

LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
PIKE AND SAN ISABEL NATIONAL FORESTS  
and  
COMANCHE AND CIMARRON NATIONAL GRASSLANDS

**AMENDMENT NUMBER 11**

August 1987

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Reason For This Amendment:

Demand for wood products from National Forest System lands has declined since 1984. During Fiscal Years 1985 and 1986 timber purchasers harvested 17 million board feet (MMBF) and 15 MMBF of wood products, respectively, from the Pike and San Isabel National Forests.

This was below the 26 MMBF average annual harvest projected in the Land and Resource Management Plan (the Forest Plan).

Because of the declining demand for wood products, it has been necessary to reduce the planned vegetation treatment program and the Forest's budget requests for timber sale activities.

Budget allocations for Fiscal Years 1987 and 1988 are 75.59 percent and 69.36 percent, respectively, of the budget necessary to fully implement planned management activities projected in the Forest Plan for the Pike and San Isabel National Forests and Comanche and Cimarron National Grasslands.

The Forest's annual timber sale objective has been reduced from 26 MMBF to approximately 17 MMBF.

Available appropriated funding in Fiscal Years 1989 and 1990 is anticipated at near the 1987-1988 reduced levels.

Rescheduling of these planned activities is necessary because of a number of factors including a declining demand for wood products, the need to balance District workloads with budget allocations and available personnel and a need to provide ample time to complete site specific project environmental analysis.

Amendment Number 11:

This amendment of the Forest Plan replaces Appendix A (the Ten-Year Timber Sale Schedule) and establishes a three year schedule of planned vegetation treatment projects.

To incorporate the three year schedule into the Forest Plan, replace previous Appendix A with the attached new appendix.

Amended Appendix A includes rescheduling of planned timber sales and updated estimates of volumes and acres to be harvested by timber type and regeneration harvest method for Fiscal Years 1988, 1989 and 1990.

Maps displaying areas where scheduled vegetation treatment is planned are on file at the Forest Supervisor's office.

There is no absolute assurance that planned activities will occur as shown in the amended schedule. Limitations of preliminary planning estimates, local economic conditions, on-the-ground conditions, demand for wood products, and appropriated funding all affect the Forest's ability to achieve planned vegetation treatment objectives and thus, actual timber sale levels.

During project implementation, when resource management activities listed in amended Appendix A are designed, additional site specific analysis will be conducted. Opportunity for public participation will be provided. Thus, the schedule change represents preliminary intent.

The actual decision to implement or not implement a project will be made after site-specific analysis and public involvement are completed.

In accordance with the implementing regulations of the National Forest Management Act (Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 219.10 (f)), I have determined that this amendment will not result in a significant change in the Forest Plan.

I have determined that these changes to Appendix A are not a significant change in the Forest Plan for the following reasons:

1. The amended schedule does not significantly alter the Forest Plan's multiple-use goals for long term land and resource management, nor is the opportunity to achieve vegetation treatment objectives in later years foregone; and
2. The amended schedule represents a short term fluctuation in planned management activities.

The potential environmental, social and economic effects of implementing the vegetation treatment activities represented in amended Appendix A were documented in the Final Environmental Impact Statement which accompanied the Forest Plan.

Therefore, because of the above, I have determined that there is no significant effect on the human environment and that categorically excluding this amendment from documentation in an environmental assessment or impact statement is appropriate (FSM 1952.2).

/s/ Jack Weissling  
JACK WEISSLING  
Forest Supervisor

August 20, 1987  
Date