

APPENDIX A – SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

INTRODUCTION

This document is included to show the public involvement effort for the revision of the 1993 Final Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the George Washington National Forest (GWNF), herein referred to as the Plan. All comments received through the plan revision process are available in the project file located at the Supervisor's Office in Roanoke, Virginia.

ENGAGING INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS


Public Workshops

Public Workshops in March 2007

Public involvement was initiated when the Forest Supervisor invited the public to a series of meetings to comment on whether there was a need for change to the 1993 Final Revised Land and Resource Management Plan for the George Washington National Forest.

Over 900 organizations, groups, county governments, state governments, and individuals were sent a post card the third week of February 2007 inviting them to a series of meetings to begin dialogue on what needed to change.

Forest Plan Revision Workshops



Please visit our website for important information and draft documents prior to the meetings:

www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj

Or call

540-265-5100

Please join us and others interested in the management of the George Washington National Forest at one of the following workshops. We would like to hear your thoughts on what worked well in the previous plan and suggestions on what needs to be changed in the new plan.

- **Monday, March 5** Time: 6-9 p.m.
Hot Springs Presbyterian Church
7433 Sam Snead Hwy. Hot Springs, VA 24445
- **Tuesday, March 6** Time: 6-9 p.m.
Rockbridge High School
143 Greenhouse Road Lexington, VA 24450
- **Wednesday, March 7** Time: 7-10 p.m.
National Guard Armory
451 Hoover Road Woodstock, VA 22664
- **Thursday, March 8** Time: 6-9 p.m.
9212 Winterberry Ave. Covington, VA 24426
- **Saturday, March 10** Time: 1-4 p.m.
Rockingham County Government Office Building
20 E. Gay Street Harrisonburg, VA 22802

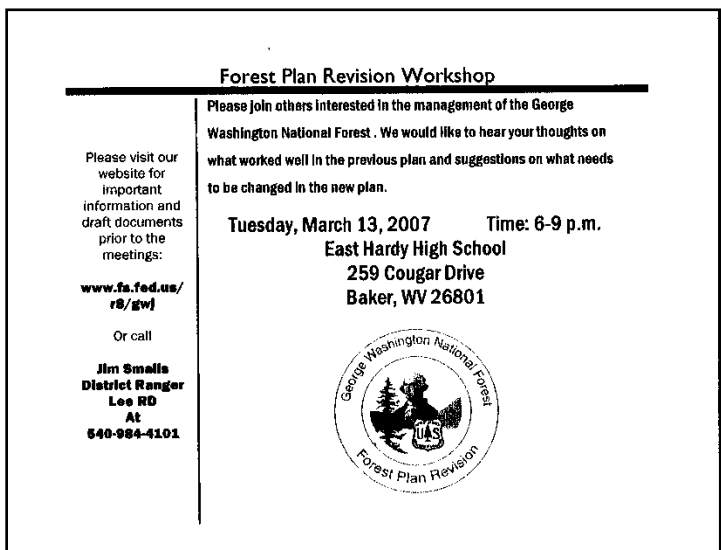
On February 15, 2007 the Federal Register contained the Forest's Notice of Intent to revise the Forest Plan [72 FR 7390-7391]. This officially started the GW Revision process. A Legal Notice also appeared in the Forest's newspaper of record, the *Roanoke Times*, on March 31, 2007.

In addition, a news release was sent on February 16, 2007 to all newspapers, TV stations and radio stations that serve the counties where the GWNF is located.

Given the amount of land in West Virginia, the agency decided to hold two West Virginia meetings. A news release was sent to various media on February 22, 2007 that a meeting would be held in Brandywine, WV on March 9, 2007.

Likewise, a news release was sent to various media on February 28, 2007 that a meeting would be held in Baker, WV on March 13, 2007, and reminded people of the Brandywine meeting. Furthermore, all persons

from West Virginia on the Forest's planning mailing list (about 72 individuals or organizations) were sent a postcard announcing the Baker WV meeting.



