
**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED LAND
AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ALLEGHENY NATIONAL
FOREST**

WHEREAS, the Allegheny National Forest has published a Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Allegheny National Forest; and

WHEREAS, the Allegheny National Forest has officially entered into the public comment period relative to the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan presents four possible alternatives (A,B,C, and D) for public consideration; and

WHEREAS, in the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan, the officials of the Allegheny National Forest have identified alternative C as the preferred alternative; and

WHEREAS, during the early stages as well as throughout the entire timeline of the planning process, local governments, school districts, and associated agencies were not provided with adequate opportunity for input into the planning process; and

WHEREAS, a codified system of communication relative to critical developments within the planning process, which would have fostered efficient dialogue between local governments, school districts, and affected agencies, was never developed nor implemented

WHEREAS, none of the proposed alternatives, including alternative C, sufficiently address the economic and social needs of local government entities; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to create a public response, local governments, school districts, and other interested agencies have banded together in an ad hoc format to review, assess, and address the preferred alternative C and to consider the impact of its perceived shortcomings; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc committee recognizes the significant contributions that the Allegheny National Forest makes to local governments, school districts, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc committee recognizes that, due to the August 28 deadline created by the Allegheny National Forest for the submission of comments on the Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan, comments must be generated and submitted in an expeditious and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the ad hoc committee's concerns include, but are not necessarily limited to, alternative C's lack of adequately addressing the following issues: a departed harvest schedule for timber cutting; additional alternatives for shoreline management and developed recreation; an economic analysis considering the effect of divestiture of federally owned property within the Allegheny National Forest; the effect of oil, gas, and mineral development on the forest in general, and specifically on those areas designated as potential wilderness areas; and the potential for increased motorized recreation in the Allegheny National Forest.

WHEREAS, the ad hoc committee will draft detailed comments on these issues and other issues not enumerated above prior to the August 28 deadline; and

WHEREAS, the _____ wishes to submit comments, but only after the _____ has reviewed the comments drafted by the ad hoc committee.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that detailed comments are reserved until such time that the ad hoc committee makes its final comments and the Superintendent of _____ is empowered to approve the submission of such comments on behalf of the _____ to the Allegheny National Forest by the August 28 deadline.

Adopted as a Resolution of _____ this _____ day of _____, 2006.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

SECRETARY

