

7.1 RESIDENTIAL - FOREST INTERMIX

Theme: Areas characterized by an interface between residential private lands and National Forest System lands are managed to protect natural resources, provide compatible multiple uses, and maintain cooperative relationships between the landowners and other levels of governmental jurisdiction. Opportunities to consolidate landownership patterns are pursued.

Desired Condition

Physical/Biological

Provide a variety of plant communities, structural stages, and associated wildlife through vegetation manipulation and natural processes. Manage forested areas to attain a natural appearance and minimize the risks of catastrophic fires and epidemic levels of insects and diseases. Maintain natural openings, meadows, and other plant communities to protect soil and water resources and key wildlife habitat areas. Maintain insect and disease populations at endemic levels where damage would only be evident in small patches across the landscape, if at all.

Social

This is an area where developed residential use blends into relatively undeveloped natural environments. Dispersed recreation is not encouraged but access to existing areas of high use is provided. Visitors expect to encounter residential developments on intermingled private lands, and residents may encounter National Forest visitors and management activities. Consequently, recreational use of these areas may be limited to the extent necessary to reduce conflicts between landowners and visitors.

Undeveloped areas appear to be in a relatively natural state. Blend existing improvements such as improved roads, primitive roads, trails, bridges, fences, shelters, signs, recreational sites, or water diversions into the landscape where feasible or remove them if no longer needed. New improvements are designed to resemble natural patterns and to be less intrusive into the landscape.

Administrative

Manage fire and hazardous fuels in close cooperation with state and county agencies, local fire protection districts and organized homeowners' groups. Aggressively suppress wildfires that threaten life and property. Actively pursue opportunities for land exchange and sales. Retain or acquire lands containing key or essential habitat, unique or critical ecosystems, important recreational values or important access routes to National Forest System lands. Dispose of or acquire parcels to consolidate landownership and to reduce need to authorize occupancy of National Forest System lands. Pursue rights-of-way needed for management purposes.

Manage the minimum road system needed to provide access for management activities, recreational use and fire protection. Coordinate trail systems with other local agencies. Attempt to link trails to other management areas, developed sites and other nearby trails. Locate new facilities (trailheads, parking areas, designated sites, developed sites, etc.) in areas to help minimize conflicts. Boundaries in the vicinity of management activities and along public access routes are identified, well marked and maintained over time. Permit compatible special uses on lands identified for retention. Do not approve land-use authorizations on National Forest System lands identified for disposal if that occupancy may affect disposal action. Bring existing land-use authorizations into compliance on an opportunity basis.