

CHAPTER 4 – PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND COORDINATION

4.1 Introduction

This FEIS and LRMP represent the efforts and involvement of a broad range of participants, including public agencies, tribal councils, and private organizations and individuals. The BLM and USFS met and consulted with various federal, state, tribal, and local agencies throughout the process, including coordination with the Town of Rico and Montezuma County, which assumed more formal roles as cooperating agencies. The SJNF and TRFO conducted and attended many meetings throughout the planning process to keep all interested parties informed and to solicit opinions and input germane to management of resources within the planning area. SJNF and TRFO staff and community participants engaged in dozens of professionally facilitated, well-attended planning events, meetings, study groups, and workshops. In an effort that has far exceeded requirements and typical expectations for public involvement processes, the SJNF and TRFO engaged citizens, community organizations, and government agencies using professional support and innovative media and forums that focused community input directly toward development of the LRMP and FEIS. The focus on features, uses, and conditions of the land resulted in remarkably civil and thoughtful conversations and comments that are pertinent to the task at hand: revising the plans that guide decision-making about managing the land under the jurisdiction of the USFS and BLM. The bulk of this public outreach effort was focused toward the beginning of the plan revision process so that the LRMP could be developed around the issues of most concern to the public. This chapter summarizes this effort.

4.2 Summary of the Scoping Process

The USFS and BLM conducted a broad, thorough, and innovative community-based public input process that far exceeds the typical efforts of a federal lands scoping process and easily meets the basic requirements. The scoping process included several components summarized in Table 4.2.1.

Table 4.2.1: Scoping Overview

Scoping Component	Duration	Forum
Study groups	Jan. 2005–Jan. 2006	21 facilitated open public meetings
On-site town meetings	Summer 2005	3 facilitated open public meetings
Recreation interviews	Jan.–May 2004	83 interviews with recreation groups, outfitters, conservationists
Written comments	1999–2006	Written comments submitted to the SJNF and TRFO
Governmental water roundtable	May 2005 - March 2006	10 monthly meetings
Aspen workshop	Dec. 2004	1 focused workshop

4.2.1 Study Group Meetings

The core of the community input process consisted of 21 study group meetings over a period of 8 months with more than 450 registered attendees (many of which attended several meetings) and dozens of “drop-ins” that attended meetings or portions of meetings but chose not to register for the meetings (see Table 4.2.2). Some meetings attracted over 100 participants. Meetings were held according to 35 specific geographic areas or landscapes making up the planning area (see Table 4.2.2).

All study group meetings were well attended by SJNF and TRFO staff representing the full spectrum of land management disciplines and creating a broad knowledge base for meeting discussions. SJNF and TRFO staff introduced each landscape and provided an active role in facilitating and informing all meeting exercises and discussions. The Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services developed the study group concept and provided meeting scheduling and logistics and partnered with RPI Consulting, facilitator Marcia Porter-Norton, and other local planning professionals for facilitation and comment processing of the study group meetings.

Each study group meeting was open to all participants and was heavily advertised. Each week prior to a scheduled meeting, agency staff sent public notices to dozens of media and information clearinghouse organizations, including the Durango Herald, Denver Post, DCAT TV, KDUR, City Span TV, KSUT, HubWest, Cortez Journal, Telluride Daily Planet, KVFC, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Free Press, Mancos Times, Rico Bugle, Pagosa Sun, Pine River Times, High Country News, Durango Telegraph, and many other key information dissemination contacts. Meetings were also posted on the official planning website hosted by Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services.

Table 4.2.2: Study Group Meetings

District and Meeting Location	Meeting Date	Geographic Focus
Columbine District FLC Ballroom, Durango, CO	1/25/2006	Missionary Ridge, Lakes
	2/22/2005	Hermosa Creek, La Plata Canyon, Wild Oats
	3/30/2005	Durango, Mayhan
	4/21/2005	Beaver Meadows and HD Mountains
	5/24/2005	Weminuche, Silverton, Animas Valley
	6/29/2005	Vision and Niche Statement
	8/04/2005	Vision and Niche Statement and Wrap-up
Dolores District KoKo's, Cortez, CO	1/20/2005	Upper Dolores, Mesas
	2/17/2005	Boggy Draw, Big Glade
	3/17/2005	Haycamp Mesa, Mancos-Cherry Creek
	4/14/2005	Dove Creek, McPhee, and Cortez
	5/18/2005	Slick Rock, Dry Creek, Disappointment
	6/29/2005	Vision and Niche Statement
	8/04/2005	Vision and Niche Statement and Wrap-up
Pagosa District Jr. High, Pagosa, CO	1/27/2005	Williams Reservoir
	2/24/2005	Turkey Springs, Ute
	3/31/2005	Mosca, Piedra
	4/28/2005	Wolf Creek, Pagosa
	5/25/2005	Square Top, South San Juan
	6/30/2005	Vision and Niche Statement
	8/02/2005	Vision and Niche Statement and Wrap-up
On-site Meetings	6/07/2005	Norwood On-site Meeting: Norwood Area
	6/28/2005	Silverton On-site Meeting: Silverton, Weminuche
	8/31/2005	Rico On-Site Meeting: Rico Area