Attendance at the public meetings is shown in the following table.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
March 5, 2007	Warm Springs, VA	56
March 6, 2007	Lexington, VA	112
March 7, 2007	Woodstock, VA	250+
March 8, 2007	Covington, VA	35
March 9, 2007	Brandywine, WV	22
March 10, 2007	Harrisonburg, VA	135+
March 13, 2007	Baker, WV	25

Meeting Presentation

For all meetings except Brandywine, the following program was given. The Brandywine meeting was an informal discussion of these same topics.

The overview was a PowerPoint presentation on the 2005 planning rule.

Attendees were distributed randomly among numerous groups and each group was asked the same following two questions about on-the-ground management of their National Forest:

- 1) What do you like about the current management of the GWNF?
- 2) What do you think needs to change in how the GWNF is managed?

Comments were captured on flip charts. All comments were then typed and posted to the Forest's internet site. Comment forms were also given to meeting attendees and comments written at the meeting could either be placed into a comment box or sent at a later date to the Forest Supervisor's office.

Summary

The summary of this effort was then used as an addendum to the Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER).

Availability of the Draft Comprehensive Evaluation Report

The public was notified of the availability of the initial February 15, 2007 version of the Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER) by three methods. First notification was posted on February 15, 2007 to the Forest's internet "Planning" page stating that an initial draft of the CER was available for downloading or available on a CD-ROM upon request. Secondly, this report was also mentioned in the agency's 2/15/07 Federal Register Notice. Thirdly, the agency's initial 2/22/07 news release mentioned that the CER was on the world-wide-web at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj>. Business cards showing the WWW address were available for the public at all of the public meetings.

The agency also accepted public comments on the draft CER.

Postponement and Resumption of GW Planning Process**Postponement of GW Planning Process**

On March 30, 2007, a federal judge enjoined (prohibited) the Forest Service from implementation of the 2005 Planning Rule. The GWNF's planning process, including the workshops, was initiated under this 2005 Rule. On April 3, 2007, the agency posted a letter on its web site postponing the planned public meetings scheduled in late April and early May 2007 because of the federal court decision.

As the Forest Supervisor stated in this letter "We have decided to wait until our Agency has time to assess the situation and provide us with some guidance on how to proceed with the revision. We hope that this will be a short postponement. We will keep you updated with information on this web page."

Resumption of GW Planning Process

On April 10, 2008 the Forest posted a letter to the Internet that work on a new nationwide planning rule had been completed. The letter also announced that public meetings would start in early summer 2008.

On April 21, 2008 the Forest Service adopted a new planning rule by announcement in the Federal Register. This rule (36 CFR 219 (2008)) was adopted following completion of an environmental impact statement and consultation under the Endangered Species Act. This new planning rule explicitly allowed the resumption of plan revisions started under the previous rule (36 CFR 219 (2005)) based on a finding that the revision process conforms to the new planning rule (36 CFR 219.14(b) (3) (ii)).


On June 24, 2008 the Federal Register [73 FR 35632-35633] contained the Forest's "Notice of Adjustment for Resuming the Land Management Plan Revision Process" to revise the GW Plan. This officially restarted the GW revision process. A Legal Notice also appeared in the *Roanoke Times*, on June 25, 2008. The Federal Register notice also requested additional public comments on the Draft CER of February 15, 2007. Comments were requested to be postmarked within 45 days after publication in the Federal Register. Thus, comments on the draft Comprehensive Evaluation Report were requested to be postmarked or received by August 8, 2008.

Public Workshops in July 2008**Topic – Place-Based Desired Conditions**

On June 26, 2008 a letter announcing the dates and times of the meetings was posted on the Internet.

To resume the process and notify people without internet access, a post card was also sent the first week of July 2008 to over 1,200 organizations, groups, county governments, state governments, and individuals inviting them to a series of meetings to begin a place-based dialogue on where management on-the-ground needed to change.

The meetings had small groups discussing what they would like to see changed on the Forest. The meetings were place-based with attendees reviewing district maps in small groups.



