

# Carson National Forest

## Forest Plan Revision 101

### What is a Forest Plan and why does it matter?

- A forest plan is a comprehensive document that guides forest management, use, and resource protection for a period of 10—15 years.
- It is designed to balance and integrate multiple uses with the restoration and maintenance of forest and water ecosystems.
- It identifies areas that may be suitable for special designations, such as research natural areas, wild and scenic rivers, and wilderness.
- All subsequent proposals and projects must comply with the approved forest plan.

### Why is the Carson NF revising its Forest Plan?

- The forest and surrounding land areas have experienced significant environmental, social, and economic changes since the current plan was published in 1986.
- The revised plan will follow the “2012 Planning Rule”, which:
  - Strengthens the role of public participation
  - Incorporates the best available science
  - Considers a landscape scale-context for unit level management
  - Takes into account opportunities for landscape scale restoration and managed wildland fire in fire adapted landscapes
- Plan revision is an opportunity to increase public participation, and to strengthen relationships and partnerships.

### How can I be involved?

- There will be many opportunities to get involved in the multi-year revision process, from public meetings and workshops, to virtual engagement and communication.
- Upcoming public participation meetings and workshops, as well as information updates, will be posted on our website <http://fs.usda.gov/goto/carsonforestplan>.
- Email [carsonplan@fs.fed.us](mailto:carsonplan@fs.fed.us) with any questions or additional information.

### Forest Facts:

- The Carson National Forest has 1.5 million acres and is integral to the unique ecological, cultural, social, and economic vitality of the communities of Northern New Mexico. Elevations on the Carson rise from 6000 feet to 13,161 feet at Wheeler Peak, the highest point in New Mexico.
- The forest is home to a diversity of plant ecosystems and wildlife, alpine lakes, rivers, meadows, wilderness areas and miles of trails for skiing, hiking, biking, and OHV's.
- The Carson National Forest is a forest of many uses from hiking, hunting, fishing, camping, and skiing to grazing and firewood collecting.
- The Carson National Forest provides opportunities for recreation and solitude and is the source of water for communities throughout the area.
- The Carson National Forest has many areas of concern to tribal groups.

Carson National Forest  
209 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571  
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/carsonforestplan>

Phone: 575-758-6221  
[carsonplan@fs.fed.us](mailto:carsonplan@fs.fed.us)

