

# Forest Plan Revision



US Forest Service, Lake Tahoe  
Basin Management Unit (LTBMU)

# Forest Plan Revision

Welcome & Introductions



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Basin Management Unit (LTBMU)

# Workshop Objectives:

- *Provide overview of Forest Plan revision process*
- *Describe opportunities for public input and the timeline for revising the Forest Plan*
- *Review status of Forest Plan proposed changes to date*
- *Invite public input on forest management and issues to inform the Forest Plan revision*



# Agenda:

**6:00 Welcome**

**6:10 Overview of Forest Plan Revision Process**

**6:30 Preliminary Revisions to the Forest Plan**

**7:00 Invite input on forest planning issues of interest**

**7:50 Recap Next Steps**

**8:00 PM Adjourn**



# Participation Guidelines to Support a Productive Workshop

- Focus is on sharing information; no decisions will be made at this workshop.
- Please speak to the focus and objectives of this workshop.
- Everyone will participate and keep the process on track.
- Participants will respect each other's personal integrity, values, and legitimacy of interests.
- Please turn cell phones off or to vibrate mode.





# What is a Forest Plan?

Land and Resource Management Plan

Primary guiding strategic document for management of resources and uses on a national forest.

Focus on achieving **desired conditions** within a framework for contributions to ecological, social and economic sustainability. Specific **objectives** are developed to move toward the desired conditions and bounded by existing laws and regulations within set defined **guidelines**.



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# Key laws and Policies

**Laws:** Resources Planning Act, 1974

- National Forest Management Act, 1976
- Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR 219, 2008 Planning Rule
- National Environmental Policy Act, 1969

**Policies:**

- Forest Service Manuals (FSM)
- Forest Service Handbooks (FSH)



