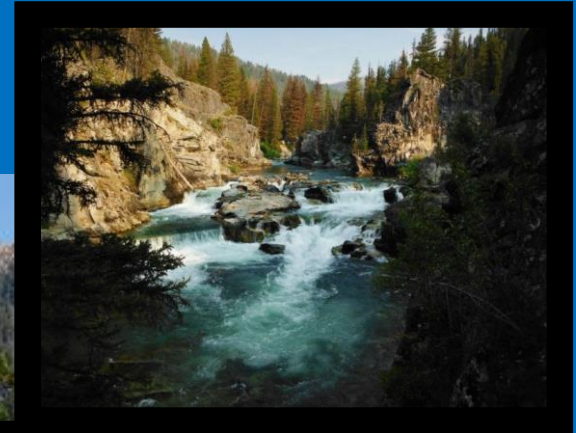




United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Plan Revision Communication Strategy

Salmon-Challis
National Forest



Forest Service

January 2017

What Does a Forest Plan Do?



1. Establishes a vision for the plan area that endures through leadership and staff changes by laying out desired conditions and strategies to achieve them;
2. Sets the context for how the plan's vision fits into larger physical, sociopolitical, and socioeconomic landscapes;
3. Creates operational rules and regulations, similar to an operating manual, for activities in the plan area;
4. Establishes a process for evaluating progress and changing approaches as necessary.

What Does the 2012 Planning Rule Say?



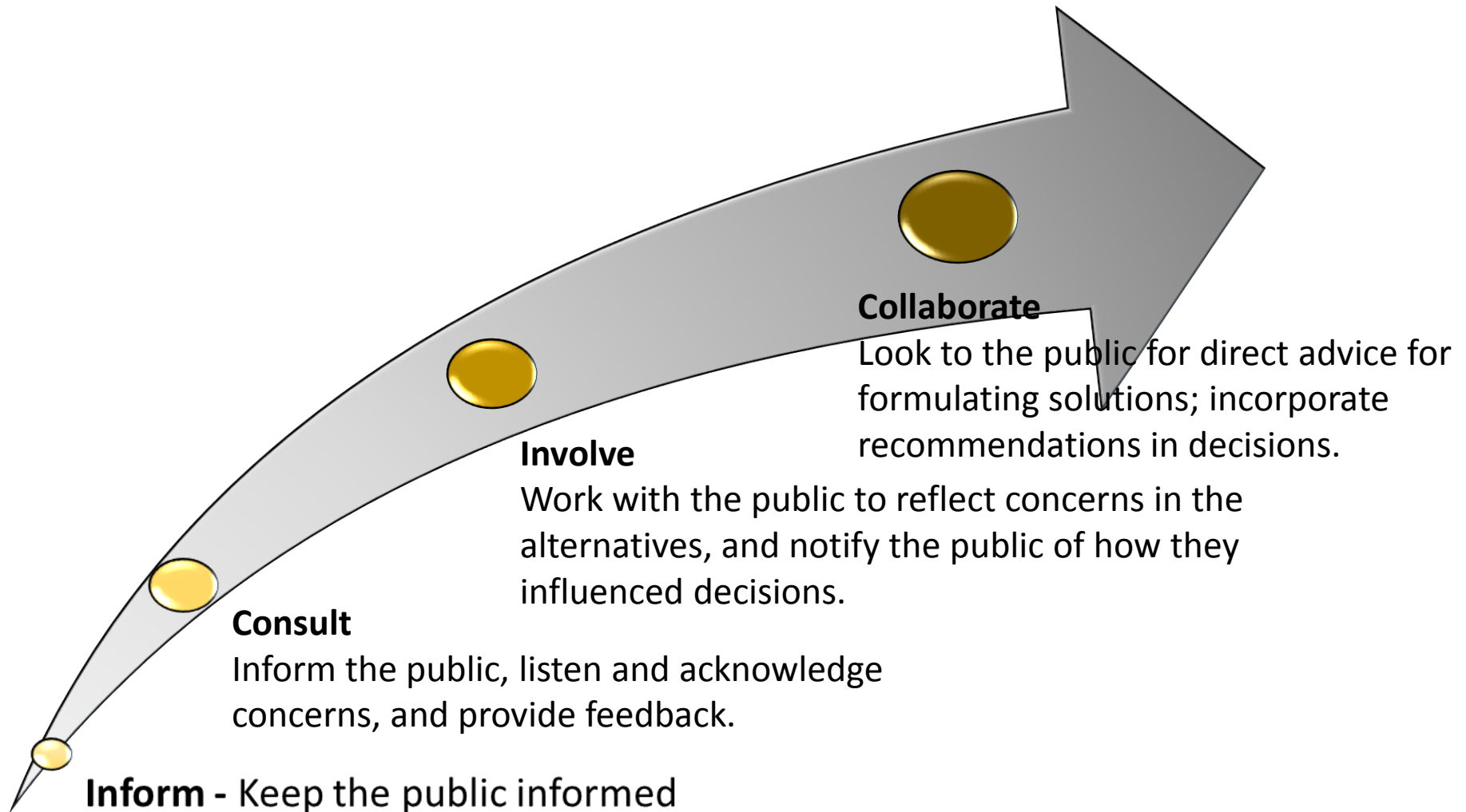
- Emphasizes ecological and social sustainability and adaptive management.
- Recognizes that special relationships exist with tribes and other governmental entities.
- Requires the agency to make concerted efforts to reach those in the planning area who often get overlooked in exercises like this:
 - Youth
 - Low-income
 - Minority groups

