

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Dear Interested Citizen:

Date: 7/01/03

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,

Duane Dipert
Planning Staff Officer

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

SYLAMORE RANGER DISTRICT

FOURTH QUARTER, FY 2003
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

For more information contact:
 Joseph Dabney, 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>Compartments 4 and 63 – Martin Springs Timber Sale</i> Seed tree, seed tree removal, thinning, road maintenance, temporary road construction, site prep with herbicide, release with herbicide, pre-commercial thinning with saws, and wildlife burning.	Baxter	18N 12W 18N 13W	7/2002	6/2003	2003	In Appeal Period.
<i>Wildlife Habitat Improvement of District Food Plots and Blanchard Field System</i> Food plot and field restoration or maintenance with herbicide and machinery.	Stone, Baxter, Searcy	District Wide	8/2003	12/2003	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Barkshed Bridge Replacement</i> Replacement of bridge at Barkshed Recreation Area located north of Fifty Six, AR.	Stone	16N 12W	7/2000	8/2003	2003	Analysis in progress.
<i>Wildlife Habitat Maintenance Ponds</i>	Baxter, Stone	District Wide	8/2003	12/2003	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Advance Thinning</i> Thinning.	Baxter	17N 13W 18N 13W	8/2002	9/2003	2004	Analysis in progress.

SYLAMORE RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Green Mountain</i> Shelterwood, seed tree, thinning, site prep with herbicide, pine and hardwood planting, release with herbicide, prescribe burning, road reconstruction and construction.	Stone	15N 11W 16N 11W 16N 10W	3/003	9/2003	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Kudzu Treatment and Control</i>	Stone	15N 11W 16N 10W	4/2003	9/2003	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Clifty Canyon Ecosystem Burn</i>	Baxter, Stone	16N 12W 16N 13W 17N 12W 17N 13W	8/2002	9/2003	2004	Analysis in progress.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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 T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Boss Hollow Project</i> This project consists of multiple timber sales. Harvest methods include thinning, seed tree, and shelterwood cutting in both pine and hardwood forest types. Project is located immediately west of Pelsor, AR.	Newton, Pope	12N 20W 13N 20W	4/2003	08/2003	2004	Decision being prepared.
<i>Buffalo Prescribed Burning and Wildlife Stand Improvement (WSI)</i> 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, Searcy,	12N 20W 12N 21W 13N 20W 14N 18W 14N 19W	07/2003	09/2003	2004	Proposed Action being prepared for scoping letter.
<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 18W 14N 19W	12/2002	8/2003	2004	Decision being prepared.

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><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.</p>	Newton, Pope	12N 20W 13N 20W	07/2003	08/2003	2003	Proposed action being prepared for scoping letter.
<p><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.</p>	Johnson, Madison, Newton, Pope, Searcy,	District Wide	10/2002	10/2003	2004	Proposed Action being prepared for scoping letter.
<p><i>West Fork Prescribed Burn</i> Prescribed burning on approx. 3,959 acres to improve forage, reduce fuels, and improve forest health. Project lies east of Fallsville, AR.</p>	Newton	13N 23W	Done 10/2000	10/2003	2004	Decision being prepared.
<p><i>Hideout Hollow WSI</i> WSI on approx. 300 acres to aid in oak woodland restoration and provide forage for wildlife species with early successional needs.</p>	Newton, Searcy	13N 19W 13N 20W	6/2003	8/2003	2004	Proposed Action being prepared for scoping letter.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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>Kincannon Mountain Project</i> Soil and PETS conservation management.	Van Buren	11N 17W Sec. 15	6/2003	8/2003	2003	Analysis in progress.
<i>Woodland Ecosystem Restoration Project</i> Forest health, wildlife, and fire use proposal in 5 areas on the district. Thinning silvicultural treatments, wildlife stand improvement treatments, wildland urban interface fuels treatment, and prescribed fire.	Conway, Johnson, Pope, Searcy Van Buren	10N 17W 10N 18W 11N 21W 12N 18W 12N 20W 12N 21W 13N 18W	6/2003	10/2003	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Upper Brock Lake Fisheries Improvement</i>	Van Buren	10N 17W	2003	2003	2003	Analysis in progress.
<i>Middle Mountain Project</i> <i>Pine and Hardwood Timber Management:</i> <i>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	9/2003	2004	Field Inventory is complete and site-specific projects have been developed.

