Cibola National Forest Mountain Districts Plan Revision

Anatomy of a Final Forest Plan

This diagram shows the contents of a **Final Forest Plan.**

Chapter 1: Introduction

Plan Area & Background

Brief description of the area and map and purpose, development, and organization.

Roles & Contributions

Describes distinctive roles & contributions of plan area, describes brief 'niche' for each geographic area, and serves as collective 'vision' of the future.

Chapter 2: Forest-wide Desired Conditions & Strategies

Desired Conditions

Describes the social, economic, and/or ecological characteristics for the plan area.

GOALS

Objectives

Measurable and time-specific statements of desired rate of progress toward the Desired Conditions.

MILEPOSTS

Standards

Rules to operate within when developing projects to accomplish Objectives and move to Desired Conditions.

CONSTRAINTS

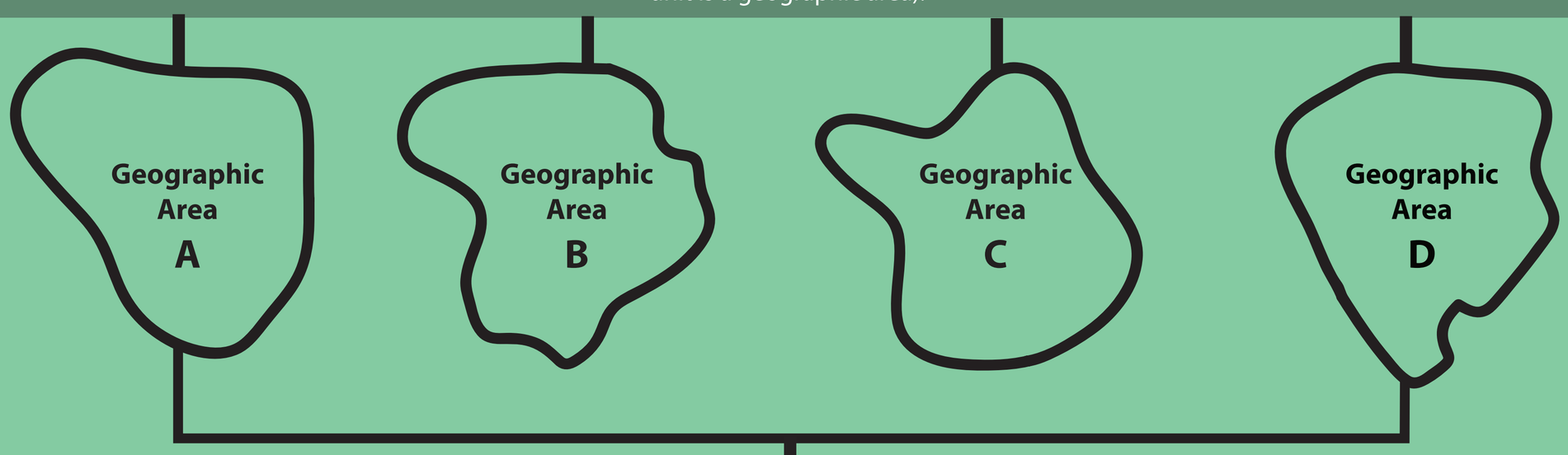
Guidelines

Design criteria or constraints on projects and activities.

DESIGN CRITERIA

Chapters 3-6: Geographic Areas & Management Area Desired Conditions & Strategies

These areas are delineated to provide specific management direction that differs from forest-wide direction (example: the Sandia mountains unit is a geographic area).



Other Plan Content

Chapter 7: Suitability

Lands identified as suitable or not suitable for various multiple uses or activities based on the desired conditions.

Chapter 8: Monitoring

Monitoring information would help the responsible official determine if a change in plan content may be needed.

Management Approaches

These are optional tools that would offer approaches and strategies to achieve Desired Conditions.

