

## **Alternative Development Process** Monongahela Forest Plan Revision

### Goals of Process

- Adequately address each issue through alternative development
- Ensure an adequate range of alternatives
- Meet timelines for alternative development
- Integrate Leadership Team into the process

### Process

1. Identify Issue Teams. The purpose of the Issue Teams is to bring specialists and LT members together to gather background information on the issue topics and make recommendations on how each issue could potentially be addressed in the alternatives. The Issue Teams information gathering and discussions would be considered pre-work for alternative development. Select team members will be assigned to more than one Issue Team to provide integration and consistency between the Issue Team.

2. Assign a “Team Leader” for each major need for change topic (timber supply, vegetation management, remote backcountry, and soil and water). The “Team Leader” would be a member of the Revision Core Team.

3. Assign a Leadership Team member to each issue team.

4. Identify the “desired direction” of the Forest Plan for each issue. This should describe what kind of direction/information the Forest Plan should include for each issue. In a sense, this sets the level of direction and guidance the Forest Plan will provide for each issue. For example:

- The Forest Plan will identify a strategy to inventory non-native invasive species and will provide broad direction for non-native invasive species management through Forest-wide standards and guidelines.
- The Forest Plan will include a management prescription for old growth that describes the percentage of each watershed that would be designated as old growth.

5. Once the overall guidance is established, the issue team will identify factors that can be varied in order to develop alternatives. For example:

- The boundaries of 6.2 areas can be varied by alternative to address the remote backcountry issue.
- The riparian area standards won’t be varied by alternative.

6. The issue team will go through the Forest Plan and review all direction in the current Forest Plan that pertains to their issue and then each piece of direction will be updated or changed as needed.

7. Once this is completed for each issue, the Issue Teams will present their information and recommendations.
  
8. Core Revision Team members (Josh Bixby, Michele Jones, Sam Lammie, Jay Vestal, Don Palmer, Glen Juergens, and Anita Kelley) will take the information provided by the Issue Team and integrate the information into draft alternatives using Management Area/Management Prescription direction and allocations across the landscape as the building blocks for the alternatives.
  
9. Present draft alternatives to the Leadership Team for review and approval. Update as necessary.
  
10. Present draft alternatives to the Regional Forester for review and approval. Update as necessary.

**ISSUE TEAM ASSIGNMENTS**

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>TEAM LEADER</b>	<b>LT MEMBER</b>	<b>TEAM MEMBERS</b>
Remote Backcountry	Don Palmer	Jeff Hammes	Kent Karriker Glen Juergens
Timber Supply	Joshua Bixby	Mike Baines	George Hudak
Vegetation Management	Glen Juergens	Rondi Fisher	Terry Evans Stephanie Connolly Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy Tom Cain Jay Vestal
Soil and Water	Jay Vestal	Kimberley Johnson Javier Delgado	Glen Juergens Kent Karriker Tom Cain Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy Jacob D'Angelo Stephanie Connolly