

Carson National Forest's Needs to Change Management Direction of Its Existing 1986 Forest Plan

Responses to Comments

Carson National Forest



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The Needs to Change the Carson National Forest's Existing 1986 Forest Plan Responses to Comments from Public Meetings

A need to change paints a picture of the strategic changes necessary to address issues identified by the assessment and present a vision for future management of the Carson National Forest. The overarching question to be answered in developing needs to change statements is:

- What strategic current plan direction needs to be revised (added, modified, or deleted) to address the conditions, trends, and risks?

The needs to change statements developed by the Carson National Forest were presented to forest users and interested citizens for feedback and input in June 2015. The forest held 14 public meetings in communities around the forest, and engaged the public through the [Carson National Forest's website](#). The public was presented with the key risk findings from the [assessment](#) and the [needs to change statements](#), and asked to provide new or alternative management solutions. For the public meetings and to post on the Carson National Forest's website, story boards were created to graphically display key risks, the threats, management considerations, desired conditions, and what solutions there may be to reduce the risks and move toward desired conditions.

Public input was utilized to inform what parts of the forest plan need to be changed. Ultimately, these were summarized in the [Federal Register](#), as a notice of intent (NOI) to prepare an environmental impact statement to develop a revised forest plan. The NOI conveyed the Carson National Forest's intent to develop a revised forest plan (and alternatives) based on identified needs to change and analyze their respective effects on the environment.

The following are Carson National Forest's responses to over 1,300 individual comments. The **bold** numbered text within a box are Need to Change statements that most closely represent the comments listed below the box; however responses may reference other Need to Change statements listed somewhere else in this document.

A. Changes Needed Throughout the Plan

- 1. There is a need within the revised plan to better recognize and enhance the Carson NF's role in contributing to local economies, including service-based sectors such as recreation and tourism, timber and forest products, livestock grazing, and other multiple-use related activities and products.**
- 2. There is a need to reevaluate the number, arrangement, boundaries, and plan direction related to the current forest plan management areas, to minimize complexity and allow more flexibility for restoration and habitat treatments. Language in the plan should be more strategic than prescriptive, identifying quantifiable objectives and project standards and guidelines that will move toward desired conditions.**
- 3. There is a need to include plan direction that allows for adaptive management, to address potential climate change effects.**
- 4. There is need to include management approaches within the revised plan that will allow for adapting to fluctuations in forest budgets over the life of the plan when planning towards desired conditions.**

5. **There is a need to include management approaches within the revised plan that considers the capacity of local infrastructure, contractors, and markets, when planning towards desired conditions.**
6. **There is a need to include management approaches within the revised plan that utilize partnership and volunteer opportunities as a management option, to promote movement toward desired conditions.**
7. **There is a need to develop plan direction related to Forest Service acquisitions, disposals, and exchanges that are not covered by the existing forest plan.**

General Comments and Responses

1. *There is a need to better recognize and enhance the role of the Carson NF in contributing to local economies, including service-based sectors such as recreation and tourism, timber, and other multiple-use related activities and products.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

2. *There is a need for the sustainable management of uses – such that today’s uses do not come at the cost of future opportunity.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements B.1, B.2, B.7, B.8, B.10, B.12, B.13, B.15, B.16, C.6, C.7, C.8, and C.9.

3. *Multiple allowed uses in the forest, many of which are in conflict, e.g. ranching vs. motorized rec. solution: designated uses only, in specified areas. Degradation of infrastructure, solution more user fees.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and A.5.

4. *Managing and maintaining healthy, stable systems (forest, riparian zones).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements A.2-7 and in section B.

5. *Promoting healthy/sustainable practices in their use – be it recreation, grazing, angling, forests.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements B.1, B.2, B.7, B.8, B.10, B.12, B.13, B.15, B.16, C.6, C.7, C.8, and C.9.

6. *There is a need for the sustainable management of uses – such that today’s uses do not come at the cost of future opportunity.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements B.1, B.2, B.7, B.8, B.10, B.12, B.13, B.15, B.16, C.6, C.7, C.8, and C.9.

7. *There is a need for more flexible management across the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements A.2, A.3, A.4, B.4, and B.19.

8. *In practice we have observed that increased flexibility on the part of land management agencies often leads to inaction or worse, action that results in damages to natural resources. While we understand that the desire for more flexibility comes from the desire to be nimble and responsive to emerging issues, in practice flexibility can result in less*

effective land management. We would like to see this call for more flexibility effectively balanced against risks that increased flexibility can bring.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements A.2, A.3, A.4, B.4, and B.19.

9. *The CNF to implement and manage all of these focus points such that it provides a mosaic of habitat for multiple species/purposes. The default for management is uniformity which confers predictability. Management should allow for some level of chaos and destruction.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements B.1, B.2, and B.19.

10. *The plan needs to account for budget reductions and the anticipated increase in social welfare programs removing the ability to fund the agency at adequate levels.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.4.

11. *One question not answered is the how to leverage monies and get the most work done. I offer the following suggestion; follow the rivers and creeks leaving the forest boundary. Locate the communities, towns, and cities located on those rivers and creeks. Contact each and every one with a message saying a portion of your water supply comes from the Carson NF. We need your direct help if possible and indirect help in locating groups/volunteers that would be willing to come and work on the forest to move the vegetation toward desired conditions. Emphasis on water yield and an outdoor experience would be a selling point. Focusing on groups located in or adjacent to the Carson leads to "pet" projects. Expand the horizon looking to other areas across the state. Philmont scouts could construct trails on the Valle Vidal or eastern portions of the Questa Ranger District for example. Use of scouts and other similar organizations including Royal Ranger/Royal Ambassadors for example could give additional help. A dedicated individual for the forest seeking volunteer groups across the state especially from communities receiving water from the Carson would be an asset.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

12. *Increased clear cut, patch cut sizes allowable to meet restoration objectives in a mixed severity and stand replacing fire regime types for mechanical treatments for natural fire.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.4, and B.5.

13. *Budgetary constraints are a big limiting factor, how do we move forward with rapid restoration with declining budget.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.4.

14. *How do we preserve the identity/values of rural communities when there are few economic opportunities? We have a lot of restoration work, how do we put people to work and prevent loss of identity? Moving forward, we need to use stewardship authority goods for services, find value in what we have to generate income.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

15. *If the forest is to be kept in the desired condition it's important to remember or find out how it was maintained/used in the past. Keeping in mind that none of our ideas of the stable ecosystems were ever without humans. Controlled burns, selective forestry as a revenue and restoration for the uncluttered forest system. Removal of undergrowth.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1.

16. *The plan document, draft assessment, a more readable document. I tried to read it but it was too academic.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.2.

17. *Ecological health – based on soil potential. Forest assessment expressed in least complex manner in order to calibrate opinions.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.2.

18. *Comprehensive and systematic thinning of forest to achieve multiple goals: forest restoration i.e. healthy forest, fire mitigation, healthy under story which can feed wildlife, healthy under story which resists erosion and top soil health and retains moisture.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1 and B.2.

19. *There is a need to make the website user friendly and tailored to specific needs and uses. Ex. Step by step by step instructions to be able to collect minerals.*

Response: This is a management approach.

20. *There is a need to propose a bill to raise taxes to 1¢ to every \$200 on items excluding food and medicine.*

Response: This is outside the Forest Service authority.

21. *And have a ranger live onsite to prevent littering et cet.*

Response: This is a management approach.

22. *A plan to limit development to maintain natural and wild area, while achieving the most efficient and functional use of existing use areas. Maybe map unofficial land uses like social trails to better manage them.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.2.

23. *Categorical exclusions/reduced NEPA burden for proven techniques applied in new areas;*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (National Environmental Protection Act).

24. *(Comment continued) education of the public about ongoing efforts to restore ephemeral/intermittent streams;*

Response: This is a role or contribution.

25. *(Comment continued) evaluation of the effectiveness of existing rock and log and gabion basket structures.*

Response: This would be addressed as part of a monitoring program.

26. *Collecting information regarding why people hike in CNF and building trails and other infrastructure to meet those needs/interests.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 or may be a management approach.

27. *Enforcement, confined to high impact. More 4-wheelers limited to certain areas. Horses limited to one of Valle Vidal campgrounds. Open ___ Ponds. Expand volunteers.*

Response: These are proposed or possible actions, or are addressed by need to change statement A.6.

28. *Identify the future needs for revising the forest plan: structure plans for the next revision in the current revision; identify a specific timeline for the future; encourage assessment of goals throughout the implementation of the forest plan.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR Part 219)).

29. *Increasing usage of CNF and in turn increasing public outreach and volunteerism.*

Response: Increasing usage is mostly outside the scope of forest plan revision, or is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

30. *More resources for FS staff to restore and protect the natural resources in the forest. The FS should receive a larger share of the federal budget.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

31. *Vast tracts of wilderness where veterans can regularly go for peace and quiet and solace and serenity and immerse themselves in nature's proven ability to heal the human soul and give comfort as needed. Being immersed in a natural system is therapeutic and beneficial.*

Response: This is a role or contribution.

32. *Also a healthy forest ecosystem can help mitigate the effects of climate change, which can only be expected to grow and make life on the planet increasingly tenuous and difficult.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

33. *Fuelwood needs for aging communities. Partner with local communities in a collaborative way.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

34. *Habitat improvement. Dredging trout lakes for habitat improvement – parking issues too.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

35. *Prescriptive guidelines for issuing special use permits. Burned area rehabilitation. Is that the responsibility of the FS? More salvage operations. Road closures.*

Response: These are management approaches.

36. *FS to establish relationships with private land owners adjacent to the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

37. *Identify criteria forest wide to help decide which areas are priorities for treatment.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

38. *Specific language included in all facets of the new plan addressing areas adjacent to the wilderness where management would affect the wilderness either directly or indirectly.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.2.

39. *Wilderness specific language included in all aspects of wilderness management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.17 and C.18.

40. *Tio Gordito restoration project – no adaptive management strategy in forest plan, particularly regarding species of conservation concern.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.2, B.15, and B.19.

B. Ecological Changes

Vegetation

1. **There is a need to develop desired conditions regarding forest and woodland structure, composition, and function, as well as objectives, standards, and guidelines that will promote restoration and achievement of desired conditions, support resiliency and sustainability, and minimize risks to ecosystem integrity.**
2. **There is a need to update plan direction that promotes the restoration and maintenance of grass productivity, particularly native bunchgrass species, and to limit woody species encroachment and invasive plant establishment, both in grasslands and non-grasslands.**
3. **There is a need to update plan direction that supports integrated pest (weed) management.**
4. **There is a need to update plan direction that allows for an integrated resource approach to prescribed fire activity, as well as the flexibility for restoration and maintenance of ecosystems.**
5. **There is a need to update plan direction that promotes the use of wildland fire (management of wildfire and prescribed fire) in fire adapted ecosystems, while addressing public safety and health concerns, especially in the Wildland Urban Interface.**
6. **There is a need to update plan direction to promote aspen health and resilience through managing regeneration (i.e. the use wildland fire or other disturbance) and existing stands.**

Vegetation Comments and Responses

41. *There is a need to identify forest restoration strategies for each vegetation type over the course of the plan timeframe.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action or a management approach.

42. *There is a need to develop objectives, standards and guidelines that will result in retention and recruitment of old growth forest structure and large, old trees.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1.

43. *A return to an historically appropriate level of vegetation – define appropriate levels of vegetation by area; reduce/control grazing levels in areas where grass needs to return; introduce grass foragers in areas with existing (excessive?) grass; prescribed burns in areas*

with excessive grass and woody shrubs to allow trees to return; reseeding grass and destroying woody shrubs.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1 and B.2.

44. *Management within wilderness where it is no longer within the natural range of variability.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.17 and C.18 and is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (Wilderness Act, 2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]).

45. *Managing natural vegetation succession to achieve desired conditions. Is natural succession a desired condition and under what if any constraints (?) Note: conifer is portrayed as an invasive species to aspen stands when in reality aspen stands are expected to decline over time as conifers become more dominant. That is the natural expression of vegetation succession absent outside management actions.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1.

46. *Note: many areas of wilderness are outside their natural range of variability in structure and components due to past fire suppression prior to wilderness designation. It would be good to be able to address this issue with the goal to bring it within the expected wilderness desired condition and then allow normal wilderness forces of change to occur without outside influence. Note: some of these wilderness areas pose threats to community watersheds and infrastructure if they were to burn, and eventually they will. So solution #2 as presented needs to address wilderness from the public safety aspect.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, C.17, C.18, and is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (Wilderness Act, 2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]).

47. *Healthy forest is an open forest. Present condition is overcrowded. Not enough \$ for thinning. Higher cost to doing nothing. Sage and PJ encroachment on grasslands. Invasive weeds post fire.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.2, and B.3.

48. *Management with forests to move towards desired conditions. Flexible management across all forest types. Use appropriate management where needed and most appropriate. Ties into riparian health/aspen/climate/fire. Fire adapted systems – PIPO? Mixed Conifer?*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.2 and B.1.

49. *Removal of overstory trees, thin out, reduce stock ivy. Restore meadows by using/finding old tree remains and use as original boundaries of meadows (harvest trees). Use old aerial photography to approximate size of meadows. Use prescribed fire to burn sagebrush overgrown areas. Preserve some sagebrush grass areas for wildlife. Move PJ areas low ponderosa pine to savannah conditions. Harvest trees as firewood.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1, B.2, B.4 and B.5.

50. *There is a need to have a professional company involved in thinning forest. Local wood gatherers consistently litter and tear up forest making 4x4 roads to gather firewood. They also leave all the scrap wood and do not seem to clean up the forest enough to prevent fires. Professionals have been involved with thinning the forest. They stay on marked trails and seem to have the forest health as a priority. Various grants have enabled landowners*

to thin their forest for no cost and professionally done. I would like to see the forest completed in a similar manner. Need mechanized thinning!!

Response: This is a management approach.

51. *There is a need to thin the forest and have the ability to make it happen.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.6.

52. *Develop flexible working relationships with volunteers, volunteer organizations, and special interest groups.*

Response: This is a management approach.

53. *There is a need to allow thinning and to allow the public to gather the product.*

Response: This address by need to change statement A.1.

54. *Remove some areas from travel management restrictions temporarily to harvest fuelwood where fuel wood concentrations are high.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (Travel Management Rule 36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261,295). Roads can be temporarily reopened to harvest fuelwood through a separate NEPA analysis.

55. *Dense canopy – juniper overgrown, pine stands and piñon doesn't let grass grow; more thinning projects and burns.*

Response: This is a management approach.

56. *Continue to use fire employees for thinning projects and prescribed burns.*

Response: This is a management approach.

57. *There is a need for more thinning in dense areas that will provide for better grass production.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1 and B.2.

58. *Maybe start by using Philmont Scout Ranch to thin sections of land and use the timber for firewood on Philmont Scout Ranch. This would be slow but a good start.*

Response: This is a management approach.

59. *PJ density – thinning. From my experience with the Hondo fire, the density of PJ is not healthy.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1

60. *It needs to be opened for thinning and/or controlled burn.*

Response: This is a management approach.

61. *Taking into account invasive woody species that consume an extreme amount of water and other woody species that choke out native species to improve sustainability in a drought-prone area like the Valle Vidal, or NM in general. (treatment would include physical removal of those species).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1 and B.2, and treatment is a management approach.

62. *Wooded plants – award additional permits to volunteers that cut wooded trees (long term fix) – allow permitted thinning/logging, introduce shade intolerant trees, controlled burns, scientific research on the optimal growing conditions of both woody plants and grasses.*

Response: This is a management approach.

63. *There is a need to encourage removal of fuel dead trees in a responsible way by a larger group. More reclaiming of grasslands through boy scouts thinning and reseeding.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1 and B.2.

64. *Allow wilderness areas to be cleared by mechanized devices when public safety is threatened.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (Wilderness Act, 2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]).

65. *There is a need to provide public fuel wood.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and C.6.

66. *On the Canjilon RD, thinning, burning leads to more oak growth. Solution: the public wants to cut oak. Should be allowed, but by managing certain areas and sell it so the Carson gets credit for this.*

Response: This is a management approach.

67. *There is a need to continue to use the downed tree program.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

68. *There is a need for more aggressive vegetation management in the form of timber sales that will also generate building better timber infrastructure, better roads, other main issue, and mills. Followed by fire.*

Response: This is a management approach and is addressed by need to change statement in A.1 and A.5.

69. *Clear dead trees and support programs to replant new trees. Visible tree farms have a great impact.*

Response: This is a management approach.

70. *There is need to address meadow encroachment, specifically p/j. Improve wildlife habitat and improve ground cover, soil stability.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2, B.15, and B.19.

71. *There is a need for grassland restoration, and elimination of the encroaching species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.2.

72. *(Comment continued) This can perhaps be achieved through introduction/encouragement of tree browsing species, selective cutting, intensive grass planting.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

73. *Grass cover: competition, over the counter management. Seed with fast growing grass that will overrun our noxious weeds. More thinning in dense areas will provide for better*

grass production and provides public fuel wood. Prescribed burns result in better grass production.

Response: These are management approaches.

74. *Grass cover – A balance between creating and enhancing grass cover, and considerations of natural sagebrush ecosystems dynamics. Essentially if grass cover is given complete preference, then wildlife sagebrush obligate species and late seral plant communities will be negatively affected.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1.

75. *Reseed with native grasses.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

76. *In the transition from woody species to grass monitor what species are coming back – adjust seeding and mixes to encourage successful species vs. less successful – also ensures something grows that may prevent noxious species from moving in/taking over.*

Response: This is a management approach.

Maintain and improve grassland in the piñon zone to what it was before seeding of the 1950s.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1 and B.2.

77. *Replace wood post fences that were installed over 60-65 years ago, barbed wire is also rusted and very brittle.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

78. *There is a need to manage for native grasses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2.

79. *Need to restore grass cover in PJ.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1 and B.2.

80. *There is a need to seed with fast growing grass that will overrun noxious weeds.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

81. *There is a need to promote grass and soil retention.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2 and B.7.

82. *There is a need to manage competition for forage.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7 and C.8.

83. *Find out what the historic footprint of meadows was. Designate cutting area to thin trees and hold water.*

Response: This is a management approach.

84. *Re-seeding after treatment.*

Response: This is a management approach.

85. *Restore SW prairie grasslands through: Working with partnerships: wild turkey federation, quail forever, rocky mtn. elk foundation, mule deer foundation, (state game & fish organizations).*

Response: These are partnership opportunities. Grassland restoration is addressed by need to change statement B.2.

86. *Permits for weed gathering.*

Response: This is a management approach.

87. *Special management consideration needs to be given to all Watch List Species, Class A Species, Class B Species, and Class C Species on the state noxious weed list in counties that overlap the Carson NF in order to limit, and hopefully eradicate, any noxious weeds in New Mexico.*

Response: Weed management is addressed by need to change statement B.3. Defining work across forest boundaries is outside Forest Service Authority but development of mutual management practices is a partnership opportunity.

88. *There is a need to develop plan components that will address the introduction and spread of invasive plants through proactive measures, rather than relying on remediation, mitigation, or removal after establishment has occurred.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

89. *Working together with private landowners and other agencies on reducing invasive populations.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

90. *There is a need to offer more information on invasive species and knowledge of the native species that have been affected by the invasive species. What can the public do to help the native species? Impart the impact to younger generations so that they can help the native species thrive and keep them for their children.*

Response: This is a management approach.

91. *I see weeds everywhere along stream banks and meadows – what is the FS doing to control invasive weeds.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

92. *There is a need for distinction/removal of invasive species*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3

93. *(Comment continued) and need to form partnership to decrease erosion and enhance riparian vegetation along stream banks. Partnerships and collaborative efforts can engage youth groups and others to plant trees.*

Response: These are partnership opportunities and a management approach.

94. *In regards to invasive species – ATV wash station required at heavy ATV use areas.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

95. *There is a need for different ways to combat invasive weeds that need to be allowed: timing grazing; spraying chemicals; manual removal; biological control.*

Response: These are management approaches.

96. *Currently without a chemical option forest is not able to eradicate some species.*

Response: This is a management approach.

97. *Invasive species – expanded options for invasive species control. Options that support the need process for each species, i.e. chemical, mechanical, biological.*

Response: This is a management approach.

98. *There is a need to allow spraying of noxious weeds.*

Response: This is a management approach.

99. *There is a need to reduce invasive species and erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.3 and B.7.

100. *There is a need for flexibility to use of herbicide/pesticide as an economical means of treatment.*

Response: This is a management approach.

101. *There is a need to have a better working relationship with adjacent landowners on reducing the spread and introduction of noxious weeds.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity and a management approach.

102. *Grazing, spraying, coordination of different government entities ... control of invasive species. Application of integrated pest management practices. Chemical, biological, mechanical and cultural methods must all be employed. Collaborate with neighboring landowners/volunteer groups. Final decision notice for invasive species management plan.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3, with examples of management approaches and partnership opportunities.

103. *Eliminate the non-native species, trees/shrubs/grasses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

104. *Different ways to combat invasive weeds that need to be allowed: timing grazing; spraying chemicals; manual removal; biological control.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3, with examples of management approaches.

105. *There is a need to update the plan to acknowledge the important role of fire in sustaining the health of Carson NF ecosystems and incorporate use of prescribed fire and management of natural fire as the primary activity for forest restoration activities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.6.

106. *There is a need to update the plan to acknowledge the important role of fire in sustaining the health of Carson NF ecosystems and incorporate use of prescribed fire and management of natural fire as the primary activity for forest restoration activities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.6.

107. *There is a need to create Public support/collaboration, partnerships, outside funding, integrated work, information sharing, _____, schools to accelerate restoration in frequent fire forest across landscapes.*

Response: These are partnership opportunities.

108. *There is a need for more prescribed burns to reduce dense and overgrown tree stands.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

109. *There is a need to implement more prescribed fire and thinning to create healthier aspen stands and maybe using inmate crews or less expensive options. Aspen, mixed severity, stand replacing fire regime, vegetation types.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

110. *Removal of undergrowth and p____. Controlled burns in order to avoid the economic impact of closing during summer seasons [due to wildfires].*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

111. *There is a need to thin and burn more oak.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

112. *There is a need to let wildfires become prescribed fires, for resources benefit, too costly to thin with hand crews.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.5.

113. *There is a need to have more fuel and fire treatments to help the ecosystem.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.6.

114. *There is a need for control burns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

115. *There is a need for more control burns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

116. *There is a need for large scale prescribed burns where needed.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

117. *There is a need to manage natural ignitions for multiple objectives.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.5.

118. *There is a need for prescribed burns, which will result in better grass production.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

119. *Long term – allow natural forest fires to do their work. Short term – slightly increase logging to thin the canopy and allow new aspens to grow while simultaneously thinning detritus and other fire prone undergrowth.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.6, and a management approach.

120. *Limiting and reversing woody species. Fire removes forest and stimulates aspen sprouting.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.6.

121. *Controlled burns to limit the conifers overtaking the forest canopy. Introduce aspen controlled burns between Questa and Eagle Nest.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

122. *New contracts to introduce control burns.*

Response: This is a management approach.

123. *Management solutions: remove conifer, introduce prescribed fire to the ecosystem.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1, B.4, B.5, and B.6.

124. *NFC Statement: “There is a need for promoting natural and prescribed fire in all ecosystems while addressing public safety and health concerns.” NMDA requests that fuel accumulations in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) be addressed in this NFC Statement.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.5.

125. *There is a need for wildlife urban interface be prioritized and addressed by need to change statement.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.5.

126. *Use coordinated efforts to restore watersheds (already mentioned on boards but very important).*

Response: This is a management approach or partnership opportunity.

127. *Addressing management and ecological restoration in the forest adjacent to WUI and wilderness and specific language in the plan that addresses management practices that would be applied to areas on the forest adjacent to wilderness and WUI areas. Not just fire, but all management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.5. Defining work across forest boundaries is outside Forest Service Authority but development of mutual management practices is a partnership opportunity.

128. *Language that specifically addresses fire and fuels treatment adjacent to wilderness areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.5.

129. *There is a need for accelerated treatments in sagebrush.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1.

130. *Flexibility to use of herbicide/pesticide as an economical means.*

Response: This is a management approach.

131. *Proper use. Address meadow encroachment, specifically p/j.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2.

132. *Improve wildlife habitat*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15 and B.19.

133. *(Comment continued) and improve ground cover, soil stability*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7.

134. *Manage grazing and work in conjunction with NMDGF to more accurately address wildlife pressures which can't be managed solely by USFS.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7, and a management approach.

135. *There is a need for sage mowing, more seeding around communities.*

Response: This is a management approach.

136. *Methods – brush hogging – sagebrush; Dixie harrow, small trees/brush; roller chopping; hydra-axe. Potential obstacles: funding for equipment and personnel; erosion after initial treatment; archeology.*

Response: These are management approaches.

137. *Purpose and goal – improve/increase wildlife habitat.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15 and B.19.

138. *NMSU has a study and plan for long term removal of big sage and salt sage. Maybe able to help FS with long term plan.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

139. *Cut, move or plow back sagebrush lower than they have done in the past. By not doing so, it will have to be done again and again and again, which is a repetition and big waste of tax payer monies.*

Response: This is a management approach.

140. *Sagebrush control - apply the appropriate control and methods for sagebrush ___ monitor diverse grasslands/sagebrush ecosystems. Sagebrush provides important habitat and is a native ecosystem. Mosi__ treatment – heritage treatment.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, and a management approach.

141. *Sagebrush control – allow aerial application of spike.*

Response: This is a management approach.

142. *Work on environmental assessment for Tebuthiuron on sage ecosystems applied aerially.*

Response: This is a management approach.

143. *Work with SWCD's and legislators (capital outlay) on purchasing brush hogs, masticators.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

144. *Archeology surveys for roads, etc., need streamlining.*

Response: This is a management approach.

145. *[Electricity] Co-generation with woody species, is it economically feasible?*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

146. *Thinning forests to capture more H. Possibly using chemical and biological controls to aid in brush management. Using these control wetlands on sagebrush and oak brush management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

147. *Ranching – removing thick brush with mulcher and then plowing before seeding would be a better help for grass seed to germinate and grow at the time when it's rainy season, monsoon. Hardy grasses like crested wheat grass and intermediate wheat grass.*

Response: This is a management approach.

148. *Overgrowth of sage and non-natives. Oil and gas is required to pay or do thinning for every pad built or managed. Areas over eaten by wild horses, study them, recovery of the areas, work to manage numbers for healthy forest. Will areas overeaten by horses grow back with non-native or encroaching trees and shrubs. Look to future to help slow down bad growth before it gets out of control.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.2, B.3, and C.8.

149. *Spray biologicals, BT [Bacillus thuringiensis – pesticide] to control tent caterpillar. Commercial logging of dead stands. Eliminate hand thinning evergreens in young aspen stands.*

Response: These are management approaches.

150. *Brush control, sagebrush – aerial application/reseeding with Tebuthiuron and native grasses.*

Response: These are management approaches.

151. *Bring back grasslands with PJ encroachment.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2.

152. *Revegetation areas should remain in next forest plan. Aerial herbicide application would keep down the sage. Russian broom encroachment. Biological and chemical herbicide application as opposed to mechanical removal. Sagebrush removal.*

Response: These are management approaches.

