

From: Snyder, Shannon <snyder.shannon@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 11:30 AM
To: FS-Comments Intermtn Ashley ForestPlanRevision
Subject: FW: Ashley National Forest releases Notice of Intent for Forest Plan Revision
Attachments: Forest_Supervisor_Letter.pdf

Good morning! I am inquiring about this current action for the Ashley NF Plan Revision. From the website: "The Ashley Forest Plan Revision team has developed the **preliminary draft version** of the Land Management Plan (Proposed Plan), and will hold a public review and comment period for the plan September 10 – November 8, 2019 (**this begins the NEPA process**)." It also says "The official start of the comment period begins with the release of a **Notice of Intent**, which was published in the Federal Register on September 10, 2019." Typically we don't see a preliminary draft released for public review by a FR notice. Is this the official draft plan/EIS review period for the forest plan revision? Or is this truly a preliminary draft, and the actual draft plan/EIS review period is forthcoming?

Thanks,
Shannon

Shannon Snyder
Environmental Scientist, NEPA Lead Reviewer
NEPA Branch
Office of the Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region 8, 8ORA-N
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
p: (303) 312-6335 / f: (303) 312-7203

From: USDA Forest Service <forests@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, September 13, 2019 3:50 PM
To: Snyder, Shannon <snyder.shannon@epa.gov>
Subject: Ashley National Forest releases Notice of Intent for Forest Plan Revision

**Ashley National Forest releases Notice of Intent
in Federal Register to begin**

Public Review and Comment on 4 documents for Forest Plan Revision

The Ashley National Forest has developed the preliminary draft version of its Land Management Plan (Proposed Plan) and are seeking review and comments. This preliminary draft is a long term strategic plan for United States Forest Service land management and addresses how the Ashley intends to manage for the next two decades. The public review and comments will be used to modify the preliminary draft and assist

with the development of alternatives. Alternatives will be analyzed and evaluated in the Environmental Impact Statement the Forest will be preparing in 2020.

The public review and comment period for these 4 documents will be from **September 10, 2019 until November 8, 2019**.

Documents available for review and comment are:

- Preliminary Need for Change
- Proposed Land Management Plan
- Potential Wilderness Evaluation Report
- Wild & Scenic Rivers Eligibility Report

All documents are available electronically on the Ashley National Forest website under Land & Resource Management, Planning page. You can open, view and comment by clicking on one or all of the documents. Commenters are encouraged to provide their information electronically so it can be shared and reviewed. You can visit the Forest Plan Revision website with this link:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/ashley/landmanagement/planning>

The Ashley National Forest will hold public meetings in conjunction with the review/comment period. The dates, locations and times of the meetings will be announced very soon and will be posted on the website.

The website provides information on commenting. If there are questions, please call the Forest Plan Revision team at (435) 781-5118, remember to leave your name and phone number in case we need to follow up with you.

- [Forest Supervisor Letter.pdf](#)

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File Code: 1920
Date: September 13, 2019

Dear Friends of the Ashley National Forest

The Ashley National Forest has released, in the Federal Register, a Notice of Intent to revise the Ashley National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement. The Forest officially begins the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) phase of the revision of its 1986 Land Management Plan for the Ashley National Forest by soliciting comments and input on four documents:

- Preliminary Need to Change the Ashley National Forest Land Management Plan
- Proposal to Revise the Land Management Plan for the Ashley National Forest (also known as the draft forest plan)
- Ashley National Forest Evaluation of Potential Wilderness Inventory Areas
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Study and Report

These documents were developed by the forest plan revision team, based on the July 2017 Assessment. We also received helpful inputs and analysis from tribal, federal, state and local governments, as well as the general public. This next round of input will be used to further refine the draft forest plan, and assist in the development of alternatives for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The comment period for this scoping phase will end **November 8, 2019**. All relevant documents and information about how and where to submit your comments can be found on our website at: www.fs.usda.gov/main/ashley/landmanagement/planning

Hardcopies of these four documents will be available at our public meetings (dates and locations will be listed on our website) and at our Ashley National Forest offices in UT of Vernal, Duchesne and Manila. We will make hardcopies available for Wyoming residents at Sweetwater County Library in Green River, WY and White Mountain Library in Rock Springs, WY.

As provided in 36 CFR part 219.53(a), only Individuals and entities who have submitted substantive formal comments related to a plan, plan amendment, or plan revision during the opportunities for public comment as provided in subpart A during the planning process for that decision may file an objection.

Thank you for your interest in Forest Plan Revision. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you at our upcoming open house meetings.

Sincerely,

For
MICHAEL RICHARDSON
Forest Supervisor (Acting)

