

TO: Kevin Birch
FROM: Mike Haske, Lisa Freedman
SUBJECT: "Most Pressing Issues"

Below is our combined USFS/BLM list of "most pressing issues" for forwarding to the Federal Forests Advisory Committee for their consideration. The combined federal list is not necessarily in order of priority.

- Maintain and/or restore landscape resiliency
 - control of invasive and exotic species
 - strategic placement of fuel treatments to change fire behavior
 - manage in the wildland-urban interface
 - implement expeditious, efficient, and environmentally sound salvage
 - work with partners and adjacent landowners to leverage restoration dollars & prioritize treatments

- Aquatic and watershed restoration

- Facilities and access maintenance

- Maintain or recruit skills and expertise

- Meet the "green initiative".
 - How to make biomass pay for itself - out of the woods and into energy (electricity or biofuels).
 - Stability in planning and implementation

- Balance the need for environmental services (habitat for listed species, clean air and water, open space) with commodity output.

- Fulfill the economic/community stability commitment of the O&C Act

- Recognize and manage for different age class distributions across federal forests. You can't have a long term thinning program if you don't have forest stands to thin.

- Maintain an industrial infrastructure necessary to implement sound forest management actions.