

A-S NFs LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS

The **Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Plan** was approved by Regional Forester Sotero Muniz on October 30, 1987. The Plan has been in effect and implemented since November 30, 1987.

AMENDMENT 1

The Regional Forester's decision to approve the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests Plan was appealed by Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, Stone Forest Products, Inc., Sierra Club/Wilderness Society, et al., Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Wildlife Federation, and American Rivers, Inc. In addition, Michael Johns, Arizona Wildlife Society, Arizona Wool Producers, Town of Eagar, Navajo County Cattlegrowers, Greenlee County Cattlegrowers, Apache County Cattlemen's Association, Town of Pinetop, Lawrence Slade, Apache County Board of Supervisors, and the Town of Springerville entered as intervenors in one or more of the appeals.

Amendment 1 was completed in August 1989. Amendment 1 adds and clarifies management direction for riparian areas, low intensity prescribed fires, use of integrated resource management and project scheduling, public notification of project schedules and decisions, and cooperation with adjacent landowners and other agencies to solve wildlife conflicts on private lands. It also improves the readability of the Plan and clarifies direction.

AMENDMENT 2

This amendment deals mainly with changes in recreation facility development and recreation management direction. It adds changes inadvertently left out of Amendment One and changes resulting from a Settlement Agreement reached with Stone Forest Industries, Inc., for an appeal of Amendment One. Another change resulted from discussions with the Arizona Cattlegrowers' Association. Another change resulted from errata in the diversity standard in the wrong Management Area description (this errata could not be appealed).

SETTLEMENT DOCUMENT

The so called "Settlement Document," executed in May 1990, deals with resolution of the annual Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) and the allocation and management of old-growth areas for FY90, '91, and '92. This allows required analysis and monitoring to provide a basis for resolution of remaining key timber related issues in the current plan to be covered in an amendment.

AMENDMENT 3

This amendment deals mainly with changes originating from the "Settlement Agreement" between Forest Plan Appealants and the Forest Supervisor. This agreement was executed in May, 1990. Included are changes in the Annual Timber Sale Offering Schedule; and new or modified standards and guidelines that pertain to managing uneven-aged stands and old growth.

AMENDMENT 4

This amendment changes the Annual Timber Sale Offering Schedule to make it more consistent with the schedule included in the "Settlement Agreement" between Forest Plan Appellants and the Forest Supervisor executed in May, 1990.

AMENDMENT 5

This amendment deals with changes to Chapter Five (The Monitoring Plan) of the Forest Plan and was completed in June, 1992. The intent of this amendment is to update some of the monitored items, reduce the number of unnecessary items, and focus our monitoring efforts on those items that are deemed most critical to the implementation of the Forest Plan. The intent is to also reduce the costs of budgeting by monitoring the higher priority items.

AMENDMENT 6

This amendment resulted from an Environmental Impact Statement which amends all of the Forest Land Management Plans in the Southwestern Region (R-3). The amendment contains standards and guides that implement the newly developed recovery plan for the Mexican Spotted Owl (MSO) and also standards and guides for the continued protection of the Northern Goshawk.