



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

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*Lieutenant
Governor*

Office of the Governor

PUBLIC LANDS POLICY COORDINATING OFFICE

KATHLEEN CLARKE
Director

March 16, 2020

Submitted electronically: michael.migliori@usda.gov

Michael Migliori
Program Analyst
Office of Regulatory and Management Services
United States Forest Service
201 14th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Subject – Forest Service Handbook 1109.12; Directive System Handbook

Dear Mr. Migliori:

The State of Utah appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the United States Forest Service Handbook 1109.12. The proposed changes specify when the Forest Service is required to provide public notice and opportunity to comment on Forest Service directives that create management guidelines and standards. The State supports the agency's effort to provide direction for determining whether a directive requires public notice and opportunity for comment on directives, strategies for engaging the public, interagency and intergovernmental communication, including tribal consultation, consideration of public comments, and finalizing directives.

The proposed changes demonstrate the Forest Service's continued commitment to public involvement and transparency, which is positive for the general public, as well as State and local governments. The time and effort required to solidify this process is recognized and appreciated.

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Please direct any written correspondence to the Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office at the address below, or call to discuss any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Clarke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kathleen Clarke
Director