153. *Brushy undergrowth – grazing coming from big sheep - multiple 1000 head flocks – in Wyoming (sheep eat sage and oak, cattle do not) flocks grazed in summers in Big Horn mtns. Kept grassy meadows open – brush free. Keep chemicals out of forest, use sheep. Poison gets in water for livestock and kills pollinators. Communities who get drinking water from forest.*

Response: These are management approaches.

154. *Limit sagebrush in order to improve the growth and spread of native grasses. Environmental assessments need to be concluded in a more timely manner. Solution: use of a variety of methods such as aerial application, burning, etc. solution: water improvement.*

Response: These are management approaches.

155. *There is a need to maintain high alpine environments for multiple uses;*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (Multiple Use Sustained-Yield Act).

156. *(Comment continued) trails for non-motorized use (differences between motorized and non-motorized labels) don't lump them together all the time.*

Response: This is a management approach.

157. *There is a need to improve and enhance aspen....*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

158. *Thin, burn, build elk barriers to allow saplings to get establishing. May spray pesticides for tent caterpillar. Sanitation burns in aspen stands.*

Response: These are management approaches.

159. *To get more aspen regeneration, in order to get more aspen, we first need to have disturbance events. Either having stand replacing fires in higher elevations / wet mixed conifer forests or clear cuts with under story removal. Secondary problem to aspen is regeneration itself. Aspen are heavily grazed by elk. Elk enclosures or a heavy reduction in elk numbers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6, and management approaches.

160. *Understanding of aspen growth ... aspen forests retain and produce more water than other sites. Habitat provides important habitat for many species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

161. *Using fire as a management tool to control young conifers and encourage aspen regeneration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.6.

162. *Additionally, find natural predators which may control western tent caterpillar. Introducing or managing for these predators would reduce unnecessary mortality of aspen. Enlist the help from those whose vocational or economic interests are associated with aspen and the ecosystems they support, i.e. bird watchers and elk hunters.*

Response: These are management approaches.

163. *Take conifers out of aspen stands.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

164. *There is a need to manage aspen stands for multiple uses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

165. *There is a need to manage aspen stands for natural succession.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

166. *Implementing more prescribed fire and thinning to create healthier aspen stands and maybe using inmate crews or less expensive options.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6, and management approaches.

167. *Can woodcutters help by cutting the dead aspen? Identify aspen stands to be open for fuel cutting.*

Response: This is a management approach.

168. *Expand aspen stands for increased water yield, snow gets to the ground.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

169. *Fence aspen and wet meadows when together to allow a 'sponge' to reestablish itself.*

Response: These are management approaches.

170. *"Rip" around the aspen clone to increase suckering. Spray for tent caterpillar after second year of infestation. Harvest stands by year 80 (stand age) for increased suckering.*

Response: These are management approaches.

171. *Promote aspen regeneration through fire and other disturbance and by managing existing stands.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

172. *Cut down trees that are encroaching into aspen stands to eliminate competition and stimulate new growth.*

Response: These are management approaches.

173. *Introduce fire to areas where aspen exists – this will stimulate new growth.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6, and a management approach.

174. *More aspen across the landscape. Aspen provides wildlife habitat, acts like a sponge to retain water upstream.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

175. *Speed regeneration to provide wildlife habitat, fire resiliency and ecological diversity. Aspen is our 'oasis' on the Carson NF.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.6.

176. *Reduce area grazing.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

177. *Slow aggressive browsing by elk and other species by having hunting and other controls. Introduce controlled disturbance, reduce under story consistently, fence in stands or downed trees, ___ control; introduction of wolves.*

Response: These are management approaches.

178. *To discourage elk grazing, encourage natural enclosures by using conifers as an edge species, the elk won't climb over the conifers.*

Response: This is a management approach.

179. *Grazing competition. Elk, deer – longer season or more game and fish help with project. Planting more grass. Recreation activities. Damage to grass resource.*

Response: These are management approaches.

180. *Work with allotment owners to balance fire and forage needs.*

Response: This is a management approach and partnership opportunity.

181. *Cattle grazing. Reduce the cattle load on Valle Vidal meadow and range land.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

182. *Compare quality of wilderness in VV to adjacent areas where domestic cattle have been eliminated. Increase community outreach to increase volunteer activity.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

183. *Proper grazing management is critical for maintaining perennial grass cover.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2 and C.7.

184. *The problem has been identified in the assessment with the interaction between livestock and wildlife, primarily elk, USFS should partner with NMGF and the grazing allottees to establish and manage for proper carrying capacity. Regional meeting to include all three parties and the community as a whole.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

185. *Restrictions on commercial grazing will allow fair and equal access to resources. The conservation of erosion, preventing ground cover, and removal of detrimental invasive species.*

Response: This is a management approach.

186. *Tree rotation, undergrowth management. Very high fines which would be spent locally.*

Response: These are management approaches.

187. *Continue to fund and use partners to fund habitat improvement projects.*

Response: These are management approaches.

188. *No continuity between program leads and project employees, not given opportunity to do monitoring prior to implementation.*

Response: These are management approaches.

189. *Use more monitoring to determine if treatments are successful or not; if not, do not continue with ineffective treatments.*

Response: This would be addressed as part of monitoring program.

190. *Boy scouts and other community groups allowed access to FS areas to perform projects, e.g. Eagle Projects, etc. adopt a forest idea.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

Soils

7. There is a need to update plan direction to promote the maintenance and restoration of soil condition and function (i.e., soil hydrology, soil stability, nutrient cycling), particularly in lower elevation systems. Plan management approaches should focus on reducing the amount of exposed soil by restoring and maintaining sufficient vegetative cover, including downed woody material.

Soils Comments and Responses

191. *There is a need to manage multiple uses to protect and enhance soil resources.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7.

192. *There is a need to restore impaired soil resources where they occur.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7.

193. *There is a need to increase soil nutrients.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7.

194. *There is a need to improve soil condition.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7.

195. *Improved soil condition – continue to use downed tree program.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7 and a management approach.

196. *There is a need to accelerate natural decomposition to break down unwanted vegetation, use composting, add worms to soil.*

Response: This is a management approach.

197. *There is a need to reduce erosion, head cuts, incision. Repair head cuts, channel incision, reconnect floodplain.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7, B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

198. *Multipurpose uses, combine uses, i.e. grazing for range health, firewood for range health, tree spacing for water infiltration.*

Response: These are management approaches.

199. *Using this as an opportunity to teach about soils – 2015 soils year. Everything is based on the ground-carrying capacity for humans/authorized livestock/wildlife population, elk.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

200. *Current poster has recreation as the solutions for soils. Does recreation alone really cause the threats portrayed? Nope! Rather, solutions might be: collaboration with other agencies to eliminate invasive species. Replanting of native species. More focus on eliminating*

unauthorized roads. Focus on roads needing maintenance rather than those not in so much need.

Response: This is a management approach and/or a partnership opportunity.

201. *More enforcement, legal penalties for unauthorized road use.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

202. *There is a need to gate or sign closed roads to avoid tearing up roads and more degradation by the public.*

Response: This is a management approach.

203. *Need to try to educate public about how bad our soil erosion is, and how their activities impact soils – ATV travel, off road travel, shed hunting, etc.*

Response: This is a management approach and/or a partnership opportunity.

204. *If recreation is the problem, better management by providing areas appropriate to the user group and resource.*

Response: This is a management approach.

205. *Recreation is the problem? Grazing and lack of road maintenance are the main problems.*

Response: The 2015 Carson NF Assessment Report of Ecological, Social, and Economic Conditions, Trends, and Sustainability indicate findings to the contrary in some areas.

206. *Improve signage and better educate the public as to where they can drive.*

Response: This is a management approach.

207. *Manage water to reduce erosion and promote grass and soil retention.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2, B.7, B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

208. *Maintaining the health of soil systems by restructuring or re-planning water drainages with intentionality.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7, B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

209. *Erosion – larger scale, more aggressive approach: Head cuts, stream banks, ground cover, legacy load issues, noxious weeds, dense canopies ____ sage, runoff, infiltration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statements B.3, B.7, B.11, B.12, B.13, B.14 and C.20.

210. *Need to work on stopping some of the large arroyo cuts by using smaller cheaper methods of erosion control on the smaller arroyos leading to the larger ones – use seasonals or temps.*

Response: This is a management approach.

211. *Unstable soils are a tremendous threat to cultural resources – not identified on board.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.7, C.1 and C.2.

212. *Erosion, maintaining plant healthy life to minimize. More productive, seeding, fertilizing. Fear of losing pasture to adverse conditions. Figure out ways to keep illegal, unwanted traffic through there.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2, B.7 and C.7.

213. *There is a need to seed areas with native grasses, that are not too water dependent.*

Response: This is a management approach.

214. *Controlling the spread and success of invasive species, which rob soil nutrients in valuable riparian zones.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

215. *Increase soil quality and decreased erosion – reintroduce native grasses and scrub with complex and deep root structures; target invasive species that kill or overpower native vegetation; utilize volunteers for erosion control projects; use grazing that concentrates on invasives (goats, highly successful); target thistle and leafy spurge.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2 and B.7 and management approaches.

216. *To reduce invasive species and erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3 and B.7.

217. *There is a need to maintain vegetation diversity to manage soil resources.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.2 and B.7

218. *There is a need for the FS to provide guidelines and guidance/reference library for appropriate grasses ground covers etc. to be seeded after damage such as flood erosion.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

219. *Plant flame retardant, deep rooting plants. ‘Christmas trees’ in the streams to slow water and cattle sediment.*

Response: These are management approaches.

220. *Controlling native grass species, keep out invasive species, and educate the public on unauthorized roads.*

Response: These are management approaches.

221. *Manage for average dry year carrying capacity including wildlife, rotational razing of grazing leases increases litter and basal cover of plants. Adjust animal units to match forage production annually. Utilize rotational grazing for livestock.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7 and a management approach.

222. *Interagency partnerships; such as partnership with NMED, county, BLM and industry. Grant funding sources can be leveraged to do more on the ground projects and less ‘planning.’ Implementation is critical to demonstrate the social, cultural and economic benefits to the lay person. Projects could include erosion control projects such as*

reseeding, elimination of noxious weeds and road improvements, including elimination of excess roads.

Response: These are partnership opportunities and management approaches.

223. *More public./private/NGO partnerships that encourage and provide opportunities for private entrepreneurs to effect restoration on the CNF. E.g., Carson NF, forest guardians, trout unlimited, private contractors, riparian contractors, loggers, sawmills, forest product businesses, municipalities that use water from watershed, e.g. Santa Fe, Abq.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

Riparian and Wetlands

8. **There is a need to provide plan direction that promotes the protection, restoration and maintenance of appropriate composition and amount of riparian vegetation.**
9. **There is a need to provide plan direction regarding management of riparian areas around all lakes, perennial and intermittent streams, and wetlands.**
10. **There is a need to provide plan direction that promotes the protection, restoration, and maintenance of wetland condition and function.**

Riparian and Wetlands Comments and Responses

224. *Riparian systems in NE NM have been historically impacted by beaver trapping, roads, railroads, farming and grazing. Restoring healthy riparian systems will make the entire ecosystem more resilient. Returning woody vegetation to the riparian systems will provide the habitat for beavers, which are a keystone species. Solution; ideas a) reducing over grazing by elk and livestock is critical (i.e. proper carry capacity); currently elk are the largest impact and numbers should be reduced in conjunction with NMGF; b) exclosures can be effective but require funding and usually volunteers which can be a challenge.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.8, B.9, B.10 and partnership opportunities.

225. *Riparian surveys should be conducted more regularly on riparian vegetation ecosystem characteristics.*

Response: This would be addressed as part of a monitoring program.

226. *There is a need to identify and prioritize protection and restoration of riparian ecosystems that provide climate change resiliency.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3, B.8, and B.9.

227. *There is a need for restoring and maintaining appropriate composition and amount of riparian vegetation and channel morphology in the plan area.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.8, B.9.

228. *There is a need for riparian buffers to protect other resources, especially wildlife.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.9.

229. *There is a need to form partnerships to decrease erosion and enhance riparian vegetation along stream banks. Partnerships and collaborative efforts can engage youth groups and others, planting trees.*

Response: These are management approaches.

230. *Fence existing riparian areas (need dollars, partners).*

Response: is a management approach.

231. *There is a need for managing disturbance from activities and providing direction regarding riparian management around all lakes, perennial and intermittent streams, and open water wetlands while ensuring access to legally owned water rights (grazing permittees).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.9 and B.13.

232. *Introduce shade intolerant trees on the border of streams so that the root systems will stabilize the banks and catch sediment.*

Response: This is a management approach.

233. *Divert streams/rivers in a more contoured system and get plants and trees that will hold the soil.*

Response: This is a management approach.

234. *Slow down rivers and streams to control erosion, flooding, and sediment control.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11 and B.14.

235. *Utilize volunteers to reduce the PJ in riparian areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

236. *Reducing erosion, channel incision, head cutting, bad roads. Repair incisions and head cuts, reconnect flood plain. Retire bad roads. Utilize land uses to achieve watershed goals, grazing, wood collecting, road closures.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11 and B.14, and management approaches.

237. *There is a need to mitigate river pollution (headwaters, streams, acequias) – consistent ____ mitigation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.14.

238. *Watersheds need protected so water is clean, especially in small communities. better water. Good quality. Clean out dead trees that are stopping the flow of the water. Most sit on land grants and get them involved and protect them. meet with acequia groups, they are the blood of ...*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11, B.13 and B.14, management approaches, and partnership opportunities.

239. *Better upstream attention, there have been past and are current river projects to improve the habitat (plant, bug and fish) w/in the rivers yet no one is addressing the continued*

upstream issues, i.e. bitter creek muddies the whole downstream efforts. We need to address upstream issues that counteract projects and money spent downstream.

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

240. *There is a need for identifying and designating headwater wetlands to protect and restore water resource resiliency in a changing climate.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

241. *Please ensure maintenance of these wet meadows includes the aspen stands around the meadows.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

242. *Any fencing needs to include the wet areas and their water source the aspen stands.*

Response: This is a management approach.

243. *Identification and restoration of at-risk high elevation wet meadows before road cutting/erosion degrades them, partnerships with Quivira, NMENV, COE, UT, Philmont SR, etc. may help.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.10, and a partnership opportunity.

244. *Protecting the wetland systems in the Valle Vidal. Wetlands are essential for providing cold stream flow in the face of climate change.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.10 and C.18.

245. *The forest plan should identify and specifically designate wetlands in the VV.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

246. *Restoration, conservation of wetland ecosystems, water is vital to maintain the forest ecosystems.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.9 and B.10.

247. *Solutions: Identify threatened wetland areas and restore and protect them. Water monitoring for pollution, sediment, habitat loss. Buffer zones from development, grazing, drainage, etc. Citizen groups and stewardship programs to be responsible for protecting wetland areas. Restoration projects through plantings etc. ATV trails away from wetland areas, designated areas.*

Response: These are proposed and possible actions, management solutions and partnership opportunities.

248. *Restoration, protection, conservation. Wetlands are vital to the ecosystems of the forest*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.3, B.9 and B.10.

249. *(Comment continued) continued and should be given priority for protection and conservation. Wetlands conservation is particularly important in the face of climate change. The loss of vital water systems would mean the loss of species vital to the environment.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.3, B.9 and B.10.

250. *Solutions: conserve and protect wetland areas. Control development, encroachment. Monitor water quality. Citizen involvement, citizen groups. Restoration of damaged areas, plantings, etc. Employ buffer zones.*

Response: These are management approaches.

251. *Healthy wetland systems in the CNF to protect stream flow in a changing climate.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.3, B.10 and C.18.

252. *We can get there by protecting all 8 priority wetlands gems as identified by Amigo Bravos. All wetlands on the Carson should be protected by standard management practices. The wetlands in the gem areas should be given extra protection and restoration priority through a special designation.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

253. *Problem: floods, drought, PJ encroachment, head cut and sedimentation, climate change. Solutions: protect and restore headwater wetlands.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.3, B.10 and B.14.

254. *8 wetland "gems" have been identified by Amigos Bravos – interactive pdf at www.amigosbravos.org; 4 of these gems are in Questa district. Wetlands provide resiliency from climate change. Wetlands help reduce floods by storing water and reduce droughts by releasing water that's been stored during times of need. Protect wet meadows.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.9 and B.10.

255. *There is a need to protect wet meadows through fencing of existing riparian areas (dollars, partners).*

Response: This is a management approach.

256. *Protect riparian areas from roads and livestock grazing. They are home to threatened and endangered species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8 and B.9.

257. *A way to monitor human impact on riparian /aquatic environments, possibly by re-routing roads/trails to maintain a balance between humans and the environment. Determining if roads/trails are actually needed by then simply removing them from the map/blocking entrances can help restore the system/prevent major problems.*

Response: This is a management approach.

258. *Allow grazers to supply water in such a way as to keep or limit ungulates – cows – away from streams.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.7.

259. *Keep (introduce) the wolf to keep animals out of riparian areas.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

260. *There is a need for better manage grazing in riparian areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.7.

261. *Develop water sources upslope, shorter duration of grazing in riparian areas, harden water gaps.*

Response: These are management approaches.

262. *Bring NMDG&F to the table.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

263. *Better manage grazing in riparian areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.7.

264. *Develop water sources up slope, shorter duration of grazing in riparian areas, 'harder' water gaps.*

Response: These are management approaches.

265. *Start/continue MIMS (multiple indicator monitoring).*

Response: This is a management approach used as part of a monitoring program.

266. *Buffer guidance: riparian buffers protect other resources, especially wildlife.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8.

267. *HSP [Habitat Stamp Program]: thinning issues with budget deadlines between state and FS hinders the ability to use habitat stamp money.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision and /or Forest Service Authority.

268. *Being able to let wildfires become prescribed fires, for resources benefit, too costly to thin with hand crews.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.5, and a management approach.

269. *Streams and acequias managed properly for multiple uses: wildlife, livestock, recreation, public water supplies. Manage watershed condition to maintain and promote water retention. Mechanical thinning followed by prescribed fire or natural fires can restore forests and habitat to healthier conditions.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.13 and B.14, and a management approach.

270. *Build high fenced riparian enclosures and plant riparian species, i.e. willows, cottonwoods, shrubs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

271. *Build stream barbs, invasive species removal (salt cedar / Russian olive).*

Response: This is a management approach.

272. *Remove livestock from riparian areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

273. *The FS to be willing to examine whether grazing is appropriate in all places. Management solution: The FS should keep removing cattle from certain areas in their toolbox. (doesn't seem to be included in tool box at all under current management).*

Response: This is a management approach.

274. *Create water sources and forage away from riparian areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

275. *Have less livestock.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

276. *Regular repair and maintenance of livestock fencing and monitoring of riparian areas.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action and part of the monitoring program.

277. *Control elk population so that riparian areas are better protected.*

Response: This is outside the Forest Service authority.

278. *Reintroduce the wolf! To help control elk populations and change elk behavior.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

279. *Beaver reintroduction/education via NMDGF and outreach programs.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action and a partnership opportunity.

280. *There is a need to reintroduce beaver and to have beaver education via NMDGF and outreach programs.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action and a partnership opportunity.

281. *Perhaps beavers - I have been told they were indigenous, they build dams and can potentially eat conifers.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

282. *Excessive use, impacts on watershed areas. Habitat restoration. More FS employees in the field, education, signage.*

Response: These are management approaches.

283. *Establish campsites with fire pits and other features 50-100' from water sources, so that campers will be more likely to concentrate their impact away from the riparian ecosystems.*

Response: This is a management approach.

284. *Limit recreational use, limit grazing or use rotational grazing in these areas. Introduce beavers to provide natural dams to promote species recovery in the riparian / aquatic habitats. Control invasive species, such as plants.*

Response: These are proposed or possible actions and management approaches.

285. *More staff to prevent cattle degrading stream banks.*

Response: This is a management approach.

286. *Invasive species management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.3.

Infrastructure to prevent severe flood damage;

Response: This is a management approach.

287. *(Comment continued) conservation of plants that prevent erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.7.

288. *Create areas where people are attracted to dispersed camping.*

Response: This is a management approach.

289. *Heavy dispersed camping, livestock grazing, placement of roads are impacting riparian areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8 and B.9.

290. *Move livestock away from water/riparian areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

291. *Reducing the amount of human impact by reducing activities in areas; educating people on the effects of human impact on riparian areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

292. *Manage excessive recreational use.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.9.

293. *Animal grazing too close to streams destroys stream paths, creating erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8, B.9.

294. *Proper management of water resources and providing for all recreational uses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.13.

295. *Inspections and repairs, i.e. 'old pass road'.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

296. *Educate visitors.*

Response: This is a management approach.

297. *Do a better job of educating the public about stabilizing stream banks, with plants, grass, trees, rock, etc. Planting trees that produce berries to attract birds and other wildlife. By*

educating everyone maybe the stream banks won't be destroyed. The shade from willow trees will help the aquatic habitat and maintain the fish population. More restoration projects.

Response: These are management approaches.

298. *Have free forums to teach people how to work on land management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

299. *Priority to restore environments and special habitat. Wider environmental education, always a good thing. Experiences and education about the Atchafayla Swamp Basin opened my eyes to that very important ecosystem just a few hours from me. Environmental awareness is extremely important to the sustainability of my national forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

300. *There is a need for flood and stream management, and management of invasive species through water management, promoting regrowth through school partnership program (biology, botany education) that helps through volunteer programs to help replant?*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.3 and B.14, and a partnership opportunity.

301. *Invasive species – maybe bring in some goats, maybe spray these areas.*

Response: These are proposed or possible actions.

302. *Fish dams, not fish poison – we know how well that worked in the VV a few years back.*

Response: This is a management approach.

303. *Higher licensing*

Response: This is outside Forest Service authority.

304. *(Comment continued) and permitting fees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

Water and Watersheds

- 11. There is a need to provide plan direction for the restoration of watersheds.**
- 12. There is a need to provide plan direction for the sustainable management of water resources (e.g. groundwater, springs, wetlands, riparian areas, perennial waters) and their interconnections.**
- 13. There is a need to update plan direction on managing for sustainable watersheds for multiple uses (e.g. wildlife, livestock, recreation, and mining) and public water supplies.**
- 14. There is a need to update plan direction to promote desired watershed conditions that maintain water quality and quantity, as well as enhance retention.**

Water and Watersheds Comments and Responses

305. *Private property rights need to be protected, including water rights and the ability of water rights holders to freely access that water putting it to beneficial use. Denial of access to legally held water rights by USFWS or USFS by the enclosure of livestock from riparian areas without the development of upland watering facilities located in close proximity to the enclosure site(s) to enable the continued use of affected pastures within grazing allotments could result in regulatory taking.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (FSM 2540 Water Uses and Development, Regional Supplement No. 2500-2001-1).

306. *NMDA requests the Carson NF rephrase the statement, “managing for sustainable water supply for multiple uses (wildlife, livestock, recreation, mining) and public water supplies” to account for the fact that it is the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer that manages water supply and uses – not the USFS. The Carson NF manages many aspects of watershed health and can work to conserve and protect water sources, but the actual management of water quantity is a state right.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.13.

307. *There is a need for more water.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

308. *Preserve what water resources we have.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.12 and B.14.

309. *There is a need for managing watershed conditions to promote and maintain water retention.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.14.

310. *Water: affecting our watersheds, try to hold back water as much as possible to retain water in earthen tanks and channel water from roads to maintain water flows w/in natural drainage.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.14, and management approaches.

311. *Improve water storage, availability. Need to know what exists, where it is, what we are doing with it now.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.14.

312. *Resilience of watershed to store water. Follow the wetland strategies of Amigos Bravos. Need more burns to relieve dead and fallen accumulation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.4, B.5.

313. *Encourage community based forestry that focuses on small diameter timber.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.1, C.6.

314. *Protect riparian areas from grazing damage – more stock tanks, better fence maintenance, ranchers with allotment, more __, beaver relocation.*

Response: This is a management approach.

315. *Drainage problem that floods highway and fills river with mud. Possible reservoir to contain water and release slowly.*

Response: This is a management approach.

316. *There is a need to manage water to reduce erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.7 and B.14.

317. *Managing for flood and conditions (erosion events, etc.) as water availability decreases, we can at least make sure our water systems are healthy.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

318. *Speaking on the threat of head cut and sedimentation, we would suggest using cut trees (I use cedar back home) to nail into the stream bank. This strategy breaks water momentum and collects sediment leading to reduction in erosion and more usable water. Plant deep rooting riparian vegetation.*

Response: These are management approaches.

319. *Understanding, mitigating and reversing the unsustainable impacts that people have made on the streams.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

320. *In particular, the deep incising of streams such as in Whiteman Vega and Seally Canyon. Prioritizing these issues would be a major improvement.*

Response: Prioritizing specific project locations is outside the scope of the revised forest plan.

321. *A reduction in erosion effects on streams, so as to reduce warming. Stabilize banks by planting vegetation, e.g. willows. Disperse grazing animals so that damage to streams does not occur at specific locations.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14, and management approaches.

322. *Arroyo erosion. Pine trees in arroyos to catch sediment and fill arroyos starting from the bottom up.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14, and a management approach.

323. *Protect the watershed from future development, i.e. roads, timber, mining (wilderness, special management areas).*

Response: This is a management approach.

324. *Protect watersheds – not building homes and sewer system, high mountain, snow areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

325. *Restoring and protecting our watersheds, clean and plentiful supplies of water will become increasingly important. We must identify and restore and protect these areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

326. *Providing plan direction to restore priority watersheds,*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

327. *(Comment continued) improve road crossing like bridges over streams, decreasing sedimentation, decrease recreation use, seasonal use. Introducing beavers to create wetlands and decrease sedimentation downstream. Regulated camping near waterways.*

Response: These are management approaches.

328. *Better watershed management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11, B.12, B.13 and B.14.

329. *Involve the community to help clean watersheds. Community depends on clean drinking water. Engage land grants and acequia communities, form partnerships to accomplish shared goals. Education in high schools.*

Response: These are partnership opportunities.

330. *Thinning and watershed protection ... from San Cristóbal to Deer Mesa. To maintain a healthy forest; a buffer for wildland fire; protection of watersheds which provide both water for acequia and domestic use; weirs to measure water flow in streams for multiple purposes.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

331. *Thinning to harvest more water for community and agricultural use. Stop requiring permits for acequias to work on ditches, creeks, beaver dams and head gates on USFS land. Interagency coordination to identify solution, i.e. ____, NEPA permitting. Landscapes require planning (streamlining). Use habitat stamp and Pitman Roberson funds to develop water.*

Response: These are management approaches.

332. *Thinning the forest of dead and down trees both sides of Highway 150 from the bottom of the canyon up to TSV and beyond.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

333. *Canvassing the campgrounds is important and maintaining the sanitary facilities is most important.*

Response: This is a management approach, and is addressed by need to change statement by C.9.

334. *Protection of watershed.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.13 and B.14.

335. *Solution: more thinning; develop more partners for riparian restoration.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

336. *Forest thinning around watershed and plan for erosion control post fire. Maintenance of riparian areas and riparian vegetation to control/minimize sedimentation in waterways. Retention ponds to control runoff/sedimentation into the waterways.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8 and B.9, and management approaches.

337. *Comprehensive stream data management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

338. *Measurement in our watersheds for both climatic records as well as potential use for acequias, domestic water and natural stream and riparian health.*

Response: The assessment (2015) documents watersheds and runoff information.

339. *Construct weirs at outlets of forest streams before downstream use begins.*

Response: This is a management approach.