Each participant attending the study group meeting had the opportunity to register four written place-specific comments about each landscape covered in each meeting. The comments were organized

into four categories: Primary Use, Outstanding Features, Concerns, and Opportunities. Participants recorded each of the written comments on individual comment sheets while they placed corresponding icon stickers representing various comment categories (motorized uses, pet impacts, wildlife habitat, mineral and gas development, etc.) onto full-sized maps to specify the location specific to the comment. Well over 3,000 place-specific comments were collected in this manner.

At the beginning of each study group meeting, participants viewed a slide show presenting the aggregate results of the individual, place-specific comments about the landscapes from the previous meeting in 3-D format. Taking this into consideration, study group participants were randomly assigned to tables with five to 10 participants, one or two professional facilitators, and a SJNF or TRFO staff member to discuss the draft management themes for each landscape. Each comment was recorded by the facilitators during the meeting.

The Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services and RPI Consulting entered all of the input received during study group meetings into a master database and presented it in map database format, enabling agency staff and the interested public to view the comments in their geographic context. Processed comments and accompanying maps were posted on the official planning website so that they were accessible to anyone visiting the website. Processed public input was distributed to LRMP interdisciplinary team meetings where it was carefully considered in the initial stages of planning and in drafting the alternative management themes.

4.2.2 On-site Town Meetings

Since the geographic extent of the SJNF and TRFO encompasses many different transportation corridors, some communities such as Norwood, Rico, and Silverton are isolated from the core of the planning area along U.S. 160, where the majority of the meetings took place. In order to encourage geographically diverse participation and to reach these communities, the SJNF and TRFO took the study group meetings on the road. These meetings were conducted similarly to the regular study group meetings in Cortez, Durango, and Pagosa Springs and were heavily advertised and relatively well attended, with 50+ participants in Silverton, for example.

4.2.3 Recreation Interviews

Recognizing the importance of recreation for public lands planning and to lifestyles in the Southwest, the USFS and BLM initiated a recreation group interview process, conducted by the Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services partnering with RPI Consulting. In total, 83 interviews were conducted with leaders of organized recreation groups, commercial outfitters, stewardship groups, outdoor equipment retailers, and other organized groups with an interest in recreation on public lands. RPI Consulting built a geographic database of the interviews to capture place-specific comments and produced a qualitative summary of the interview findings for use in the planning process. These interviews, conducted during the winter of 2004, were an important component of the information and public input foundation upon which the ensuing recreation components of the scoping process were built.

4.2.4 Written Comments

More than two dozen written comments were submitted to the SJNF and TRFO during the initial scoping period beginning in 1999. This may be a relatively low number of written comments for a full plan revision, but is indicative of the extra time and resources devoted to conducting a meaningful scoping process built on the diverse set forums for authentic community participation. Nonetheless, written comments are an important form of community input and generally offer well-written, concise

statements about specific issues. The written comments represent a broad array of interests ranging from potentially adverse impacts of WSR designations on private land values to a call for protection of three specific freshwater springs in the HD Mountains. Many of the written comments are summaries of concerns voiced during informal meetings with agency staff.

4.2.5 Governmental Water Roundtable

Water resource concerns cut across jurisdictional boundaries and so should planning efforts surrounding water. Recognizing the jurisdictional complexity of water resource management, the USFS and BLM invited local governments, tribal representatives, water conservation districts, and state agencies to be part of the Governmental Water Roundtable. In total, 10 Governmental Water Roundtable meetings were held between May 2005 and March 2006. The purpose of this effort was to:

- Develop mutual understanding of key local issues related to water;
- Develop ideas for the LRMP;
- Guide land management agencies to make water resource portions of land management plans more accessible and easily identifiable;
- Identify issues beyond the scope of the LRMP and discuss forums that would be appropriate for working on those issues; and
- Evaluate proposed and existing WSR designations for area rivers.

4.2.6 Aspen Workshop

The SJNF convened a focused “aspen workshop” in order to draw insights from a number of local and regional authorities on various aspects of aspen ecology, function, and management. Topics included aspen ecology and interdependency with wildlife history and implications of aspen management, the role of aspen in the regional economy, and aspen aesthetics and environmental values. Broad sponsorship for this focused resource workshop included the SJNF, Montezuma County Federal Lands Program, Fort Lewis College Office of Community Services, Mountain Studies Institute, Colorado Timber Industry Association, Rocky Mountain Experiment Station, San Juan Citizens Alliance, Colorado Wild, and Colorado State Forest Service.

