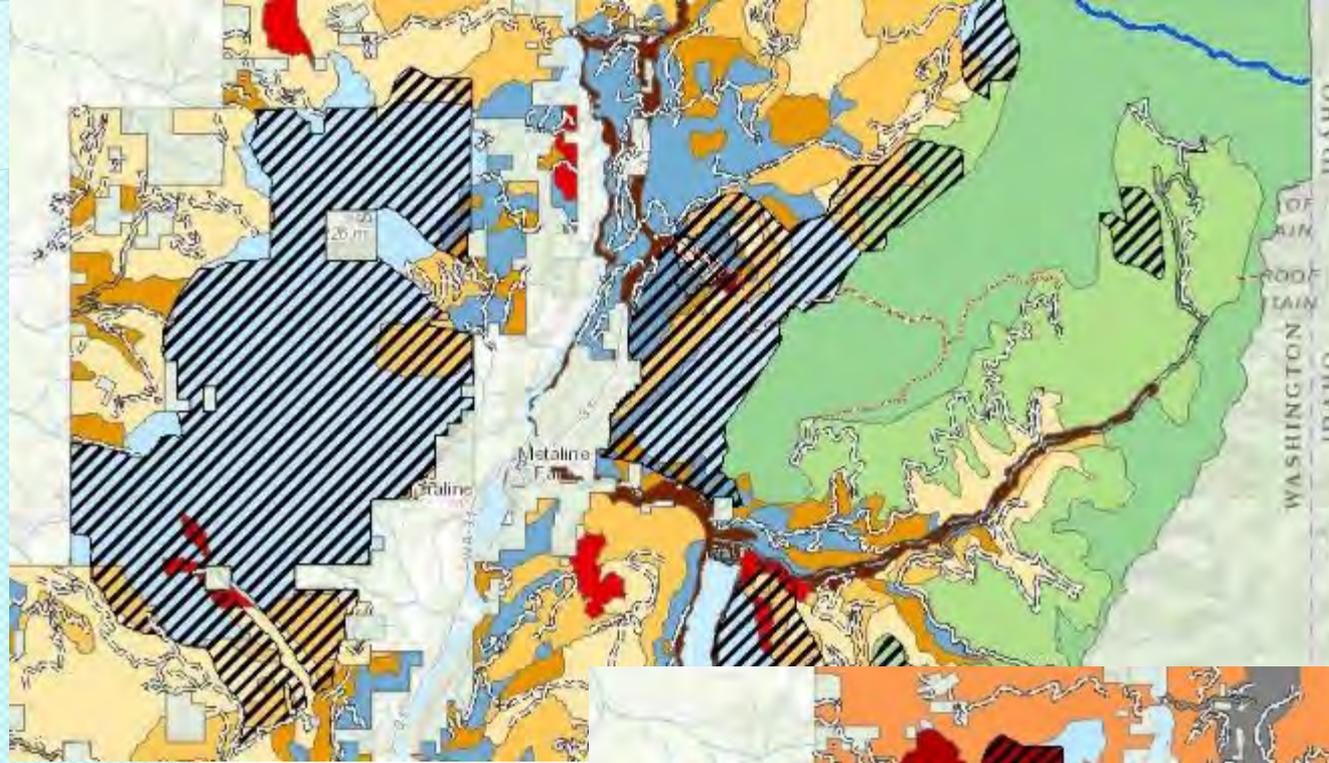
- ✓ Boundary for designated wilderness (Salmo-Priest)
- ✓ Inventoried Roadless Area boundaries (designated in 2001)
- ✓ Any existing law, regulation or policy
- ✓ Management plans or direction related to other ownerships



What *can* change in the Forest Plan :

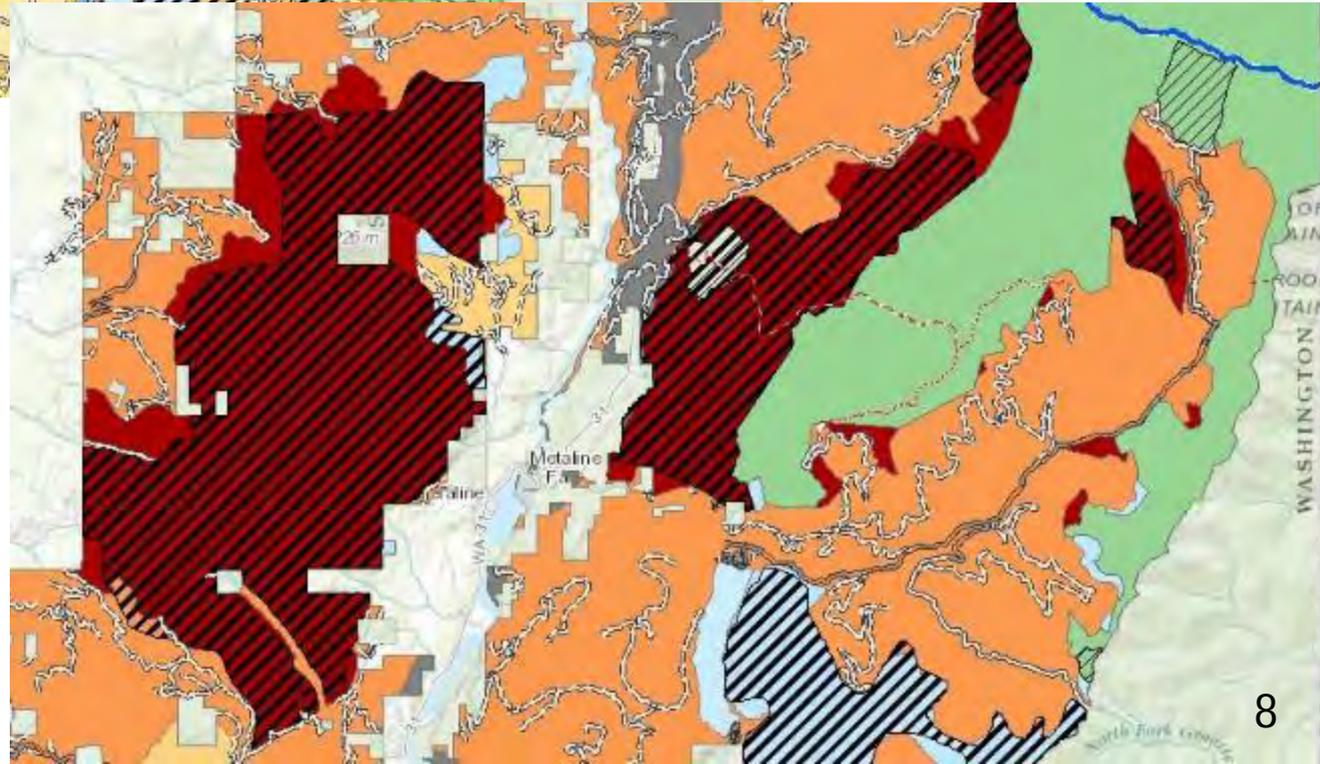
1. Management area designations
2. Management area proposed boundaries
3. Management area direction:
 - Desired conditions
 - Objectives
 - Standards
 - Guidelines
 - Suitable Uses





Current (1988)
plan

Alternative P
(preferred
alt.)