340. *There is a need to identify and mitigate the causes contributing to non-attainment of surface water quality standards.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.14.

341. *Addressing the many streams on FS land that are not meeting water quality standards.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.14.

342. *There is a need to better inventory the specific causes of impairment in each impaired stream segment on the Carson.*

Response: This is a management approach.

343. *Tres Ritos, Santa Barbara and El Valle – the rivers are a mess, they dump their trash. Put trash cans back.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

344. *Erosion damage to access roads. A team solution: repair roads using labor from volunteer recreational miners who have claims in Carson and design the water to flow in directions so as not to damage the road.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

345. *Protecting the streams and riparian areas in the forest from unmaintained and/or illegal routes. The solution would involve decommissioning non-system routes, such as illegally established user created routes. Active on the ground decommissioning.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.20.

346. *Need to address road crossings, poor road conditions, riparian vegetation rehab, erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.7, B.8, B.9, and C19.

347. *Erosion control – mostly roads but unsustainable trails as well – more maintenance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.9 and C19.

348. *Need to evaluate the need to decommission/replace roads/trails that are unsustainable.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.9 and C.20.

349. *Bridges over road crossings. It improves water quality by decreasing sedimentation.*

Response: This is a management approach.

350. *Increased monitoring of low road crossings which impact stream health.*

Response: This is a management approach.

351. *Road stream crossings: roads are one of the main causes of sedimentation in streams. The Cimarron Watershed Alliance is working in conjunction with NMDGF, Philmont Scout Ranch and USFS. Have been improving low water crossings to reduce sedimentation and improve accessibility. The design includes a cross vane below the crossing to keep the crossing narrow, combined with an armored cobble crossing built on a rifle section. The CWA, NMDGF in partnership have been using EPA 319 funding.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

352. *To protect water quality. Protecting water quality can be accomplished by decommissioning non-system routes, such as illegally made user-created routes. In addition, the forest plan should require that the road system is fiscally and ecologically sustainable.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.4, B14, C.19, and C.20.

353. *Volunteers – partnership with FS and coordination w/ FS for roads system.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

354. *Range – management of livestock and their effect on riparian areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8, B.9, and C.7.

355. *Head cuts where there may have once been a perennial stream are my pet peeve. I understand that these head cuts have been caused by COWS.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.11 and B.13.

356. *Reduce the amount of cattle allowed in allotments; actually enforce the conditions of existing grazing permits, the plan should prioritize more enforcement of grazing permit conditions; require a comprehensive analysis of reduced forage and then use this analysis*

to update grazing permits with a focus on reduced cow and calf pairs- and focus on more required best management practices to protect water resources.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.7, and management approaches.

357. *Cattle management requires partnerships with local ranchers and increased education about riparian zone health.*

Response: These are a partnership opportunity and a management approach.

358. *Better protection of riparian ecosystems, especially wetlands, from the impacts of grazing. In the face of climate change the same number of cattle (and wildlife) is having increased impacts on water quality and wetland systems.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.3, B.8, B.9, B.10 and C.7.

359. *FS should develop more water for wildlife. FS should spray green trees. FS seed some dry arroyos to get more feed for cattle.*

Response: These are management approaches.

360. *Clean water tanks or build new tanks for wildlife and livestock. Choose areas that can sustain water. (bank) A water bank is an asset to all. Plant vegetation on banks to hold structure.*

Response: These are management approaches.

361. *Increase use of wells with float switches to ensure utilization of water only to the extent needed.*

Response: This is a management approach.

362. *Project #1. More stock tanks. Rubber seal. Stock tank maintenance. Seal stock tanks. Salt seal. NM Dept of Game and Fish can help with money and labor. Wells on the forest.*

Response: These are a partnership opportunity and management approaches.

363. *Water tanks. Maintenance of tanks on a regular basis; seal tanks to hold water for longer periods of time. Streamlined review for work on tanks. Dedicated personnel to help maintain, review work on tanks. Improve the time required to initiate work.*

Response: These are management approaches.

364. *Introduction of beavers back to the land in the NF – slow down flash flooding through natural dams, reducing head cuts, sedimentation and water quality.*

Response: This is a management approach.

365. *Healthy protected headwater wetlands (including wet meadows) to protect ecosystems and stream flow. How to get there: the forest should protect as special designated areas in the plan and prioritize restoration in 8 wetland gems as identified by Geospatial/Amigos Bravos/WELC. These are wetlands that have been identified as priority wetlands for protection and restoration to provide resiliency in the face of climate change. Four of these wetland gems are located in the Questa Ranger District. Wetlands provide resiliency in the face of climate change by slowly discharging water over the whole season.*

Response: This is a management area or designated area.

366. *Solutions: protect and restore prioritized (important) wetlands in the Carson. Prioritize protection of the Valle Vidal, an area full of wetlands (comparatively). Take special care to protect it and restore its wetlands. Protect riparian areas from roads and livestock grazing. Identify sources of impairment to the headwaters in the Carson and change management practices to reduce water quality impacts.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.9, B.10, B.11, B.12, and B.13 and are management approaches.

367. *The restoration and maintenance of wetlands to promote and maintain water retention, to minimize flooding and provide resiliency in the face of climate change.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.3, B.9, B.10 and B.14.

368. *Managing water supply. Solution: agencies working together, collaborative.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

369. *Organize volunteer programs for removal of marine invasive (friends of the forest).*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

370. *Working with other groups such as the Rio Grande Water Conservation Fund to improve watershed. The USFS CNF to allow communities and special use permit holders to do controlled burning, under proper protocols.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity, and governed by existing law, regulation, or policy.

371. *Update/repair acequias through collaborative efforts (USFS, BLM, Taos soil & water district, Town of Taos).*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

372. *Because water availability is limited is it realistic to look at providing it for all (livestock, wildlife, etc)? Are the various needs being prioritized? Making sure that water is available without hurting any one area. Competing factions need to work together for a mutual solution. If forest owns water, take into consideration all water users equitably.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

373. *Making sure that the cities don't get their foot in and claim some of these waters.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (FSM 2540 Water Uses and Development, Regional Supplement No. 2500-2001-1).

374. *Solution: better water access. 4 wheelers, law enforcement, poaching.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.13.

375. *I would like to see the Carson provide for all (but especially the Rio Costilla Cooperative and Livestock Association). Education and informative sessions, sharing with them education on, e.g. rabbit brush, planting trees and all plants/trees that are valuable to our property. Especially of value would be water quality, a study on our present watershed versus watershed of the 1940s – what changes have taken place now that we have accepted earth warming.*

Response: This is outside the scope of a revised forest plan or the authority of the Forest Service.

376. *Maintaining access to clean water by improving the health of riparian zones. This includes: Maintaining chemical water flow stability. A lot of what happens to water is through how people handle it. Depending on how we handle it, it can create positive/negative effects. Some positive effects include more stable clean water flow, which allows it to be drinkable for several organisms. Some negative effects could include pollution or contamination which could increase acidic levels making the water toxic or dangerous to drink.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8, B.9, and B.14.

377. *Preserving the health of riparian zones so that we can maintain the health of water systems despite drought.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.8 and B.9.

378. *Monitoring water residential water usage and creating different rates for more water usage. Education about low water usage appliances and create incentives for installation.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or the authority of the Forest Service.

379. *Monitoring water quality and addressing problem areas with native deep rooted plants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.2, B.8, B.9, B.10, and B.14.

380. *The Carson is the headwaters, and water is a key resource that anyone can 'rally' around. Key is to prevent catastrophic wildfire and subsequent erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1, B.4, and B.5.

381. *Protecting water sources by reducing risks of bad fires.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.1, B.4, and B.5.

382. *Reduce the fire risk by thinning, prescribed fire.*

Response: This is a management approach.

383. *Thin the small diameter (firewood size) trees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

384. *Institute more invasive species prevention programs at lakes and other water systems within CNF.*

Response: This is a management approach.

385. *Invasive species thrive in riparian zones (plants/algae), rangers/anglers, ranching management solutions that help riparian zones recover; angling increasing awareness about ways to avoid transmitting invasive species.*

Response: These are management approaches.

386. *Spread awareness of rock snot and other invasive in the NF recreation areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

387. *Less rock snot and other marine invasions.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by B.14.

388. *Research natural predators of marine invasives for a possible removal option.*

Response: This is a management approach.

Boot washing stations based on use and access areas.

Response: This is a management approach.

Managing invasive species (plants/algae) – foot washing stations (for anglers, increased signage), livestock fencing/management.

Response: These are management approaches.

Re-seeding using more drought resistant species. No more cloud seeding. Controlled runoff management. Reservoirs with sufficient overflows. Heaping tanks. Preparedness for flooding. Salting stock tanks. Proper overflow structures. Maintenance of structures. Proper communication between acequias, permittees, local communities.

Response: These are management approaches.

Old fiberglass vaults near the water sources. The old vaults are rusting and needing repair to keep from polluting the water.

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

Prioritization of different riparian areas most likely to be impacted.

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

Wildlife, Fish, and Plants

- 15. There is a need to update plan direction to promote the recovery and conservation of federally recognized species, maintenance of viable populations of the species of conservation concern, and maintenance of common and abundant species within the plan area.**
- 16. There is a need to provide plan direction to address sustainability of habitat(s) for plant and animal species important to tribes and traditional communities.**
- 17. There is a need to provide plan direction for managing towards terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic habitat connectivity for species movement across the landscape.**
- 18. There is a need to provide plan direction that allows for improving aquatic passage in streams where it has been compromised. Plan direction should promote the restoration and expansion of the range of native aquatic species and connectivity of fragmented populations.**
- 19. There is a need to provide plan direction that allows for an assortment of management approaches, including timber harvest, thinning, prescribed burning, and other vegetation management methods to provide wildlife habitat for species that need a variety of forest habitats, such as interior, edge, young, and old forest.**

Wildlife, Fish, and Plants Comments and Responses

389. *There is a need to increase wildlife habitat conservation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15, B.16, and B.17.

390. *There is a need for species-specific plan components to support recovery of listed species and ensure viability of species of conservation concern.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

391. *The FS to focus on native imperiled species recovery and restoration. Specifically, the draft assessment does not adequately address the potential for the Carson to contribute to the recovery of endangered species. Active management toward a recovery goal.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

392. *There is a need to account for Canada lynx and their status as threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, including by better understanding the historic and potential future presence of lynx, assessing impacts to lynx, and incorporating the Southern Rockies Management Direction for Canada lynx.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

393. *Beaver cultivation might help manage water and trees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

394. *Oxen can help remove fire risk in sensitive areas especially in winter when damage to soil is minimized by sledding on snow and ice. Sheep and goats can help manage underbrush.*

Response: This is a management approach.

395. *Water is our most precious resource, so its protection ensures renewable resource.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11, B.12, B.13, and B.14.

396. *Problem: beavers and trees. Solution: work with forest and wildlife department to help with the beavers dams.*

Response: This is a management approach.

397. *There is a need for species specific plan components to support recovery of listed species and ensure viability of species of conservation concern.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

398. *Wildlife corridors – identify and mitigate barriers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

399. *Manage for diversity, partnership NMDGF, elk reduction, more hunting, elk on best habitats. F&G sanctuaries – HPAs [Habitat Protection Areas] enforced non-motorized, manage range and forest for dispersal/movement of wildlife to less impact riparian for cold waters – flood plain connection. Incised channel repair. Multipurpose road obliteration, restore forest on way out, green firewood harvesting.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

400. *Create/maintain habitat protection areas – mosaic connected wildlife corridors. Landscape scale habitat restoration, watershed centric.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17, B.18, and B.19.

401. *Robust habitat corridors to allow for species migration in the face of climate change. The FS should designate migration corridors to facilitate connectivity and species movement.*

Response: This is a management approach, but also is partially covered by B.17 and B.18.

402. *There is a need to consider specific management strategies to maintain connectivity corridors on both terrestrial and aquatic landscapes and buffer zones for wildlife to provide for species movement across the landscape.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

403. *Facilitate wildlife movement across the forest and onto surrounding private, state, and tribal lands.*

This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

404. *There is a need to continue to research and document the presence and location of game and wildlife corridors through and surrounding the Carson NF for the purposes of allowing for better adaptive management and protection of these areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

405. *There is a need for providing terrestrial and aquatic habitat connectivity and corridors for species migration and/or movement.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

406. *There is a need to consider specific management strategies to maintain connectivity corridors for both terrestrial and aquatic landscapes and buffer zones for wildlife to provide for species movement across the landscape.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

407. *We suggest that key wildlife corridors, alongside raw data documenting fine-scale utilization of the areas by species of interest, provide the strongest available basis for setting priorities for connectivity management action on the CNF, and should also serve as focal areas for any further fine-scale scientific study or monitoring efforts. We ask that the CNF consider these resources alongside those included in the Wildlife Information for Desired Condition Discussion, and that these resources be incorporated into the upcoming Plan Revision as the best available scientific information on which to base connectivity management in the CNF.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.17 and B.18.

408. *There is a need to manage grazing and work in conjunction with NMDGF to more accurately address wildlife pressures which can't be managed solely by USFS.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

409. *There is a need to work with NMDG&F to reduce numbers of elk in the forest.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

410. *There is a need for over the counter elk licenses.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

411. *Elk – landowners – one ‘free’ or nominal tag for their own property – they destroy fences. Hedge rows along forest boundaries.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

412. *Elk population is very high in unit 51 GMU. Rest rotation grazing does not work with elk in area. Reduce elk numbers by: over the counter sales of licenses; increase landowner permits (elk); localized depredation hunts.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

413. *Game and fish being incorporated into the management plan.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

414. *Manage the elk population.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

415. *Deal with sagebrush (spike). Institute water management in covered w/NRCs?? (underground laying of pipe). Fire hazards.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

416. *Make game department meet with wildlife, range staff, and community members to plan for wildlife management together.*

Response: This a partnership opportunity.

417. *Improve male deer and turkey habitat.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.19.

418. *Dredge the trout lakes, improve the parking area and develop picnic facilities. Collaboration.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

419. *Wildlife, elk, and ___ grazing (overgrazing from elk) Permittees feel elk were migrated and a lot of over grazing is because of the elk. Permittees feel their reduction of grazing permits is because of the elk. Solutions: work with NMDG&F to get numbers of elk in the forest. But they do provide habitats stamp program and management.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

420. *More fuel and fire to help ecosystem.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.19.

421. *More over the counter elk licenses.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

422. *Culling the herds during the spring when they are more active in the lower elevations. Establishing a moratorium on hunting some of the elks; natural predators such as cougars*

and wolves. Revising the lottery system so that more licenses are issued during hunting season in order to reduce the number of elk.

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

423. *Elk overpopulation – reduce elk population in the Carson, especially the Valle Vidal unit. As the earth continues to warm up, drought then there will be less grasses, tree to feed elk.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

424. *We need to stop bringing cattle to the Valle Vidal, there is not enough grasses to feed both cattle and elk.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

425. *Letter: I recently presented at the CNF meeting in Taos regarding the elk problem affecting our private properties in Amalia and Costilla in NC NM. There is an overabundance of elk in our communities; they are coming from the large herds in the Valle Vidal unit of the CNF and the mountains surrounding our community. The elk have been causing damage to our fences and eating our crops throughout the years and the private landowners have suffered the loss of millions of dollars as a consequence. Measures need to be taken to make the elk population more manageable so they do not cause loss of revenue to private landowners. Following are some ideas that can be considered:*

There is an overpopulation of elk in the Valle Vidal. These elk migrate from Valle Vidal down to the valley of Amalia and Costilla. The elk cause economic damage to ranches, farms, in these communities. Need to reduce amount of elk. Hunts in the Valle Vidal, hunts in greater numbers than you have in past. Construct fence around all of Valle Vidal. Stop bringing cattle into the Valle Vidal.

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

426. *Elks? More and more every year - ?*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

427. *Draw for elk and rich people can buy a hunt; but the locals need the food.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

428. *Controlling impacts of elk – direct trails through areas that are affected by elk, so human traffic in these areas disperse elk populations to other areas.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

429. *Elk!! They destroy everything in sight, fences, hay stacks, salts, even push out your own animals. Or should I say they push, intimidate cows, horses and are very destructive; don't respect; a very bad animal. The only good thing about them is the big profits NMDG&F enjoys. Just one look at the million dollar building NMDG&F enjoys in Santa Fe. Look at the personnel driving and enjoying new trucks, SUVs every year. All this spells big profits at whose expense, yes, guess who.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

430. *Reducing elk, reducing wild horses to comply with NEPA document, fair treatment of ranchers. Elk:*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

431. *Wildhorse:*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

432. *Culling of deer. There is a high amount of elk productivity. This is not just in NM. Too many elk is bad because it is damaging to the ecosystem eating so much that it could even drain an area of edible plant life, harming other wildlife.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

433. *Ideas to solve this include: introducing predators to high elk areas, such as wolves; open up hunting in many areas; trapping elk in certain traps (such as cages of some sort).*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

434. *Removal of wild horses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

435. *Removal of elks.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

436. *More thinning.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.19.

437. *Managing wild horses to appropriate levels that do not devastate wildlife habitat.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

438. *Remove the over populated wild horses to existing numbers, dry year 18 horses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

439. *NMDG&F agency to give more elk permits to reduce number of elk.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

440. *Drought is Mother Nature's, nothing will help. Cattle are the best fuel break for wildfires. Protect the ranchers and work with permittees for better management – no more reduction.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

441. *Too many wild horses are grazing our NF, not leaving enough forage for our livestock. These horses are grazing 12 months per year, 7 days a week.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

442. *Too many elks are also grazing our forest and our private properties. The NMDG&F should give more hunting permits so that the count can be managed. Hire more thinning contractors so that the forest can be more open to reduce fires and have more grazing.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

443. *Hire more thinning contractors so that the forest can be more open to reduce fires and have more grazing.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

444. *USFS is in violation of NEPA document regarding wild horse numbers. Any wild horses outside of Jarita Mesa are to be removed, as per NEPA document – horses are even in Tres Piedras Ranger District.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

445. *USFS has no management plan for elk herd numbers. Only management tool is cattle.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

446. *Ability to manage the wilderness herd to the limits of the habitat considering the needs of the domestic livestock and wildlife (deer/elk). Focus has resulted in loss of contact with historic users of the forest.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

447. *Collaborating with other agencies; knowledge sharing about management solutions. BLM Farmington field office has a group working on wild horses – part of their RAC.*

Response: This a partnership opportunity.

448. *Cut horse numbers, cut number HMAs [Horse Management Areas]. Drinkers added: HMAS.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

449. *Road closed need to be gated and locked. Closed gates open for hunting ____ Nov 15. Get ready to sell beetle kill timber as numbers of trees grow. Help mule deer in every way possible.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

450. *Horses - herd management and size of the herd, DZP consideration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

451. *JMHA [Jicarilla Mustang Heritage Alliance] focus on one mustang at a time is continued with our recent FS agreement. This helps JMHA continue to train, using natural horsemanship techniques and finding great adopters. Additional efforts will be directed at promoting the great qualities of the mustang across various states at equine events. JMHA cares about the success of each horse and adopter, thus when possible we stay in touch, offering assistance, and appreciating all the wonderful updates we hear about the mustangs that endear themselves in our hearts. Communication and education are important with Bechak blog, Facebook and the website. Stay tuned to our next group of mustangs most likely in fall. I think we should update all on not having any more horses until fall.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

452. *Negative words create a negative response. Meat processing: not 'slaughter house' City people aren't connected, haven't dealt with the reality. If you say I want to slaughter horses they will never vote for you. They will die anyway, crippled and thirsty or we can do it now, painlessly. Appreciate the value of the mustang horse. They are the best teaching tool, therapy tool, patience, courage, communication skills.*

Response: This is a management approach or partnership opportunity.

453. *Systems based process for managing the wild horses that include a systematic program for administering PZP [pocine zona pellucida-long term contraceptive] and small herd removal. Give up control but manage well with partnerships; accurate count; use of PZP; contract for small herd removal; no helicopter roundup.*

Response: This is a management approach or partnership opportunity.

454. *Wild horses – get to AML and have a thriving herd at AML. It costs lots of money to capture, hold and adopt wild horses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

455. *It's a watershed health issue vs. utilization grazing issues. Need to do much more mechanical treatment, possibly chemical, keep partnerships going on weeds.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.2, and B.3.

456. *There is a need to re-evaluate the suitability of land for multiple use activities, such as grazing and recreation, based on best available science for species viability and habitat needs.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (National Forest Management Act 1976, 2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]).

457. *Ranching – cattle – ranches on Jicarilla RD are sensitive to the drought issues and accepting of reduced numbers in drought conditions. They don't like it, but understand overall health and watershed conditions.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

458. *Fence off streams to deter people and livestock from trampling streambeds*

Response: This is a management approach.

459. *Fencing up certain areas, preventing elk from getting there could help.*

Response: This is a management approach.

460. *Wildlife water drinkers, maintain for the ones out there.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

461. *Didymo provide boot washing stations at NF access points. Require permits have a stamp that is available by the station, so that recreational users are required to get out of their cars and approach the boot washing station – have to put boots in station to reach stamp. Signs at trailheads.*

Response: This is a management approach.

462. *Didymo – education, signage.*

Response: This is a management approach.

463. *Preventing slaughter of stocked fish that are never actually eaten. Solution: make entire Red River catch and release and institute tackle rules to help save fish. Fish from ponds could be harvested.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

464. *Red River has applied for and received funds for river restoration and fishing habitat. Keep the river restoration funding coming into our area and get continued input from the public.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

465. *Preventing runoff and erosion into streams, especially in areas that have experienced fire (decreasing sediment in waterways).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.8 and B.9.

466. *Start planning before the fire and maintaining riparian areas. Get the conifers away from riparian areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, B.8 and B.9.

467. *Robust fishing opportunities – grow bigger fish.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

468. *Identify native fish populations and where they are most concentrated. Provide more education in the area on the ___ of the native fish populating.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.18.

469. *Maintain and protect native fish habitat.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.18.

470. *Provide habitat for fisheries in high elevation lake and streams.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

471. *Wildlife and water. Beaver protection on the Rio Tusas. NMDG&F are removing beaver.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

472. *Help with stream improvement – NRCS.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

473. *Fence out livestock.*

Response: This is a management approach.

474. *Educate private homeowners about river access and not building private dams. More state control on runoff waters.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

475. *Education on where it's okay to fish. Laws on fishing the river with residents on the river.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

476. *Education to volunteers of keeping lake, rivers, pond areas clean of trash, of dangers to wildlife habitats being destroyed.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

477. *More education and raising of awareness of importance to keep wildlife wild! (don't feed the bears) but let everyone know about the various animals available.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

478. *More thinning of habitat could help too – habitat restoration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.19.

479. *Prevention cutting saplings that are in the wrong place.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

480. *Regular fires to maintain health of forest and habitats.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

481. *Regulation of invasive species, need survey to regulate, fish barriers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3 and B.18.

482. *Reaching out to local communities to prevent harmful construction.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5.

483. *Use of hunting and fishing licenses to regulate populations.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

484. *Volunteer or paid cutting back of trees. Philmont does meadow encroachment*

Response: This is a management approach and partnership opportunity.

485. *Burning in ponderosa pine.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

486. *More thinning*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

487. *Prescribed burning in the pine.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

488. *Thinning and burning – will increase wildlife edge effect.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.19.

489. *Woody species - Monitoring program for seeding after woody species removal.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2.

490. *More natural fire in forested area.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

491. *More prescribed burning, fuel wood sales, and thinning.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4, B.5, and B.19.

492. *Additional focus on providing wildlife habitat, such as improvements to encourage mule deer herd growth. Identify areas to provide suitable browse to provide feed to reestablish deer herds, i.e. thinning, prescribed burns, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.19.

493. *Poaching – take their trucks away, make fines stiffer.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

494. *Poaching is a problem. Law enforcement needs a more, stronger presence.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

495. *Law enforcement to address poaching.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

496. *There is a need to include plan direction with the goal of mitigating potential climate change impacts such as increases in drought and species migration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3 and B.17.

497. *There is a need to fix issues with budget deadlines between state and FS that hinder the ability to use habitat stamp money.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

498. *Allocation of funds more fairly. How does CNF only receive \$108k in habitat stamp funds when there is a \$25m in Taos and Colfax county and an additional \$16m in Mora and Rio Arriba. Funds should be allocated to areas that bring in those funds.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

499. *Hit NMDG&F up for money for wildlife and fishery projects. Get community involvement to help work on waterway projects. You'd be surprised how many people would volunteer. Encouraging young people to help work on specific projects as part of their high school community service requirement for graduation.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

500. *Work with NMDG&F on funding.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

501. *Ability to coordinate with NMDGF's state wildlife action plan (updated every 5 years) to address species of greatest conservation need throughout the life of a forest plan. This could potentially help avoid federal listings via proactive efforts on the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

502. *Regional forester designating critical species – looks like this is already done?*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

503. *Hold all other agencies accountable. Ex. Why can electric company clear cut under lines (necessary, yes) but then be allowed to leave it. should have to clean up after themselves.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

504. *Kit Carson electric dropping trees (line work) then not clearing them. it is limiting access. Tree graveyard – accountability.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

505. *Problem: No communication between agencies using forest lands. Use multimedia to establish a link to report observations and concerns. Ex. Wildlife sees a road closure situation, officer texts correct person for repair; call one number concept.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

506. *Insensitivity the reduction of invasive species, fishers/hunters could be awarded larger permits if they can prove that they killed a quantity of invasive organisms. Perhaps this could be done by providing before and after pictures and GPS/UTM coordinates; many people call cell phones.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

507. *Offer more information on invasive species and knowledge of the native species that have been affected by the invasive species. What can the public do to help the native species. Inform the impact to the younger generations that they can help the native species thrive and keep for their children.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

508. *Maintenance of facilities – full time staffing, maintaining facilities infrastructure, tree thinning, sectioning areas, instead of closures of full campground. Economically hardship for locals. Limits visits of tourism.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and A.5.

509. *There is a need to have wildlife surveys lasting periods, need to be longer, survey high prob areas then flag and ___ as needed.*

Response: This is a part of a monitoring program.

510. *Increased or boosted efforts to try and reinforce some of the natural habitats necessary for plant, wildlife, and human management. As the board said, there are considerations and proposed efforts already in mind to support this. Wildlife (fish) stocking while necessary, human expansion and interaction, and increased protection – management of huntable wildlife.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1 and B16.

511. *Managing conflicting programs that negatively impair habitat.*

Response: This is a management approach.

512. *Better control of vehicular travel in hunting areas and better access for handicapped hunters, fisherman and hikers. Better maintenance of trails.*

Response: This is a management approach.

513. *Closures – consider O & G is kiss business. Wildlife – more education, keeping wildlife wild. More awareness of what we can see in wildlife. See the FS employees. Forest infrastructure needs maintenance. Flooding causes damage of pvt. lands.*

Response: This is a management approach.

514. *When forest closure occurs during drought it would be nice for the outfitters who have permits through FS to still be able to operate in at least a limited capacity.*

Response: This is a management approach.

515. *Opportunities to view wildlife in their natural habitat.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

516. *Create a system where permits are issued. For example, similar to the firewood program. Permitting allows law enforcement to regulate and monitor the litter problem, focus on vegetation damage and soil compaction. Permitting helps monitor this activity.*

Response: This is a management approach.