# Forest Plan Structure

## Part 1. Vision

- **Desired Conditions**

## Part 2. Strategies

- **Objectives**
- **Suitability of Areas**
- **Special Areas**

## Part 3. Design Criteria

- **Guidelines**





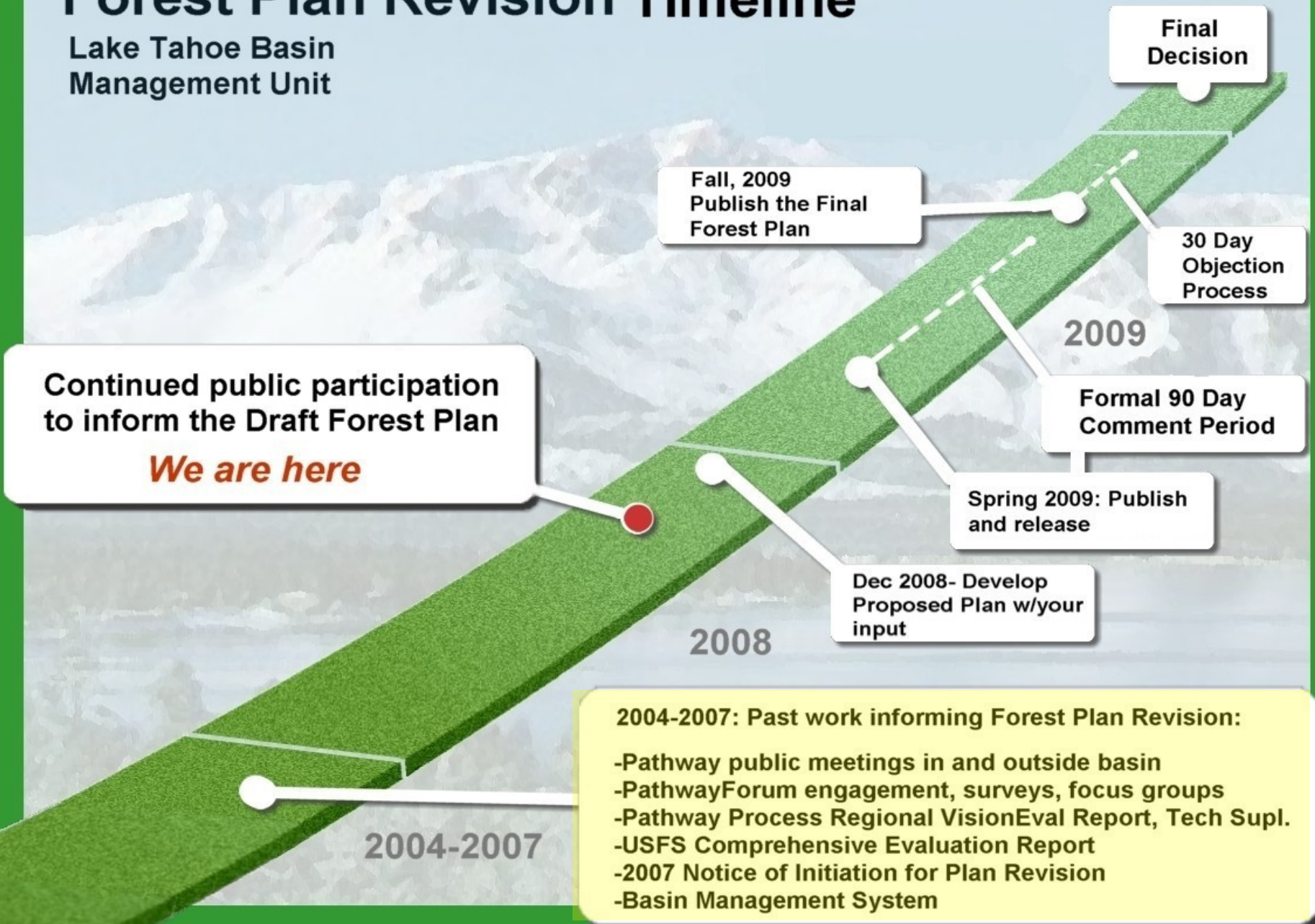
# Revision Approach

- Expands **upfront** public involvement and collaboration.
- Allows for quicker response to changing conditions.
- Fully complies with National Environmental Policy Act.
- More responsive to changing environmental conditions and new advances in science and technology.
- Use the National Strategy for Environmental Management System implementation.



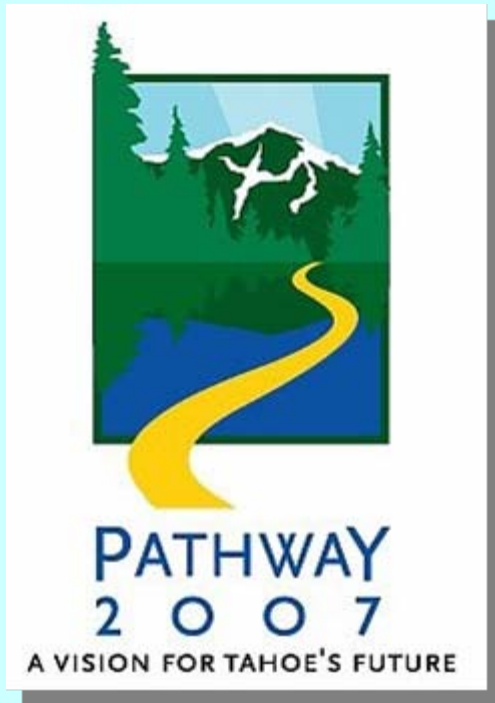
# Forest Plan Revision Timeline

Lake Tahoe Basin  
Management Unit



## 2004-2007: Past work informing Forest Plan Revision:

- Pathway public meetings in and outside basin
- PathwayForum engagement, surveys, focus groups
- Pathway Process Regional VisionEval Report, Tech Supl.
- USFS Comprehensive Evaluation Report
- 2007 Notice of Initiation for Plan Revision
- Basin Management System



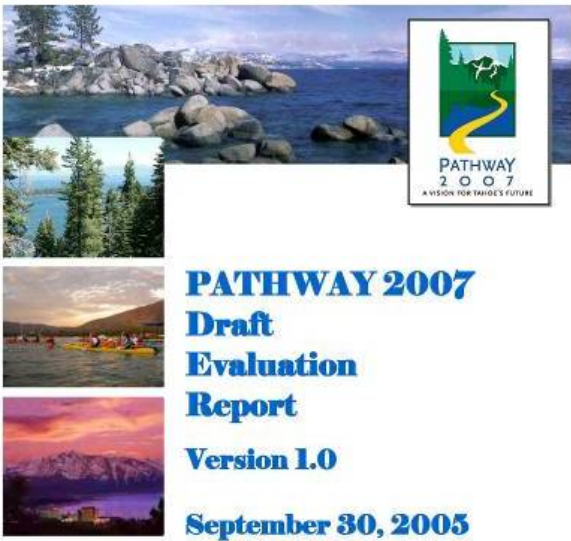
# Pathway Collaboration

Technical working group meetings, 5 public visioning workshops, 1 phone survey, 8 focus group meetings, 12 community place-based workshops, and 40 Pathway Forum stakeholder group meetings.



