

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Dear Interested Citizen:

Date: 10/01/03

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

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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>Grassy Thinning</i> Thinning, road maintenance, temporary road construction, and wildlife burning. | Stone | 15N 12W | 10/2003 | 2/2004 | 2004 | Proposed Action being developed.. |
| <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 | 10/2003 | 2/2004 | 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 | 1/2004 | 2004 | Analysis in progress. |
| <i>FY2004 Precommercial Thinning with Saws</i> | Baxter, Stone | District Wide | 10/2003 | 12/2003 | 2004 | Proposed Action being developed. |
| <i>Wildlife Habitat Maintenance Ponds</i> | Baxter, Stone | District Wide | 10/2003 | 1/2004 | 2004 | Proposed Action being developed. |
| <i>Advance Thinning</i> Thinning. | Baxter | 17N 13W 18N 13W | 8/2002 | 9/2003 | 2004 | In Appeal Period. |

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 | In Appeal Period. |
| <i>Kudzu Treatment and Control</i> | Stone | 15N 11W 16N 10W | 7/2003 | 1/2004 | 2004 | Analysis in progress. |
| <i>Clifty Canyon Ecosystem Burn</i> | Baxter, Stone | 16N 12W 16N 13W 17N 12W 17N 13W | 8/2002 | 11/2003 | 2004 | Analysis in progress. |
| <i>Syllamo Bike Trail</i> Additional hiking/mountain bike trail and additional multi-use trail for hikers, mountain bikes, ORVs, and horses. | Stone | 16N 11W 16N 12W | 11/2003 | 4/2004 | 2005 | Proposed Action being developed. |

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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 | | 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 | 10/2003 | 1/2004 | 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 14N | 18W 19W | 12/2002 | 10/2003 | 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 | 10/2003 | 11/2003 | 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 | 12/2003 | 2004 | Analysis for project underway. |
| <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. | Newton, Searcy | 13N 19W 13N 20W | 6/2003 | 10/2003 | 2004 | Decision being prepared. |

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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 | Done 6/2003 | Done 8/2003 | 10/2003 | Awaiting implementation. |
| <i>Woodland Ecosystem 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 | Done 7/2003 | 10/2003 | 2004 | Proposed Action and Alternatives have been developed and Environmental Assessment is being written. |
| <i>Upper Brock Lake Fisheries Improvement</i> | Van Buren | 10N 17W | 2004 | 2004 | 2004 | Analysis in progress. |
| <i>Middle Mountain Project</i> <i>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 | 11/2003 | 2004 | Proposed Action and Alternatives have been developed and Environmental Assessment is being written. |

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 & 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>10/2003</p> | <p>1/2004</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
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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 |
|---|---------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <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 | 11/2003 | 5/2004 | 2004 | Proposal development and 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 |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <p><i>Proposed Timber, Wildlife, & Recreation Project: Sie Hollow</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> | Johnson, Madison, Newton | 12N 23W 12N 24W 13N 23W 13N 24W | 1/2003 | 9/2003 | 2004 | Decision Notice comment period.. |
| <p><i>Proposed Forest Health & Wildlife Project: West Morgan (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> | Franklin | 12N 26W 12N 27W | 7/2003 | 12/2003 | 2004 | 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>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 | 3/2004 | 4/2004 | 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 | 11/2003 | 2004 | Analysis stage- documentation with a Decision Memo. |
| <i>I. W. Owens Exchange</i> | Johnson Pope | 9N 18W 11N 24W | 10/2003 | 2004 | 2004 | Internal scoping started. Cultural Resources and Biological Evaluation started. |

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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 | | Begin Scoping | Estimated Decision | Begin Implementation | NEPA Status/Remarks |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | T | R | | | | |
| <i>Jethro West Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, and road work. Located between Jethro and Shores Lake, AR. | Franklin | 11N 11N | 27W 28W | 3/2003 | 11/2003 | 2004 | Environmental Assessment in progress. |
| <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 | 12/2003 | 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 | 2/2004 | 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 | 12/2003 | 2004 | Environmental Assessment in progress. |

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 | Environmental Assessment in progress. |
| <i>Wedington Road Closures</i> Close vehicular access to unneeded or problem roads in the Wedington Wildlife Management Area. | Benton, Washington | Varied | 10/2003 | 2/2004 | 2004 | Developing Proposed Action. |

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

MT. MAGAZINE RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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 |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| <p><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 approx. five miles south of Subiaco, AR.</p> | Logan | 6N 25W 7N 25W | 3/2003 | 9/2003 | 2004 | In Appeal Period. |
| <p><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.</p> | Logan | 7N 22W 7N 23W | 10/2003 | 1/2004 | 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>Mt. Magazine Fuels Reduction Project</i> Fuels reduction prescribed burning of approx. 4,450 acres of land that surrounds Mt. Magazine State Park and the communications site on the west end of the mountain. Project is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Paris, AR.</p> | Logan | 6N 24W | 11/2003 | 2/2004 | 2004 | Preparing Proposed Action. |

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

ST. FRANCIS RANGER DISTRICT

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 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 | 11/2003 | 3/2004 | 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 | 11/2003 | 3/2004 | 2004 | Proposed Action being developed. |
| <i>Sugar Creek Fuel Reduction Burn</i> | Lee | 1N 4E | 6/2003 | 10/2003 | 2004 | Analysis in progress |
| <i>Horn Tower</i> | Lee, Phillips | 1N 4E 1S 4E | 10/2003 | 8/2004 | 2005 | Proposed Action being developed. |

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

LANDS AND MINERALS - SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

FIRST QUARTER, FY 2004
 OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2003

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

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