

# **Sierra National Forest Plan Revision Collaboration and Communication Plan**

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## 1) Introduction

Each National Forest and Grassland in the United States is governed by a Land Management Plan (Forest Plan) in accordance with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). Forest Plans set desired conditions, standards, and guidelines for management, protection, and use of the Forest. Monitoring conditions ensures projects are done in accordance with Forest Plan direction and determines effects that might require a change in the Forest Plan.

The Sierra National Forest's current Forest Plan was signed in 1992. Since that time much has changed about the management of National Forest resources. For example there are numerous social changes, as well as new scientific studies and analyses available to guide management.

In 2012, the US Forest Service released a new planning rule. Eight National Forests were selected to be the first to implement the new rule and revise their Forest Plans. In February 2012, the Sierra National Forest (SNF) was selected as one of three "Early Adopter" forests in California. A revised Forest Plan for SNF will incorporate changed conditions, the best available science, and new public issues.

A Forest Plan is a collaboratively developed and is science-based framework for integrated resource management and for guiding project and activity decision-making. It does not authorize projects or activities or commit the Forest Service to take action, or, regulate uses by the public. In other words, no site-specific decisions will be made in a Forest Plan. A Forest Plan should not repeat laws, regulations or program management policies, practices, and procedures that are in the Forest Service Directive System.

Forest plans include the following components:

- **Desired conditions** – A description of specific social, economic, and/or ecological characteristics of the plan area, or a portion of the plan area, that are described in terms specific enough to allow progress toward their achievement. Desired conditions are what drive the plan. All management activities should be aimed at the achievement of the desired condition for those resources in the area where the project is located. Desired conditions can be thought of as goals that in part help define a collective vision for the National Forest in the future.
- **Objectives** – An objective is a concise, measurable, and time-specific statement of a desired rate of progress toward a desired condition or conditions and should be based on reasonably foreseeable budgets. Objectives, along with the strategies used to accomplish them, can be thought of as the tools we will use to reach the desired conditions. Objectives are mileposts along the road toward desired conditions.

- **Standards** – These can be thought of as the rules the Forest will operate within as we develop projects to accomplish objectives and move closer to the realization of desired conditions. These are mandatory constraints on project and activity decision-making.
- **Guidelines** – Describe a constraint on project and activity decision-making that allows for departure from its terms, so long as the intent of the guideline is met. In other words guidelines are mandatory unless they are replaced by something that is equal to or better than the existing guideline.
- **Suitability of lands** – Specific lands within a plan area identified as suitable for various multiple uses or activities based on the desired conditions applicable to those lands. The plan also identifies lands within the plan area as not suitable for uses that are not compatible with desired conditions for those lands. Every plan must identify those lands that are not suitable for timber production (required by NFMA).

The Forest seeks to continue working with partners and neighbors toward improving forest health and resiliency, supporting jobs and providing multiple uses and ecosystem services. The Forest has strong relationships with local communities, volunteer and stewardship groups, local elected officials, local, state, and federal governmental agencies, and representatives of diverse public interests in the forest.

## 2) Purpose

The purpose of the Communication and Collaboration Plan:

- Provide clear, consistent, and easily implementable guidance for Forest staff to involve the interested public, California Native American Tribes, public agencies, and elected officials in the Forest Plan revision process.
- Identify specific activities and communication tools that Forest staff will use to provide information, solicit input, engage in dialogue to understand issues and consider solutions that balance a variety of needs, and respond to input on forest planning from the public, tribes, and agencies.

The annual Activities Schedule (section 14 below covers the Detailed 2012-2013 Activity Schedule), and the Collaboration and Communication Plan in general, will be reviewed and revised at minimum once a year.

### **3) About the Development of This Plan**

Starting in the summer of 2012, the Center for Collaborative Policy, California State University Sacramento (CCP), supported the Sierra National Forest (SNF) in developing this Collaboration and Communication Plan, as part of the larger SNF forest plan revision process. CCP conducted informational interviews with 20 diverse individuals that are actively involved with SNF on a regular basis, to better understand the issues they care about and to obtain their recommendations to SNF about how best to involve them and their networks. This included people who work on issues associated with campgrounds, homeowners, motorized and non-motorized recreation, the environment, forest products, and fire protection. CCP also interviewed 12 California Native Americans, representing nine California Native American Tribes and two tribal organizations. The purpose was the same: to better understand tribal concerns and recommendations about tribal participation. The Central California Consortium also held a youth workshop in November that introduced the forest plan revision process to youth. The Consortium advised the Center on how to best reach and involve diverse youth. CCP summarized for SNF the policy and management issues and the recommended public participation methods that interviewees and tribes and youth identified. These recommended participation methods formed the foundation of this plan. CCP then worked with the Forest to develop strong interconnections between the substantive planning that is needed and the most effective methods for engaging diverse audiences in the revision process as a whole. The result is a wide-ranging yet integrated set of collaboration and communication activities, purposely designed and sequenced to support public participation in the development of a revised forest plan.

## 4) Public Participation and Collaboration

The goal of Sierra National Forest’s plan revision process is to develop a forest plan that is responsive to those who are affected by or have an interest in the management of the national forests, consistent with legal mandates. The Planning Rule requires Sierra National Forest to provide meaningful opportunities for public participation throughout the plan revision process (36 CFR § 219.4). The Planning Rule defines a collaborative process as a structured manner in which a collection of people with diverse interests share knowledge, ideas, and resources while working together in an inclusive and cooperative manner toward a common purpose (36 CFR § 219.19).

As part of a collaborative process, Sierra National Forest will engage people who participate in the plan revision process (“participants”) through a spectrum of public participation methods. The Forest will determine which methods are the most appropriate depending on the phase of planning, work product being developed, budget, and staff capacity. Public participation methods identified in the Planning Rule include informing, consulting, involving, and collaborating, as described here:

- **Informing** – The Forest will provide participants and the general public with balanced and objective information, and assist them in understanding work products prepared as part of the planning process.
- **Consulting** – The Forest will obtain participants’ feedback on draft work products at various points in the planning process.
- **Involving** – The Forest will work directly with participants to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered in the development of work products.
- **Collaborating** – The Forest will work directly with participants in preparing to make decisions at various points within the planning process, including (but not limited to) the development of alternatives and the identification of a preferred alternative. The Forest will create opportunities for dialogue to explore different perspectives, balance a variety of needs, and identify areas of common ground that can inform draft work products

Work products may include, for example, information on legal and regulatory requirements and the planning process; lists of available scientific information; summaries of trends in

forest conditions and drivers of forest change; and alternatives for analysis.