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



Riparian Management Area

- Alternatives Proposed Action, R, B & P
- have direction for no net increase in road miles in key watersheds
- No Action and Alternative O retain INFISH

Key watersheds:

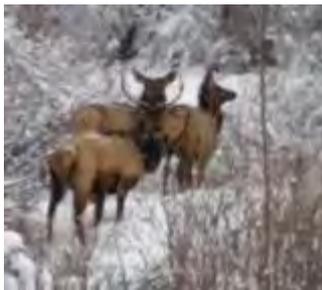
- Based on native fish habitat and T&E species recovery area designations
- Have different guidance related to road density and other management activities that focuses on habitat improvement.



Wildlife Habitat:

All alternatives incorporate:

- Interagency direction for woodland caribou, grizzly bear, Canada lynx and bull trout habitat
- Management direction for big game and landbirds



Motorized & Mechanized Trails

- Direction for motorized & mechanized use varies between alternatives
- Recommended wilderness

Alternative	Acres	Existing uses continue?	Change to miles of trail currently designated	
			For motor vehicle use	suitable for mech. use
No Action	0		0	0
Proposed Action	101,400	yes	0	-150*
B	220,300	no	-39	-221
O	15,900	yes	0	-29*
R	207,800	no	-39	-213
P	68,300	yes	0	-78*

*If areas get designated by Congress

Recreational Uses

General Forest Recreation = The amount (percent) of the Colville National Forest where roads may be constructed to access either motorized or non-motorized recreation uses.

Motorized recreation = The amount (percent) of backcountry in the Colville National Forest identified to be managed specifically for motorized trail use.

Non-motorized recreation = The amount (percent) of backcountry in the Colville National Forest identified to be managed specifically for non-motorized uses. This column includes:

- Backcountry (non-motorized)
- Recommended wilderness
- Wilderness

Recreational Uses

	General Forest Rec	Motorized Rec	Non-motorized Rec
No Action	88%	1%	11%
Proposed Action	74%	6%	20%
B	75%	<1%	25%
O	75%	5%	20%
R	75%	<1%	24%
P	75%	5%	20%



Key points - Wilderness & Recommended Wilderness

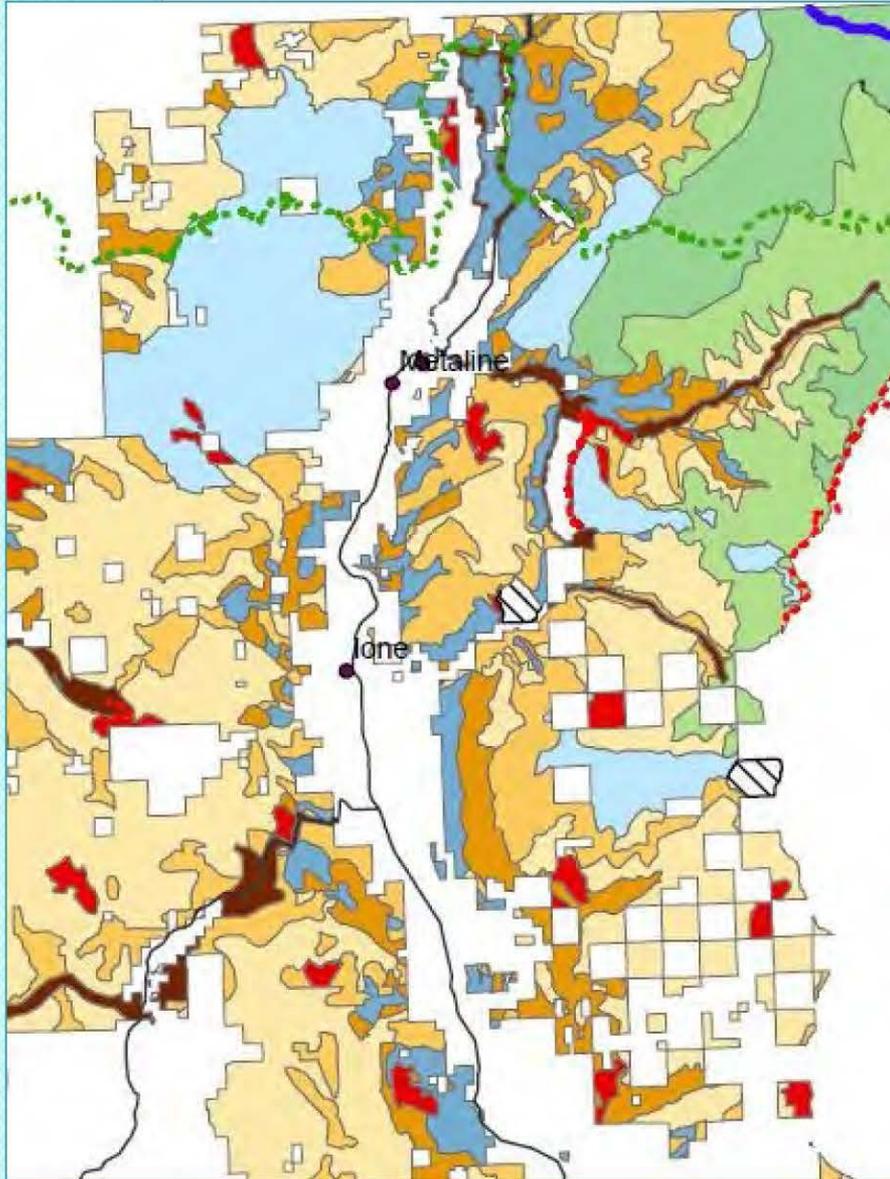
One designated wilderness (Salmo-Priest) = ~3% of Colville NFS land

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%
Existing uses can continue	n/a	Yes*	No	Yes*	No	Yes*