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Indian Moccasin Wildlife, PETS, and Soil and Watershed Improvements</i> Wildlife habitat improvement projects to benefit species such as turkey ,woodpecker, and deer. Projects are food plot rejuvenation, prescribed burning, and thinning to encourage mast, fruit, or browse production. Pond repairs are planned. PETS habitat improvement projects for Bachman's Sparrow and Small-headed Pipewort. Treatments such as prescribed burning and thinning to restore glade ecosystems are planned. Soil and watershed improvements include rehabilitation and closure of selected roads with active erosion and stream bank stabilization. These treatments are planned within the Indian/Moccasin Landscape.</p>	<p>Johnson, Pope</p>	<p>10N 20W 11N 20W 11N 21W 12N 20W 12N 21W</p>	<p>9/2003</p>	<p>12/2003</p>	<p>2004</p>	<p>Field Inventory is complete and site-specific projects have been developed.</p>

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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
<i>Sarah Hollow Project</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.	Johnson	11N 24W 11N 25W 12N 24W 12N 25W	9/2003	2/2004	2004	Proposal development.
<i>Horsehead Lake Campground: Tornado Salvage & Clean-up</i> Salvage efforts consist of dozer work and brush pile burning. Campsite pullouts are to be reestablished with tables, signs, and grills being replaced. Project is located about 15 miles northwest of Clarksville, AR.	Johnson	11N 25W	Done	Done	2003	Clean-up continues.

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Sie Hollow Project</i> Hardwood/pine mix of EAM/UAM. Site prep with hand tools/herbicide and burning in addition to timber stand improvement and fuel reduction burning; road construction/maintenance; and wildlife openings/ponds with burning of thinned pine stands. Some hardwood stands may be salvage operation due to drought stress. Also proposes relocating 1-2 miles of Ozark Highland Trail as well as offering OHV Trail loop. Project is located along State Highways 21 and 16, west of Fallsville, AR.</p>	<p>Johnson, Madison, Newton</p>	<p>12N 23W 12N 24W 13N 23W 13N 24W</p>	<p>1/2003</p>	<p>8/2003</p>	<p>2004</p>	<p>Analysis stage.</p>
<p><i>West Morgan Project (formerly Fly Gap Project)</i> Forest Health and Oak Ecosystem Restoration treatments of thinnings and regeneration cuts in hardwood and pine. Site prep with hand tools/herbicide and burning along with timber stand improvements and hazardous fuel reduction burning; road const/maint; and wildlife openings/ponds with burning of thinned pine stands. Some hardwood stands may be considered salvage operation due to drought stress. Located on the east side of State Highway 23 about 12 miles north of Ozark in the Cass community.</p>	<p>Franklin</p>	<p>12N 26W 12N 27W</p>	<p>7/2003</p>	<p>12/2003</p>	<p>2004</p>	<p>Inventory stage.</p>

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><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.</p>	Johnson	11N 23W 12N 23W	8/2003	12/2003	2004	Inventory stage.
<p><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.</p>	Madison	13N 24W 13N 25W 14N 24W 14N 25W	3/2003	11/2003	2004	Analysis stage- documentation with a Decision Memo.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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 T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Jethro West Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, and road work. Located between Jethro and Shores Lake, AR.	Franklin	11N 27W 11N 28W	3/2003	10/2003	2004	Environmental Assessment in progress.
<i>Keets Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, and road work. Located between Sunset and Brannon, AR.	Madison	13N 28W	11/2003	7/2004	2004	Developing Proposed Action.
<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	10/2003	2004	Environmental Assessment in progress.
<i>Odell Habitat Improvement Project</i> Work includes closing a section of degraded roadway, maintaining a section of open roadway, creating a parking area, and fencing. Project is located along the Illinois River.	Benton	17N 32W	4/2003	8/2003	2003 or 2004	Appealable Decision Memo issued 6/11/2003.

