

# Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan Revision

Draft Assessment Report Comment Summary



Forest Service

May 2018

# Draft Assessment Report Comment Summary

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Direct Link to the Draft Assessment Report

[https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fseprd546733.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd546733.pdf)

## Assessment Phase of Forest Plan Revision

The Assessment phase of Forest Plan revision is designed to rapidly evaluate existing information, conditions, and trends around the ecological, social, and economic aspects of the Forest. The Assessment consists of existing information that is currently available in a usable form, without further data collection, modification, or validation. The Assessment phase also provided the Forest with opportunities to develop and strengthen relationships with Cooperating Agencies, Tribes and the public that will continue through the Plan Revision process.

The Assessment evaluates the 15 topics that are listed in the Planning Rule (36 CFR 219.6(b)) see Table 1 below. The Assessment Report provides a base of currently available information that will be used to identify the need for change from the current Forest Plan and to inform development of a Revised Plan (36 CFR 219.19). This report is not a decision document and does not authorize any on-the-ground actions.

The information gathered during the Assessment phase was used to inform the final Assessment Report and, where appropriate, will be used in development of the revised Forest Plan.

**Table 1. Assessment Topics**

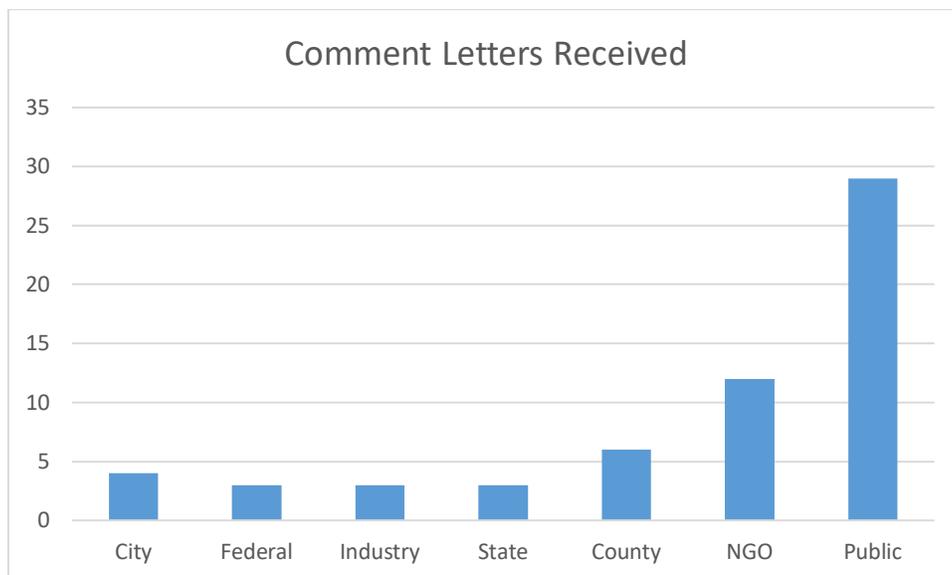
1. Terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, and watersheds	9. Benefits people obtain from the planning area (ecosystem services)
2. Air, soil, and water resources and quality	10. Multiple uses and their contributions to local, regional, and national economies
3. System drivers, including dominant ecological processes, disturbance regimes, and stressors, such as natural succession, wildland fire, invasive species, and climate change; and the ability of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems on the plan area to adapt to change	11. Existing designated areas located in the plan area including wilderness and wild and scenic rivers and potential need and opportunity for additional designated areas.
4. Baseline assessment of carbon stocks	12. Renewable and nonrenewable energy and mineral resources
5. Threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, and potential species of conservation concern present in the plan area	13. Infrastructure (recreational facilities and transportation and utility corridors)
6. Social, cultural, and economic conditions	14. Areas of tribal importance
7. Cultural and historic resources and uses	15. Land status and ownership, use, and access patterns
8. Recreation settings, opportunities and access, and scenic character	

## Public Participation in Assessment Phase

In late July 2016, The Manti-La Sal National Forest published its [official Notice of Intent \(NOI\)](#) to begin the Assessment in the U.S. Federal Register. Between July of 2016 and June of 2017, the Forest held 23 public open houses and workshops with a total of 524 participants in communities near the Forest to share information about Forest the Plan Revision process, build relationships with stakeholders, and gather information to inform the Assessment. To learn more about the public meetings held, and to review summaries of the content shared, visit the [Forest Plan Revision website](#). Information gathered during these public meetings was used to support the development of the [Draft Assessment Report](#) published June 22, 2017.

## Comment Letter Overview

The Manti-La Sal National Forest received 60 comment letters during the Draft Assessment Report comment period from Federal, State, County, City, non-governmental organizations, and the general public. Nearly half of the letters received were submitted by members of the general public (29), and one-quarter were submitted by Cooperating Agencies (16), the remaining quarter was comprised of industry and non-governmental organizations.



Comment letters received after the end of the 30 Day Comment period on 22 July, 2017 are not included in this summary report. However, they will be reviewed and considered during the course of developing the revised Forest Plan.

## Assessment Comment Summary

A 30-day public comment period for the draft Assessment Report was held from June 22 to July 22, 2017. Sixty (60) comment letters were submitted from a variety of individuals and public, private, and governmental organizations on the draft Assessment Report.

While the comment period was held specifically for the review and comment of the Draft Assessment Report, the comment letters received addressed a wide variety of topics. Comments that are directly related to the Draft Assessment Report were reviewed for potential changes to the draft report. A

majority of the comments, however, provided feedback on the planning process, general land management concerns, resource issues, and uses of the Forest. These comments, not associated with the draft Assessment Report, have also been summarized here and will be reviewed during the development of the initial set of draft plan components for the revised Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan. Table 2 illustrates the number of individual comments received by topic, or subject matter, below.

**Table 2. Summary of Comment Topics**

Access	42
Air	5
Assessment - Recommended References	231
Assessment - Technical Edits	35
Bears Ears National Monument	2
Best Available Scientific Information (BASI)	5
Climate	54
Cultural/Heritage Sites	3
Designated Areas	17
Facilities	8
Fire	25
Grazing/Range	57
Invasive Species	14
IRA's	2
Mining/Minerals	26
Multiple Use	16
Planning Process	87
Plant Species	5
Recreation	69
Socio-Economic	23
Soils	7
Timber	1
Tribal Issues	3
Vegetation/Terrestrial Ecosystems	55
Watershed & Aquatic	69
Wilderness	13
Wildlife	31
<b>Total Comments Received</b>	<b>905</b>

## How Comment Letters are Used

Comment letters received were reviewed for suggested edits and changes to Assessment Report. Recommended changes included technical edits, format suggestions, clarifying statements, new reference materials and proposals for new sections of the Assessment. While no new sections will be added to the Assessment Report (the 15 topics addressed are defined by the 2012 Planning Rule), recommendations made for technical edits, literature cited, clarifying statements and additional language will be considered while revising the draft Assessment Report. The Assessment Report is meant to document a rapid evaluation of current conditions and trends, and not require new studies or analysis. As a result of this intention to be a snapshot of current conditions, not all additional references or text suggestions will be included. The final revised draft Assessment Report will be available for review in Spring 2019.

Many of the comments received did not directly address the draft Assessment Report. Those comments have been summarized here as well, and will be used to inform the development of management direction in the revised Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan.

## How Comments are Organized

When a comment letter is received, it is uploaded to the Comment Analysis and Response Application system referred to as CARA. A single comment letter may include many individual comments across multiple resources. Every letter is reviewed to identify individual comments within it, and each comment identified is assigned a code to identify its subject matter. Of the 60 letters reviewed, 905 individual comments were identified, and 117 different codes applied. To view a copy of the full Comment Code Summary see Appendix 1; an example is provided below.

### **Sample coding structure**

**803** – Access

**803.01** – Access – Administrative, Fire, Emergency

## Organizing Comments by Concern/Response

Of the 117 different codes applied, not all the comments assigned to a single code could be answered with the same response. To best organize the comments by type of concern or issue raised, the comments were grouped by Concern type. For example, of the 43 comments received addressing Laws/Regulations/Policy, 4 were related specifically to the Planning Rule. These 4 were then combined to create a single Concern statement, which is then provided a single Response statement.

Of the 905 comments received, 147 Concerns were identified, and each of these Concerns has been provided a Response which is summarized in this report.

When reading a Response Statement assigned to an individual Concern, remember that the Response provided is addressing several different comments lumped together as a single Concern. For example, your comment related to invasive species may not have been related to Milk Thistle, but the Response statement may include a sentence addressing Milk Thistle in order to completely address all comments lumped together as a single Invasive Plant Species Concern Statement.

## How to Navigate the Concern/Response Report

A simple way to navigate the concerns identified during the Assessment comment period, and the responses provided by the Forest, is to use the Table of Contents on page 2 of this document to find the issue you are most interested in, and navigating directly to that section of the report.

If you would like to see the comments organized by individual comment letter, and the responses assigned to each individual comment, a Comment/Response spreadsheet by Comment Letter has also been provided. The Workbook Key on the second tab of the spreadsheet provides an ID number for each letter received. Some authors submitted more than one comment letter, so responses are provided by comment letter ID for clarity.

[https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fseprd581291.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd581291.pdf)

## Concern/Response Categories

The 143 Concern/Response Statements are organized below by the type of Concern Statement. Navigate to the Resource Type that you are interested in, for example – Access. Identify the Access Concern Statement you would like to learn more about, for example – Access – Travel Management Plan. Click on the Concern/Response Statement number highlighted in blue and the hyperlink will take you directly to that Concern/Response statement.

### Access

- [5](#) Access and Trails
- [18](#) Travel Management Plan
- [21](#) Concern - Increasing Closures
- [24](#) Access - Roads - Close/Move/Rehabilitate
- [25](#) Access - General
- [26](#) Access - Roads - Keep Open
- [27](#) Access - Roads - Process, Input from Stakeholders
- [28](#) Access / Hunting / OHV
- [143](#) Access - Senior

### Air

- [31](#) Air Quality

### Assessment - Recommended References

- [2](#) References/Citations
- [3](#) References not cited
- [30](#) Age and location of Supporting Data
- [124](#) References - Not Associated with Assessment

- [125](#) References - Include in Record
- [141](#) Editorial Comments - Assessment Report
- [160](#) Documents provided

#### Assessment - Technical Edits

- [9](#) Draft Assessment - Climate Change/Typos
- [10](#) Technical Edits

#### Best Available Scientific Information (BASI)

- [23](#) FOIA Request - Macroinvertebrate Data
- [66](#) Best Available Management - State Information
- [146](#) Best Available Science

#### Climate

- [76](#) Carbon Sequestration - Vegetation
- [77](#) Climate Change
- [78](#) Climate Change - Data/Modeling
- [79](#) Climate Change - Vegetation Stressor
- [80](#) Climate Change - Visitor Use
- [81](#) Climate Change - Snowpack/Precipitation
- [82](#) Climate Change - Soils, Drought
- [110](#) Climate change as a stressor
- [137](#) Climate Change - Vegetation

#### Cultural/Heritage Sites

- [94](#) Recommendation to increase Heritage Surveys
- [139](#) Heritage Protection

#### Designated Areas

- [46](#) Process used to determine the need for additional Designated Areas.
- [47](#) Designated Areas
- [49](#) Wilderness/IRA - No Recommended Increase
- [50](#) Roadless Areas - Benefits
- [90](#) Designated Areas listed in the Assessment.