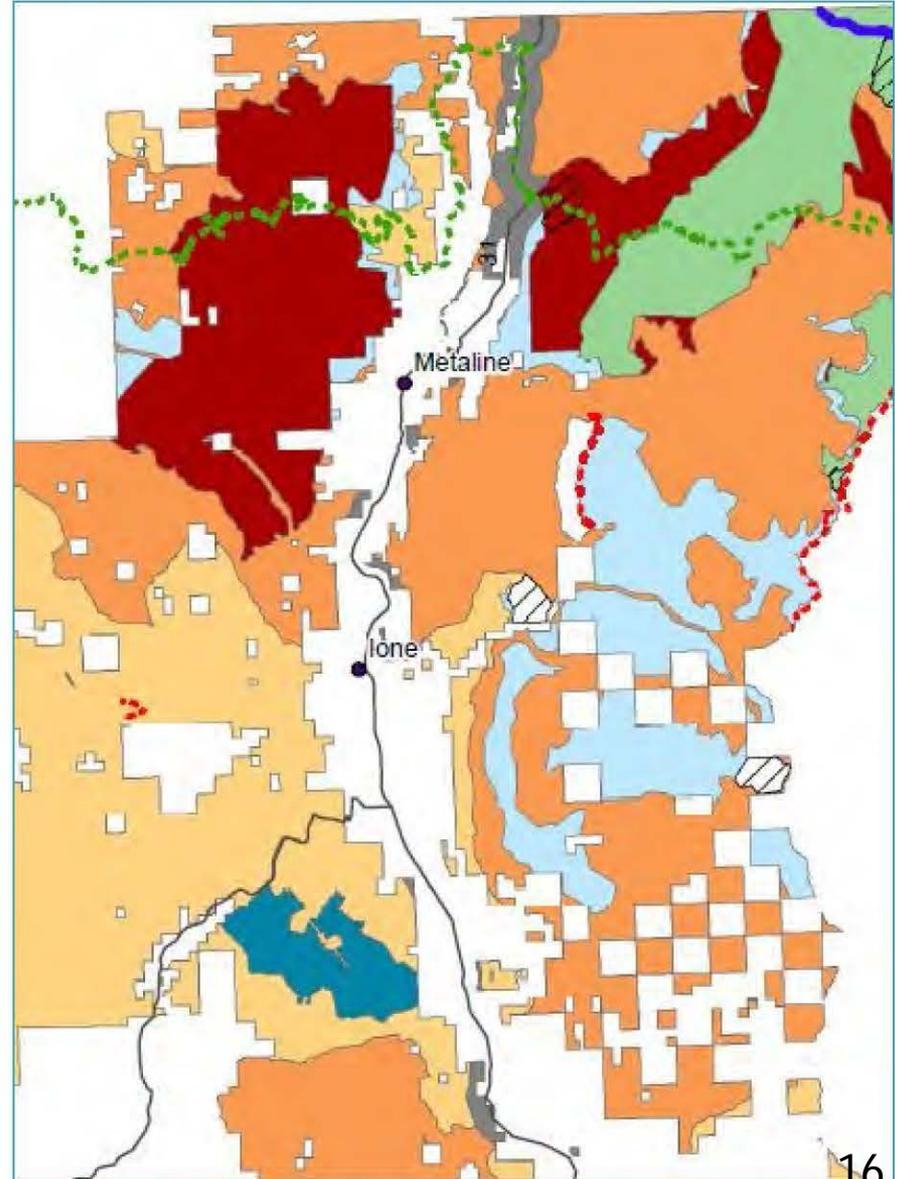
*Until such time Congress designates as Wilderness



No Action (current 1988 plan)

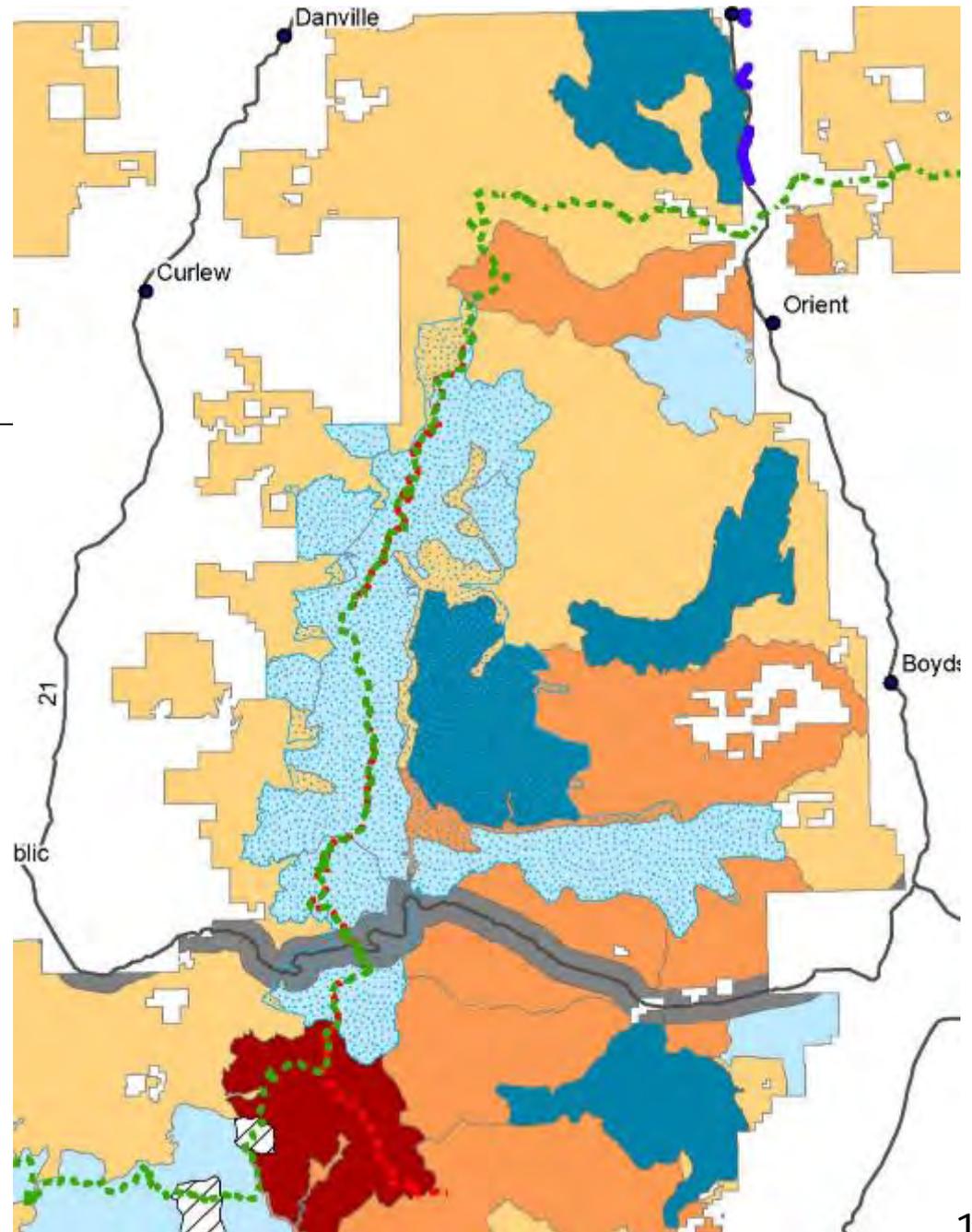


Proposed Action (2011)



Recreation Special Interest Area

Included in Alternatives
O and P



Immediate Next Steps

On-going

- Consultation, communication and coordination

February 19, 2016

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

February – July 5, 2016

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



On-Line Information - Colville NF web page

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

The screenshot displays the website for the Colville National Forest's Forest Plan Revision project. The header includes the USDA logo and the text "United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service" on the left, and "Colville National Forest" with the UAS logo on the right. A navigation bar below the header contains links for "Forest Service Home", "About the Agency", and "Contact the National Office".

The main content area is titled "Forest Plan Revision" and features a large banner with the text "COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST" and "FOREST PLAN REVISION" alongside an image of pine cones. Below the banner, a welcome message reads: "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."

Below the welcome message, a section titled "Draft Plan Ready for Review" states: "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

The left sidebar contains a search box and a "Go" button, followed by a "Site Map" link. Below that is a "Colville National Forest" menu with links to Home, Special Places, Recreation, Alerts & Notices, Passes & Permits, and Maps & Publications. The "Land & Resources Management" section is expanded to show links for Planning, Projects, Resource Management, and Geospatial Data. Other links include Learning Center, Working Together, About the Forest, and News & Events. The "Contact Information" section provides the address: 765 South Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, and the phone number (509) 684-7000. The "Stay Connected" section is also present.

