



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Forest Futures

Bridger-Teton Forest Plan Revision Newsletter • July 2024



What's in a Draft Assessment?

The Bridger-Teton National Forest is currently in the assessment phase of revising its forest plan. Around 30 forest specialists are currently working on the draft assessment report. The draft assessment is the first step in the process to update direction of the forest plan and serves as a “status report” of the forest. The report will summarize existing ecological, social and economic conditions, and

trends affecting the forest. It is not a decision document, however, it will provide the foundation to determine what needs to change to improve guidance for forest management into the future.

A draft assessment report covers the following 15 topics:

- Terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems, and watersheds
- Air, soil, and water resources and quality
- 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 terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems on the plan area to adapt to change
- Baseline assessment of carbon stocks
- Threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, and potential species of conservation concern present in the plan area

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- Social, cultural, and economic conditions
 - Benefits people obtain from the NFS planning area (ecosystem services)
 - Multiple uses and their contributions to local, regional, and national economies
 - Recreation settings, opportunity and access, and scenic character
 - Renewable and nonrenewable energy and mineral resources
 - Infrastructure, such as recreational facilities and transportation and utility corridors
 - Areas of tribal importance
 - Cultural and historic resources and uses
 - Land status and ownership, use, and access patterns
 - Existing designated areas located in the plan area including wilderness and wild and scenic rivers and potential need and opportunity for additional designated areas.

Due to the length of the report, Bridger-Teton staff are working to make the document more readable and digestible for the public. Forest staff hope to have the draft assessment completed by fall 2024. At that time, the Bridger-Teton will plan to hold public engagement opportunities to formally release the draft assessment report to the public and begin a formal public comment period later in 2024.



Relationship Building

During summer 2024, the Bridger-Teton Forest Plan Revision Team is focused on holding conversations, building relationships, and finding out what people's hopes and dreams are for a revised forest plan. Get involved in the process, learn what public engagement opportunities are coming up, and dive deep into the forest plan revision

process by visiting the Bridger-Teton's [Plan Revision Hub](#). Explore the site to learn more.

Have additional questions or want to meet and chat with the Bridger-Teton's Forest Plan Revision Team? Email Forest Planner Dominique Brough at Dominique.Brough@usda.gov or Public Collaboration Specialist C.J. Adams at Christopher.Adams2@usda.gov.

For more news, events, and information, visit fs.usda.gov/btnf and follow the Bridger-Teton National Forest on [Facebook](#) and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) @BridgerTetonNF.

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If you have any questions, please email r4_b-t_info@usda.gov

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