517. *There is a need for the Carson NF to address the issue of piñon nut harvesters and the damage this group does to our national forest lands. The group enters the forest without permits and litters our forests, creates vegetation damage, and creates soil compaction. Piñon nuts are a product where supply exceeds demand.*

Response: This is a management approach.

518. *More brush habitat for deer.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and A.2.

519. *Planting of winter fat, oak brush, mountain mahogany.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and A.2.

520. *Wildlife – would not implement MSO guidelines unless a MSO was found on the Carson NF.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.15.

521. *Wildlife surveys lasting periods, need to be longer, survey high prob areas then flag and ___ as needed.*

Response: This is a part of a monitoring program.

C. Socio-Economic (Multiple Uses and Human Influences) Changes

Cultural and Historic Resources and Uses

1. There is a need to update plan direction for Native American traditional cultural properties and sacred sites and places, and non-Native American traditional cultural properties.
2. There is a need to provide plan direction addressing management of historic and contemporary cultural and traditional uses, including both economic and non-economic uses for tribes and for traditional communities not considered under tribal relations (i.e. traditional Hispanic and Anglo communities).

Cultural and Historic Resources and Uses Comments and Responses

522. *Preservation and maintenance of heritage resources legacy. There is a need for considering cultural and historic resources as irreplaceable and future generations preservation, high risk for threats from increased cross-country driving (dispersed recreation, firewood) due to poor management of Carson. Travel management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.1 and C.2.

523. *There is a need to mitigate the amount of archeological surveys. We will never get anywhere or accelerate management/restoration with 100% surveys everywhere an activity is planned. Nearly impossible. Survey list prob_____.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy.

524. *Hire more archeologists.*

Response: This is a management approach.

525. *There is a need to restore historical sites (cabins, old district offices), turn into museums. Charge the public to see them. People are always asking about old sites, and are interested in seeing them.*

Response: This is a management approach.

526. *There is a need to allow groups or individuals to 'adopt' a structure and preserve it for public use what could be a ruin can be repurposed and used.*

Response: This is a management approach.

527. *Solutions: better signage of roads; educational signs to protect CR [cultural resources]; sustainable rec, site steward program, site watch, Taos Arch society volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.9, management approaches, and a partnership opportunity.

528. *There is a need for archeological sites to be able to be accessed within a decent walking distance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

529. *Limit public access to sacred sites that would be destroyed by excess use.*

Response: This is a management approach.

530. *Accounting for heritage in having soil erosion/loss. May not need to be called out as one point. Integrate into some of the display/discussion material.*

Response: This is a management approach.

531. *More protection/preservation of historical locations on NF property. There are many historical structures located on the NF, many of which are heavily affected by the elements and human interactions. While I do not know how one would better preserve these sites, I think that it is important to preserve them for future generations to see.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.1 and C.2.

532. *Add a board for the public to explain an understanding of the strong culture in the area, but the forest is not there for them to exploit and do what they want with no respect to rules, or the land. Most of these cultural historical uses of the land are centered around take, take, take – this can't continue on the Carson. Local people need educated and fined for non-compliance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.2.

533. *Partner with historic preservation groups to restore and protect traditional sites and buildings.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

Areas of Tribal Importance

3. **There is a need to update plan direction addressing consistency of activities with legally mandated trust responsibilities to tribes.**
4. **There is a need to update plan direction orders, to ensure privacy for tribes engaged in cultural and ceremonial activities.**
5. **There is a need to update plan direction on design, location, installation, maintenance, and abandonment of towers, facilities, and alternative infrastructure within electronic communication sites, while giving due consideration to the value and importance of areas that may be identified as a sacred site or part of an important cultural landscape by tribes.**

Timber and Special Forest Products

6. **There is a need to provide plan direction for the management of commercial and noncommercial use of forest products.**

Timber Comments and Responses

534. *There is a need for more restoration work across the landscape, especially in frequent fire forest systems. Restoration work will likely address many of issues we are facing today. Wildlife habitat improvement, offering sustainable forest products, wildlife species, increased water yield, infiltration, reduced meadow encroachment, recreational opportunities, improved forest health, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by A.2, B.1, B.4, and B.5.

535. *Wildfire, aspen mortality, tent caterpillars, work force volunteers (trained), make forest available to Boy Scouts, Rocky Mtn Youth Corps, Philmont for thinning.*

Response: These are partnership opportunities.

536. *There is a need for small products, firewood, latillas, vigas, post and pole. VFTSU, timber sales, CFRPs / SRSs, partnerships, thinning, stewardship contracts.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.6.

537. *Selling of green wood permits May-July (earlier in year).*

Response: This is a management approach.

538. *Overgrown forests, small diameter production, wood pellets for industry.*

Response: This is a management approach.

539. *Economic incentives that encourage the development of local SDT industries; categorical exclusions for proven BMPs that result in readily available SDT for industry (reliable supply of material); prioritize development at the state or region level.*

Response: These are outside the scope of forest plan revision.

540. *Partnerships to accomplish thinning to make wood available. Plan in advance (1 yr) to clear surveys (internally).*

Response: This is a management approach.

541. *Timber management on lands adjacent to private lands. Thinning. Have public help do the work. Simplify NEPA. Partner with other agencies, G&F.*

Response: These are management approaches, a partnership opportunity, outside the scope of forest plan revision, and another partnership opportunity.

542. *There is a need for more money and personnel,*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision,

543. *(Comment continued) hire a Carson NF fuels crew with proper equipment to work on big landscape projects.*

Response: This is a management approach.

544. *Bring back resource practices like logging and fuelwood development.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

545. *Vallecitos Federal Sustainable Yield Unit ... sustainable management, selective harvesting, sustainable management (thinning etc) and job creation. Fulfilling federal mandate. Sustainable unit should be sustainable.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (Sustained-Yield Act of March 29, 1944 (16USC 583-583i); 36 CFR 223.117, Administration of Cooperative or Sustained-Yield Units)).

546. *Green fuelwood with marking.*

Response: This is a management approach.

547. *There is a need to identify areas outside of road corridors where dead/down wood is available, from thinning, etc.*

Response: This is a management approach.

548. *With new travel mgmt implementation 300' corridor there is no fuelwood to be gathered under dead/down permit requirements. Solution: identify areas outside of the corridor where d/d wood is available, thinning, etc. Containing them in a 300' corridor isn't the answer.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

549. *First and foremost the areas needs to be identified and opened prior to wood hauling season.*

Response: This is a management approach.

550. *More firewood cutting, especially juniper.*

Response: This is a management approach.

551. *Dead trees along the road going through Trampas, Truchas, make the wood available to the public. Low intensity vs. high intensity fires – allow for access to forest products on seasonal basis.*

Response: This is a management approach.

552. *Open certain roads for firewood.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

553. *There is a need to provide more fuelwood opportunities throughout the Forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

554. *Open more roads for fuel wood.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

555. *Maintain roads and trails. Maintain trails old trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.9 and C.19.

556. *Make firewood more readily available; manage and supervise more closely.*

Response: This is a management approach.

557. *Increased enforcement for the illegal removal of extremely large timber. >30 dbH.*

Response: This is a management approach.

558. *Encourage cleaning up fuelwood trees by splitting them down to kindling. Might use free use permits to encourage this.*

Response: This is a management approach.

559. *The public is all about thinning areas, it is in demand.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.6.

560. *More thinning projects.*

Response: This is a management approach.

561. *More thinning areas will help decrease catastrophic fires, help travel mgmt and forest health.*

Response: This is a management approach

562. *There is a need to balance public needs such as fuelwood with conservation as well. Need to make timber cutting areas available for local use, which would help to cut down on timber theft. Questa district in particular needs more timber support to make these areas available.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

563. *Keeping forest clear of slash from wood cutters. Education for wood cutting, permit holders on not leaving the slash behind. Not cutting live trees. Not littering. Cutting in the areas that need thinning.*

Response: This is a management approach

564. *Instead of local wood chopper/gatherer have a professional company involved. Local wood gatherers consistently litter and tear up forest making 4x4 roads to gather firewood. They also leave all the scrap wood and do not seem to clean up the forest enough to prevent fires. Professionals have been involved with thinning the forest. They stay on marked trails and seem to have the forest health as a priority. Various grants have enabled landowners to thin their forest for no cost and professionally done. I would like to see the forest service owned lands completed in a similar manner. Need mechanized thinning!!*

Response: This is a management approach.

565. *Permits for 'pros' / commercial permits for frequent wood cutters (structured permits).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5 and C.6.

566. *Small products, firewood, latillas, vigas, post and pole. VFTSU, timber sales, CFRPs / SRSs, partnerships, thinning, stewardship contracts.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5 and C.6.

567. *Reduce stand density. Improve diversity in age and species. Manage for resiliency. Design contracts so they are accessible to local contractors. Include re-stabilization of soils, water infiltration and replanting to maximize effectiveness. Contour falling of beavers (?).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

568. *Beetle kill – what can be done – I don't have training or experience, but give witness to the destruction which is spreading. Can we down the infected trees and burn or otherwise dispose of? Need to address large areas. Move WUI projects in the wilderness, include tent caterpillars in treatment.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

569. *Change goshawk guidelines to larger diameter.*

Response: This is a management approach.

570. *NEPA, NEPA, NEPA – get that done ahead of time so that in years to come thinning areas can be ready.*

Response: This is a management approach.

571. *Natural ___ - clear cut, salvage logging after prescribed burns, TSI.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

572. *Educational outreach.*

Response: This is a management approach or partnership opportunity.

573. *Bio-chew – fire fuel. Use down dead for bio char production. Bio char added to soil – carbon dioxide sink – in soil. Cuts water needs to approximately 50%.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

574. *Fuels - biomass development - how do you make it profitable?*

Response: This is a management approach.

575. *Money – some way to make small diameter timber profitable – biomass plant? Pellet mill?*

Response: This is a management approach.

576. *Do not close the roads for the community for people to go for firewood.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

577. *Put money into (subsidize) how to use the small diameter trees that need to be cut with restoration or fuel treatments.*

Response: This is a management approach.

578. *Sell more trees for poles, vigas, timber, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and C.6.

579. *Timber harvesting (Vallecitos federal sustained yield unit) I would like to envision that the Los Comunidades sawmill be resurrected into an operational entity. There's to my understanding 5-7 million board feet of available timber for processing. A viable (operational) organization would establish employment.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, A.5, and C.6.

580. *Job opportunities, Vallecitos, sustainable yield unit. Help to reactivate sawmill and fulfill mandate. Solutions for FS: mulch material, mill will transport it to mill for composting. To buy every fence post the mill produces. Could help get loader up and running. Cabin be managed by nonprofit in sustainable yield unit, could be used to educate about sustainable forestry.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, A.5, and C.6.

Range and Grazing

- 7. There is a need to provide plan direction for the livestock grazing program that incorporates adaptive management to move toward ecosystem-based desired conditions.**
- 8. There is a need to update plan direction to promote the sustainable management of wild horses.**

Range Comments and Responses

581. *An integrated management perspective that takes into account the interrelationships of fire, forests and rangelands, and their influence on water capture, storage and release for ecosystem processes, human recreation and agricultural production.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

582. *Do an accurate assessment of grazing capacity. What can the forest support. Bring native grasses back, restore habitat. Education is very important. Youth aren't interested, how do we reach the young people to get involved.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, B.2, and C.7.

583. *Improvements are in the best interest of the permittees – a model of success would help. Enforced rest! At least a full year with hard fence boundaries for permittees. Prevent cattle from stepping in the water. Single ___ defended access for drinking. Occasional short term grazing of riparian zones. Hard fences. Work on buy-in with local permittees by establishing models that demonstrate the improvement in abundance by grazing only the top half of the plant.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7 and management approach.

584. *Accurate assessment of grazing capacity. Restore meadows/grasslands too.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2 and C.7.

585. *Decrease ranching licenses.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

586. *Rotate licensing for ranch grazing.*

Response: This is a management approach.

587. *Fence maintenance to keep grazing in proper allotments, managing the type of grass, thinking of forest for natural grassland regeneration. Solution: teach ranchers to limit livestock in allotments to sustainable levels. Limit overgrazing of these grasslands to avoid headcutting and other erosion.*

Response: This is a management approach.

588. *Animal management – the presented solutions are all about veg management – what about animal management – actively manage the animals we can.*

Response: This is a management approach.

589. *Adaptive management requires mitigation: Riparian, Water, Ranching, Soils.*

Response: Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

590. *Better control of cattle in areas used by the public. Cattle should be prohibited from trails and creeks in particular. Fences should be maintained and fines imposed.*

Response: This is a management approach.

591. *Educate permittees on need for adaptive management so they know they must always be grazing the ...*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7, and a management approach.

592. *Improve fences by removing unneeded ones, enforce permit terms.*

Response: This is a management approach.

593. *Some areas, maybe prevent grazing. These areas should be reevaluated and taken.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

594. *Education, collaboration, working together with ranchers and third party entities to create a better understanding of all sides to help encourage sustainable ranching.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

595. *Educate about ranching. Teach public about livestock and sustainable ranching. Seeding with native forbs and grasses (what methods are being used today?). How are grazing permits distributed? How can we randomize grazing permits? Create better relationships with the ranchers. Try to understand their methods in order to gain their respect. Usually native animals are the first to go through hunting or anything of the sort.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

596. *Containing and limiting water usage. Ranching requires large supplies of water for the livestock, but while being in a drought, it is hard to have enough water for the livestock, let alone the wildlife as well. Really stress the importance of maintaining the livestock in an enclosed or designated area so that the mixture between wildlife and livestock is also reduced and maintained. Fence or offer boundary repairs or installment to create these clear designated areas. Working with livestock owners and ranchers themselves to create a sustainable ranching impact that does not put both the livestock and wildlife at risk.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7, and a management approach.

597. *Flexible management for grazing. End dates to grazing to adjust for condition, especially when entry dates are delayed. Consideration for lost days at the beginning of the grazing season. Infrastructure improvement. Road grading in spring prior to cattle movement. Limit access on roads in early spring when roads are wet with significant mud. Resource partnership without increased bureaucratic obstacles.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

598. *Enforce AOIs and fence maintenance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

599. *There is a need for better education, collaboration, working together with ranchers and third party entities to create a better understanding of all sides to help encourage sustainable ranching.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6 and C.7.

600. *Task force to review practices: resolve understanding and balancing designated wilderness.*

Response: This is a management approach.

601. *Accountability of permittees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

602. *Rotational grazing. Managing stock and wildlife stocking to the average dry year carrying capacity. Working with lessees on improved grazing practices. Third party collaborative group to act as a mediator. National forest foundation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6 and C.7.

603. *Fines should be issued (and collected) for not meeting grazing permit conditions.*

Response: This is a management approach.

604. *Stop subsidizing grazing on public lands.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (FSM 2230.2 and 2230.3 Grazing and Livestock Permit System, Objective, and Policy).

605. *Reduce elk populations – wolves, cow tags.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

606. *Managing wildlife and livestock ungulate numbers to the average dry year carrying capacity. Work with lessees on stock numbers.*

Response: This is a management approach.

607. *Work with state game and fish to set harvest quotas.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

608. *There is a need to re-examine grazing suitability and capability across the planning area to account for current ecosystem function, restoration goals, wildlife habitat needs, and changing climatic variables impacting forage resources.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

609. *There is a need for more maintenance on drinkers and natural waterholes.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5.

610. *Drought – more maintenance on drinkers and natural waterholes.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5.

611. *Spring and drinker development is needed.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

612. *More tanks, like in San Cristóbal.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

613. *There is a need to better manage wild horses in the planning area to bring herd numbers down to the appropriate management level in order to increase the health of affected ecosystems.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

614. *A more robust wild horse management. Plan to reduce competition with permitted grazing.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

615. *Remove the wild horses consistently to maintain low end of numbers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

616. *Grass cover – landscape work is not going to improve grass cover without dealing with horses – real issue is the number of wild horses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

617. *Overgrazing by livestock / horses.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

618. *Despite activity shift, create a priority for historic cattle grazing within the framework of climate projections re the landscape to manage for what is reasonable in 2015 and beyond considering cost for restoration. Addressing wild horse numbers within management framework. We know it's hard, but its forage competition. Also clarify USFS role in elk management. Infill with native grasses, but how is this affected by climate change? Grassland mapping, ungulate prioritization, right grasses, work with communities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2, C.7, and C.8.

619. *There is a need for a more robust wild horse management plan to reduce competition with permitted grazing.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.8.

620. *There is a need to protect some areas in riparian ecosystems and watersheds, and along streams, rivers, and springs from livestock grazing in order to promote ecosystem restoration and meet desired conditions for water quality and riparian function.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

621. *Effecting grazing planning on allotments to allow for more use of prescribed fire. Opportunistic retirement of allotments may help facilitate the application of prescribed fires.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.4 and B.5.

622. *There is a need to protect some areas in riparian ecosystems and watersheds, and along streams, rivers, and springs from livestock grazing in order to promote ecosystem restoration and meet desired conditions for water quality and riparian function.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

623. *Issues – eroded banks, invasive species, encroachment of woody plants, e-coli impairments, drought. Solutions: drift fences; seasonal changes/rotations; restoring*

wetlands; drought control; increase grass; need drift fences and controlled management, then native planting; cattle tanks; buffers (humans)/ enclosure fences; working with permittees; on the ground restoration of riparian areas, plantings, bank work, etc.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.2 and C.7.

624. *Sustaining water quality as a major priority in order to address all the issues surrounding the need for water quality, therefore, many traditional grazing and permittee management policies are outdated. Such as allowing the cattle to wallow and tromp around stream headwaters freely, and not enforcing strict containment policies. Regardless of NM 'fence out; law, federal grazing permittees should be required to build and maintain fences to control cattle in allotments and out of the waterways.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11, B.12, B.13, and B.14.

625. *There is a need to have a few areas without grazing allotments. Let's use them as comparison areas when thinking about grazing/foraging carrying capacity.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

626. *There is a need to limit livestock in allotments to sustainable levels. Limit overgrazing of these grasslands to avoid headcutting and other erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

627. *There is a need to decrease ranching licenses.*

Response: This is a management approach.

628. *There is a need to rotate licensing for ranch grazing.*

Response: This is a management approach.

629. *Get the damn cows off the forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

630. *Have Congress revise the grazing laws, fee structure should be higher.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

631. *The fees are so cheap, surely they could keep fences up.*

Response: This is a management approach.

632. *Increase the grazing permit fee to reflect the actual maintenance costs. Have adequate number of __ to manage the livestock.*

Response: This is a management approach.

633. *There is a need to allow grazing at times when invasive species are coming up, to control some of the growth.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.3 and C.7.

634. *There is a need to control rotation of cattle allotments where it would assist with what grows instead of looking only at how much it grows.*

Response: This is a management approach.

635. *Sage mowing, more seeding around communities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2 and C.7.

636. *Commonsense management ... reintroducing sheep to take care of wooded species; grazing associations to pick up permits sold to allow for cutbacks.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2 and C.7.

637. *Drought adjustment, planting grass, more seeding, grants for money, airplane seeding or seed from the air.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2 and C.7.

638. *Enough pasture for livestock. More re-seeding, planting of grass. Too much dead trees, brush, controlled burns. Maybe more logging to clear areas for grazing. Plants that have no nutrient value, using too much water. More controlled grazing to help with invasive species. Get cattle numbers back to where they were in the past. Better communication with district rangers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2 and C.7.

639. *Seeding for grasses, maybe in concert with all factions. Cleaning of old trees, shrubs, also would reduce the possibility of fires. More pasture access. Adequate water supply for livestock tanks. Controlled burns, thinning. More logging. Controlled grazing for weedy plants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2 and C.7.

640. *Restoring / maintaining grass productivity, particularly native bunch grass ____.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2 and C.7.

641. *Solution: meadow maintenance, more prescribed burning, mechanical/chemical treatments in sagebrush; reestablish cool season grasses in lower elevation country. More thinning. Need aggressive approach to control sagebrush and invasive species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2, B.3, and C.7.

642. *Maintain a proper carrying capacity for livestock and encourage NMDGF to do a better job of managing wildlife, particularly elk.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

643. *Grazing at times when invasive species are coming up, to control some of the growth. Allow spraying of noxious weeds. Control rotation of cattle allotments where it would assist with what grows instead of looking only at how much it grows.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.3.

644. *Invasive species treatment – herbicide application to weeds ____.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.3.

Grasses for not only grazing permittees but also for elk and deer. Thin areas and reseed with the right plants.

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

Reducing erosion, head cuts, incisions. Repair head cuts, channel incision, reconnect floodplain. Multipurpose uses, combine uses, i.e. grazing for range health, firewood for range health, tree spacing for water infiltration. Manage for native grass.

Response: This is addressed by need to change B.2, B.9, and C.7.

Recreation

9. **There is a need to provide plan direction that promotes sustainable recreation.**
10. **There is a need to provide guidance for recreation activities that occur in areas sensitive to resource degradation or at risk, due to high visitation.**
11. **There is a need to update plan direction for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail.**
12. **There is a need to include management approaches within the revised plan to address user conflicts and demands when planning towards recreation desired conditions.**
13. **There is a need to update plan direction and guidance for incorporating the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classifications across all programs areas.**
14. **There is a need to update plan direction and guidance for incorporating the Scenery Management System integrity objectives across all program areas.**
15. **There is a need to update plan direction for over-snow vehicle use.**
16. **There is a need to update plan direction for the recreation special uses program.**

Recreation Comments and Responses

645. *There is a need to define and implement a sustainable recreation strategy on the national forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9.

646. *There is a need for the plan and strategy to address: 1) the spatial allocation of sustainable settings, 2) the relationship and integration of recreation settings with other activities and uses on the forest, 3) the provision of sustainable recreational opportunities that reinforce the setting and minimize conflict among uses, 4) sustainable infrastructure that supports identified settings and opportunities, 5) minimization of impacts related to off-road vehicle designations in summer and winter, and 6) better connecting people with nature, with an emphasis on youth and underserved populations.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

647. *Promoting sustainable recreation management and __ managing recreation activities that occur in sensitive areas. No funds, no staff – youth engagement/volunteers. Better maintenance, sponsorship to maintain roads/trails. Use forest funds for equipment, and seed. Use OHV funding to repair trails. More education. Find a champion for each trail.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

648. *Promote sustainable recreation management and ensure that recreation resources are integrated into all management decisions. Resources being put back to the forest. Money returned back to the region where it was spent.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

649. *Law enforcement.*

Response: Governed by existing, law, policy, or regulation (USDA Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations).

650. *Find a way to support sustainable recreation forest-wide. Over packed campgrounds without proper or enough facilities impact creeks. Pack in/out doesn't work anymore.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5 and C.9.

651. *Solutions: seek out partnerships, grants, etc for more funding. More consciousness. Dumping stations for campers, RVs. Additional fee areas, increase fees?*

Response: These are management approaches.

652. *Realize that visitors have changed (not hardcore hikers and campers, more like Las Vegas visitors) – more education. Forest is overgrown (steep and far from access). Trails are being overused (Williams lake and Wheeler) and campgrounds in need of maintenance – more signs, information.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

653. *Development, recreation, other use permits. Streamlining the permitting process. Depending on intensity applicants should be given some sort of timeline of expectation to have their request either approved, approved with conditions or denied. The processes should be clearly defined in an effort to merge expectations. What permits exist with the FS? What are submittal/approved requirements? How do the FS personnel educate the public?*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.16.

654. *Consideration of all potential resource issues related to supporting recreation – for example, splitting user created roads from dispersed camping ignores all of the potential sources of impact*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.12.

655. *Ultimately, the land is the mission, then the rec opportunities*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

656. *Limit the use of ATVs to designated areas.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule] and 36 CFR Part 219 [2012 Planning Rule]).

657. *There is a need for adopting a service mentality that provides for flexibility to trends in the needs of the public.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.16.

658. *Leave no trace. Volunteering. Look at popular recreation for forest management. Signage. Trail maintenance, local property owners help.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

659. *More recreational management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9, C.10, C.12, C.15, and C.16.

660. *Highlight your wilderness areas – encourage thru simplicity*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.17 and C.18.

661. *Monitor and identify what the recreational users are: identify their needs, compare those various economic benefits – create a user census.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.12.

662. *Outreach programs (advertised in the community) that invite people to the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

663. *Show the public what their money goes for. What it does. Maybe give out a pamphlet that shows what the money has been used for in the last year.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

664. *Goal: awareness of forest's existence and availability will encourage people to come back and volunteer. Need to get the Carson NF's story out there. More current information to front line employees. People want to come to the Carson, just need to put a little effort into getting those stories/info out there. To get the Carson story out, Carson's internet page needs updating. Maybe a friends of the Carson where people could post their own stories/adventures when on the forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

665. *Recreation is #1 use on the forest – how to increase visitation? Stay relevant for the various users and provide a variety of different experiences for the desired uses (motorized, non-motorized, equestrian, hiking, mtn biking) while maintaining a sustainable system.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

666. *There is a need to have NFS employees be more knowledgeable about the trails we do have. We went to the NFS office in Tres Piedras to ask about trails and the guy at the desk had very little knowledge about his own trails. If he's not out there, how can we be?*

Response: This is a management approach.

667. *Workforce management, volunteer base, survey trails and prioritize work projects to give visitors best experience possible, quality not quantity. Multiple use trails and trail systems to give people places to go.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, and C.12.

668. *Well-designed trails that lead to/from the most demanded areas to increase usage and thus interest in further sustainable trail construction.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

669. *There is a need to do a comprehensive trail assessment on the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9.

670. *Ancient trails development – drawing of trails confirmed by Taos archeological society as ancient – Peñasco del Abuelo to Vallecitos to Jarita Mesa to Petaca.*

Response: This is a management approach.

671. *There is a need to provide more hiking trail opportunities. Carson NF not current with trends such as stacked loop systems (ex. La Tierra, Dale Ball, High Desert, etc.).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

672. *Eliminate unsustainable trail miles and work with partners to identify new alignments and construct/maintain.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

673. *Agree with issue: need to do a comprehensive trail assessment on the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9.

674. *There is a need for stacked loop high mountain bike loop.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12

675. *There is a need for letting locals maintain trails, decreased regulations. Increased funding for local trails maintenance and signage through local groups. Increasing local community awareness of advantages to recreational usage. Money into community.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9.

676. *There is a need to make different regulations for trail building vs. trail maintenance. Find obstructions preventing signage. Look at other groups that have successfully managed trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

677. *There is a need to have stacked loop trails near our town. There are many loops in place already, but no one knows about them.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

678. *There is a need for separate horse-walking-biking-mechanized trails. I don't want to hear dirt bikes while I'm enjoying the forest nor do I want to swallow horse poop while bicycling.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.12.

679. *There is a need for an open area for mountain bikes. Allow "work" weekends when bikes can be used to get into harder to reach areas for cleanup. Provide/have/allow bikes with trailers to carry cleaned up material out of forest. Allows direct group of people as volunteer base.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

680. *Maintaining high alpine environments for multiple uses; trails for non-motorized use (differences between motorized and non-motorized labels) don't lump them together all the time.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

681. *Sustainable trails and other user surfaces.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

682. *Sustainable, durable trails. Most of the hiking/recreation currently carried out in the Valle Vidal concentrates impacts over large areas, resulting in a wider spread area of human*

influence over the land. With a durable trail system, recreational impacts by humans would only affect specific areas. With concentrated impact on a trail system, more of the land could be preserved while still offering people the opportunity to enjoy the forest.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

683. *Unified standards for trail construction, development, and maintenance. Streamlining approval process for recreational development, several projects per NEPA. Better advertising for recreation opportunities. Systemic planning for growth of recreation networks in collaboration with local communities, more personnel resources available for NEPA.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

684. *Lack of any new trail miles (other than CDT) Carson NF not current with trends such as stacked loop systems (ex. La Tierra, Dale Ball, High Desert, etc.).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

685. *More trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

686. *Trail maintenance is severely lacking and is a safety issue. Need to team with volunteers and businesses to repair trails. Need to clean up dead timber. Make the power company liable for cleaning up their mess.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6 and is a management approach.

