

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

August 5, 2002

The attached is the Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) for the Rio Grande National Forest and San Luis Resource Area. The schedule includes project proposals that we currently anticipate working on during the summer/fall of 2002.

This schedule is not a NEPA document, nor is it a solicitation for comments. Comments addressed to the schedule do not provide standing for appeal purposes. The purpose of the Schedule of Proposed Actions is to provide you with information on whom to contact should you wish to become involved through site-specific comments. This only provides enough information to enable you to contact the proper person to become involved in the analysis and decision process on the forest. Comments received by project leaders, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on the proposed action and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requestor of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within (xx) days.

We welcome your interest and participation. We also encourage your involvement in each project that you are interested in. Your participation is particularly helpful during the early stages of project formulation known as "scoping". It is during the "scoping" process that we define the Purpose and Need for the project, identify issues and define the extent of analysis that is needed. All projects are scoped separately from this SOPA. If you identify a project or projects that you are interested in, please contact the ID Team Leader shown on the schedule and provide project specific comments.

On January 19, 2001, the Chief's Office issued a decision on Appeal #97-13-00-0057 of the Record of Decision for the Rio Grande National Forest Revised Land and Resource Management Plan. Subsequently, the Secretary issued a discretionary review decision of the Chief's appeal decision on March 29, 2001. All Forest decisions on proposed actions must be consistent with the Secretary's review decision. Issuance of a Forest decision will be guided by the Secretary's instructions and public comment.

If you want to be added to the mailing list for this SOPA, please contact Pat Prentice at the address listed inside this packet for the Supervisor's Office of the Rio Grande National Forest or e-mail our office at mailroom_r2_rio_grande@fs.fed.us. This document can be seen on our website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/riogrande/planning.htm>.

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**USDA Forest Service
Rio Grande National Forest**

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PLANNING

Response to the Secretary of Agriculture's Discretionary Review of the Forest Service Chief's Decision on the Revised Forest Plan Appeal #97-13-00-0057	<p>1) Review of projects for sufficient protection of species viability.</p> <p>2) The Forest was directed to correct the following deficiencies in the Revised forest Plan and FEIS:</p> <p>A.) Amend the Revised Forest Plan to incorporate MIS into the plan, add monitoring protocols for the selected MIS, and to add scientific literature cites used to determine habitat needs, distribution, and trends of sensitive species and MIS.</p> <p>B.) Expand display of habitat effects for a longer period of time.</p> <p>C.) Develop a new livestock grazing suitability determination.</p> <p>D.) Expand display of environmental effects.</p> <p>E.) Comply with Section 505 of FLPMA.</p> <p>F.) Wilderness fish stocking amendment.</p> <p>Contact JOHN MURPHY (719)852-5941, Supervisor's Office</p>	<p align="center">On-going.</p> <p>Public Scoping completed on December 21, 2001. The draft NEPA document is scheduled for public release by September, 2002.</p> <p>The SIR was completed in May, 2002.</p> <p>The SIR is scheduled for completion by August, 2002.</p> <p>The SIR is scheduled for completion by August, 2002.</p> <p>Errata sheet completed on December 19, 2001.</p> <p>The 1998 wilderness amendment meets the intent of the Secretary's decision. The Regional Office resolution of the appeal and completion of the BE/BA is scheduled for August, 2002.</p>
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<p>Programmatic Assessments for Various Recreation Projects</p>	<p>The Revised Rio Grande Land and Resource Management Plan provides management direction, standards and guidelines and desired conditions for the Forest's recreation program</p> <p>To be consistent with the Forest Plan direction and comply with the current terrestrial species status, the Forest plans to do programmatic assessments and decisions that address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Annual developed recreation site maintenance. Developed recreation sites include campgrounds, picnic areas, trailheads, overlooks and interpretive sites. Annual maintenance work is scheduled during the use season (May-September) in conjunction with the operation of the developed recreation sites. 2.) Annual trail maintenance work of existing forest system trails. The forest maintains between 150 to 250 miles of system trails each year. Trail maintenance is defined as the upkeep of the entire trail facility as needed for its safe, efficient use and maintained to its original constructed standard. Trails outside wilderness are maintained with a mini-excavator and a couple trail crew personnel. 3.) Scheduled Deferred Maintenance Projects. FY02 projects include: (1) Big Meadow Water System; (2) Forest Toilet Replacement (Buffalo Pass CG, Elk Creek CG, Trujillo Meadows Res and Tucker Ponds Fishing Area); (3) Toilet installation at South Fork Guard Station; and (4) Dam repair work at Spectacle Lake. FY03 projects are: (1) Platoro Guard Station Bunkhouse and water system maintenance and (2) Highway Spring well. FY04 projects are: (1) Forest campground water system upgrades (Lake Fork, Lost Trail and POSO Campgrounds); (2) Hansen Mill TH toilet replacement; (3) Love Lake and Jumper Lake Maintenance work, and (4) Creede Office furnace replacement. FY05 projects are: (1) Creede Administrative Site septic system upgrade; (2) Forest campground water system upgrade (Alamosa CG and Big Springs PA), and (3) Forest Toilet Replacement (Spectacle Lake CG and Fern Creek TH). 4.) Short Term Special Uses. This assessment will cover a variety of activities (weddings, races, events) that involves occupancy or use of National Forest System Lands of a temporary nature (either 4-8 hours to 1-2 day events) and are consistent with the Forest Plan. 5.) Outfitter and Guide Prospectus. This assessment will address the effects of awarding under special use permit additional outfitter and guide activities and service day on the Rio Grande National Forest. The activities include day use and overnight progressive hiking trips, 4 wd tours, fall game hunts, meat packing, limited bear and archery hunts, winter lion hunts, winter mountaineering and snowmobile trips on groomed trails. 6.) Winter Use Capacity. Plan amendment tiered to tiered to the Forest Plan capacity allocation process that will establish service days for commercial, institutional and public winter use on the Rio Grande NF. <p>For further information regarding these proposed actions, contact GREG THOMPSON at the Supervisor's Office (719) 852-5941</p>	<p>Assessments currently in progress.</p> <p>Anticipate completion in August, 2002.</p>
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TRAILS