TAHOE  
REGIONAL  
PLANNING  
AGENCY

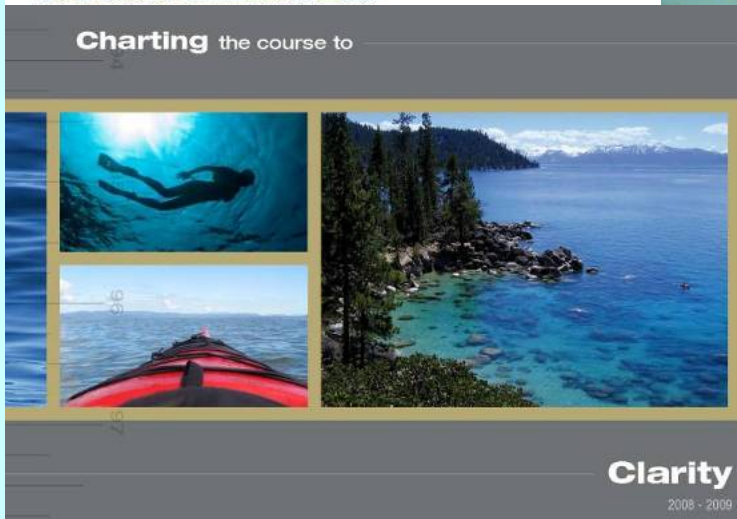




september 2006 public lands and waterways  
**vision summary**  
 place-based planning



Tahoe Regional Planning Agency  
 USDA Forest Service – Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit  
 Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board  
 Nevada Division of Environmental Protection



## Key Pathway Documents :

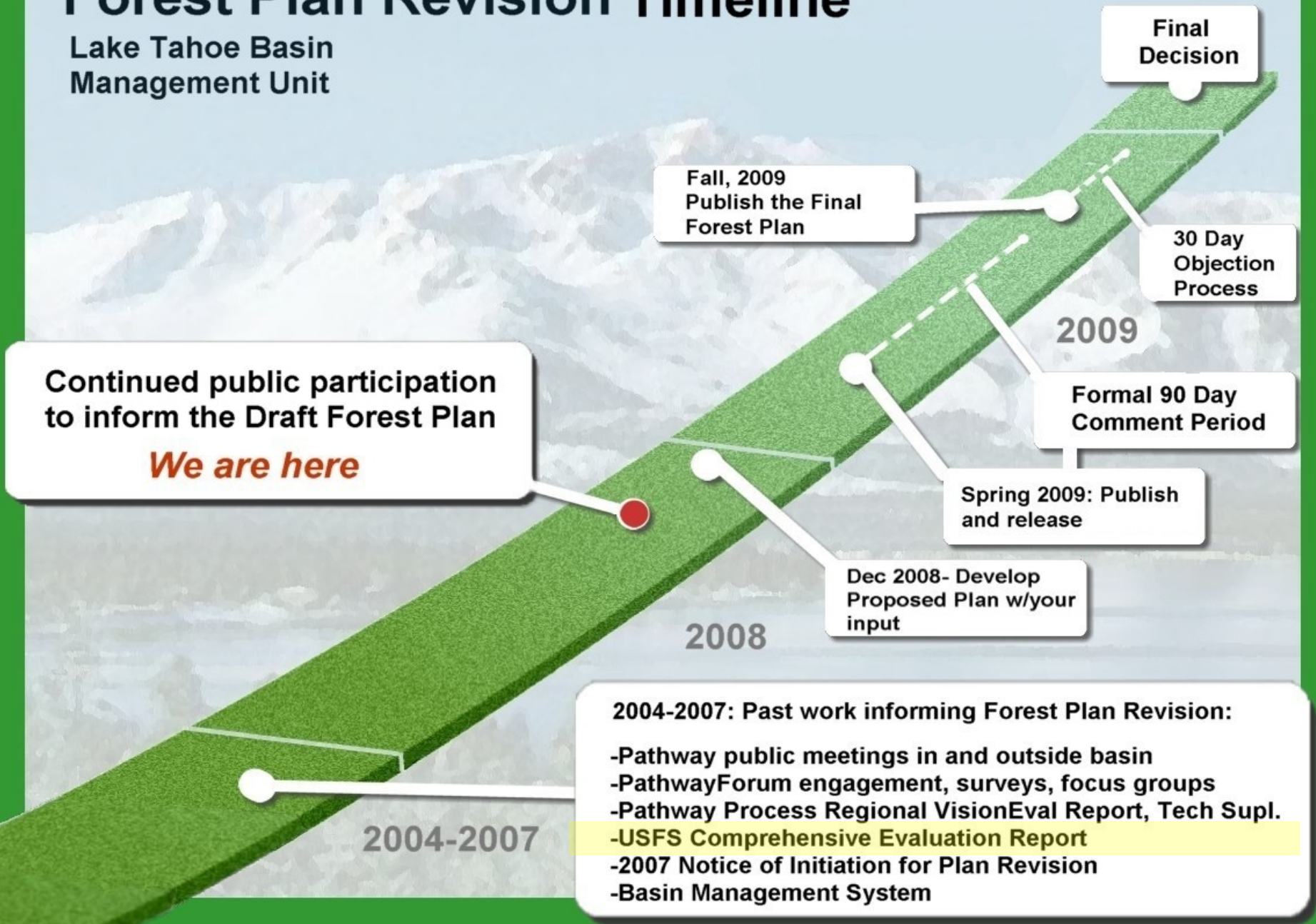
- Pathway Evaluation Report & Technical Supplement.
- Public Lands and Waterways Vision Summary.
- Tahoe Basin Regional Vision Summary
- Lake Tahoe TMDL (water quality).