The right sidebar features a "Quick Links" section with links to Plan Revision Home, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Draft Revised Plan, Maps, Public Participation, Comment / Contact Us, and Comments Reading Room. Below this are three buttons: "Visit Online Open House" (with a UAS icon), "Submit Formal Comment" (with a UAS icon), and "Current Forest Plan" (with a UAS icon).

On-Line Information - On-line Open House

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



Welcome

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.



read the DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

- Executive Summary
- Vol 1 Draft EIS (7 MB)
- Chapter 1: Purpose and Need for Action
- Chapter 2: Alternatives
- Chapter 3: Effects, Environment and Environmental Consequences (3 MB)
- Chapter 4: Consultation and Coordination
- Executive Summary, Acronyms, Glossary, Appendices and Index

Remember to submit your comments here!

Next Page



Udall Foundation

Contact

WEB: colville.gov
EMAIL: colville@nwp.fs.fed.us
PHONE: 509.564.7000

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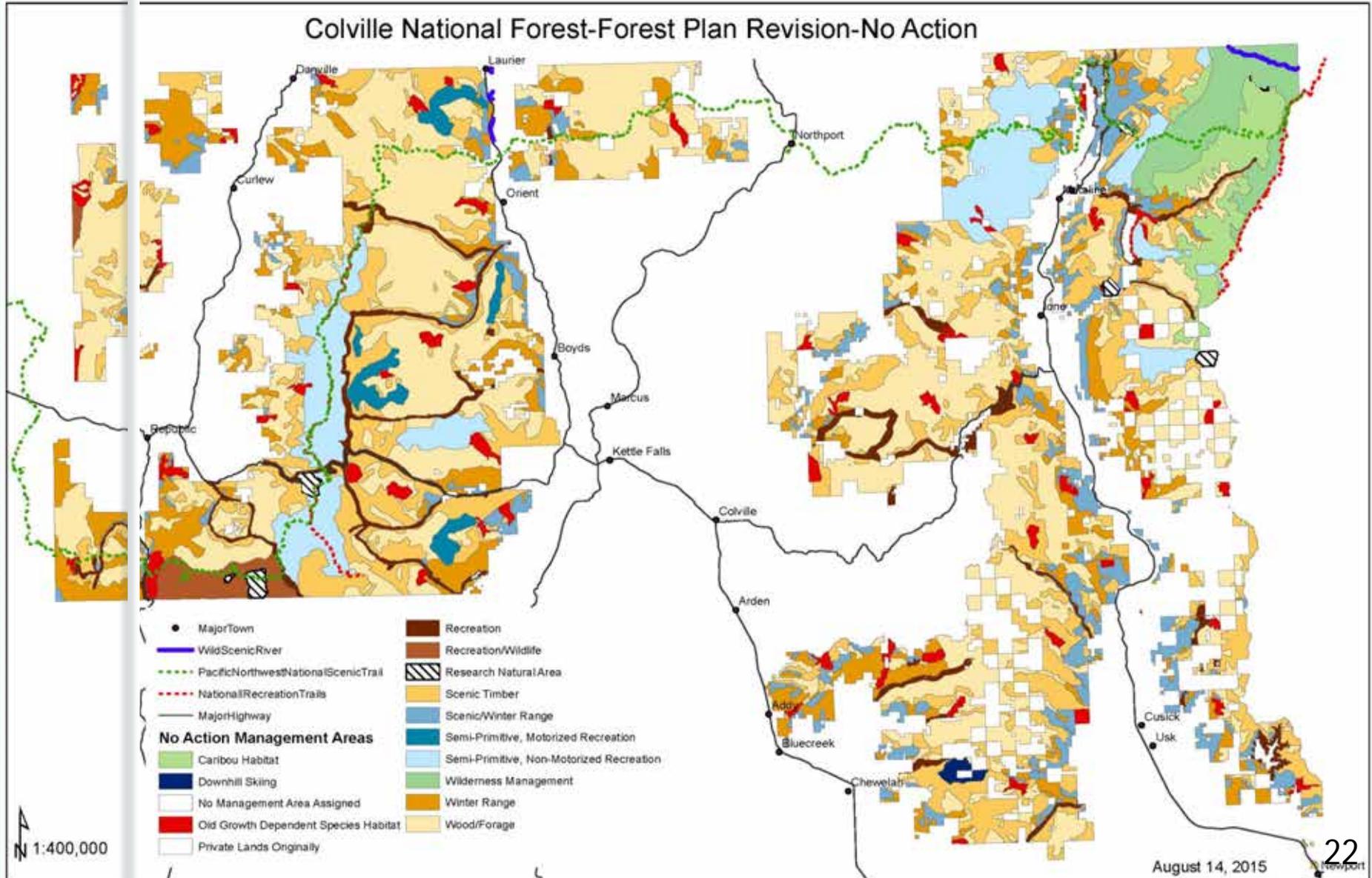


Discussion and Questions

No Action

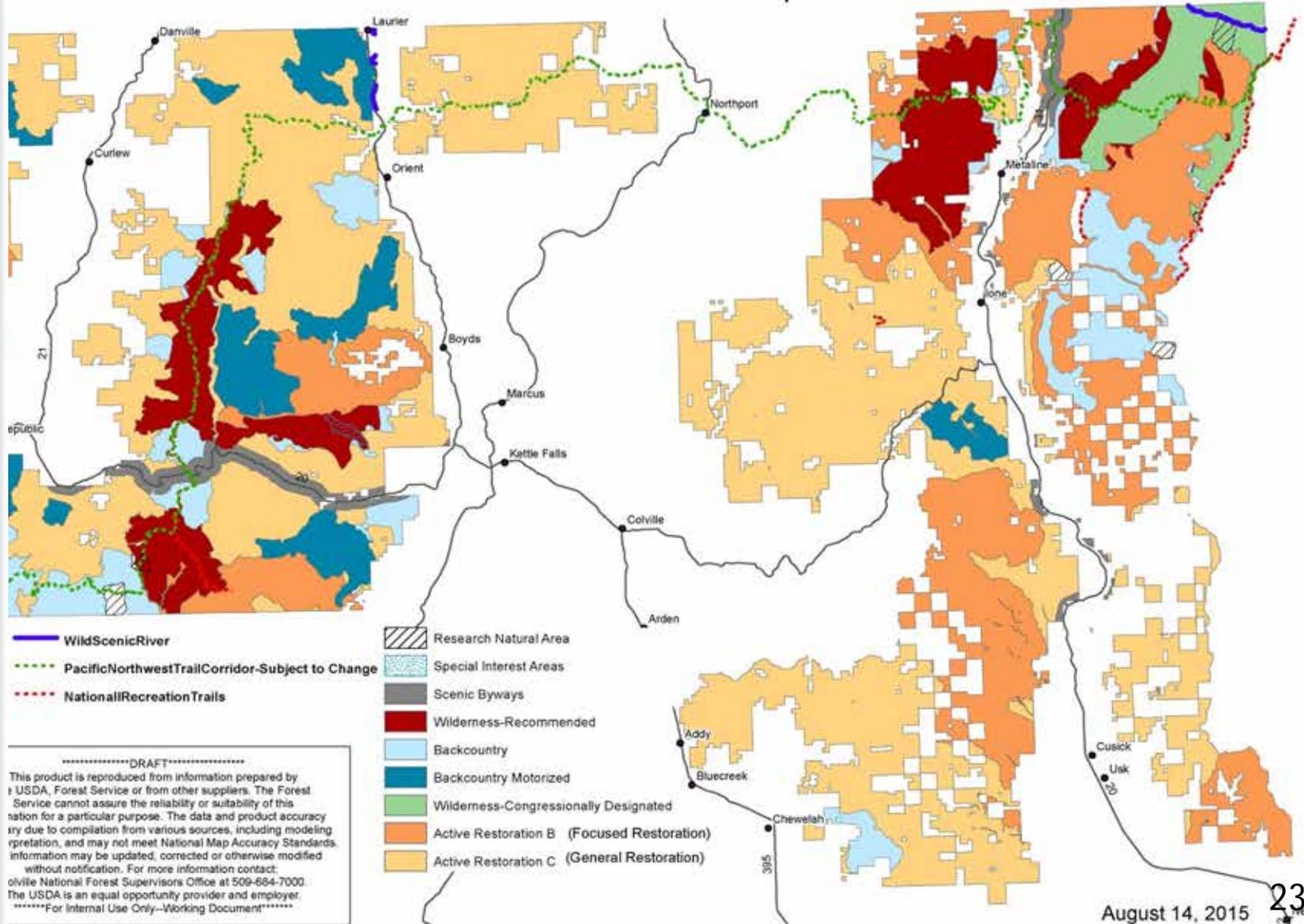
- Continues 1988 LRMP direction (as amended)
- Retains inland native fish strategy (INFISH) & Eastside screens
- 0% recommended wilderness; 3% in fixed reserves

