

WMNF Administrative Correction 7

Administrative corrections, as defined at 36 CFR 219.31(b), may be made at any time, are not plan amendments or revisions, and do not require public notice or the preparation of an environmental document under Forest Service National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures. Administrative corrections include the following:

- Corrections and updates of data and maps,
- Updates to activity lists and schedules as required by 219.30(d)(1)-(6).
- Corrections of typographical errors or other non-substantive changes, and
- Changes in the monitoring methods other than those required in a monitoring strategy (§219.11(c)).

Background

Monitoring is one of the essential elements of a Forest Plan. The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) identifies some specific monitoring requirements, such as stocking success after harvest. Other types of monitoring may be required by a Forest Plan to ensure that Forest Plan direction is implemented properly and that the Forest Service will know if changes to the Plan or our management are necessary.

In the WMNF Forest Plan, monitoring topics required by the Forest Plan is described at the bottom of page 4-9 and in Table 4-05. The paragraph on page 4-9 was intended to explain the goals of this monitoring and why it is necessary. Some of the wording used was convoluted or redundant and resulted in the public and Forest Service employees being uncertain what we will monitor and why. This correction clarifies the language without changing the intent.

Corrections

Page 4-9, last paragraph:

- Currently reads:

General Monitoring Requirements

The general requirements for Forest Plan monitoring pertain to the implementation and effectiveness of Forest Plan management direction. The following provisions apply. These monitoring and evaluation requirements will provide a basis for a periodic determination of the effects of management practices. Implementation shall be evaluated on a sample basis to determine how well objectives have been met and how closely management standards and guidelines have been applied. Much

of this implementation monitoring will be done at the project level, with Forest-wide reporting to track overall Plan implementation. Monitoring requirements identified in the Forest Plan shall provide for documentation of the measured prescriptions and effects, including significant changes in productivity of the land.

- Corrected to read:

General Monitoring Requirements

These monitoring items, identified in Table 4-05, are necessary to confirm that Forest Plan management direction is being implemented and that the effects are as expected. Implementation shall be evaluated annually on a sample basis to determine how well objectives are being met and whether management standards and guidelines are being applied appropriately. Much of this implementation monitoring will be done at the project level, with Forest-wide reporting to track overall Plan implementation. Monitoring also will be conducted to document the effects of prescribed management actions, including whether there are significant changes in productivity of the land.

Corrected page is attached.

The regulations do not require MIS monitoring on every project, but the Forest-wide effects of projects on MIS populations and habitat must be periodically evaluated (Table 4-04). Additional monitoring items and protocols specific to MIS populations on the White Mountain National Forest will be provided in the Monitoring Guide.

Table 4-04. MIS Monitoring – Implementation and Effectiveness.

MIS Conservation Strategy	Monitoring Questions	Spatial Scale Measurement	Frequency of Evaluation	Time of Reliability
Monitor Forest Plan management direction (goals, objectives, standards/guidelines) that affect: 1) amount and quality of habitats and 2) trends in populations for each MIS.	a) How has the amount and quality of habitat changed relative to the changes projected?	Forest-wide	5 years	5 years
	b) Are population trends of the MIS consistent with those projected under the Plan?	Forest-wide	5 years	5 years
	c) What is the relationship between trends in habitat and populations?	Forest-wide	5 years	5 years

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