Forest Plan Revision Workshops

Please join us and others interested in the management of the George Washington National Forest at one of the following workshops. We would like to hear your thoughts on what needs to be changed in our Forest Management Plan.

Please visit our website for workshop details and draft documents prior to the meetings:

www.fs.fed.us/r6/gwj

Or call

540-268-8100

- **Monday, July 14** Time: 7-9 p.m.
Peter Muhlenberg Middle School
1251 Susan Ave. Woodstock, VA 22664
- **Tuesday, July 15** Time: 7-9 p.m.
Rockbridge County High School
143 Greenhouse Rd. Lexington, VA 24450
- **Wednesday, July 16** Time: 7-9 p.m.
East Hardy Middle School
238 Cougar Drive Baker, WV 26801
- **Friday, July 18** Time: 7-9 p.m.
Augusta County Government Center
18 Government Ctr Lane Verona, VA 24482
- **Monday, July 28** Time: 7-9 p.m.
Hot Springs Presbyterian Church
7433 Sam Snead Hwy. Hot Springs, VA 24445

Attendance at the July 2008 public meetings is shown in the following table.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
July 14, 2008	Woodstock, VA	125
July 15, 2008	Lexington, VA	64
July 16, 2008	Baker, WV	29
July 18, 2008	Verona, VA	69
July 28, 2008	Hot Springs, VA	33

Meeting Presentation

A short PowerPoint presentation occurred that repeated what was done for the first round of planning and gave attendees a summary of the key topics from that first round of meetings. A framework was presented from the Forest's perspective of what resources were important in the planning process. The agency discussed some topics that are outside the planning process such as user fees and law enforcement.

The agency displayed the sideboards within which the decisions will be made on approving the revised plan. These sideboards are that the GW will continue to be a multiple use forest with managing for an emphasis on high quality water, wildlife habitat, diversity of recreation settings, timber harvest for vegetation management and production of wood, minerals resources, threatened and endangered species, and fire for vegetation management.

Participants were divided into small groups and gathered around tables that were covered with maps of the forest (by ranger district) showing the management areas under the current 1993 Forest Plan. The groups were asked the following questions:

- 1) What areas of the GWNF would you like to see managed in a different way and how would you like them to be managed?
- 2) Why?

Participants were asked to record their ideas directly on the maps, highlighting specific areas of interest. Comment sheets were also provided to capture responses.

Public Workshops in September 2008

Topic – Potential Wilderness Areas and Roadless Areas

Given that the intent of these meetings were to start focusing more on individual issues, only two locations were selected for discussing the topic of the potential wilderness inventory and inventoried roadless areas. The July workshops were held in five locations but there were a large number of people that came to more than

one, even though the agenda was the same at each location. This time, there were no postcards mailed out since the public had been told at the July workshops that we would post the September workshop information on our website and we thought we would be able to save postage. However, this resulted in some people not receiving proper notification of the meetings. It was discussed how we could improve notification in the future without a costly mailing each time, including the possibility of sending a postcard with the option of sending an e-mail to the electronic Revision Comments inbox so an electronic mailing list could be initiated or with the option of receiving a postcard in the future.

The purpose of the September workshops was to discuss the 37 Potential Wilderness Areas (370,000 acres) and the two Inventoried Roadless Areas (14,000 acres) not part of the current inventory. Each participant was given a list of the areas and the table where the area would be discussed.

Meeting Presentation

The Planning Staff Officer gave a 20 minute presentation on the history of roadless area inventory and wilderness designation at the national level and on the forest level, the definition of various terms related to wilderness and roadless, and described the process used to go from an inventoried potential wilderness area to a congressionally-designated Wilderness. The participants were then asked to visit tables that had detailed maps of the areas and discuss the following three questions:

- 1) What are the characteristics that might make this area a good wilderness?
- 2) What are the resource uses that might be foregone if this area became wilderness?
- 3) If not wilderness, how would you like to see this area managed?