#### Facilities

- [38](#) Facilities - Transmission Lines/Routes
- [69](#) Road Maintenance - Declining Budgets

## Fire

- [65](#) Fire Risk - Assessment Report
- [70](#) Fuels/Fire Hazard
- [71](#) Prescribed Fire - Concern
- [72](#) Post-Fire Mitigation and Restoration

## Grazing/Range

- [59](#) Wildlife - Livestock Grazing Stressor
- [60](#) Assessment - Difficult to find Grazing information
- [67](#) Grazing Impacts and Plants
- [117](#) Grazing - Grazing Economics/Impacts
- [118](#) Value of Grazing
- [119](#) Grazing - Non-supportive
- [120](#) Grazing - Vegetation Management Tool
- [126](#) Primary Stressors - Cows and Humans
- [133](#) Grazing Terminology- Riparian Ecosystems
- [135](#) Domestic Grazing as a Stressor
- [154](#) Pika and Grazing Concern
- [162](#) Grazing - Stubble Height

## Invasive Species

- [100](#) Invasive Species
- [102](#) Invasive Species - Coordinating with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- [101](#) Noxious Weed Law/Policy

## Mining/Minerals

- [13](#) Oil & Gas - No Surface Occupancy
- [83](#) Coal - Emissions
- [106](#) Mining/Minerals/Energy - More Info Needed
- [109](#) Mining/Minerals/Energy - Concerns
- [113](#) Coal
- [114](#) Oil and Gas - Historic and Current Uses in the Assessment
- [115](#) Fracking
- [131](#) Coal Mining effects on grazing / Methane Gas

## Multiple Use

- [15](#) Multiple Use Management on NFS Lands

## Planning Process

- [7](#) General Comment/Concern
- [8](#) Limited Information/Time for Review
- [11](#) General Position Statement - Concern
- [12](#) Map Recommendations
- [14](#) Permit and Litigation Delays
- [17](#) Planning Rule
- [19](#) Laws/Regs/Policy - Existing
- [20](#) NEPA Process
- [22](#) Project Scope
- [48](#) Conservation Alternative
- [63](#) Monitoring 2014- 2016
- [64](#) NEPA - Process - Request comment period change
- [68](#) Engaging the Public
- [127](#) Land management Agencies
- [128](#) General Comments - Future Consideration
- [130](#) Add to Mailing List
- [132](#) Map Quality
- [147](#) Responsible Officer for the Forest Plan

## Plant Species of Conservation Concern

- [75](#) Species of Conservation Concern - Plants

## Recreation

- [6](#) Developed Recreation Needs
- [105](#) Illegal OHV use
- [163](#) Moab Trails
- [96](#) Motorized Recreation - Does not recommend increasing
- [29](#) Motorized Trail Planning
- [89](#) Recreation - Dispersed
- [86](#) Recreation - General
- [99](#) Recreation - Increase Camping Opportunities
- [97](#) Recreation - Motorized Support
- [103](#) Recreation - Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
- [88](#) Recreation - Source of Data
- [87](#) Recreation - Trails Shared Use OHV / Mountain Bike
- [92](#) Recreation - Unauthorized Routes
- [91](#) Recreation - Use Monitoring
- [129](#) Visitation Data

## Socio-Economic

- [104](#) Socio-Economic - Jobs / Income / Industry
- [107](#) Socio-Economic - Suggestions for Assessment
- [108](#) Local Communities -Tourism and Ranching Benefits

## Soils

- [16](#) Monitoring - Soil Moisture
- [111](#) Soils in the Assessment Report

## Timber

- [85](#) Forest Products

## Tribal Issues

- [95](#) Tribal Involvement

## Vegetation/Terrestrial Ecosystems

- [136](#) Need for vegetation fragmentation
- [116](#) Vegetation - General
- [112](#) Vegetation - More Info Requested

## Watershed & Aquatic

- [32](#) Aquatics/Riparian - General
- [142](#) Aquatics/Riparian - More Info Needed
- [150](#) Fens/Wetlands
- [41](#) Groundwater
- [40](#) Groundwater/Drinking Water - More Info Needed
- [145](#) Monticello District Municipal Water
- [33](#) Stream, riparian, and wetland protection for species viability
- [39](#) Water and Grazing Rights - Information
- [34](#) Water Quality
- [35](#) Water Quality - Information for Assessment
- [144](#) Water Quality by ORV use
- [156](#) Water Quality/ Quantity in the Assessment
- [36](#) Water Quantity
- [44](#) Water Use
- [158](#) Watershed - Additional Analysis
- [159](#) Watershed - Recommended Management Actions
- [55](#) Watershed Impacts
- [157](#) Watershed Protection Projects - Additional information
- [155](#) Watershed Restoration

[56](#) Watersheds - More Info Needed

#### Wilderness

[51](#) Wilderness Stewardship Performance Elements

[53](#) Wilderness Designation - Impacts

#### Wildlife

[54](#) Wolves

[57](#) Habitat Connectivity & Coordination

[58](#) Wildlife Reintroduction

[73](#) Species of Conservation Concern - Terms and impacts

[74](#) Species of Conservation Concern - Fish

[84](#) Canadian Lynx

[122](#) Forest - Critical Habitat

[140](#) Mountain Goats

[151](#) Sage Grouse

[60](#) Beaver Restoration

C/R #	Concern Statement	Response Statement
2	References/Citations	Thank you for your comments. The literature documents cited will be considered by the Forest as it moves forward with development of the revised Forest Plan.
3	References not cited	Thank you for your comment. All efforts were made to review scientific literature documents received from the public and Cooperating Agencies during the development of the draft Assessment. Documents not directly cited will not show up in the literature cited section of the draft assessment. That does not preclude the consideration of these documents during the development of our revised Forest Plan. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
5	Add to Mailing List	Thank you for your comments! The provided emails in your comment were added to our online mailing list. For future requests, the public can add themselves to our mailing list by visiting <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=50121">https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=50121</a> and selecting 'Subscribe to Email Updates' on the right side of the screen. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
6	Documents provided	Thank you for your comment. The sources you have provided and related recommendations will be considered as we move forward in developing our revised Forest Plan. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period.
7	General Comment/Concern	We appreciate the interest, involvement and input provided from the public and all of our cooperating agencies. We look forward to seeing you all at our future meetings.
8	Limited Information/Time for Review	Thank you for your interest in the Forest Plan Revision process. We recognize that the Forest Plan Revision process can be complex, and at times feel fast paced. The Manti-La Sal National Forest plan revision team strives to maintain a transparent planning process by making information readily available on the Plan Revision website, and hosting public and cooperating agency meetings at key stages in the planning process, and when draft documents are available for public review. Visit our website and sign up for the Forest Plan Revision mailing list for more information <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning</a>
9	Editorial Comments - Assessment Report	Thank you for your interest and involvement in the Forest Plan Revision process. These comments regarding Assessment content structure, organization or information included will be considered as the Final Assessment Report is completed.
10	Technical Edits	Thank you for your comment, and thorough review of the Draft Assessment Report. We recognize that there are typos in the Assessment report, and opportunities to improve it with the addition of more maps, tables, and graphs. Grammatical and technical edits will be made in the final Assessment Report. The assessment process is meant to be a rapid review of current conditions and threats to the Forest at the landscape scale, not all recommendations for additional information will be incorporated into the final report. We greatly appreciate your comments and recommendations.

11	General Position Statement - Concern	Thank you for your interest and involvement in the Forest Plan revision process. It is worth noting that the draft Assessment document being reviewed is intended to be a report on the condition of natural resources within the Forest and is not our revised Forest Plan which we have yet to draft. The public and cooperating agencies will continue to have opportunities to participate in the Plan Revision process as we move forward into drafting the revised Forest Plan. The draft Assessment is not a decision document and not part of our Plan Revision NEPA process. The draft Assessment Review period is an effort to include the public and cooperating agencies from the earliest steps in the long-term revision process. The Forest will continue to provide opportunities for cooperating agencies and the public to be involved per the Planning Rule and NEPA requirements.
12	Map Recommendations	Thank you for your recommendations of additional maps. The Assessment is meant to be a rapid review of current conditions and trends on the Forest, and as such, information will be provided generally and at the landscape scale. Maps, graphs and tables will be utilized in greater detail in the Forest Plan itself. Your suggestions will be considered for inclusion in the Assessment and Forest Plan as we move forward in the planning process.
13	Oil & Gas - No Surface Occupancy	Thank you for your comment. Forest Plan Revision does not include leasing stipulations. Leasing will be addressed during the NEPA process which will also have Public Comment Periods. We appreciate your suggestions for no surface occupancy in these areas and they will be considered as we develop management direction in the revised Forest plan.
14	Permit and Litigation Delays	Thank you for your interest in the Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan. The 2012 Planning Rule emphasizes the integration of socio-economic plan components throughout the planning process. Your comments regarding the impacts of permitting and litigation delays will be considered as we develop the revised Forest Plan.
15	Multiple Use Management on NFS Lands	Thank you for your interest in the Forest Plan Revision process. As we move forward into drafting our revised Forest Plan we will continue to remain in compliance with all related laws and policies which include the Planning Rule (36 CFR 219; April 2012) and the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act. We recognize a variety of uses on the Manti-La Sal National Forest and strive to integrate the social and economic elements of these uses in the revised Forest Plan. We will consider these recommendations as we move forward into developing our revised Forest Plan and its associated monitoring program.
16	Monitoring - Soil Moisture	Soil moisture conditions are a component of landslide susceptibility but they are not the only component, other components including geology, topology, soils, and geomorphology play a large role in determining susceptibility of an area to landslides. These coupled with climate and weather data are most used to examine landslide potential. Potential for the occurrence of landslides across the Forest is discussed within the assessment under the Landslides and Geologic Hazards section of the report beginning on Page 25, as well as in the Soils section of the assessment beginning on page 96. A map displaying the landslide potential across the Forest is located within the appendices of the Soils Assessment Report. The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. We appreciate your feedback on the SNOTEL data set and we will consider additional instrumentation, such as soil moisture sensors for monitoring at the project level. The Forest will be developing a Monitoring Plan as a part of Forest Plan Revision.
17	Planning Rule	Thank you for your comment on requirements of the planning process. The Manti-La Sal National Forest seeks to comply with all laws and regulations associated with the Forest Plan Revision process.

18	Travel Management Plan	The Forest Plan Revision effort does not include route-specific travel planning. Travel management will be a separate NEPA process with public involvement at that time. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period.
19	Laws/Regs/Policy - Existing	Thank you for your comment. We greatly appreciate your time put into this comment period. Your comments will be considered as we move forward.
20	NEPA Process	Thank you for your comment, The Forest will notify the public when the Notice of Intent (NOI) is published. The Preliminary Need to Change Report will be sent to the public for review and comment when the NOI is published in Fall of 2018. The Forest Plan Revision Team will continue to provide opportunities for public input, and to provide sufficient staffing and opportunities for Q & A during public meetings. To stay up to date on Forest Plan Revision activities, visit our website
21	Conservation Alternative	Thank you for your comment. During NEPA process, a range of alternatives will be developed for consideration. Alternatives are generally presented on a scale, ranging from less to more conservative land management approaches.
22	Project Scope	Thank you for your interest in the Forest Plan Revision process. Water, like many natural resources, crossed many political boundaries. We recognize that plan components related to water resources will require coordination with fellow land managers and communities who rely on those resources. Thank you for your comments, we will consider them as we move forward in developing plan components for the revised Forest Plan.
23	Access - General	Thank you for your comments regarding the importance of access for a variety of reasons including maintenance of existing infrastructure. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comment will be considered as we develop plan components that may influence access in the revised Forest Plan.
24	Access - Roads - Keep Open	Thank you for your comment regarding access and its importance for local communities. The Forest Service strives to maintain a road system that provides safe reasonable access for public travel, recreation use, traditional and cultural uses and land management and resource protection activities. We recognize the importance of transportation access and its contributions to the social and economic sustainability of local communities. . We greatly appreciate your time and effort towards this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components that may affect access.
25	Access - Roads - Close/Move/Rehabilitate	Thank you for your comments regarding road closures, relocation and rehabilitation. Road Closures may occur in areas to enhance wildlife and fisheries habitat, soil, and watershed resources, among other values including unsafe conditions due to weather conditions. The Forest refers to the Forest Travel Analysis Report to make informed future decisions on where and how to invest limited resources on building new roads, managing current roads, or decommissioning likely not needed roads. Priority for decommissioning was given to roads located within riparian and wetland influence zones; those that may impact special-status plants; those that may impact large secure wildlife habitat blocks, important wildlife travel corridors, or key wildlife habitat linkages; and those that may impact cultural resources. The Forest Plan Revision effort does not include route-specific travel planning. Travel management will be a separate NEPA process with public involvement at that time. We greatly appreciate your time and effort towards this comment period, your comments will be considered moving forward.