4.2.7 Other Relevant Planning Efforts

The LRMP and FEIS draw from an enormous depth of information and community input. Several important planning efforts have been underway during the LRMP revision process, and the USFS and BLM have applied knowledge gained from these related efforts to the LRMP revision. These efforts include community wildfire protection planning, the Northern San Juan Basin Coal-Bed Methane Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision (2006), development of the CRA regulations, the Biodiversity Model Project, various USFS and BLM travel management plans, and many other planning projects that have occurred since the initiation of the LRMP revision in 2004.

4.3 Cooperating Agencies

To integrate a regional land management perspective into the LRMP, the USFS and BLM invited more than 30 local governments, tribes, and state and federal agencies to become cooperating agencies for the LRMP revision process (Table 4.3.1). Cooperating agency status provides the opportunity for USFS and BLM managers and other government leaders to work together to achieve desired land management outcomes. It also offers the opportunity for interested agencies or

governments to take on additional roles and responsibilities beyond basic participation opportunities such as attending public meetings and reviewing and commenting on draft documents.

Table 4.3.1: Cooperating Agency Invitees

City	County	State of Colorado	Federal	Tribes
Bayfield	Mineral	Governor	USFWS	All affiliated tribes (see Table 4.4.1 below)
Ignacio	Archuleta	Colorado Department of Natural Resources	Bureau of Reclamation	
Pagosa Springs	Hinsdale	CPW	Mesa Verde	
Durango	La Plata	Colorado Department of Transportation	USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services	
Cortez	Montezuma	State Historic Preservation Office		
Dolores	Dolores			
Mancos	San Juan			
Rico	San Miguel			
Silverton	Conejos			
Telluride	Rio Grande			
Dove Creek				

In addition to being specifically invited to be cooperators, these governments and agencies were encouraged to attend study group meetings with public notices sent to key government or agency contacts for each meeting. The Town of Rico and Montezuma County formally agreed to be cooperating agencies during the planning process and developed an MOU with the USFS and BLM outlining each party's various responsibilities with regard to the planning process.

Additionally, representatives from other interested federal and state agencies and tribes provided the USFS and BLM with ongoing verbal and/or written comments, as well as planning information, including geographic data layers and information. During May and June 2013, USFS and BLM officials met with the Boards of County Commissioners from Archuleta, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties to provide a general overview of the LRMP. Agency officials met with the Town of Rico in May 2013.

4.4 Consultation with Tribes

In accordance with NEPA, the NHPA, and EO 13007, the USFS and BLM have consulted with the 26 tribes affiliated with lands managed by the SJNF and TRFO since the initiation of the LRMP revision effort. All 26 tribes were informed of the process and were offered a visit from agency officials to gather input and provide further information about the LRMP revision (Table 4.4.1). These tribes were invited to be cooperating agencies on the LRMP revision.

Table 4.4.1: Affiliated Tribes

Jicarilla Apache Nation	Pueblo of San Ildefonso
Kewa Pueblo (formerly Pueblo of Santo Domingo)	Pueblo of Sandia
Navajo Nation	Pueblo of Santa Ana

Ohkay Owingeh (formerly Pueblo of San Juan)	Pueblo of Santa Clara
Pueblo of Acoma	Pueblo of Taos
Pueblo of Cochiti	Pueblo of Tesuque
Pueblo of Isleta	Pueblo of Zia
Pueblo of Jemez	Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Pueblo of Laguna	The Hopi Tribe
Pueblo of Nambe	Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Tribe
Pueblo of Picuris	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Pueblo of Pojoaque	Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Pueblo of San Felipe	Zuni Tribe

During the course of the planning process there were several face to face meetings with the tribes and pueblos, in addition to letters updating them on the progress of the LRMP and inviting them to consult. Table 4.4.2 summarizes these consultation efforts. Comment letters were received from some of the tribes during the formal comment periods for the Draft EIS and Supplement to the Draft EIS. Details and full text of comments can be found in the project record.

Table 4.4.2: Tribal Consultation

Step in Process	Date	Forum	Tribes/Pueblos Involved	Results
Scoping	Jan. 20, 2005	Letter and invitation to be cooperators	26 affiliated tribes	Jicarilla requested meeting.
	Mar. 10, 2005	Meeting	Jicarilla Apache Nation	No comments.
Draft LRMP/EIS	Oct. 5, 2007	Meeting with Mark Stiles, Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center	Navajo Nation, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Laguna, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Pueblo of Santa Clara	No comments.
	Oct. 16, 2007	Meeting with Mark Stiles, Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center	Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council	No comments.
	Oct. 19, 2007	Letter	Southern Ute Tribal Chairman	No response.
	Dec. 14, 2007	Draft LRMP/EIS documents and letter	26 affiliated tribes	No comments.
	Jan. 15, 2008	Follow-up letter	26 affiliated tribes	March 2008: <u>The Navajo Nation</u> stated they did not have any Traditional Cultural Properties within the SJNF and TRFO. The letter also stated that they wished to be kept informed of the planning process. <u>The Hopi Tribe</u> stated they would prefer the No Lease Alternative, and that they consider all Ancestral Puebloan sites within the SJNF and TRFO to be Traditional Cultural Properties.

