

**Mail comments to:**

Allegheny National Forest  
Plan Revision  
PO Box 36  
Warren, PA 16365

**Fax comments to:** 814-726-1465

**E-mail to:** r9\_anf\_fpr@fs.fed.us

Your name Robert Towsey

Title (if applicable) Super

Organization (if applicable) WARREN County School District

Address 185 Hospital Drive

City WARREN

State PA

ZIP 16365

Email address robert.towsey@wrsdpa.org

You may comment on any parts of the DEIS and PLRMP. The following topics will help you focus your comments and help us to better respond to your comments. You do not have to fill in every section in order to comment. At the end of the form, you will find a place to comment on other issues, alternatives, management direction and monitoring. Feel free to use additional pages.

**Issues in the DEIS (please check the topics you are commenting on)**

- ☐ Forest Vegetation      ☐ Habitat Diversity      ☐ Recreation  
☐ Special Areas including Roadless Areas and Wilderness  
☒ Other Concerns

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the National Forest Management Act, and the Code of Federal Regulations require that federal land use plans be coordinated with and be consistent with local plans. These provisions also require that local plans and policies be considered during the planning process and that adequate consideration be given to the impact of the Proposed Plan on the local economy and culture. Despite these requirements under federal law, local plans were in great part ignored during the planning process.

...the greatest extent possible. However, the Proposed Plan, and specifically the preferred alternative C, evidences the fact that the local goals and objectives with regard to the management of the Forest were in great part ignored during the planning process.

For example, during the winter of 2005-2006, 19 local municipalities, 3 Local Development Districts of the Appalachian Regional Commission, and a number of school districts adopted similar resolutions outlining these entities' goals and objectives with regard to the management of the Allegheny National Forest. The resolutions called for a comprehensive shoreline management strategy and increased recreation around the shoreline, which is simply not present in the Proposed Plan. This is merely one example, the resolutions generally covered 12 points or objectives. While these resolutions are not local land use plans, they do provide clear evidence of the local intent with regard to the management of the Forest, and they should have been given proper consideration by the Planning Committee.

These resolutions are cited in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, but the Proposed Plan, and specifically the preferred alternative C, simply ignores these resolutions to a great extent. Because local land use plans and local goals and objectives with regard to the management of the Forest were ignored, the Plan must be rescinded and revised so that, as required by federal law, the local plans and the goals and objectives of local government entities are given greater weight in the development of the Forest Management Plan.