Colville National Forest-Forest Plan Revision-No Action



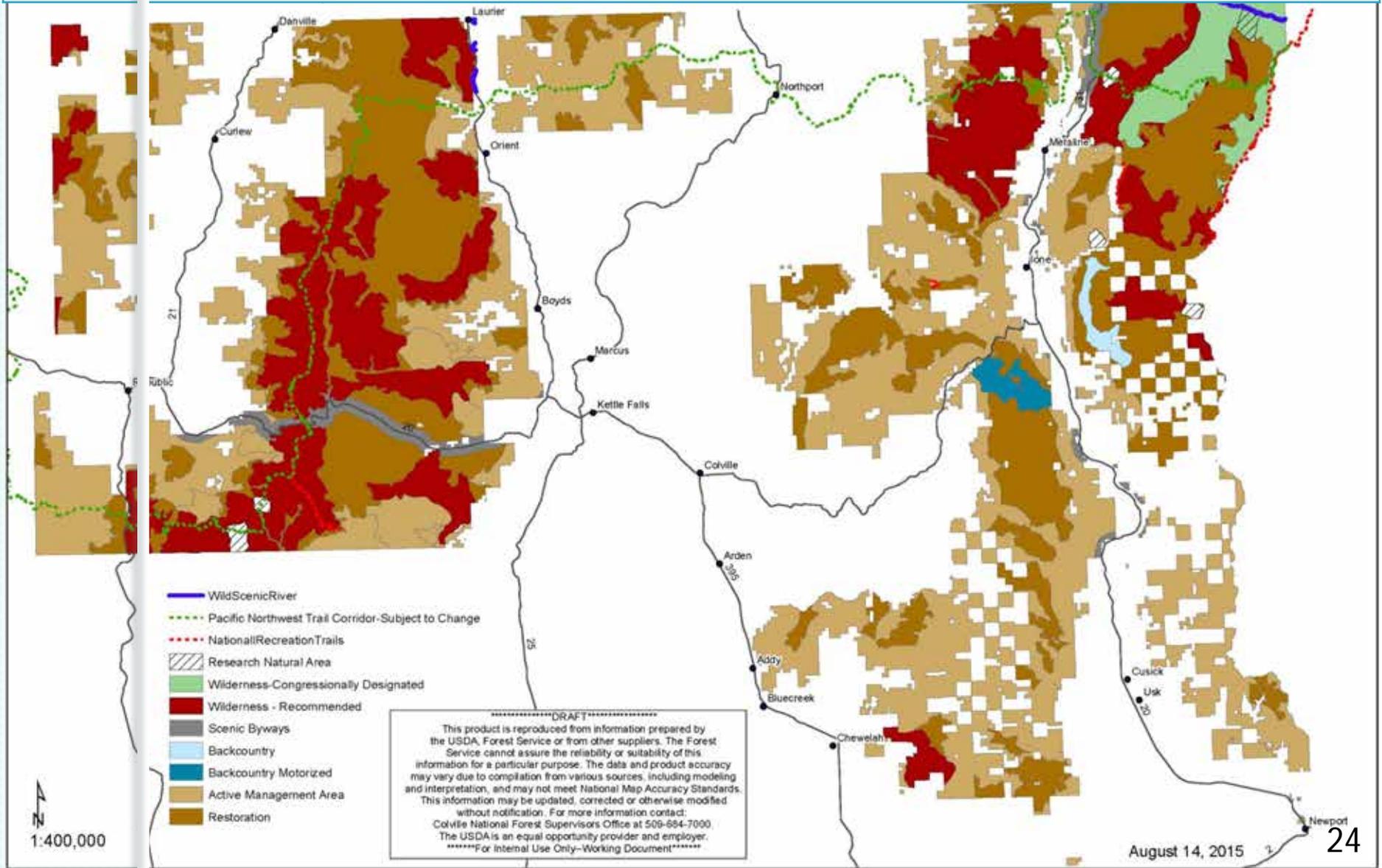
Proposed Action (June 2011)