In addition to this public participation, the Forest will also meet additional consultation requirements such as government-to-government Tribal consultation, cooperating agency agreements, and the formal public input process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Forest will integrate concerns and recommendations from all these channels into Forest Plan Revision.

## 5) National Environmental Policy Act

The revision process will include completion of the National Environmental Policy Act environmental review process. The formal NEPA review process will be coordinated with additional opportunities for public participation, beginning with the Assessment process (prior to NEPA), and continuing through the Need for Change, Desired Conditions, Alternatives Development, Analysis and Decision. Individuals will have the opportunity to participate in the formal scoping, comment period and the objection process. The Forest Supervisor issues the final Decision on the Forest Plan.

Participating in public planning meetings does not limit anyone's activity during the NEPA process. Individuals who contribute during collaborative planning workshops can participate in the NEPA process, including submitting formal comments or challenging decisions.

## 6) Decision Making

Members of the public and tribes will provide input to the Forest regarding their concerns and recommendations. Where possible, the Forest will encourage people to provide suggestions that balance the various interests involved in the Forest Service's mission. (The mission of the Forest Service is to achieve quality land management under the sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of people.) **The Forest Supervisor is the responsible official who will make the final decision regarding what is included in the revised Forest Plan.**

## 7) Roles and Responsibilities

The **Forest Supervisor** will oversee the planning process for the Forest and is responsible for developing and making the final decision on a revised Forest Plan and Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with the Planning Rule. The Supervisor will provide Forest, regional, and national perspective on issues and policies affecting the Forest.

The **Forest Planner** will provide Forest-level coordination and communication with the Forest Supervisor, Forest staff, Regional Office staff, and participants in the plan revision process.

The **Forest Public Affairs Officer (PAO)** will work with Forest staff, and participants in the plan revision process to provide information and opportunities to contribute during the planning process. The PAO serves as the primary point of contact for the public and media, and prepares corresponding communication materials. The PAO is responsible for ensuring that plan revision meetings are publicly noticed and materials made available at least one week in advance via the Sierra National Forest website.

The **Forest Tribal Liaison** ensures that tribes are aware of the planning process and opportunities for consultation and input.

**Forest Staff** listen to, document, and respond as appropriate to concerns and recommendations provided by the public, agencies, and tribes. This includes engaging in dialogue as appropriate so that all parties can work together to understand issues and consider solutions that balance a variety of needs. Staff develops plan revision meeting materials in coordination with Regional Office specialists sufficiently far in advance to be made available at least one week ahead of plan revision meetings.

The **Regional Planning Team** acquires required information and documentation for development of bioregional and forest assessments, and writes the bioregional and forest assessments under the direction of the Region 5 Forest Plan Steering Committee (which oversees the regional revision process) and in consultation with regional and forest specialists and stakeholders. The team includes an ecologist, economist, social scientist, regional planner, regional analyst, and writer/editor.

**Members of the public, public agencies, and elected officials** participate in the public planning meetings and provide input and recommendations to the Forest, and engage in dialogue as appropriate so that all parties can work together to understand issues and consider solutions that balance a variety of needs.

**California Native American Tribes** participate in formal consultation meetings with the Forest and also provide input and recommendations to the Forest through collaborative planning workshops and other public input opportunities. This includes engaging in

dialogue as appropriate so that all parties can work together to understand issues and consider solutions that balance a variety of needs.

**Facilitators** ensure a fair and transparent process of public input and collaboration. Facilitators manage dialogue between agencies, the public, tribes, and the Forest to ensure balanced participation, enhance mutual understanding, and encourage the development of inclusive solutions.

**Coordinating public agencies** help to identify parallel planning initiatives and potential opportunities for coordinating efforts, as well as areas where plans or policies may differ.

**Communication partners** include different coalitions, associations, and groups that will be asked by the Forest to help with distributing public information about the plan revision process, the availability of associated materials, and associated opportunities for public participation.

## 8) Areas of Interest, and Corresponding Audiences and Participants

The Forest seeks input on the following topics, listed alphabetically.

- Air quality
- Business and local economic development
- Cultural resources
- Disadvantaged communities
- Environmental, ecology, and wildlife
- Fire safety and protection
- Forestry industry, including biomass processing
- Hydropower
- Minerals and grazing
- Recreation
  - Dispersed:* including but not limited to angling, birdwatching, boating, equestrian, hiking and backpacking, hunting mountain biking, motorized recreation, and rock climbing
  - Developed:* including campgrounds, pack stations, resorts, tourism, youth outdoor programs, and other related businesses

The Forest will reach out to and communicate regularly with audiences who have an interest in these topics, and provide different ways for them to get involved in the plan revision process. Audiences include but are not limited to those that follow, and are listed alphabetically. Individuals interested in participating will be able to choose how they want to be involved, based on the opportunities for participation that are explained in sections 11, 12, and 13 below.

- California Native American Tribes, including federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes
- Chambers of commerce for adjacent areas and the counties
- Federal, state, and local government, including land management and resource agencies
- Fire Safe Councils operating in the forest
- Grazing permittees operating in the forest
- Landowners with property in or adjacent to the forest
- Local residents and communities
- Mining permittees operating in the forest
- Non-government and not-for-profit organizations
- Racial and ethnic communities that recreate in or otherwise value the forest
- Recreational enthusiasts, both local and distant
- Recreational providers and permittees

- Scientists and researchers with experience or interests in the forest
- Utility companies with infrastructure that is within or passes through the forest
- Youth that recreate in or otherwise value the forest

## 9) Meeting Participation Guidelines

To ensure productive discussions, participants in public planning meetings and webinars will be asked to adhere to the following meeting participation guidelines.

- **Use common conversational courtesy** – Avoid third-party conversations at the table, do not interrupt others.
- **Be comfortable** – Please help yourself to refreshments or take personal breaks. If you have other needs, please inform the meeting organizer.
- **Honor time and share the air** – Help everyone stay on track and on time, and achieve the meeting goals. Stay aware of the balance between how much other people are speaking and you are speaking.
- **Be honest and candid while treating each other with respect** – Help everyone to clearly understand your comment. And recognize that everyone cares about the forest, brings different experiences, expertise, and insights to the conversation, and deserves respect.
- **All Ideas and Points of View Have Value** – All ideas have value in this setting. If you hear someone else say something that you do not agree with, that's okay. The goal is to better understand each other and better communicate.
- **Avoid Editorials** – It will be tempting to analyze the motives of others or pass judgment on their actions. Please talk about YOUR ideas and recommendations.
- **Humor is welcome** – It just should not be at another person's expense.
- **Think Innovatively and Welcome New Ideas** – Creative thinking and problem solving are welcome when the situation calls for it.