Step in Process	Date	Forum	Tribes/Pueblos Involved	Results
Draft LRMP/EIS (Continued)	April 23, 2008	Hopi CRATT meeting in Kykotsmovi, Arizona, with Mark Stiles, Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center, Thurman Wilson, Assistant Center Manager for Planning, and Julie Coleman, San Juan Public Lands Lead Archaeologist	The Hopi Tribe	Preferred Alternative C and the No Leasing Alternative. Would like the LRMP/EIS to focus on special designations to prevent surface disturbance on more of a landscape scale instead of at the site scale. Leasing stipulations were explained by specific area. They stated that they are most interested in the more southern half of the planning area, including Chimney Rock. They stated that enlarging the area around Chimney Rock with CSU or NSO is a good example of what they want.
	Sept. 9, 2009	Annual USFS and BLM tribal consultation meeting held at the Anasazi Heritage Center, with Mark Stiles, Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center	Navajo Nation, Pueblo of Acoma, Pueblo of Cochiti, Pueblo of Isleta, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo of San Ildefonso, Pueblo of Sandia, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Pueblo of Zia, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, Zuni Tribe	No comments.
	Sept. 7, 2010	Annual USFS and BLM tribal consultation meeting held at the Anasazi Heritage Center with Mark Stiles, Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Ohkay Owingeh, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Pueblo of Acoma, Zuni Tribe	<u>The Southern Ute Indian Tribe</u> had questions about the impact of fracturing geologic formations on the water. <u>Ohkay Owingeh</u> wanted to know how much the federal government receives from the oil and gas leases.

Step in Process	Date	Forum	Tribes/Pueblos Involved	Results
Supplemental LRMP/EIS	Sept. 8, 2011	Annual USFS and BLM tribal consultation meeting held at the Anasazi Heritage Center, with Mark Stiles, Center Manager, San Juan Public Lands Center	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Navajo Nation, Ohkay Owingeh, Pueblo of Acoma, Pueblo of Jemez, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo of San Ildefonso, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Pueblo of Zia, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Northern Ute Tribe	<u>Ohkay Owingeh</u> concerned over the impact of drilling to water. Thought it would be good if there was a bit more control so it could be done step by step, maybe the local tribal experts (Southern Ute, Jicarilla, and Ute Mountain Ute) could be involved. <u>The Navajo Nation</u> questioned when and how cultural surveys are required within the leasing/development process on such a large geographic area. <u>Santa Ana Pueblo</u> was concerned that the tribes do not have an opportunity to participate. This impacts their ancestral homes.
	Sept. 28, 2011	Supplement to the Draft EIS	26 affiliated tribes	No formal comments.
	Sept. 6, 2012	Annual USFS and BLM Tribal consultation meeting held at the Anasazi Heritage Center, with Mark Stiles, Supervisor, SJNF and Connie Clementson, Tres Rios Field Office Manager	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Ohkay Owingeh, Pueblo of Acoma, Pueblo of San Ildefonso, Pueblo of Santa Ana, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, The Hopi Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe	No comments.

4.5 Public meetings on Draft Land and Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

In early 2008, accompanying the release of the Draft LRMP and EIS, and during the comment period, the SJNF and TRFO held a series of 10 public meetings: three were held in Durango, two in Cortez, two in Pagosa Springs, one in Rico, one in Silverton, and one in South Fork. Approximately 650 people attended these meetings.

Meetings were also held with many governmental entities including the EPA, CPW, Mesa Verde National Park, the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office, the Town of Rico, and the surrounding county governments of La Plata, Montezuma, Mineral, and San Miguel. Tribal meetings are described in Section 4.4 above.

Additionally, meetings were held with stakeholder groups who had been involved with development of the LRMP, such as the Governmental Water Roundtable, San Juan Citizen's Alliance, Southwest Resource Advisory Council, Town of Ouray, and Air Quality Stakeholders Group.

The purpose of all of these meetings was to answer questions and explain the content of the Draft LRMP and EIS. The meetings also encouraged submission of comments during the official 120-day comment period.

4.6 Public Meetings on the Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

When the Supplement to the Draft EIS was released in the fall of 2011, additional meetings were held to explain the content and analysis in the supplement. Four public meetings were held in Durango, Norwood, Dove Creek, and Cortez. These are the communities most likely to be impacted by oil and gas development, which is the subject of the Supplement to the Draft EIS.

Governmental and organizational meetings were also held with Mesa Verde National Park, La Plata County, Southwest Resource Advisory Council, Town of Rico, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and San Juan Citizen's Alliance. Conference calls were held with other Counties of San Miguel, Montezuma, and Dolores.

4.7 Public Comments on the Draft and Supplemental Land and Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement

Regulations require that lead agencies evaluate comments received from persons who review a Draft LRMP/EIS and prepare a written response. Volume III, Appendix S is a summary of the substantive public comments received on the Draft LRMP/EIS and the Supplement to the Draft EIS for the SJNF and TRFO, and the agency responses to those comments.

