

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Dear Interested Citizen:

Date: April 1, 2004

The enclosed *Schedule of Proposed Actions (SPA)* serves two purposes:

- To keep you informed of upcoming projects the Forest is considering and
- To ask for your input on these projects within the required time frames.

How to Use This Schedule:

The SPA highlights important dates for project scoping, analysis, and implementation. It summarizes proposed projects by ranger district or staff area and is updated quarterly. Individuals can provide input on these proposals through the “scoping” process, which helps forest managers identify important issues and formulate alternatives. If you need more information about a particular project, contact the ranger district or staff area.

Some additional environmental analysis may be needed for unscheduled projects. These proposals may allow short time frames for analysis. Examples include oil and gas exploration and special use applications such as utility rights-of-way. If you wish to be notified of these proposals, contact the Forest Supervisor’s Office or the responsible District Ranger.

How To Comment:

If you wish to be involved in project planning for specific projects, contact the appropriate office. Addresses and phone numbers for the contact person at each office are found at the top of the following pages. The comments that are most useful during the scoping process are those that deal with site-specific environmental concerns associated with the project proposal. Your comments can be submitted in writing (preferred) or by calling the Forest Supervisor’s Office or the appropriate district office. Our web site (www.fs.fed.us/oonf/ozark/projects/planning/planning.html) also features the Schedule of Proposed Actions.

Sincerely,

Deryl Jevons
Acting Planning Staff Officer

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

SYLAMORE RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Cindy Snow, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 1279
 Mtn. View, AR 72560
 Telephone: (870) 269-3228

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Grassy Thinning</i> Thinning, road maintenance, temporary road construction, and wildlife burning.	Stone	15N 12W	1/2004	7/2004	2005	Analysis in progress.
<i>Barkshed Bridge Replacement</i> Replacement of bridge at Barkshed Recreation Area located north of Fifty Six, AR.	Stone	16N 12W	7/2000	6/2004	2005	Analysis in progress.
<i>Wildlife Habitat Maintenance Ponds</i>	Baxter, Stone	District Wide	5/2004	7/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Syllamo Mt. Bike Trail Phase 4 & 5</i> Development of multi-use trail.	Stone	11N 16W	5/2004	12/2004	2005	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Kudzu Eradication Project</i>	Stone	15N 11W 16N 10W	10/2003	6/2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Barkshed/Saltpeter & Gustafasen Cave Gates</i>	Stone	16N 11W 15N 11W	4/2004	7/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Bonanza Cave Footing Repair</i> Repair of cement footings	Stone	17N 13W	4/2004	7/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Ron Bush, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 427
 Jasper, AR 72641
 Telephone: (870)-446-5122

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description		Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
		T	R				
<i>2004 Landscape Prescribed Burning and Wildlife Projects</i> Wildlife Stand Improvement (WSI) on approx. 1,950 acres to aid in oak woodland restoration and provide forage for wildlife species with early successional needs. Prescribed burning on approx. 30,395 acres to improve forage, forest health, and reduce fuels. Project consists of areas scattered across the Buffalo District.	Johnson Newton, Pope, Searcy	12N 12N 12N 12N 13N 13N 13N 14N 14N	19W 20W 21W 22W 18W 19W 20W 18W 19W	11/2003	8/2004	2005	Environmental Assessment being prepared..
<i>Stack Rock WSI</i> WSI on approx. 700 acres to aid in oak woodland restoration and provide forage for wildlife species with early successional needs. Project lies north of the Richland Campground and east of Iceledo Gap.	Newton, Searcy	14N 14N	18W 19W	12/2002	5/2004	2004	Decision being prepared.
<i>Boss Hollow WSI</i> Project consists of approx. 200 acres of WSI and the creation of approx. 10 wildlife ponds and openings. Project is located immediately west of Pelsor, AR.	Newton, Pope	12N 13N	20W 20W	4/2004	5/2004	2004	Proposed Action being prepared for scoping letter.

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Buffalo District Noxious Weed Project</i> Complete analysis on fields and openings on the district (approx. 250 acres) to remove noxious weeds and restore and maintain native grasses and forbs and desirable non-invasive species beneficial to wildlife.	Johnson, Madison, Newton, Pope, Searcy,	District Wide	10/2002	6/2004	2004	Analysis for project underway.
<i>Slusher Prescribed Burn</i> Prescribed burning on approx. 4,390 acres for fuels reduction. This project is located southeast of Deer on the east side of Parker Ridge and Long Ridge road.	Newton	13N 20W 13N 21W 14N 20W 14N 21W	1/2004	5/2004	2004	Decision Memo being prepared.
<i>Stack Rock Trails</i> Develop trailhead and two hiking trails leading to the base of Stack Rock. Establish dispersed campsites close to the base of Stack Rock	Searcy	14N 18W	5/2004	6/2004	Fall 2004	Scoping letter being prepared
<i>Seed Orchard Establishment Project</i> Establish a seed orchard to provide a consistent source of quality oak acorns. Project activities could include, but are not limited to, dozer work, fencing, mowing, watering, and fertilizing.	Newton	14N 21W	5/2004	7/2004	2004	Scoping letter being prepared.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Lew W. Purcell, Jr., District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 12000 SR 27
 Hector, AR 72843
 Telephone: (479) 284-3150

