



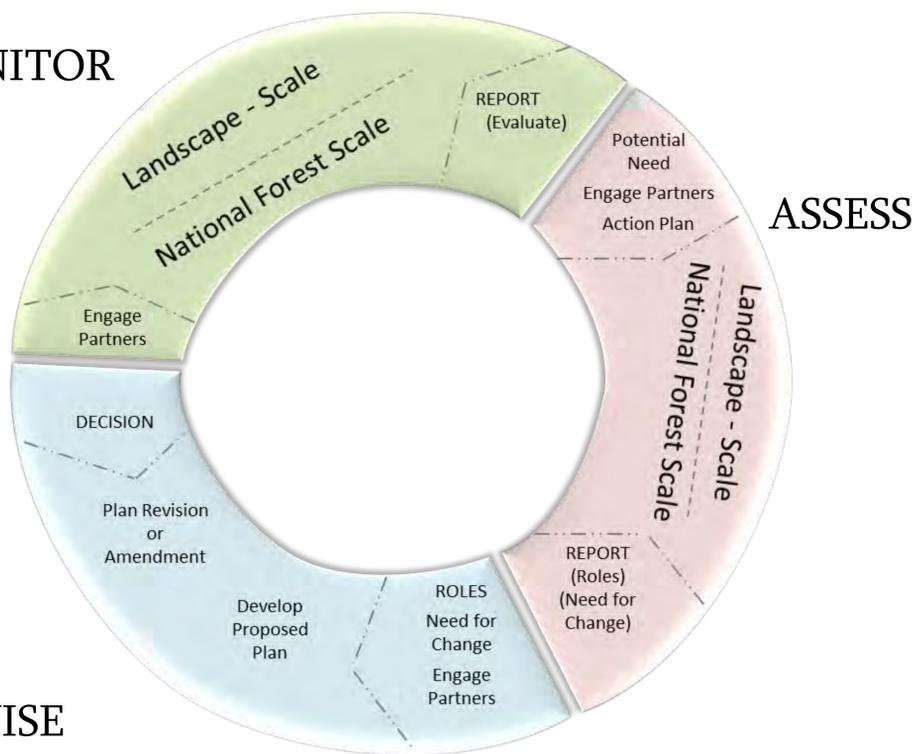
Forest Planning Overview



What is a Forest Plan? A Forest Plan provides a planning and policy framework to guide a forest in managing its forest resources, goods, and services. Described as “the view from 30,000 feet,” Forest Plans are strategic and broad in scope and provide guidance in the decision-making process involved with site-specific projects. Forest Plans have desired conditions, objectives, standards and guidelines, identification of suitability of areas for certain uses, and monitoring programs.

Why does the current Forest Plan need to be revised? Revisions to the 1986 plans are long overdue, and a lot has changed on the forest and surrounding areas. In addition, there is also new guidance for how forest plans are to be revised. The Forest Service’s 2012 Planning Rule directs Forest Plans to be science-based and developed with extensive public involvement. The 2012 Rule is designed to ensure that forest plans maintain and restore ecosystems while providing for multiple uses.

MONITOR



REVISE (or amend)

Why are the Forests preparing one plan and one Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? The 2012 rule focuses on the role of the forest within the larger landscape, with consideration given to all lands throughout the *three phases* of forest plan revision; assessment, plan development, and monitoring. A combined plan and EIS will provide efficiencies in a number of areas: completing one EIS will be more efficient due to shared landscapes, similar issues, and consistent application of the planning management process. As well as overlapping landscapes and users, each unit does have distinct issues and opportunities that will be addressed separately for each forest.

Forest plan revision process overview. The HLC is beginning the assessment phase.