<p>EYE OF THE NEEDLE PASS</p>	<p>This project involves relocation and improvement of the access trail to the popular Crestone Needle and Crestone Peak area in the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness. Project location is approximately 6 miles east of the Town of Crestone. Project support may require helicopter re-supply of work camp. KRISTI MURPHY (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.</p>	<p>NEPA complete. Project scheduled for Rio Grande portion for 2002.</p>
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ELK CREEK TRAILHEAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	Replace existing bridge over Elk Creek just below trailhead. T. 33N., R. 5E., Section 11. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	NEPA complete. Construction delayed, may occur in FY 2003
CONTINENTAL DIVIDE TRAIL BLUE LAKE, NORTH FORK	This project involves improving two areas on the cDT which are safety concerns. The first, near Blue Lake, is too narrow section in a steep sidehill that needs widening. The second is a stream crossing on the North Fork which needs widening and leveling. Location is South San Juan Wilderness in Conejos County. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping and NEPA underway. Scheduled for 2002.
BLANCA/ELLINGWOOD PEAKS	This project involves relocation and improvement on the access trail to these popular peaks in the Sangre de Cristo's. Project location is approximately 8 miles NW of the town of Blanca. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping and NEPA underway. Scheduled for 2004.
CHAMA BASIN TRAILS	This project involves rehabilitation of gullies across Trail 124 and creating switchbacks in a steep section of Trail 741 to control erosion. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping and NEPA underway. Scheduled for 2002.