- 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



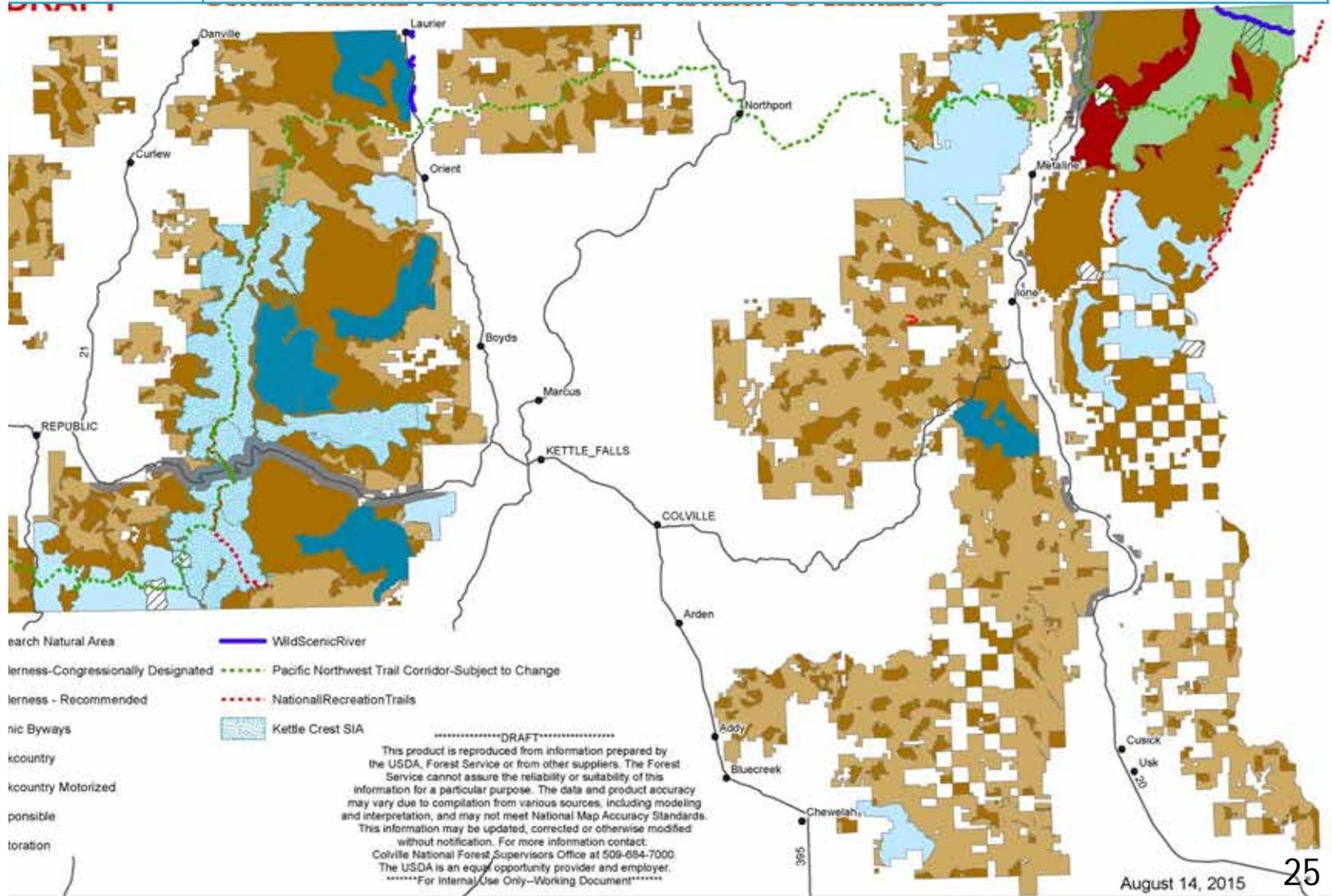
Alternative B

- 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



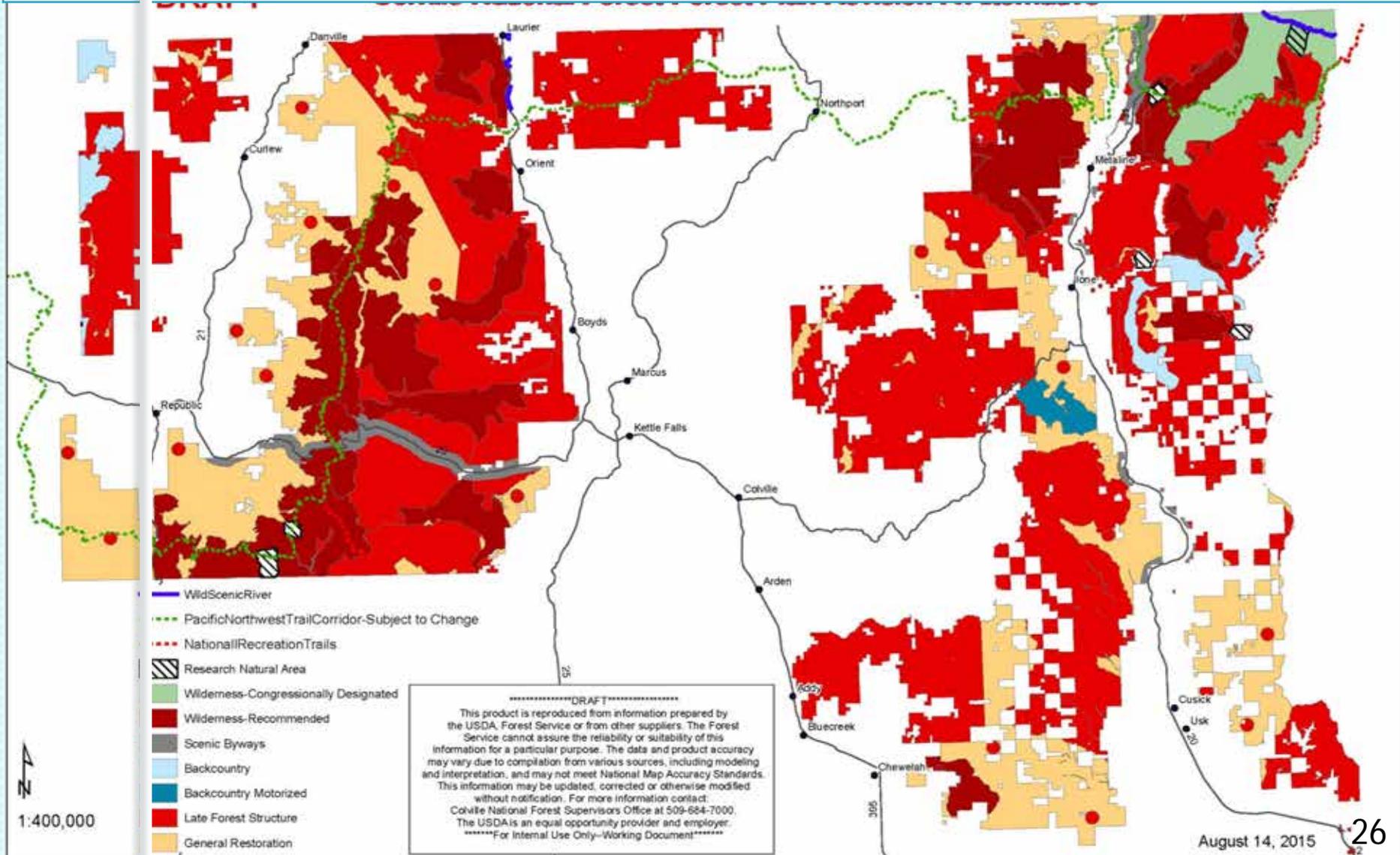
Alternative O

