



**NEWS
RELEASE**



United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service
Salmon - Challis National Forest
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SALMON-CHALLIS TO DISCUSS WILDERNESS PROCESS AT PUBLIC MEETINGS IN SALMON AND CHALLIS

Salmon, Idaho – The Salmon-Challis National Forest began revising its forest plan in January 2017. As part of the plan revision process, the Forest Service must identify what lands, if any, should be recommended for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation system. While only Congress can designate areas as wilderness under the Wilderness Act of 1964, the Forest Service planning process plays an important role in which lands are considered.

There are several opportunities to participate in the wilderness evaluation process during forest plan revision. The Salmon-Challis National Forest is hosting public meetings to discuss this topic on Wednesday, December 12, from 5 – 7 pm at the Supervisor’s Office, 1206 Challis Street in Salmon, and Thursday, December 13 from 5 -7 pm at the Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger Station in Challis.

“During our public workshops in November, some participants were particularly interested in discussing how the Forest Service determines what, if any, lands should be recommended for wilderness as part of a forest plan revision. We decided to hold these meetings to discuss the process in more detail and hear from stakeholders,” said Josh Milligan, team leader for the forest plan revision effort.

The Salmon-Challis is currently asking the public for input on its draft wilderness evaluation. Once internal and external feedback is reviewed, areas in the final wilderness evaluation will be analyzed in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which includes additional opportunities to comment.

For more information, visit the website at http://bit.ly/SCNF_Plan_Revision, contact Josh Milligan at 756-5560 or e-mail scnf_plan_rev@fs.fed.us.

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