



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

10/01/2007 to 12/31/2007

Nebraska National Forest

This report contains the best available information at the time of publication. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
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Projects Occurring Nationwide

Aerial Application of Fire Retardant EA	- Fuels management	In Progress: 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 07/28/2006	Expected:10/2007	10/2007	Christopher Wehrli 202-205-1332 fire_retardant@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Forest Service proposes to continue the aerial application of fire retardant to fight fires on National Forest System lands. An environmental analysis will be conducted to prepare an Environmental Assessment on the proposed action.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. Nation Wide.				
National Forest System Land Management Planning - Proposed Rule EIS *NEW LISTING*	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 08/31/2007 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 12/2007	Expected:01/2008	02/2008	Kevin Lawrence 202-205-2613 klawrence01@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Agency proposes to publish a rule at 36 CFR part 219 to finish rulemaking on the land management planning rule issued on January 5, 2005 (2005 rule). The 2005 rule guides development, revision, and amendment of land management plans.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/2007_planning_rule.html				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - All units of the National Forest System. Agency-wide.				

Nebraska National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)

R2 - Rocky Mountain Region

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Black -tailed Prairie Dog Conservation and Management II EIS	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Land management planning	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 06/08/2007 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 01/2008	Expected:01/2008	10/2008	Mike McNeill 605-745-4107 MMcNeill@fs.fed.us
	Description: To amend the LRMP to specify the desired range of acres of prairie dog colonies to meet various multiple use objectives, and to identify what actions may be taken if the acreage substantially falls below or exceeds the desired range.				
	Location: UNIT - Nebraska National Forest All Units. STATE - South Dakota, Nebraska. COUNTY - Blaine, Cherry, Dawes, Sioux, Thomas, Custer, Fall River, Jackson, Jones, Lyman, Pennington, Stanley. Primary location of the project is the Buffalo Gap, Fort Pierre and Oglala National Grasslands..				

Nebraska National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Buffalo Gap (West Geographic Area) and Oglala National Grasslands Grazing RAMP EIS	- Watershed management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Grazing management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jeffrey Abegglen (308) 432-4475 jsabegglen@fs.fed.us
	Description: Analyze the grazing allotments on the Oglala NG and Buffalo Gap NG (West GA) to determine the difference between existing conditions and desired conditions, and make adjustments to implement the new Forest Plan direction.				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District, Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota, Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes, Sioux, Fall River. All allotments on the Oglala National Grassland in Dawes and Sioux Counties, Nebraska and all allotments in the Southwest Geographic Area of the Buffalo Gap National Grassland in Fall River County, SD.				
Golden West Telecommunications Fiber Optic Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:06/2008	06/2008	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Replace buried copper cable with fiber optic cable on the Oglala National Grassland and Buffalo Gap National Grassland. In some places there will be new fiber optic lines placed.				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District, Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota, Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes, Sioux, Fall River. Oglala National Grassland, Buffalo Gap National Grassland.				

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Nebraska National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Indian Creek Land Exchange EA	- Land ownership management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2007	Expected:06/2008	07/2008	Kevin Heikkila (308) 432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Propose to Exchange 3801.38 acres of National Grassland in Custer County for 2956.50 acres of land in Pennington County and Jackson County owned by Dakota Partnership of Rapid City SD				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District, Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer, Jackson, Pennington. LEGAL - Fed: parts of T3S, R11E, Sec 26,35. T4S,R9E, SE3-5,6-10, 15,20,21,28,29. Non-Fed parts of T3S.,R11E,Sec 25, T3S, R12E, Sec 19,20,22,28,29,30-33, 35,36. T4S, R12E, Sec 2.. Fed land is approx. 8 miles east of Fairburn, SD. Non-Fed land is approx 7-10 miles west of Scenic, SD.				
Middle Loup Land Exchange CE	- Land ownership management - Recreation management	In Progress: 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 07/06/2006	Expected:10/2007	11/2007	Kevin Heikkila (308) 432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Proposed exchange of 175.37 acres of National Forest System land in Dawes County, NE, for 293.10 ac. of land in Thomas County, and 2.63 acres in Dawes County, owned by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission.				
	Location: UNIT - Bessey Ranger District, Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes, Thomas. LEGAL - T. 32 N., R 49 W., Sec. 36, part of NW1/4NW1/4, & T. 23 N., R 27 W., Sec. 16 part of SW1/4. . Federal parcel is adjacent to Chadron State Park, Dawes County, NE. State parcel is adjacent to Bessey RD on Middle Loup River, Thomas County, NE.				

