

# **Actions Taken to Improve the Timely Completion of Forest Management Plans**

## **House Report 116-100**

- **Planning and Pubic Engagement**
  - There are currently 119 land management plans across the National Forest System (NFS), including administratively combined units. Of these:
    - 19 plans have been revised within the last 15 years;
    - 23 plans are currently in revision, on average taking close to 7 years to complete; and
    - 77 plans are older than 15 years and therefore not in compliance with the National Forest Management Act requirement of updating plans every 10-15 years.

To meet the challenges of developing and maintaining current land management plans, the Forest Service Lands Program has initiated:

- Development of a new corporate approach to planning that uses three bio-regional centers of excellence to support revision efforts;
- Development of a recruitment and retention strategy to ensure that our line and staff officers have the required skill sets to effectively plan and execute forest management plan updates within the intervals required in the National Forest Management Act;
- Directing technical assistance to regions on policy and direction associated with the 2012 Planning Rule;
- Coaching and training to NFS units regarding collaboration and relationship maintenance through collaboration cadres;
- Implementation of various training and lessons-learned events, many available virtually; and
- Establishment of online libraries of templates, tools and resources for planning and public engagement.