Each table was hosted either by a District Ranger or someone who was familiar with the areas on the maps. Each table also had a poster showing a table highlighting other resource information for each area, such as the amount of timber currently suitable, presence of structural improvements, presence of acidified streams, etc. Participants were asked to record their ideas directly on the maps, highlighting specific areas of interest. Boundary adjustments were also encouraged to show where needs of other resources could be met. Comment sheets were also provided to capture responses.

Attendance at the September 2008 public meetings is shown in the following table. The second meeting was held on a Saturday and there was a general consensus that Saturdays were not an ideal day for a public meeting.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
Sept. 11, 2008	Bridgewater, VA	94
Sept. 13, 2008	Lexington, VA	39


Public Workshops in October 2008

Topic – Access (Roads and Trails)

Postcards were mailed out to announce the two workshops for access and to update the Revision mailing list. The purposes of the meeting was to discuss management of the road and trail systems on the Forest and to discuss options for any needed changes in desired conditions, suitability, objectives, and guidelines regarding roads and trails.

Forest Plan Revision Workshops

Please join us and others interested in the management of the George Washington National Forest at one of the following workshops. We would like to hear your thoughts on road and trail access.



>Please visit our website for workshop details and draft documents prior to the meetings:
www.fs.fed.us/r8/gvj/
Or call
1-800-255-5160

- **Wednesday, October 29** Time: 7-9 p.m.
National Guard Armory Woodstock, VA 22664
451 Hoover Rd
- **Thursday, October 30** Time: 7-9 p.m.
Rockbridge Co. High School Lexington, VA 24450
143 Greenhouse Rd

See the inside of this mailing for more information.....

We will post information for all of our workshops at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/gvj/forestplan/revision>. However, in an effort to keep you informed while reducing the use of paper and postage, we would like to update our Forest Plan mailing list. We are also looking at options for e-mail notification so let us know if you are interested in that option if it becomes available.

Please check the following boxes as applicable and return to us. You may either respond by return of the detachable portion of this postcard, call us at 1-800-255-5175, or send us an e-mail to comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us.

☐ Keep me on the Forest Plan mailing list.

☐ Send me postcards about upcoming Forest Plan Revision workshops.

☐ If e-mail notification becomes available, send me e-mails about upcoming Forest Plan Revision workshops. My e-mail address is _____.

Meeting Presentation

The Planning Staff Officer gave a 15 minute presentation on road and trail access issues. The participants were then asked to visit tables to discuss the road and trail access concerns on the Ranger District. They were asked to discuss the following questions:

Road Group Questions Asked:

- 1) What areas of the Forest should be suitable for road construction?
- 2) Are there areas of the Forest that should be high priority for decommissioning existing roads? What should the objective be for decommissioning roads?
- 3) Are there key areas where roads should not be decommissioned in order to maintain OHV opportunities?
- 4) Are there guidelines that need to be added to the plan to address road access issues?

Trail Group Questions Asked:

- 1) Are there areas of the forest where additional trails are needed (hiking, biking, horseback riding) or should be emphasized? Are there trails that could be decommissioned so that maintenance funding can be used to higher priority trails?
- 2) Are there guidelines that need to be added to the plan to address trail access issues?

Attendance at the October 2008 public meetings is shown in the following table.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
Oct. 29, 2008	Woodstock, VA	55
Oct. 30, 2008	Lexington, VA	50

Public Workshops in November and December 2008

Topic – Vegetation Management (Timber harvest, Prescribed fire, Non-native Invasive Species)

Postcards were mailed out to announce the two workshops.

**Purpose**

Discuss management of vegetation on the forest including timber harvest, prescribed fire, wildlife habitat, non-native invasive plants, and special biologic areas.

Items to discuss

Spatial concerns about prescribed fire and timber harvest (Where are we managing?)

Level of activity or objectives for prescribed fire and timber harvest (How much are we managing?)

Concerns with the effects of prescribed fire and timber harvest

Rationale for vegetation management (What are we managing for?)

The Planning Staff Officer gave a 30 minute presentation on the purpose of vegetation management and current vegetation management activities. The participants were then asked to visit tables to discuss the vegetation management concerns on the Ranger District. They were asked to discuss the following question:

Question for the small groups:

- 1) What is important to you about managing vegetation on the Forest?