Nebraska National Forest Bessey Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Environmental Assessment for Sale of the Hasting Tree ResearchTract EA	- Land ownership management	Completed	Actual: 08/22/2007	11/2007	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: This 144.86 acre parcel, administered by the Bessey Ranger District is proposed for sale under FY05 Pilot Conveyance Authority P.L. 107-63, Sec. 329 (a), as amended.				
	Location: UNIT - Bessey Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Adams. LEGAL - Township 7 North, Range 9 West, Section 15, part of the NE1/4, Adams County, Nebraska. This parcel is located 2 miles east of Hastings, Nebraska on south side of Highway 6. Lcated between the community college and Whelan Energy Center.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Bessey Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)		R2 - Rocky Mountain Region			
Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest Range Allotment Management Plan EIS	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Grazing management	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 05/15/2006 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 11/2007	Expected:03/2008	03/2009	Michael Croxen 308-533-2257 mecroxen@fs.fed.us
	Description: Determine the difference between existing and desired conditions on all grazing allotments on the SR McKelvie NF and implement grazing strategies to achieve desired conditions as outlined in the Forest Plan.				
	Location: UNIT - Bessey Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Cherry. All of the Samuel R. McKelvie National Forest, approximately 40 miles southwest of Valentine, NE.				

Nebraska National Forest Fall River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)		R2 - Rocky Mountain Region			
Application for permit to Drill & Surface Plan of Operation Section 30, T11S, R1E, BHM CE *NEW LISTING*	- Minerals and Geology	Completed	Actual: 09/17/2007 09/17/2007	10/2007	Michael Erk 605-745-4107 merk@fs.fed.us
	Description: Drilling of one exploratory oil well to a depth of 3950 ft. The proposed action will include the construction of a 185 ft by 300 ft well pad and flat blading less than 0.5 miles of access road to the pad from an existing crowned and ditched road.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - T 11 S, R 1 E, BHM; Section 30. West Pasture of the Antelope Allotment.				
Ardmore, Edgemont, Oral & Buffalo Gap Exchange Fiber Optic Line Installation & Maintenance EA	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 07/06/2007 07/06/2007	07/2007	Marsha Fish 308-432-0319 rnovotny@fs.fed.us
	Description: Golden West Telecommunications Coop, Inc has requested to amend the master special use permit FRD43 to add those portions of the Oral and Buffalo Gap fiber optic line exchanges that cross national grassland in Fall River and Custer County, SD.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - Parts of T5S, R9E, Sec 25 & 26; T6S, R8E, Sec 10; T9S, R8E, Sec 12, T9S, R9E, Sec 7 & 9. Buffalo Gap National Grassland, Fall River Ranger District, Custer & Fall River County.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Fall River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Cortney Creek Land Exchange EA	- Land ownership management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Special area management	In Progress: 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 04/06/2007	Expected:10/2007	11/2007	Robert Novotny (605) 745-4107 rnovotny@fs.fed.us
	Description: Exchange 640 acres of private land for for 658.39 acres of Federal land.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - Non-Fed land in T8S, R9E, Section 16All. Fed land is in T8S, R9E., Part of Sec 33; and T9S., R9E., Parts of Sec 4 &9. Approximately eight miles east of Smithwick, SD.				
Fred Rittberger Special Use Pipeline CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2007	Expected:12/2007	12/2007	Michael Erk 605-745-4107 merk@fs.fed.us
	Description: Approval to issue a special use permit for the construction of appoximately 3100 ft of stockwater pipeline (in two segments) across federal land to provide stock water for animals on private land.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer. LEGAL - SWNE Section 24 and the SWNE and SENW Section 25, T 5 S, R 8 E, BHM. Chalk Hills Allotment.				
Improvement 305W16 Pipeline Repair CE *NEW LISTING*	- Grazing management	Completed	Actual: 06/20/2007 06/20/2007	07/2007	Michael Erk 605-745-4107 merk@fs.fed.us
	Description: Boring 3 ft under Cottonwood Creek for approximately 500 ft to repair an existing potable water pipeline supplying water to 8 federal pastures and private pastures.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer. LEGAL - T 5 S, R 9 E, BHM, Section 3, SWSW. Chalk Hills Allotment.				
Pipeline Extension, Brush Creek Allotment, Quinto Ranch LLC CE *NEW LISTING*	- Grazing management	Completed	Actual: 04/12/2007 04/12/2007	05/2007	Michael Erk 605-745-4107 merk@fs.fed.us
	Description: Extension of an existing livestock watering pipeline approximately 0.5 miles. The project also includes moving a water holding tank from its present location approximately 0.5 miles north.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - NW1/4, Section 4, T 12 S, R 1 E, BHM. Brush Creek Allotment.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest	Fall River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Rittberger Beef & Dairy Stockwater Pipeline SUP CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2007	Expected:01/2008	03/2008	Michael Erk 605-745-4107 merk@fs.fed.us
	Description: Burial of approximately 6600 ft of 2" stockwater pipeline across Red Shirt Allotment to provide water to private pastures. The proposed pipeline would not cross any portion of the Red Shirt Roadless Area and Proposed Wilderness.				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer. LEGAL - Portions of Sections 25, 26, 35 T3S, R10E, BHM. Red Shirt Allotment, approximately three miles northeast of Red Shirt Roadless Area and Proposed Wilderness.				

