

**The following Desired Condition statements were generated by Forest Service employees in 2004 and 2005. As you read through these consider which ones are appropriate for the revised plan. Hopefully, by reading these you will come up with some of your own.**

**Brainstormed Uwharrie Desired Conditions:**

- Longleaf pine is growing and reproducing naturally on all sites where it occurred historically.
- Schweinitz sunflower populations are restored enough for the species to be removed from the Threatened and Endangered Species List.
- Bog communities are restored to their original extent and fully functional hydrologically.
- The Forest has low fuel loading, especially adjacent to private developments. In pine and mixed pine-hardwood forests understories are open and canopy trees are well spaced, without crowding.
- Non-native invasive plants are rarely found on the Forest.
- Appropriate types of vegetation are growing on the Forest so that the Uwharrie ecosystems are able to cope with climate change.
- Aquatic ecosystems are diverse, functioning properly, and providing high quality habitat for all indigenous aquatic species.
- Riparian (streamside) ecosystems are fully vegetated with native riparian-associated species, including trees capable of adding large woody debris for instream fish habitat.
- Very little sediment is visible in streams. Stream crossings are not contributing sediment to the streams.
- Archeological treasures are protected from loss and appropriately restored, including archeological resources of the early European influence (i.e. Thornburg place).

- The types of recreational activities occurring on the Forest are nature-based and appropriate for National Forest System to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.
- Uwharrie trails are in excellent condition and capable of providing various users the type of experience they seek. Many trails are loop trails.
- Roads and trails do not contribute excessive sediment to streams.
- Off-Highway Vehicles are operating only on designated routes. These routes are constructed and maintained so that the impacts from OHV use are confined to the trail system, with no off-site resource impacts.
- User conflicts are rare on the Uwharrie trail system.
- The Uwharrie NFS lands occupy a greater proportion of the land within the administrative boundary, and is more consolidated, than it was in 2000.
- Gates withstand wear and tear and are free from wasp infestation.
- A Visitor Check-In Station provides visitors with information so they can have a safe, positive experience in the Forest.
- Information is available to the public in several languages.
- Natural plant and animal communities from the past are reestablished.
- Visitors to the Uwharrie have opportunities to learn about the past.
- The forest is in a healthy condition.
- Horseback riding occurs on a designated trail system and riders are conscientious about safety when riding.
- All recreation users can recreate safely and receive equitable services.

- The Rifle Range is in good condition.