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



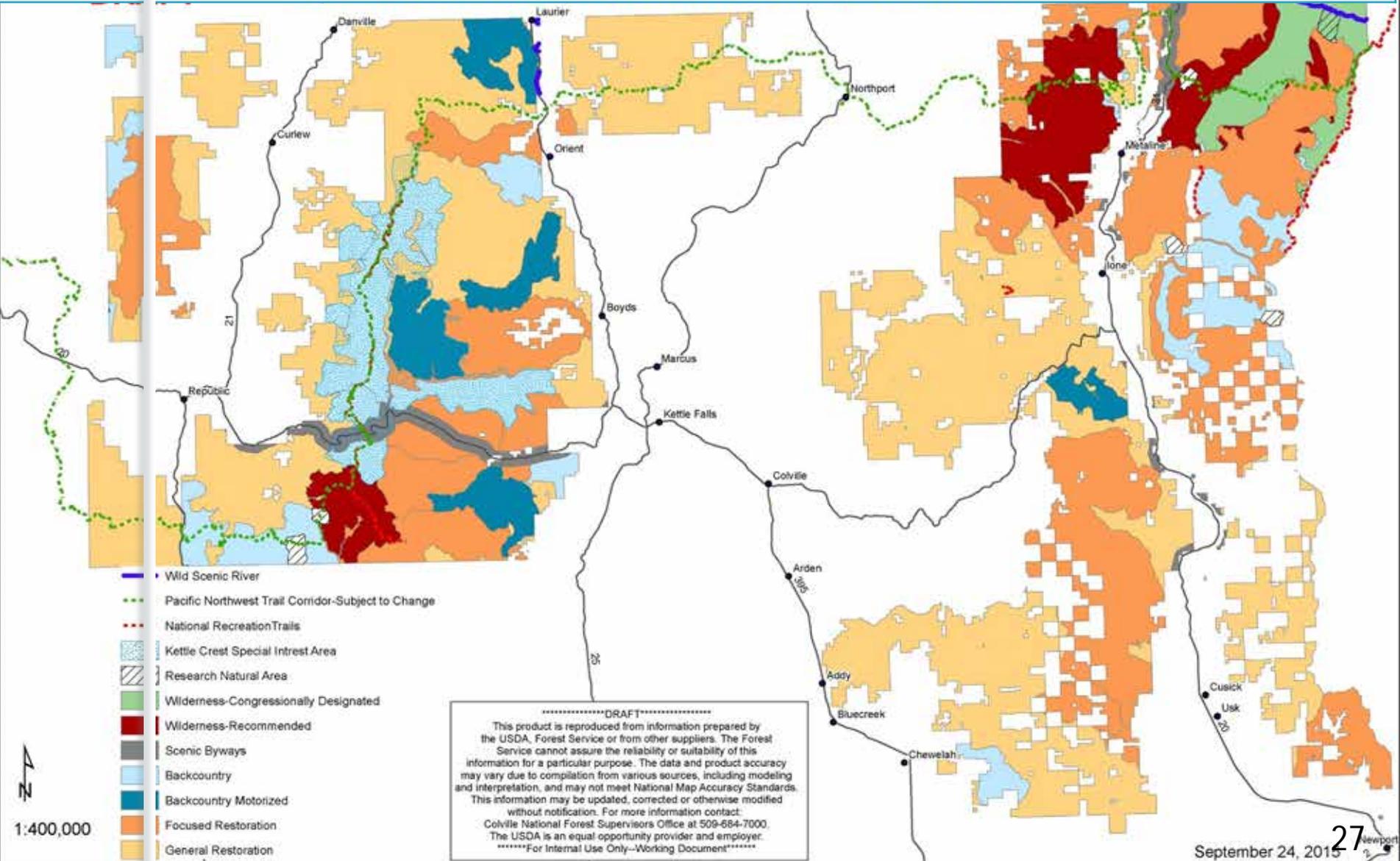
Alternative R

- 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

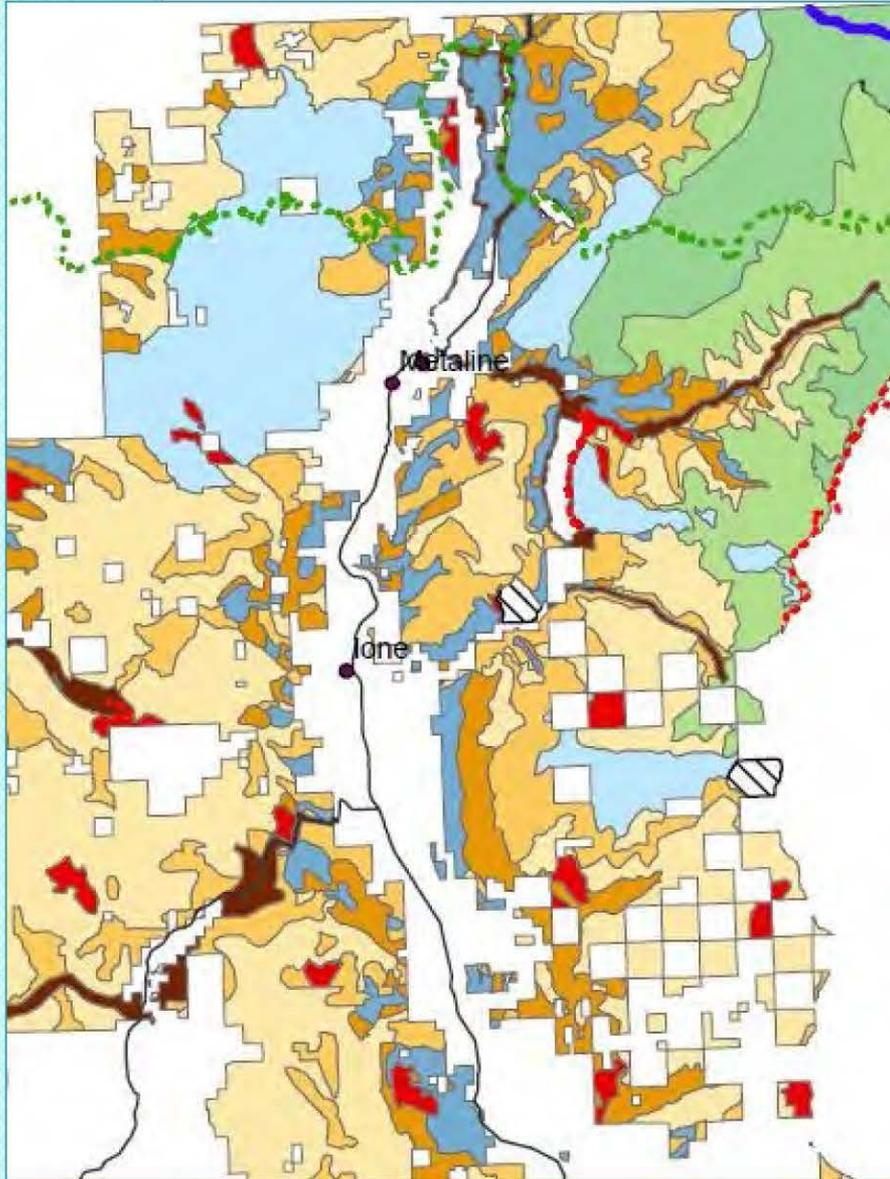


Alternative P (preferred alternative)

