



File Code: 1920

Date: July 8, 2009

Dear Planning Participant:

Thank you for your interest and participation in our revision of the George Washington Forest Plan. You have not heard much from us lately as we have been working on the ecological sustainability analysis and it has taken longer than expected.

I want to update you on a recent development which will affect the revision. Last week in a federal court decision in California, the Forest Service was enjoined (prohibited) from implementing the 2008 Planning Rule. This rule directed the process we used to develop the plan revision. Our agency is currently reviewing the court decision.

We do not know the details about how this court ruling will affect the planning process for our revision. However, the discussions we have had with you and the comments we have received have all been very useful in informing us of your concerns and issues about managing the Forest. These comments will be useful in whatever process is used to revise the plan.

As our Agency assesses the situation and provides us with guidance on how to proceed with the revision, we will update you with information on our web page. We appreciate your time and commitment to the revision efforts and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

MAUREEN T. HYZER  
Forest Supervisor

