

Utah Natural Resource Committee Briefing
Revision Status as of 9/21/2016

Process Overview - Major Milestones:

Assessment Phase: June 2016 – April 2017

- Notice of Initiation for Assessment
- As of August 2016, 11 Cooperating Agencies have signed MOUs (incl. Conservation Dist. in UT & WY)
- Convened 2nd Cooperating Agency meeting to discuss & share relevant data for Assessment
- Draft Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) list
- Potential wilderness inventory & evaluation
- Prepare and post online resources; story map for process overview, collaborative mapping tool for comments on wilderness inventory
- Wild & Scenic River eligibility study (review 2008 Utah study)
- Draft assessment of resource conditions and trends
- Public involvement strategy & communication strategy
- Working with USFS Regional Office & Rocky Mountain Research Station to gather pertinent scientific information for assessment

NEPA Process: May 2017 – May 2019

- Preliminary need for change
- Notice of Intent to prepare EIS
- Draft Forest Plan and alternatives
- Draft EIS
- Final EIS, draft decision

Objection Process & Decision: June-Nov, 2019

- Objection filing period
- Objection resolution process
- Final Record of Decision
- Responsible Official: Forest Supervisor

Ashley National Forest Forest Plan Revision

2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR 219)

Contact Information:

WEB: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/AshleyForestPlan

EMAIL: AshleyForestPlan@fs.fed.us

PHONE: 435-781-5118

Key Public Involvement Points:

- ✓ = *accomplished*
- ✓ Overview of revision and how to participate, opportunity to contribute information to assessment,
- ✓ Introduce & review wilderness inventory & SCC list
- Review draft resource condition & trend assessment
- Review draft wilderness evaluation
- Review draft Wild and Scenic River eligibility study
- Provide input on preliminary need for change, issues for EIS
- Help develop draft plan and alternatives
- Draft EIS comment period
- Final EIS, draft decision
- Opportunity to object to draft decision
- Opportunity to be an interested party in objection resolution process

Public Involvement opportunities & goals:

5 meetings - July 2016: provide revision process overview, develop contacts, collect info on Forest use & trends, and gather relevant data for assessment

5 meetings - August 2016: provide information on the wilderness evaluation process, invite input on draft inventory; also invite review & comment on draft species of conservation concern list

Each round included meetings in Green River, WY; Manila, Vernal, Duchesne and Salt Lake City, UT. Announcements placed in all newspapers, radio & TV that cover meetings. Over 800 contacted directly by mail or email.