



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

San Bernardino National Forest

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San Bernardino, CA
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File Code: 1920
Date: June 27, 2023

Dear Interested Party:

The San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) is proposing to update the Land Management Plan (LMP) monitoring program beginning with the 2019-2020 biennial reporting cycle. This administrative change would make reports more concise and easier to read while fulfilling the requirements of the Southern California National Forests Land Management Plan. I am requesting public input on the proposed changes and encourage you to provide feedback for consideration. This letter is to notify you of the proposed changes and to provide you with the opportunity to comment. Instructions about how to comment on this change are provided below.

The 2006 Forest Plan monitoring program informs management of resources on the plan area, including by testing relevant assumptions, tracking relevant changes, and measuring management effectiveness and progress towards achieving or maintaining the plan's desired conditions, goals, and objectives. The monitoring reports indicate whether a change to the plan, management activities or the monitoring program, or a new assessment, may be warranted based on the new information. The program was updated in 2016 to conform to new direction from the 2012 Planning Rule.

All published Monitoring and Evaluation Reports can be found on the SBNF website under "Monitoring Reports" at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/sbnf/landmanagement/planning>.

Proposed Administrative Change

We are proposing to amend the SBNF monitoring plan by narrowing the scope of the biennial reporting to include only the questions that make up Part 1, which fulfills the 8 monitoring requirements of the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219.12(a)(5), FSH 1909.12) plus social, economic, and cultural sustainability through a series of 20 questions. The proposed change would eliminate Parts 2 & 3 from the LMP monitoring program and take effect beginning with the recently published 2019-2020 biennial report, while eliminating Parts 2 & 3 from all future monitoring reports.

It was our intent to complete Parts 2 & 3 for the FY19-20 report, which consist of questions pertaining to plant habitat, the OHV and heritage programs, hydrology BMPs and air quality, and implementation/effectiveness monitoring at the project-level, respectively. However, Parts 2 & 3 are duplicative given Part 1 already fulfills the monitoring requirements of the 2012 Planning Rule.



Opportunity to Comment

Changes to the monitoring program, excluding plan revision or amendment, can be accomplished with the administrative change process (36 CFR 219.13(c)). Changing a monitoring question or an indicator is considered a substantive change to the monitoring program (FSH 1909.12, 32.4) and may be made after notice to the public of the intended change and consideration of public comment (36 CFR 219.16(c)(6)).

Comments about this administrative change will be accepted up to 30 days of the date on this letter. If you wish to comment on this proposed administrative change, please email: Evan.Surek@usda.gov with the subject line “*San Bernardino NF Monitoring*.”

The responsible official will consider any comments received, but there is no requirement to respond to public comment (FSH 1909.12, 32.4). **Danelle D. Harrison**, Forest Supervisor, is the responsible official for this change. This administrative change will become effective upon signature and is not subject to the pre-decisional objection review process (36 CFR 219.50).

For more information on this administrative change to the SBNF monitoring plan, please contact Evan Surek, Forest NEPA Planner at Evan.Surek@usda.gov or 909-361-7564.

Sincerely,

6/27/2023

 X

Danelle D. Harrison
Forest Supervisor
Signed by: DANELL HARRISON

