



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northeastern
Research Station

Timber & Watershed Lab
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Date: April 18, 2005

Dear Interested Public:

Enclosed is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed research activities on the Fernow Experimental Forest. The EIS discloses direct, indirect and cumulative effects of these activities. The entire EIS is included in one document, which describes one no-action alternatives and two action alternatives. The preferred alternative is Alternative C which includes mitigation activities. Information incorporated by reference is available from the Timber and Watershed Laboratory, Parsons, WV.

In this Final EIS, we have reviewed, analyzed, evaluated and responded to substantive comments provided on the draft EIS. We assessed comments both individually and collectively, and responded by making factual corrections, and supplementing some of the analyses. The responses are included in the appendix of the EIS, along with copies of all comments received on the draft EIS from Federal, State and local agencies and elected officials.

The Final EIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency. It is our intent to prepare a Record of Decision (ROD) 30 days after filing.

If you have questions, please contact me at 304-478-2000. Your interest in the Fernow Experimental Forest is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Adams, Ph.D.
Project Leader, NE-4353

