



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

White River
National
Forest

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Subject: 2005 Annual Forest Monitoring Report

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To: Leadership Team

The White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) was approved in April 2002. The Forest Plan was developed to meet the requirements of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA), as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

The following is the White River National Forest 2005 Annual Monitoring Evaluation Report. The report is the annual report as required in the Land & Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). Monitoring is required under NFMA regulation for plans signed under the 1984 Planning Rule as specified in **36 CFR 219.7 (f)**: *A program of monitoring and evaluation will be conducted that includes consideration of the effects of National Forest management on the land, resources, and communities adjacent to or near the national forest as well as the effects to national forest management from activities on nearby lands managed by other federal, state, local, or tribal government agencies or under the jurisdiction of local governments.*

Planning regulations **36 CFR 219.10 (g) state**: *Forest Plans shall ordinarily be revised on a 10 year cycle or at least every 15 years. It may also be revised whenever the Forest Supervisor determines that conditions or demands in the area have changed significantly.* For the White River NF, implementation of the Forest Plan will be evaluated through this report, as will determinations of the need to initiate change.

36 CFR 219.11 (d) states: Monitoring and evaluation requirements provide a basis for a periodic determination and evaluation of the effects of management practices. The 2005 Annual Monitoring Report is part of an on going effort to document observations, changes, and trends in resources and the environment on the National Forest. This effort helps the forest to evaluate for any needed management changes, decisions, or actions.

I have reviewed the 2005 Annual Monitoring Evaluation Report and believe that the results, as documented in this report, meet the intent of both Chapter IV of the Forest Plan and applicable regulations. I concur with the findings of this report. This is not an appealable decision, according to 36 CFR 215.7, 217.3, Decisions Subject to Appeal.

MARIBETH GUSTAFSON
Forest Supervisor



2005 Monitoring Evaluation Report

I. Monitoring Activities:

Table 1 represents those activities monitored throughout the White River National Forest and their respective accomplishments reported for fiscal year 2005.

Table 2 represents monitoring done in 2005 specific to Management Indicator Species (MIS). This report only includes monitoring done since the establishment of protocol in the spring of 2003. The table is only a synopsis of monitoring activities, more detailed information can be found by contacting the Wildlife & Fisheries program areas. Tables 3 & 4 summarize other monitoring done across the forest in fiscal year 2005. The five-year report is due out in fiscal year 2008.

These tables represent only a brief perspective on monitoring activities. More detailed accounts can be found by contacting the individual program areas.

II. Action Plan

The White River National Forest Forest Plan, Chapter IV provides the Monitoring and Evaluation criteria.

- Monitoring activities that meet minimum legal requirements;
- Monitoring questions that go beyond minimum legal requirements;
- Document monitoring and evaluation accomplishments;
- Provide an accountability tool for monitoring and evaluation expenditures;
- Provide an assessment of the current state of the forest;
- Provide adaptive management feedback to recommend changes to the Forest Plan; and
- Describe to the public how their public lands are being managed.

III. Updates

No additional research needs have been identified as a result of monitoring during 2005. Once the effectiveness of the Forest Plan can be evaluated additional research needs may be identified.

One forest plan amendment was initiated for Water and Lynx.