Nebraska National Forest	Pine Ridge Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Request for Private Road SU Permit - Jeanette McCance CE *NEW LISTING*	- Road management - Special use management - Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/19/2007 Est. 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 10/2007	Expected:10/2007	11/2007	Charles Marsh 308-432-4475 cmarsh@fs.fed.us
	Description: Application received for private road special use permit for ingress/egress to private residence and maintain existing access road which crosses perennial creeks in seven places.				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes. LEGAL - T. 31 N., R. 51 W., part of Sec 24, SW1/4SW1/4, and part of Sec 25 NW1/4NW1/4,. West Ash Creek - Pine Ridge Ranger District.				

Nebraska National Forest	Wall Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Black-Footed Ferret Doctoral Dissertation Research Special Use Permit CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/19/2007	Expected:09/2007	11/2007	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Conduct night-time spotlight surveys for black-footed ferrets, including capturing and marking unmarked ferrets. Spotlighting will occur 4-7 nights a week from mid-February to mid-November 2008 and 2009 (as weather and field conditions allow).				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Pennington. LEGAL - T4S, R13E . Heck Table Complex, Five miles south of Scenic, SD.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Wall Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Fort Pierre National Grassland Travel Management EA	- Land management planning	In Progress: Notice of Initiation 01/31/2007	Expected:02/2008	04/2008	Kelly Phillips 605-224-5517 kaphillips@fs.fed.us
	Description: Designate system of roads and trails for use by motorized, wheeled vehicles in compliance with national Forest Service direction to designate motorized travel system.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jones, Lyman, Stanley. LEGAL - Stanley, Jones, Lyman counties. National Forest System lands within the Fort Pierre National Grassland.				
Golden West Telecommunications Fiber Optic Project Amendment 2 CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 09/2007	Expected:10/2007	10/2007	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Installing an additional buried fiber optic cable for 26,550 feet along Conata Road in Pennington County in Buffalo Gap National Grassland				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Pennington. LEGAL - T4S, R16E, Sec. 4 & 9; T3S, R16E, Sec. 16, 21, 28, & 33. Along Conata Road in Pennington County, Buffalo Gap National Grassland.				
Livestock Watering Tanks EA	- Grazing management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2007	Expected:02/2008	05/2008	Glenn Moravek 605-224-5517 gmoravek@fs.fed.us
	Description: Fort Pierre National Grassland--Install several watering tanks and water pipeline from existing pipeline taps in Kennedy, Stoney Butte, Number Two, Bomber, South Bombing Range, Dry Hole, West Engen, and War Creek Allotments.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jones, Lyman, Stanley. Fort Pierre National Grassland-- Four tanks located approx. eight miles northwest of Vivian, SD, and four to nine tanks located approximately 12 miles south of Ft. Pierre, SD..				
Midcontinent Communications Buried Fiber Optic Communication Cable CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/18/2007	Expected:10/2007	10/2007	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Issue special use permit to install and maintain a buried fiber optic communication cable in a road ROW currently occupied by two other utilities, for one-half mile on the Buffalo Gap National Grassland, Wall Ranger District.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Pennington. LEGAL - T1S, R16E, Sec. 2: S1/2NW1/4. Wall Ranger District, Buffalo Gap National Grassland. Three miles east of Wall, SD.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Wall Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)		R2 - Rocky Mountain Region			
Prescribed Fires CE	- Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Glenn Moravek 605-224-5517 gmoravek@fs.fed.us
	Description: Burn two areas to reduce grass litter and fuels and to improve vigor of native plant species.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jones, Lyman, Stanley. LEGAL - W1/2, SE1/4, S5; S1/2 S8; T106N R79W. Chester Allotment, Middle Pasture; Dryhole Allotment, Chester Pasture; Ft. Pierre National Grassland.				
Prescribed Fires: Southwestern FPNG Combination CE	- Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:03/2008	04/2008	Tonya Weisbeck 605-224-5517 tkweisbeck@fs.fed.us
	Description: Prescribe burn approximately 4500 acres of grassland to reduce fuels, maintain grass productivity, and improve wildlife habitat.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jones. LEGAL - All or part of S3, S4, S7, S9, S10, S13, S14, S18, S19, T2NR31E; W1/2, SE1/4, S5; S1/2 S8; T106N R79W. Richland Southwest and Northwest, Farlow Winter Quarter, Far West, Glenn, and Number Two; Chester Middle, Dryhole.				
Saddle Pass Recreation Trail CE	- Recreation management	Completed	Actual: 07/06/2007 07/06/2007	08/2007	Kevin Atchley 605-279-2125 katchley@fs.fed.us
	Description: The proposal is to construct and maintain a horse back riding/pedestrian recreation trail to be located in Jackson Co, South Dakota.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jackson. LEGAL - T.3S., R19E., Sections 7-11,14-16,21-23; and T.3.S., R18E., Sec12 S1/2SE/14; BHM, Jackson Co, South Dakota. This is two miles south of Interstate 90, Exit 131 on the Buffalo Gap National Grassland.				

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