## 10) Public Participation Process Agreements

This section describes the principles and best practices that the Forest will use in the plan revision process.

- All public planning meetings are open to the public.
- All public planning meeting materials and notes will be made available to the public on the Sierra National Forest website. Hard copies will also be provided for in-person public meetings. The Forest Service Region 5 Office website, Our Forest Place, will complement the Sierra National Forest website by posting key materials and directing members of the public to that site, and hosting additional services that are developed to support the plan revision process.
- As standard practice, comments will be accepted on public meeting materials for one month after their posting. So, for example, if a draft document is posted on March 1, the public will have until April 1 to comment on this material, regardless of when associated public planning meetings are held.
- Draft public meeting agendas will be posted to the Sierra National Forest website at least 10 days in advance for public noticing.
- Participating in public planning meetings does not limit anyone's activity during the NEPA process. Individuals who contribute during collaborative planning workshops can participate in the NEPA process, including submitting formal comments or challenging decisions.
- The Forest will provide hard copies of draft documents to individuals who indicate this desire on the Sierra National Forest website.

The Forest seeks information from individuals, and may ask an individual whether they agree with a recommendation. However, given federal restrictions on the use of formal advisory bodies, the Forest Service will not ask a group as a whole whether consensus exists.

## 11) Overview of Communication Tools and Public Participation Opportunities

This table summarizes the communication tools that Sierra National Forest will use to keep people informed during the plan revision process, and opportunities for public participation and commenting that the Forest will provide.

Table 1. Communication Tools and Public Participation Opportunities

Tool and/or Venue	Brief Description
<b>General Information Distribution</b>	
Sierra National Forest website posting	Central location for information updates on planning steps, public meetings announcements, draft documents, and other activities and materials. Additional updates as needed.
Email announcements and social media	Used to distribute the same information that is posted on the website, and/or alert people that new information is available on the website.
General information materials	This may include materials such as a plan revision process brochure, frequently-asked questions, and topical fact sheets.
Press and media materials	Periodic press releases and media advisories tied to collaboration and communication activities.
Hard copy distribution of planning documents	Mailing of draft and final planning documents to individuals who sign up on website hard copy mailing list. Materials will correspond to planning milestones and the NEPA schedule.
<b>General Public Participation</b>	
Open house meetings	Information sharing about the status of the process, solicitation of input on planning topics.
Youth community meetings	These meetings will be designed to help youth prepare in advance to participate in the open house public meetings. They will include sharing information about the status of the process and topics that will be discussed at the open house meetings, and when appropriate soliciting input on planning topics from youth leaders and youth community members. The meetings will use the same materials as

	open house meetings, except they will be tailored to clarify their relevance to youth concerns and to be accessible to youth audiences.
Cultural community briefings	These briefings will be a series of informational meetings designed to encourage underrepresented and minority communities (whether in terms of race, ethnicity, class, or other qualities) to participate in the open house public meetings. They will focus on establishing relationships with leaders in these communities, and include sharing information about the status of the process and opportunities for public participation.
Webinars	Complements open house meetings and uses same materials.
Online comment webpage	Provides another way for people to review and comment on the same materials used at in-person meetings.
Outreach briefings	Short updates provided to different audiences to update them on the process and planning topics, and encourage their participation.
<b>Technical Public Participation</b>	
Technical meetings, with limited webinar capacity	Information sharing about the status of the process, solicitation of technically- and scientifically-specific input on planning topics, discussion of key concerns and interests. These meetings are geared toward subject matter experts who want to provide feedback on specific technical and scientific concerns. Webinar participation will be available but may be of limited value depending on the size of the audience and meeting room.
Special sessions with existing collaborative groups	Information sharing about the status of the process, solicitation of technically- and scientifically-specific input on select planning topics, discussion of key concerns and interests. These meetings will be held with existing collaborative groups, and coordinated with the timing of technical meetings when feasible.
<b>Public Agency and Tribal Government Participation</b>	
Coordinating agencies meetings	Meetings to update other public agencies on the status of the process and planning topics. Purpose is to identify areas of common policy and coordinate efforts as possible.

Briefings for elected officials	Briefings to County Board of Supervisors, State Legislature, Congressional representatives, and other elected officials as appropriate, to update them on status of the process and planning topics.
Consultation with Tribal governments	Formal federal agency government-to-government consultation process with federally-recognized California Native American Tribes. Briefings and coordination with non-federally recognized California Native American Tribes will be conducted as appropriate.

## 12) Description of Communication Tools and Public Participation Opportunities

This section describes the communication tools that Sierra National Forest will use to keep people informed during the plan revision process, and opportunities for public participation and commenting that the Forest will provide. The descriptions do not provide information on when these tools will be used or the specific topics that they will address; a detailed description of specific 2012-2013 planning activities is provided below in section 14.

### A. General Information Distribution

1. The Forest will use its **website** as a clearinghouse for all the information and materials associated with the Sierra National Forest's plan revision process.
  - The website will include a clear explanation of how people can participate, what kind of information or input is requested and how it will be used, and a timeline for the overall process.
  - The website will make information easily accessible and allow interested parties to track the status and development of draft and final analyses and decisions. This will include all general plan revision process information (e.g., brochures, topical fact sheets, status updates and timelines, press releases) as well as meeting materials and draft planning documents.
  - The website will include a page where interested **individuals can sign up to be included on the Forest's e-mail announcement list.**
  - The website will include a page where interested **individuals can sign up to request that hard copies of draft and final planning documents be sent to a designated mailing address.** These documents will correspond to planning milestones and the NEPA schedule.
  - The website will also include an **online comment webpage**, described below in this section, 12(B)(3).
  
2. The Forest will use **email** as its main form of electronic communication.
  - Email announcements will provide general information about the process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and the status of the plan revision process, including notifications of draft or final documents, current opportunities for participation, and other timely and important information.
  - While the Forest will maintain an email announcement list of interested parties, it will also request interested organizations to serve as communication partners and help distribute email announcements directly to their members.

- The Forest will automatically add any grazing, mining, or recreational permittees to its email announcement list. Permittees may opt out at any time.
3. The Forest will make **brochures, topical fact sheets, and other informational materials** available to the public and Tribes through Forest Service district offices, ranger stations, visitor centers, campgrounds, and local tourist and recreation offices, as well as the plan revision website.
  4. The Forest will develop and distribute **press releases and media advisories** that correspond with planning milestones. An initial list of media outlets is provided in section 15 below; this list will be updated periodically as new information warrants.