26	Access - Roads - Process, Input from Stakeholders	Thank you for your comment. The Forest Service refers to the Forest Travel Analysis Report (TAR) to make informed future decisions on where and how to invest limited resources on building new roads, managing current roads, or decommissioning likely not needed road. Priority for decommissioning are given to roads located within riparian and wetland influence zones; those that may impact special-status plants; those that may impact large secure wildlife habitat blocks, important wildlife travel corridors, or key wildlife habitat linkages. The TAR is not a decision document. We greatly appreciate your time and effort in this comment period, and recommendations for future travel decisions. Your comments will be considered moving forward.
27	Access - Senior	Thank you for your comment regarding providing access for senior and disabled users of the Forest. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comment will be considered as we develop plan components for recreation on the Manti-La Sal National Forest.
28	Access and Trails	Thank you for your interest, and information you have provided regarding trails on the forest. The Forest Plan Revision is addressing landscape-scale planning as per 36 CFR 219.2. The revised Forest Plan will provide guidance for future project planning and development. We appreciate your concerns for protecting trail infrastructure. Recognizing and providing for the long-term sustainability of our trail system is consistently considered in all project specific planning. Forest plan revision does not include route-specific travel planning, but will be a separate NEPA process with public involvement at that time. Authorized use of roads and trails is enforced in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) which is updated annually to reflect changes. Motorized use of non-motorized trails has been a travel management concern for many years and will continue to be a challenge in the future. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
29	Motorized Trail Planning	Forest plan revision does not include route-specific travel planning. Changes to the Travel Management Plan will require a separate NEPA process which will include public involvement at that time.
30	Air Quality	Thank you for your comments regarding air quality and opportunities for additional monitoring as part of the revised Forest Plan. These comments will be considered during the development of plan components related to air quality in the revised Forest Plan.
31	Aquatics/Riparian - General	Thank you for your comments regarding aquatic and riparian resources. The Assessment is meant to be a rapid review of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed for aquatic and riparian resources in the revised Forest Plan.
32	Aquatics/Riparian - More Info Needed	Thank you for your comment. The Assessment Report was compiled from Specialists Assessment Reports which were based on existing information available at the submission deadline. The 2016 approved 303(d) lists for UT and CO are used for the forest plan revision report. Because the assessment units used by the states do not spatially correspond to HUCs or stream segments, the correlation between beneficial uses and HUC or NHD databases is not made. The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered moving forward.

33	Stream, riparian, and wetland protection for species viability.	Thank you for your comment. We recognize the importance of water quality as it relates to species habitats and viability. Water quality is mentioned throughout the draft assessment. The National Best Management Practices Program was developed to improve management of water quality consistently with the Federal Clean Water Act and state water quality programs. Best management practices are specific practices or actions used to reduce or control impacts to water bodies from non point sources of pollution, such as roads, campgrounds, parking lots, and buildings. The Watershed Condition Framework is a comprehensive approach for proactively implementing integrated restoration on priority watersheds on national forest and grasslands. Primary emphasis is on aquatic and terrestrial processes and conditions that Forest Service management activities can influence. Water quality and wetland protection will continue to be an emphasis moving forward into developing the revised Forest Plan. There is reference to conservation efforts; although no specifics are mentioned. More specific information will be included about At-Risk species in the draft plan; including, habitat descriptions. Your comment will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comment will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan.
34	Water Quality	Thank you for your comments related to Water Quality issues and the way it is addressed in the Assessment Report, including the reference of human and non-wildlife related impacts such as Beavers. Water quality is one indicator of the 12 watershed condition classification indicators. Watershed restoration is prioritized based on total score of indicators. Beaver and tree falls can alter a stream course locally, their presence are considered ecologically beneficial as they reduce the energy of the water, create elevated water tables where water is temporarily stores and filter sediment out of the water all improving water quality. They do not prevent organism moving along the stream as human diversions do. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward in developing the revised Forest Plan.
35	Water Quality - Information for Assessment	Thank you for your comments related to Water Quality in the Assessment. The Assessment Report is meant to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends, and as a result a basic level of information references were provided in the document. Thank you for identifying additional information for consideration in the Assessment Report. Water quality data, including TMDLs, are monitored by the states and the results can be found on the respective agencies websites. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward in developing the revised Forest Plan.
36	Water Quantity	Thank you for your comment. The revised plan will include desired conditions for vegetation and for watershed management at the 5th level Watershed HUC (hydrologic unit code). These will integrate socio-economic conditions related to water supply, quality and quantity. We greatly appreciate your time and effort in this comment period, your comment will be considered as we move forward in developing plan components for water resources in the revised Forest Plan.

38	Fens/Wetlands	Thank you for your comment related to Fen and Wetlands. The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule (36 CFR 219.6(3)). The Manti-La Sal NF contracted out mapping the fens on the forest to the Colorado Natural Heritage Program at the Warner College of Natural Resources at Colorado State University. The deliverable, including a report and GIS data, of this contract were submitted to the MLNF in April 2017 which was past the deadline for the Assessment report. Mapping the GDE on the Wasatch Plateau is currently under contract with the Utah Geological Survey (UGS). Fens, which are difficult to replace once altered, form a critical hydrological function on the forest in terms of water quality and providing base flow to streams later in the season. Little is know about the location of the fens on the forest. The comments suggest that they should be included in the assessment report. Similarly little is know about Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (springs and wetlands) on the Forest and the comments suggest much more attention should be paid in the revised forest plan. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be taken into consideration as we move forward and develop plan components related to Fens and Wetlands in the revised Forest Plan.
39	Water and Grazing Rights - Information	Thank you for your comment and information provided related to water rights and grazing laws. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components for the revised Forest Plan related to access, water and grazing.
40	Groundwater/Drinking Water - More Info Needed	Thank you for your comment related to groundwater quality and public water systems. The Forest Plan will comply Federal and State laws and regulations. Public drinking water supply sources, sole source aquifers and source water protection zones will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan. The Forest relies on State and Federal agencies for information about water quality and does not have a water quality monitoring program. The revised Forest Plan will include Public Drinking Water Supply Sources, a discussion and map of the municipal water management area and at least a discussion of source water protection zones. Protections are provided by stating National BMPs and Regional SWCPs during the project NEPA process which includes public involvement and by following them during project implementations. We greatly appreciate your time and effort in this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward and develop plan components addressing groundwater quality and quantity.
41	Groundwater	Thank you for you comments related to groundwater in the draft Assessment report, and the provision of additional information sources for consideration. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to groundwater sources in the revised Forest Plan.
42	Wild and Scenic Rivers - General	The Forest is undergoing a Wild and Scenic River (WSR) evaluation process as required in the Planning Rule. The evaluation process is a multi-step process: 1) Eligibility, 2)Classification, 3)Suitability, 4) Agency Recommendation & Interim Management (if any river segments are identified as eligible and/or suitable, and 5) Congressional Review and Designation. The public and cooperating agencies will be invited to participate throughout the process. At the time of the Draft Assessment, the WSR evaluation process for the Forest was just being initialized and no final Forest Recommendations have been made. Final decisions relating to WSR listing are decided by Congress. During the Forest's WSR evaluation process, the Forest will remain in compliance with all related laws and policies including NEPA. For more information about the current stage of the Wild and Scenic River Evaluation on the Manti-La Sal National Forest, visit our planning website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534077">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534077</a>

43	Wild and Scenic Rivers - Uses	<p>Thank you for your comment. The Forest is undergoing a Wild and Scenic River (WSR) evaluation process as required in the Planning Rule. Information regarding how a segment may be designated (wild, scenic, etc.) is available on the Forest's Plan Revision Website: <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534077">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534077</a> in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Study Procedural Report (Final). The draft for this document was made available during the June and July 2017 public meetings. It is important to note that only segments that are identified as 'eligible' are assigned a designation. The evaluation process is a multi-step process: 1) Eligibility, 2) Classification, 3) Suitability, 4) Agency Recommendation &amp; Interim Management (if any river segments are identified as eligible and/or suitable, and 5) Congressional Review and Designation. When the Classification step is completed, any identified eligible rivers will be provided a classification of Wild, Scenic, or Recreational.</p>
44	Water Use	<p>Thank you for your comments and the information you provided concerning the Water Use on the forest. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period and your comments will be considered as we move forward in developing plan components that address water use in the revised Forest Plan.</p>
45	Wild and Scenic Rivers - Suitability Criteria	<p>Thank you for your interest in the Forest Plan Revision and Wild and Scenic River (WSR) evaluation processes. All segments identified for review were identified using the current policy and guidance. Identification of a segment for review does not automatically result in a segment being deemed either eligible or suitable. All WSR eligibility draft findings will be shared with the public and cooperating agencies for review and comment. For more information about the Wild and Scenic River evaluation process, and the current stage, visit our website <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534077">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534077</a></p>
46	Process used to determine the need for additional Designated Areas.	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding designated areas in the Assessment Report, and suggestions for additional language to be included in the final draft of the report. The Assessment discusses existing designated wilderness, national monuments, wild and scenic rivers, inventoried road-less areas, national recreation trails, research natural areas, scenic byways, and special interest areas. The Assessment also includes a discussion of trends associated with the designated areas. Using existing information the Assessment discusses the potential new RNAs and Special Areas that have been identified in past planning efforts. The Assessment also includes a description of the ongoing Wilderness Evaluation process and the Wild and Scenic River review process. While the Assessment primarily relied on existing information there will be opportunities for internal as well as public identification of opportunities and needs for additional designated areas throughout the planning process. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward in developing plan components related to Designated Areas.</p>
47	Designated Areas listed in the Assessment.	<p>Thank you for your comment related including the Bears Ears National Monument in the Assessment Report. The bulk of the Assessment document was completed before the proclamation was issued designating the Bears Ears National Monument (BENM). A section discussing the monument can be found in Chapter 15. Wilderness; WSR: other designated areas that briefly discusses the monument and the objects it was designated to protect. It should also be noted, that adjacent BLM lands currently included in BENM were discussed in the Assessment. As the Forest Plan revision moves ahead, forest planning will adapt as needed to include BENM in the process. The Assessment contains a discussion under Wilderness and other Designated Areas (pages 185-89) listing existing Research Natural Areas (RNA's), and existing and potential Special Interest Areas (SIA's). We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to the Monument area.</p>

48	Designated Areas	Thank you for your comments related to Designated Areas in the Assessment Report. The Assessment is a baseline report of current resource conditions on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. Thank you for your recommendations for additional information to be included, this will be considered when preparing the final Assessment Report, and while developing the revised Forest Plan.
49	Wilderness/IRA - No Recommended Increase	Thank you for your comment regarding the Wilderness and Inventoried Roadless Areas, and recommending no additional designations. The Forest is required by the 2012 Planning Rule to identify and evaluate lands that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System and determine whether to recommend any such lands for wilderness designation. To learn more about the Wilderness Evaluation process and the current stage, visit the Forest Plan Revision website at <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534059">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534059</a>
50	Roadless Areas - Benefits	Thank you for your comments regarding the benefits of road-less areas. The Assessment is meant to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as we develop the revised Forest Plan.
51	Wilderness Stewardship Performance Elements	Wilderness Stewardship Performance Elements are a framework to track how well the U.S. Forest Service is meeting our primary responsibility under the Wilderness Act—which is to preserve wilderness character. The new elements were introduced in 2016 and improve upon previous measures through linkages to wilderness character monitoring by allowing flexibility in the selection of individual elements to reflect local wilderness stewardship priorities, while also correcting other long-acknowledged short-comings of the current measure.
53	Wilderness Designation - Impacts	Thank you for your comment related to the impacts of Wilderness designation. The potential impacts (both positive and negative) of recommending areas to be designated as wilderness will be analyzed in the Forest Plan. To learn more about the Wilderness Evaluation process and current stage, visit the Forest Plan Revision website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534059">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534059</a>

