

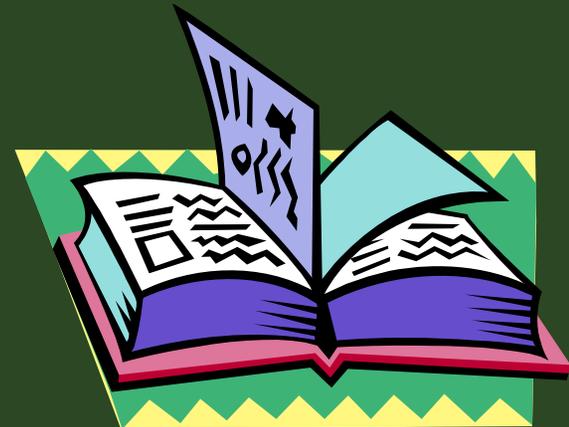
# Efforts to Revise Forest Plans

John Rupe



# Forest Plans

- Required by National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976.
- Regulations at 36 CFR 219.
- Related oil and gas requirements at 36 CFR 228.102.



# Things in a Forest Plan

- **Goals and objectives**, including desired conditions.
- **Suitable uses**, including oil/gas availability.
- **Management areas** and associated prescriptions.
- **Standards and guidelines**.
- **Wilderness and other special area recommendations**.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation** requirements.

# Maintaining Plans

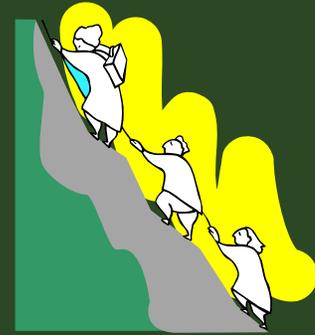
- Plans must be revised no later than every 15 years.
- Amended as needed.
- First plans developed from 1983 to 1993.

# Status of Revisions Nationwide

- ✓ 24 plan revisions complete.
- ✓ 49 plan revisions underway.
- ✓ 52 plans needing revision (29 now overdue.)



# Difficulties



- Taking 5 to 7 years to revise a 15 year plan.
- Costing roughly \$1 million per year.
- Plans often out of date as soon as they are finished.
- 1982 vintage regulations with complicated analytical requirements.

# 36 CFR 219 Regulations

- Currently using regulations developed in 1982.
- New regulations in 2000 essentially never implemented.
- New proposed regulations in 2002.

# Proposed Regulations

- Streamline planning by reducing analytical and procedural requirements.
- Retain focus on sustainable ecosystems.
- Retain strong public involvement.
- Retain use of science.



# Improving Planning

- Focus revisions on key things that need to change.
- Collaborative learning.
- Adaptive planning approaches.
- More frequent amendments rather than waiting for revisions.
- Planning for multiple scenarios instead of single futures.
- Separate levels of planning.

# A Model of Planning



# New Planning Model

## **VISION**

Niche - Roles and Contributions  
Desired Conditions (Forestwide and Special Areas)  
Related Monitoring Measures

## **STRATEGY**

Suitable Uses  
Prospectus  
Monitoring

## **DESIGN CRITERIA**

Guidelines  
Link to Handbooks