The SJNF and TRFO provided the public a 120-day comment period for the Draft LRMP/EIS. The comment period began on December 14, 2007, and ended on April 11, 2008. A 90-day comment period was also provided on the Supplement to the Draft EIS from August 26 to November 25, 2011. Approximately 54,000 letters were received from members of the public; city, county, state, tribal and federal officials; public interest organizations; and private businesses during these two comment periods. Of these, the vast majority were form letters, with approximately 1,500 letters consisting of original responses or form letters with additional original text.

A standardized content analysis process was conducted to analyze the public letters received, which is designed to extract comments from each letter, evaluate similar comments from different letters, and identify specific topics of concern. Similar topics of concern were grouped together into public concern statements. The final step of content analysis involved determining whether a comment or public concern was *substantive* or *non-substantive* in nature. After completion of the content analysis, substantive public concerns were given to members of the interdisciplinary team for response. Non-substantive comments and public concerns did not receive responses. Further details about this process can be found in Volume III, Appendix S.

Substantive comments originated from over 250 commenters, resulting in identification of approximately 642 public concerns. The most public concerns were identified in the areas of minerals and water quality. Volume III, Appendix S lists the public concerns and the agency responses, along with a table showing which public concerns were stated by which commenters.

4.8 List of Preparers

**No longer assigned to the SJNF or TRFO.

DAVID BAKER**

Recreation/Special Use/Wilderness Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Recreation Resource Management University of Montana, 1980.

Experience: Over 25 years of experience with the USFS and BLM. Outdoor Recreation Planner for the BLM in Cody and Worland, Wyoming. Since 2002, work experience on the SJNF included fire restoration, planning, recreation and lands special uses, developed and dispersed recreation, and wilderness.

MARK BALL

Wildlife Biologist Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Wildlife Ecology, 1976; Master of Science, Range Ecosystem Management, University of Florida, 1979.

Experience: Thirty-three years of experience with the USFS on four national forests and national grasslands in two regions as a Range Technician, Range Conservationist, and a Wildlife Biologist. Current Assignment: providing technical assistance and practical knowledge for the wildlife sections of the LRMP and FEIS.

JULIE BELL

Archaeologist, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles, 1989; Master of Science, Anthropology (emphasis Archaeology), University of California, Riverside, 1998.

Experience: Twenty-one years of experience with the National Park Service and the BLM, including Research Archaeologist with Mesa Verde National Park and Field Office Archaeologist with the TRFO. Experience includes historic preservation, documentation, and compliance with historic preservation laws.

MARY J. BLANCHARD

Civil Engineer, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Environmental Engineering, University of Florida, 1991.

Experience: Nineteen years of engineering and environmental experience, including 9 years with the SJNF and the Tongass National Forest, Alaska, as well as 10 years in engineering and environmental consulting. Experience includes transportation and travel management planning, civil design, facility management, construction management, permitting, regulatory compliance, and soil and water remediation.

ROBERT BRANTLINGER

Resource Information Specialist (GIS), San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Environmental Resource Management, Forestry, Pennsylvania State University, 1985.

Experience: Twenty-eight years of experience with the USFS in Colorado. Past work experience in recreation, hydrology, fisheries, fire, rangeland management and resource information. The last 15 year on the SJNF as Resource Information Specialist with an emphasis on GIS.

SARA BRINTON

NEPA Coordinator and Ecologist, Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Forestry (concentration Forest Biology), Colorado State University, 1991.

Experience: Twenty-four years of experience with the USFS in Colorado, working in ecology, botany, forestry, rangeland management, fuels management, and fire.

JENNIFER M. BURNS**

Landscape Architect, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Renewable Natural Resources, University of Arizona, 1980; Masters in Landscape Architecture, University of Arizona, 1987.

Experience: Twenty-five years of experience in public land management. Experience includes work as a Landscape Architect in Regions 2, 3, and 6 on the Mt. Hood and Deschutes National Forests, Oregon, and the Prescott and Coconino National Forests, Arizona; and work as a Resource Management Specialist for the National Park Service at Grand Canyon National Park and Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona, and Lassen National Park, California.

JEFF CHRISTENSON

Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Science, Forest Recreation Resources, option in Resource Planning, Oregon State University, Corvallis Oregon, 1997.

Experience: Eleven years of experience as an Outdoor Recreation Planner for the BLM on the Challis Field Office, Idaho, and TRFO. Previous work experience includes fieldwork in the recreation program for the BLM and USFS from 1995 to 2001.

JULIE COLEMAN

Heritage Team Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Art, Geology (emphasis in Archaeology), Western State College, 1990; Master of Arts, History (emphasis in Historic Preservation), Colorado State University, 1992.