54	Wolves	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding wolves in the draft Assessment Report. The gray wolf is currently listed as endangered in the southern portion of Utah and in Colorado. It is not known or believed to occur in Utah outside of the Northern Rockies DPS (northern Utah), where it has been delisted. The Mexican gray wolf is considered a separate subspecies, and the MLNF is well outside the area currently considered for recovery of Mexican wolf populations. No portion of the planning area is covered by a wolf recovery plan. Over time, gray wolves may naturally disperse into Utah, and management of suitable habitat would be directed under the ESA at that time. Under Utah's wolf management plan, wolf populations would be managed to avoid conflicts with Ute Tribe wildlife management, unacceptable livestock depredation, and not contribute to wildlife populations below management objectives. Wolves were eliminated from Utah by the 1930s. Management of this predator is quite controversial, and would have potential benefits (wildlife viewing, indirect effects to habitat from changes in deer and elk behavior) and also potential adverse impacts to big game management and livestock management. Wolves and potential wolf habitat were not addressed in the Assessment, as that document covers current conditions in the plan area and wolves are not known or believed to occur in the plan area at the current time. The Southwest wolf recovery program area includes AZ, NM, TX, OK and Mexico. In 2015, the US Fish and Wildlife Service recommended delisting the northern Rocky Mountain population of gray wolves, and listing the Mexican gray wolf as endangered. They designated an experimental population area and southwest recovery area which do not include any lands in Utah or Colorado. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we revise the draft Assessment and develop plan components related to wildlife in the revised Forest Plan.</p>
55	Watershed Impacts	<p>Thank you for your comment. The National Forest system is a partner in the Clean Water Action Plan (CWAP), issued on October 15, 2009. This plan provides a blueprint for a cooperative approach to restoring and protecting water quality. Under this approach, state, federal, tribal, regional, and local governments, as well as private partners, work collaboratively to focus resources and implement effective strategies for protecting and restoring watersheds identified by states and tribes as priorities through unified watershed assessments. A key element of the Action Plan is the integration of public health and aquatic ecosystem goals when identifying priorities for watershed restoration and protection. According to Utah administrative Code R309-605 (Drinking Water Source Protection) it is the Public Water Systems (PWS) that are responsible for protecting their sources of drinking water from contamination. The National Best Management Practices Program was developed to improve management of water quality consistently with the Federal Clean Water Act and state water quality programs. Best management practices are specific practices or actions used to reduce or control impacts to water bodies from non-point sources of pollution, such as roads, campgrounds, parking lots, and buildings. The Watershed Condition Framework is a comprehensive approach for proactively implementing integrated restoration on priority watersheds on national forest and grasslands. Primary emphasis is on aquatic and terrestrial processes and conditions that Forest Service management activities can influence. Water quality and wetland protection will continue to be an emphasis moving forward into developing the revised Forest Plan. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.</p>

56	Watersheds - More Info Needed	<p>Thank you for your comment. Watersheds inside the forest boundary were addressed throughout the report, Watershed issues - including domestic water use, sole source aquifers, and power plants - related to areas outside the forest boundary, which are downstream as the forest forms the headwaters of the watersheds, were generally addressed in the Water Quantity Section starting page 70 of the assessment report. The USFS WO allowed to restrict the Watershed Condition Classes evaluation to the area with the forest boundary because of lack of indicator data available on non-forest lands (personal communication with Mark Muir, Regional Hydrologist 7 September 2017). The at-risk species were addressed on pages 105 and 106 (table 30) in the assessment report. The list of issues raised are project specific which are beyond the scope of the Forest Plan Revision. Forest Plan Revision is addressing landscape-scale planning (36 CFR 219.2). The revised Forest Plan will provide the guidance for future project planning and development. According to the forest planning rule the assessment report is directed to evaluate existing information (36 CFR 219.6 (a)(1)) without the need for additional analysis. There is no system drivers and stressors report for water, water quality, water quantity or watershed health because it is not one of the 15 topics that have to be addressed in the assessment report according to the planning rule (36 CFR 219.6(b)). All the topics listed in the planning rules are addressed in the assessment report. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.</p>
57	Habitat Connectivity & Coordination	<p>Thank you for your comment. Habitat connectivity plays a vital role in sustaining healthy ecosystems and improving wildlife habitats and biodiversity. Especially with an increase in the number people using the forest. This is why habitat connectivity is an indicator used to measure the increased human recreation stressor/driver (page 44 Assessment). This information will continue to inform the development of the revised Forest Plan. It is true that connectivity is important to address across the landscape and it doesn't end at political boundaries. We will be looking at other management plans in addressing these key issues. The 2012 Planning Rule requires that Forest Service planning efforts "...identify and consider relevant existing information in governmental or non-governmental assessments, plans, monitoring reports, studies, and other sources of relevant information" (36 CFR 219.16). The Forest planning process will make a concerted effort to recognize the many ongoing programs, plans, and policies that are being implemented in and around the planning area by other land managers and government agencies as required by the 2012 Planning Rule. The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.</p>
58	Wildlife Reintroduction	<p>Thank you for your comment! Wildlife Re-introductions and transplants are possible but require the cooperation and agreements from state and other federal agencies. Wildlife populations are directly managed by the State. Forest Service Handbook 2640.41 - Regional Forester. The Regional Forester shall: 1. Reach joint agreement with the appropriate State fish and wildlife agencies on proposals for introductions of the following fish and wildlife on National Forest System lands: a. Exotic and nonindigenous fish and wildlife to a National Forest where they do not presently occur. b. Federally listed endangered and threatened species. 2. Coordinate exotic and Federally listed species introduction proposals with the Fish and Wildlife Service. 3. Coordinate recommendations on hunting, fishing, or trapping regulations to State and Federal fish and wildlife agencies in States with more than one Supervisor's Office. The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.</p>

59	Wildlife - Livestock Grazing Stressor	Thank you for your comment. Discussions of grazing as a stressor are found on the following pages of the draft Assessment: Pages 42, 181 (stressor on Cultural Resources), pages 58 (rangelands), 62, 70, 73 (vegetation), pages 79-80, 82, 84-86, 89-92 (grazing stress to springs, streams, watersheds), pages 110-111, 114, 116 (grazing stressors to wildlife), pages 117, 119, 121 (grazing stressors to TES), and page 185 (grazing stressors to wilderness and recreation). The Forest Service works closely with the State of Utah, Division of Wildlife Resources to coordinate wildlife habitat on the Forest, and the wildlife populations who use them including elk, deer, and other grazing wildlife. The State of Utah, DWR, manages wildlife through populations projections and issuing hunting permits and other population control measures. Your comments will be considered as we move forward in developing plan components for wildlife and habitat in the revised Forest Plan.
60	Beaver Restoration	Thank you for your comment. Beavers are a keystone species that do provide a variety of benefits to riparian ecosystems. The Assessment notes that beaver are an important component of riparian ecosystems (pg. 79, 88). Beaver will continue to be considered during development of the riparian ecosystem portion of the revised Forest Plan. Beaver restoration can be a valuable tool for watershed conditions and health. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period. Your comments will be considered as we move forward.
63	Monitoring 2014- 2016	The Assessment was developed using currently available information in an effort to complete a rapid Assessment of current conditions and trends. Thank you for your suggestion for including additional monitoring information. Monitoring reports will be incorporated as they becomes available, and will be published on the Forest website <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/home">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/home</a>
64	NEPA - Process - Request comment period change	Thank you for your comment. The timing for the NEPA scoping process is being reviewed and a new date will be provided to the public and cooperating agencies. We appreciate efforts to make sure that the public process is accessible and timed for the best possible opportunity for interaction.
65	FOIA Request - Macroinvertebrate Data	This is a FOIA request and was responded to as such. The FOIA request was received by the Forest on August 5, 2017. The Forest sent a response with related material to the requester on August 25, 2017. Responses to official FOIA requests during Forest Plan Revision may be found on the Forest Plan Revision webpage <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd554370">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd554370</a>
66	Best Available Science	Thank you for your comment related to the use of Best Available Scientific Information and engaging Cooperating Agencies. Every effort has been made to use the Best Available Scientific Information (BASI) and this comment period was intended to help identify new, relevant sources of information as well as providing the opportunity for the public and Cooperating Agencies to review the draft document and contribute to the final product. Cooperating Agencies (CA) have been involved from the very beginning of the plan revision process. CAs were asked to contribute information for inclusion in the Assessment Report, to identify external land management plans for consideration in Forest Plan revision. CA meetings were held during preparation of the Assessment report and Interdisciplinary Team meetings are open to CAs. Since this comment has been received, the Forest has begun hosting monthly Cooperating Agency meetings to provide additional opportunities for information exchange and sharing of ideas during the planning process. The Assessment Report is not a NEPA document and the Forest has not yet begun the NEPA process, there will be additional opportunities for review and comment of draft documents during the NEPA process.

67	Grazing Impacts and Plants	The assessment is a baseline report of current resource condition at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. Thank you for your feedback specific to improvements to the way grazing impacts are addressed in the Assessment. Your comment will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan.
68	Facilities - Transmission Lines/Routes	Thank you for your comment regarding access for possible transmission line routes. Your comment will be taken into consideration as we develop plan components that will address utility infrastructure on the Manti-La Sal National Forest.
69	Road Maintenance - Declining Budgets	Thank you for your comment. We strive and do our best to keep roads and access well maintained and accessible, and value the partnerships we maintain with local, county and state entities to maintain this infrastructure. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to roads and facilities in the revised Forest Plan.
70	Fuels/Fire Hazard	Thank you for your comments. The Land Management Plans will help identify conditions for fuel reductions. Analysis is done on a large-landscape scale necessary to identify the areas of greatest concern as a whole. This will help land managers prioritize areas of greatest concern and potential measures to mitigate the concern. The new Land Management Plan will include analysis defining areas of greatest concern with high surface fuel loading and potential fire behavior under various fire scenarios. Guidance will help land managers prioritize the areas of greatest concern but will not identify specific strategies and tactics. Potential strategies and tactics will be included in project-specific analysis which will also include public input through official solicitations. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
71	Prescribed Fire - Concern	Thank you for your comment and concerns related to prescribed fire. Prescribed fire is an essential component for a healthy ecosystem as well as a way to minimize future uncharacteristic large wildland fires. Land management plans do not address specific protocol and contingencies for prescribed burning but identifies guidance and direction for prescribed fire in order to maintain a healthy ecosystem and restore our forests to their natural fire-regimes. Prior to any prescribed fire ignitions many hours of planning and preparation occur which are addressed in project-specific analysis and a written prescribed fire burn plans. Topics such as weather parameters, required resources, contingency resources, important values around the project boundary, decision makers guidelines to proceed, and various other required elements. Nationally, the US Forest Service ignites over 4,500 prescribed fires a year totaling over 1.4 million acres with 99.87% success rate (2017 National RT300 Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Refresher). We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components for the revised Forest Plan.