## **B. General Public Participation**

1. The Forest will host **open house meetings** designed for informing and engaging non-technical audiences. The Forest recognizes it has a wide variety of constituencies and users, and will provide opportunities for anyone who uses and enjoys the forest to learn about and participate in the plan revision process.
  - The open house meetings will provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
  - In general, the open houses will solicit public input on the same topics that the Forest will discuss with technical audiences. However, materials will be tailored to be accessible to general audiences.
  - Whenever possible, the Forest will partner with the Central California Consortium to have interns attend the open house meetings, in order to provide peer-to-peer support for youth participation, exemplify the diversity of forest users, and help engage the Hmong-speaking and Spanish-speaking communities.
2. The Forest will conduct **youth community meetings** designed for informing and engaging youth leaders and youth in general. The Forest recognizes that today's youth use and value the Forest in diverse ways; are part of larger constituencies (e.g., recreational users); and will become regional leaders in the future. The Forest is committed to providing opportunities for youth to learn about and participate in the plan revision process.
  - The youth community meetings will be designed to help youth prepare in advance to participate in the open house public meetings. It is important for youth to see the relevance of the forest planning to their concerns, to be

introduced to the topics and materials, and to feel prepared and comfortable with participating in general public meetings.

- The youth community meetings will provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
  - In general, the youth community meetings will solicit public input on the same topics that the Forest will discuss with general audiences. However, materials will be tailored to clarify their relevance to youth concerns and to be accessible to youth audiences.
  - Whenever possible, the Forest will partner with the Central California Consortium in the design and facilitation of youth community meetings.
3. The Forest will conduct **cultural community briefings** designed to encourage underrepresented and minority communities (whether in terms of race, ethnicity, class, or other qualities) to participate in the open house public meetings. The Forest recognizes that many cultural communities use and value the Forest in diverse ways. Historically these communities have participated minimally in forest planning. The Forest is committed to providing opportunities for members of these communities to learn about and participate in the plan revision process.
- The cultural community meetings will focus on establishing relationships with cultural leaders and cultural community members in general.
  - The cultural community briefings will provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
  - In general, the cultural community briefings will solicit public input on the same topics that the Forest will discuss with general audiences. However, materials will be tailored to be accessible to specific cultural audiences.
4. The Forest will host general public **webinars** that provide opportunities for people to obtain general information about the plan revision process, and to provide input to the Forest, without attending a meeting in person. Webinars constitute a critical tool in for collaboration and communication because they allow people to participate regardless of where they are located. The Forest recognizes that many constituencies and users live far away and cannot readily travel to local meeting venues used by the Forest.
- The information provided in the webinars will be the same as that provided at the open house meetings.
  - Given the nature of webinars (i.e., only one person can talk at a time) there will be less opportunity for individual interaction with staff.

- On occasions when a webinar is held concurrently to complement an in-person meeting, webinar participants will be advised that a large number of participants and/or a large room may make it difficult to hear all the dialogue, and they may experience more listening and commenting than discussion.
5. The Forest will host an **online comment webpage** that serves two purposes: (1) allow any interested parties to review and submit comments on plan revision documents at any time; and (2) serve as a repository for all comments formally submitted during the plan revision process.

With regard to the first purposes, the online comment webpage constitutes another critical collaboration and communication tool, allowing anyone who cannot attend an in-person meeting or webinar to engage the same materials and provide feedback and input to the Forest. Visitors to the webpage may read and comment on the materials at their own pace, within designated comment windows for documents.

The online comment webpage will also serve a second purpose: it will serve as a publicly accessible repository for all comments formally submitted during the plan revision process. In this way the online comment webpage will play a key role in ensuring transparency in the plan revision process, allowing individuals to confirm that their comments have been received and read by the Forest, and allowing anyone to see the comments made by other people.

- While participants in in-person meetings and webinars will have opportunities to talk with staff, they still will be required to submit written comments to have the comments become part of the formal record of the plan revision process. In order to ensure consistency in the format of comments submitted through the different channels, standard comment forms will be created and made readily available at in-person meetings, webinars, and online.
- All comments submitted in-person, via webinars, and online will be posted on the online comment webpage. Individuals will be able to search the comments according to a variety of fields (e.g., number, date, date received, author, organization, planning document, or topic area).
- In order to assure people that their comments have not only been received but also read, all comments posted will also have a field that identifies which Forest staff has read the comment. Given the large number of comments anticipated, however, the Forest will not provide written responses to individual comments. Instead, the Forest will respond to sets of comments on the same topic. The Forest will develop these written responses at appropriate times during the plan revision process, for example, when key planning documents are released.

6. The Forest will periodically provide **outreach briefings** to different audiences to update them on the plan revision process and associated planning topics and materials.
  - The primary purpose of the outreach briefings is to provide information to interested groups, not to solicit feedback and input (the activities identified above provide such opportunities). Participants in the briefings will be encouraged to provide feedback and input in forums designed specifically for this purpose (e.g., meetings, webinars, online comment webpage).
  - The outreach briefings will be provided primarily to coalitions and associations of organizations. This will allow the Forest to more efficiently reach a wide variety of audiences than if it tried to brief large numbers of individual groups and organizations.
  - Rather than setting up new meeting times and locations, the Forest may request to be added to the regular meeting agenda of existing groups.
  - The Forest will also request that these coalitions and associations help distribute information to individual organizations, their members, and other interested parties.
  - An initial list of briefing venues is provided in section 16 below; this list will be updated periodically as new information warrants.

### C. Technical Public Participation

1. The Forest will host **technical meetings with corresponding webinar capacity**, designed for informing and engaging subject-matter experts who want to provide feedback and input on specific technical and scientific concerns. The Forest recognizes that many constituencies and users have expertise in land management planning and associated analyses, and will provide opportunities for these people to share detailed comments directly with Forests staff specialists.
  - Like the open house meetings, technical meetings will provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
  - Similarly, the technical meetings will solicit public input on the same topics that the Forest will discuss in the open house meetings. However, the technical meetings will be designed to allow for discussion of planning details.
  - Forest Service specialist staff will attend the meetings, and members of the scientific, research, and university communities will also be encouraged to attend these meetings.