Table 1. White River National Forest Accomplishments for FY2005

DESCRIPTION	UNITS	PLANNED	COMPLETED	BALANCE
Environmental Compliance				
Manage ECAP/AML	ACTIVITIES	3	6	+3
Physical Hazards Mitigated	HAZARD			
Facilities				
Public Drinking Water Systems with certified operators where required by EPA/State	PERCENT			
Capital Improvements Completed on schedule and within budget	IMPROVEMENT			
Number of facilities maintained to standard	FACILITIES	116	183	+67
Facility Condition Surveys performed as scheduled	PERCENT	0	84	+84
Master Plans Completed	PERCENT	100	100	0
Forest Management				
Approved Timber Management NEPA documents thru appeal & litigation	DOCUMENT	2	1	-1
Establish Vegetation	ACRE	0	10	+10
Treatment of Harvest-Related Woody Fuels (Brush Disposal - BDBD)	ACRE	20	20	0
Improve Forest Vegetation	ACRE	0	298	+298
Pipeline	CCF	87,299	89,393	+2084
Reforestation	ACRE	0	391	+391
Improve Range Vegetation	ACRE	139,480	133,644	-5,836
Special products permits administered	PERMIT	1,681	2,174	+493
Forestlands treated to achieve healthier conditions of other desired conditions	ACRE	0	427	+427
Timber Volume Harvested -- all funding sources	CCF	12,609	9,945	-2,264
Timber volume offered for sale -- Salvage Sale	CCF	3,000	5,942	+2,942
Timber volume offered for sale -- Appropriated	CCF	14,000	11,036	-2,962
Timber Volume Sold -- all funding sources	CCF	0	7,702	+7,702
Forestry and Fire				
Firefighting production capability	CHAINS/HR	22.52	22.52	0



DESCRIPTION	UNITS	PLANNED	COMPLETED	BALANCE
Non-wildland/urban interface (non-WUI) high-priority hazardous fuels mitigated	ACRE	712	741	+29
Wildland/urban interface (WUI) high-priority hazardous fuels mitigated	ACRE	1068	1039	-29
Ecosystem Mgmt Planning, IM				
Above Project Integrated Inventories	ACRE	29,246	2,9246	0
Air Quality Related Value Monitoring	SITE	17	15	-2
Broadscale Ecosystem Assessments	ASSESSMENT	1	1	0
Landscape Scale Ecosystem Assessments completed (Upper Eagle)	ASSESSMENT	0	1	+1
GIS Resource Mapping	QRTR QUADS	445	445	0
Land Management Plan (LMP) Monitoring and Evaluation Reports	REPORT	1	1	0
Land Management Plan (LMP) Amendments	AMENDMENT	2	0	-2
LMP Monitoring of Soil Resources	SITE	0	0	0
LMP Monitoring of Water Resources	SITE	0	5	+5
Land Ownership Management				
Acres Acquired	ACRE	771	771	0
Boundary Line Marked/Maintained	MILE	0/0	15/2	+15/+2
Cases resolved through litigation or processed through administrative procedure	CASE			
Acres Adjusted	ACRE	0	0	0
Rights-of-way acquired	NUMBER	0	10	+10
Land use proposals and applications processed	PERMIT	0	46	+46
Authorizations Administered to Standard	PERMIT	60	0	-60
Authorizations Administered - Total	PERMIT	0	0	0
Minerals & Geology				
Total Energy Operations Administered to Standard	OPERATIONS	0	17	+17
Energy Operations Processed	OPERATIONS	0	14	+14
Non-Bonded Non-Energy Operations Processed	OPERATIONS	0	20	+20
Operations Administered to Standard	OPERATIONS	12	2	-10
Operations Processed	OPERATIONS	18	0	-18
Road Construction & Maintenance				
Miles of Road Improved	MILE	33.0	32.1	-0.9
Percent of bridges inspected as scheduled	PERCENT	100	100	
Reduction in the number of deficient bridges	BRIDGE	0	0	0
Miles of Road Decommissioned	MILE	2	4.35	2.35