What is Collaboration?



- Collaboration is a process through which multiple stakeholders work together to solve a common problem or achieve a common objective
- Collaboration can mean a formal collaborative group with set membership or it can happen less formally at a public workshop when people tackle issues from a variety of different viewpoints
- The move from informing the public to collaborating with the public takes greater time and investment but we are counting on it leading to more sustainable results with improved trust and ownership.

Levels of Public Involvement



Four Years, Four Phases

Prepare

Assess

Plan

Monitor



- Assemble a Forest Plan Revision Team
- Work with National Forest Foundation to assess community interest and concerns
- Meet with tribes, county government and other agencies to explore cooperating agency status
- Present information about plan revision when requested by stakeholder groups
 - Public Lands Planning Group led by Salmon Valley Stewardship, University of Idaho Custer Extension
- Create Forest Plan Revision web pages and mailing lists

- Notice of the Beginning of the Assessment Phase – January 2017
- Host Community Conversations – February 2017





- Meeting Dates, Times, Locations
 - Salmon, Monday, Feb 13, 6 – 8 p.m., Idaho Dept Fish & Game conference room
 - Mackay, Wednesday, Feb 15, 6-8 p.m., American Legion Hall
 - Challis, Tuesday, Feb 21, 6 – 8 p.m., American Legion Hall
 - Webinar, Thursday, Feb 23, 3-5 p.m., <https://usfs.adobeconnect.com/scnf-fpr/>

Assess (January - December 2017) continued



- Topical workshops and field trips – Spring - Summer 2017
 - What trends are revealed by collected data and how does that inform a Need for Change?
 - Use “live” forums, post video and documents on web, engage students
- Availability of the Assessment Report for public review – Fall 2017
 - Communicate trends and findings via public meetings, small groups, schools, and materials displayed in public places including the web
 - Ask, “Where does the assessment tell us we need to focus and what is the need for change?”
- Finalize Assessment – Winter 2017
 - Make available via SCNF website; advertise availability widely

Plan (January 2018 – December 2020)



- Publish preliminary Need for Change and notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement – January 2018
 - Formal public comment period, opportunity to provide input – Feb/March 18
- Develop plan components (desired conditions, objectives, standards and guidelines) that reflect different management plan scenarios, or alternatives (Spring 2018 – Spring 2019)
 - Work collaboratively with stakeholders to draft these different scenarios, using face-to-face meetings and web-based tools, for example

Plan (January 2018 – December 2020) continued



- Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzing different alternatives in the Draft Forest Plan Revision – Summer/Fall 2019
 - Continue to communicate with members of the public. DON'T GO DARK!
- Make Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Forest Plan Revision available for review (Winter 2019)
 - Formal public comment period, opportunity to provide input – Jan/March 2020
- Release Final Environmental Impact Statement, Forest Plan Revision and Draft Record of Decision (Summer/Fall 2020)
 - 60-day Objection period begins – Summer/Fall 2020
 - Resolution process, if needed, occurs – Summer/Fall 2020
- Final Record of Decision signed – Winter 2020

Implement and Monitor (2021 - 2036)

- Monitoring of forest plan implementation is continuous and provides feedback for the planning cycle by:
 - testing relevant assumptions,
 - tracking relevant conditions over time,
 - measuring management effectiveness.
- Public participation is an important part of monitoring.

For More Information



- Contact Josh Milligan, Team Lead
208-756-5560, jmilligan@fs.fed.us
- Gina Knudson, Collaboration Specialist
208-756-5551, gknudson@fs.fed.us
- Visit the Salmon-Challis National Forest website and click on Forest Plan Revision, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/scnf/>