



*30th Anniversary (1985-2015)*

## Join the Conversation on the Forest Plan Revision Process – May 11 in Hood River

On May 11, the U.S. Forest Service will hold another public listening session in Hood River on the forest plan revision process, which will determine how northwest forests are managed for the next 15-20 years. It is critical that we demonstrate to the agency that we want to see Northwest Forest Plan protections maintained to ensure that fish and wildlife and their habitat are healthy and sustainable for generations to come!

If you were not able to make it to the previous listening sessions in March, this is a great opportunity to make your voice heard!

**Tell the Forest Service why you care about the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and that you want to see Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) protections strengthened, not weakened.**

Listening session details:

**Monday, May 11; 6:00–8:00 pm**

**Columbia Gorge Hotel**

**4000 Westcliff Drive**

**Hood River, OR 97031**

After an introduction from Forest Service staff, session participants will break into small groups with representatives of the Forest Service to answer the following questions:

- What would you like the Forest Service to consider when revising forest plans in the Northwest?
- How should the Forest Service incorporate and apply science during plan revision?

- How should the public be engaged in the process?

Sample talking points:

- **The NWFP is an excellent, science-based regional plan** that has successfully helped safeguard the region's remaining mature and old growth forests and watersheds.
- **The Forest Service should keep the foundational components of the NWFP**, including its reserve system, intact as a consistent, regional plan. A forest-by-forest approach to plan revisions is not acceptable.
- **The NWFP should be strengthened** by using the best available science regarding climate change, wildlife habitat needs, and other relevant new information.
- **All mature and old growth forests should be off-limits to logging** to protect important habitat for Northern Spotted Owls and other late successional forest dependent species, and maintain carbon storage. The Forest Service should instead focus on thinning young plantation stands.
- **Revised plans should not reduce the size or protective standards of the NWFP's Riparian Reserves.** Instead, the Forest Service should focus on reducing the harmful impacts of old logging roads on streams, water quality, and fish habitat, while maintaining public access for recreation and other purposes.
- **The Forest Service should adopt regional standards and guidelines** that will provide the ecological conditions **that will contribute to wolf recovery** throughout the Northwest Forest Plan area.
- **Outdoor recreation generates nearly 200,000 jobs in Washington State**, mostly from expenditures associated with recreation on national forests, parks, and other public lands.

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