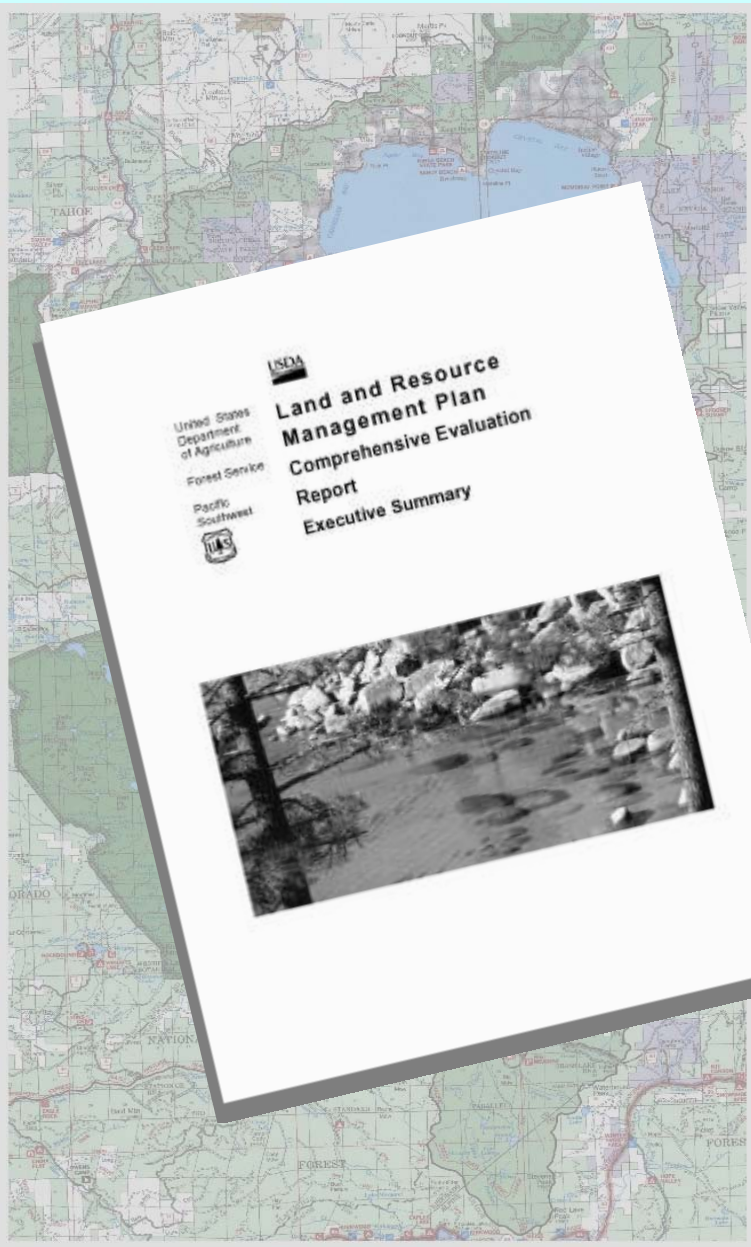


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# Forest Plan Revision Timeline

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# USFS Comprehensive Evaluation Report

## "Need for Change"

This report found that there is a need to modify plan components through a review of new issues and information, monitoring and evaluation results, and changes in law or regulation.