Attendance at the November and December 2008 public meetings is shown in the following table.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
Nov. 13, 2008	Verona, Va	43
Dec. 3, 2008	Lexington, VA	32

Public Workshops in January and February 2009

Topic – Forest Plan Components**Purpose**

- Inform people of how the Forest Service has evaluated the discussions to date and putting the information into the Forest Plan components
- Provide a forum to discuss options that should be considered differently than above
- Identify monitoring or guidelines to improve the Plan

Meeting Format

The first meeting in Lexington was done with a 30-40 minute presentation on the Plan Components, followed by small group discussions that focused on topics identified by the public. A handout was provided that summarized the highlights of where we are headed with the revised plan, such as the areas we are seriously considering for wilderness recommendation and the objectives for timber harvest. The group discussions at the first meeting were good but many people wanted to talk about more than two topics. Therefore the second meeting, in Woodstock, used a different format where the presentation was followed by opening up the discussion to questions, answers, comments to the entire group. This format suited the discussions much more and was more appropriate for the place we were at in the revision process.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
Jan. 29, 2009	Lexington, VA	54
Feb. 5, 2009	Woodstock, VA	79

Postponement and Resumption of GW Planning Process

Postponement of GW Planning Process

On June 30, 2009, the 2008 planning rule was enjoined by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (*Citizens for Better Forestry v. United States Department of Agriculture*, No. C 08-1927 CW (N.D. Cal. June 30, 2009)) and the revision of the GWNF Forest Plan was again suspended. The Forest Supervisor posted a letter on its website on July 8, 2009 informing the public of the postponement.

Resumption of GW Planning Process

The Department determined that the 2000 planning rule was back in effect. The 2000 Rule's transition provisions (36 CFR 219.35), amended in 2002 and 2003 and clarified by interpretative rules issued in 2001 and 2004, and reissued on December 18, 2009 [74 FR 67059-67075] allow use of the provisions of the National Forest System land and resource management planning rule in effect prior to the effective date of the 2000 Rule (November 9, 2000), commonly called the 1982 planning rule, to amend or revise plans. The GWNF elected to use the provisions of the 1982 planning rule, including the requirement to prepare an EIS, to complete its plan revision. The Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register on March 10, 2010 [75 FR 11107-11111]. The Notice requested comments on the Forest Plan by May 7, 2010.

On March 7, 2010 the Forest posted a letter to the Internet that the Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Forest Plan had just been published in the Federal Register. The letter also announced public meetings in the following locations:

Monday, April 12, 2010
Valley Elementary School
98 Panther Drive
Hot Springs, VA

Wednesday, April 28, 2010
Woodstock National Guard Armory
541 Hoover Road
Woodstock, VA 22664

Wednesday, April 14, 2010
East Hardy High School
Baker, WV

Thursday, April 29, 2010
Augusta County Government Center
18 Government Lane
Verona, VA

Monday, April 19, 2010
Rockbridge Co. High School
143 Greenhouse Rd.
Lexington, VA 24450

The letter also reiterated the public comment period and identified a number of documents available for review on the GWNF website.

An additional meeting was added on Tuesday, April 27 at the Fairfax County Government Center in Fairfax, Virginia.

Public Workshops in April 2010

Topic – Scoping for the Notice of Intent

Postcards were mailed out to announce the two workshops for the five meetings. The Fairfax meeting was posted on the website.

Purpose

The Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register on March 10, with a 60 day comment period ending May 7, 2010. The purpose of these meetings was to scope issues and potential alternatives for preparation of the EIS.

Meeting Format

The meeting began with a 30-minute powerpoint presentation that described how we are starting the revision again for the third time, this time under the 1982 planning regulations. However, it was stressed that we are not discarding any public input from the past three years. Information regarding preliminary issues and three potential alternatives was presented. These alternatives included the current 1993 Forest Plan, the Need for Change (that was presented at Jan/Fed 2009 meetings), and a Remote Habitats and Access alternative. The presentation was followed by small group discussions that answered two questions:

- 1) What issues would you like to see addressed in the Forest Plan
- 2) How would you like to see that issue addressed in the Forest Plan?