687. *Problem: too few trails and the ones there are are poorly maintained. Solution: build more trails specifically for mountain biking, and even more specifically – single track. There are a lot of double track trails that are created and used by ATVs, but these are much less desirable for mountain biking. The signage on local Carson trails is poor to non-existent. Locals tear them down. We need good signage that is properly and regularly maintained.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

688. *For managing recreation activities that occur in areas sensitive to resource degradation. Volunteers to repair and keep trails open. Engage youth, such as Philmont scout ranch.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

689. *Maintain and create new trails to promote more cabin and home rentals to generate more revenue and use for trail development and maintenance. More input from people for river restoration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

690. *Problem: hiking trails used for horseback riding are full of horse droppings. Solutions: better signs for all trails, hikers won't use the horseback riding trails.*

Response: This is a management approach.

691. *A stacked loop high mountain mountain bike loop.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

692. *Springtime clearing of dead fall trees from trails. Larger parking areas for horse trailers, turnarounds; more signage at trails and trail forks; stopping ATV from going around a sign that says ;closed to ATV's; horse friendly campsites.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

693. *Designate trails; designate trail direction of travel. Maintain forest roads. More powered campsites in state campgrounds.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

694. *Trails need to meet needs of the visitors. Most are too difficult and poorly maintained. More trails that are easier for families and older guests. As well as biking friendly for these groups. Motorized and non-motorized don't mix well.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

695. *Better trails, sponsorship of trails with signs. Grants. Education. Open more roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

696. *There is a need to provide more OHV opportunities in the appropriate places.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

697. *Updated trails for mountain bikes and dirt bikes. Limit the trails to reasonable areas with terrain that is forgiving to use to limit erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

698. *Solution: open some areas or area for loading and unloading snowmobiles.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

699. *(Threats – no ATVs) open ATVs trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

700. *I am an avid off road ATV enthusiast and have seen the effects of the unauthorized, off trail ATV use. All users should have access, but confined to high impact, high intensity trails and established roadways.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

701. *Reducing the off roaders to certain areas and reducing horses to only one of the campgrounds so that those who want a more quiet experience have that opportunity.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

702. *Working trails, ATV riding which will increase revenue for recreational purposes by charging registration fees, fuel tax, and increased local economies.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

703. *Increasing popularity of 4-wheelers and more resource damage is being done by people going off road and off of designated trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

704. *Limiting access to these areas from combustion engines and other intrusive and unnatural noise making devices.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

705. *ATV use – where? It is limited where folks can ride – not clear.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

706. *Remove the damn ATV and UTV from forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

707. *Develop a Recreational Opportunity Guide specific to ATV riding areas, maybe in conjunction with NMDGF. internal rec program/staff could develop Recreation Opportunity Guide.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.13.

708. *OHV use. Lot of potential on forest for trails/roads managed for OHV use. Develop infrastructure, maps, trails. Create permit fee system, general revenue. Partner with local groups and state, grants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

709. *Road maintenance, more heavy equipment and personnel.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

710. *ATV registration for forest area but limited to dead end short trails around Red River. The need for round about trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

711. *Create more trails from existing closed roads in the forest.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

712. *Fewer roads and less motorized access; maximize focused motorized recreation sites/ones, while dropping sum total of road network, especially user created trails. Sorted user zones and shared trails can work.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

Maintaining public OHV areas to allow use for many people. How can we develop a plan to attract more recreational enthusiasts to Taos? Better marked trails for mountain biking, motorcycling/ATV trails, races in the CNF and BLM lands.

Response: This is a management approach.

713. *ATV transportation – maintenance of forest roads for OHVs, seasonal with inspections based on personnel and budget. Provide loop routes with one way traffic, fewer accidents, easier to patrol. Adopt a trail program with interested groups.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

714. *Better trail signs. Maintenance of trails for safety, grading, dirt fill etc. More ATV and Jeep trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

715. *Improve trails by maintaining, blading periodically, and providing adequate drainage.*

Response: This is a management approach.

716. *Reopen middle fork road to motor travel. This will relieve some of the burden on other trails.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

717. *Use OHV registration money (state MVD) for trail improvements. *governor just took \$1m from that fund **

Response: This is a management approach.

718. *Advertise fuelwood permits for dead trees to help clean them up. Promote OHV use on forest land. Open more trails/build a few more. Replace aging signs, maps and markers along the trails. Government coordination with state for OHV funds.*

Response: This is a management approach.

719. *More and better trails for UTV and ATV.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

720. *More of Red River business is recreation. Need more roads and trails open to ATVs. Spread the use over more trails. Use ATV funds to...*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

721. *Open and improve trail canyon and Fourth of July trail.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

722. *Open Middle Fork trail, at least to Jeeps and Jeep tours.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

723. *Opening more trails to vehicle traffic right away – before plan completion in spring 2018. Raise volunteer army that can knock these projects out quickly. Have a volunteer coordinator.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

724. *Reopening trails like Middle Fork, which were at one time open for vehicle recreation, to reduce pressure on the few trails which remain open, like Goose Lake and Mallette. Also work to open trail through Caribel mine property (Pioneer trail), or build up trail around it. Volunteer trail maintenance. 4th of July Canyon.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

725. *Trail maintenance for cleaning and opening new trails for snowmobiling.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9, C.12, and C.16.

726. *We need more trails open for ATV use. How: expand trails that exist make more roundabouts. There are cuts some people have already made, go ahead and open them.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

727. *Areas prohibited for ATV or vehicle use should be enforced.*

Response: This is a management approach.

728. *Increasing access to harder to reach places. This may help some with reducing crowding in popular areas. Requires road maintenance, signage, etc. Adequate resources for addressing permits for special use. Increasing partnerships with volunteers in community for trail maintenance and other projects. Allow for easier access for volunteers to do their work.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

729. *Stacked loop trails near our town. There are many loops in place already, but no one knows about them. Campgrounds, both primitive and those with amenities, are necessary. Perhaps separate horse-walking-biking-mechanized trails. I don't want to hear dirt bikes while I'm enjoying the forest nor do I want to swallow horse poop while bicycling. Once the trails are made and signs installed, how about putting trail maps with mileage at each trail or intersection. We need to get more people in our forests and on our trails. Our NFS offices need more education on our trails and forest roads (website). Wood gathering, littering.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

730. *ATV trails need to be separate from hiking and horse trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

731. *Open up Middle Fork Lake trail; repair Fourth of July canyon road, empower volunteers to protect and enforce, bulldoze Elephant Rock trail, borrow ideas from forests in Colorado.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

732. *Opening or requiring more trails for motorized recreation. Spend more time and resources on maintaining trails to avoid closure, possibly with help or cooperation from locals or other interested groups.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

733. *Reroute trail around boulder and reopen Middle Fork trail. Why not use the Middle Fork road for small vehicles? It was funded and completed and immediately closed. Opening this access would make so many people happy and bring more tourists. Numbers of tourists has declined.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

734. *Promote partnership with Red River for OHV events, races, snowmobile events.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

735. *Promote recreation and OHV sporting events with the town of Red River and Chamber.*

Response: This is a role or contribution.

736. *Many sites are sensitive to off road driving and high visitation, especially from horse outfitters (cabins in Valle Vidal being damaged), increased hiking to cabins, increased and unmanaged bicycles and mountain bikes. ATV/OHV/Jeeps.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9, C.10, and C.12.

737. *Attracting more guests to our area. Clean products (bathrooms, trails). More motorized trails. More trails geared to our guests. Marketing what we have. Open up the motorcycle loop to 4x4s. Funding and volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

738. *User fees and proper use of OHV permits – better coordination between FS and other government agencies.*

Response: This is a role or contribution.

739. *All the money that is collected from ATV permits should go into trail maintenance and cleaning out the undergrowth.*

Response: This is a management approach.

740. *Money should go back to the area where it was spent.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service Authority.

741. *Keeping more of habitat strong in high usage areas, like the north. Collecting fees based on usage to help with trail maintenance, signs ____.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

742. *Need for clean concise signs. Letting locals maintain trails, decreased regulations. Increased funding for local trails maintenance and signage through local groups. Increasing local community awareness of advantages to recreational usage. Money into community. Make different regulations for trail building vs. trail maintenance. Find obstructions preventing signage. Look at other groups that have successfully managed trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

743. *Recognizing that all these subjects are completely interactive, in order to maximize the value of each and to properly sustain the public/private partnerships that have been developed, and create new ways for the public land managers to engage the communities. If, at an estimated \$154M economic impact, recreation is the leading revenue source 'more than all other programs combined', then it seems pretty obvious that this revenue can be increased creatively and can contribute substantially to infrastructure development and improvement and maintenance. This automatically improves social and economic aspects. User fees that can then be used for road and trail maintenance and development of new trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

744. *Retain funds collected for permits, etc.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

745. *More dollars need to come back to the area generating the money.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

746. *Recreation – fee demo, pay to play, making sound decisions, invest or walk away.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

747. *Since demand is greater than supply, somehow generate some funding from those that demand opportunities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

748. *Fee collections to help with deferred maintenance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

749. *Maybe travel to other areas and compare fees versus services received.*

Response: This is a management approach.

750. *Give the rec sites to the states, counties, towns, just the sites – FS wash their hands of it. Let the recreation infrastructure be maintained by the users.*

Response: This is a management approach.

751. *Threat – dumpsites across forest. Effects: soils, watershed, wildlife, recreation, riparian, social/econ. Solution: Trash, debris, defacement and destruction. Education to create ownership of the forest. More law enforcement when people litter or dump. Charge for campsites with people signing in to each site. If you charge a little for each site, hopefully the funds could be used to hire someone to pick up trash. Have names if people trash their campsites. Put up signs about dumping trash/littering and maintain them. Replace faded and shot up signs, so people know/can see people are paying attention. Hammering litterers which will get the word out. People will think twice about throwing trash out the windows or dumping trash on the forest. Recycle cans and bottles; if there is a fee for each can, plastic bottle, or glass bottle, more people will pick up/turn in those items to collect that 5 cent recycling fee.*

Response: This is a management approach.

752. *User fees, budget concerns; managing sustainable recreation; requires flexibility from FS and from public, education.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

753. *“Use-based fees” – forest world more complex as time goes by, solution: education.*

Response: This is a management approach.

754. *We need cabin rental.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

755. *More cabin rentals.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

756. *Cabins – visitors call all the time asking about renting cabins on the forest.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

757. *Amole cabin should be rented.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

758. *Cabin lease sites can bring money into USFS cabin rental site also.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

759. *There is a need to manage fee areas to help with maintenance costs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

760. *There is a need for allowing people to adopt sites, similar to the adopt a highway program, or in-memory-of sites.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

761. *There is a need to charge for group shelters to better manage for trash left behind or vandalism to property.*

Response: This is a management approach.

762. *There is a need to inventory existing signage, signage inadequacies, execute sweeping signage installation effort through budget and personnel, volunteers and trail crew.*

Response: This is a management approach.

763. *There is a need for signs installed, how about putting trail maps with mileage at each trail or intersection.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

764. *Better signage and land use information policies.*

Response: This is a management approach.

765. *Better signage is needed on the Carson to inform the public.*

Response: This is a management approach.

766. *There is a need for clean concise signs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

767. *Sign inventory.*

Response: This is a management approach.

768. *Signs and markings to help indicate where certain reserves are and where activities can take place; designate areas for certain activities.*

Response: This is a management approach.

769. *Inventory of existing signage, signage _____, execute sweeping signage installation effort. Budget and personnel, volunteers and trail crew.*

Response: This is a management approach.

770. *Signage inadequacies throughout trail system.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

771. *Mark trails with signs (directions). Maintain existing trails for hikers and OHV. Keep trails clean by putting up more signs, no litter, pack in-pack out. Educate guests with signs at the trailheads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

772. *Damaged facilities, more LEO presence.*

Response: This is a management approach.

773. *Trash elimination, graffiti elimination, ATV enforcement. I would like to not be exposed to this devastation.*

Response: This is a management approach.

774. *More presence in the forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

775. *Enforce closures.*

Response: This is a management approach.

776. *Enforcement is an excellent deterrent, high fines/jail time.*

Response: This is a management approach.

777. *Budgetary problem with more need of Forest Protection Officers in the field. We seriously need more law enforcement.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.4.

778. *More law enforcement, social engineering.*

Response: This is a management approach.

779. *Hikers and skiers trespass on Taos Pueblo and Blue Lake. Solution: not sure – patrol, signs, education, work with pueblo.*

Response: This is a management approach.

780. *There is a need for improved management of cross country travel, whether it is for dispersed recreation, firewood gathering, ignorance of TM rules, or just plain disregard; illegal activity. Lack of enforcement of Questa's TM considerations allows public to drive anywhere, everywhere. Begins with incorrect 300' foot corridors on back of permit. This damages cultural resources, soils, vegetation, and forest overall by creating unauthorized roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

781. *Recreational access being limited, maintain access for all forest users; wood cutting, fishing, hunting, gathering herbs, mushrooms, monitoring forest. Road closures are a concern. Solutions: Better law enforcement. Larger fines, stewardship by members of the community.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

782. *Move signage; consequences; enforcement; maybe a 'friendly force' of volunteers that helps remind the public.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

783. *More hands on FS personnel to really see the impacts of the increased visitation in NF and wilderness areas. Issues of increased degradation of trails and use conflict are not being addressed by need to change statement, even when FS employees are notified.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

784. *Better maintenance of existing recreational facilities, with community outreach to assist. Revisit permitting process to make it more streamlined.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5 and C.16.

785. *Campsites need overhaul, more room for vehicles, more signs and info, types of visitors changed.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

786. *Maintaining facilities. Set up a regular schedule for maintaining – develop larger volunteer base to help with maintenance. Form a team with Red River community house to educate about the forest and wildlife and to recruit volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6 and is a partnership opportunity.

787. *Picnic areas – need more family/group shelters that are well maintained.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

788. *FS built too much to manage.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5, C.9, and C.12.

789. *FS should stick more to natural resource management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

790. *More small scattered opportunities, fewer big expensive sites.*

Response: This is a management approach.

791. *Cleaner campgrounds.*

Response: This is a management approach.

792. *More developed campsites throughout the districts. There is an increase in folks recreating. Camp areas fill up quickly. Charge for group shelter to better manage for trash left behind or vandalized property.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

793. *More recreation sites (threatens) watershed.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.10.

794. *When the Valle Vidal was added to the forest a number of improvements were made. None of these have been maintained, which reduces the ability of people to engage in the forest. Education for the public is needed to help people engage. This may help in future funding needs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

795. *Reduction of number of roadside campsites.*

Response: This is a management approach.

796. *Areas such as US Hill 442 have better parking, the Tres Ritos area also better parking.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

797. *Facilities maintenance, higher fines.*

Response: This is a management approach.

798. *There is a need to maintain current infrastructure (campsites, bridges, roads, trails) and add new infrastructure.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5.

799. *There is a need for more developed campsites throughout the districts.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

800. *There is a need to have more campgrounds, both primitive and those with amenities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

801. *Outfitter guide use on Carson (with limited clients permit areas open with historic use limits). Outfitter access for drawn state hunters with first come first serve camp units or areas. Fix: Limit camp areas for outfitters by area. no limit on day use for hunts by draw.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.16.

802. *Outfitter guides – limiting camp areas, model like Wyoming, first come first serve on camping.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.16.

803. *Fishing limits have gone down.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

804. *Managing anglers and recreationists to minimize impacts. How do we minimize the not native, invasive species hurting native species – rock snot.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3 and C.10.

805. *More special waters (catch and release only). Clear designation and better enforcement prohibit use of certain tackle that almost guarantees a fish caught is a fish killed.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

806. *Homeowners dam up the river so fish are contained in their pools and put up no trespassing signs. Public can't fish even though we purchased a fishing license.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision or Forest Service authority.

807. *Shooting – education, designated areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, C.9 and a partnership opportunity.

808. *NFS offices need more education on our trails and forest roads (website).*

Response: This is a management approach.

809. *Educate the public about the different landscapes, and uses, as well as needs to help maintain roads, water sources, and shelters.*

Response: This is a management approach.

810. *Education on appropriate use – small business size cards, pamphlets on trails – how to be a conscientious user, how to be polite to other users.*

Response: This is a management approach.

811. *Fire prevention is great for kids and about fire is good and bad. But what about educating about rec, range, trail maintenance. And how/why ATVing on certain roads is ok but not others, or why people can't (suppose to) drive across meadows, rivers, things like that. Young people seem to eat up things like this. Now junior rangers are out there and other programs but also have different levels __ super simple ideas for real young kinds, then expand w/in the different grades in school. Maybe get volunteers? To help keep these education programs going.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, partnership opportunity, and management approach.

812. *Offer field trips, guided, to educate the general public about trails that are available in NM.*

Response: This is a management approach.

813. *Increased education about areas that need less human impact to help protect or restore specific areas. Find out what people value in terms of the areas. Provide trails to minimize impact and well maintained roads to provide availability. Increased involvement of recreators will increase awareness and support of using the areas sustainably for recreation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

814. *Leave no trace education.*

Response: This is a management approach.

815. *Education of the public – signs posted, pamphlets available at the districts distribution by forest employees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

816. *Possibly more signage and education.*

Response: This is a management approach.

817. *Education volunteers to help maintain forest trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

818. *Education for fire evacuation is important and education on downed Fuelwood.*

Response: This is a role or contribution.

819. *Bird watching/nature walks, camping (low impact), informational nature signs around trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

820. *Getting more citizens into the forest to enjoy activities, such as rock hounds, bird watchers, snowshoe enthusiasts, local, low cost 'staycations' in NM.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

821. *Bring back programs for employment for elderly, youth.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

822. *On all the charts that I looked at I did not see anything about employment, our youth, as in the past we had YACC, also YCC employment for our elders.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

823. *Attracting younger generations towards natural areas while still meeting their needs and interests in a modern world. Benefits – increased time spent in the outdoors; increased revenue building.*

Response: This is a management approach.

824. *Make it easier to help. Better educate the public of opportunities to help and skills necessary to help. FS should be open to public suggestions/wants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

825. *Community based approach in all variety of __ based planning. E.g. develop OHV trail system across west side of forest; 1000+ miles of trails; \$\$ for local community selling gas __provide punch __.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

826. *Building partnerships, reaching out to the people, getting people to clean up after themselves, give the people what they want but that is complex; they want to have _____ the place, see where they see it going and allowing that use when they can, or something similar.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

827. *The Carson could spend more time and energy reaching out to forest users to volunteer their time to build trails, improve trails and maintain trails. Be persistent because everyone is busy with work, life, etc and schedules can be hard to match up. Offer swag such as t-shirts, hats, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

828. *Recreation – same solutions as for forest infrastructure– maintenance of roads through budget, volunteer help, local community, high school group, churches, community service hours for court, schools.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.5 and A.6.

829. *Trails – get the public more involved in maintaining trails and identifying needs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

830. *Volunteers to help manage trails. Permits to be given so volunteers can use chain saws and other equipment needed to keep trails open and thin forests. Maybe a permit could be purchased to allow volunteers this opportunity. Elevation or weather dependent closures of forests is necessary. Cibola volunteer program is successful. Why not use this as a model for volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

831. *Upkeep of forest trails used by business owners/as well as tourists. Possible volunteers/educated for improvement of forest trails used for all activities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

832. *Improving trails (4th of July, Middle Fork). Local partnership in maintaining trails, Labelle trail, hiking. Volunteers to help with maintenance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

833. *Increase in volunteer programs and education for the community and tourists regarding maintaining resort areas and help protect wildlife in the process.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

834. *Building community involvement ... offer more CNF sponsored activities that work with private business/local business. Teach mountain bike etiquette. Community po___ with wildlife info. Tours of the actual areas. More restoration group activities with school groups, ___ Biker only trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

835. *Temps, volunteers, fewer career employees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

836. *Community involvement in upkeep.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

837. *Making people more accountable for their recreation areas. Possibly allowing people to adopt sites, similar to the adopt a highway program, or in-memory-of sites. Charging a minimal fee at group areas which currently do not charge, for upkeep purposes and personnel costs, sustainable recreation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

838. *Increase partners and volunteers – adopt-a-trail, maintenance by local clubs, ski areas, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

839. *Volunteer program – with stronger volunteer program in place, trails, roads, structures are improved and the more people involved, the more pride and care are taken.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

840. *Solution: strong efforts to recruit volunteers in communities.*

Response: This is a management approach.

841. *Volunteer programs. Interested parties that actually use the land will be more likely and willing to participate/be interested in helping. Maintaining sustainable trails and usage of the land.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

842. *Using volunteer programs to help maintain recreation facilities. Example: using Philmont staff to perform necessary backlog upkeep and maintenance in the Valle Vidal.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

843. *SOCIAL MEDIA – encouraging partnership.*

Response: This is a management approach.

844. *More volunteer ops to assist with numerous projects – facility maintenance, cabin rentals, fire watch, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

845. *Increased staff and volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

846. *Develop and organize local nonprofits into stronger, i.e. make them more effective, organizations – boosting each other’s efforts and resources.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

847. *Adopt a campsite program similar to adopt a highway program.*

Response: This is a management approach.

848. *Getting more people to help – employment.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

849. *Trail maintenance – better utilize the volunteers to get more work done. I worked with the Boy Scouts of America in West Virginia before. We had 20 seasonal NPS staff teach another 200-30 instructors who then managed lots of people over a month to get lots of work done. Partnering with the BSA could be useful.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

850. *Small claim miners/collectors knowing what and where they can collect.*

Response: This is a management approach.

851. *Double standard for recreation versus agricultural use. Agricultural use is penalized greater than recreation. Recreation can have significant damage, with lack of respect for forest resources.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

852. *Have a fish and game personnel actively involved in Valle Vidal to help with those issues.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

853. *Maps to designate areas for multiple use activities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

854. *Employees who go out to the field need to communicate the conditions, say on trails, roads, etc., so that when people call we can give them good information.*

Response: This is a management approach.

855. *Solution: as with forest, vehicles are washed to reduce invasive species weed spread.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.3.

856. *Time-based closures – elk calling closures, etc. multiple use divided by time (hiking-OHV-hunting).*

Response: This is a management approach.

857. *Overall management. Need more flexibility. Be allowed to burn sites without hazardous materials. Community outreach. Partnerships.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

858. *Recreation – dispersed camping impact on archeology, old forest plan, bit disconnected with what people are saying.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

859. *Model Colorado’s trail plan. More trails needed, increase public safety. More law enforcement, empower volunteers to enforce laws.*

Response: Governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (USDA Forest Service Law Enforcement and Investigations).

860. *Raise funds by daily use fee, permit fees.*

Response: This is a management approach.

861. *Projects on SUP: guidelines (have to follow) swpp (soil and water protection plan?). Imbalance forest (sorry, don’t understand abbreviations) [issue has to do with the complexity of complying with requirements from multiple agencies when planning projects under a special use permit (SUP)]. Kit Carson dropping trees for line management and not clearing them out.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.16.

862. *When someone comes in and cuts trees for a project (like Kit Carson) you must clean up what you take down. If you cut it down then you can cut it up, then take it out or put where public can take for firewood.*

Response: This is a management approach.

863. *Problem: dead trees along highway 150/visitors let us know at the Taos Ski Valley chamber of their concerns about this problem. Solution: involve the community along with the FS to clean and beautify the forest along highway 150.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

864. *User-friendly forest (see Cibola NF).*

Response: This is a management approach.

865. *Recreation, wildlife viewing. Throwing slash to reduce erosion. Manage dispersed camping. Agency personnel interaction with each other field.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.10, and C.12.

Designated Areas

17. There is a need to update plan direction for managing existing designated areas, including designated wilderness, research natural areas, and designated and eligible wild and scenic rivers, that promotes the maintenance of desired values and characteristics unique to each area.

18. There is a need to provide plan direction for newly designated or potential designated areas that promotes the maintenance of desired values and characteristics unique to each area.

Designated Areas Comments and Responses

866. *There is a need to identify potential special designations for the Valle Vidal unit.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

867. *There is a need to establish management direction and procedures for Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRWs).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.18.

868. *There is a need for considering additional special areas for designation to provide specific management direction to unique or important resources and values that exist in the planning area.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

869. *There is a need for updating wilderness management direction in order to protect and enhance wilderness values and character while upholding the mandate of multiple-uses on NFS lands.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.17, and C.18.

870. *There is a need to reevaluate and take into consideration traditional uses in special areas such as research natural areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.17.

871. *There is a need for identifying, evaluating, and potentially recommending additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

872. *Updating the wilderness inventory and advocating for (recommending to Congress) more wilderness within the Carson. Wilderness provides carbon sequestration (?), habitat for endangered species, healthier riparian areas and better opportunities for backcountry recreation. So it is connected to many of the 13 areas CNF chose to highlight here at this meeting. CNF should specifically address wilderness characteristics w/in Valle Vidal.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

873. *There is a need to update the wilderness inventory and advocate for (recommending to Congress) more wilderness within the Carson.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

874. *There is a need to specifically address wilderness characteristics within Valle Vidal.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

875. *There is a need to not designate wilderness in the Carson.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

876. *There is a need for more wilderness areas to diffuse usage of existing wilderness areas.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

Infrastructure

19. There is a need to provide plan direction for maintenance of transportation systems in watersheds identified as impaired or at-risk.

20. There is a need to update plan direction for reclamation of non-system roads.

Infrastructure Comments and Responses

877. *There is a need for managing for reclamation of non-system routes and system roads that are no longer needed.*

This is addressed by plan need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

878. *There is a need for addressing road maintenance in watersheds identified as being impaired or at-risk or that adversely impact areas with high conservation value or other resources.*

This is addressed by plan need to change statement C.19.

879. *Rehabilitation of user created and old roads so as to control runoff and erosion.*

This is addressed by plan need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

880. *There is a need to close "non-roads" areas that were never supposed to be roads.*

Response: This is addressed by plan need to change statement C.19 and C.20 and is a management approach.

881. *The FS can work with volunteer groups to tear up old roads near entry points in particular, so as to save on labor. There may also be an education element to inform people about the harm inherent in using the roads.*

Response: These are management approaches.

882. *There is a need to make the transportation system as ecologically and fiscally sustainable as possible, including the need to implement national best management practices for water quality.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.10, C.12, C.19, and C.20.

883. *There is a need to close and rehab all unauthorized roads that are not needed.*

Response: This is addressed by plan need to change statements C.19 and C.20, and is a possible management approach.

884. *Road maintenance should be done more often.*

Response: This is a management approach.

885. *Most roads have been closed off with limited access for wood products (limited access).*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule]) and is addressed by need to change statement by C.6.

886. *Road maintenance lacking for resource extraction.*

Response: This is a management approach.

887. *Pave road from Cimarron and Amalia. Provide jobs and opportunity. Road is lowest in elevation, shortest route in the mountain passes here in NNM and south central Colorado.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action for Forest Service roads. State or County roads are outside Forest Service authority.

