



## *NFH Cabin Outreach News – Winter 2019 - Something to Think About*

### **Be a voice for the cabin program and meet other groups in your forest - the Forest Planning Process**

We're all stakeholders in our forests. Along with this comes an open invitation to a seat at the table when forest plans are being revised. As a special-use permit holder, you have a stake in what is decided on in your forest plan, and as a cabin owner, you probably know your forest better than many!

### *What is your National Forest planning?*

It's time to find out. Road conditions? Thinning projects? Situations under which a cabin may be removed or the permit-holder not allowed to rebuild? Many of these decisions are outlined in forest plan revisions. Your forest's Land Management Plan will be used to defend or explain decisions that affect you as a recreation residence permit holder. Cabin owners have the opportunity to impact those revisions, and to speak constructively for the Recreation Residence program and our cabin community. The USFS requires public participation at every stage, so **sign up to receive emails from your local forest** about upcoming meetings or projects.

According to the USFS, under this revision process, the "agency's goal is to ensure an adaptive land management planning process that is inclusive, efficient, collaborative and science-based to promote healthy, resilient, diverse and productive National Forests and Grasslands." The rule, the law that oversees this process, requires collaboration from people like you and me at all stages. We're the public, and this is our land, especially so if you hold a special use permit (SUP) in the forest.

*Check out the NFH Guide: [Getting Involved with USFS Forest Plans](#)*

*Finding out if your Forest Planning Underway:* Go to your forest's web page (under Land & Resource Management on the left navigation panel) as the best resource for finding out about the local plan revision status and any future public.

*Multi-year Public Comment Process:* Since 2012, many forests have begun or are somewhere in the process of revising their plans, so many forests are accepting public comment this year or next.

*What do other cabin owners do?* In the Inyo National Forest, one of the early forests to begin their plan revisions in 2012, a group of recreation advocates participated as a coalition, wrote letters as a group and discussed their shared concerns. Will our cabins be considered a viable part of the future of our forests? If you have concerns about how your forest is managed, this is your chance to find constructive solutions working within the agency's process for public input.

*Tip: Check out a USFS [FAQ](#) about the 2012 planning rule. Also, see this USFS explanation of the [forest planning rule revision of 2012](#) and current nation-wide [status](#) and [schedule](#) of Forest Plans in process. Here are some forest plan links as examples of this process:*

[Ashley NF, Utah](#)

[Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison NF, Colorado](#)

[Santa Fe NF, New Mexico](#)

[Inyo National Forest, California](#)

[Custer-Gallatin NF, Montana](#)

[Nantahala and Pisgah NF, North Carolina](#)