



Cibola National Forest Mountain Ranger Districts

How to Comment



The Cibola National Forest Mountain Ranger Districts is releasing two sets of documents related to plan revision during July 2015: Draft Forest-wide Ecological and Socioeconomic Desired Conditions and Inventory and Evaluation Process of Lands that may be Suitable for Inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System. These documents (and their associated comment forms) are available on the Plan Revision website (http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/cibola/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev3_065627)

Draft Forest-wide Ecological and Socioeconomic Desired Conditions

This document contains draft desired conditions as well as vision statements crafted by each of the landscape teams. Desired conditions describe the specific social, economic, and/or ecological characteristics that are desired for the plan area, or a portion of the plan area. These are described in enough detail to gauge progress toward their achievement. All management activities should be aimed at achieving the desired condition. Desired conditions can be thought of as the set of goals that in part help define a collective vision for the National Forest in the future. Please let us know what you would like to see added or changed in the Draft Forest-wide Ecological and Socioeconomic Desired Conditions or Landscape Area Vision Statements.

Inventory and Evaluation of Lands that may be Suitable for Inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System

The 2012 National Forest System Land Management Planning Rule 36 CFR 219 §219.7(c)2(v) requires that, during forest plan revision, the Forest responsible official (Forest Supervisor) shall: identify and evaluate lands that may be suitable for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) and determine whether to recommend any such lands for wilderness designation to the Chief of the Forest Service. The Cibola is currently undergoing plan revision, and must consider areas that may be suitable for wilderness. The Inventory and Evaluation of Lands that may be Suitable for Inclusion in the NWPS document describes the process used to develop the Phase 1 inventory of Lands that may be Suitable for Inclusion in the NWPS, the public collaboration that occurred during fall and winter of 2014, and the process and criteria used to develop the Phase 2 Inventory of Lands that may be Suitable for Inclusion in the NWPS. This document has several appendices which include the Substantially Noticeable Definition Matrix, Detailed Phase 2 Inventory Results, and Evaluation Criteria Definition Matrix.

Please use the comment form available in Inventory and Evaluation of Lands that may be Suitable for Inclusion in the NWPS, Appendix C: Evaluation Criteria Matrix to comment on individual areas from the Phase 2 Inventory Maps. The criteria on the form will help Cibola staff evaluate the wilderness characteristics of each area on the Phase 2 Inventory maps. Those who believe that lands not carried forward from the Phase 1 Inventory maps to Phase 2 Inventory maps should also be evaluated, please describe your reasons and proceed with evaluating those lands with the criteria in Appendix C, as you would do for the lands included in the Phase 2 Inventory. Please use the Appendix C evaluation comment form to comment on individual areas from the Phase 2 Inventory maps. If your comment is not addressed in the "considerations" column of each criterion, please include additional information in the "other" narrative section.



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Go to <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?project=46268> to upload a comment form or create a comment letter.

If you prefer to use postal mail to deliver a hard-copy comment form or letter, please send to:

Forest Planner
Cibola National Forest and National Grasslands
2113 Osuna Rd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113

Comments can also be made in the following ways:

- Public meetings
- Field trips with your local Landscape Teams.
- Using the Talking Points Collaborative Mapping (TPCM) tool available here: <https://my.usgs.gov/ppgis/studio/launch/39829>. This tool is available online and for public use at the Cibola National Forest Ranger District Offices. An ARCGIS online Story Map tool provides additional mapping detail, complementing the information presented in the TPCM. The tool is located at: <http://r3fpr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=905dcda6030748139b892907a555857d>
- Comment forms provided at public meetings and available at the Cibola National Forest website and Ranger Districts.
- Hard copy maps will be available at public meetings and at the Ranger Districts.
- Emailing comments-southwestern-Cibola@fs.fed.us with comments.

Comments on the Draft Forest-wide Ecological and Socioeconomic Desired Conditions and Phase 2 Inventory and the evaluation of those areas will be most helpful in the evaluation step if received by **September 25th**.

If you submitted comments on the inventory maps during the Phase 1 inventory comment period (September 9-November 21, 2014), you do not have to submit them again, as these comments have been captured. However, additional comments that address the evaluation criteria and areas being evaluated are welcome and encouraged.

Your comment will be used to develop the draft proposed plan and the range of alternatives, including a range of lands that may be suitable in NWPS. This will be released this Fall or Winter 2015.