

## Public Involvement

Extensive public involvement and collaboration has already occurred. The LTBMU began the forest plan revision process in late 2004. Many of these activities were conducted in a collaborative inter-agency process called Pathway 2007 (Pathway), in cooperation with three other key Lake Tahoe Basin agencies: The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, California's Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.

Pathway activities included 5 public visioning workshops, a series of phone surveys, 8 focus group meetings, 12 community place-based workshops and more than 40 Pathway Forum stakeholder group meetings.

More recent public involvement focused on a series of five workshops covering further topics of interest specific to forest health, wildlife habitat and fuels reduction; fuels reduction and water quality; and recreation opportunities.

This input, along with science-based evaluations, was used to determine the need for change identified above and will be incorporated into developing the draft plan and draft EIS. Additional meetings, correspondence, news releases, and other tools will be utilized periods to gather feedback from the public, forest employees, tribal governments, federal and state agencies, and local governments.

The LTBMU will continue regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal nations on a government-to-government basis. The agency will work with tribal governments to address issues concerning Indian tribal self government and sovereignty, natural and cultural resources held in trust, Indian tribal treaty and Executive order rights, and any issues that significantly or uniquely affect their communities.

The LTBMU desires to continue collaborative efforts with members of the public, who are interested in forest management, as well as federal and state agencies, local governments, and private organizations. Public meetings to gather input on potential alternatives to the proposed action are scheduled for spring, 2010. The dates, times, and locations of these meetings will be posted on the forests' Web site: <http://fs.usda.gov/lbmu>.

The information gathered at these meetings, as well as other feedback, will be used to inform the draft EIS. At this time, the LTBMU is seeking focused input on the need for change and feedback: Did we miss any substantive

issues or concerns? It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such a way that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the revised forest plan and the EIS. Therefore, comments on the need for change will be most valuable if received by April 30, 2010 and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns. The submission of timely and specific comments can affect a reviewer's ability to participate in subsequent administrative or judicial review. At this time, we anticipate using the 2000 planning rule pre-decisional objection process (36 CFR 219.32) for administrative review. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and addresses of those who comment will be part of the public record. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered.

## Applicable Planning Rule

Preparation of the revised forest plan was underway when the 2008 National Forest System land management planning rule (planning rule) was enjoined on June 30, 2009, by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (*Citizens for Better Forestry v. United States Department of Agriculture, No. C 08-1927 CW [N.D. Cal. June 30, 2009]*). The Department of Agriculture has determined that the 2000 Planning Rule is once again in effect. The 2000 Planning Rule's transition provisions (36 CFR 219.35) —amended in 2002 and 2003, and clarified by interpretative rules issued in 2001 and 2004— allow use of the provisions of the planning rule in effect prior to the effective date of the 2000 Rule (November 9, 2000), commonly called the 1982 Planning Rule, to amend or revise forest plans. The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit has elected to use the provisions of the 1982 Planning Rule, including the requirement to prepare an EIS, to complete its plan revision.

The plan revision effort was formally initiated on Feb. 5, 2007 with the publication of the Notice of Intent (FR Vol. 72, No. 23, p. 5264), and the availability of the "Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER)" and request for public and partner agency comments specific to the unit's need for change.

Development of the Proposed Plan was halted on March 30, 2007, with the injunction of 2005 Planning Rule. The 2008 Planning Rule (36 CFR Part 219) was implemented on April 21, 2008, allowing the plan revision process to be resumed. The LTBMU formally resumed development of the Proposed Plan with the publication of the Notice of

Adjustment on June 2, 2008 (FR Vol. 73, No. 106, p. 31429), and continuation of revised Plan content and public collaboration, prior to the court injunction of the 2008 Planning Rule on June 30, 2009.

Although the 2008 planning rule is no longer in effect, information and data gathered prior to the court's injunction is still useful for completing the Plan revision using the provisions of the 1982 planning rule. As necessary or appropriate, this material will be further adjusted as part of the planning process.

(Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1600–1614; 36 CFR 219.35)

Dated: March 15, 2010.

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## AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA) scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, 2010 has been rescheduled.

*Date:* Wednesday, April 21, 2010 (9 a.m. to 3 p.m., times may be adjusted).

*Location:* Jack Morton Auditorium, Media and Public Affairs Building, George Washington University, 805 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20052.

Please note that this is the *anticipated* agenda and is subject to change.

### Keynote

The Administrator will present an update from the front office of USAID, presenting his vision of USAID's role in the development world, plus an update on the Haiti humanitarian efforts.

There will also be a panel discussion on innovating to 2015 and accelerating development through science, technology and innovation.

### Stakeholders

The meeting is free and open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting can register online at [http://www.usaid.gov/about\\_usaid/acvfa](http://www.usaid.gov/about_usaid/acvfa). For additional information, Ben Hubbard, the Executive Director, can be reached at [acvfa@aid.gov](mailto:acvfa@aid.gov) or 202–712–4040.

Dated: March 10, 2010.

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