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
April 12, 2010	Hot Springs, VA	25
April 14, 2010	Baker, WV	20
April 19, 2010	Lexington, VA	51
April 27, 2010	Fairfax, VA	44
April 28, 2010	Woodstock, VA	51
April 29, 2010	Verona, VA	53

Public Workshop with Interdisciplinary Team in July 2010

Topic – Alternative Refinement

A notice was posted on the GWNF website on June 18, 2010 announcing a workshop to be held on July 14 in the Supervisor's Office.

Purpose

The purpose of the workshop was to give interested parties the opportunity to review the current list of alternatives and suggest modifications or additions to the alternatives.

Meeting Format

The meeting was conducted as an interactive meeting with the public and the IDT actively engaged in discussion. Twenty-one members of the public attended the meeting and engaged in discussion with the IDT on the alternatives and ways to improve them.

Public Workshop in October 2010

Topic – Alternatives

Postcards were mailed out to announce the workshop to be held on October 5, 2010 at the Augusta County Government Center in Verona, Virginia. The workshop was held from 6:30 until 8:30.

Purpose

The purpose of the workshop was to describe the six alternatives developed for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and to discuss the alternatives and effects analysis with GWNF staff.

Meeting Format

The meeting began with a 30 minute presentation by the Planning Staff Officer about the alternatives. Then there was an hour for attendees to discuss the alternatives and review the alternative maps with GWNF staff. The attendees then broke into groups to discuss the following questions:

You have heard and participated in a number of discussions about how the Forest Plan should address a variety of issues. If you were going to pick an alternative that appropriately balances the varied interests,

- a. What are the key criteria you would use to make your decision?
- b. What are the important benefits or consequences in the six alternatives that are under consideration and how would these affect your decision?

About 77 people attended the workshop.

Public Workshops in June and July 2011

Topic – Comments on Draft Plan and Draft EIS

Letters were mailed out and documents or cd's were sent to those who requested them. The meetings were posted on the website.

Purpose

The Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on June 3, 2011 with a 90 day comment period ending September 1, 2011. The comment period was extended to October 17, 2011. The purpose of these meetings was to present the Draft Plan, answer questions about the Plan and EIS and accept comments on these documents.

Meeting Format

The meeting began with a powerpoint presentation that described the planning process and how the Draft Plan addressed the issues. The presentation was followed by an opportunity to ask questions and to discuss what people would like to see changed from the Draft Plan.

Meeting Date	Meeting Location	Approximate Attendance
July 27, 2011	Hot Springs, VA	42
July 12, 2011	Baker, WV	18
June 30, 2011	Lexington, VA	37
June 20, 2011	Fairfax, VA	35
June 22, 2011	Woodstock, VA	50
July 18, 2011	Verona, VA	109

Topic – Extension of Comment Period

Letters were mailed out and information was posted on the website acknowledging that comments had indicated some errors in the draft documents. These errors were corrected and updated versions were posted on the website. The comment period was extended to October 17, 2011 to allow people to respond to these corrected documents. The extension of the comment period was posted in the Federal Register on August 26, 2011 [76 FR 53453-53454].

Participation in Other Collaborative Efforts

In September 2010 a group of individuals and representatives of various groups interested in management of the Forest began meeting independently to develop recommendations for a preferred alternative. This group became the George Washington National Forest Stakeholder Group. Representatives from the Forest were invited to attend and participated in the following meetings held by the Stakeholders Group.