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Upper Brock Lake Fisheries Improvement</i>	Van Buren	10N 17W	2004	2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Middle Mountain Project Pine and Hardwood Timber Management: Compartments 221, 222, 223, and 224</i> Timber and wildlife management proposal involving shortleaf pine and oak-hickory stands north-northwest of Scottsville, AR. Silvicultural treatments will result in multi-product sales.	Pope	10N 19W 10N 20W	Done 4/2003	5/2004	2005	Proposed Action and Alternatives have been developed and Environmental Assessment is being written.
<i>Red Oak Borer Research Burns</i> Prescribe burn 207 acres in dormant and growing season blocks to study effects on red oak regeneration.	Johnson, Pope	11N 19W 12N 19W	Done 2/2004	4/2004	4/2004	Decision Memo awaiting Heritage Resource survey.
<i>Broomfield Trust Public Lands (TPL) Fuels Reduction.</i> Execute prescribed fuels reduction burn on approx. 2,500 acres and mechanically treat up to 1,000 acres on on recently acquired lands north of Broomfield Road.	Pope	10N 19W	4/2004	5/2004	5/2004	Analysis in progress.

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Three Knob Mtn. TPL Fuels Reduction</i> Execute prescribed fuels reduction burn on approx. 2,000 acres and mechanically treat up to 1,000 acres on recently acquired lands on Three Knob Mtn.	Pope	10N 20W	5/2004	6/2004	6/2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Site Prep Rx Burn</i> Conduct fuels reduction burns around site prep units in order to take advantage of roads and reduce chances of wildfire damage to regenerated timber stands.	Pope	District Wide	4/2004	4/2004	4/2004	Analysis in progress.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Pat Kowalewycz, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 2591 Highway 21
 Clarksville, AR 72830
 Telephone: (479) 754-2864

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Proposed Timber & Wildlife Project: Sarah Hollow</i> Pine/hardwood mix of even-aged management and uneven-aged management (EAM/UAM). Site prep with hand tools/herbicide and burning along with timber stand improvement (TSI) and fuel reduction (FR) burning; road construction/maintenance; and wildlife openings/ponds with burning of thinned pine stands. Some hardwood stands may receive forest health harvests due to drought stress and insect attacks. Located west of Highway 103, north of the Batson community, and south of Mulberry River.</p>	Johnson	11N 24W 11N 25W 12N 24W 12N 25W	1/2004	6/2004	2005	Environmental Assessment in analysis stage.
<p><i>Proposed Forest Health/Wildlife Project Thompsons Knob/Seven Devils</i> Provide pine/hardwood mix of EAM/UAM for a balance of age classes with early seral-stage vegetation, pine-bluestem ecosystem management, and oak savanna restoration through burning. Located between Highway 21 and 123 in Johnson County.</p>	Johnson	11N 22W 12N 22W 12N 23W	4/2004	9/2004	2005	Inventory stage.

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Wildlife Habitat & Hazardous Fuels Reduction Prescribed Burning-(Various)</i> Hardwood & pine stands and hay fields. Total acreage is 3, 484. Burning is proposed to reduce hazardous fuel loading and encourage wildlife habitat production and oak regeneration. Areas are in various locations in Johnson and Franklin Counties.	Franklin Johnson,	11N 23W 11N 26W 11N 27W 12N 22W 12N 25W 12N 26W	11/2003	12/2003	2004	Documentation with Decision Memo completed. Some areas have been completed.
<i>Gas Well</i> Proposal by Weiser-Brown Operating Company for drilling a prospective gas well.	Johnson	11N 25W	2/2004	4/2004	5/2004	
<i>Ozone Water Association</i> Special-use permit for water line installed across several parcels of National Forest along Scenic Highway 21 and several side roads. Project located about 15 miles northwest of Clarksville, AR.	Johnson	11N 23W 12N 23W	12/2003	5/2004	6/2004	Inventory stage.
<i>Tower Prescribed Burns</i> Use of prescribed fire on approx. 3,717 acres to reduce hazardous fuels, improve wildlife habitat, and encourage oak regeneration. Project is located in the Locust Gap area, northwest of Fallsville, AR.	Madison	13N 24W 13N 25W 14N 24W 14N 25W	3/2003	12/2003	2004	Documentation with Decision Memo completed. Awaiting implementation in the Spring.
<i>I. W. Owens Exchange</i>	Johnson Pope	9N 18W 11N 24W	5/2004	2004	2004	External scoping started. Cultural Resources and Biological Evaluation completed.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Gary Williams, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 76
 Ozark, AR 72949
 Telephone: (479) 667-2191