888. *Maintenance of existing roads, signs, I hear many complaints about maintenance on this forest. A good start to improving the forest is to maintain what there is, then moving on to other improvements.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9.

889. *Roads – properly maintained, located out of sensitive areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19.

890. *Close 'non roads' areas that were never supposed to be roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.20.

891. *Unauthorized roads: close at all points of access as forcefully as necessary. But also identify reasons for encroachment and address, provide information on other opportunities that address that need ... augment existing and provide new opportunities (ex. OHV trails). PARTNERSHIPS Solution: would be just gate or sign roads and avoid*

tearing up roads and more degradation by public just moving over and reusing same area but cutting trees and using up more ground. More presence of FS and law enforcement.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6 and C.20.

892. *Unauthorized roads, recreation activities are threat to archeology.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

893. *Roads – erosion – affecting aquatic species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19.

894. *Work on a rotation to maintain all level 2 and 3 roads.*

Response: This is a management approach.

895. *Assessment of level 1 roads, put roads to bed Solutions: focus on priority roads, decommission non-system routes, decommission unneeded roads; green infrastructure and environmentally responsible maintenance and construction, permeable surfaces, vegetation all around. Partnership with locals and community groups on roads that aren't used a ton but need maintenance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, C.19, and C.20.

896. *Needs – road maintenance that does not impact water quality.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19.

897. *We need more 4x4 trails. Open up the forest to all motor vehicles.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule]).

898. *Proper appropriation of funds to actually use funds to repair trails for use.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.12.

899. *Regular routine road maintenance on all roads and trails and bridges. Without regular maintenance there can be other damage done to private property that joins a FS trail, example is flooding.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19.

900. *Reopen closed trails to relieve congestion on other trails. Middle fork – not fair to allow hiking when handicap can't enjoy it. Allow motor vehicles.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

901. *Road maintenance for trails and roads. Why are building restrooms not maintained? How often are trails checked?*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9.

902. *Roads and trails – better maintained trails. Old Red River pass needs to be maintained before it deteriorates to the degree of Fourth of July or Middle Fork. Use of volunteers or property owners if FS doesn't have the resources. Better signage on trails. Pioneer.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

903. *Open, and reopen trails to relieve heavy congestion for peak tourist season (at Red River). We need more trails for people to enjoy.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

904. *OHV permit funds needs to go back into keeping trails maintained. We sell more permits than any area in the state.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

905. *Open trails for Jeeps and 4 wheelers. Use private and free help to maintain trails and roads.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

906. *Cooperate with private groups to assist in maintaining ATV trails and open new trails to lessen the traffic on existing trails. Signage for both ATV and foot traffic. Be receptive to volunteer usage.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

907. *ATV use and maintain trails, improve conditions. Water use, skiing, snowmobile, etc. Water condition. Housing protection, fire, etc.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

908. *Better roads and trail maintenance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

909. *Construct alternative trails, Elephant Rock, Bitter Creek, to Exploration trail(s) in Red River area.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

910. *Allocating funds to grade and maintain existing trails and roads used as trails. Poorly maintained roads result in closures due to the cost to bring the trail back to a good condition.*

Response: This is a management approach.

911. *45 years ago there were almost no restrictions on off-road use, though off-trail use was still prohibited. Now probably no more than 1/3 of the trails are still open. The excuses are always against recreational use of public lands.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule] and 36 CFR Part 219 [2012 Planning Rule]).

912. *More restrictions on off-road ATVs and more law enforcement. More signage. Adopt a road program.*

Response: This is a management approach.

913. *Better maintenance for roads to reduce erosion and improve for safety. Roads closed through travel management are not reflected in the field and roads retained are poorly maintained and hard to find. Use Rocky Mountain Youth Corps to do work.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19 and C.20 and a partnership opportunity.

914. *Impassable roads to trailheads, erosion. No room to turn around at trailheads with horse trailers. Impassable trails due to tree falls, rock slides, washouts, etc. solution: more work to be done on roads and trails promptly when there is a problem.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

915. *Horse trailer parking at trailheads. Backcountry horseman association – there is no Taos chapter.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

916. *Too many roads and too much motorized vehicle access. Unauthorized road development creates undue maintenance burden on FS; de-authorize user created roads, limiting motorized access while simultaneously maximizing user interaction w/forest through a sustainable recreational trail system.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

917. *A new CNF map that shows the roads that exist and are really open. I'm not necessarily saying to close roads. Perhaps gate and fence roads to allow for them to be open now and then for firewood gathering, fire protection, logging, etc. The FS seems unable to enforce road closures. They are ignored generally. So what about gating some roads properly and allowing them to be opened up when particular needs arise.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

918. *Problems – maintenance needed on roads and on facilities. Solution: decommission non-system routes; identify and decommission unneeded roads – will help the FS use their limited resources to focus on roads that are important; require road system work that is fiscally and ecologically sustainable.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

919. *Problem areas on road systems across the forest. Some roads are losing their base, address these areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

920. *Travel management – content issue; maps are very confusing, no signs in forest; opportunity to evaluate the decisions, changes need to be made. Red tape is an issue. Solution: more flexibility to change and adjust. It's also a social/economic issue: forest credibility and relevance, and the ability to tell the Carson story.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

921. *Travel management: needs amendments, season of use needs to be changed, timeframe. Scale of map, need to separate districts on the west side of the forest. Make it easier to understand. Gates, signage. Legend is unclear, some of it is similar to others. Simplify the process to make amendments.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

922. *More open roads from the travel management, a lot got closed but have been around FOREVER, yet people can get ticketed by driving down them. In fuelwood cutting areas, you can drive 200' off the road where there was no road before, but it is illegal to go down decent two tracks. Solution: maybe find roads that are vegetated and close those ones but*

open another somewhere or maybe make new ones where people can recreate, aka ATV/URV/horse/bike, whatever, or even get wood. Finding a way to educate people about why these rules are in place, I know prevention- fireworks w/kids, but maybe expand into other functions and teach kids about rec, wildlife, range.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, and C.12.

923. *There are many miles of roads on the Carson. It seems that the road crew is 'spread too thin'; would be good to increase the amount of equipment and ability to keep up with changing weather situations. Some more popular roads become dangerously wash-boarded and they need to be maintained a bit more frequently.*

Response: This is a management approach.

924. *Roads / signs maintenance – water systems maintenance*

Response: This is a management approach.

925. *Research in road building and understanding proper building areas to reduce long term maintenance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

926. *Mitigation/closure of non-FS system roads. Many of the roads in the NF, specifically in the Valle Vidal, do not serve any direct purpose currently. If these roads were to be closed/removed, these areas in the Valle could be returned to a more refined 'leave no trace' unit of land.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

927. *You can fix the roads problem by keeping them open. Roads are a disaster, fix them.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

928. *Prioritize roads better.*

Response: This is a management approach.

929. *Maintain forest roads – increase funding for roads after rainstorms.*

Response: This is a management approach.

930. *More water management. Need to gravel roads in some places.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

931. *Road use/unauthorized road use – increased presence of FS personnel, FS authorized community citizen groups to enforce proper use and access of roads. Recreation, awareness campaign (signs, increased signage) to balance agricultural use with recreational use.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

932. *Roads are in a very bad shape. They need to be graded and sometimes re-routed because water follows tracks and they become ruts, arroyos, and then you need new or rerouted roads. Again a big waste of taxpayer money.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

933. *Adopt a road, road access.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

934. *Happy with roads, no new roads.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

935. *There is a need to keep roads and trails open for the public to use. Keep roads drivable for the public and maintained so they do not cause as much erosion to the land. Useable trails offered to the public.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

936. *There is a need for better road maintenance, more heavy equipment and personnel.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

937. *There is a need to increase OHV use...Lot of potential on forest for trails/roads managed for OHV use. Develop infrastructure, maps, trails. Create permit fee system, general revenue. Partner with local groups and the state, get grants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

938. *There is a need to leave existing roads/paths open – not necessarily kept up or improved. Because when roads are blocked, people will still go – without being observed. Not all wilderness needs to be ‘improved’ but needs to be available.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule] and 36 CFR Part 219 [2012 Planning Rule]).

939. *There is a need for road maintenance and opening new roads to allow access. Would also help to prevent ‘new’ roads from being made by those going around closures, leading to erosion, plant destruction.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

940. *There is a need for better road maintenance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

941. *There is a need for better road maintenance, access preservation, road improvement so that all users of the forest have access. By encouraging recreational clubs/organizations to ‘adopt’ a section of M2 level roads, citizens can use natural materials and hand labor to fill gullies in dirt roads reducing erosion and preserving access.*

Response: This is a management approach.

942. *There is a need for preserving road access, better road maintenance (adopt a road), and no new roads.*

Response: This is a management approach.

943. *There is a need for road maintenance. AGMC and other clubs working together to donate money and time to help fix and maintain roads.*

Response: This is a management approach.

944. *There is a need for maintenance of roads and other infrastructure through budget, volunteer help, local community, high school group, churches, community service hours for court, schools.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

945. *There is a need to repair roads using labor from volunteer recreational miners who have claims in Carson and design the water to flow in directions so as not to damage the road.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

946. *Firewood – do not close the roads where people go for wood, roads are poor – more maintenance.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule]) and is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

947. *Involve the community in possible closings, before they are closed.*

Response: This is a management approach.

948. *Keep the roads open for people to go for firewood. What right do you have to close them? Clear the roads for people.*

Response: This is a management approach.

949. *Angel Fire is a resort community and needs portals into forest. Well marked, well signed trails for hiking, biking, as well as 4-wheeler.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

950. *There is a need to have more flexibility to change and adjust travel management. It's also a social/economic issue: our credibility and relevance, and our ability to tell our story.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule]).

951. *There is a need to build connectivity between trail systems, include state lands, find another organization that can facilitate volunteer trail builders (locally here we're trying to use ABQ Mtn Bike Assn) can also facilitate interagency cooperation (state/forest/counties).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9 and C.12.

952. *There is a need for increased multiuse trail (non-motorized) access. Properly built trails in order to decrease erosion concerns. These trails would be used by multiple trail user groups, including hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, bird watching, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

953. *Long distance trail networks to facilitate backpacking and bike packing. Bike packing has exploded in popularity in recent years and can be a great economic boost.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

954. *Long distance trail networks for multiple non-motorized use. Trails would need to be properly built to decrease erosion. Trail networks greatly increase ecotourism and local economy.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

955. *Keep roads and trails open for the public to use. Keep roads drivable for the public and to not cause erosion to the land as much. Trails offered that the public can use.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

956. *Access and accessibility. Money and manpower to create and maintain existing and new trails. More availability for locals and tourists.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

957. *Develop trail systems – communicate with public better to help decide how to prioritize resources.*

Response: This is a management approach.

958. *Simple trail maintenance. Blade the roads (small dozer) every few years. Be OHV friendly.*

Response: This is a management approach.

959. *Trail maintenance – use volunteers, have rangers on hand, education.*

Response: This is a management approach.

960. *Trails need to be maintained and posted.*

Response: This is a management approach.

961. *Trails – poor trails for mountain biking, ATV, hiking ... need better signs ... need policing in forest for improper usage.*

Response: This is a management approach.

962. *Use staff to work on trails or recruit volunteers.*

Response: This is a management approach.

963. *Prioritize key, higher-use trails and improve signs – with directions at trailheads on how to follow.*

Response: This is a management approach.

964. *There is need for better signage on all roads to help with better road management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

965. *There is a need to have well marked, well signed trails for hiking, biking, as well as 4-wheelers.*

Response: This is a management approach.

966. *Campground improvements not kept up. Roadside signs in terrible condition. Water system at Canjilon lakes was abandoned. Need to restore system. Fees are still being charged for camping with no water available. Replace old and weathered signs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

967. *Put signs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

968. *Put better signs on all the roads around the ___ to better help with road management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

969. *Aged/weathered signs are ignored and should be maintained and kept fresh.*

Response: This is a management approach.

970. *Strong use of clearly marked signs to orient/educate the public of special requirements and general information.*

Response: This is a management approach.

971. *Better trail signage. Using old closed roads for multi-use trails.*

Response: This is a management approach.

972. *Boundary markers – better marking of forest boundary. Let adjacent landowners sign boundary, partner to let public put up signs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

973. *Signs-Informational, directional, etc. The more education people receive, the more they will understand and hopefully respond to our forest's needs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

974. *More signage on FS lands: trails, uses, prohibited uses.*

Response: This is a management approach.

975. *Partner with hunting, hiking, bird watching, etc. groups to create more, better signs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

976. *Signage, maps, geo-caching for OHVs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

977. *Trail markers are lacking and in poor condition.*

Response: This is a management approach.

978. *Provide for the need by establishing signs for ATV use etc.*

Response: This is a management approach.

979. *For hiking trails the public needs more info, if people are walking why not give them things to read. How: more signs telling about the history of the trail and what some of the trees are the types of wildlife they may see.*

Response: This is a management approach.

980. *FS needs to rebuild old, old, fences. Furnish materials for permittees to maintain fence. Seek funding from NMDG&F to restore watering improvements, i.e. trick tanks, stock tanks, etc.*

Response: This is a management approach.

981. *Range improvements. Water development, springs. Fence repair/fences (new). Water development, dirt tanks, erosion dams.*

Response: This is a management approach.

982. *Offer free use of campgrounds in exchange for service projects, e.g. picnic tables, new latrine construction, signage postering, and construction.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

983. *Improve campgrounds and campground infrastructure by updating facilities to 2015 standards.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

984. *With an increase in the use of RVs, black water dumping is a problem – especially in our recreation. Would like to see a septic dumping holding tank for RV visitors to use, and water spigots. Charge a minimal fee and have it pumped as needed.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

985. *More recreation sites, an increase of RVs, black water disposal.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

986. *Charge for campsites to make extra money to help maintain facilities and roads. More law enforcement presence to hammer people for destroying things. Donation boxes, use funds for infrastructure. Education, community and youngsters. Encouraging young people to help work on roads and trails for community service or for graduation.*

Response: These are management approaches.

987. *Involve the community financially in campgrounds.*

Response: This is a management approach.

988. *Spend more money to make FS look more modern and not so rundown.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

989. *ATV trails were supposed to be funded by ATV permits. Red River has not had any new trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

990. *Increase budget for trail maintenance and trail signage. Educate the forest visitor with signs at the trail heads – don't litter – stay on trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

991. *Increased attention to campgrounds/recreation areas and trail signs. There could be a tradeoff of higher fees, as long as that additional value is reflected in facilities and services.*

Response: This is a management approach.

992. *Limited resources for CNF – trail maintainance, signs, opening new trails. Accessing the millions that are in Colfax and Taos County. Tap the hunting and fishing market. Additional fees for usage.*

Response: This is a management approaches.

993. *Not much maintenance performed. No budget for maintenance. Cut back on office expense, use budget for on the ground work.*

Response: These are management approaches.

994. *Put the money from OHV registrations back into trail improvements, simply blade the road(s) every few years.*

Response: This is a management approach.

995. *Use OHV registration fund to improve roads/trails.*

Response: This is a management approach.

996. *Use woodcutting permits to thin the forest in areas that visitors go. Have a FS employee do public relations and try to get ‘work details’ to clear and maintain trails, and/or pick up trash. Use the ‘fee’ for off road use vehicles to maintain the trails and put up signs.*

Response: These are management approaches.

997. *Equal distribution of funds throughout forest, aka Peñasco ranger office a bit excessive.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

998. *There is a need to create partnerships for road closure and maintenance, and new access opportunities.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity and is addressed by need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

999. *There is a need for additional resources for volunteer pools. Grow the volunteer work force, gem & mineral clubs, mountain bike clubs, corporations that sponsor employees (LA Labs?) for volunteer work, woodworkers (train on tree removal), high school/college clubs (start early).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1000. *Volunteers – partnership with FS and coordination w/ FS system for roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1001. *There is a need to use groups such as home schoolers (Home School Outdoors), AGMC (website), other youth groups, a low cost, big impact ‘summer or spring break camps’, girl/boy scouts, archeologists. They could repaint signs, repair/maintain facilities. There may be citizens who would loan equipment for doing maintenance.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity and is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1002. *There is a need for the Forest to tap into the business community to help develop new trail plans (NNM cycling associations/clubs, Angel Fire businesses).*

Response: This is a management approach.

1003. *More information given to the public in general, more so to clubs and groups that use the forest for recreation. FS needs a way for these organizations to register their use so information can be disseminated to them.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1004. *“Adopt a campsite”/“adopt a trail”/“adopt a national forest thing”.*

Response: This is a management approach and is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1005. *Encourage user buy in with specific volunteer projects.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1006. *Identify tasks that can be accomplished by volunteers and those accompanied by USFS staff.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1007. *Increase volunteer involvement in trail building.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1008. *Instead of government trail crew staff, have permanent volunteer trainers/managers.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1009. *Maintenance and upkeep ... possible partnership with youth corps, schools/universities, or other volunteer organizations who contribute to the maintenance and upkeep of parks all around the country or local regional area. Use these groups as the ‘task force’ or the beginners of a movement to help fix the never-ending maintenance issues involved in the everyday life of the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1010. *More FS staff to oversee volunteer operations.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1011. *Offer free access to recreational sites to those who volunteer, and a few of their friends, in an effort to snowball the amount of people who are inspired by the participation.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1012. *Use conservation corps/AmeriCorps/ other skilled volunteer organizations.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1013. *Use more volunteer labor.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1014. *Using volunteer programs to monitor campsites and recreation areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1015. *Volunteer incentives – student groups, scouts, many schools have student service requirements. Youth corps opportunities. Invest a little time training students on tool*

use/safety; advertise it a little (make it fun) – informing about importance of trails (concentrated impact) in appreciating forests.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1016. Volunteers, as it cuts costs for maintaining the forest's infrastructure. How can we best incentivize a broad range of critically thinking individuals to cooperate on achieving the department's goals?

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1017. What are key infrastructures for the various uses? – develop an overall work triage system, comparing usage vs. investment vs. long term efforts.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1018. If in the wilderness, maintenance partnerships with RMYC, boy scouts, WSA (smoke jumpers) as well as grazing permittees that utilize remote cabin facilities with no oversight. Outside of wilderness, enter these facilities into cabin rental program, use the fees to fund repairs and maintenance – use annual facilities fees/budget for administrative property. Public education, start as kids.

Response: This is a management approach.

1019. Recreation and infrastructure tell the Carson story... need more money. Solution: having youth groups do work; user groups, e.g. snowmobile groups grooming trails. There are a few areas without grazing allotments. Use them as comparison areas when thinking about grazing/foraging carrying capacity.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1020. Maintenance focus: signage, trails. Allow selected citizens to do sign maintenance.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1021. Coordination of trails maintenance and construction between organizations, like FS and private companies.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1022. Coop for volunteerism to subsidize cost of cleaning, clearing and maintenance of trails and the forest. Hold fundraising events to bring awareness and sponsor groups to assist in thinking.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1023. Leverage volunteer groups to do trail building and maintenance, campground cleanup, etc., e.g. Boy Scout eagle projects and service projects, etc.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1024. Allow the private sector to assist in maintaining roads, maintenance and clearing of low level brush, do fundraising activities or fees to assist in offsetting of expenses. More signage to make awareness to help create awareness to visitors, web info.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1025. *Forest infrastructure – maintenance of roads through budget, volunteer help, local community, high school group, churches, community service hours for court, schools.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1026. *Forest infrastructure – prioritization of maintenance – buildings, fences, look for partners, what does the public want.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1027. *Educational opportunities – additional information w/ safety speech on other USFS topics, picking up trash, take it in, take it out, trail etiquette.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1028. *Place chained or heavy trash ‘cans’ on roads allowed for firewood gathering. Have regular pickup times.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1029. *Trash – maybe trash comes from ATVs in the forest – close some of those roads crossing private property.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.19 and C.20.

1030. *Triage prioritization of existing facilities to let some be decommissioned and others maintained.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9, C.12, C.19, and C.20.

1031. *Use public need to help prioritize – what is most important?*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1032. *Prioritization of buildings/facilities, road maintenance/campgrounds/trails/water systems/fencing.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1033. *There is a need for improved maintenance of FS admin buildings that are historic properties, such as old ranger cabins – Hondo, Baldy – and ranching/cow camps, lodge in Valle Vidal. Bringing into sustainable rec/ranching/SUP Solution: more sustainable building infrastructure; more economical fleet – solar, recycling, gray water systems for public buildings, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1034. *Reduce the total infrastructure.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1035. *Consider facilities with higher upfront cost but less overall maintenance costs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1036. *Begin to identify facilities / roads that are underutilized; consider closure or further limits on those areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9, C.12, C.19, and C.20.

1037. *Identifying and prioritizing maintenance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1038. *Equipment – heavy equipment owned by each district, dozers, main____, backhoes.*

Response: These are management approaches.

1039. *A replenishment of necessary equipment, in order to upkeep maintenance. If there were possible tax breaks, acting as incentives, for local retailers, and or equipment manufacturers, there is a potential to reduce the cost of equipment. Privatization of the water systems within the forest can also assist with maintenance. Putting someone's name on an item often creates the natural incentive to take care of said item. A partnership between private and public sectors to conserve and preserve the community.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1040. *There is a WWII era mining shack about 5 air (?) miles sw of Petaca NM. It is rapidly deteriorating. If kept 'off limits' it will soon disintegrate. By allowing groups or individuals to 'adopt' a structure and preserve it for public use what could be a ruin can be repurposed and used.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1041. *Allowing flexibility for all grazing allotments (regardless of lands with wilderness characteristics or other special management designation) to maintain range improvements and roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

1042. *District employees to live in local communities, existing housing appears abandoned without anyone living in them. Is rent too high? Do whatever is needed to get people back in housing. Use rent to maintain buildings. Installing new improvements without maintaining existing facilities – why?*

Response: This is a management approach.

1043. *Need better maintenance.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1044. *Composting toilets, solar power; trails marked with cairns or blaze trees, instead of dug; natural material shelters.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1045. *Heat all FS buildings w/biomass.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1046. *Low-key facilities.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1047. *Monitoring of water systems and maintaining them. Move workforce to maintain trails, campgrounds, signage, current up to date maps, road closure signs or barriers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.9, and C.12.

1048. *All the proposed work and ideas are great, but does the FS have the tools to manage and do the NEPA that are needed to move the needs of the community forward (get the FS the tools they need).*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

1049. *High recreational satisfaction – forest should meet the demands of all ages ... including seniors who are handicapped and cannot hike. More lakes should be accessible to small vehicles such as Jeeps or ATVs. Money collected from local permits should stay in our area. Public education will get people to clean roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

Land Status and Ownership, Use and Access

- 21. There is a need to update plan direction to address legal access for public, private landowner, and tribal needs.**
- 22. There is a need to update plan direction to promote the contiguity of the land base and the reduction of small unmanageable tracts of National Forest System lands.**

Land Status and Ownership, Use and Access Comments and Responses

1050. *Access: Wilderness and FS lands surrounded by private lands which limit access. People with inholdings and large ranchers are making the money by selling licenses and access. Make easements for the public to get to their public lands.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.21.

1051. *There is a need for the revised plan to provide direction for addressing legal road access that meets public, private landowner, tribal, land grant community, and management needs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement by C.12.

1052. *'Traditional use': the board had a picture of people with horses. Public access sometimes needed through private land. More ways to get into public lands, ex, Cebellow mesas. Improved relationships between ranchers, hikers, riders.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.21.

Energy, Minerals and Special Uses

- 23. There is a need to update plan direction for recreational mining-related activities.**
- 24. There is a need to update plan direction for the removal of common mineral materials, such as personal use rock permits, commercial contracts, ceremonial use and free use permits.**
- 25. There is a need to update plan direction for existing or proposed transmission corridors and renewable energy generation, including solar, biomass, and geothermal, and to provide guidance for protecting natural resources, heritage and sacred sites, tribal traditional activities, and scenery.**

Energy, Minerals and Special Uses Comments and Responses

1053. *There is a need for the forest service to make every effort to oppose administrative or legislative changes to current mining laws. Current laws encourage small miners and recreational claim owners to perform work that improves the structure of the land.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1054. *There is a need for claims (mineral) to be easily accessed.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23.

1055. *1 Contrasting issues – solution, communicate best way for permits. 2 – Solution – education, publicity, make public aware of areas available for rock hound, while respecting wilderness area. 3 – ABQ gem & mineral club willing to collaborate on all above.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, C.24, and C.25.

1056. *Archeological sites should be able to be accessed within a decent walking distance, also claims (mineral) easily accessed. AGMC and other clubs working together to donate money and time to help fix and maintain roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, C.24, and C.25.

1057. *AGMC will clean up old mining areas (would consider). AGMC mission to learn about science, adopt an area? i.e., adopt a highway. Support reclamation work. Field trips focus (could focus) on science/preservation. Collaborate w/FS by inviting you to speak at our meetings, programs with JJS for community service? Make as requirement for ranchers to learn about sustainability.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1058. *Keeping roads maintained so that people can access roads/forest. Maintained meaning not intentionally blocked.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261, 295 [Travel Management Rule])

1059. *The AGMC has 700+ members and would be willing to collaborate with Carson FS to help maintain roads. AGMC wants to help preserve and be able to study forest to promote science/geology. Summary: club would like to understand areas and permits available for rock hounding, which includes educational activities and learning on what needs preserved.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, C.24, and C.25.

1060. *Inconsistence of permit rules and enforcement across forests and forest districts within NM. Appears some districts allow permits for collecting and others do not. Wish to see a more consistent rule and practice.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, C.24.

1061. *Permit rock hounding, geological education.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.24.

1062. *There is a need to understand areas and permits available for rock hounding, which includes educational activities and learning on what needs preserved.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.24.

1063. *There is a need to balance recreation, special use permits and wilderness designation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.24.

1064. *There is a need to sell the resources available to the community.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, C.24, and C.25.

1065. *There is a need to limit mining to US interests and they should be covered by bonds in excess of any damages that could possibly be done by the mining. "Reference this to what is happening at the Nacamiento Mine near Cuba NM!"*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals])

1066. *There is a need for specific rules for mining and harsh non-negotiable penalties!*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1067. *There is a need for mechanical mining. Restrict the size of certain machines.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, C.24, and C.25.

1068. *There is a need to encourage artisanal small scale mining.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1069. *There is a need to restore historic mineral processing areas to a more environmentally responsible and safer spaces and access. Work with the FS in a collaborative effort to restore these sites using volunteer recreational mining organizational to be able to use these for collecting mineral specimens.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1070. *There is a need to repair old mining unsafe areas to a more environmental sensitive place (not dangerous), working with FS, using volunteer recreational mining organizations to help repair these sites to provide areas for these mining organizations to collect samples and help support the local communities and their economy with their growth and health.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1071. *Active research of vulnerable sites that both provide information and mitigation within project efforts. Excavation is a tool!*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1072. *There is a need for small claim miners/collectors knowing what and where they can collect.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1073. *Artisanal small scale mining needs to be encouraged.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1074. *For mechanical mining restrict the size of certain machines ____.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1075. *There is a need to allowing groups of citizens to go into the forest to study and learn about minerals, their use in industry, how NM resources have been used in the past and contributed to positive outcomes in history.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, C.23, and C.24.