RANGE

SOUTH RIVER C&H ALLOTMENT	EA for proposed livestock grazing in the South River C&H Allotment (seven miles southwest of Creede). GILBERT BECENTI, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District	Delayed due to Reversal.
CANON ALLOTMENT AMP	Environmental Analysis for an Allotment Management Plan on the Canon C&H Allotment. Location is the Rio Grande drainage above Rio Grande Reservoir, including West Lost Trail Creek, portions of Bear Creek and Pole Creek. GILBERT BECENTI (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Delayed due to Reversal.
SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS S&G	Environmental Analysis for the Jarosa Mesa, Dipping Lakes, Bancos Alazon, Glacier Lake, Twin Lakes, Roaring Fork, Saddle Creek & Mesa S&G Allotments. One EA and several Allotment Management Plans will be prepared for these allotments. These sheep allotments are located within the South San Juan Wilderness on the Conejos Peak Ranger District. Contact DEAN ERHARD at the Supervisor's Office, (719) 852-5941.	Delayed due to Reversal.
FOX CREEK, C&H ALLOTMENT	Environmental Analysis for Allotment Management Plan for the Fox Creek cattle allotment located along Fox Creek drainage north of Mogote, Colorado. Previously combined with the Long Park and Big Meadows analysis area. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Delayed due to Reversal.
SULPHUR C&H AMP	Environmental Analysis for an Allotment Management Plan to be prepared for Sulphur Cattle and Horse Allotment located southwest of Creede, CO in the Trout Creek drainage. GILBERT BECENTI (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Delayed due to Reversal.
ALDER/SILVER ALLOTMENT EA	Environmental Analysis for an Allotment Management Plan to be prepared for the Alder Silver Allotment located north of Saguache, CO. TRISTRAM POST (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Delayed due to reversal.
PLATORO ANALYSIS	EA and AMP for Platoro Allotment which is located adjacent to Platoro Reservoir, East to Silver Lakes, T 36N, R4 & 5E. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Delayed due to Reversal.
TRIANGLE SPRINGS DEVELOPMENT	Water to be developed for Platoro and Cat Creek Allotments with additional development for wildlife. T36N., R6E., Sec 12. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Project currently on hold.
ALDER C&H ALLOTMENT	Environmental Analysis for Allotment Management Plan preparation for the Alder C&H Allotment, located in the Sangre de Cristo range from Poncha Pass south to Hayden Pass (North East of Villa Grove, CO). Contact TRISTRAM POST OR JIM JAMINET 719-655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Initial scoping to begin Fall 2002.
NOTCH TRAIL DRIFT FENCE, ROUGH CREEK C&H ALLOTMENT	Prevent drift of cattle between the Rough Creek Allotment and the Conejos Cattle Allotment (T33N, R5E, South ½ Sec 32). Contact GARY SNELL at the Conejos Peak District, (719) 274-8971	On Hold.

HANDKERCHIEF MESA RANGE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	Analysis includes the following allotments: Cattle Mountain, Little Beaver, Handkerchief, Cross-Race, and Church. The area runs from South Fork to the Continental Divide, from Highway 160 and Wolf Creek Pass on the West to Beaver Mountain, Willow Park and Crystal Lakes on the East. Contact GILBERT BECENTI at the Divide Ranger District (719) 657-3321.	Delayed due to Reversal.
LA MANGA STOCK DRIVEWAY REHAB.	Stock driveway has been relocated out of riparian zone. Project will rehab. Several areas that are eroding. KELLY GARCIA (719)274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	CE waiting to be completed.
TABACCO LAKE TRAIL FENCE	Temporary electric fence at Tobacco Lake Trailhead to keep cattle out of wilderness. Fence approximately ½ to ¾ miles in length. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Work to start Summer 2002
CANON VERDE/GREEN LAKE PASTURE	Fence to stop livestock from trailing up Canon Verde to Green Lake. Approximately 100 yards in length with gate across trail. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Work to start Summer 2002
ARCHULETA/CHAMA BASIN AREA ANALYSIS	Look at Recreation, Travel Management, Grazing Issues/Conflicts/opportunities to arrive at solutions to resource issues. JIM HONG (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Analysis/Scoping work to start summer 2002
SAGUACHE DISTRICT RANGE IMPROVEMENTS	Projects will be scoped individually as needed and evaluated prior to initiation. TRISTRAM POST (719) 655-2547	Ongoing
GRANGER WELL	Proposal to drill a well, construct storage tank and install approximately 1 mile of 1 inch NUMEX black plastic pipeline. Pipeline will be buried. This development is to facilitate livestock distribution and pasture rotations. The proposed location is in portions of section 9, 10, & 15, T40N. R4E. Contact GILBERT BECENTI, Divide Ranger District, (719) 657-3321.	Scoping Underway.

