US Forest Service Policy Innovations

Global Issues in Governance Grey Towers ~ Sept 16, 2011

Re-thinking Forest Regulations

- New Planning Rule/Collaboration
- Stewardship Contracting

What is a Planning Rule?

National Forest Management Act (law)

USFS Planning Rule (regulation)

Land Management Plans (Forests/Grasslands)

Project or Activity Decision

Process

Phase 2

Formal Comment

Science Forum

Roundtables

Tribal Consultation

Phase 3
Administrative
Review

Phase 1
Notice of Intent

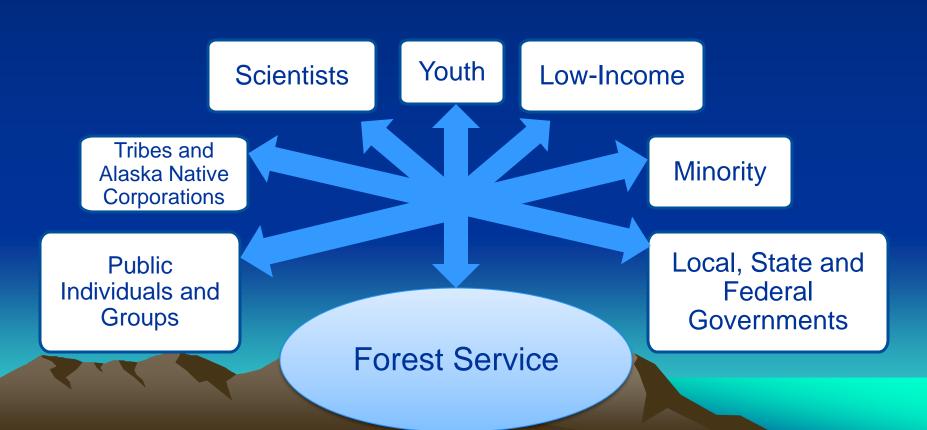


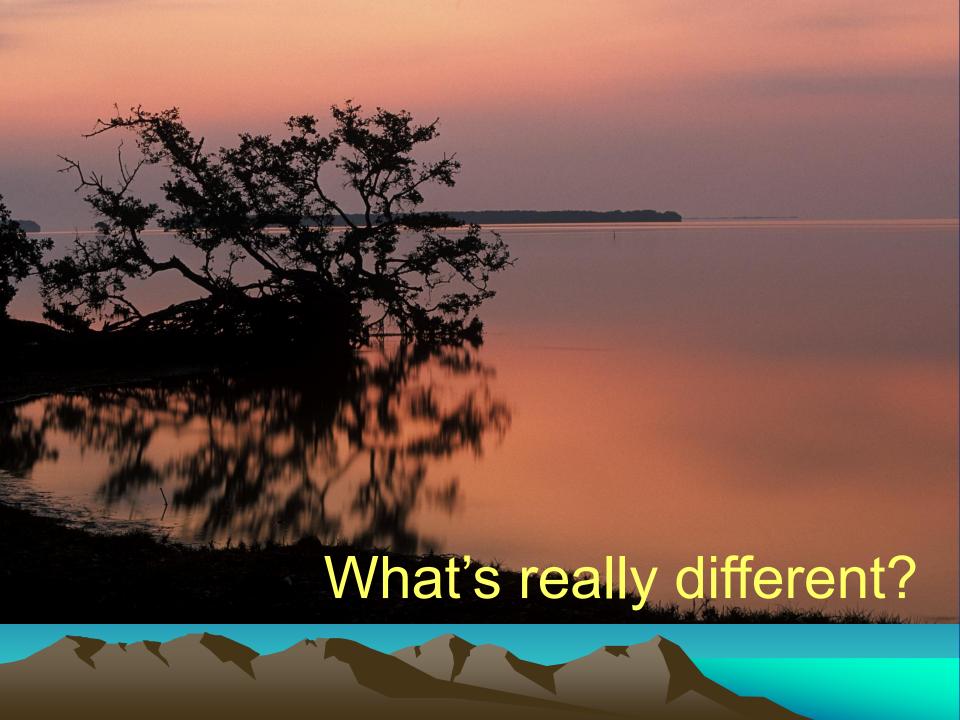
Key Themes of the Rule

- ✓ Collaborative and science-based process
- ✓ Adaptive framework
- ✓ Broader landscape context
- ✓ Sustain and restore health and resilience of ecosystems
- ✓ Climate change and other stressors
- ✓ Vibrant communities