- The technical meetings will have limited webinar/teleconference capacity. Webinar/teleconference participants will be advised that a large number of in-person participants and/or a large room may make it difficult to hear all the dialogue, and they may experience more listening and commenting than discussion.
  - These meetings will be facilitated by a third-party, neutral facilitation services provider.
2. The Forest will participate in **special sessions with existing collaborative groups** to share information about the status of the plan revision process. The sessions will also allow for the solicitation of technically- and scientifically-specific input on select planning topics, and discuss key concerns and interests. Like with general technical audiences, the Forest recognizes that many members of existing collaborative groups have expertise in land management planning and associated analyses.
- Members of existing collaborative groups will nonetheless be requested to participate in the aforementioned technical meetings, in addition to the special sessions. This is because the full range of planning topics cannot be covered in a single special session; efficiency (i.e., avoiding having the Forest duplicate each technical meeting); and the desire to enhance understanding between collaborative members and members of the public through dialogue.
  - Like the open house meetings, special sessions with existing collaborative groups will provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
  - Generally, the special sessions will solicit input on the same topics that the Forest will discuss in the technical meetings. At the same time, the Forest may also seek feedback and input on specific planning topics.
  - When possible, the timing of the special sessions with existing collaborative groups will be coordinated with the timing of technical meetings, to facilitate the participation of collaborative members in the technical meetings.
  - Existing collaborative groups include the Dinkey Collaborative, the Willow Creek Collaborative, the Sustainable Forests and Communities Collaborative, and the Regional Tribal Forum.

#### **D. Public Agency and Tribal Government Participation**

1. At least once a year, the Forest will host a **coordinating agencies meeting** designed to inform and engage other federal, state, and local government public agencies that share legal responsibility for managing forest, land, wildlife, air, water, and other

resources that are part of Sierra National Forest. In addition, representatives of Tribal governments with legal responsibility for resource management will be invited to participate in coordinating agencies meetings.

- These meetings will provide an opportunity for multiple agencies to speak with each other at the same time, identify areas of common policy, and to coordinate related agency efforts to the extent possible. This may include the identification of common resource management objectives for specific topics, and recommendations on how to coordinate associated management policies, plans, and activities in the revised forest plan.
  - Like the open house meetings, the coordinating agencies meetings will provide general information about the process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation. Public agencies will be encouraged to submit written comments to the Forest.
  - An initial list of public agencies is provided in section 17 below; this list will be updated periodically as new information warrants.
  - When possible, these meetings will be held in conjunction with existing forums, such as the Yosemite Gateway regional meetings.
  - These meetings will be facilitated by a third-party, neutral facilitation services provider.
2. At least once a year, the Forest will **brief elected officials** on the plan revision process, including overall time, current status, progress to date, and key planning issues. The purpose is to ensure that representatives to the State Legislature and Congress, as well as local governments, are aware early on of forest planning issues that affect their constituents, and have opportunities to provide feedback and recommendations directly to the Forest on specific issues.
- The Forest will provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
  - When possible, briefings will be scheduled to coincide with plan revision milestones and the release of associated draft or final planning documents.
  - The Forest will hold individual meetings with elected officials as needed.
3. The Forest is a federal agency and thus required to **formally consult with federally-recognized California Native American Tribes** on a government-to-government basis. The Forest will meet all its corresponding obligations. The Forest will tailor its consultation meetings to the needs and concerns of individual tribes. The Forest will also brief and coordinate with non-federally recognized California Native American Tribes as appropriate.

- The Forest will be prepared to provide general information about the plan revision process (goals, activities, timelines, etc) and its status, including milestone documents and current opportunities for participation.
- The Forest will also be prepared to discuss and share information on particular topics of concern for individual tribes.
- Tribes will also be invited to attend any of the plan revision process meetings.
- Although not a replacement for formal consultation, the quarterly Regional Tribal Forum will provide another venue for Tribal governments and Tribal members to receive news and provide input on draft materials and recommendations.
- Additional methods for tribal participation are being developed by the Forest in coordination with the Regional Office.

### 13) 2012-2015 Planning Milestones

This table identifies milestones in the plan revision process.

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<b>2012</b>	<b>Complete the Science Synthesis for Region 5 of the Forest Service</b>
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<b>2013</b>	<b>Develop the Sierra National Forest Assessment</b>
	<b>October – December 2012:</b> Develop Collaboration and Communication Plan
	<b>January 4:</b> Post draft current condition Topic Papers on Our Forest Place ( <a href="http://ourforestplace.ning.com/">http://ourforestplace.ning.com/</a> )
	<b>January 24-25:</b> Sierra Cascades Dialog
	<b>January 30:</b> Deadline for Notices of Initiation to be published in local newspapers of record
	<b>February 9:</b> First Open House Meeting
	<b>February 12:</b> First Technical Meeting
	<b>February (date TBD):</b> First Open House Webinar
	<b>March 1-31:</b> Incorporate input on conditions and trends
	<b>April 1-30:</b> Post draft Forest sections of Topic Papers on Our Forest Place. Conduct public participation meetings per plan below.
	<b>May 1-30:</b> Finalize Forest Topic Papers, incorporating public input
	<b>May 31: MILESTONE:</b> Final Forest Topic Papers are submitted to Regional Office
	<b>June 1-30:</b> Regional Planner and Forest Planners begin internal preparation for NEPA and No Action Alternative
	<b>July 1-31:</b> Regional Planning Team writes Draft Sierra Assessment Report
	<b>August 1-30:</b> Conduct public participation meetings on Draft Report
	<b>October 1-31:</b> Regional Planning Team writes Final Sierra Assessment Report
	<b>December 31: MILESTONE:</b> Final Sierra Assessment Report published

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<b>2013-2015</b>	<b>Develop the Forest Plan and Conduct the Environmental Analysis</b>
	The following timeline is an estimate of when milestones would occur. The timeline is subject to revision.
	<b>Winter 2013:</b> Federal Register notice to begin the plan revision phase

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**2013-2014:** Initiate National Environmental Policy Act scoping process, develop and vet *Need for Change, Desired Conditions, Alternatives*

**February 2014:** Notice to begin plan revision/Notice to prepare Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

**2014:** Conduct environmental analysis

**February 2015:** Notice of proposed plan and draft EIS

**2015:** Analyze comments and finalize EIS

**September 2016:** Notice of objection period with revised plan prior to approval and FEIS

**December 2016:** Notice of plan approval

## 14) Detailed 2012-2013 Activity Schedule

This schedule provides a narrative description of when Sierra National Forest will use specific communication tools and provide opportunities for public participation and commenting in the plan revision process, including feedback and input on specific planning documents. The focus of work in 2013 is the completion of the Forest Assessment, as described below. Subsequently, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process will begin. The focus of work in 2014 and 2015 will be to decide which parts of the Forest Plan will be updated, and to develop and adopt recommended revisions. This work will be structured by the requirements of the NEPA review process, and will have corresponding opportunities for collaboration and communication. After a revised Forest Plan is adopted, the Forest will monitor implementation and forest conditions to improve management activities that carry out the plan. The Planning Rule requires a monitoring report every two years after adoption of a new Forest Plan.