TIMBER

TIMBER SUITABILITY AMENDMENT	Make adjustments to suitable lands acreage figures to correct discrepancies in the Revised Forest Plan. Contact JOHN RAWINSKI, (719) 852-5941, at the Supervisor's Office.	Implementation waiting for concurrence of the USFWS. Pending Revised Forest Plan Amendment.
LA ROSA	Proposal to harvest 1.9 MMBF to 3.7 MMBF of spruce and other species saw timber. Analysis includes a review of either improving or closing Forest Trail # 736 and approximately 1 mile of FDR 118.1a, which dead-ends at the trailhead. Project is located approximately 28 miles west of Antonito. Contact either JOHN MURPHY OR JACK LEWIS (719) 655-2547 at the Saguache Ranger District.	Project scoping pending concurrence of the USFWS on the Timber Suitability Amendment and completion of the amendment of the LMP.
HOUSELOG TIMBER SALES	Proposal to harvest approximately 3-15 MMBF of spruce fir insect and disease infected mixed conifer. Twelve miles west and south of Saguache. JACK LEWIS Saguache District.	Decision expected after the amendment to the Land Management Plan.
HANDKERCHIEF MESA ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	Proposal to manage timber and road resources in the Handkerchief Mesa Landscape, with various treatments including harvesting of 10 to 13 MMBF of timber, timber stand improvement, prescribed burning, and road management. Area runs from South Fork to the Continental Divide, from Highway 160 and Wolf Creek Pass (on West) to Beaver Mountain, Willow Park and Crystal Lakes (on East). Range has been eliminated from this EA. JIM GRIFFIN (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Decision expected after the amendment of the Land Management Plan.
BLACK MOUNTAIN TIMBER SALE	Proposal to harvest approximately 2 MMBF of timber in the Jarosa analysis area. The Jarosa Analysis area is located about 25 miles west of Creede, Colorado on Highway 149 in Hinsdale County. The area is located south of Spring Pass and East and West of Highway 149. Contact JIM GRIFFIN (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Scoping expected in Fall 2003 or following amendment of the LMP.
MISC. SMALL MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE TREATMENT	Miscellaneous small Mountain Pine Beetle Treatments including saw-timber removal, and commercial and personal use firewood removal from the Cochetopa Hills area on the Saguache Ranger District. This area includes the Buffalo Pass Campground. These treatments are subject to NEPA analysis under the Saguache Small Sales EA. Contact JACK LEWIS (719) 655-2547.	Scoping to begin Spring 2003.

BUFFALO PASS CAMPGROUND TIMBER SALE	Proposal to remove approximately 80 MBF of pole and saw-timber sized timber in and around the Buffalo Pass Campground on the Saguache Ranger District. Project is focused on suppression of Mountain Pine Beetle, Douglas Fir Beetle and Dwarf Mistletoes. Contact JACK LEWIS (719) 655-2547	Scoping to begin May 2003.
TRES CABRAS TIMBER SALE	Proposal to remove approximately 60 MBF of pole and saw-timber sized timber approximately one mile north of Highway 114 on Forest Road 810, Saguache District. Project is focused on suppression of Mountain Pine Beetle, Douglas Fir Beetle, and Dwarf Mistletoes. Contact Jack Lewis (719) 655-2547.	Scoping to begin May 2003