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# Clarifying Questions??



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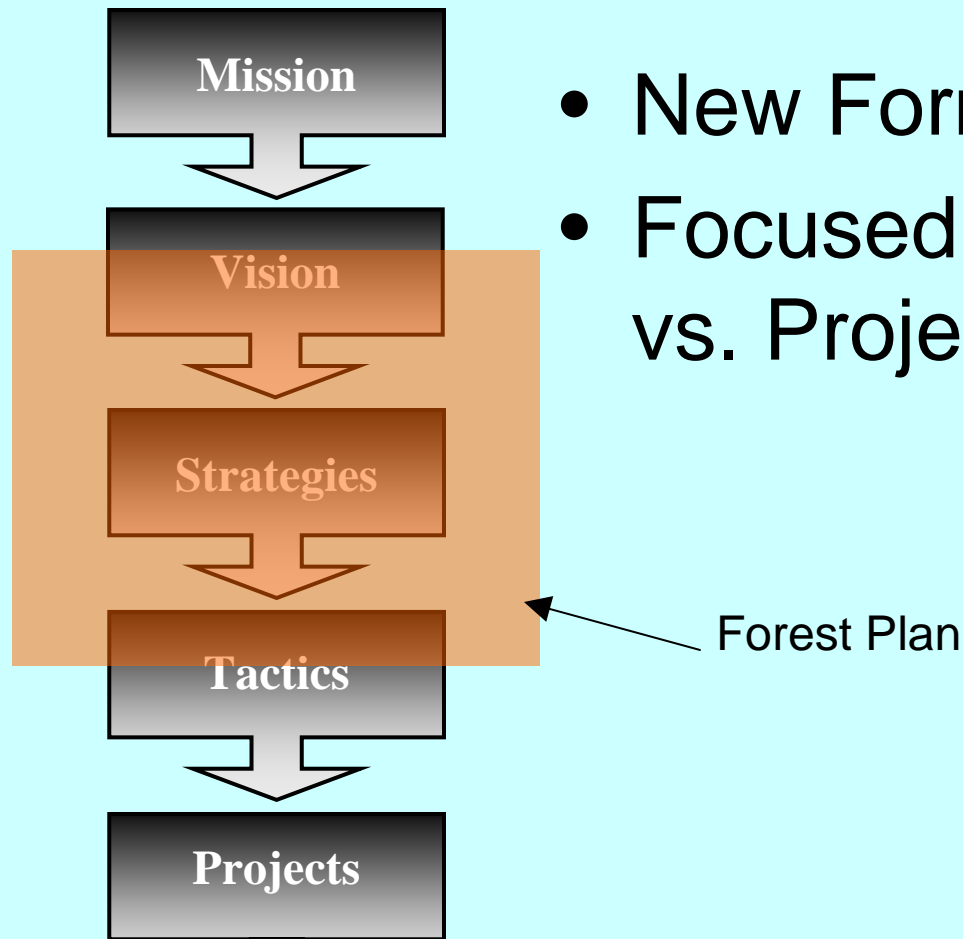
# Sources of Proposed Changes

- 2008 Planning Rule
- Comprehensive Evaluation Report (CER), and public comments
- Input received through the Pathway
- Further Public Collaboration



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# 2008 Planning Rule



- New Format for Plan
- Focused at Strategic Level vs. Project Level



# Revision Themes from the CER

- Restoration of degraded watersheds
- Reducing Hazardous Fuels and Restoring Forest Health
- Recreation management
- Land uses and suitability of areas



# Public Comments

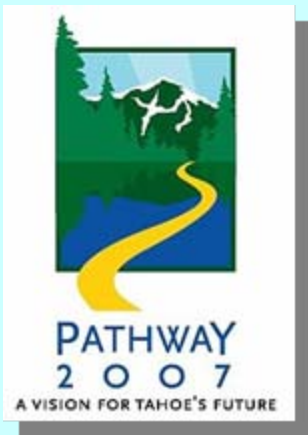
## CER

- 23 Written Responses
- 67 Questionnaires returned from the Forum

### Sample comments:

- How will the Forest manage crowds and overuse?
- Will the FS provide public education about conservation and stewardship?
- Will more areas be designated as wilderness?
- Will snowmobile use in the Basin be eliminated?
- Will the FS withdraw minerals exploration?
- Will the FS close all commercial range allotments?

