

Rio Grande National Forest Plan Revision
Fish, Wildlife, and Rare Plants #2
Thursday, July 16, 2015
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Saguache Road and Bridge Building
305 3rd St, Saguache, CO 81149
Agenda

5:00 pm Open House

- Opportunity to view maps prior to group discussion
- Opportunity for one-on-one discussion with RGNF staff
- Light refreshments available

5:30 pm Setting the Stage: Overview of the Plan Revision and the Assessment Process

Mike Blakeman, Public Affairs Officer of the Rio Grande National Forest, will give a brief presentation about the goals of the plan revision process and the purpose of the formal assessment of current conditions on the Forest. The presentation will also address how the information that emerges from tonight's meeting will inform and influence the plan revision.

5:45 pm Community Discussion

This is the second community meeting regarding fish, wildlife, and rare plants on the RGNF. Meeting participants will have opportunities to provide information on this topic to the Forest Service in three ways in the course of the evening. Based on their preferences and available time, participants can participate in a 30-minute small group conversation in one, two, or all three of the following ways:

- Map-based discussion: Participants will discuss where on the RGNF wildlife and their habitats are good, where there are emerging issues or areas of concern, and where there are existing issues or challenges.
- Standards and guidelines discussion: Participants will review some of the fish, wildlife, and rare plants standards and guidelines in the current forest plan and discuss how they are working and whether they should be changed in the forest plan revision.
- Assessment question discussion: Participants will discuss the fish, wildlife, and rare plants assessment questions that aim to increase Forest Service understanding of issues on the RGNF. The questions discussed will be the same questions discussed during the first fish, wildlife, and rare plants meeting. Participants who participated in the prior meetings are welcome to join the discussion and provide additional details and insights, or they may elect to skip this station.

7:20 pm Summary / Next Steps

7:30 pm Meeting Ends

Discussion Questions

1. **What plants, fish, animal, and invertebrate species are important to you on the Rio Grande National Forest?**
 - Do any of these species need special management attention?
 - If so, why?
2. **What plant and animal species are unique to the Rio Grande National Forest and what is the habitat that supports them?**
3. **What management concerns might influence the long-term health of these species?**
 - How can the future management of the forest address some of those concerns?
4. **How do wildlife and plants in the Rio Grande National Forest contribute to the socio-economic sustainability of the San Luis Valley?**
 - What species and/or habitat qualities most contribute to these values?