LANDS

LAND PARCEL ACQUISITION	Acquisition of five parcels in T 37 N, R4E and T 36 N, R4E located in Rio Grande County. WYOMA HANSEN (719) 852-5941, Monte Vista	Ongoing.
WARDELL EASEMENT	Easement for 2 miles of new trail construction to private land (patented mining claim) belonging to Creede residents Steve and Carolyn Wardell. The legal description is T41N, R1W, Sections 4 and 5. This proposal is on the North slope of Shallow Creek Canyon, west of the town of Creede, and has currently changed from a road to a motorized trail project. WYOMA HANSEN (719) 852-6222, or RONNIE DAY (719) 657-3321.	Decision expected in August.
SMALL TRACTS ACT CASES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slack, Sec 35, T 42N, R1W, NMPM, Mineral County • Nolen , Sec 22, T42N, R4E, NMPM, Saguache County • STA Interchange, Union Minere, Sec 21 & 22, T36N, R4E, NMPM, Conejos County • Getz, Sec 36, T41N, R5W, NMPM, Hinsdale County Contact WYOMA HANSEN, (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office	Ongoing. Transactions reviewed prior to final approval.
PRIVATE ROAD EASEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ McNary-T36N, R4E, NMPM, Conejos County, Colorado • Richter-Sec. 12, T42N, R1W, NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado • Sheep Creek-additional road use, Sec. 22, T33N, R6E, NMPM Contact WYOMA HANSEN, (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office	Ongoing.
SAN LUIS VALLEY REC	Electrical line extensions and/or upgrades to existing lines (T42N, R1W). The proposed projects will provide electric service to private landowners. Each project is scoped individually as contacts are made. Contact WYOMA HANSEN at the Supervisor's Office.	Ongoing.
LAND EXCHANGE RIO OXBOW	The proposed exchange involves land located in: T40N, R1W and R2W, and T41N R1W, NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado (Federal Land) T38N, R6E, NMPM Rio Grande County, Colorado (Non-Federal Land) Carson Mining District, NMPM, Hinsdale County, Colorado (Non-Federal Land) WYOMA HANSEN (719) 852-5941.	Ongoing

FIRE

SHEEP CREEK BURN	Prescribed fire to improve elk habitat in conjunction with Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Habitat Partnership Program. T46N R4E Sec. 35. Contact LARY FLOYD (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Plan ongoing. Possible implementation Spring 2003.
NORTH PARK SALVAGE BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural and activity fuels treatment objectives. T46N, R4E, Sec 34. LARY FLOYD or SID HALL (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	Partially completed Fall 2001. Finish Spring/Fall 2002
PARK CREEK BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural and activity fuels treatment objectives. T44N, R4E, Sec 25 & 26. SID HALL (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	Implementation scheduled fall 2002.
NATURAL ARCH BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural fuels treatment objectives. Joint FS/BLM project. T42N, R5E, Sec 23 & 26. LARY FLOYD (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	Implementation scheduled Spring 2003.

SCHILLING SPRINGS BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural fuels treatment objectives. T36N, R6E, Sec 10. BILL JOSLIN (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Estimated implementation no later than 2003.
RITO HONDO BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural fuels treatment objectives. T32N, R7E, Sec 9. BILL JOSLIN (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Estimated implementation no later than 2003.
WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE PROJECT CONEJOS CANYON PLAN	This is development of a project plan that would reduce wildfire hazards to adjacent developed private lands. . Bill Joslin, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Estimated implementation no later than 2003.
SAGUACHE PARK 2 BURN	Prescribed fire to meet allotment management objectives. Saguache Park Allotment 30 W of Saguache. SID HALL or TRISTRAM POST. (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Completed.
CATHEDRAL BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural fuels treatment objectives. T41N, R4E, Sec. 30. GUY KEENE (719)657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Implementation scheduled Spring/Fall 2002
WOLF MOUNTAIN BURN	Prescribed fire to meet natural fuels treatment and wildlife habitat objectives. T39N, R4E, Sec. 10. GUY KEENE (719)657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Implementation scheduled Spring/Fall 2002

SPECIAL USES

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING EVENTS	High school cross-country running events on private and public lands at the base of the Wolf Creek Ski Area. T37N, R2E, Sections 8, 9, and 10. STEVE BRIGHAM, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Ongoing.
SPECIAL USE PERMITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewal for the Rock Creek Archery Range ▪ Proposal for an archery event on Rock Creek/ June/July Contact RONNIE DAY OR ART MARCILLA at 719-657-3321, Divide Ranger District	Ongoing NEPA-Scoping Now.
CENTURY TEL COMMUNICATION INC & US WEST	The proposal concerns installation of buried telephone lines Forest wide for new service or upgrade to existing lines. Each project is scoped individually as contacts are made. WYOMA HANSEN at the Supervisor's Office.	Ongoing.
CENTURY TEL AND QUEST	Fiber optics between Creede and South Fork. Contact WYOMA HANSEN (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office.	Decision expected in August
CENTURY TEL	Installation of underground telephone lines and conduit for electric lines on Wolf Creek Pass. WYOMA HANSEN, Supervisor's Office, (719) 852-5941	Decision expected in August
CUMBRES TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD	Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, T32N, R5E, Sec 7 & 8, T32N, R6E, Sec 17. Contact WYOMA HANSEN (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office.	Ongoing
SAN LUIS VALLEY REC AND CENTURY TEL	Installation of underground telephone and electric lines in Secs 23, 24, & 26, T 42 N., R 1W. Contact WYOMA HANSEN, Supervisor's Office, (719) 852-5941.	Decision expected in August.