Experience: Twenty-two years of experience with the BLM and the USFS. Field Office Archaeologist for the BLM in Worland, Wyoming; Gunnison, Colorado; and Montrose, Colorado. Since 2006, work includes Heritage Team Lead for the San Juan Public Lands Center and SJNF.

DAVID DALLISON**

Timber Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Forest Management Science, Colorado State University, 1975.

Experience: Twenty-nine years of experience with the USFS in timber management and fire management, and as a Certified Silviculturist and Fire Behavior Analyst.

BRAD DODD

Associate Field Manager/Physical Resources, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Science, Geology, Mesa College 1978.

Experience: Six years of experience with the BLM and the USFS in Colorado and Utah, working primarily in geology and physical resources. Twenty-eight years experience with the Bureau of Reclamation in Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming in geology, hydrogeology, and safety of dams.

DAVE GERHARDT

Fisheries Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Environmental Biology, Fort Lewis College, 1983; Master of Science, Aquatic Ecology, University of Wyoming, 1989.

Experience: Twenty-three years of experience with the USFS as a forest-level Fishery Biologist. Education and experience includes emphasis on fish-habitat relationships, population ecology, threatened and endangered species management, and water management.

ANTHONY GARCIA

Wildlife Biologist Program Leader, Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Wildlife Biology, Adams State College, Colorado, 1995.

Experience: Twenty-two years of experience with the USFS in Colorado, including 17 years as Wildlife Biologist on the SJNF (district and forest-level) and 5 years as a Wildlife Biologist Trainee on the Rio Grande National Forest. Work experience includes management of wildlife and fisheries populations and habitats, ESA Section 7 consultation with the USFWS, NEPA analysis, and prescribed fire and wildland fire management.

IVAN GEROY

Hydrologist, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Fisheries and Wildlife Management, Oregon State University, Corvallis Oregon, 2002; Master of Science, Civil Engineering with an emphasis in water resources, Boise State University, Boise Idaho, 2010.

Experience: Six months experience as a Hydrologist with the SJNF. Previous work experience includes 5 years as a Nuclear Propulsion Officer in the U.S. Navy and several field seasons as a graduate student, hydrologic technician, and wildlife technician.

CARA GILDAR

Ecologist, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Zoology, Minor in English, University of Florida 1996; Master of Science, Forestry, Northern Arizona University, 2002.

Experience: Thirteen years of experience with the USFS on two national forests and national grasslands in two regions as a Botanist and Ecologist. Six years of experience supporting the BLM in Colorado. Several field seasons as a graduate student, plant ecology technician, and undergraduate researcher.

STEVE HARTVIGSEN

Supervisory Forester, Headwaters Timber Zone (Columbine/Pagosa Ranger Districts), San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Forest Management, Utah State University, 1977.

Experience: Thirty-three years of forest vegetation management with the USFS in Utah, Idaho, and Colorado on six national forests. Certified Silviculturist since 1998. ID team member, Rio Grande National Forest Plan Revision (1994–1997). Also, Utah State University research technician conducting forest vegetation sampling/mapping and cover type development (ECOSYM), Manti-LaSal National Forest.

MICHAEL G. JOHNSON

Renewable Resource Staff Officer, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Resource Conservation, University of Montana, 1975; Master of Science, Forest Hydrology, Oregon State University, 1978.

Experience: Thirty-five years of experience with the USFS in Arizona, Idaho, Montana, and Colorado on three national forests and in one regional office. Work experience includes Forest Hydrologist, Regional Hydrologist, District Ranger/Field Office Manager, Staff Officer/Assistant Center Manager, and Renewable Resources Staff Officer.

JUSTIN KINCAID

Hazard Fuels Specialist, Southwest District Bureau of Land Management and San Juan National Forest

Education: B.S., Forest Management, 1996 Colorado State University.

Experience: Twenty-three years of service in wildland fire and fuels management (USFS, National Park Service, and BLM).

TOM KOCHANSKI

Resource Information Specialist, San Juan National Forest GIS Team

Education: Bachelor of Science, Marketing, North Adams State College 1982; Master of Science, Forestry, University of Massachusetts 1987.

Experience: Twenty-one years in GIS/Resource Management. Twelve years working for the USFS on two national forests (SJNF and Santa Fe), 1 year working at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, and 8 years as the GIS Coordinator for the City of Cortez.

MARK B. LAMBERT

Staff Officer for Planning and Public Service, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Planning and Resource Management, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 2001; Master of Science, Environmental Studies, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, 2003.

Experience: Ten years of experience in public land management. Experience includes current position as Planning Program Lead on the SJNF; previous work as Monument Manager of Ironwood Forest National Monument, NEPA and Planning Specialist for the BLM Tucson Field Office, and Planning and Environmental Analyst for BLM Washington Office.

PAMELA LESCHAK

Fluids Geologist, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Master of Science, Geology, Texas A&M University, 1985; Bachelor of Science, Geology, University of South Carolina, 1982.