### A. Work already completed and upcoming in 2012

- Press release regarding Sierra National Forest preparation for revising its forest plan
- Convene Sierra National Forest Planning Team (consisting of Forest Service personnel)
- Brief tribal governments and regional Tribal Forum
- Brief state legislative and congressional representatives
- Brief county government
- Brief collaborative groups
- Conduct stakeholder interviews
- Conduct tribal government interviews
- Draft and finalize Collaboration and Communication Plan

### B. The Forest Assessment

The purpose of the Forest Assessment is to gather existing relevant information on forest conditions and trends, and use this information to rapidly evaluate the sustainability of existing ecological, economic, and social conditions and trends within the context of the broader landscape. The assessment is used to help identify the need to change the existing plan, and to inform the development of plan components and other plan content. The goals of the assessment include:

- To identify and gather critical information that is used to inform the need for revision of the forest plan, including existing conditions and trends in 15 topic areas identified in the Planning Rule.

- To build common understanding of this information amongst the Forest, public, tribes, and other interested parties.
- To evaluate and synthesize this information and thereby provide a basis for identifying priority needs for change in the forest plan.

The Forest Assessment is required by the Planning Rule to include the following 15 topics. Many topics will be looked at from a bioregional scale with Forest Service Regional Office assistance to Sierra National Forest.

1. Terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, and watersheds;
2. Air, soil, and water resources and quality;
3. System drivers, including dominant ecological processes, disturbance regimes, and stressors, such as natural succession, wildland fire, invasive species, and climate change; and the ability of those terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in the plan area to adapt to change;
4. Base line assessment of carbon stocks;
5. Threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate species, and potential species of conservation concern present in the plan area;
6. Social, cultural, and economic conditions;
7. Benefits people obtain from the NFS planning area (ecosystem services);
8. Multiple uses and their contributions to local, regional, and national economies;
9. Recreation settings, opportunities and access for a range of uses;
10. Renewable and nonrenewable energy and mineral resources;
11. Infrastructure, such as recreational facilities and transportation and utility corridors;
12. Areas of Tribal importance;
13. Cultural and historic resources and uses;
14. Land status and ownership, use, and access patterns; and
15. Existing designated areas located in the plan area including wilderness and wild and scenic rivers and potential need and opportunity for additional designated areas.

### **C. Collaboration and Communication Activities in 2013**

The central focus of public participation in 2013 is to provide feedback and input to the Forest that helps inform the Assessment of forest conditions. Three rounds of public participation and a final series of public announcements will support this work, with a final Assessment expected at the end of September 2013. The remaining portion of the year will focus on preparing for 2014 planning and public participation.

#### **D. First Round of Public Participation in Assessment Development, January through March 2013**

Activities will include explanation of the Sierra National Forest plan revision process and Collaboration and Communication Plan; obtaining feedback on the draft characterization of current conditions on the Forest, and associated key references; and obtaining input on key trends in forest conditions and drivers of forest change.

- A. The Forest will use **email, a media advisory, and a press release** to announce the inauguration of public participation in the forest plan revision process, to provide information about associated public planning meeting scheduling and logistics, and meeting materials, and to announce that that topic papers are available for review.
- B. The Forest will host an **information booth** at the Southern Sierra Nevada Change Adaptation Workshop, to be held on February 20-22, 2013, in Visalia. The workshop is being co-hosted by Sequoia National Forest/Giant Sequoia National Monument, US Forest Service; Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, National Park Service; California Landscape Conservation Cooperative; Bakersfield Field Office, Bureau of Land Management; and Western Ecological Research Center, US Geological Survey.
- C. The Forest will initiate formal government-to-government **Tribal consultation**.
- D. An **Open House Meeting in Clovis** will be used to review the plan revision process and collaboration and communication methods, solicit feedback on characterization of current conditions and key references, and solicit input on the identification of locally-specific trends and drivers of forest change.
  - i. Held during the daytime (approximately 1 to 4 pm) on a Saturday to increase accessibility, this meeting will involve a general presentation and process overview by Forest leadership, including a review of the Collaboration and Communication Plan; a series of information stations where interested parties can talk to Forest experts about particular topics or concerns; and hard copy comment submission forms built around key questions where the Forest seeks feedback.
  - ii. The comment submission forms will be structured around the following types of questions: (1) What current conditions need greater elaboration? (2) Are there key studies or reports you recommend for review? (3) What are the key trends in forest conditions and drivers of forest change to emphasize when planning for the Sierra?
  - iii. This meeting will be complemented by the online public comment webpage and webinars, where people who cannot make the in-person meeting can nonetheless comment on the same materials as used at the open house meeting. These two components are described next.

- E. **Cultural Community Briefings** will be held with leaders and members of underrepresented and minority communities. The purpose is to encourage them to participate in the open house public meetings.
  - i. The briefings will include a general presentation and process overview by Forest leadership, along with a review of the Collaboration and Communication Plan, including opportunities therein for public participation and commenting.
  - ii. Future cultural community briefings will be held as needed to maintain the relationships between community and Forest leaders.
- F. An **Open House Webinar** will be held, and the topics covered will be the same as the Open House Meeting, except no information stations will be available. Participants will be able to comment verbally on any topics of concern, although will still be required to submit comments in writing to be considered part of the official record.
  - i. The webinar will be held during the daytime (approximately 10 am to 12 noon), on a Saturday to increase accessibility.
  - ii. The presentation portion of the webinar will be recorded and posted on the Sierra National Forest website, as a reference for anyone commenting online.
- G. **Online Comment Webpage:** this website will complement the in-person meetings and provide the same materials for people to review and comment upon.
  - i. The webpage will be hosted on the Sierra National Forest website and use the standard comment forms provided at in-person meetings. The presentation portions of open house webinars will be available as reference for those that cannot participate in-person or via webinar.
- H. **Technical Meeting with Webinar Capacity:** the topics covered will be the same as the Open House meeting. The difference is that the meeting will provide opportunity for people to identify and discuss specific technical and scientific topics and concerns, rather than visit a series of information stations. To maximize the use of people's time, participants will be requested to review technical materials in advance of the meeting. Meeting materials will be distributed a minimum of seven days in advance.
  - i. Webinar/teleconference capacity will be provided. Potential callers will be advised that a large number of in-person participants in a large room may make it difficult to hear all the dialogue, and they may experience more listening and commenting than discussion.
  - ii. This meeting will be held during standard business hours.
- I. **Updates to Collaborative Groups** in February and/or March: The Forest will provide an in-person update to existing Collaborative groups, notifying them of opportunities for participation in public planning meetings, both general and technical.
  - i. During this round of public participation, members of existing collaborative groups will be invited to participate in the public planning meetings directly, rather than have separate discussions about the forest plan revision, given the large amount of material that needs to be covered in the revision process. (If the

Forest desires feedback on specific issues during later steps in the process, it may ask the existing collaborative groups to have a dedicated agenda item on a narrow topic.)