MINERALS

CRESTONE ABANDONED MINE CLOSURES	Six abandoned mines will be closed by the Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology north and west of the town of Crestone, CO. Sites will either be backfilled or closed using a bat-compatible gate. DIANN GESE (719) 657-6025. Saguache Ranger District	Completed May 2002
DIVIDE RANGER DISTRICT ABANDONED MINE CLOSURES	Two abandoned mines will be closed by the Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology. One shaft is on Wolf Creek Pass and one shaft is in Miners Creek. Sites will either be backfilled or closed using a bat-compatible gate. DIANN GESE (719) 657-6025. Divide Ranger District	Analysis in progress. Expected completion Fall 2002.
WINDY GULCH RECLAMATION PROJECT	Homestake Mining Company will continue reclamation of the Bulldog Mine in Windy Gulch, Mineral County, CO. Less than 5 acres will be disturbed. DIANN GESE (719) 657-6025. Divide Ranger District	Analysis in progress. Expected completion Fall 2002.
LARSON CABINS	Owners have requested a Special Use Permit for personal use of two log cabins along Palo Alto Creek, Mineral County, CO. DIANN GESE (719) 657-6025. Divide Ranger District	Analysis in progress. Expected completion Fall 2002.

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WOLF MTN WINTER RANGE IMPROVEMENT – HYDRO AXE	Partnership project designed to improve big game winter range by reducing density of pinyon-juniper. DALE GOMEZ (719) 657-3321 Divide Ranger District.	Completed for 2001, plans to continue 2002.
MIDDLE FORK CARNERO CREEK NATIVE FISH RESTORATION	Project would entail constructing a fish migration barrier to protect the existing native trout fishery in Middle Fork Carnero Creek. JIM JAMINET, (719) 655-2547	CE and project completion expected Fall 2002.
NORTH FORK CARNERO CREEK HABITAT IMPROVEMENT	Project would entail improving drainage and a slight road re-location to minimize impacts to North Fork Carnero Creek. JIM JAMINET, (719) 655-2547	CE approved and project to be completed Spring 2002.
CONEJOS RIVER/FOX CREEK BIGHORN SHEEP HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	Project would open up underbrush increasing sight distance for bighorn sheep. Approximately 50 acres would be treated to improve habitat. SUE SWIFT-MILLER, (719) 274-8971.	Project scheduled for Summer/Fall 2002.
LOVE LAKE MOOSE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT	Treating 5 acres of over mature willow by prescribed fire or mechanical treatment. DALE GOMEZ, (719) 657-3321	Scoping completed.

MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS

BOOT MOUNTAIN ELECTRONIC SITE	The Forest Service is proposing the installation of a radio tower and ancillary equipment on Boot Mountain located in T42N, R4E, Section 4. This site is proposed as an alternative to Mesa Mountain, which was proposed earlier this year. Radio equipment would include a 20-foot tower, base, guys, and small shelter for equipment. JIM JAMINET (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Project completed.
ALDER GUARD STATION SEPTIC INSTALLATION	Installation of septic tank and leach lines. GILBERT BECENTI (719) 657-3321	NEPA Completed Only.
MILLION RESERVOIR	Dam stabilization by riprap on dam face. GILBERT BECENTI (719) 657-3321	Analysis in progress.
SNOWSHED PARKING LOT PROJECT	Located on Hwy 160 across from the Wolf Creek Pass Snow Shed. The proposal includes the installation of a water drain to reduce the impacts of erosion. STEVE BRIGHAM, (719) 657-3321. Divide Ranger District.	Project implemented summer 2002.