72	Post-fire Restoration and Mitigation	<p>Thank you for your comment related to post-fire rehabilitation efforts. Post-fire rehabilitation efforts are important and critical for protecting both natural and human resources, it will not be addressed in the Assessment report. The Assessment is meant to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Some guidance and direction may be provided in the upcoming land management plan development. Most of post-fire rehabilitation efforts are typically specific to the individual fire due to conditions such as fire severity, topography, and size. Following a fire, specific individuals are assigned to conduct a thorough analysis and make recommendations which are implemented shortly after the fire is declared safe to enter. This report and efforts are called a BAER team or Burned Area Emergency Response ( <a href="https://www.fs.fed.us/biology/watershed/burnareas/">https://www.fs.fed.us/biology/watershed/burnareas/</a> ). BAER teams use current available research to base their decisions to minimize negative impacts ( <a href="https://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/watershed/burnareas/rmrs_gtr_63_effectivness_of_erosion.pdf">https://www.fs.fed.us/biology/resources/pubs/watershed/burnareas/rmrs_gtr_63_effectivness_of_erosion.pdf</a> ). We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop the revised Forest Plan.</p>
73	Species of Conservation Concern - Terms and impacts	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding Species of Conservation Concern in the Assessment Report! The Forest identified Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) in compliance with the Planning Rule [36 CFR 219.7(c)(3); April 2012]. All efforts were made to identify all potential threats for reviewed species. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop the revised Forest Plan. To learn more about the SCC process and identified species on the Manti-La Sal National Forest, visit our website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534062">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534062</a></p>
74	Species of Conservation Concern - Fish	<p>Thank you for your comment related to fish species considered during the Species of Conservation Concern evaluation process. To learn more about the Species of Conservation Concern evaluation, and species identified on the Manti-La Sal National Forest visit our website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534062">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534062</a></p>
75	Species of Conservation Concern - Plants	<p>At the time of the Assessment the initial review process for species of conservation concern (SCC) was still in progress therefore not all species identified as initial SCC were included in the draft Assessment. All species will be included in the updated Assessment. It is worth noting that the criteria for Sensitive Species listing is not the same as the criteria for Species of Conservation Concern which may be discrepancies between the two lists. For more information regarding the Species of Conservation Concern evaluation process, or species identified on the Manti-La Sal National Forest visit our website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534062">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd534062</a></p>
76	Climate Change	<p>Thank you for your comments related to climate change in the Draft Assessment Report. Per the Planning Rule (36 CFR 219, April 2012) the Forest addresses Climate in the draft Assessment [§219.5(a);§219.6(b)(3)] . During the development of the revised Forest Plan the Forest will continue to remain in compliance with the Planning Rule (and all other related laws and policies) regarding consideration of climate as well as other stressors/drivers and resources. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to Climate in the revised Forest Plan.</p>
77	Climate Change - Data/Modeling	<p>Thank you for your comments related to climate change and data modeling in the draft Assessment Report. Per the Planning Rule (36 CFR 219, April 2012) the Forest addresses Climate in the draft Assessment [§219.5(a);§219.6(b)(3)]. During the development of the revised Forest Plan the Forest will continue to remain in compliance with the Planning Rule (and all other related laws and policies) regarding consideration of climate as well as other stressors/drivers and resources. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed to address climate in the revised Forest Plan.</p>

78	Climate Change - Snowpack/Precipitation	Thank you for your comments related to snowpack in the draft Assessment. As mentioned in your comments and in scientific literature snow dust is a factor that contributes to increased snow melt. In Wenger et al. 2010, U.S. Geological Survey 2005, they were referring to increased flood risk in winter months due to warmer and rainier winters. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop the revised Forest Plan.
79	Climate Change - Visitor Use	Thank you for your comments related to climate change the potential for increased visitation and the resulting impacts. We will consider these recommendations as we move forward into developing our revised Forest Plan and its associated monitoring program.
80	Climate change as a stressor	Thank you for your comments related to climate change and stressors in the draft Assessment. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components, including a monitoring program, related to climate change and stressors on the Manti-La Sal National Forest.
81	Climate Change - Soils, Drought	Thank you for the additional information about the water efficiency in response to CO2 densities. Microbial diversity and vegetation response to drought will be considered as we develop plan components for soils in the revised Forest Plan.
82	Climate Change - Vegetation	Thank you for your comment related to climate change and stressors and drivers to vegetation communities. The Assessment is meant to be a rapid evaluation of current conditions and trends on the Forest. We will consider how climate change interacts with other stressors and drivers while developing plan components, including a monitoring program, for the revised Forest Plan.
83	Coal Mining effects on grazing / Methane Gas	Thank you for your comments related to carbon stocks and emissions in the draft Assessment. The Assessment is meant to be a rapid evaluation of current trends and conditions on the Forest. We appreciate the recommendation to include additional information in the Assessment and will consider your comments while developing the revised Forest plan.
84	Carbon Sequestration - Vegetation	Thank you for your comments related to carbon sequestration and vegetation management in the draft Assessment Report The Assessment is meant to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. The revised Forest Plan will include guidance regarding management toward healthy stands including diversity of forested vegetation both in composition and structure. We will consider your comments as we develop plan components addressing vegetation and climate change in the revised Forest Plan.
85	Forest Products	Thank you for your comment. * I have no clue about timber, insert something about the "downward trend" mentioned* We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
86	Recreation - General	Thank you for your comments related to recreation on the Manti-La Sal National Forest including how you use and access the Forest. The draft Assessment Report is meant to provide a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to recreation and access on the Manti-La Sal National Forest.
87	Recreation - Trails Shared Use OHV / Mountain Bike	Thank you for your comments and additional information provided related to recreation, shared use, impacts and conflicts on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The draft Assessment Report is meant to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. We will consider your comments as we revise the draft Assessment, and develop plan components related to recreation planning in the revised Forest Plan.
88	Recreation - Source of Data	Thank you for your comment requesting clarification of the source of data referenced in p.137, Outdoor Recreation, Current Recreation Visitor Use. Data cited here is from the National Visitor Use Monitoring Report and the US Census Bureau and can be found in the Reference section of the Report.

89	Recreation - Dispersed	Thank you for your comments related to monitoring the impacts of dispersed recreation to watersheds. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components, and a monitoring program, for dispersed recreation and watersheds in the revised Forest Plan.
90	Developed Recreation Needs	Thank you for your comments related to dispersed recreation needs on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The recreation section of the Assessment portrays a base-line report of current resource conditions on the ground at a landscape level. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to dispersed recreation in the revised Forest Plan. For current question or needs, contact your local district office directly. Contact information may be found on our website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/home">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/home</a>
91	Recreation - Use Monitoring	Needs something regarding 18-8's comment. Thank you for your comment! Data on visitor use trends is being collected and will be used in the preparation of the Forest Plan. Dispersed Recreation is difficult to quantify as it is by definition dispersed across the landscape. The forest contains hundreds of roads and trails that provide access to forest and monitoring all of them for use numbers would be a huge undertaking. That being said the Forest is looking for innovative ways of quantifying use and will be looking for those methods to include in the monitoring section of the Forest Plan. Visitor expectations are included in the assessment to describe the management landscape the Forest Service is operating within, but it is true that we cannot meet all of these expectations and that balancing uses and impacts to other users will be important in future management. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
92	Recreation - Unauthorized Routes	Thank you for your comments related to unauthorized travel routes on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The draft Assessment is meant to be a rapid evaluation of current trends and conditions on the Forest. Site specific travel management decisions are not part of the plan revision process. Unauthorized routes are closed and reclaimed as part of routine travel management. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to the management of motorized recreation and OHVs in the revised Forest Plan.
94	Recommendation to increase Heritage Surveys	Thank you for suggestion to consider increasing the use of heritage surveys in the revised Forest Plan. Your comment will be considered as plan components related to cultural and heritage resources, and the accompanying monitoring program, are developed in the revised Forest Plan.
95	Heritage-Tribal Involvement	Thank you for your comments supporting tribal access to the Forest, and engagement in the Forest Plan revision process. We appreciate the recommendation of additional Tribes to be engaged during the Forest Plan Revision on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Efforts to involve Tribes and tribal members in the planning process are on-going throughout the Plan revision process including regular presentations at meetings of Tribal governments and leaders and the opportunity for Cooperating Agency status and Government to Government Consultation. The Manti-La Sal National Forest has provided Forest Plan Revision updates and provided the opportunity for additional meetings in a variety of ways from 2016 to present including meetings of the Utah Tribal Leaders group, Navajo Utah Commission, Ute Business Council, and meetings of the All Pueblo Council of Governor's in New Mexico. The Forest recently hosted a Tribal Engagement Workshop in May 2018, and continues to seek opportunities to engage Tribes and tribal communities during Plan Revision. To contact the Plan Revision team directly to suggest future opportunities, visit the website at <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning</a> or call the Forest Plan Revision Team directly at 436-636-3508.

96	Motorized Recreation - Does not recommend increasing	Thank you for your comments regarding increasing opportunities for non-motorized recreation. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing motorized recreation in the revised Forest Plan.
97	Recreation - Motorized Support	Thank you for your comments related to motorized recreation on the Manti-La Sal National Forest and the Bears Ears National Monument. Forest plan revision does not include route-specific travel planning. Travel management decisions will be made separately, and include project level NEPA and opportunities for public comment. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as we finalize the Assessment Report and develop plan components addressing motorized recreation in the revised Forest Plan.
99	Recreation - Increase Camping Opportunities	Thank you for your comments supporting camping opportunities on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing camping opportunities in the revised Forest Plan.
100	Invasive Species	Thank you for your comments related to invasive species in the draft Assessment Report. The Invasive Species report which is part of the Forest Plan project record included maps and tables that indicate how many acres of weeds are found in each area. The Assessment, a summary of many reports, could not include all the information provided by all the reports but this information would be available upon request. That report clearly does recognize that Musk Thistle is both the weed with the highest amount of acreage inventoried and the most wide-spread. Found in 27 Land Type Associations and all Vegetation Types. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components addressing invasive species in the revised Forest Plan.
101	Noxious Weed Law/Policy	Thank you for your comments regarding noxious weed policies in the revised Forest Plan. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components addressing invasive species and vegetation management in the revised Forest Plan. For more information regarding the Region 4, Intermountain Region weed policy visit the following website <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r4/forest-grasslandhealth/invasivespecies">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r4/forest-grasslandhealth/invasivespecies</a> . It includes elements of prevention, early detection and rapid respond, restoration and rehabilitation and monitoring similar the Biological Wildfire model you have referred to. It also includes policy of collaboration. The revised Forest Plan will be consistent with Regional directives.
102	Invasive Species - Coordinating with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources	Thank you for your comment encouraging coordination with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources during Forest Plan Revision, especially while addressing Invasive Species. The Manti-La Sal works closely with the Utah DWR and is reviewing state wildlife and invasive species plans as part of the Plan Revision process.
103	Recreation - Recreation Opportunity Spectrum	Thank you for your comments regarding the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) and current designations. ROS will be addressed, and potentially revised, as part of the Forest Plan Revision process.