DESCRIPTION	UNITS	PLANNED	COMPLETED	BALANCE
Miles of high clearance road maintained to objective maintenance level (Level 1 & 2)	MILE	65	183.55	-118.55
Miles of passenger car road maintained at objective maintenance level (Level 3, 4, & 5)	MILE	425.0	451.65	-26.65
Percent of Road Condition Survey Completed	PERCENT	100	100	
Grazing and Rangeland Mgmt				
Grazing Allotment Administration to Standard	ALLOTMENT	285,000	344,507	+59,507
Grazing Allotment Decisions Signed (Analyzed/NEPA)	ALLOTMENT	7	6	-1
Rangeland Monitored and Evaluated	ACRE	57,531	58,483	+952
Range Non-Structural Improvements Completed	ACRE	8	7	-1
Range Structural Improvements (RBRB funds)	STRUCTURE	0	0	0
Recreation Management				
General Forest Areas Managed to Standard	DAY	3,419	1,396	-2,023
Heritage Resources managed to standard	SITE	89	117	+28
Operation of Developed sites to standard	PAOTS	277,000	336,435	+59,435
Products Provided to standard	PRODUCT	133	254	+121
Recreation Special Uses Authorizations Administered to Standard	PERMIT	300	229	+71
Wilderness Areas managed to standard	AREA	4	4	0
State and Private Forestry and Fire				
Forest Health Acres protected, Federal and Cooperative Lands	ACRE	0	175	+175
Seniors, Youth and Volunteer Prgms				
SYVP-YCC-PART-FN	DOLLAR US			
Recreation Management				
Miles of trail improved to standard	MILE	0	31	+31
Miles of trails maintained to standard	MILE	662	381	+281
Forest Management				
Noxious Weed Treatment	ACRE	2,050	5,029	+2,979
Soil & Water Resource Improvements	ACRE	12	51	+39
Wildlife, Fish & TES Habitat Mgmt				
Inland Fish Lakes Restored or Enhanced	ACRE	15	11	-4
Inland Fish Streams Restored or Enhanced	MILE	10	10	0
Provide Interpretation and Education: Products provided	PRODUCT	19	19	0

DESCRIPTION	UNITS	PLANNED	COMPLETED	BALANCE
Wildlife Structures	STRUCTURE	0	20	+20
Terrestrial Wildlife Habitat Restored or Enhanced	ACRE	893	2722	+1829

The above information helps to evaluate whether the annual outputs are meeting levels predicted in the current Forest Plan or whether a change is needed.



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Table 2. MIS Monitoring for FY2005

Species	Monitoring	Acres
Towhee/warbler	Conducted 8 breeding bird transects across the forest	2,000
Brewer's sparrow/ sage-grouse/ sagebrush habitats	Forestwide sagebrush inventory to determine suitable habitats for sage-grouse	10,000
Black Swift	19 nest colonies were inventoried across the Forest	100
Snowshoe Hare	Kreb's plots were installed and read across the Forest	6,000
Horned lark/American pipit	Conducted 8 breeding bird transects across the forest	2,000
Cave Bats	Baseline inventories in specific Forest caves	60
Elk	Updated information for Travel Management Plan	
Pygmy nuthatch	No surveys conducted in FY05	
Juniper titmouse	No surveys conducted in FY05	
Flammulated owl	Baseline inventories across the Forest	2,000
Alpine Willow/Pinyon Juniper communities	No surveys conducted in FY05	
		Sites
Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Communities	11 sites were monitored across the forest (one site replaced a 2004 site)	11
Trout	11 sites were monitored across the forest (one site replaced a 2004 site)	11



Table 3. Sensitive, Species of Viability Concern & Other Species for FY2005

Species	Monitoring	Acres
Rare plant surveys	Baseline inventories across the Forest	4,000
Mexican spotted owl	Habitat inventory and refinement mapping within habitat inventoried during the development of the Forest Plan	5,000
		Sites
Aquatic macroinvertebre monitoring	95 sites in 44 streams were sampled either for long-term monitoring or as project or reference streams for various purposes across the forest. These sites are in addition to the randomly selected MIS sites in Table 2.	95 sites in 44 streams

Table 4. Large Scale Assessments for FY2005

Species	Monitoring	Acres
Broadscale lynx assessment	Draft report prepared	1,000
Upper Eagle Watershed Assessment	Final report completed and printed in March 2005.	n/a
Divide/Mamm Watershed Assessment	On hold due to lack of funds – no work completed.	