Experience: Ten years of experience with Amoco Production Company, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Houston, Texas, as a Petroleum Geologist; nine years with the Minerals Management Service, Office of Production and Development, in New Orleans as a Petroleum Geologist; three years with the BLM as a Geologist in the White River Field Office, Meeker, Colorado; and as a Fluids Geologist in the San Juan Public Lands Center in Durango, Colorado. Work experience includes subsurface geological and geophysical field and prospect mapping, cross-section construction, openhole well log analysis and correlation, and integration of engineering and geochemical data into subsurface reservoir models.

RANDY LEWIS**

Hazardous Fuels Specialist, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Associates Degree, Civil Engineering Technology, Idaho State University, 1974.

Experience: Thirty-three years of experience with the BLM in Idaho and Colorado as a Civil and Petroleum Engineering Technician, Environmental Protection Specialist, and Hazardous Fuels Specialist. Thirty-five years of training and experience with wildfires and the use of wildland fire as a management tool.

SHANNON MANFREDI

Plan Revision Team Leader (Raintree Consulting)

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Humanities, Fort Lewis College 1993; Master of Arts, Political Science, University of Colorado at Denver, 2008.

Experience: Twelve years land management planning experience, including leading interdisciplinary teams in the NEPA process, writing and reviewing environmental analysis documents. Ten years experience in community development, public meeting facilitation, and non-profit management.

STEPHANIE O'DELL**

Abandoned Mine Lands Project Manager/Hazardous Materials Coordinator, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Biology (Minors in Chemistry and Geology), University of Northern Colorado, 1980.

Experience: Eight years of experience with the City of Loveland as a Chemist, Industrial Pretreatment Coordinator, and Environmental Protection Specialist/Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Coordinator; 2 years with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe as a Water Quality Specialist/HazMat Coordinator; 7 years with the BLM as a Superfund Site Remedial Project Manager and HazMat Coordinator in Farmington, New Mexico; and 10 years with the BLM and the USFS as the Upper Animas Abandoned Mine Lands Pilot Project Manager/HazMat Coordinator in Durango, Colorado.

KELLY PALMER

Hydrology/Air Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Geology, Fort Lewis College 1985; Master of Science, Watershed Science, Colorado State University, 1991.

Experience: Twenty-five years of experience with the USFS as a Hydrologist on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest, Idaho; as a District Hydrologist on the Ochoco National Forest, Oregon; and as a Forest Hydrologist/Air Manager on the Dixie National Forest, Utah, and the SJNF. Work experience includes surface and groundwater hydrology, water chemistry, water

rights, fluvial geomorphology, geology, soils, and air management, including air quality and visibility protection.

JIM POWERS**

Minerals/Lands Staff, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Forest Products, Business Management, University of Idaho, 1977; Master of Science, Forest Resource Management, University of Idaho, 1988.

Experience: Twenty-eight years of experience in public lands management, including assignments as a Forestry Technician, Recreation Technician, Recreation (and non-recreation) Lands Staff, Operations Research Analyst, Forest Planner, NEPA Coordinator, and Minerals and Lands Program Coordinator.

ANDREW G. RABY**

Physical Scientist/Geologist, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Geology, University of New Orleans, 1978; Master of Science, Geology, New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, 1982.

Experience: Twenty-seven years of experience with the USFS and the BLM on one national forest and two Regional Offices as a Geologist in the minerals, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, lands, and heritage programs; manager of the Chimney Rock Archaeological Area; summer intern with the USGS, CUSMAP project; and uranium geology exploration intern with Plateau Resources LTD.

JESSICA RAMIREZ

Geographer/GIS Specialist, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Environmental Studies and Geology, St. Lawrence University, 1999; Master of Arts, Geography, University of Montana, 2004.

Experience: Ten years of experience with the USFS as a GIS Specialist on the SJNF.

JEFF REDDERS**

Ecology and Soils Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1978.

Experience: Seventeen years of experience with the USFS as an Ecologist/Soil Scientist on the SJNF; 3 years as an Ecologist/Soil Scientist in the Southwestern Regional Office, New Mexico; 4 years as an Ecologist/Soil Scientist on the Carson National Forest, New Mexico; 3 years as an Ecologist/Soil Scientist on the Apache/Sitgreaves National Forest, Arizona; and 1 year as a Soil Scientist on the Hiawatha National Forest, Michigan.

THOMAS RICE

Assistant Field Manager, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Humanities-Anthropology and Geology, Fort Lewis College, 1990.

Experience: More than 25 years of experience in Four Corners Region Natural Resource Management that includes private sector, tribal, and federal experience with an emphasis on energy, water, cultural resource, infrastructure, and recreation issues.

BRANDY RICHARDSON

Wildlife Biologist Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Ecology Oklahoma State University, 2007.

Experience: Seven years of experience with the USFS on three national forests across Colorado, California, and Utah. Work experience includes management and inventory of wildlife and fisheries populations and habitats, ESA Section 7 consultation with the USFWS, NEPA analysis, and other wildlife program support work.

