



News Release

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U.S. Forest Service seeks public comment on Highlands Regional Study

NEWTOWN SQUARE, Pa. – The U.S. Forest Service has released the draft *Highlands Regional Study: Connecticut and Pennsylvania 2010 Update* for public comment. The public comment period runs from May 3, 2010 until June 18, 2010.

The *2010 Update* identifies areas of high conservation value, the impacts of land use change on the natural resources, and conservation strategies in the Connecticut and Pennsylvania portions of the Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania Highlands Region. The Forest Service published the study of the New Jersey and New York portion of the Highlands in 2002, following a similar public comment period.

Two public meetings will be held to discuss the *2010 Update* and answer questions:

- **May 24, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.** at the Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center in Reading, Pennsylvania.
- **May 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.** at the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension office in Torrington, Connecticut.

The *2010 Update* is available at <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/highlands/regional/index.shtm>.

Comments are welcomed via the website, via facsimile to (212) 637-3887, or by letter to Martina Barnes, Regional Planner, U.S. Forest Service, c/o U.S. EPA, Region 2, 290 Broadway, 24th floor, New York, N.Y. 10007.

Comments, including names and addresses when provided, will be a matter of public record.

Comments will be summarized.