104	Socio-Economic - Jobs / Income / Industry	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding the socio-economic components of the draft Assessment Report.</p> <p>The 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219) encourages the integration of social, economic and ecological plan components throughout the planning process and final Forest Plan. The economic contribution analysis uses the best available scientific information. Economic contributions are modeled with IMPLAN, which is routinely used in government, industry, and academia to estimate employment and income associated with projects and programs. IMPLAN captures direct, indirect, and induced employment and labor income attributable to activities on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The economic contribution analysis combines resource use data (e.g., number of recreational visits, short tons of coal removed) with IMPLAN sectoral and trade flow data to estimate economic contributions. The economic contribution analysis addresses the variety of forest resources and uses - both consumptive and non-consumptive - that support economic well-being in communities adjacent to the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The economic contribution analysis describes the employment and labor income due to outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, forest product removal, mineral extraction, Forest Service operations, and payments to states and counties. Furthermore, the assessment captures the economic role of natural resources, both on and off the Forest, to the local economy. The economic importance of tourism, mining, and agriculture sectors are described in the assessment. Natural resource commodity sectors, including cattle ranching, are subject to boom and bust cycles due to the role of global supply and demand forces in setting prices. Global shocks to beef supply (e.g., large-scale conversion of forest land to agricultural land in South America) or beef demand (e.g., income shocks in Asia that affect animal protein consumption) can affect the economic viability of cattle ranching operations in the United States. The assessment notes that population growth slowed between 2010 and 2014 (pg. 146). However, it is true that the population near the Manti-La Sal National Forest has grown considerably since 2000. In the context of the wildland-urban interface discussion, the data on residential development in the wildland-urban interface are from 2010. Therefore, rapid growth between 2000 and 2010 provides essential context for this discussion. Thank you for the additional information provided, your comments will be considered as plan components are developed to address the social and economic needs of the Manti-La Sal National Forest and the communities who use it.</p>
105	Illegal OHV use	<p>Thank you for your comments related to illegal OHV use, over snow vehicles and their impacts on the Manti-La Sal National Forest.</p> <p>Prior to preparing the Moab Non-Motorized Trail Plan in 2011 a planning effort was conducted for the open areas across the Moab District and this decision resulted in the designation and construction of new motorized trail opportunities on the District. The Forest Plan revision process does not include route-specific travel planning. Travel management will be addressed separately at the project level and will include public comment opportunities during NEPA. The USFS recognized the impacts from unauthorized motorized use and take the issue seriously. While Law Enforcement capability is often stretched thin the Manti-La Sal National Forest works with responsible to motorized users and groups to educate the users groups about their impacts. Unauthorized routes are signed closed, barricaded and reclaimed when they are found. Objectives, guidelines and desired conditions for motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities will be prepared during the Forest Planning process. Suitability determinations for motorized recreation including over the snow vehicles may also be made using the ROS. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward with developing plan components addressing recreation in the revised Forest Plan.</p>

106	Mining/Minerals/Energy - More Info Needed	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding mineral exploration in the draft Assessment Report and the development of plan components addressing mining opportunities in the revised Forest Plan.</p> <p>Extensive historic exploration conducted under the auspices of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) failed to identify any significant uranium mineralization zones within the Forest boundaries. Thousands of exploration holes were drilled in areas such as Polar Mesa in the La Sal Mountains and Elk Ridge in the Abajo Mountains in an attempt to locate sizable deposits without success. The Manti-La Sal National Forest does not currently have a significant amount of land associated with uranium mining in the La Sal or Abajo Mountains. If future uranium mining or exploration is proposed on the Forest, then it will be determined how much to bond for those activates in order to responsibly reclaim surface disturbances and protect Forest resources. The new oil and gas leasing analysis, under the requirements of NEPA, will have to be consistent with the new MLSNF land management plan (management goals) and all applicable rules and regulations that pertain to oil and gas decisions. In the development of the oil and gas leasing analysis, the MLSNF will work closely with BLM to identify areas that are not suitable for oil and gas operations, in order to protect multiple user resources and the environment. At present, the 1992 MLSNF oil and gas leasing analysis cannot be used to consent/stipulate pending oil and gas leasing nominations on the Forest. A new oil and gas leasing analysis will be completed once the new MLSNF land management plan is in place. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components related to mining opportunities in the revised Forest Plan</p>
107	Socio-Economic - Suggestions for Assessment	<p>Thank you for your comments and suggestions related to the socio-economic portions of the draft Assessment Report.</p> <p>Your suggestions will be considered as the Report is finalized, and also while plan components are developing addressing the social and economic needs of the communities who use the Manti-La Sal National Forest in the revised Forest Plan. The assessment report addresses ecological, social, and economic conditions, consistent with the 2012 planning rule and directives. The assessment captures the social and economic contributions of the five multiple uses (timber, watershed, range, outdoor recreation, and wildlife and fish) as well as other ecosystem services and forest uses (e.g., mineral extraction). The assessment present information both on the sectoral composition of the planning area economy as well as the specific contributions of the Manti-La Sal National Forest to economic activity (pp. 128-144). The assessment identifies environmental justice populations in the planning area (pp. 126-128). It finds that San Juan County, UT and Montrose County, CO in the South Zone contain larger shares of minority residents and/or experience higher rates of poverty than their respective states. Sub-county data on race, ethnicity, and poverty in the planning area have very high margins of error that do not allow for a credible analysis. Therefore, the environmental justice analysis uses county-level information. The possibility of including sub-county data will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan.</p>
108	Local Communities - Tourism and Ranching Benefits	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding the importance of the tourism industry for communities surrounding the Manti-La Sal National Forest.</p> <p>The assessment identifies the importance of tourism to the local economy, noting that about 12 percent of private employment in the communities surrounding the Ferron/Price and Sanpete Ranger Districts and 20 percent of private employment in the communities surrounding the Moab and Monticello Districts are due to tourism (pp. 137-138). The assessment describes the role of ranching in contributing to sense of place in the planning area (pg. 133). However, an evaluation of the relationship between livestock grazing and outdoor recreation visitation on the Manti-La Sal National Forest is not possible given existing information. As reflected in comments provided, observing active ranching operations and understanding the legacy of ranching in the West could benefit the tourism industry and local economies.</p>

109	Mining/Minerals/Energy - Concerns	<p>Thank you for comments regarding water resources and oil and gas leasing stipulations in the revised Forest Plan.</p> <p>It is recognized that the protection of groundwater/surface water resources is critical to the Moab Area Watershed Partnership (MAWP) and Trout Unlimited and that there is public concern over the development of oil and gas resources on the Manti-La Sal National Forest (MLSNF). It is understood that the MAWP and Trout Unlimited would like to see a "No Surface Occupancy" (NSO) stipulation for the protection of the Glen Canyon Aquifer recharge area and surface waters with both Greenback Cutthroat and native Cutthroat trout, with a half-mile buffer, located on the MLSNF. For the purposes of land management planning, the MLSNF will address the protection of water resources and develop management goals. However, the NSO stipulation would be more appropriately addressed during the NEPA process for the oil and gas leasing analysis. The new oil and gas leasing analysis, under the requirements of NEPA, will have to be consistent with the new MLSNF land management plan (management goals) and all applicable rules and regulations that pertain to oil and gas decisions. In the development of the oil and gas leasing analysis, the MLSNF will work closely with BLM to identify areas that are not suitable for oil and gas operations, in order to protect groundwater/surface water resources. At present, the 1992 MLSNF oil and gas leasing analysis cannot be used to consent/stipulate pending oil and gas leasing nominations on the Forest. A new oil and gas leasing analysis will be completed once the new MLSNF land management plan is in place. Thank you again for taking the time to comment on the MLSNF draft assessment.</p>
110	Coal	<p>Thank you for submitting your recommendation to list currently operating mines, mines in reclamation, and mines that may begin operating or reopening during the planning process in the Assessment Report. On pg 164 under Nonrenewable Energy and Minerals - Coal, provides some description of the current coal mining situation on the Forest. This was not the intent of the stressor/driver reports as incorporated into the assessment document. The assessment does not include information on the Greens Hollow Lease, which was not issued during the development of the assessment document. The assessment does not cover site specific leasing, permitting and reclamation directly. The assessment does provide a brief description of the Coal Unsuitability Analysis on pg 264. The objective of this assessment is to identify and assess a solid base of available information relevant to the development of a new Forest land management plan. Therefore, your comments would more appropriately be applied during the NEPA and land management planning phase. Thank you again for taking the time to submit your comments, they will be considered as the draft Assessment is revised and plan components related to mining are developed in the revised Forest Plan.</p>
111	Soils in the Assessment Report	<p>Thank you for your comments addressing the information contained in the draft Assessment Report for soil erosion, landslide risks and the importance of monitoring and managing for biological soil crusts. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components, and a monitoring program, to address soil resource issues on the Manti-La Sal National Forest.</p>
112	Vegetation - More Info Requested	<p>The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. Your comment will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan. Forest Plan Revision is addressing landscape-scale planning (36 CFR 219.2). The revised Forest Plan will provide the guidance for future project planning and development.</p>

113	Coal - Emissions	<p>Thank you for your comments regarding coal industry related emissions in the draft Assessment Report. The assessment does discuss air quality at length, or methane released from coal mining activities. The assessment covers coal-bed methane, which should not be confused with methane generated from coal mines. The new forest land management plan, under the requirements of NEPA, must be consistent with all applicable rules and regulations that pertain to coal mining to include EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Air quality rules and regulations are typically applied on a site specific basis in order to protect the ecological integrity and species diversity when coal mining related surface disturbances are proposed. Thank you for your recommendation to include additional information related to methane emissions in the draft Assessment Report, this will be considered as the Report is revised and plan components to address air quality are developed in the revised Forest Plan.</p>
114	Oil and Gas - Historic and Current Uses in the Assessment	<p>The Draft Assessment Report discusses past and present oil and gas activity on the Manti-La Sal National Forest (MLSNF) on pages 51, 141, 162, 163 and 167. The level of detail pertaining to oil in gas in the assessment, meets the purpose and need of the document. Page 51 of the assessment states that the MLSNF will not process any oil and gas lease nominations until a new oil and gas leasing analysis is completed. The new leasing analysis, under the requirements of NEPA, will have to be consistent with the new MLSNF land management plan and all applicable rules and regulations that pertain to oil and gas decisions, to include the 2011 National MOU regarding air quality for oil and gas decisions. Therefore, USFS will consult EPA on air quality impact analyses at the time the USFS begins the NEPA process for a new oil and gas leasing analysis. The reasonably foreseeable development scenario will also be completed for a new MLSNF oil and gas leasing analysis and is a document provided by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This information is not directly applicable to the assessment, but more appropriately addressed when NEPA is conducted for the oil and gas leasing analysis. It is recognized that the assessment would be complimented by the addition of the existing oil and gas leases and their status as well as the availability for leasing on the MLSNF, however this information would be more appropriately addressed in the NEPA process for the oil and gas leasing analysis. Your responses are greatly appreciated and we look forward to working with you on future monitoring activities.</p>
115	Fracking	<p>Thank you for your comments related to fracking and the draft Assessment Report and your communities water resource concerns. It is recognized that the protection of groundwater resources is critical to the Town of Castle Valley and that there is public concern over the development of oil and gas resources on the Manti-La Sal National Forest (MLSNF). It is understood that the Town of Castle Valley would like to see a "No Surface Occupancy" (NSO) stipulation for the protection of the Glen Canyon Aquifer recharge area, located on the MLSNF. For the purposes of land management planning, the MLSNF will address the protection of water resources and develop management goals. However, the NSO stipulation would be more appropriately addressed during the NEPA process for the oil and gas leasing analysis. The new oil and gas leasing analysis, under the requirements of NEPA, will have to be consistent with the new MLSNF land management plan (management goals) and all applicable rules and regulations that pertain to oil and gas decisions. In the development of the oil and gas leasing analysis, the MLSNF will work closely with BLM to identify areas that are not suitable for oil and gas operations, in order to protect groundwater/surface water resources. At present, the 1992 MLSNF oil and gas leasing analysis cannot be used to consent/stipulate pending oil and gas leasing nominations on the Forest. A new oil and gas leasing analysis will be completed once the new MLSNF land management plan is in place. A new oil and gas leasing analysis is not directly applicable for the purposes of the land management assessment, but more appropriately addressed when NEPA is conducted for the oil and gas leasing analysis. Thank you again for taking the time to comment on the MLSNF draft Assessment Report. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed related to mining activities on the Forest.</p>

