

Dear interested stakeholders,

The DRAFT Sierra National Forest (NF), Forest Assessment is available for public review. This document represents the Sierra NF's assessment stage of Forest Plan Revision and is designed to more rapidly evaluate existing information on current ecological, economic, social conditions, trends, and sustainability and their relationship to the current land resource management plan within the context of the broader landscape. This Draft Assessment is not a decision-making document. It will be used for planning purposes and to inform the need for change. Focus to date has been on gathering known data on the current forest condition. Public participation and collaboration continue to be a top priority as we navigate through the Forest Plan Revision process. We hope you will be able to attend one of our three public meetings.

The Draft Assessment is located on the following Sierra National Forest, Forest Plan Revision web site: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/sierra/home/?cid=STELPRDB5407995>. There you will find useful links, as well as past meeting presentations. The Sierra National Forest welcomes feedback on this draft assessment through September 19. Feedback can be provided in hardcopy to: Dean Gould, Forest Supervisor, Sierra National Forest, 1600 Tollhouse Rd. Clovis, CA 93611. Subject: Draft Sierra Assessment Feedback. Comments can also be sent electronically via email to: pacificsouthwest-sierra@fs.fed.us.

INITIATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The SNF has scheduled two public meetings and one webinar. Meeting goals include to: review the plan revision process and associated collaboration and communication methods; and solicit feedback on the draft Sierra National Forest, Forest Assessment. A general public meeting, technical meeting and webinar are being offered. All meetings will cover the same materials, the only difference being the technical meeting is geared toward people wanting to provide detailed feedback and input on specific scientific and technical concerns.

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS IN AUGUST 2013

1. Technical In-Person Meeting

Date: Friday, Aug. 16

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

Location: Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office, 1600 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, CA 93611

2. General Public Meeting

Date: Saturday, Aug. 17

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

Location: Holiday Inn – Fresno Airport, Fresno, CA. 5090 E. Clinton Way, Fresno, CA 93727

Web address: www.fresnoairport.com

3. Public Meeting via webinar

Date: Tuesday, Aug. 20

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

Location: No in-person option

Webinar link: https://www304.livemeeting.com/cc/_XML/usda/join

Meeting ID: QBP3B3

Audio: 888-858-2144 (participant code: 8877225#)

Instructions: The webinar will use the free Microsoft Office Live Meeting service. Click on the registration link and only enter the following Meeting ID: QBP3B3 and click the "Join" button. Once you enter your first and last name you will have access to the webinar. Sound will be conducted through a teleconference line. Please dial the teleconference number listed above and when prompted, enter the participant code followed by the pound sign.

QUESTIONS?

For questions, concerns or if you have special needs related to involvement in these public meetings, please contact Rebecca Garcia, SNF Public Affairs Officer at rebeccagarcia@fs.fed.us (559) 297-0706 extension 4804.