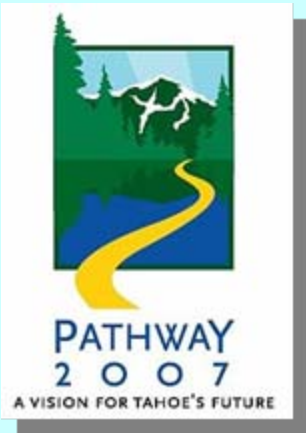




# Key Pathway Input incorporated into the Forest Plan

- Regional vision statement and desired conditions.
- Regional transect approach to land use.
- Scientific analysis of resource conditions and trends.
- Regional Management System.



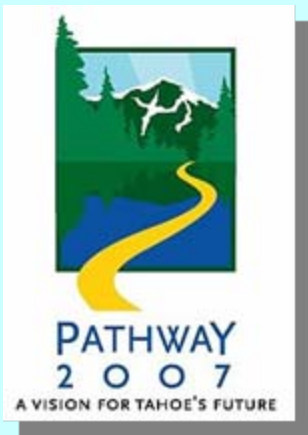


# Vision

## A Look into the Future

*The Lake Tahoe Basin is an exceptional place where communities thrive in harmony with the natural environment. The overwhelming presence of nature is apparent. The Lake is blue and clear, the air is clean, the region's ecosystem health, and natural sounds evident. Within communities, the economy is strong and sustainable; the population diverse and vital, the richness of everyday life is obvious. Based on mutual respect and the integration of human and natural communities, a balance exists that inspires and motivates residents, businesses, visitors, and governments alike to work together to maintain the Lake's value as a national and international treasure. Lake Tahoe is a truly unique and special place.*





# Desired Conditions

## **Vegetation**

*Vegetation in the Lake Tahoe Basin is healthy and dynamic with the full complement of native plant communities, wildlife habitats, and ecological processes.*

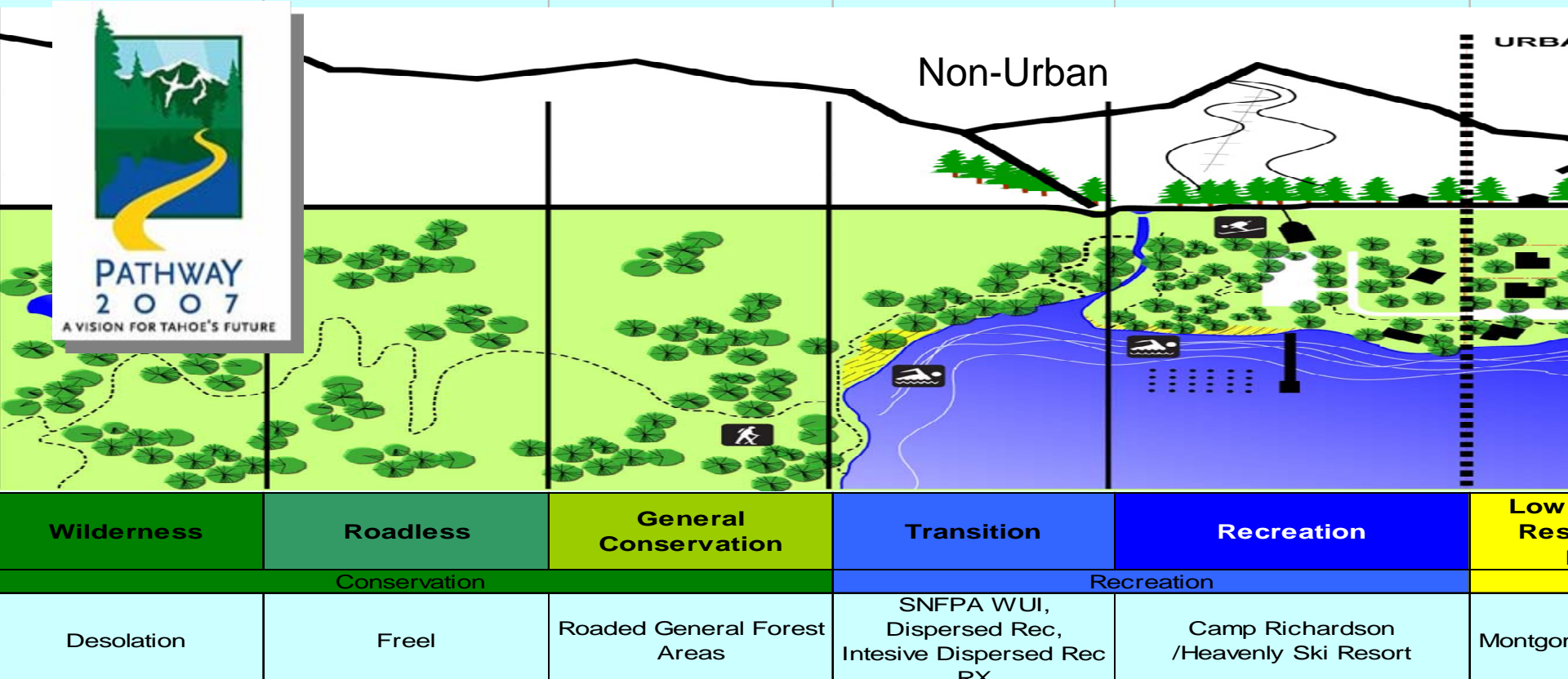
## **Forest Structure and Composition Desired Conditions**

