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Environmental Impact Statement

for the Revised Land and Resource Management Plan



Forest
Service

Region 8

George Washington
National Forest

R8-MB 143 D

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Final Environmental Impact Statement for the George Washington National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan

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Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren Counties in Virginia.

Hampshire, Hardy, Monroe and Pendleton Counties in West Virginia.

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ABSTRACT

The Forest Service revises the 1993 Land and Resource Management Plan for the George Washington National Forest. The Revised Plan updates the management direction for the Forest's 1.1 million acres of land in Virginia and West Virginia by describing desired conditions, goals, objectives, suitable uses, standards and monitoring requirements. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Forest has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Revised Plan. The FEIS provides the purpose and need for Plan revision, presents issues addressed, describes management alternatives considered to respond to those issues, and analyzes the potential environmental effects of the alternatives. The Environmental Impact Statement describes nine alternatives including a "no action" alternative that would continue managing the land and resources of the Forest under the 1993 Forest Plan as amended. The Forest Service has selected Alternative I.

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