- September 1, 2010
- September 29, 2010
- February 11, 2011
- March 30, 2011
- May 27, 2011
- June 15, 2011
- June 30, 2011
- February 2, 2012

State and Local Governments & Federal Agency Coordination and Assistance

Federal Agency Coordination and Assistance

Correspondence

Date	From	To	Subject
11/16/06	Forest	VA USFWS	Request for Accuracy of Forest T&E species
11/16/06	Forest	WV USFWS	Request for Accuracy of Forest T&E species
1/4/07	VA USFWS	Forest	List of Forest T&E species accurate
3/14/07	VA USFWS	Forest	At this point, Revised Plan may be to general to conduct Section 7 Consultation
5/9/10	Forest	BLM	Request to be a cooperating agency
5/12/10	Forest	VA USFWS	Restarting revision and request for review of species to consider
5/12/10	Forest	WV USFWS	Restarting revision and request for review of species to consider
5/12/10	USGS	Forest	USGS will assist in providing information for the Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario

Meetings

Date	With	Subject
4/10/06	Shenandoah & Cedar Cr. / Belle Grove NP	Revising the GW Plan
5/25/06	Various State and Federal Agencies (USFWS, WV & VA Heritage, WVDNR, VDGIF)	Introduce the 2005 Planning Regulations
12/6/06	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
3/26/07	VA Department of Forestry	Update on Plan Revision
10/07/07	West Virginia Cooperative Stamp Meeting (WVDNR, Monongahela NF)	Update on Plan Revision
10/18/07	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
10/01/08	West Virginia Cooperative	Update on Plan Revision

Date	With	Subject
	Stamp Meeting (WVDNR, Monongahela NF)	
10/29/08	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
5/13/09	US F&WS	Update on Plan Revision
9/9/09	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
10/27/09	West Virginia Cooperative Stamp Meeting (WVDNR, Monongahela NF)	Update on Plan Revision
9/28/10	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, NRCS, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
7/19/11	WV DNR, VDGIF, VDCR	Update on Draft Plan and ecological analysis

NPS representatives participated in the Woodstock workshop of March 7, 2007.

State Government Coordination and Assistance

Correspondence

Date	From	To	
1/3/07	USFS	VA & WV State Game Agencies	Informal Review of Draft Working Copy of GW Comprehensive Evaluation Report

Meetings

Date	With	Subject
4/17/06	WVDNR & VDGIF	Revising the GW Plan
5/25/06	Various State and Federal Agencies (USFWS, WV & VA Heritage, WVDNR, VDGIF)	Introduce the 2005 Planning Regulations
12/6/2006	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
12/14/06	WVDNR	Introduce Agency to Draft CER
1/22/07	VDGIF	Introduce Agency to Draft CER
10/07/07	West Virginia Cooperative Stamp Meeting (WVDNR, Monongahela NF)	Update on Plan Revision
10/18/07	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
8/27/08	VA Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries	Update on Plan Revision
9/10/08	VDGIF and VDNH	Update on the Plan Revision process
10/01/08	West Virginia Cooperative Stamp Meeting (WVDNR, Monongahela NF)	Update on Plan Revision
10/29/08	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision
11/07/08	VA Natural Heritage Program	Special Biological Areas
9/9/09	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, VT)	Update on Plan Revision

Date	With	Subject
10/27/09	West Virginia Cooperative Stamp Meeting (WVDNR, Monongahela NF)	Update on Plan Revision
6/23/10	VDGIF	Review of ecological sustainability analysis
6/24/10	WVDNR	Review of ecological sustainability analysis
9/28/10	Virginia Partners (USFWS, Shenandoah NP, VDGIF, VDOF, VDCR, NRCS, VT	Update on Plan Revision

VDGIF and WV DNR representatives participated in many of the public workshops, as did VA DOF personnel.

Local Government Coordination and Assistance

Correspondence

Date	From	To	Subject
6/22/05	USFS	Var. Cty Planning Districts	
8/2/05	USFS	Var. County Planning Dept	Request for County Master Plans, Land Use Maps
8/4/05	Page County	USFS	Response to Request for County Master Plan
8/15/05	Shenandoah Cty	USFS	Response to Request for County Master Plan