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Road Map for Forest Plan Revision

This road map shows how we will arrive at a **Final Forest Plan.**

PUBLIC COLLABORATION, INPUT, & COMMENTS

Initial Public Outreach — FALL 2012

Assessment — SPRING 2014

Phase 1 inventory of lands that may be suitable for wilderness — SUMMER 2014

Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) & Needs for Change — SPRING 2015

Develop Forest-wide Desired Conditions

Phase 2 inventory & evaluation of lands that may be suitable for wilderness — SUMMER 2015

Develop Draft Forest Plan & Alternatives

Alternatives
Desired Conditions
Roles & Contributions
Objectives
Standards Guidelines
Geographic Areas
Suitability
Monitoring
Management Approaches

Evaluation and analysis of lands that may be suitable for wilderness — FALL 2015

Release Draft Forest Plan & Alternatives
Comment period

Review Comments on Draft Forest Plan & Alternatives

Prepare Draft EIS — WINTER 2015

90 Day Public Review of Draft Forest Plan & Draft EIS — SUMMER 2016

Final Forest Plan, Final EIS, & Draft Record of Decision
Objection period: 60 days — FALL/WINTER 2016

Final Forest Plan, Final EIS, & Final Record of Decision
Including any recommendation of suitable wilderness to Congress. — SPRING/SUMMER 2017

Implement — 2017 & BEYOND

Color Legend

- **Informs Plan Development**
- **Draft Forest Plan Development**
- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analysis**
- **Implementation**

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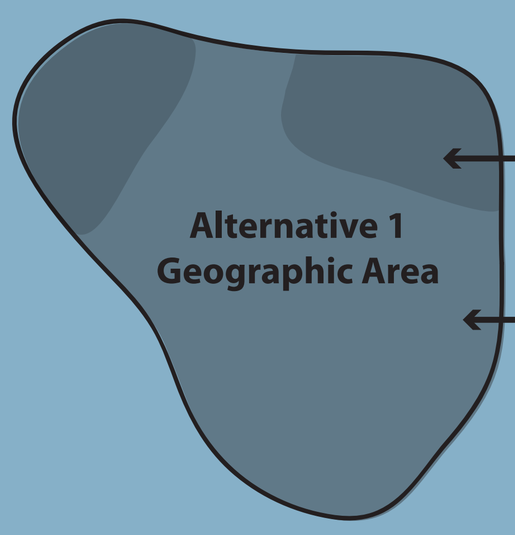
What is an Alternative?

During the Forest Plan Revision process, multiple alternative plans would be developed to represent a range of different scenarios, trade-offs, and effects. These alternatives would be considered and analyzed during the Forest Plan Revision process, with collaboration from the public. A Final Plan would then be chosen representing the social, economic, and environmental sustainability of resources on the National Forest. The diagram below illustrates how different alternatives could look using the example of one hypothetical Geographic Area.

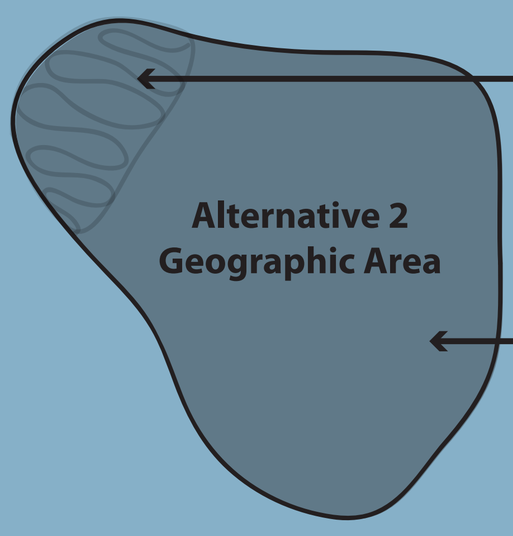
Draft Forest Plan Alternatives



Alternative with Recommended Wilderness

Two areas could be considered as a recommended wilderness, with very high values for scenery and primitive types of recreation

