



AGENDA REQUEST FORM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF INYO

For Clerk's Use Only:
AGENDA NUMBER

- Consent Departmental Correspondence Action Public Hearing
 Scheduled Time for Closed Session Informational

FROM: Inyo County Planning Department

FOR THE BOARD MEETING OF: July 9, 2013

SUBJECT: Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision

RECOMMENDATION: Receive a presentation from staff about coordination with Forest Service staff regarding the Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision and provide input, and approve the Public Outreach Plan and authorize the Planning Department to implement.

SUMMARY DISCUSSION: The Inyo National Forest (INF) is working on updating its Forest Plan.¹ Staff will report on recent activities relevant to coordination for the Plan Update.

At its June 11, 2013 meeting the Board directed staff to prepare a Public Outreach Plan in response to input from the Planning Commission and the Natural Resource Advisory Committee. Staff has prepared the draft Plan for the Board's consideration.

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

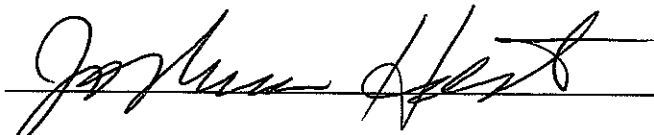
FINANCING: General fund resources are utilized to monitor planning work in the Forest. Resources for Willdan's assistance with the effort are funded by operating transfer from the Geothermal Royalties fund.

APPROVALS

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

¹ Refer to <http://inyoplanning.org/InyoNationalForest.htm> for more information about the County's participation in the Plan Update/Revision.

DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE:
(Not to be signed until all approvals are received)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph M. Hest", written over a horizontal line.

Date: 7-2-13

Attachment: Draft Public Outreach Plan

Draft Public Outreach Plan – Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision
Prepared by Inyo County – July 9, 2013

The Inyo County Planning Department will lead the County's public outreach effort for the Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision. This outreach effort is designed to engage the public at key junctures in coordination with the Forest Service's (FS) public participation efforts. The County's outreach generally will be (1) ongoing, (2) focused, and (3) staged.

Purpose: Due to the vast amounts of information being presented, the effort is intended to focus the County citizenry's input while minimizing participation fatigue over the many years of the Plan update process.

Ongoing

Ongoing outreach will be accomplished through targeted mailings, phone calls, and emailings to a list of interested individuals and organizations. Other tools include press releases, fliers, and potentially social media interactions. A periodic newsletter may also be considered. The contact lists will be compiled from existing databases and augmented with known entities with interest in Forest issues. This ongoing outreach will be coordinated with the focused and staged efforts described below, including with release of focused studies prepared by the County and the FS' work on the Plan.

Focused

Focused outreach will occur at key junctures throughout the process to inform the public and County decision-makers about important issues being considered and solicit input. These include when the County is focusing in on important policy issues to assist decision-makers in asserting the County's stance. The focused outreach may include meeting with local chambers of commerce, civic groups, volunteer organizations, special districts, the City of Bishop, the City of Los Angeles, and other interested community organizations. It is expected that materials will be prepared by County staff to assist with the effort, including technical information produced by the FS and the County to inform the citizenry and narrow input to relevant topics. The focused outreach is anticipated at the following key junctures: (1) prior to end of the comment period for the Topic Papers, (2) prior to the Assessment Report, (3) two-to-three times during preparation of the draft Plan and EIS, (3) during the EIS public review period, and (4) prior to the Record of Decision. County staff will also periodically update the Natural Resource Advisory Committee (NRAC), the Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC), the Agricultural Resources Advisory Board (ARAB), the Planning Commission (PC), and the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Staged

Staged outreach will occur during major milestones in the Plan effort, including the Assessment Report, the Draft Plan/EIS, and the Record of Decision. This outreach effort will be coordinated with public review of FS documents, and will incorporate input gathered during the ongoing and focused outreach efforts. This stage will be the most intensive of the three, and will include press releases and other media efforts. As with the focused and ongoing efforts, outreach to the County's contact lists will be undertaken to inform and solicit input for the decision-makers consideration. Staff will present information to interested organizations, time permitting. Input will be gathered and funneled through the NRAC, FWC, ARAB and PC to the BOS for final determination of County policy.