116	Vegetation - General	Thank you for your comments regarding vegetation types and desired conditions on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing vegetation in the revised Forest Plan.
117	Grazing - Grazing Economics/Impacts	Thank you for your comments related to the integrated social, economic and ecological impacts of grazing. As stated in the assessment: "Livestock grazing has both social and economic dimensions. Ranching provides an income for some individuals, but it also has sociocultural value. In the West, ranching cannot be entirely understood through a commercial agriculture, economic impact lens. Indeed, in the western U.S. most ranchers have an off-ranch job. Ranching provides noneconomic benefits, such as support for tradition and heritage (Smith and Martin 1972, Raish and McSweeney 2003)." See also pages 131-133 of the assessment for information on agriculture economics in local communities adjacent to the Forest. The Planning Rule defines "integrated resource management" as "[m]ultiple use management that recognizes the interdependence of ecological resources and is based on the need for integrated consideration of ecological, social, and economic factors" (36 CFR 219.19). Therefore, the Forest Plan will consider social, economic and ecological factors related to grazing on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components that address the social and economic impacts of grazing.
118	Value of Grazing	Thank you for your additional information related to the value of grazing for local communities, and as a tool for vegetation management on the Forest. The Forest recognizes the valuable contributions of ranchers to range improvements on the forest and participating in adaptive management activities in support of long term range land health. The Forest will work to recognize the value of these contributions in both the draft Assessment and in the revised Forest Plan which strives to integrate the social, economic, and ecological needs of the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Additional information regarding Animal Unit Month(AUM's) determinations: The decision of AUMs permitted is at the project level. The level analysis that needs to be done to determine whether AUMs can increase for a specific area cannot be done at the Forest Plan landscape scale level. The Forest Plan will contain components that would guide project level grazing decisions. We agree that permitted AUMs have dropped since the 1986 Forest Plan and have been reduced due to drought and other factors such as completing site specific Environmental Assessments on some grazing Allotments. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components that address grazing in the revised Forest Plan.
119	Grazing - Non-supportive	Thank you for your comment expressing support for limiting grazing on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing grazing in the revised Forest Plan.
120	Grazing - Vegetation Management Tool	Thank you for your comment regarding grazing as a potential management tool for reducing fire fuel loads. The assessment makes no decisions about prescribed burning or grazing. The assessment is a base-line report of current resource condition on the ground at a landscape level and was developed using best available scientific information as required in the Planning Rule. The revised Forest Plan will provide the guidance for future project planning and development. Your comment will be considered as we move forward into developing the revised Forest Plan.

122	Forest - Critical Habitat	Thank you for your comment regarding the importance of the Manti-La Sal National Forest as critical habitat for wildlife and the need to reference this in the Need to Change document. Your comment will be considered as we draft the Preliminary Need to Change document. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
124	References - Not Associated with Assessment	Thank you for the recommendation of additional literature citations within the draft Assessment Report. The Assessment Report is meant to be a rapid evaluation of current conditions and trends and as such. The recommended literature cited does not change the associated resource condition assessment itself, we appreciate the additional supporting information. These associated sources cited and related recommendations will be considered as we move forward in developing our revised Forest Plan.
125	References - Include in Record	Thank you for your comment and inclusion of a list of references to be included in the administrative record. All comments and associated documents received during the 30-day Assessment comment period will be included in the project record for the Manti-La Sal National Forest Plan.
126	Primary Stressors - Cows and Humans	Thank you for your comment emphasizing the importance of humans and cows as the primary stressors to the resources of the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Your comment will be considered as we revise the Forest Plan.
127	Land management Agencies	When revising a land management plan, the Forest is required to identify and review the land use policies of other Federal agencies, State and Local Governments, and federally recognized Indian Tribes within the Plan area (FSH 1909.12 Chapter 20, section 21.11 (6)) Appendix 6 on Page 267 of the Assessment Report provides a complete list of the 183 Land Management Plans that have been identified as appropriate for review during the Forest Plan Revision Process.
128	General Comments - Future Consideration	Thank you for your interest in the Forest Plan Revision process. We will consider these recommendations as we move forward into developing our revised Forest Plan and its associated monitoring program.
129	Visitation Data	In addition to hosting public meetings and cooperating agency meetings to solicit data requests, the Forest has been working the State of Utah's Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) as well as working directly with specialists from state departments. If you have additional data to submit please send directly to the Forest Plan Revision team at mlnfplanrevision@fs.fed.us.
130	Age and location of Supporting Data	Thank you for your comment regarding the age and availability of data referenced in the draft Assessment Report. In response to requests the draft specialist reports we uploaded to our website on July 13, 2017; we accepted comments through the end of July. Seeing as how many ecosystems/resources have a lifecycle that extend beyond 5-years, limiting our analysis to data only from the last 5-years would not allow for a comprehensive condition assessment. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward in developing the revised Forest Plan
131	Concern - Increasing Closures	Thank you for your comments regarding concerns over increasing closures on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing recreation and access in the revised Forest Plan.
132	Map Quality	Thank you for your comment regarding the inability to magnify maps contained within the draft Assessment document. The supplementary data requested in this comment was sent to the commenter via email communications between July 3-July 11, 2017.

133	Grazing Terminology- Riparian Ecosystems	Thank you for your suggestion! We will look into putting improper grazing and proper grazing terminology into the Assessment Report for further clarification. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comment will be considered as we revise the draft Assessment Report and develop plan components for the revised Forest Plan.
135	Draft Assessment - Climate Change/Typos	Thank you for your comment providing additional references, identifying typos, and those references in need of citation within the draft Assessment Report. We greatly appreciate the identification of these errors and they will be addressed the final Assessment Report. As stated in the Assessment Report, temperatures are expected to increase 5 to 10 F by the mid 21st century. USDA 2016, Peterson et al. 2011.
136	Need for vegetation fragmentation	Thank you for suggesting that Vegetation fragmentation/ connectivity needs to be addressed in the Assessment and EIS. We appreciate your time and effort during this time, your comments will be considered as we move forward in revising the Assessment report and while developing plan components addressing habitat connectivity in the revised Forest Plan
137	Climate Change - Vegetation Stressor	Thank you for your comment related to climate change as a stressor for vegetation communities. After reviewing the stressors identified for the said vegetation types, this information is indeed missing and would be beneficial for inclusion in future plan components and associated monitoring programs. We will take your comment into consideration when addressing stressors in the revised Forest Plan.
139	Heritage Protection	Thank you for your recommendation for working with the Fuels Management Program to protect archaeology during fuel treatment projects as a direct tool for protecting culture resources and other Fuel Management Techniques. We appreciate your comment, and we will take your comment into consideration as we develop plan components for cultural resources in the revised Forest Plan.
140	Mountain Goats	Thank you for your comments related to the introduction of mountain goats and the importance of monitoring impacts related to their introduction. The Assessment acknowledges the importance of the alpine communities, and describes current conditions based on the best available science (pg. 57-58). Specific plan components for management of alpine vegetation and associated species will be included in the development of the revised Forest Plan. The potential for impacts to the alpine ecosystem from the introduced mountain goats is recognized in the Assessment, and the subject will be carried forward in the plan revision process. Monitoring of the alpine vegetation and soil resources in the La Sal Mountains is ongoing, but no apparent trends in vegetation or soil conditions have been determined. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward and develop plan components and monitoring related to alpine communities on the Forest.
141	Engaging the Public	Thank you for your comments related to the Forest Plan Revision process and the importance of engaging the public in the development of the plan. The Manti-La Sal National Forest planning process has been designed to allow for a robust public participation throughout every phase, including the use of review and comment periods, public open houses and workshops, cooperating agency status and meetings, and the NEPA process. Visit the Plan Revision website to sign up for public meeting announcements and updates on Forest Plan Revision activities <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning">https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning</a>

142	Assessment - Difficult to find Grazing information	Thank you for your comment related to grazing the draft Assessment Report. The Assessment Report was written to cover the 15 topics required by the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219). The Report is organized by the 15 topics and as a result, grazing is discussed as a part of these sections and not as a stand alone section. Your comments will be considered as we develop a content structure for the revised Forest Plan with an eye for ease of use and understanding by both specialists and the general public.
143	Access / Hunting / OHV	Thank you for your comment related to road density and the impacts to resources and uses on the Forest. The revised Forest Plan does not include route-specific travel planning but will develop desired conditions and objectives related to recreation opportunities on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components addressing recreation and as we analyze their impacts during the NEPA process.
144	Water Quality by ORV use	Thank you for your comment regarding ORV impacts to water quality. The effect of ORV on water quality are mentioned in the Groundwater dependent ecosystem section beginning on page 83 of the Assessment. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing impacts to groundwater quality and associated monitoring programs
145	Monticello District Municipal Water	Thank you for your comments regarding water protection zones. The Monticello District will have a municipal water source management area which will be managed for protection of water, watershed health and water infrastructure. The Moab district has proposed a geographic area consisting of the Placer Creek - Colorado River and the Mill Creek HUC's (hydrologic unit code) that will have special management consideration for sole source aquifer protection, scenery and recreation. Your comments recommending additional data collection and source water protection zones will be considered as the revised Forest Plan and monitoring program are developed.
146	Canadian Lynx	Thank you for your comment regarding Canadian Lynx in the draft Assessment Report. The Manti-La Sal National Forest is required to address Canada lynx because it is on the Utah County list as a threatened species. As you know, Utah County covers the northern portion of the forest. You are correct that no breeding populations have been detected on the forest; however, individual lynx have been detected on the North Zone of the MLNF which have been documented and are most likely dispersed individuals. The Forest Plan Revision Assessment Report is not a decisional document but is more informational. The Conservation Plan from the Sage Grouse Local Working Groups, in particular, the Parker Mountain Adaptive Resource Management Local Working Group (PARM), the Sage Grouse Record of Decision (ROD), input from the UDWR, and County Land Management Plans will all be used going forward in developing the revised plan. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.
147	Responsible Officer for the Forest Plan	The Responsible Official is the Forest Supervisor of the Manti-La Sal National Forest. Thank you for your question.
150	Fire Risk - Assessment Report	Thank you for your comments addressing fire hazard, and the recommendation of organizing the Assessment Report by North and South Zone. Under the new Land Management Plan areas of concern are identified and are analyzed to define the potential fire severity impacts and arrival times of the fire under various scenarios. Analysis shows six fires on the South Zone, and seven fires on North Zone matching the requirements regarding fires of concern. This data is simply demonstrating locations where large long-duration historical fires occurred. All of this data helps fire managers at a national and regional level to identify areas of greatest concern in order to identify where suppression resources are needed. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop the revised Forest Plan and finalize the Assessment Report.