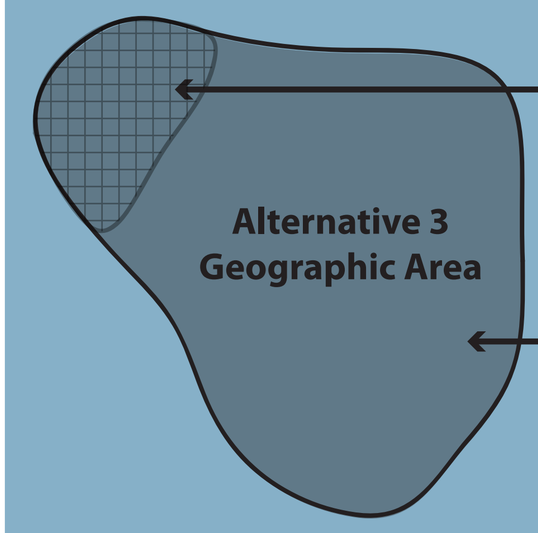
Majority of Geographic Area could be managed for a variety of resources and suitable uses, such as emphasis on high level of restoration, with varying levels of scenic integrity and recreation settings.



Alternative with Designated Special Areas

One area could be managed as a Designated Special Area with special purposes to maintain its special character. Examples of these are research natural areas or national historic trails. These require additional levels of review and are approved at Regional and Washington Office levels.

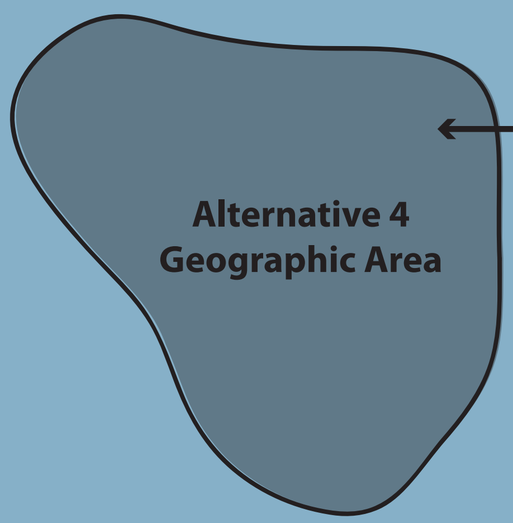
Majority of Geographic Area could be managed for a variety of resources and suitable uses, such as emphasis on mining, grazing, moderate levels of restoration, with varying levels of scenic integrity and recreation settings.



Alternative with Management Areas Managed for Unique Features

One area could be a management area managed for its unique features. An example of this could be an area that has unique vegetation, limited water, and highly valued cultural and traditional uses. These areas are approved by the Forest Supervisor.

Majority of Geographic Area could be managed for a variety of resources and suitable uses, such as emphasis on recreation and wildlife habitats, with varying levels of scenic integrity and recreation settings.



Alternative with No Management Areas

Geographic Area could be managed for a variety of resources and suitable uses, such as a mix of restoration, mining, grazing, recreation, wildlife habitat, with varying levels of scenic integrity and recreation settings.

Final Forest Plan

May include elements of any or all plan alternatives.

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What is a Landscape Team?

- The Cibola National Forest has engaged with cooperating agencies to co-convene and co-host the public process to collaborate on developing land management plan direction.

- Cooperating agencies include representatives from tribes, land grants, city, county, and state governments, soil and water conservation districts, and other federal agencies.

- These cooperating agencies have formed Landscape Teams organized around the four mountain landscapes associated with the Cibola (Mt. Taylor, Magdalena, Mountainair and Sandia Ranger Districts).

- The organization of the Landscape Teams promotes holistic landscape views of areas, not administrative boundaries.

- Each cooperating agency has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be a part of the Landscape Teams.

- These Landscape Teams are working together and strategizing a process for engaging diverse interests of the public in the revision of the Cibola Forest Plan. The Landscape Teams are co-convening and co-hosting public meetings and field trips with the Forest Service.

- This collaborative process is assisting the Cibola in developing desired conditions and other plan direction, defining management areas, and identifying and evaluating lands that may be suitable for wilderness consideration.

Landscape Teams Points of Contact

Mt. Taylor:
Larry Winn
(505) 879-3410
larry2747@outlook.com

Magdalena:
RuthAnn Harriet
(575) 772-5722 x101
ruthann.harriet@nm.nacdnet.net

Mountainair:
Dierdre L. Tarr
(505) 847-2243
deetarr@yahoo.com

Sandia:
Brenda Smythe
(505) 832-1111
bsmythe.eswcd@gmail.com

Additional information on cooperating agencies can be found at:
http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nepa/includes/coopagencyguidance.pdf

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