*A full range of native species, development stages, habitats, and ecological processes occurs.*



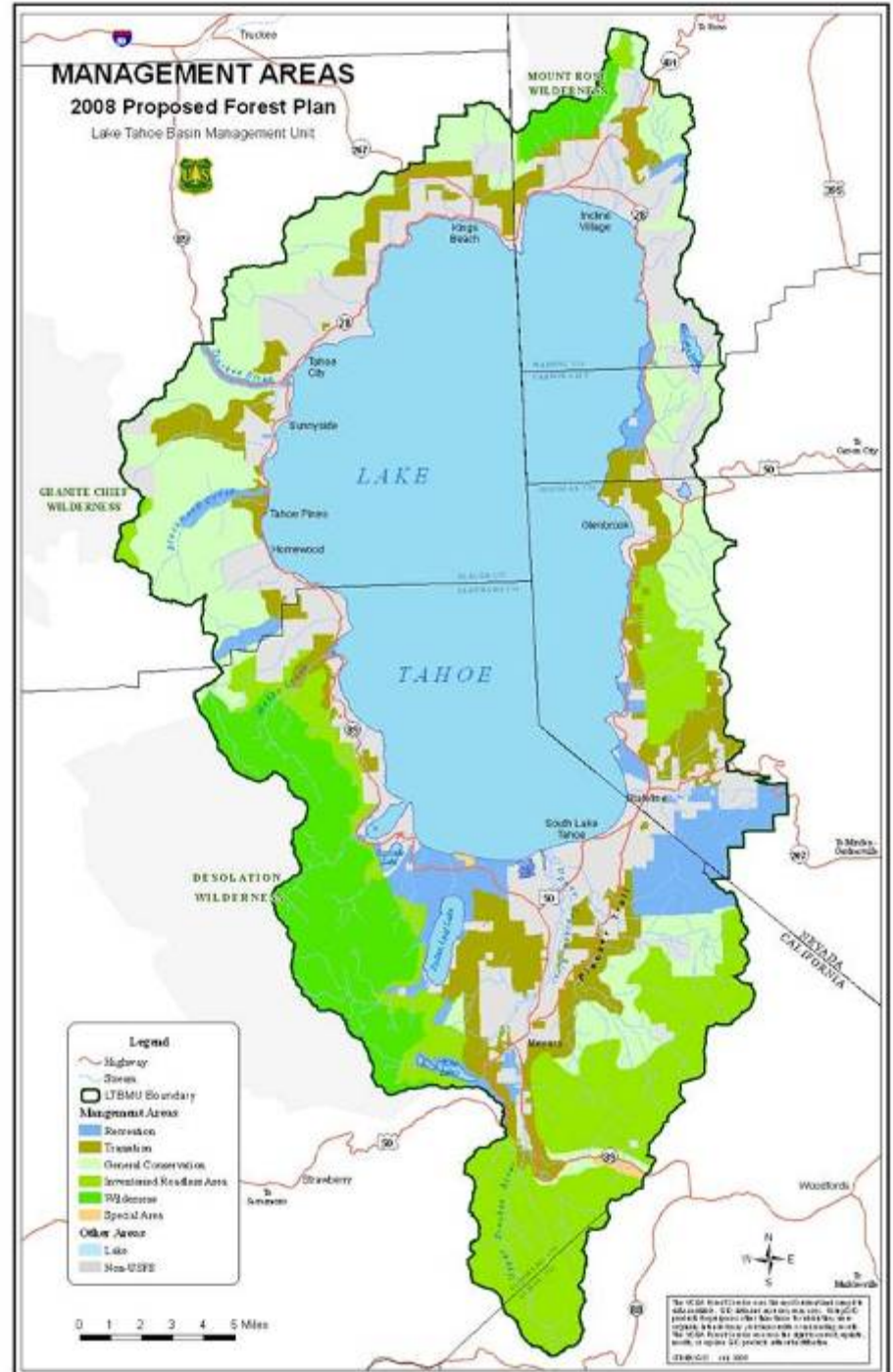
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# Regional Land Use Approach Transects