Requirements for Public Participation

- Collaborative planning process
- Engagement early and throughout
- Coordination with other planning efforts

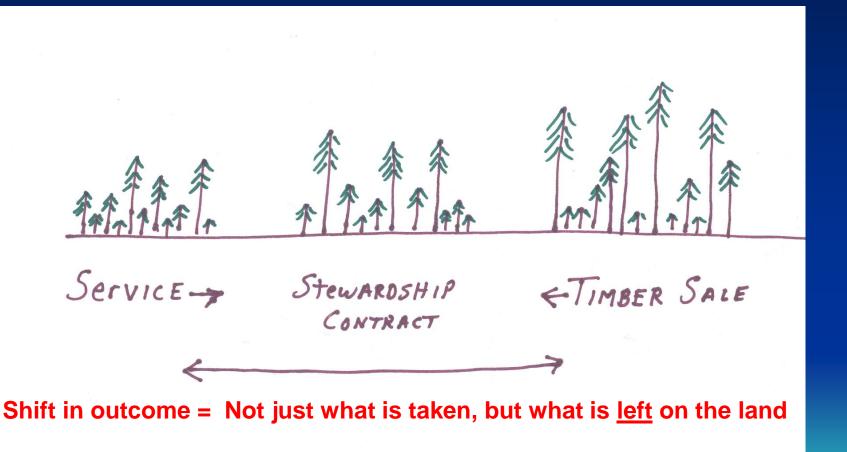




Stewardship Contracting

What it is...and What it is not...

The Stewardship Contracting Concept

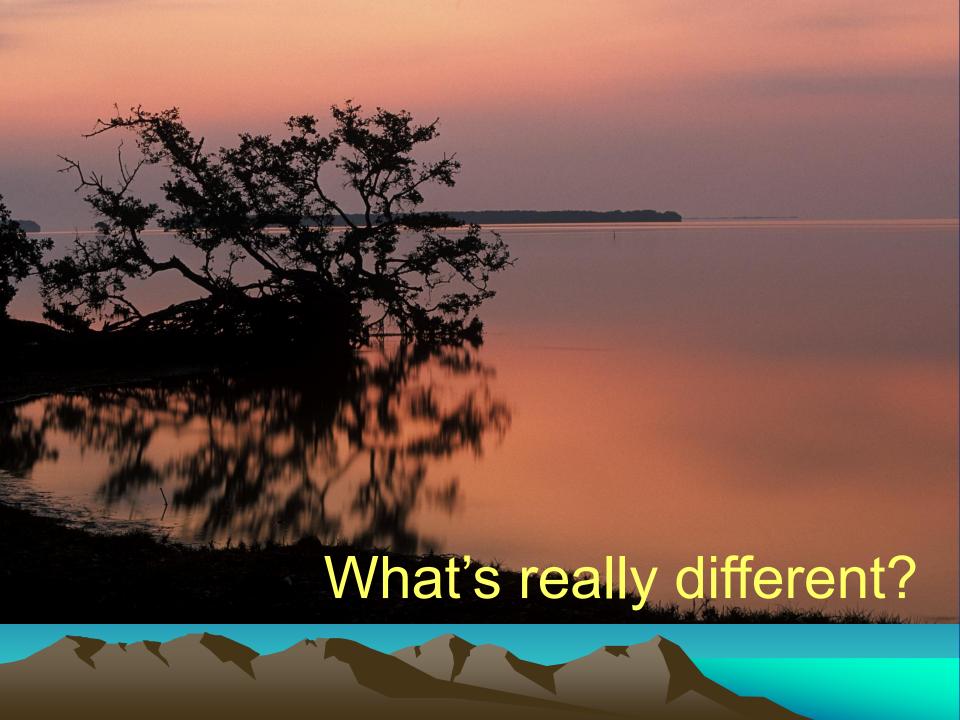


It is...

- ✓ A contracting tool
- ✓ A means to bundle contracts and work
- ✓ A way to accomplish <u>more</u> on-the-ground
- ✓ A means to promote economic and ecosystem benefits, and forest health
- A platform for community involvement and community benefit

What it does not do...

- ✓ Relieve the agency from free and open competition
- ✓ Lessen Federal Acquisition Regulations
- ✓ Relax Federal environmental laws



New Planning Rule

http://www.fs.fed.us/news/pr-listserv-subscribe.html

Stewardship Contracting

http://www.fs.fed.us/forestmanagement/stewardship/index.s html/new-authority/index.shtml

Questions?