WATERSHED & SOIL PROJECTS

WIMPS	Watershed Improvements. This project will conduct an environmental analysis for the various methods of protecting soil, water and fisheries resources through land and other treatments. Check dams, bank stabilization, revegetation, soil aeration, soil stabilization, fish structures, and other techniques will be analyzed. JOHN RAWINSKI, Supervisor's Office, (719) 852-5941	Scoping completed. EA due upon Forest Plan completion.
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RECREATION

ASPEN GLADE CAMPGROUND REHABILITATION	Reconstruction of parts of existing campground units, two toilets, upgrade the water system, minor road improvement work. No expansion. T33N, R6E, Section 26. JIM HONG 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	NEPA complete. Project scheduled for 2002.
TRUJILLO MEADOWS CAMPGROUND FENCE ENCLOSURE	Complete construction of cattle enclosure fence around Trujillo Meadows Campground. T32N, R5E, Section 5. Contact JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	NEPA complete. Project scheduled for 2002.
TUCKER PONDS HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY	Partnership project designed to improve handicap-fishing opportunities by installing fishing piers, interpretive signs and hardening trail & toilet. DALE GOMEZ (719) 657-3321 Divide Ranger District.	Project complete. Handicapped toilet installation scoping completed.
MIDDLE FORK FRISCO AND 30-MILE RIPARIAN/HORSE FACILITY PROJECT	Partnership project designed to reduce impacts to riparian areas by providing horse facilities (hitchrails, corral...). DALE GOMEZ or RONNIE DAY (719) 657-3321 Divide Ranger District.	Project ongoing.
MIX LAKE HANDICAP ACCESS PROJECT	Project to improve accessibility at Mix Lake. May include hardened trail, fishing pier, and installation of accessible toilet. SUE SWIFT-MILLER, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Project on hold.

TRUJILLO MEADOWS HANDICAP ACCESS PROJECT	Project to improve accessibility at Trujillo Meadows. May include hardened trail, fishing pier, installation of accessible toilet. SUE SWIFT-MILLER, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Scoping completed. Analysis underway. Project scheduled for Summer 2002.
ELK CREEK CAMPGROUND REHABILITATION	Reconstruction of parts of existing campground units, 3 new toilets, pressurized water system, minor road improvement work. No expansion. JIM HONG, (719)274_8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping and NEPA underway. Scheduled for 2003.
FOREST WIDE TOILET REPLACEMENT	To replace four deteriorating vault toilets in two campgrounds with accessible toilets at Buffalo Pass CG, and Elk Creek CG. Contact GREG THOMPSON, at (719) 852-5941, the Supervisor's Office.	Ongoing.
GAZEX AVALANCHE CONTROL SYSTEM	Environmental Analysis for an Avalanche Control System at Wolf Creek Ski Area. For more information contact STEVE BRIGHAM at the Divide Ranger District, (719) 657-3321	Decision Notice signed-ready to implement.
JACOBS HILL SUBSOILER TREATMENT	Environmental analysis for treatment of compacted soils. Contact John Capell, Conejos Peak Ranger District (719) 274-8971	NEPA nearly completed. Implementation delayed until 2003.

To keep you, the public, informed we have added the paragraph below to address the latest happenings on the Million fire.

MILLION FIRE BURNED AREA EMERGENCY IMPLEMENTATION: A Team of Rio Grande Forest specialists will be implementing contracts and treatments directed at controlling erosion and sedimentation from the Million Fire area, a fire of 9,000 acres, near Sotuh Fork, Colorado. Project treatments include straw seeding and mulching by helicopter of critical areas. Straw wattles (12 inch diameter straw tubes) will be applied in some areas to control sheet and rill erosion. A diversion above Million Reservoir will be constructed to keep the Reservoir from being impacted. Most of the structures and treatments are located in critical watersheds and have to goal of protecting human safety and property from damaging flood and erosion events. For more information visit the Rio Grande Forest website or contact John Rawinski, Teamleader, 719 852 5941.