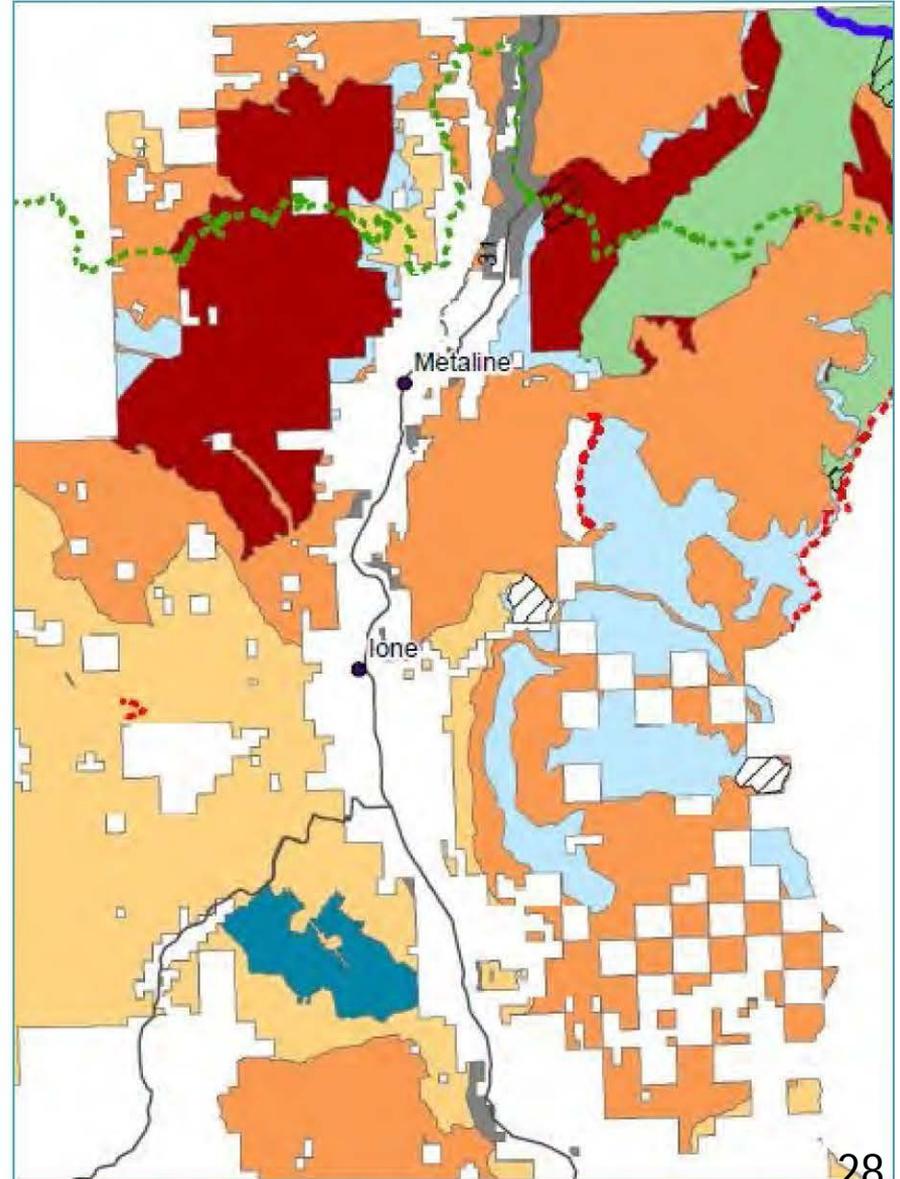
- Landscape scale management
- Replaces eastside screens w/Desired Condition for veg. mgmt.
- Incorporates ARCS-modified
- 6% proposed as recommended wilderness; 0% fixed reserves



No Action (current 1988 plan)



Proposed Action (2011)



Former planner sues Bonner County

SANDPOINT – Bonner County's former top land-use planner, Clare Marley, is suing the county in a wrongful termination lawsuit, according to a report in the Bonner Count Daily Bee. Marley's suit in 1st District Court, which was filed Wednesday, April 6, seeks unspecified damages and reinstatement to the planning department.

The lawsuit also carries a tort claim, with Marley's attorney contending that as a 27-year employee, Marley should be awarded damages, alleging her due process rights were violated during her termination. The Bee reports that according to the lawsuit, Marley was targeted for reprisal by an unnamed county commissioner for refusing to subvert the

law, and for defending another senior planner, Dan Carlson, who was also fired. The tort alleges that Marley was demoted from planning director to a senior planning director in October 2015, an action that coincided with the dismissal of Carlson, who is also in the process of suing the county.

Bonner County Commissioners countered that Marley had failed to produce reductions in

the land use regulatory burden borne by landowners. Commissioners also

accused Marley of trying to thwart their efforts to ease regulatory burden.

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RSVP by Mon, April 18th • 509-447-5651

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PRO AUTOMOTIVE
We're Here For You!
SERVICE FOR ALL MAKES AND MODELS
Diagnostic Specialists
Honest • Prompt
208-448-0112
40 High St. Priest River • Mon-Fri: 8-5

Free Boat Safety Class
April 23 & 24
Each day a complete course
@ Diamond Lake Fire Station on Hwy 2
Sign In: 8-8:30am
Bring Sack Lunch

HOT BOX

Special deadline Tuesdays 12 p.m.

SPRING BAZAAR
Usk Community Club, 2442 Black Road. April 16th, 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Lunch served 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Door prizes! Barb (509) 445-1433; Francis (509) 445-1223.(9HB-3)

VOTE YES!
Assisted Living and Memory Care. Help us keep our seniors home! Great jobs for area residents too. Paid by Bob Moran. (11p)

OLDTOWN AUTO SALES
Let us sell your car, truck or recreational vehicle. We charge 10 percent or a minimum of \$200. We get results! We also buy used cars, trucks and recreational vehicles. (208) 437-4011.(49HB-tf)

WANTED
Good used clean items for Pend Oreille County Museum rummage sale, May 7th. (509) 447-7901, evenings or (509) 447-3507.(11p)
Every day is Sale Day in The Newport Miner and Gem State Miner Classifieds.

IS YOUR DOG AFRAID OF EVERYTHING? WE CAN FIX THAT
Training for obedience, tracking, socialization...this Spring! LuckyUs Ranch. (509) 447-3541. luckyus-ranch.com (11)

RANCH WORKER
Needed. Fencing- yard and garden work-firewood. Carpentry, mechanical and building skills helpful. Diamond Lake area. (509) 292-8286.(11)

PANCAKE AND BURRITO BREAKFAST
All you can eat! Saturday April 16th, 7:00-11:00 a.m. Fire Station #34, Fertile Valley and Jermain Road, Newport. \$5.00 11 and older, \$3.50 5- 10, 4 & under free. Randy (509) 998-2226. (10HB-2)

MISSING REMINISCING?
"Down Memory Lane" may not always make it into the paper, but it is on our Facebook page every week. Like us on Facebook today.(49HB-TF)

PEND OREILLE COUNTY DEMOCRATS
Sunday, May 1st, 1:00 p.m., Cusick High School, 305 Monumental Way. Delegates/ Alternates elected at April 26th caucuses must attend to affirm preferences for 2016 presidential nominee. Failure to attend will lose delegate numbers for your candidate. Delegates to Congressional caucuses/ State Convention will be elected at this County Convention. Proposed resolutions will also be discussed. (11)

PEND OREILLE COUNTY DEMOCRATS REMINDER
April 23rd, 10:00 a.m.-noon, Sacheen Fire Station, 6131 Highway 2. Special Guest Amy Dillon, Colville National Forest Revision Team. Learn more about protecting Colville National Forest. Question and answer period. Potluck following. Please bring favorite dish. Beverages, rolls and dinnerware provided. Questions, (509) 710-6493.(11)