

COU		
□ Departmental	☐Correspondence Action	☐ Public Hearin
ime for	☐ Closed Session	☐ Informational

ror AGE				
~ JL	_,,	~ /V		`

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: October 16, 2012

Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision - Collaboration and Communication Plan **Development and Listening Sessions**

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss the recent Listening Sessions for Development of the Collaboration and Communication Plan for the Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision and Provide Direction to Staff

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: The Inyo National Forest is working on updating the Inyo National Forest Plan. Recently, staff from the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP), Cal State University Sacramento (which is assisting the Forest Service with outreach activities for the Plan Update) conducted Listening Sessions with a variety of identified interested parties to solicit input for development of the Collaboration and Communication Plan for the Update. Attached are questions posed during the Listening Sessions to guide the discussion.

Supervisors Arcularius and Fortney, and Mr. Wilson with Willdan (who is assisting the County in the Update effort) attended one of the Listening Sessions on October 1. CCP staff is working on providing a summary of the input received, and plans to provide this information in the near future

ALTERNATIVES: The Board could direct written correspondence to the Forest Service and the CCP (and authorize the Chair to sign) in response to the questions posed during the Listening Sessions, or otherwise provide input regarding the Collaboration and Communication Plan.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service; Mono, Fresno, Madera, and Tuolumne counties; other interested persons and organizations.

FINANCING: General fund resources are utilized to monitor planning work in the Forest. Resources for Willdan's assistance with the effort are funded by operating transfer from the Geothermal Royalties fund.

Refer to http://inyoplanning.org/InyoNationalForest.htm for more information about the County's participation in the Plan Update/Revision.

<u>APPROVALS</u>	
COUNTY COUNSEL:	AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS AND ORDINANCES AND CLOSED SESSION AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by county counsel prior to submission to the board clerk.)
AUDITOR/CONT ROLLER:	ACCOUNTING/FINANCE AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the auditor-controller prior to submission to the board clerk.)
PERSONNEL DIRECTOR:	PERSONNEL AND RELATED ITEMS (Must be reviewed and approved by the director of personnel services prior to submission to the board clerk.)

Date: 10-10-12

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:

(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)

Attachment: Interview Questions from Listening Sessions

Stakeholder Analysis Interview Questions

Inyo National Forest Plan Revision

Prepared by Center for Collaborative Policy, CSUS

Introductions

- Self-introductions name, organization, why did you make time to be here?
- 1. Based on your organization's history of working with the Forest Service (this forest, or other forests, or nationally), in your opinion what has the FS done well when trying to communicate and involve you? What methods or factors really contributed to successful exchange? What missteps or mistakes were made?
- 2. In order to design a more effective collaborative strategy, we'd like to talk a bit about some of the forest use and management issues you think will be important during Plan Revision. What will be the most important issues to you during Plan Revision? Are there special considerations regarding how to work with the public on these issues? (For example, are there timing constraints or a need to involve special constituents who might not generally be involved?)
- 3. Given that the FS will have limited resources to commit to public involvement, what do you think would be the "biggest bang for the buck" tools or methods they should focus on for public involvement (e.g. workshops, website, webinars, newsletters, press release, social media, surveys, briefings, etc.)? What have you seen work well for other agencies or planning processes?
- 4. Who hasn't been at the table? (e.g. youth, minorities, visitors from out of area, etc.) Do you have advice for how to reach and engage them?
- 5. Given the diversity of perspectives that the FS will encounter, what advice do you have for how the Forest Service should address differences of interests and opinions?
- 6. For public meetings, what locations, venues or co-hosts do you recommend?
- 7. There are distinct phases of the Forest Plan Revision process: the assessment phase (an assessment of resource condition and trends); the Plan Revision phase, (analysis of a proposed revised plan under NEPA); and the monitoring phase (monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of the Plan direction.)
 - Please share your thoughts about how you would like to be communicated with and involved in each phase, especially how that involvement might vary by phase.
- 8. After these listening sessions, the next step is to work with stakeholders to develop a Collaboration and Communication Plan for the Forest Plan Revision effort. We potentially will hold a one day/evening workshop later on in October to further develop and refine the plan. Would you or your organization like to be involved, and if so, who and how? (Be part of the workshop, email review of a draft plan, etc.) What day and time of the week would work best for you?