NATURAL RESOURCES CHAPTER TECHNICAL UPDATE

May 14, 2019
Outline

- Overview of process steps
- Summary of key updates summary
- Items to be addressed in other sections of the Plan
- Additional feedback received
- Next steps and discussion
TOPICS TO MOVE FORWARD OUTSIDE THE PLAN

Winter 2016-17

At-A-Glance Timeline

TRIBAL CONSULTATION

FOCUS TOPIC ENGAGEMENTS

DRAFT REVISIONS

DRAFT PLAN

ADOPT FINAL PLAN

POST ADOPTION ACTIONS

Winter-Spring 2020

SCOPING

RESOURCE INVENTORIES

TECHNICAL TEAMS

TOPICS TO MOVE FORWARD OUTSIDE THE PLAN

GORGE 2020

Winter

2016-17

TRIBAL CONSULTATION
General Organizational Structure

TREATY TRIBES
Cultural Resources and Tribal Treaty Rights and Consultation

G-2-G

LEADERSHIP
Executive Director, USFS Area Manager, Commission

CRGC/USFS
Planning Staff

Scenic Resources Technical Team

Natural Resources Technical Team

Emerging Land Uses & Development Reviews Focus Topic

Recreation Focus Topic

Urban Area Boundaries Focus Topic

Economic Vitality Focus Topic
Recent Commission Meetings

December 2018
◦ Reviewed first set of proposed staff revisions for Natural Resources Chapter

January 2019
◦ Discussed draft Natural Resources revisions

March 2019
◦ Presented on Economic Vitality, and compliance
◦ Introduced Recreation Focus Topic

April 2019
◦ Presented on LUD map corrections
Upcoming Commission Meetings

**May 2019**
- Discussion of Working Draft Natural Resources Chapter

**June 2019**
- Climate Change Presentation
- Scenic Resources Update

**July 2019**
- Recreation Resources
- Land Uses and DRs Update
- Economic Vitality

**August 2019**
- Tribal Consultation Update
- Urban Area Boundaries
PART OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

REGULATORY

PART I: SNCRs Provisions
- Scenic Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Natural Resources
- Recreation

PART II: Land Use Designations
- Uses allowed
- Designation policies

PART IV: Administration of the Management Plan
- Gorge Commission
- Forest Service
- Treaty Rights & Consultation

NON-REGULATORY

PART III: Action Program
- Recreation Development Plan
- Enhancement Strategies
- Economic Development
- Interpretation & Education
How are new uses reviewed for consistency with the Management Plan?

Step 1: Land Use Designation (Maps)
Check the map for LUD(s)

Step 2: Allowed Review Uses (Part II)
Determine what uses are allowed

Step 3: Implement SNCRs (Part I)
Consistency with provisions

Step 4: Issue a Director’s Decision
Findings of Fact and Decision
Natural Resources Technical Revisions

- Updates that correct errors

- Updates that clarify and specify expectations (clear and objective standards)

- Updates that reduce redundancy and simplify navigation of the Chapter
Engaging the Technical Team

- Meetings and calls to identify concerns, gaps, consistency with other authorities
- Written comments submitted by individual agencies
- Forest Service technical review
Updates That Correct Errors

• References
• Spelling
• Terminology
• Tables and Lists
Updates That Clarify Expectations

• Introductory text
• Glossary definitions – links to definitions
• Steps in resource review process
• Related state and federal agency authorities
• Exception for “low intensity uses”
Updates That Specify Expectations Con’t

- Use the term “mitigation” consistent with definition
- Limit removal of Oregon white oak
- Protect plant communities as rare plant sites
Other conversations with the team

• Culturally important species

• Best Management Practices
Additional feedback gathered for Gorge2020

• Development Reviews – support renewable energy
• Development Reviews – applications for new cultivation should consider water availability/conservation, sustainable practices, support pollinators, protect sensitive habitats; planners should encourage consultation with university extension services, and conservation districts
• Recreation – protect sensitive areas
• Climate change resiliency – focus of future Commission discussion
• Fire protection policies – Dec. 2018 Commission Meeting, in-progress
In the coming months, the Commission and Forest Service will be assembling expert teams to lead the focus topic conversations with us. There will be public participation opportunities and additional public outreach events for each. Please check our website for updates and sign up for our listserv to receive email alerts by sending an email to info@gorgecommission.org.

Economic Vitality

The Commission and Forest Service are analyzing economic drivers in the NSA, and defining the Commission’s role related to economic development. We’ve convened a work group to provide input.

- Economic Vitality Staff Report

Please contact Krystyna Wolniakowski for more info.
Urban Area Boundaries

The Commission is clarifying the process and criteria for revising Urban Area boundaries. In April 2018, the Commission discussed the history and background of urban area policy in the National Scenic Area. In May and June 2018, the Commission discussed several foundational questions as a means of learning about urban area boundaries and to give high-level direction to staff. Currently, Commission staff are holding workshops to develop draft policy, alternatives, and a report of the workshops. The Commission will consider the draft and alternatives in spring 2019. The following documents chronicle the Commission’s discussion and staff workshops.

- History and Background of Urban Area Policy
- October 2017 Buildable Lands Inventory Report
- May 2018 Foundational Questions Staff Report
- June 2018 Foundational Questions Staff Report
- Notes of May and June Foundational Questions Commission Workshops
- July 24 and August 1 Staff Workshop Slides
- July 24 and August 1 Staff Workshop Notes
- August 21 Staff Workshop Agenda
- August 21 Staff Workshop Slides
- August 21 Staff Workshop Notes
Emerging Land Uses and Streamlining Implementation

The Commission and Forest Service will revise and clarify land use policies to improve consistent application of resource guidelines and to address emerging land uses. Updates will be primarily to Part II Chapter 7 including, but not limited to, expedited review uses and processes, solar development, vineyards and cideries, agritourism, cumulative impacts analysis guidance, visually subordinate standards, etc.

Please contact Robin Shoal or Joanna Kaiserman for more info.

Technical Team Revisions

The Commission and the US Forest Service are also convening technical experts to revise the Scenic Resources and Natural Resources sections of the plan with updated information. There will be opportunities to weigh in on draft revisions to those sections (see the Timeline tab).

- May 2019 Update Memo - Overview of Natural Resources Recommended Technical Revisions
- Working Draft Part I, Chapter 3 Natural Resources (recommended changes shown in red mark-up)
Next Steps

Today
- Opportunity to discuss, hear from the public
- Working Draft on the website
- Update as need to reflect outcomes of focus topic discussions
- Seeking Commission support for the working draft revisions

Moving Forward
- Comments that are within the scope of technical revisions will be considered
- Continued coordination with counties about implementation
- Adoption of revisions at a later date
## 2019 Commission Meetings: Topics & Benchmarks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>May 2019</th>
<th>June 2019</th>
<th>July 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natural Resources Update</td>
<td>Scenic Resources II Update &amp;</td>
<td>Recreation Resources II “Key</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&amp; Commission Feedback</td>
<td>Commission Feedback</td>
<td>Issues” Update &amp; Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Climate Change Presentation</td>
<td>Feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Appeal Hearing</td>
<td>Land Uses and Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(County Panel on Compliance)</td>
<td>Reviews II Update &amp; Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>August 2019</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
<td>October 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tribal Consultation Chapter</td>
<td>“Gorge 2020” Draft Revisions Phase</td>
<td>“Gorge 2020” Draft Revisions Phase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Update &amp; Commission Feedback</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appeal Hearing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(UAB Update &amp; Commission</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feedback)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 2019</td>
<td>December 2019</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Phase</td>
<td>Phase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Questions?