

Effective Date

The Revised Forest Plan will become effective 30 days from the date that the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability of the FEIS appears in the *Federal Register*.

Appeal Information

For plan revisions conducted under the "1982 planning regulations", the responsible official can elect to use either the "Optional Procedures Available during the Planning Rule Transition Period" (the former 36 CFR 217 appeal procedures that were in effect prior to November 9, 2000) or the Objection procedures of 36 CFR 219.32 from the 2000 planning rule (see Appendix A to 36 CFR 219.35 [*Federal Register*, December 18, 2009]). For this decision, I have decided to use the "Optional Appeal Procedures".

A written notice of appeal must be filed in duplicate and postmarked or received within 90 days after the date the legal notice of this decision is published in the newspaper of record (*Montgomery Herald*). The appeal must clearly state that it is a Notice of Appeal being filed pursuant to the Optional Appeal Procedures. Appeals must meet the content requirements of Section 9 of the Optional Appeal Procedures, which are available for review at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/applit/includes/PlanAppealProceduresDuringTransition.pdf>

Appeals must be filed with the Chief of the Forest Service at: Express Mail:

USDA - Forest Service
Attn: EMC, Appeals
Yates Bldg., 3CEN
201 14th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20250

(Note: If a phone number is needed for carrier delivery, use 202-205-0895)

Regular Mail:

USDA - Forest Service
Attn: EMC, Appeals
Mail Stop 1104
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-1104

Appeals may also be mailed electronically in a common digital format to:
appeals-chief@fs.fed.us.

Requests to stay the approval of this Revised Forest Plan shall not be granted (Section 10 of the Optional Appeal Procedures).

Final decisions on proposed projects implementing the Revised Forest Plan will be made on a site-specific basis using appropriate analysis and documentation in compliance with NEPA. Project decisions may be subject to appeal or an objection process at that time.

Recommendations for designations such as additions to the National Wilderness or National Wild and Scenic River System are preliminary administrative recommendations that will receive further review and possible modification by the Chief of the Forest Service, the Secretary of Agriculture, and/or the President of the United States. The Congress has reserved the authority to make final decisions on wilderness and wild and scenic river designations on federal lands; therefore, wilderness and wild and scenic river recommendations in the Revised Forest Plan are not appealable under the agency's administrative appeal procedures (Section 4 of the Optional Appeal Procedures).

Contact Information For additional information concerning this decision or the Forest Service appeal process, contact:

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