

USDA FOREST SERVICE



Pike and San Isabel National Forests Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM GUIDEBOOK

Document No.	Revision Date	Person Responsible for Document	Approved By	Date Approved	Page
EMS Guide	10/30/2006	EMS Management Representative	Robert Leaverton, Forest Supervisor	06/09/2006	Page 1 of 3

4.2 - ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

ISO 14001 REQUIREMENTS

This element identifies the Forest's environmental policy. An environmental policy captures the overall intentions and direction of an organization related to its environmental performance as formally expressed by top management. The Forest's environmental policy is the basis for the EMS. All components of the EMS must be consistent with the environmental policy.

PURPOSE

Environmental policy at the Forest level is established by the Forest Supervisor and consistent with national policy. The PSICC has committed to this environmental policy and adheres to the principles of the National Mission Statement:

"The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations."

This policy provides the foundation for the Environmental Management System (EMS). The environmental policy is developed and maintained so it is appropriate to the nature and scale of the environmental impacts associated with the Forest activities and services. The policy reflects senior management commitment to address environmental issues, to continually improve, to prevent pollution, and to comply with applicable legal and other requirements. The policy provides the framework for setting and reviewing the PSICC objectives and targets.

SCOPE

The environmental policy applies to PSICC personnel and contractors, permittees, partners, volunteers and any other individuals or groups that provide products and/or perform services on the PSICC.

DEFINITIONS

Continual Improvement – Recurring process of enhancing the EMS in order to achieve improvements in overall environmental performance consistent with the organization environmental policy.

Environmental Management System – The part of an organization's management system used to develop and implement its environmental policy and manage its environmental aspects.

USDA FOREST SERVICE



Pike and San Isabel National Forests Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM GUIDEBOOK

Document No.	Revision Date	Person Responsible for Document	Approved By	Date Approved	Page
EMS Guide	10/30/2006	EMS Management Representative	Robert Leaverton, Forest Supervisor	06/09/2006	Page 2 of 3

Environmental Policy – Overall intentions and direction of an organization related to its environmental performance as formally expressed by the Forest Supervisor and Forest Leadership Team.

Pollution Prevention – Use of processes, practices, techniques, materials, products, services, or energy to avoid, reduce, or control the degradation of the environment, creation, emission, or discharge of any type of pollutant or waste, in order to reduce adverse environmental impacts.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Forest Supervisor will:

- ❑ Approve Environmental Policy

The Forest Supervisor and Forest Leadership Team will:

- ❑ Annually review Environmental Policy for its continuing suitability and appropriateness
- ❑ Communicate Environmental Policy to all PSICC employees, special use permittees, contractors, partners, volunteers and the general public
- ❑ Ensure that the policy is prominently available at the Supervisor's Office and Ranger District Offices

Pike/San Isabel National Forests and Cimarron/Comanche National Grasslands' Policy

The Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands (PSICC) seeks to provide a balanced and sustainable flow of goods and services for a growing diverse population, and to ensure long-term sustainability of ecosystems and species diversity.

The PSICC is a diverse place of multiple uses where ecological, social, and economic conditions include management of resources to integrate diverse needs, including managed vegetative communities, productive rangelands, pristine wilderness and a number of special uses. Natural attributes and scenic beauty are maintained while providing year-round recreation opportunities. Headwaters, unique flora and fauna, and special geologic, historic and research areas are recognized and sustained. Our mission is to manage the health, diversity, and productivity of the natural resources in ways that meet the needs of current and future generations. We do so in the following ways:

- Commit to taking all feasible and practicable measures to comply with or exceed applicable legal and other requirements.
- Conform to requirements of the ISO 14001, and international environmental management system standard.
- Encourage and expect our contractors, permittees, and suppliers to comply with environmental standards that are acceptable to our organization.

USDA FOREST SERVICE



Pike and San Isabel National Forests Cimarron and Comanche National Grasslands ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM GUIDEBOOK

Document No.	Revision Date	Person Responsible for Document	Approved By	Date Approved	Page
EMS Guide	10/30/2006	EMS Management Representative	Robert Leaverton, Forest Supervisor	06/09/2006	Page 3 of 3

- Ensure that all employees whose work can have an effect on the environment have received appropriate training.
- Monitor and continually improve our environmental management performance.
- Provide for the long-term maintenance and restoration of the ecological conditions to support diversity and sustainability of desirable plant and animal species on the PSICC.
- Commit to continual reduction or prevention of pollution and dedication to achieving continual improvement in environmental performance through development of evaluation procedures and associated indicators.
- Provide a positive contribution to the social and economic vitality of nearby communities.
- Manage to meet desired conditions in the Land and Resource Management Plan.

/s/ Robert Leaverton	06/01/2006
Robert Leaverton, Forest Supervisor	Date