

The Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (RPA) of 1974 (88 Stat. 476; 16 U.S.C. 1601-1610) as amended by the National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976. Oct. 22, 1976. (90 Stat. 2948; 16 U.S.C. 4729 etc., etc.)

This Act recognizes that the management of the nation's renewable resources is very complex and changes with time. The law requires the assessment, planning, and monitoring of national forest resources with a periodic display for Congress that will allow that body to select and direct the goods and services to be produced from the nation's forests.

Sec. 6 provides direction for National Forest Resource Planning and (e) states "In developing, maintaining, and revising plans for units of the National Forest System pursuant to this section, the Secretary shall assure that such plans – provide for multiple use and sustained of products and services obtained there from in accordance with the Multiple Use – Sustained Yield Act of 1960, and, in particular, include coordination of outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, wildlife and fish, and wilderness..."

These two Acts also require an ecosystem approach to planning that views wilderness areas as a part of the whole. They also state that coordination with other land managing agencies and private land owners must be part of the planning and management discussion.