



Forest Plan Revision Phase I: The Assessment

What is the Forest Plan?

A comprehensive document that provides broad guidance for managing all resources on the Santa Fe National Forest, aiming to balance multiple uses and the restoration of ecosystems.

Why is it being revised?

The current Forest Plan was written in 1987. Since then, many environmental, social, and economic changes have occurred. Land management philosophies have evolved. The new Forest Plan will reflect these changes and provide better direction for today's conditions.



CONTACT US

Santa Fe National Forest
Plan Revision Team

11 Forest Lane

Santa Fe, NM 87508

Phone: 505-438-5442

E-mail:

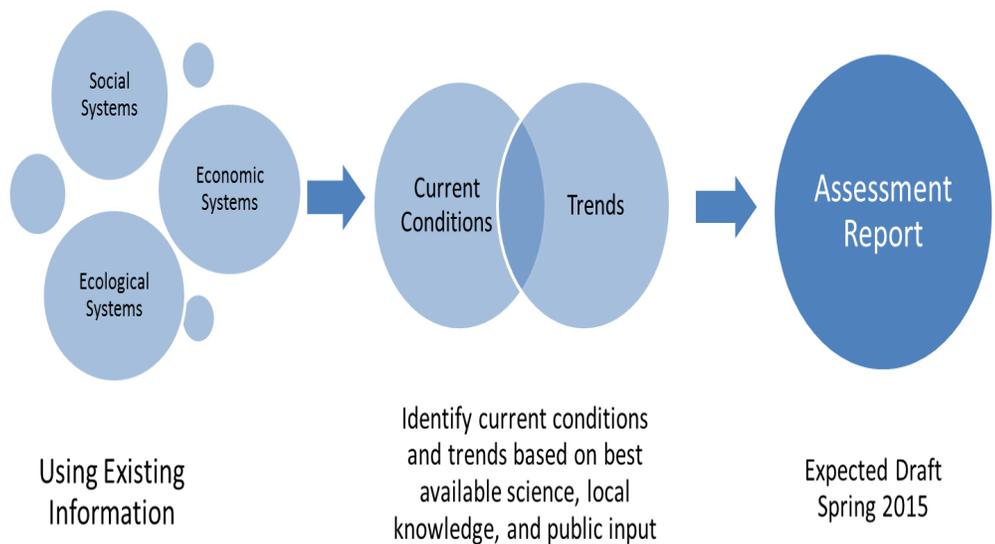
SantaFeForestPlan@fs.fed.us

Web: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/santafeforestplan



The assessment phase began in March 2014.

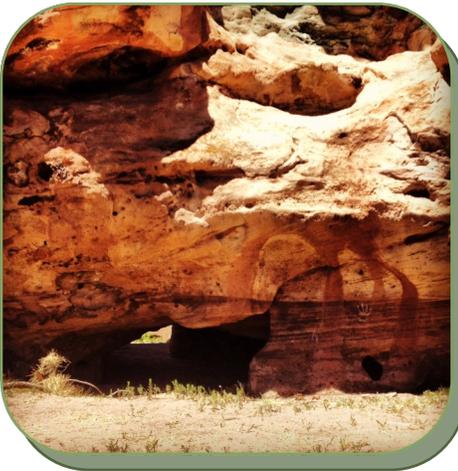
What is an assessment?



- The assessment evaluates 15 broad topics about the Santa Fe National Forest such as air, soil, and water resources; recreational opportunities; and cultural and historical resources and uses (see reverse for topics).
- We are using existing information to determine current conditions and trends of forest resources. We are also recognizing data gaps when information is not available.
- This data will give us an idea of the changes that need to occur in order for us to best manage forest resources in the future.
- It provides baseline data, but does not provide specific content for the new Forest Plan.



Assessment Topics



Existing data on the following topics will be collected to help us determine how well Santa Fe National Forest’s ecological, social and economic systems can persist in the future:

- Terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and watersheds
- Air, soil, and water resources and quality
- System drivers, including natural changes in vegetation communities and precipitation patterns; and stressors, including wildland fire, invasive species, and climate change; and the ability of the forest to adapt to change
- Carbon stocks, which is the amount of carbon the Forest can store or release
- Wildlife species that are at risk, including threatened and endangered species
- Social, cultural, and economic conditions
- Benefits that people obtain from Santa Fe National Forest
- Multiple uses such as recreation, range, timber, watershed, fish, and wildlife
- Recreation settings and opportunities, access, scenic character
- Renewable and nonrenewable energy, mineral resources
- Infrastructure such as roads, recreational facilities, utility corridors
- Areas of importance to Native American tribes
- Cultural and historical resources
- Land status and ownership, land use, access patterns
- Existing specially designated areas such as Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers, and opportunities for additional designated areas

Your Forest, Your Voice!

Information for the assessment will be gathered from multiple sources, including other agencies and members of the public who use and value Santa Fe National Forest. We have hosted a series of public meetings, and will continue to collect this information for the next few months. We want to hear from you! Please visit our website and click “Get Involved.”

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