1076. *Materials to make 'green technology' happen must be mined. The FS should make every effort to encourage ecologically responsible extraction of the minerals needed to manufacture green technology solutions for our ever expanding energy needs.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1077. *No more wilderness in the Carson. An inordinate amount of land has already been removed from possible mineral extraction.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

1078. *Need to insure oil and gas operations (including infrastructure) have a well-defined approval process that is timely, there are several jobs tied to the RD (Jicarilla RD). Community stability with oil and gas operations, ranching, hunting.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1079. *Need to stop fracking processes because of the detriment to environment.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1080. *Mining – it's okay, chemical contamination is not okay, especially in the forest. For example, fracking. Solution: specific rules for mining and harsh non-negotiable penalties!*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1081. *Rocks – sell permits by May.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1082. *Gas, oil, energy, watershed protection. Concern: uranium naturally occurring in formations. When wells are fracked, logged, using depleted uranium sinkers and ep. Thermal neutrons result in a water contamination of plutonium. This outcrops in springs/seeps – bringing contamination from groundwater to surface water. The forest is the recharge for everyone's water.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]). Note: any proposed new mining must have NEPA applied.

1083. *Natural resource development - Selenium is low and perhaps needed, according to USGS study. Osage Orange for fencing and directing elk migration. Very careful evaluation of the potential of any drilling in the CNF for oil, gas, or geothermal, since the presence of uranium in formation, that are water-bearing risks losing radium and uranium into groundwater supplies. Most of the Rio Chama and Rio Gallina watersheds. Epithermal neutron well-logging creates plutonium (239) that is the most carcinogenic substance known. Its half-life is 24,110 years, and it takes ten half-lives to completely decay to safer levels, or 241,100 years. Areas of the watershed are been scoped for geothermal in the SFNF, where uranium is already high, as in Española.*

Response: This is governed by existing law, policy, or regulation (General Mining Act of 1872 [as amended]; 36 CFR 228 Subpart A [Locatable Minerals]).

1084. *People getting rocks from forest to make flower beds or rock walls, other forest products. Permits to be given. Since it is a social-economic forest, the forest personnel should have areas for it.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1085. *Rocks: concern: can't gather rocks @ Camino Real Solution: Let us! Locate areas where it would help the forest area. Allow exceptions and limited gatherings. Solution: make permit cheaper, expand permit gathering time (more than week).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1086. *When they plow the road, huge rocks get plowed into Rio Chiquito – let the people get the rock.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

1087. *Allowing groups of citizens to go into the forest to study and learn about minerals, their use in industry, how NM resources have been used in the past and contributed to positive outcomes in history.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.23, and C.24.

Other Resources or Topics

Climate Change Comments and Responses

1088. *There is a need for identifying and designating areas that will protect and restore resiliency for forest resources in a changing climate.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (2012 Planning Rule [36 CFR Part 219]). Plan components will be developed for any additional designated areas that may be recommended.

1089. *There is a need to fully account for climate change impacts to the CNF and to promote the dual goals of greater climate resilience and carbon sequestration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1090. *There is a need to monitor change and current condition on the forest in order to address potential climate change impacts. Phenological marking can be accomplished through project Budburst through school groups and volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1091. *Long term simple monitoring to educate public and document change.*

Response: This is a part of a monitoring program.

1092. *An increased awareness of the problem. USFS needs to impress national figures of the importance of the problem. Use the carbon base studies by USFS to reduce CO2 emissions.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1093. *Drought – water supply for wildlife; tanks of water (concentrated water sources)*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.12.

1094. *Education. Development of better natural disasters plans. Creating resilient communities. Climate mitigation. Adaptation. Improvement of infrastructure. Research in high risk flood areas and planting of highly absorbent native plants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1095. *Flooding – pervious surfaces on parking lots, roads, etc. to limit flooding; damming the river, but paying attention to aquatic patterns/migration.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1096. *Since we are pretty much past the point of no return for mitigation of climate change, we need to focus more on new policies to regulate scarce resources, improved and appropriate emergency plans, and updated management plans for other consequences of climate change.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1097. *Problem: climate change poses a risk to ecosystem integrity, increases floods, droughts, wildfire. Solution: Prioritize protection of headwater wetlands. Designate migration corridors to facilitate connectivity of forests – to keep healthy. Protect riparian areas in general, prioritize as well – they are home to threatened and endangered species; minimize roads and overgrazing.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.8, B.9, B.10, B.15, and B.17.

1098. *First, recognize that climate effects include not just drier and hotter weather but also intense and different patterns of precipitation. The problems will also include flooding and erosion (as well as dry and hot). Even in relatively dry NM, flooding and erosion control should be addressed by need to change statement – collaboration with village planners, community emergency response and safety officials. Look for win-win, e.g. water holding ponds for floods could also serve water management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1099. *Plan for: reduced water availability, increasing temperatures, more intense storms, continued insect infestation. Update plan to reflect evolving data/trends/science. Conserving water for multiple uses. Thinning before storms happen.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1100. *Extreme conditions, prepare for drought, flooding and fire.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.3.

1101. *Maintain maintenance on our earthen tanks, maintain proper drainage on roads, work on head cuts w/in our drainages.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11, B.12, B.13, and B.14.

Social Comments and Responses

1102. *Road maintenance and opening new roads to allow access. Would also help to prevent 'new' roads being made by those going around closure, leading to erosion and plant destruction.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1103. *More cultural considerations. Increased access to areas and public education and outreach is important to the historically land based people.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

1104. *There is a need for more law enforcement presence.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1105. *There is a need for more law enforcement, more FS people in woods, or use of volunteers for additional eyes.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1106. *Law enforcement and public protection/safety: solution: more rangers patrolling forest. Money? Fees for permits.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1107. *There is a need to include effective enforcement as part of the revised forest plan.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1108. *Increased enforcement of rules and regulations of forest in order to decrease poaching, illegal logging, discourage litter, illegal grazing and illegal off road travel.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1109. *Put greater weight in forest plan on budgeting for surveillance and law enforcement among district staff.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1110. *There is a need for more LEO enforcement.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1111. *Law enforcement – cut the budget for law enforcement, coordinate with state police, local police force, NMDG&F, education.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1112. *There is a need to inform the public on the effects of illegal dumping on our forest.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1113. *Illegal dumping. More communication with the communities and Rio Arriba to come together to develop a solution to the illegal dumping. We need community involvement, monitoring.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1114. *Clean trash from roadways.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1115. *There is a need to improve overall management of dumpsites across forest.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1116. *There is a need to put the community to work and to restore cultural values. Education, rather it will be social media.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1117. *Soils, wood cutting, 4 wheeling, young generation. Increased respect for forest resources by younger population.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1118. *There is a need for more educational opportunities – additional information w/ safety speech on other USFS topics, picking up trash, take it in, take it out, trail etiquette.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1119. *There is a need to educate the public about the different landscapes, uses, as well as needs to help maintain roads, water sources, shelters.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1120. *There is a need to educate on appropriate use – small business size cards, pamphlets on trails – how to be a conscientious user, how to be polite to other users.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1121. *User friendly website: give information instead of posting “for more information, contact ...”*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1122. *There is a need for people to learn alternative methods for survival other than living off the land.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1123. *There is a need to provide the public with better information on how/why the FS manages a particular way. Demo sites – provide visual demonstration sites to illustrate different management and the benefits it provides.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1124. *FS talk with school and incorporate FS curriculum in the schools.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1125. *There is a need for public understanding of the long term cost benefits of healthy ecosystems, since there are few short term cost benefits. This can be achieved through outreach and education with the public, especially younger people, since children have such an impact on what their parents do and think.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1126. *Public info on effects of illegal dumping on our forest / BLM lands.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1127. *Need to focus on what is being taught to students during events. Are we talking at them and losing their attention, or really teaching them something they will take with them and learn from it. We need to have hands on, engaging activities that will truly make a difference to the kids. Something they will remember and take with them.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1128. *Provide the public with better information on how/why to manage a particular way. Demo sites – provide visual demonstration sites to illustrate different management and the benefits it provides.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1129. *Tourism drives our economy, must provide the opportunity for small communities to survive, be proactive, not reactive.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

1130. *Trail enhancement, blade the road every few years and put drainage to reduce erosion on the trails. Promote OHV recreation, sponsor events etc. Reopen trails (middle fork lake) and construct more for OHV use. Put the dollars from OHV recreation back into the trail system at Red River area.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, C.9, and C.11.

1131. *Sustainable 4x4 trails for our guests and locals. Friends of the forest as volunteers to assist with reclamation and revegetation of our trail system to continue to be able to continue to drive our economy. ATV funds local, from permits.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1132. *Open trails for tourist trade. Funds should remain with the permit area.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, C.9, and C.11.

1133. *Social economic – better trails and more trails for ATV people to draw more people for local economy. More signs to tell about historic sites. Trails closed to places like golden treasure mine.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, C.9, and C.11.

1134. *Traditional uses are important to community. Do not want to become another Santa Fe. Community has used the forest for generations, i.e. grazing. If ranchers were asked to move the animals they would. Grazing helps reduce fuel loading and forest fires. Current generation is not as connected to the forest as the traditional uses. Trash is a huge problem. Youth does not have a connection to the water and land.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1135. *Attract more guests to our wonderful area and address their ability levels.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

1136. *Promote and maintain economic development. Forest closures – look at separate areas, not the whole CNF, property. Wildlife viewing – education w/community house at Red River. Keep the wildlife wild. Maintain trails/roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, C.9, and C.11.

1137. *Blended with resiliency. A restoration economy to grow up around __ the extractive approach to the forest that has caused so much degradation. Direct investment in the improved function of all the natural systems.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, A.3, A.5, and A.6.

1138. *Other methods for increased revenue streams that will help fund major initiatives within the development plans: Trail running series in partnership with the fs/blm. Other states raise over \$10m at annual events, such as Leadville's bike/run series, which generated 13.1 in 2014.*

Response: This is a proposed project or possible action.

1139. *Blend socio-economic needs with forest restoration. Make more local restoration contracts accessible to local startups. Improved forest productivity. Forest conditions are highly degraded because of a long term focus on extraction which I recommend be reoriented to reciprocity - and then measured harvest. Local buy in to this concept is key. Forest restoration efforts on federal land should be accessible to local startup crews. Forest thinning efforts should include the reintegration of small logs into cross slope soil stabilization and water infiltration galleries and desirable species nurseries. Replant preferred species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1140. *Rental / stewardship program. Continually identifying permittees and partners when programming fits with the management objectives. Building a __ model that supports increased participation on the forest / maintaining / improving existing studied and identifying use. Fee structure for ranching maintenance (guessing most of this).*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1141. *Grants from: National Forest Foundation must have USFS NF partner – state and national organizations and governments offer collaboration grants. Grants provide funding for collaborative group coordinator position travel and food and mtgs.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1142. *The Carson to sell the resources available to the community. Recreation is inherently needed to drive the social and economic activities, such as mountain biking, bring awareness to the resource.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.9 and C.12.

1143. *Have person in the organization who is responsible for volunteer coordination/grants.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1144. *Listen to the people, respond to their needs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1145. *Engaging youth in forest management. Focus on long term efforts to encourage understanding of how forest influences economics of local area and how youth will play a role in future management.*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1146. *Mutual cooperation between VTSV and the USFS. Solution: USFS not so stringent as to 'can't take wood from private properties w/o a written permit; no burn boss on USFS land, i.e. a wide open parking lot - why?*

Response: This is a management approach or a partnership opportunity.

1147. *A core of volunteers (trained) to make a forest visitation experience a positive one. Follow guide lines of Massachusetts Audubon society, which has a loyal and very active cadre of volunteers, with continuing educational opportunities. To my mind, education is key to community outreach and involvement. Boy scouts, retired population, interpretive volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1148. *Expanding community outreach and involvement. Managing for healthy ecosystems for the social and economic benefit they provide. Address at risk resource areas so they will be available for future generations.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1149. *Increase transparency and be honest about FS capabilities.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1150. *Share resources to increase efficiency.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1151. *Solutions include more cooperation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1152. *Managing for healthy ecosystems for the social and economic benefits they provide and by ... with/while including ... the need for expanding community outreach and involvement. Solution: youth engagement; volunteer to keep trails in good repair; spend forest dollars to insure healthy trails/maintenance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1153. *When budgets are tight, relationships with local and national nonprofits, youth groups, and private stakeholders need to be in place to keep projects going that would otherwise be cut. If you do a project for 30 years, discontinue it for 10, and then start again, you've lost all of the worth. It also is hard for stakeholders to get the ball rolling quickly; keeping them in the planning phase would be useful. Strong networking with people would help get the relationships built. You could also work it out where a private stakeholder would take over the project, freeing up money that would otherwise be spent in that project.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.4 and A.6.

1154. *Building relationships with communities for developing cumulative solutions to common problems (i.e. dumping, roads maintenance, trail maintenance, signs maintenance, bottom line: beautification, preservation.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1155. *Stewardship programs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1156. *To put the community to work and to restore cultural values. Education, rather it will be social media.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1157. *Expanded community outreach and involvement – will require personnel to manage volunteers; increased staff time for outreach; increased trainings, classes, etc. for community to enhance FS visibility.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1158. *I believe significant numbers of military veterans could assist with these efforts. Why? Work is hard and physical. Small teams develop comradery. Restoration efforts in the forest mirror and echo the need for veterans to cultivate peace and restoration in their own souls. Serves need for veterans to continue to serve.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1159. *Utilize Philmont's ___ conservation program – potential 66,000 hours of labor with trained people in the conservation dept. who know how to do trail maintenance, TSI, etc.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1160. *Volunteer and project coordination. Additional funding to plan and enable project execution. Regulation of harmful/damaging activities – ATVs, sprawl. Be more nimble, not less thorough, but faster to consider and respond to needs/changes.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1161. *Volunteer motivation through ability to see progress, recognition of impact on future generations.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1162. *Volunteer movement – through local school programming – start them young.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1163. *Volunteer movement – utilize university programs. Elementary field trips – minimal labor but instill desire to do more in future, pursue forestry related fields. Utilize Philmont camper conservation program to do TSI, infrastructure improvements, invasive removal, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1164. *Participate in/host/collaborate group meetings.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1165. *Partnerships between the BSA or Philmont for trail maintenance/conservation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1166. *Provide tangible opportunities for community volunteers to jump in and assist with the national forest. Offer structured programs with knowledgeable (professional volunteer) leaders. Work with the local community to help them understand the value and the impact of the CNF. Try to find approachable ways to get them to comprehend the scale of the Carson's operation.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1167. *Reduced usage of sensitive areas. Valle Vidal has become a horse intensive camping area. Forces and plan should be more balanced for all users of forest unit. Increase community outreach on eastside of Valle Vidal unit to provide volunteer labor to improve recreational balance.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1 and A.6.

1168. *Expanding community outreach and involvement.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1169. *I know it sounds silly but having food at these meetings is KEY. If you split a cookie with someone it's hard to think they're evil.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1170. *Like Philmont trail crew trek program, participants build trail for a week and experience the Philmont backcountry for a week. Perhaps a similar model adapted to the Valle Vidal*

could increase manpower available to make plans happen. However, it is expensive to provide the infrastructure.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1171. Meeting with ministers to try and get a forum or community meeting in Amalia. Continued ops firewood gathering and grazing as part of the relationship building. The locals from Amalia are particularly attached to the Valle and are sometimes very reluctant to follow 'rules' telling FS personnel their grandparents and great-grandparents were born on the property. Getting input from them and building a good relationship would be helpful in getting their buy in to changes.

Response: This is a management approach.

1172. Instead of asking the people to come and give comment at the FS, FS needs to go into the community and identify what issues are truly going on within the community/forest.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

1173. Relationship building between locals and FS.

Response: This is a management approach.

1174. A larger presence of stakeholders to monitor such large areas of land.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1175. An increase in community partnerships and education to foster community involvement and ownership of issues.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1176. Community collaborative groups with local entities and stakeholders.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1177. Community outreach (you have to get people out in the forest to get them interested in the environment around them).

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1178. Create a community liaison/partner position – full time USFS employee does outreach (first line of contact for community partners).

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1179. Creation (with vested community partners) of collaborative group – not a FS entity!

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1180. Reach out to other organizations who are sharing your same goals, i.e. AGMC, ask how we can help each other, i.e. adopt a forest area.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1181. There is a need for better partnerships between agencies and communities ... Hit NMG&F up for money for wildlife and fishery projects. Get community involvement to help work on waterway projects. You'd be surprised how many people would volunteer. Encouraging

young people to help work on specific projects as part of their high school community service requirement for graduation.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1182. Train inmates to do all work needed around camp, cook, road work, etc, fight fires, trained in first aid. Must have two years, be level one nonviolent crime. Inmates would be trained and supervised by forestry personnel and correctional staff at all times. Inmates would be paid around \$1.50 per day.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1183. There is a need to have a volunteer link to volunteer directly with Carson. Does it list volunteer opportunities on Carson website?

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1184. There is a need for better communication... Different marketing plan to increase the volunteer base. Communicate with people the way they want to be communicated with (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, phone, email). Community buy-in by creating a link to local businesses and individuals. Coordinate with local government, groups, etc. to further communication so more groups hear about functions, needs, volunteer opportunities.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1185. Collaboration with other agencies.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1186. Team up with other federal agencies.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1187. There is a need for more partnerships.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1188. There is a need to leverage hotel cooperation to build awareness of the resources that surround the hotel facilities. NM True is one way to increase awareness of the resources available to local hotels.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1189. There is a need to set up small podiums at trailheads and access roads so organizations can register club activities. This way the FS can contact these groups for possible volunteer activities.

Response: These are management approaches.

1190. There is a need to get businesses to buy into and donate money to promote tourism and available resources on the Carson.

Response: These are management approaches.

1191. There is a need for volunteer groups to help clean up trash or dump areas. Also have the volunteers police the areas to curb dumping.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1192. *There is a need to build partnerships, reaching out to the people, getting people to clean up after themselves, give the people what they want. But that is complex.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1193. *There is a need to return to making better use of volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1194. *There is a need to have youth groups do work for us; user groups, e.g. snowmobile groups grooming trails.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1195. *Socio/economic – connections and communication with private landowners adjacent to FS property to manage land and resources.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1196. *There is a need to have better public outreach by the Forest Service. More use of local visitor centers.*

Response: These are management approaches.

1197. *There is a need to find financial and public support to perform treatments. Partnerships, explore other opportunities for funding, we need industry collaboration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1198. *There is a need to engage partners in larger landscape level restoration efforts, including increased thinning, burning, road decommissioning, etc., which will result in more resilient landscapes. Multi-jurisdictional involvement is critical.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1199. *There is a need to have a consistent message to the public and partner with third party NEPA contractors.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1200. *Build internal relationships to make process smoother and more consistent.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1201. *Increase transparency and be honest about capabilities.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1202. *Share resources to increase efficiency.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1203. *“Traditional use” guarantee for practices associated with significant economic benefit for neighboring communities, grazing, firewood, traditional recreation activities, etc. Offer youth season for hunting, camping, fence repair, tree management, tank maintenance. State agencies contribute resources to fence repair.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

1204. *Water quality – cooperate with county/state inspections along rivers, new and old septic systems.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.11, B.12, B.13, and B.14.

1205. *Current legal barriers prevent economic success in certain areas (there is a need for less regulation in people/organize that know sustainable practices).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1.

1206. *When the forest closes, maybe divide up Carson forest depending on where it is as far as rain – location specific, elevation of weather evaluation to determine closures, readings on precip.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1207. *Be swifter to changes in the human population.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1208. *Ranching should not be a threat, but a solution - cattle grazing.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.7.

1209. *Integrating social, economic and cultural component into restoring and stewarding local forests. Forest stewardship is an old part of local cultural tradition and there is great potential to engage local communities and revitalize local economies. Solution: award contracts locally; local training opportunities, include cultural in social and economic.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

Education Comments and Responses

1210. *Education of public regarding different projects and goals to provide better understanding and participation from the community. Community seminars?*

Response: These are management approaches and/or partnership opportunities.

1211. *Education to stress not only with elementarys but to continue with the high schools and the community to educate people and make them aware of different projects within the forest that they can volunteer to help out in a field of their interests. Make people aware of prevention and control of land management.*

Response: These are management approaches and/or partnership opportunities.

1212. *Videotaping trails to show in our classrooms on how trails get damaged during types of storms.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1213. *Improved conversation between ranchers and FS. Education of population about preservation of wildlife, soils, aquatic habitat ... as in schools. Involvement from FS, ranchers, naturalists, geologists ...*

Response: This is a management approach and /or a partnership opportunity.

1214. *Educating youth on the importance of a healthy forest and recreation access to encourage preservation. Use volunteers from various user groups to express what they like and don't like about the forest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1215. *Unhealthy forest, thinning, forest products, disease, drought and climate change, problems with wildlife, more public education, get schools and school children involved.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.1, A.3, and A.6.

1216. *Education is a solution to the problem.*

Response: This is a management approach and /or a partnership opportunity.

1217. *Need to invite locals to help manage the watersheds. Need to limit woodcutting for only personal use vs. commercial use. Make obtaining dead and down permits easier, only collect dead wood. Lower fee for dead wood to encourage use of dead wood. Herb collection is very important. Don't want permits to be issued to collect herbs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1218. *Increased user education along the lines of leave no trace and tread lightly. LNT and tread lightly can provide case studies of successful partnerships to provide education.*

Response: These are management approaches and/or partnership opportunities.

1219. *More public education, signs, educated when selling permit.*

Response: These are management approaches.

1220. *Education about use of the forest. Damaging existing trails and destroying and making their own trails. Signage is needed as well as an increased enforcement element.*

Response: These are management approaches.

Fire Comments and Responses

1221. *Leave the amendment for fire management alone and do not change fire teams need to maintain flexibility.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1222. *Thick forest thin to control fire in case of fire and plant hardy seed.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1223. *Too many trees – commercial logging/timber harvest.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1224. *Wildlife urban interface to be prioritized. Use coordinated efforts to restore watersheds (already mentioned on boards but very important).*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1225. *CNF near AG has fuel load that is so high it is off the scales. I understand that past efforts to thin the forest meets resistance (lawyers, special interest groups, etc.). There was a time in the past that the FS made plans and took action at a local level to solve local problems.*

A good example is the erosion control berms along Hwy 64 between Angel Fire and Taos. The Carson needs to thin the forest and have the ability to make it happen. Develop flexible working relationships with volunteers and volunteer organizations. Also need first class fire break around Angel Fire.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1226. More money for a forest fuels crews to enable fire managers and forest to do big landscape projects. More thinning and prescribed burning to promote natural ecosystems for bringing back good and safe logging practices. Public safety and forest health provides fuelwood for families and individuals.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1227. Open up for wood cutting. More cutting or mechanical treatment on various stands. Lots of studies on vegetative structure stages. Possibly continue analysis of 5th code watersheds for analysis and develop treatments/watershed projects on this analysis. General planning / implementation of managing a fire within acceptable planned boundaries. This would be a good year to manage natural starts within pre-determined burn areas. Difficulty is amount of analysis needed with other resources. NEPA -i.e. wildlife T&E, archeology, also so support priority to ___.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1228. Thinning and reintroducing fire into the forest.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1229. Trees are cut down and left to rot. Fire hazard. Is the power company responsible for cleaning up their mess?

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1230. USFS thinning of property surrounding TSV and starting from the entrance of the canyon on upwards, like Red River. Have a Firewise prevention tent at the Bavarian on July 4th, educational material, but we need to say this is what the USFS is doing in conjunction with private landowners.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1231. More aggressive fire wise level forest management, in order to sustain water quality, recreation and economic development through a higher quality experience. Without addressing the current status aggressively, a catastrophic fire will one day do the job for us. I hope we can figure out a way to actually thin within wilderness or some communities will be in trouble. How about overlap zones where public safety is a dire issue?

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1232. Removal of dead and down timber. Removal of dead and standing timber. Collaboration with private landowners to create a buffer between forest and private lands (better partnerships). More WUI projects.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1233. *Thinning by issuing permits for cutting dead and down trees. Make people aware permits are available. Look for community groups to help with thinning, e.g. boy scouts, eagle projects, etc. FS to clear boundary areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1234. *Restoration work across the landscape, especially in frequent fire forest systems. Restoration work will likely address many of issues we are facing today. Again wildlife habitat improvement, offering sustainable forest products, wildlife species, increased water yield, infiltration, reduced meadow encroachment, recreational opportunities, etc., improved forest health.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1235. *Encouraging and facilitating cutting and removal of dead and downed trees in areas that are victims of infestations. How can permits for dead and downed fuel removal be more readily available? Catalyze volunteer community groups (including those in the business of selling firewood) to clear dead and downed wood. Collaboration between communities and forest service to apply for federal matching dollars for forest management and thinning.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1236. *Fire suppression controlled by thinning and controlled fire.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1237. *Clearing out dead fall. Volunteer cleaning of dead fall and trash along trails. What kind of notice before prescribed burn? Make tourists aware of potential dangers and how to notify personnel of any dangers they see.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1238. *More clearing, education on this prescribed burning in our area (more grant opps), employment opportunity.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1239. *Remove underbrush and fallen trees. Community volunteers or groups.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1240. *The dense accumulation of dead fall and standing dead trees contributes to fire danger, ugly forests, and other problems mentioned under several management issues. I have thought long and often about how to deal with these issues properly, and I think engaging volunteer help trained to know what to remove, how to do it, while leaving necessary habitat for birds and animals would be very viable.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1241. *Thinning tree growth and brush. Solution: Engage forest interns to help thin and clear targeted areas. Integrated students from across the country who complete their internships will be granted/awarded reduced college loan points; opportunities to study/be a mentee to forest professionals, etc. Target: Americorp, land grant schools for promoting and marketing potential program.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, B.2, and C.6.

1242. *Better access to help achieve goals of a safer ecosystem. Thinning/wood gathering either by local or professional groups.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1243. *Larger thinning programs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1244. *More thinning, logging, larger thinning unit, let fire go in more remote areas, need \$\$ and more help, more Rx burns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1245. *Increased treatment.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1246. *Heavier mechanical TRT, thin to target based area; more aggressive TRT, faster, bigger.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1247. *Use smaller management teams to save money for preemptive management.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1248. *Use wood for pellet stoves (commercial companies to reduce fuel loading).*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1249. *Give away firewood, latillas, etc.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1250. *Slopes, 40%, tied in with There is a need to treat steep slopes in spruce/fir. May not be a fire adapted forest, as we see it, due to a longer fire regime, but spruce/fir and steep slopes need to be. They are in some parts in worse condition than frequent fire forest. Solution: treat steep slopes, (homeostoc formation ???) which is still ground based. Treat within spruce fire, be proactive rather than reactive.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1251. *Demob contractors and agency sooner to save money for preemptive management.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

1252. *Thinning the aspens through selective logging practices, selling the lumber, or prescribed burning the excess. After thinning the forests to a healthy level, allow forests to maintain themselves.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1253. *Utilizing Philmont's conservation program to thin forests in or around the Valle Vidal.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1254. *Utilizing volunteer program to prep areas for controlled burns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1255. *Spend more money on fire prevention (low level deadfall clearing, forest thinning, etc) rather than only on firefighting.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1256. *Solution: increase TSI efforts, target sensitive areas, try to create fuel breaks with thinnings.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1257. *Physical timber stand improvement (to prevent overstocked timber stands). Prevention. Fire ecology education. A partnership between Philmont scout ranch and the CNF for physical forest restoration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6, B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1258. *More thinning of trees and heavy fueled areas. It would be nice to let people who burn wood to be able to go in and thin areas in need. Let people get permits to go in and harvest materials for heating. Put in brush bundles on contour to prevent soil erosion.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1259. *Needed at accelerated rate as far as treatments are concerned. A lot has been geared toward hazardous fuels reduction treatments vs. restoration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1260. *Buffer around trails/roads.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1261. *Prevention through cleaning out excess foliage, etc. ___ and trees that are dead are hauled away. Sold for lumber, sledding, pellets, better methods for controlled burn.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, B.5, and C.6.