- J. **Coordinating Agencies Meeting** in February or March: This inaugural meeting will update agencies on the process, Communication and Collaboration Plan, and public planning meetings, as well as request their support from in identifying overlapping policies and planning efforts.
- K. **Elected Official Briefings:** The Forest will brief elected officials, including federal, state, and local government representatives, on the plan revision process, including the status of efforts and current opportunities for public participation and commenting.

## **E. Second Round of Public Participation in Assessment Development, March and April 2013**

Activities will include obtaining feedback on the draft topic papers that describe each of the 15 forest plan revision assessment topics.

- A. The Forest will use **email, a media advisory, and a press release** to announce that the topic papers are available for review, and to provide information about associated public planning meeting scheduling and logistics, and meeting materials.
- B. The Forest will continue formal government-to-government **Tribal consultation**.
- C. An **Open House Meeting in Clovis or an Adjacent Community** will be held in April (e.g., North Fork, Shaver Lake) and will be used to answer general questions about the topic papers, and solicit feedback on how the issues identified in the papers might be addressed in ways that integrate ecological, economic, and social needs.
  - i. Held during the daytime (approximately 1 to 4 pm) on a Saturday to increase accessibility, this meeting will involve a plan revision process update by Forest leadership; a general presentation of the topic papers as a set; a series of information stations where interested parties can talk to Forest experts about particular topics or concerns; and hard copy comment submission forms built around key questions where the Forest seeks feedback. Given the large number of topicpaper topics, some information stations will cover more than one topic.
  - ii. The comment submission forms will be structured around the following types of questions: (1) Are there findings or statements in the topicpaper that need further explanation? (2) How can any of the issues identified in a topicpaper be addressed in a way that integrates ecological, economic, and social needs?
  - iii. This meeting will be complemented by the online public comment webpage and webinars, where people who cannot make the in-person meeting can

nonetheless comment on the same materials as used at the open house meeting. These two components are described next.

- D. A **Youth Community Meeting** will be held in April or May, and the topics covered will be the same as those covered later at the open house meeting.
- i. The meeting will be coordinated with primary and secondary schools in the greater Fresno metropolitan region. It will include a general presentation and process overview by Forest leadership; a review of the Collaboration and Communication Plan, including the youth participation component; a discussion that clarifies why the forest plan and the planning process are relevant to youth concerns; explanation of the topic papers and their development; and an overview of how youth can prepare for future participation.
  - ii. This meeting may be held outside in the Forest, per the recommendation of youth workshop held in November 2012.
- E. An **Open House Webinar** will be held in April, and the topics covered will be the same as the Open House Meeting, except no information stations will be available. Participants will be able to comment verbally on any topics of concern and make suggestions about integration, although will still be required to submit comments in writing to be considered part of the official record.
- i. The webinar will be held during the daytime (approximately 10 am to 12 noon) on a Saturday to increase accessibility.
  - ii. The presentation portion of the webinar will be recorded and posted on the Sierra National Forest website, as a reference for anyone commenting online.
- F. **Online Comment Webpage:** This website will complement the in-person meetings and provide the same materials for people to review and comment upon.
- i. The webpage will be hosted on the Sierra National Forest website and use the standard comment forms provided at in-person meetings. The presentation portions of open house webinars will be available as reference for those that cannot participate in-person or via webinar.
- G. A series of half-day **Technical Meetings with Webinar Capacity** will be held in April: The topics covered will be the same as the Open House meeting, except the time for discussion will be divided into a small number of three-hours sessions. The difference from the Open House is that the meeting will provide opportunity for people to identify and discuss specific technical and scientific topics and concerns associated with a given topic paper.
- i. To maximize the use of people's time, participants will be requested to review technical materials in advance of the meeting. Regardless, given the large number of topic papers, discussion time will be limited, and the meeting will focus more on listening to comments and suggestions for addressing associated issues. Meeting materials will be distributed a minimum of seven days in advance.

- a. Webinar/teleconference capacity will be provided. Potential callers will be advised that a large number of in-person participants in a large room may make it difficult to hear all the dialogue, and they may experience more listening and commenting than discussion.
  - b. The meetings will be held during standard business hours.
- H. **Update to Collaborative Groups:** The Forest will provide an in-person update to existing Collaborative groups, notifying them of opportunities for participation in public planning meetings, both general and technical.
  - i. During this round of public participation, members of existing collaborative groups will be invited to participate in the public planning meetings directly, rather than have separate discussions about the forest plan revision, given the large amount of material that needs to be covered in the revision process. In particular, the technical meetings with webinar capacity will provide opportunities for members to provide feedback and input on technical and scientific issues identified in the topic papers.

## F. Third Round of Public Participation in Assessment Development, June through September 2013

Activities will focus on obtaining feedback on the draft assessment.

- A. The Forest will use **email, a media advisory, and a press release** to announce that the draft assessment is available for public review, and to provide information about associated public planning meeting scheduling and logistics, and meeting materials.
- B. The Forest will continue formal government-to-government **Tribal consultation**.
- C. An **Open House Meeting in an Adjacent Community or Clovis** will be held in August, and will be used to review the draft assessment and obtain feedback on assessment findings.
  - i. Held during the daytime (approximately 1 to 4 pm) on a Saturday to increase accessibility, this meeting will involve a plan revision process update by Forest leadership; a general presentation of the draft assessment; a series of information stations where interested parties can talk to Forest experts about particular assessment findings; and hard copy comment submission forms built around key questions where the Forest seeks feedback.
  - ii. The comment submission forms will be structured around the following types of questions: (1) What assessment findings should be further investigated and explained before finalizing the report? (2) What are the most important findings to consider when revising the plan?