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><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.</p>	Franklin	12N 27W 13N 27W	3/2002	2/2004	2004	Environmental Assessment in progress.
<p><i>Spud Rock Prescribed Burning Project</i> A 17,900-acre burn east of White Rock Mountain, AR.</p>	Crawford, Franklin	12N 27W 12N 28W 12N 29W	7/2003	12/2003	2004	Developing Proposed Action.
<p><i>Wildcat Fencing Project</i> Repair and install fence along pastures near Tontitown, AR.</p>	Benton	17N 31W 17N 32W	7/2003	2/2004	2004	Developing Proposed Action.
<p><i>Wedington Road Closures</i> Close vehicular access to unneeded or problem roads in the Wedington Wildlife Management Area.</p>	Benton, Washington	Varied	8/2003	10/2003	2004	Developing Proposed Action.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

MT. MAGAZINE RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2003
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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>Corley Project</i> Single-tree selection; shelterwood harvesting; seed tree removal in shortleaf pine; thinning in cedar, shortleaf pine, and pine/hardwood; road work; site prep; release; wildlife opening construction and restoration; wildlife pond construction; wildlife habitat improvement; fuels reduction prescribed burning; pasture restoration; and wildlife stand improvement. Project is five miles south of Subiaco, AR.	Logan	6N 25W 7N 25W	3/2003	9/2003	2004	Environmental Analysis being prepared.
<i>Brock 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 two miles southeast of New Blaine, AR.	Logan	7N 22W 7N 23W	7/2003	9/2003	2004	Preparing Proposed Action.

<i>Wildlife Opening Restoration Project</i> Chemical control of fescue, Bermuda grass, locust, and sumac in selected wildlife openings. Project is district wide.	Logan, Yell	District Wide	3/2003	6/2003	2003	In Appeal Period.
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SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

ST. FRANCIS RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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>Wildlife Habitat Improvement District Food Plots</i> Food plot restoration or maintenance with herbicide	Lee, Phillips	District Wide	8/2003	12/2003	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<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>Maintenance for Wildlife Habitat – Ponds</i>	Lee, Phillips	District Wide	8/2003	12/2003	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Sugar Creek Fuel Reduction Burn</i>	Lee	1N 4E	6/2003	9/2003	2004	Analysis in progress

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

LANDS AND MINERALS - SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

For more information contact:
 Carol H. Horn, Lands and Minerals Staff
 USDA Forest Service
 605 West Main
 Russellville, AR 72801
 Telephone: (479) 964-7221

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	2003	Will complete as needed.
<i>Land Acquisition</i>	Various		As offered for purchase	2003	2003	Will complete as needed.
<i>Small Tracts</i>	Various		As needed	2003	2003	Will complete as needed.
<i>Easement Acquisitions</i>	Various		As needed	2003	2003	Will complete as needed.
<i>Land Exchange - Unnamed</i>	Johnson Pope	9N 18W 11N 24W	2003	2003	2003	Not started.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

OAK SUSTAINABILITY - SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

For more information contact:
 Len Bollman, Oak Sustainability Coordinator
 USDA Forest Service
 605 West Main
 Russellville, AR 72801
 Telephone: (479) 964-7219

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Oak Restoration Project</i> North Johnson County Project: Little Piney and Murray Creek watersheds. Planned activities include prevention, suppression, and restoration projects on hardwood and other stands in the severe oak mortality/decline area.	Johnson	T10N R21W T11N R21W T11N R22W T11N R23W T12N R22W T12N R23W	10/2003	4/2004	5/2004	Field exam continuing.