# Proposed Management Areas



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## LTBMU Contributions to Sustainability

Ecological Sustainability			Social and Economic Sustainability		
Biological Diversity	Forest Health	Physical Resources	Social Benefits	Infrastructure Capacity	Economic Benefits
<p>Restore, Sustain and Enhance the Basin's Ecosystem and Species Diversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic Habitat</li> <li>• Terrestrial Habitat</li> <li>• Federally Listed Species</li> <li>• Species of Concern</li> <li>• Species of Interest</li> </ul>	<p>Restore, Sustain and Enhance the Basin's Forests and Vegetation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest Structure and Composition</li> <li>• Disturbance Process</li> <li>• Fire and Fuels Management</li> </ul>	<p>Restore, Sustain and Enhance Lake Tahoe's Physical Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Quality</li> <li>• Soil Quality</li> <li>• Water Quality</li> <li>• Water Use and Development</li> <li>• Stream Environment Zones (SEZ)</li> <li>• Minerals</li> </ul>	<p>Restore, Sustain, and Enhance Outdoor Recreation Opportunities and Sense of Place. Promote Community Well Being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreation</li> <li>• Scenic Quality and Built Environment</li> <li>• Heritage Resources</li> <li>• Tribal Relations</li> <li>• Interpretive Services, Visitor Information and Education, and Conservation Education</li> <li>• Partnerships</li> <li>• Community Services</li> <li>• Wilderness</li> </ul>	<p>Provide and Sustain Service Delivery Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel Management</li> <li>• Administrative and Recreation Facilities</li> <li>• Utilities Easements and Rights of Way</li> <li>• Communication Sites</li> <li>• Highway Rights of Way and Support Facilities</li> <li>• Research and Monitoring Sites</li> <li>• Special Uses – Non-Recreation</li> <li>• Land Adjustments</li> </ul>	<p>Provide and Sustain Goods and Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earnings &amp; Employment</li> <li>• Recreation Outputs</li> <li>• National Forest Expenditures</li> <li>• Commercial Forest Products</li> </ul>





# Monitoring Indicators

## **Scenic Integrity**

*Scenic Integrity Levels (Type1)*

## **Hazardous Fuels**

*Predicted Fire Behavior (Type1)*

## **Pollutant Loading**

*Secchi Depth measurement in Lake Tahoe (Type1)*



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# Potential Topics for Future Workshops

- Do we have the right mix of recreation opportunities, development and access?
- How do balance fuels reduction, forest health, habitat needs and water quality?
- What vegetation mix should we manage for: pre-settlement, projected climate change, etc.?
- What is the right balance between protecting and treating Stream Environment Zones?



# Clarifying Questions??



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# Breakout Session

## Organizing Questions

- What **Key Topics** to address in next round of workshops?
- Questions , comments and concerns about **current Forest management**?
- Questions , comments, concerns about anticipated **Forest planning process**?



# Next Steps

**Additional opportunities  
to provide input:**

Public workshops

- Nov 3
- Nov 12
- Dec 1

Draft Plan Released for  
90 day

Public Comment

- Spring 2009

Final Plan Released 30  
day Objection Period

- Fall 2009



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To provide suggestions, comments, and ideas, contact the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) planning team by postal service mail, e-mail:

**LTBMU Forest Plan Revision Team**  
**35 College Drive**  
**South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150**

**E-mail:**

**[comments-pacificsouthwest-ltbmu@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificsouthwest-ltbmu@fs.fed.us)**

**Website:** [www.fs.fed.us/r5/ltbmu](http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/ltbmu)



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