151	Sage Grouse	Thank you for your comment regarding additional information related to Sage Grouse and Colorado Cutthroat populations referenced in the draft Assessment Report. Sage Grouse were addressed in the draft assessment on the following pages. Pg. 56, 57, 112, and 113. Your comments will be considered as we move forward into developing plan components addressing these species in the revised Forest Plan.
152	Best Available Management - State Information	Thank you for your comment encouraging the use of State data and management objectives for wildlife populations. This was addressed in the draft assessment report on the following pages. Best Management Practices Pg. 36, 42, 48, 76, 78, 101 Cooperating Agencies Pg. 8, 252, 258. We will continue to work with the State of Utah Department of Wildlife Resources regarding the development, implementation and monitoring associated with the revised Forest Plan.
154	Pika and Grazing Concern	Thank you for your comment asking to clarify whether grazing impacts to Pika are related to general or improper/over grazing practices. The inference is that if it is affecting local populations, it would be considered overgrazing which can occur from domestic livestock and native or introduced ungulates.
155	Watershed Restoration	Thank you for your comment related to watershed restoration in the draft Assessment Report. The issue of general watershed restorative efforts on the forest was addressed on p 78 in the past conditions of the Watershed Condition Section in the Trends - Watershed and Water: "Major degradation of watershed conditions occurred from around 1880 to 1903 due to overgrazing, which lead to a lack of vegetation, excessive erosion, and flooding. Since then watershed restoration activities have occurred, beginning mainly in the 1950s with contouring, furrowing, and seeding. Restoration activities have also been implemented to deal with the aftermath of severe flooding and landslides in the early 1980s. The combination of improved land management practices and best management practices have, overall, resulted in improved watershed condition since the period of 1880 to 1903." The specific drainages are project specific references which are beyond the scope of the Forest Plan Revision. Forest Plan Revision is addressing landscape-scale planning (36 CFR 219.2). The revised Forest Plan will provide the guidance for future project planning and development. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components addressing watershed restoration in the revised Forest Plan

156	Water Quality/ Quantity in the Assessment	<p>Thank you for your comment addressing watershed ratings in the draft Assessment Report. The Clean Water Act directs the states to place the water bodies on a list of "impaired" waters referred to as the 303(d) list and prepare a plan to restore water quality called a Total Maximum Daily Load study (TMDL). The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is tasked with this requirement for the State of Utah. Every other year the department of Water Quality (DWQ) submits a list with 303d impaired streams for approval to the EPA. Including the 2016 list could be obsolete by 2018. The most up-to-date 303d list information can be found at the following website: <a href="https://enviro.deq.utah.gov/">https://enviro.deq.utah.gov/</a> (accessed 5 September 2017).</p> <p>Assessing water quality of drinking water is the responsibility of the department of water quality (DWQ) according to the SDWA. Drinking water source protections falls is the responsibility of cities and towns. For non-drinking water, water quality is one of the 12 indicators used in the watershed condition classification (WCC) developed in 2007 by the USDA FS developed at HUC 6 level -12 digits. The current watershed condition classes are discussed on p 77-78 of the assessment report. Twelve watershed condition (WC) indicators were developed, including water quality, which are surrogate variables representing underlying ecological functions and processes that affect soil and hydrologic function.</p> <p>The 12 indicators are grouped in four major process categories (aquatic physical, aquatic biological, terrestrial physical and terrestrial biological). Each of the indicators uses a defined set of one or more attributes (24 attributes total). The attributes are evaluated using quantitative and qualitative rule sets. Each indicator attribute receives a rating. The ratings are expressions of the "best-fit" descriptor of the attribute for the entire 6th-level watershed being classified. Condition Rating 1 is synonymous with "GOOD" condition.</p> <p>It is the expected indicator value in a watershed with high geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to natural potential condition. The rating suggests that the watershed is functioning properly with respect to that attribute. Condition Rating 2 is synonymous with "FAIR" condition. It is the expected indicator value in a watershed with moderate geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to natural potential condition. The rating suggests that the watershed is functioning at risk with respect to that attribute. Condition Rating 3 is synonymous with "POOR" condition. It is the expected indicator value in a watershed with low geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to natural potential condition. The rating suggests that the watershed is impaired or functioning at unacceptable risk with respect to that attribute. The assessment report does not make a connection between water quality and water quantity because that information is not available in the sources used to compile the report.</p> <p>According to the planning rule (36 CFR 219.5(a)(1)) only the assessment report are only required to rapidly evaluate existing information about relevant ecological, economic, and social conditions, trends, and sustainability and their relationships to the land management plan within the context of the broader landscape. We appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move develop plan components and monitoring programs associated with water quality in the revised Forest Plan.</p>
157	Watershed Protection Projects - Additional information	<p>Thank you for your comment highlight the Watershed Protection section of the 1986 Forest Plan. The comments you have identified relate to all watersheds, not just those important for drinking water protection. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward and develop plan components in the revised Forest Plan that will affect drinking water sources.</p>
158	Watershed - Additional Analysis	<p>Thank you for your comment related to hydrologic information contained within the draft Assessment Report. The paragraph in the comment is taken verbatim from the hydrology assessment specialist report. According to the planning rule (36 CFR 219.3) the assessment is based on the best available science, and intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends not requiring additional analysis. The Assessment only has to consider existing information (36 CFR 219.6 (a)(1)). We will consider your comment as we develop plan components and associated monitoring programs for watersheds.</p>

159	Watershed - Recommended Management Actions	Thank you for your comment providing additional management recommendations for watershed and climate impacts. The Assessment is meant to provide a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends, as a result, future management activities are not addressed in detail. Water is addressed in the referred table under the Resources Affected "Aquatics" and "Hydrology/Groundwater". The Aquatics Indicators mentioned includes: habitat fragmentation, water temperature, water quality (surface), Water quantity (surface), Bank stability, Sedimentation, timing of peak water flows, watershed function/condition, and species richness and diversity. The indicators listed under hydrology/groundwater are: water quality (surface), Water Quantity (surface), watershed function/condition, # of recharge and discharge points and aquifer quality. We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we develop plan components and associated monitoring programs for watersheds and climate.
160	Domestic Grazing as a Stressor	Thank you for your comments regarding grazing as a stressor on the Manti-La Sal National Forest. It was not the intention of the Forest convey the idea that it did not consider grazing (domestic and wild) as a major stressor present on the Forest. It is recognized that because of the way the draft Assessment was structured with the Stressor and Drivers topic having its own Chapter and grazing not being listed in this chapter, is one of the main reasons that this became a concern for some of those that commented on the Assessment. As made apparent by the public meetings held in Sept 2016, the Forest did consider grazing to be a stressor on the Forest. The draft Assessment Report is organized by the 15 topics required to be addressed by the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219). Grazing is not a stand alone topic, and as a result, grazing is discussed throughout the Assessment document and not in a single location. Discussions of grazing as a stressor are found on the following pages of the draft Assessment: Pages 42, 181 (stressor on Cultural Resources), pages 58 (rangelands), 62, 70, 73 (vegetation) -pages 79-80, 82, 84-86, 89-92 (grazing stress to springs, streams, watersheds), pages 110-111, 114, 116 (grazing stressors to wildlife), pages 117, 119, 121 (grazing stressors to TES), page 185 (grazing stressors to wilderness and recreation). The Final Assessment will include grazing (domestic and wildlife) as a listed stressor in Chapter 1. For more information, the supporting reports that were written for the draft assessment containing discussions of grazing as a stressor can be found on the MLNF planning website here <a href="https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd545576">https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mantilasal/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fseprd545576</a> . Your comments will be considered as we develop plan components and associated monitoring programs related to grazing in the revised Forest Plan.
162	Grazing - Stubble Height	Thank you for your comment. We agree that stubble height is not a condition of permit compliance. The draft Assessment report is intended to be a rapid assessment of current conditions and trends on the Forest. Your comments will be considered as plan components are developed addressing grazing in the revised Forest Plan.
163	Moab Trails	Thank you for your comment addressing increasing pressures for recreation trails in the Moab area. The 2013 Moab Trails Decision will direct non-motorized trail management in the La Sals for the immediate future. It is Forest Service Policy to immediately close and rehabilitate any new illegal trails. The Manti La Sal National Forest Needs Assessment and Resource Capability Guidance for Special Use Permits was prepared in 2013 and includes limits on commercial use on the Whole Enchilada ad Moonlight Meadows Trails. The Assessment states that "Cyclists are concerned about keeping available trails open to them, adding additional trails, and designing single track trails specifically for mountain biking". This did not mean that cyclists have requested trails open to bikes only but that they requested trails built to mountain bike design standards. Objectives and strategies for directing the management of trails and dispersed recreation will be included in the Forest Plan We greatly appreciate your time and effort during this comment period, your comments will be considered as we move forward.

Appendix 1

**Comment Code Summary**

Comment Code	Comment Type	# Received
803	Access	6
803.03	Access - Roads	16
803.04	Access - Senior / Handicap	1
803.05	Access - Trails	12
804	Air Quality	5
806	Best Available Science	5
832.01	Bears Ears National Monument	2
808	Climate Change	38
808.01	Carbon Sequestration	11
808.02	Climate Change - Vegetation	3
808.03	Climate Change - Stressors	2
815	Heritage	1
815.01	Heritage Surveys	1
815.0301	Cultural Sites	1
832	Designated Areas	6
832.06	Special Interest Areas	1
810	Facilities	2
810.02	Road Maintenance	5
816	Infrastructure	1
811.02	Fuel Loading / Fire Hazard	4
811.03	Prescribed Fire	1
811.04	Wildfire	1
824	Grazing Economics	2
824.01	Allotments	2
824.02	Grazing	40
824.03	Grazing Economics	2
824.04	Range Suitability	5
824.05	Range - General	6
825.04	Hunting / Trapping/ Fishing / Wildlife Viewing	1
817	Invasive Species	7
817.01	Invasive Species - Management / Treatment	2
817.02	Invasive Species - Species	3
833.03	Inventoried Roadless Areas / Roadless / Unroaded Areas	2
820	Mining / Minerals / Energy	10
820.01	Coal	10
820.03	Oil and Gas	2
820.04	Fracking / Hydraulic Fracturing	4
825.05	Multiple Use	12
507	Requests for Information	2
801	Laws / Regulations / Policy	10
801.03	Forest Plan Revision Processes	6
801.05	Editorial comments to assessment report	8
801.06	Management of NFS lands - Multiple Uses	4
801.11	Monitoring	4
801.13	Planning Rule	4
801.14	Travel Management Plan	7
802.01	NEPA Process	4
802.03	Decision	1
802.04	Alternatives	3
802.08	Process - General	6

802.1	Project Scope	2
821.01	General Comment / Concern	20
821.02	Attachment	5
821.05	Map / Boundary	8
821.06	Position - no rationale	11
836	Preliminary Need to Change	1
807	Botany	2
807.02	Botany - T&E / Sensitive Species	2
835.08	Species of Conservation Concern - Plants	1
825	Recreation	21
825.01	Developed Recreation	7
825.02	Recreation Residences	1
825.03	Dispersed Recreation / Primitive Areas	2
825.06	Non-Motorized Recreation	3
825.07	OHV / Motorized Recreation	27
825.11	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)	2
825.13	Trail Maintenance	1
838.01	Illegal OHV Use	4
821.07	References / Citations	67
821.0702	Reference - Not Cited in Assessment	164
828	Socio-Economic	9
828.02	Environmental Justice	1
828.03	Jobs / Income / Industry / Benefits	5
828.04	Local Communities / Tourism	5
828.07	Socio-Econ - Ecological Values	1
828.08	Socio-Econ - Sustainability	2
829	Soils	2
829.01	Soil Erosion	4
829.03	Landslides and Geological Hazards	1
837	Technical Edits	27
813	Forest Products	1
815.04	Treaty Rights	1
815.05	Tribal Access / Areas of Tribal Importance	2
830	Vegetation	30
830.05	Terrestrial Ecosystems and Vegetation	9
830.07	Vegetation Management	8
830.08	Vegetation Modeling (NRV and Future Conditions)	2
830.09	Vegetation - non-forested	6
805	Aquatics and Riparian	9
805.03	Water Quality	13
805.04	Water Quantity	3
805.05	Water Rights	2
805.06	Water Use / Municipal Watersheds / Groundwater	20
805.07	Watersheds	16
805.08	Fens / Wetlands	6
832.02	Designated Wilderness - General	1
833	Wilderness - Recommended	5
833.01	Decrease Recommended Wilderness Areas	2
833.04	Uses in Wilderness	1
833.05	Wilderness - General	4
830.02	Insects and disease	2
834	Wildlife	19
834.01	Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species	7
834.02	Wildlife - Big Game	6
834.03	Wildlife - Birds	1
834.04	Wildlife - Other Species	6

834.05	Wildlife - Management Indicator Species	2
834.08	Wildlife - Conservation Measures	1
834.1	Wildlife - Consultation (State)	1
834.12	Wildlife Habitat	3
834.17	Wildlife - Disease	1
835	Species of Conservation Concern (SCC)	3
831	Wild and Scenic Rivers	4
831.01	Wild and Scenic Rivers - Suitability Criteria	2
831.02	Wild and Scenic Rivers - Socio-Economic	2
831.03	Wild and Scenic Rivers - Designation Type	1
831.04	Wild and Scenic Rivers - Water Quality	1