- iii. This meeting will be complemented by the online public comment webpage and webinars, where people who cannot make the in-person meeting can nonetheless comment on the same materials as used at the open house meeting. These two components are described next.
- D. A **Youth Community Meeting** will be held, potentially in advance of the open house, and the topics covered will be the same as those covered later at the open house meeting.
- i. The meeting will again be coordinated with primary and secondary schools in the greater Fresno metropolitan region. It will include an update on the plan revision process; a review of the structure of the draft assessment; and an overview of how youth can prepare for future participation.
- E. An **Open House Webinar** will be held in August, and the topics covered will be the same as the Open House Meeting, except no information stations will be available. Participants will be able to comment verbally on any topics of concern, although will still be required to submit comments in writing to be considered part of the official record.
- i. The webinar will be held during the daytime (approximately 10 am to 12 noon) on a Saturday to increase accessibility.
  - ii. The presentation portion of the webinar will be recorded and posted on the Sierra National Forest website, as a reference for anyone commenting online.
- F. **Online Comment Webpage:** This website will complement the in-person meetings and provide the same materials for people to review and comment upon.
- i. The webpage will be hosted on the Sierra National Forest website and use the standard comment forms provided at in-person meetings. The presentation portions of open house webinars will be available as reference for those that cannot participate in-person or via webinar.
- G. **Technical Meeting with Webinar Capacity** will be held in August: The topics covered will be the same as the Open House meeting. The difference is that the meeting will provide opportunity for people to identify and discuss specific technical and scientific concerns about the assessment findings, rather than visit a series of information stations. To maximize the use of people's time, participants will be requested to review technical materials in advance of the meeting. Meeting materials will be distributed a minimum of seven days in advance.
- i. Webinar/teleconference capacity will be provided. Potential webinar/teleconference participants will be advised that a large number of in-person participants in a large room may make it difficult to hear all the dialogue, and they may experience more listening and commenting than discussion.
  - ii. This meeting will be held during standard business hours.
- H. **Special Sessions with Collaborative Groups** in August and/or September: The Forest will schedule an in-person, one or two hour session with each of the existing

Collaborative Groups, to review the highlights of the draft assessment and solicit high-level feedback on any topics of concern to members of the collaborative groups.

- i. Members will be advised that if they desire to discuss specific technical and scientific concerns about the assessment findings, they should attend the technical meeting with webinar capacity.
- L. **Coordinating Agencies meeting** in September: This second meeting will update agencies on the status of the plan revision process and public planning meetings, as well as request high level review of topic papers on issues that are under the shared jurisdiction of coordinating agencies.
- M. The Forest will **brief elected officials**, including federal, state, and local government representatives, on the plan revision process, including the status of efforts, the availability of the draft assessment, and current opportunities for public participation and commenting.
- N. The Forest may conduct a small number of **Outreach Briefings** to specific coalitions and associations to ensure they are aware of the availability of the draft assessment, and current opportunities for public participation and commenting.

## **G. Public Announcement of Final Assessment, December 2013**

Activities will focus on making the public, tribes, and interested parties aware of the final assessment.

- A. The Forest will use **email, a media advisory, and a press release** to announce that the final assessment is available. The Forest will conduct other press and media events as appropriate.
- B. The Forest will continue formal government-to-government **Tribal consultation**.
- C. **Online Comment Webpage**: This website will provide an opportunity for anyone to comment on any part of the final assessment. The webpage will be hosted on the Sierra National Forest website and use a standard comment form.
- D. **Update to Collaborative Groups**: The Forest will provide an in-person update to existing Collaborative groups, including a review of likely 2014 planning activities.
- E. The Forest will develop and distribute a **local government e-briefing, including Coordinating Agencies**, that provides a plan revision process update, links to the topic papers, and information on public planning meetings.
- F. The Forest will conduct **outreach briefings** for associations and groups, as resources permit, to update them on the status of the plan revision process, make them aware of the final assessment, and review like 2014 planning activities.

- G. The Forest will **notify elected officials** about the availability of the final assessment.

#### **H. Preparation for Planning and Public Participation in 2014, October through December 2013**

Activities will focus on preparing for planning, NEPA process, and associated public participation activities in 2014. When complete, an anticipated schedule of activities will be made available through email, the media and press, and other communication venues.

## 15) Media Outlets

The Forest may work with, but is not limited to, the following primary media outlets to distribute information to individual organizations, their members, and other interested parties.

- Associated Press (AP) Fresno California (news agency)
- California Advocate (newspaper)
- Fresno Bee (newspaper)
- Hmong Tribune, Fresno (Hmong newspaper)
- Hmong TV Network, Clovis (Hmong TV)
- HmongUSA TV, Fresno (Hmong TV)
- KBIF 900 AM, Fresno (Hmong radio)
- KFSN TV 30 (ABC TV)
- KFSO La Preciosa 92.9 FM, Fresno (Spanish radio)
- KFTV Univisión (Spanish TV)
- KGPE TV 47 (CBS TV)
- KMJ AM 580 (radio)
- KMMM Radio Amor, Fresno (Spanish radio)
- KNSO Telemundo, Fresno (Spanish TV)
- KQEQ 1210 AM, Fresno (Hmong radio)
- KRDA Recuerdo 107.5, Fresno (Spanish radio)
- KSEE TV 24 (NBC TV)
- KVPR FM 89.3 (radio)
- La Kalle 107.9 FM, Fresno
- Mountain Press (newspaper)
- Que Onda 92.1 FM, Fresno (Spanish radio)
- Vida en el Valle, Fresno (Spanish newspaper)

## 16) Briefing Venues and Communication Partners

The Forest may brief the following coalitions and associations of organizations, as described above in section 12(B)(6). The Forest will also request that the following groups help to distribute information to their members, their individual organizations, and other interested parties.

- American Forest Resources Council
- Bass Lake Homeowners Association
- California American-Asian Resource Education
- California Forestry Association
- Central California Consortium
- Highway 168, Mariposa County, and Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Councils
- High Sierra Trails Association
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Huntington Lake Big Creek Historical Conservancy
- California Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- Recreation Roundtable
- Sierra Nevada Access and Multiple Use Stewardship Coalition
- Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Program
- Southern Sierra Integrated Regional Water Management Group
- Yosemite Gateway Partners
- Yosemite Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council

## 17) Public Agencies

For its coordinating agencies meetings, the Forest may work with, but is not limited to, the following public agencies.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Board of Forestry
- California Environmental Protection Agency
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- California Department of Water Resources
- California Water Boards
- Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa County, appropriate resource management departments and special districts
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Towns of Auberry, Coarsegold, North Fork, Oakhurst, Prather, and Shaver Lake, appropriate resource management departments and special districts