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description		Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
		T	R				
<i>Jethro West Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, and roadwork. Located between Jethro and Shores Lake, AR.	Franklin	11N 11N	27W 28W	3/2003	12/2003	2004	Decision Notice issued 12/19/2003.
<i>Lake Fort Smith Land Exchange Project</i> Several parcels of land are proposed for exchange in conjunction with the Lake Fort Smith elevation change. Includes amending the Forest Plan to include new acres in Management Area 8.	Varied	Varied		6/2002	2/2004	2004	Review copy of Environmental Assessment available, comments closed 12/26/2003.
<i>Keets Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, roadwork, and red oak borer salvage. Located near Brannon, AR.	Madison, Washington	13N	28W	11/2003	5/2004	2004	Environmental Assessment in progress.
<i>Fly Gap Road Reconstruction Project</i> FDR 1506 (Fly Gap Rd.) will be reconstructed. Kudzu eradication treatments using herbicide are needed along portions of the roadway. Begins at State Highway 23 and ends at County Road 79.	Franklin	12N 13N	27W 27W	3/2002	3/2004	2004	Environmental Assessment in progress.
<i>Spud Rock Prescribed Burning Project</i> A 17,900-acre burn east of White Rock Mountain, AR.	Crawford, Franklin	12N 12N 12N	27W 28W 29W	7/2003	1/2004	2004	Decision Memo issued 12/30/2003.

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Wildcat Fencing Project</i> Repair and install fence along pastures near Tontitown, AR.	Benton	17N 31W 17N 32W	7/2003	11/2003	2004	Decision Memo issued 11/4/2003.
<i>Illinois River Boat Ramp Project</i> Construct a public boat ramp and associated parking lot and restroom facilities near Siloam Springs, AR.	Benton	17N 33W	03/2004	07/2004	07/2004	Environmental Analysis in progress.
<i>Fangorn Release Project</i> Release trees from competition in densely stocked stands of hardwood around Bidville and Mountain Crest, AR communities.	Crawford, Franklin, Madison	12N 28W 13N 27W 13N 28W	1/2004	4/2004	2004	Environmental Analysis in progress.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

MT. MAGAZINE RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Rob Kopack, Deputy District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 511
 Paris, AR 72855
 Telephone: (479) 963-3076

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Brock Ridge Project</i> Shortleaf pine shelterwood harvesting; thinning; cedar thinning; road work; site prep; release; pre-commercial thinning; wildlife opening construction and restoration; wildlife pond construction and reconstruction; wildlife habitat improvement; and fuels reduction prescribed burning. Project located approx. two miles southeast of New Blaine, AR.	Logan	7N 22W 7N 23W	10/2003	5/2004	2004	Preparing Environmental Assessment.
<i>Huckleberry Mountain Horse Trail Revision Project</i> Decommissioning of approx. 3.1 miles of the existing Huckleberry Mountain Horse Trail along with establishing approx. 2.7 miles of new trail. Project is located approximately 4 miles southwest of New Blaine, AR.	Logan	7N 23W 7N 24W	5/2004	9/2004	2004	Preparing Proposed Action.

MT. MAGAZINE RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Crow Mountain Project</i> Shortleaf pine shelterwood harvesting; pine and hardwood thinning; cedar thinning; pine seedtree removal; road work; site prep; release; pre-commercial thinning; wildlife opening construction and restoration; wildlife pond construction and reconstruction; wildlife habitat improvement; and fuels reduction prescribed burning. Project located approx. three miles northwest of Havana, AR.</p>	Logan, Yell	6N 23W 6N 24W	5/2004	9/2004	2005	Preparing Proposed Action.
<p><i>Spring Lake Recreation Area Enhancement Project</i> Campsite improvements, establishment of lake perimeter trail, provide handicap access to bathhouse. Project located approx. four miles north of Belleville, AR.</p>	Logan, Yell	6N 23W	4/2004	9/2004	2005	Preparing Proposed Action.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

ST. FRANCIS RANGER DISTRICT

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 DeVela Clark, Deputy District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 2675 Hwy 44
 Marianna, AR 72360
 Telephone: (870) 295-5278

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>St. Francis Trail Construction</i> Construct 16-mile hiking trail from Bear Creek Lake Recreation Area to Storm Creek Lake Recreation Area.	Lee, Phillips	1N 4E 1S 4E 1S 5E	12/2000	9/2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Horn Tower</i> Timber sales, timber stand improvement, restoration, and prescribed burning.	Lee, Phillips	1N 4E 1S 4E	5/2004	9/2004	2005	Proposed Action being developed.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

LANDS/MINERALS/SPECIAL USES - SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

THIRD QUARTER, FY 2004
 APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 2004

For more information contact:
 Ron Klouzek, Lands and Minerals Staff
 USDA Forest Service
 605 West Main
 Russellville, AR 72801
 Telephone: (479) 964-7248

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Special Uses</i>	Various		At receipt of application	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.
<i>Land Acquisition</i>	Various		As offered for purchase	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.
<i>Small Tracts</i>	Various		As needed	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.
<i>Easement Acquisitions</i>	Various		As needed	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests
Forest Planning
605 West Main Street
Russellville, AR 72801