MARK ROPER

Resource Information Specialist (GIS), Pagosa Ranger District, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism, Colorado State University, 1994.

Experience: Nineteen years of experience with the USFS across Colorado and Nebraska, including the SJNF, Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Comanche and Cimarron National Grasslands, Rio Grande National Forest, Nebraska and Samuel R. McKelvie National Forests, & Oglala, and Buffalo Gap and Ft. Pierre National Grasslands. Work experience includes Recreation Technician, Cartographic Technician, GIS and GPS Coordinator, database management, map production and data analysis for projects and NEPA planning, wildlife surveys, and wildland and prescribed fire support.

CHRIS SCHULTZ

Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Program Leader, Columbine Ranger District, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Wildlife Biology, University of Vermont, 1982; Master of Science, Ecology (Biology), Utah State University, 1996.

Experience: Twenty years of experience with the USFS and BLM in Colorado on the SJNF and Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests, and San Juan Field Office as a Wildlife Biologist; 5 years of experience with the Rocky Mountain Regional Office as a Migratory Bird Program Coordinator; and 10 years of experience in private sector migratory bird and raptor research. Work experience includes raptor ecology, migratory bird ecology, carnivore ecology, wildlife management, and Forest Protection Officer.

JARED SCOTT

GIS Coordinator, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Geography, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2005; Master of Science, Forestry, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, 2008.

Experience: Five years of GIS and natural resource management experience with the with the USFS and BLM. Before working at the TRFO, worked at the Kaibab National Forest for 4 years and was a core member of the Kaibab National Forest Land Management Plan Revision team. Experience in GIS, cartography, forest ecology, forest pathology, and dendrochronology.

LAURA STRANSKY

Planning Assistant, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Arts, Biological Science, Concordia College, Minnesota, 1975.

Experience: Twenty-eight years of experience with the USFS working in timber inventories, public information, and as an Old-Growth Inventory Coordinator and Planning Assistant.

GARY THRASH**

Planning and Environmental Analyst, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Biological Science, Colorado State University, 1971.

Experience: Twenty-nine years of experience with the BLM in three offices in two states as a Range Technician, Realty/Recreation Specialist, Environmental Analyst, Ecologist, Resources Staff Supervisor, RMP Team Leader, and as a Planning/Environmental Analyst. Work experience includes 8 years as a Seasonal Technician with the National Park Service and the USFS in Colorado and Washington. Current Assignment: providing technical assistance and practical knowledge for the paleontology, utility corridors, electronic sites, ACECs, and monitoring sections of the LRMP and FEIS.

MARK TUCKER

Rangeland Management Program Leader, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Range Management, Humboldt State University, 1979.

Experience: Thirty-four years of experience with the USFS in rangeland and noxious weed management in Colorado and Wyoming. Work experience includes assignments in minerals management, recreation, wildlife, watershed, and special uses.

NATHANIEL WEST

Wildlife Biologist Program Leader, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Science, Wildlife Biology and Management, 1999.

Experience: Ten years of experience with the USFS and BLM on two national forests and one national grassland and three BLM field offices in three states, including Land Use Compliance Officer, Natural Resource Specialist, and Wildlife Biologist.

BRIAN WHITE

Recreation, Wilderness, and Trails Program Manager, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science, California State University, Chico, 1994; Master of Science, Natural Resource Management, Central Washington University, 2000.

Experience: Fifteen years in recreation and wilderness program management with BLM and USFS in Washington, Montana, Arizona, California, Idaho. Started on the SJNF in 2011.

THURMAN WILSON**

Planning and Public Services Assistant Center Manager, San Juan National Forest

Education: Bachelor of Science, Forest Resource Management, Ohio State University, 1977.

Experience: Twenty-eight years of experience with the USFS on four national forests (in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Northwest Regions, the Regional Office for the Rocky Mountain Region, and the Washington Office) as a Forester, Economist, Operations Research Analyst, District Ranger, Staff Officer, and Assistant Center Manager (6 years with shared BLM/USFS duties).

CATHLEEN A. ZILLICH

Physical Scientist, Tres Rios Field Office

Education: Bachelor of Science, Watershed Management, Colorado State University, 1978.

Experience: Thirty-five years of experience with the USFS and BLM on three national forests in two regions, at district and supervisor offices, and for BLM field offices. Work experience includes Forest Hydrologist; water rights, minerals and lands administration; GIS stream inventory; fire restoration; and abandoned mine reclamation. Current assignment: providing technical assistance and practical knowledge for the WSR section of the LRMP/FEIS.

Tres Rios Field Office Leadership

CONNIE CLEMENTSON
BRAD DODD

Field Office Manager
Associate Field Manager/Physical Resources

San Juan National Forest Leadership

MARK STILES
MATT JANOWIAK
KEVIN KHUNG
DEREK PADILLA

Forest Supervisor
Columbine District Ranger
Pagosa District Ranger
Dolores District Ranger