Meetings

Date	With	Subject
9/22/08	Augusta County Board of Supervisors	Update on the Planning Process
10/08/08	Amherst County Planning Director	Update on the Planning Process
10/08/08	Nelson County Administrator and Planning Director	Update on the Planning Process
10/09/08	Alleghany County Administrator	Update on the Planning Process
11/3/08	Page County Planner	Update on the Planning Process
11/6/08	Shenandoah County Property and Public Works Committee	Update on the Planning Process
10/8/08	Rockingham County Board of Supervisors	Update on the Planning Process
12/2/08	Hardy County planner and a member of the County Commission	Update on the Planning Process
1/26/09	Bath County Planning Commission	Update on the Planning Process
2/10/09	Bath County Board of Supervisors	Update on the Planning Process
1/29/09	Rockbridge County Planner and Administrator	Update on the Planning Process
4/13/09	Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors	Update on the Planning Process
6/22/09	Bath County Planning Commission	Update on potential wilderness
6/22/09	Augusta County Administrator	Update on potential wilderness
5/22/09	Rockbridge County Administrator	Answer questions about wilderness
7/27/09	Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors	Answer questions about wilderness
5/31/11	Augusta County Administrator	Update on Draft Plan
6/1/11	Rockingham County Administrator	Update on Draft Plan
6/4/11	Bath County Board of Supervisors	Update on Draft Plan
8/18/11	Shenandoah County Administrator	Update on Draft Plan

Representatives of various counties, including planners and members of the Board of Supervisors, participated in the public workshops either held in their counties or near their counties. For example, representatives from Augusta and Botetourt Counties participated in the Lexington meeting of March 6, 2007.

Tribal Government Consultation

The Eastern Band of Cherokee and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma were contacted through mailings of post cards about the March 2007 meetings.

Furthermore, the Forest was contacted by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Eastern Band of Cherokee in February 2007 that the George Washington National Forest was not in the Cherokee's aboriginal territory and that the tribe no longer needed to be consulted for projects or activities on the GWNF.

The following eight Virginia-recognized tribes were contacted through mailings of post cards about the March 2007 meetings. The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians and the Virginia Council on Indians were also contacted.

Virginia-Recognized Tribes

Chickahominy Tribe
Eastern Chickahominy Tribe
Mattaponi Tribe
Monacan Indian Nation
Nansemond Tribe
Pamunkey Tribe
Rappahannock Tribe
Upper Mattaponi Tribe

Letters were sent on October 20, 2010 to the Virginia Council on Indians, the Eastern Shawnee, the Shawnee Tribe and the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians in Oklahoma inviting them to participate in the forest plan revision.

Official Public Notification

Federal Register and Newspaper of Record Notifications

Required Notices	Federal Register Publication Date
Initiation of Plan Revision	2/15/07
Notice of Readjustment and Resumption	6/24/08
Notice of Intent	3/10/10
Notice of Availability of Environmental Impact Statement	6/3/11
Notice of Extension of Comment Period	8/26/11

Presentations to Organizations

An overview of the Revision process and timelines was presented to representatives of various environmental groups, including, Wildlaw, Southern Environmental Law Center, Virginia Wilderness Committee, Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition, Virginia Forest Watch, Wild Virginia, and the Sierra Club.

Date	From	To	Subject
2/7/07	Planning Staff Officer	Various Environ. Groups	Revision Process and Timeline
2/16/07	Planning Staff Officer	Virginia Chapter of The Wildlife Society	Plan Revision Update
2/24/07	Planning Staff Officer	Virginia Council Trout Unlimited	
3/31/07	Planning Staff Officer	Virginia Loggers Association	
9/10/08	Planning Staff Officer, Forest Planner	Various wilderness-interest groups	Question and answer regarding Potential Wilderness Areas at their request
12/10/08	Planning Staff Officer	Regional Water Resources Policy Committee	Drinking water protection
3/12/09	Planning Staff Officer	Various Groups in northern Virginia – held in Arlington, VA	Plan Revision, summary of recent meetings
11/17/11	Planning Staff Officer	Waynesboro Game and Fish Protective Association	Update on Draft Plan
5/9/12	Planning Staff Officer	Middlebrook Ruritan Club	Update of Draft Plan

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