1262. *Allow seasonal use for firewood gathering by local communities to reduce overgrowth by fir and ponderosa species.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement C.6.

1263. *There is a need for a first class fire break around Angel Fire.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1264. *Allow low-intensity fire; allow natural ignitions to burn when possible.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1265. *Need controlled burns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1266. *Have controlled burns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1267. *Do not have a burn during a drought. The treatment needs to coincide with the need and conditions not just availability of funds.*

Response: This is a management approach

1268. *Brush encroachment on uplands east of Hwy 84. Use fire as control.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1269. *A strong emphasis on fire promotion and a lack of fire suppression whenever possible. Supporting a fire cycle closer to the historical record before human involvement. This could be accomplished by either prescribed burns or preferably by suppressing fires less often.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1270. *An emulation of natural fire effects through forest thinning prescriptions and prescribed burns in order to restore a healthy forest condition while maintaining public safety concerns.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1271. *An increased number of prescribed burns, or failing that an increase in mechanical thinning.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1272. *Controlled burns. Figuring on what fires to suppress and to let go. Educate volunteers to better maintain trails. Training sessions, set times and dates.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1273. *Partitioned controlled burns during the summer in order to keep the parks income as opposed to larger controlled burns that would limit economic capabilities. Contracting of selective logging with removal of undergrowth as a prerequisite. This in theory would help introduce fire in a sustainable and economically feasible way.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1274. *Prescribed fire and mechanical thinning to return the natural fire regime. Fuel loads should be looked at to focus on areas of a high fuel density.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1275. *Reducing the possibility of large fires by using controlled burns during periods of less severe drought as we are seeing now.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1276. *The CNF to engage in a more frequent fire regimen; frequent low intensity fires benefit wildlife, grasses, aspen, forest infrastructure, and limit the negative impacts of devastating high intensity forest have on nearly all aspects of forest management.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1277. *Weather – not really controllable but must have work force when time is right.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1278. *We have unhealthy forests. Introduce fire in high elevation prior to season ending event, i.e. winter snow. Fire off ridges with helicopter to provide a backing, low intensity fire to clean fuels in back 40 areas.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1279. More prescribed burns to reduce dense and overgrown tree stands.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1280. Large scale prescribed burns where needed. Manage natural ignitions for multiple objectives. Thinning and allow public to gather the product. Open some areas under travel management restriction temporarily to harvest fuel wood where fuel wood concentrations are high.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1281. Let fires burn.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1282. Fir adapted ecosystem s- let fires go, large thinning scales.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1283. I would much rather see a prescribed burn than a huge wildfire.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1284. Managed fire.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1285. Allowing wildfires to burn instead of putting out (manage – managing wildfires).

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1286. More fire on the landscape, including infrequent fire regimes, prescribed or naturally ignited.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1287. After a thinning project, go back 5, 10 and 15 years later to keep the small trees from coming back with more prescribed fire.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1288. More Rx Burns.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1289. There is a need for an increased use of prescribed fire to restore higher level of ecosystem function.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1290. More prescribed fires, healthier forest.

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1291. When doing Smokey presentations, let the kids know that some fires managed by professionals is good for the forest.

Response: This is a management approach.

1292. *Public support – public education programs in importance of fires to the natural ecosystems, school programs for passing on information, good neighbor relations.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1293. *Demonstrate prescribed fire effects closer to roads so public can appreciate it.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1294. *Social engineering to get public to approve Rx and resource ___.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1295. *Comprehensive fire history for CNF. To help educate the public about the historical frequency of natural fire to build support for management fires and restoring fire to the ecosystem. Solution: fund data collection for fire history (fire scars and tree rings); create brochures and public education activities.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1296. *Prescribed burning is scary, educate people, burning is counter intuitive.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1297. *Education of population, consciousness, awareness. Possible grants available brought to attention of public, i.e. WUI, CWPP programs in communities. Use of social media/multimedia, peer involvement, begin education in elementary school population. Scouts? Etc., use high school population as ‘junior’ rangers.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1298. – ‘education’ - *Work on educating the public on fire adapted ecosystems and the need to reintroduce fire into the ecosystem.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1299. *Fire adapted ecosystems – need to better inform the public on the benefits of fire. How fire is used as a tool.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1300. *Thin fuelwood burning – educate public how gathering fuelwood benefits the forest.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1301. *Training of all forest staff in the event of large fire.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1302. *There is a need for increasing the public’s understanding of the role of fire in maintaining the health of forests and water supplies.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1303. *Public education before prescribed burn.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1304. *Volunteers – Philmont, SAF, etc.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1305. *Finding ways to develop a plan that will incorporate a landscape view to the problem. Partnerships are required to accomplish this from a public/private basis. Larger fires reach beyond the forest boundaries. The solution to encourage healthy forests should reach beyond the boundaries.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1306. *Work force – volunteer movement, burns are things public interested in participating in, use interest to establish work force.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1307. *More money and personnel, hire a CNF fuels crew with proper equipment to work on big landscape projects.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1308. *Need to find financial and public support to perform treatments. Partnerships, explore other opportunities for funding, we need industry collaboration.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1309. *Watershed management: wildfire protection on landscape scale will take massive resources, 100 times the 'pilot' of CFRP for instance. Solution: Rio Grande water fund, bringing significant investment (and local employment) to sustainable forestry, returning forests to old growth patterns. Smokey was wrong.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1310. *Fuel schools also address erosion. Move fire fuels perpendicular to erosion problems to help with erosion, wet wood and decrease fire potential, and help slow runoff for water banking. Osage Orange can be used as a cash crop, for fencing in hedge rows, for fence (bow blanks) posts, and for sparing firewood when drought or fire hazards put forest at risk.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1311. *There is a need to address the side effects of fire in the forest. Dead and down, standing (dangerous) timber.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement B.1, B.4, and B.5.

1312. *There is a need to address (incorporate) the "travel plan" in the total management plan (will that be done?) i.e. travel allowances within closed roads, etc.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (36 CFR Parts 212, 251, 261,295 [Travel Management Rule]).

Partnerships Comments and Responses

1313. *Leverage partnership funding.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1314. *Engage partners in larger landscape level restoration efforts, including increased thinning, burning, road decommissioning, etc., which will result in more resilient landscapes. Multi-jurisdictional involvement is critical.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1315. *Public support/collaboration, partnerships, outside funding Collaborative FS restoration projects – develop partnerships.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1316. *Get businesses to buy into and donate money to promote tourism and available resources at Carson.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1317. *Does the FS website have a volunteer link to volunteer directly with Carson? Does it list volunteer opportunities on Carson?*

Response: This is a management approach.

1318. *Trail crews, volunteer, friends of groups.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1319. *District project day? People from the public can participate, but may be a liability/safety issue. Providing news and opportunities towards a specific set of willing volunteers (ex-forestry students at close by college campus) that are highly interested in the topic and directly concerned with the effects of something like a NF because of their love and usage of the land and concern for its future. Finding volunteers who are affected by the use of the land will help bring together a group of people passionate about a topic.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1320. *Perhaps more staff so that the forest could coordinate and leverage additional volunteers and outside partnership.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1321. *Ask for volunteers to help clean trails. Get fallen trees off, trash, etc. FS should give instructions on work.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1322. *Partnerships – manufacture provide education volunteer coordinator, grants to fund infrastructure, toilets, signs, employees not out in field, employees are afraid of talking to public; educating the public*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1323. *Partnerships and coordination to drive visitors to our community. Less restriction, ask for forgiveness rather than follow the processes. Process takes too long because of limited FS staffing. We can certainly provide resources if allowed to do so.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1324. *Get communities involved – volunteers – people come into the office to volunteer – volunteer coordinator? – could be one in the same.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1325. *Engage retired volunteers to be campground hosts / senior rangers and other roles.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1326. *More work could get done with partners.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1327. *Partnerships coord for the forest to focus on that.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1328. *Youth conservation classes, junior rangers, get the kids involved and informed about the forest, get all or most shops involved in this.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1329. *More use of the Taos visitor center and COC.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1330. *Public outreach*

Response: This is a management approach.

1331. *Communication with one another on all concerns.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1332. *Brown bags, coffee w/ the ranger, build those relationships.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1333. *Volunteerism is essential with all the budget cuts.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1334. *Collaborative with other agencies.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1335. *Reach out to other organizations who are sharing your same goals, i.e. AGMC, ask how we can help each other, i.e. adopt a forest area.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1336. *Team up with other federal agencies.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1337. *Volunteers to assist with education, enforcement, and maintenance. This becomes increasingly important due to budget restraints. Related to this would be the implementation of adopt a trail, adopt a park, and similar programs.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1338. *Need a volunteer program. Be open to opportunities proposed by public. Train volunteers on trail maintenance, thinning, other needs. Have a plan for how to interact with and incorporate those who want to volunteer.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1339. *Grants – work together with the towns on available grants. Partner with the town.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1340. *There is a need for more communication with the communities and Rio Arriba county to come together to develop a solution for illegal dumping.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1341. *My past experience as a FS volunteer worked great when there was flexibility and trust between volunteers and FS. Need to return to making better use of volunteers.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1342. *Integrated work, information sharing, _____, schools.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1343. *Build internal relationships to make processes smoother and more consistent.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

Other Comments and Responses

1344. *A better monitoring protocol is very much needed for the Carson NF to help establish trends and whether ERUs and the entire planning area are moving toward a better state of health.*

Response: This is a part of a monitoring program.

1345. *Air quality monitoring stations should be established in the Carson NF at various locations for more accurate air quality data and to ensure that ozone levels meet standards.*

Response: This is a proposed or possible action.

1346. *FS needs to include effective enforcement as part of the revised forest plan.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1347. *Increase law enforcement.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1348. *Employ more older people to patrol and document and catch them.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1349. *Encourage more patrols in trouble areas.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1350. *More LEOs [law enforcement officers] in forest, none of these issues will change without enforcement of FS rules. Most of the local population uses the forest as a dump and to make tax free money to supplement all of their government assistance. By over cutting firewood, poaching rocks, dirt, wildlife, archeological resources, mining, cheating grazing permits, - and selling these things. Without enforcement these people will trash any forest improvements that don't help them make more money.*

Response: Governed by existing law, regulation, or policy. (USDA Law Enforcement and Investigations).

1351. *Public to let FS know troubled areas so FS can patrol them.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1352. *The forest to address the issue of illegal dumping. This is a forest wide problem and with limited law enforcement coverage, the problem has increased. Illegal dumping causes a rodent problem, aesthetic problems, soil erosion, to name a few.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1353. *Maybe allow volunteer groups to help clean up trash or dump areas. Also have the volunteers police the areas to curb dumping.*

Response: This is a partnership opportunity.

1354. *Trash - Have more personnel to travel forest roads, Garbage on forest roads. Solution: create partnerships with local governments, ex: Taos county; neighborhood watch program; hotline to report dumping.*

Response: This is addressed by need to change statement A.6.

1355. *Website user friendly and tailored to specific needs and uses. Ex. Step by step by step instructions to be able to collect minerals.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1356. *Find grant \$\$ to hire the mature population and give them jobs.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1357. *Offer confiscated wood to elderly and infirm.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1358. *Provide programs to employ and educate high school/college people within the forest. Involvement in the forest creates conditions of a 'stake; in the forest which will result in years of future concern. Don't close campgrounds just because trees are dry – they should spray the trees before they dry.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1359. *Public review of forest budget – open for public comment and direction.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1360. *I would like to see USFS/Carson with adequate funding to implement all aspects of the plan. Solution: fire congress, less defense spending and more FS sending.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

1361. *One poster, one vision, one overarching integrated idea to manage forests: La Floresta, La Qurencia. One page summary.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

1362. *The assessment needs – some quantitative ref – how many acres – in ecological type – health how many AUM / livestock / elk /people.*

Response: Please review assessment to see if we fulfilled your request.

1363. *Stated priorities – projects and dates of completion. Is this part of the forest plan?*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

1364. *In the last few years, different branches of the military have aggressively pursued new training areas on NF lands. There is a need to write into the cnf plan that there will be no military use, exercises of any kind in or over cnf lands.*

Response: This is outside the scope of forest plan revision.

1365. *Publicizing FS programs and activities. Put notices in newspaper, educational workshops on forest problem.*

Response: This is a management approach.

1366. *Having a consistent message to the public and partner a third party NEPA contractors.*

Response: This is a management approach and a partnership opportunity.

Other statements not addressed by Need to Change statement (unreadable, incomplete, or statements of condition that are not a Need to Change)

1367. Take nothing from forest

1368. More ____, more people to participate, use someone like ____ volunteers for additional eyes.

1369. Reduce sage populations by __ to improve ____

1370. See what people want, do what the public needs.

1371. Identifying these plants; informing people to identify these plants and doing their part.

1372. 700 Club member, board of director VP programs, ABQ gem and mineral club

1373. AGMC willing to participate: examples only.

1374. Caution: Low <> High

1375. Concern: cost vs. quantity

1376. Medicines, osha

1377. Educate, reclaim, _____ practice

1378. Citations

1379. Follow up

1380. Signage

1381. Turn in names

1382. Collecting remedies - don't require a permit

1383. Our riparian areas are critical for resilient ecosystem function, play a key role for many wildlife and cattle, recreational use, and enjoyment.

1384. Getting EIS done

1385. Good __ planning

1386. Work to raise those limits so they can feed families.

1387. Unauthorized roads and trails

1388. Increasing soil nutrients, increases wildlife habitat conservation.

1389. Make openings without trees

1390. Just because it is __ should it be __ATV, bike trails

1391. Special Use Permits – capacity

1392. Be ahead of the game

1393. FS is creating locals to violate forest rules and regulations, causing the locals break the law and encouraging user created roads

1394. Water, wetlands and ranching

1395. Climate, wildlife, soil, water

1396. The people of this community is more than willing to cut with FS tells them to cut, is more than willing to travel to where the FS tells them to cut, and more than willing to take what the FS tells them.

1397. Opening up the tree canopy

1398. Pay the price

1399. Report it more often

-
- 1400. *Thinking and burning*
 - 1401. *Threat, recreation, special permits for special use versus balancing any wilderness designated areas. Healthy forest – undergrowth – fire – controlled – manual clearing.*
 - 1402. *Farming, acid rain from pollution, even in some cases forest management is where issues like this may occur. Too much may be occurring in one place.*
 - 1403. *Archy site (real and fake) pile of trash should not be considered _____*
 - 1404. *Understanding of aspen growth ... aspen forests retain and produce more water than other sites. Habitat provides important habitat for many species.*
 - 1405. *Table conversation #1 – grass cover*
 - 1406. *Verify need, if they have family they can help*
 - 1407. *Protecting the forest.*
 - 1408. *Fire wood*
 - 1409. *Wood*
 - 1410. *Open road*
 - 1411. *Trail building*
 - 1412. *University, community groups, students groups, recreation users*
 - 1413. *Watershed management – signage*
 - 1414. *Small diameter timber*
 - 1415. *Sustainable trail design*
 - 1416. *Erosion control*
 - 1417. *Education*
 - 1418. *Education/social*
 - 1419. *Smoke management*
 - 1420. *Funding*
 - 1421. *Education – for evacuations; downed fuel wood*
 - 1422. *Use of language “threat” – low or high condition*
 - 1423. *Decrease wildfire risk*
 - 1424. *Decrease woody species*
 - 1425. *Reduce fuels at a low cost, low risk.*
 - 1426. *What are current limitations in doing prescribed burns?*
 - 1427. *Problem: reduces water availability, increase fuel loading, increase fire ladders*
 - 1428. *Unauthorized road signs*
 - 1429. *Have professionals identify and facilitate these tasks*
 - 1430. *Grants – cfrp?*
 - 1431. *Roads closed yet being used by ATV, dirty (!!) bicycles*
 - 1432. *ATV off (main) road making ruts*
 - 1433. *Elks destroying our fences*
 - 1434. *Dense, overstocked stands.*
 - 1435. *All traditional use around wood gathering on a seasonal basis*
 - 1436. *Permitted log or tree removal. Wood cutting.*

1437. I volunteered for the Yadkin River Keeper Association last summer with the opportunity for free fishing in return.
1438. Are you considering controlled burns??
1439. A sustainable firewood, timber harvesting and cattle grazing plan.
1440. Trash – mail their trash back to them, all of it – dump sites hate them.
1441. Like to see the burn boss on USFS land in parking lot where the slash pile has always been.
1442. firewood gathering (also addresses fire, soils, hunting/fishing)
1443. “Resource benefit fire” that does not protect fire-sensitive resources; purposeful publication of site locations due to use of GPS and Google maps by public for geo-caching.
1444. Better relations between private landowners adjacent to the trust.
1445. Renewable resources – sand, trees, livestock. Areas where uranium deposits should be taken into consideration. Some areas should not be developed.
1446. Provide habitat w/in watersheds
1447. Early browsers on the higher elevation reducing habitat for migratory birds and other species
1448. La Jicarita, get school programs
1449. Management of campers
1450. Talk to Norman for Town Crier
1451. Take care of __ industry. Hunting/fishing, get rid of horses, killing __, BLM work with. Other wild horses, need to manage. Management o longer historic uses. No market for wood coming off forest.
1452. All
1453. Forest service capacity – FS staff resource
1454. Future revisions of the CNF plans
1455. Management
1456. Watershed management – signage
1457. As presented, solution #3 states a need for limiting and reversing woody species infill. See my comment on wood species regarding natural succession.
1458. As written, solution 3 begs the question – is the FS going to retain all aspen stands and hold succession in abeyance? For how long?
1459. Does the FS have the capacity to manage and retain aspen stand integrity even on a small scale over the long term?
1460. Aspen, mixed severity, stand replacing fire regime, vegetation types
1461. Thinning, diseases, clearing
1462. Conifer removal w/landscape
1463. Mechanical
1464. Natural fire
1465. Rx fire
1466. Fire use
1467. Needs disturbance
1468. Soil, aspen, woody species. Commonsense management, sheep

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1469. *Thinning – then burn*
1470. *Invasive plant species are threats in all management areas*
1471. *Tent caterpillars in the aspen trees; invasive species, plant and animal; sagebrush to native grass.*
1472. *Weather conditions considered when treatments.*
1473. *Prescribed fire, _____ encroaching woody species*
1474. *For soil health, habitat, fire regime, grazing, water quality*
1475. *Grass seeding?*
1476. *Seed areas with native grasses, too water dependent?*
1477. *Erosion by motorized off road travel*
1478. *Climate and adjust quickly to it*
1479. *Forest plan having identified scales of reference*
1480. *Planting covering vegetation.*
1481. *A way to stop this [soil erosion] is to try and split up the impact that could be occurring in one spot, so instead of significantly damaging one area, splitting it up could help lower the harm rate substantially. Chemical work like a team, when they are together they attack, when they are split up, it is harder for them to attack harshly.*
1482. *An even distribution of healthy chemical flow within soil layers. If there is too much work being done in one area, chemicals could damage vegetation, and overall the ecosystem in the area. it is something big to keep in mind.*
1483. *Assess and identify road ____ level 1-5*
1484. *Road improvements*
1485. *See San Juan Chama Partnership*
1486. *Streamline process for _____ exclusions*
1487. *Girdle - sorry, cannot understand rest*
1488. *Piñon-juniper encroachment in riparian habitat*
1489. *problem – creates fuel ladder and reduces water*
1490. *Contamination of stream, i.e. Taos Canyon*
1491. *Address issues as they come up and try to understand the impacts on recreation, erosion, etc. Trout Unlimited and Rocky Mtn Elk Foundation*
1492. *By the time law enforcement gets there police need to scramble their frequencies so scanners*
1493. *Permits for green firewood may run into problems with bark beetles*
1494. *Every key area focuses around water – fire, aspen, climate*
1495. *Inform public signs up*
1496. *Some solutions to avoiding this could including staying clean with our environment, not littering, maintain chemical excretion, which would help lower acid rain affects, thus hopefully stabilizing the ph levels in the water in forests.*
1497. *Water, wetlands and ranching*
1498. *There is a need to designate properties as cohabitat areas. Any development would have guidelines and provisions responsibilities.*

- 1499. CFRP funds
- 1500. Land use
- 1501. Philmont new work crews: Victor, for the Valle Vidal
- 1502. PJ encroachment
- 1503. Wildlife / native species diversity / endangered species
- 1504. Wild horse no more
- 1505. Designate some areas for them to use.
- 1506. Diverse habitat, old growth, food, shelters, thinning, new growth
- 1507. I plan to be at the public meeting in Taos on June 3 and want to continue participating in future meetings to help in the development of a sustainable forest plan for the future.
- 1508. Standing dry trees?
- 1509. Generally speaking, off roaders like myself are usually considerate and will obey signage and posted notices with the exceptions of the ones who will go in anyway.
- 1510. Developed vs. undeveloped/sustainable
- 1511. We can advise
- 1512. Wilderness, best idea?
- 1513. Roads (make communication between groups), money from club to help maintain roads?
- 1514. Sometimes a plan seems good and things (trees for example) are taken out before whatever new is ready to be put in (not administered piecemeal). For example, blocking roads is likely to end with people 'making their own' (undesirable)
- 1515. Just maintain'
- 1516. More water
- 1517. Trash is a very big problem. Yet no one seems how to tackle the job. Big job or little job. How do you stop this problem? How do you start? Where do you start? Why? When is a good time to start? Where ... there are too many wheres. Who is going to start cleaning?
- 1518. Condition – acequias
- 1519. Dead trees _____
- 1520. Fishing – for food (family), not all can eat
- 1521. Game & Fish ____
- 1522. People cutting fences
- 1523. Take our polls
- 1524. Road crossing rivers
- 1525. Reach out to college students who focus in this study
- 1526. Valle Vidal and wetlands
- 1527. Youth corps built 3 rock walls with log roofs for temporary minimal shelter.
- 1528. Climate problem: FS facilities
- 1529. Fs should set example
- 1530. Not too late to undo mistakes made in past.
- 1531. Signs, grants, YCCs, travel management, need amendments.
- 1532. Balance use with recreation

1533. *Budget limitations*

1534. *Need vs. want*

1535. *Partners*

1536. *Maintenance over winter closing; traps that capture dogs; cattle destruction of riparian areas.*

1537. *NM needs to see what Colorado is doing.*

1538. *Off road use of public land*

1539. *A very comprehensive list – good job!!*

1540. *Thank you for having an ABQ meeting and also for having many meetings! Very helpful.
(Wilderness Alliance)*

1541. *Thank you so much – lots of fun! Best to you all*

What is a forest plan?

A forest plan provides broad, program-level direction for management of National Forest System lands and its resources. The purpose of a plan is to address the risks to sustainability of resources, goods, and services the forest produces and to provide a vision for the future management of the forest. Future projects carry out the direction in a forest plan. The forest plan does not contain a commitment to select any specific project. A plan:

1. Applies to only those lands within the National Forest System;
2. Is developed through an ongoing public process;
3. Uses the best available scientific, local, and native knowledge to inform the planning process;
4. Provides a framework for integrated resource management and for guiding project and activity decision making;
5. Does not authorize projects or activities, commit the Forest Service to take action, or regulate uses by the public (in other words, no site-specific decisions are expected to be made in a forest plan); and
6. Should not repeat laws, regulations, or program management policies, practices, and procedures that are in the Forest Service Directive System.

A forest plan consists of (1) plan components; (2) identification of where plan components apply; (3) other plan content, and (4) optional plan content. Each of these is discussed below:

1. Plan Components

Plan components will be developed from the needs to change statements and guide future project and activity decision-making. Plan components will apply forest-wide, to specific parcels of land (management areas), or to land of specific character (e.g. riparian areas, roads, seeps, springs).

Desired conditions are specific social, economic, and ecological characteristics of the plan area, or a portion of the plan area, that are described in terms specific enough to allow for progress toward their achievement. Desired conditions are what drive the plan. All project-level management activities should be aimed at the achievement of the desired conditions for those resources in the area where the project is located. Desired conditions can be thought of as goals that help define a collective vision for the National Forest in the future.

Objectives are concise, measurable, and time-specific statements of a desired rate of progress toward desired conditions and should be based on reasonably foreseeable budgets. Objectives, along with the strategies (from management approaches or Forest Service handbook direction) used to accomplish them, can be thought of as the tools we will use to prioritize project activities to reach desired conditions. Objectives are mileposts along the road toward desired conditions.

Standards can be thought of as the rules we will operate within as we develop projects to accomplish objectives and achieve desired conditions. These are mandatory constraints on project- and activity decision-making.

Guidelines describe constraints on project and activity decision-making that allow for departure from its terms, so long as the intent of the guidelines is met. In other words, guidelines are mandatory unless they are replaced by something that is equal, or better, in meeting the intent of the existing guideline.

Suitability of lands is identified in a plan as specific lands within a plan area that are suitable for various uses or activities based on the desired conditions applicable to those lands. The plan also identifies lands within the plan area as not suitable for uses that are not compatible with desired conditions for those lands. The suitability of lands need not be identified for every use or activity; however, every plan must identify those lands that are not suitable for timber production (required by the National Forest Management Act).

2. Where Plan Components Apply

Every plan must identify **management areas** or **geographic areas**. The plan may identify designated or recommended designated areas as management areas or geographic areas.

3. Other Plan Content

In addition to plan components the forest plan must include other plan contents. These are also linked to needs to change statements.

Priority watersheds: Every plan must identify watersheds that are impaired or at risk for priority maintenance or restoration.

Roles and contributions: Every plan must describe the roles and contributions of the plan area to ecological, social, and economic sustainability within the broader landscape.

Monitoring program: Every plan must include a monitoring program. Monitoring information enables the responsible official to determine if a change in plan components or other plan content that guide management of resources on the plan area may be needed.

Proposed and possible actions: Every plan must describe proposed and possible actions that may occur during the life of the plan on the plan area. Possible actions are not a commitment to do work, but possible actions which could be performed to move toward desired conditions and objectives.

4. Optional Plan Content

Forest plans may include other optional plan content, such as existing conditions, explanatory narrative, and management approaches. Optional plan content are not plan components.

Management approaches and associated information are not plan components. They do not offer plan direction, but describe an approach or strategy to manage the unit to achieve a desired condition. Management approaches often convey how plan components work together to achieve the desired condition. They may also describe context, intent, priorities, partnership opportunities or coordination activities, needs for surveys, inventories or assessments, or approaches to risk and uncertainty. Not every resource topic area requires an associated management approach heading. Changes to management approaches do not require plan amendments.

Background and description and associated information are not plan components. They do not offer plan direction, but give a brief sense of the history and/or description of the

resource topic area being addressed, as of the writing of the plan. The background and description information also provide a context for the desired conditions identified as part of a plan component.

Other sources of information include existing laws, regulations, policies, memorandums of understanding and other guidance that will be incorporated into the plan as an appendix. These sources are important in designing projects and activities to achieve desired conditions. Most of these documents are available from Forest Service offices. Many are posted on the [Carson National Forest Internet Website](#).