



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

04/01/2008 to 06/30/2008

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	Completed	Actual: 02/18/2008 10/11/2007	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	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: FEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/15/2008	Expected:03/2008	03/2008	Gina Owens 202-205-1187 gowens@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/2008_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 02/2008	Expected:02/2008	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	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 03/2008	Expected:01/2009	04/2009	Robert Novotny 605-745-4107 rnovotny@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	- 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.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
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	
Nebraska National Forest Travel Management EIS	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 01/2008	Expected:01/2009	02/2009	Daniel Frodsham 308--533-2257 dfrodsham@fs.fed.us
	Description: Determine the roads, trails, and areas that will be available for motorized travel and the effects on soils, vegetation, and wildlife.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska/travelmanagement				
Location: UNIT - Bessey Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Blaine, Cherry, Thomas. Nebraska National Forest, Bessey Ranger District in Thomas and Blaine counties, Nebraska and Samuel R. McKelvie NF in Cherry county, NE.					

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 02/2008	Expected:06/2008	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			
Fred Rittberger & Sons Pipeline Special Use Permit Amendment CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/01/2007	Expected:01/2008	01/2008	Robert Novotny 605-745-4107 rnovotny@fs.fed.us
	Description: Amendment of the current special use permit for the construction of 0.34 miles of stockwater pipeline. This segment of pipeline would serve a private pasture currently without water. The total permit area with the amendment would be less than 4 ac				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer. LEGAL - T 5 S, R 8 E, BHM, Section 25. Red Shirt Allotment.				
Fred Rittberger Special Use Pipeline CE	- 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 approximately 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.				

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	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/01/2007	Expected:01/2008	01/2008	Robert Novotny 605-745-4107 rnovotny@fs.fed.us
	Description: Burial of approximately 6900 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	
Nebraska National Forest Travel Management EIS	- Road management - Watershed management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 01/2008	Expected:01/2009	02/2009	Phillip Dobesh 308-432-4475 pdobesh@fs.fed.us
	Description: Determine roads that will be open for motorized travel by considering effects on natural resources such as soil, water, wildlife, and vegetation.				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes, Sioux. Nebraska National Forest - Pine Ridge Ranger District and Oglala National Grassland.				
Request for Private Road SU Permit - McCance Ranches, Inc. CE	- 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 crmarsh@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.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Pine Ridge Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Stanford University Research Special Use Permit CE	- Research - Special use management	In Progress: 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 10/12/2007	Expected:10/2007	10/2007	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Acquire marble-sized samples of rock every 5-10 meters stratigraphically at Toadstool Park for Research				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Sioux. LEGAL - T. 33N., R53W, Sec. 8: NE1/4. Toadstool Park, Oglala National Grassland, Pine Ridge R.D.				

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	- 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.				
Fort Pierre National Grassland Travel Management EA	- Land management planning	In Progress: Scoping Start 01/31/2007 Est. 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 01/2008	Expected:03/2008	05/2008	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	- 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.				

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	
Livestock Watering Tanks EA	- Grazing management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:05/2008	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.				
Livestock water pipeline - Wall RD CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2007	Expected:01/2008	01/2008	Kevin Atchley 970-878-4039 katchley@fs.fed.us
	Description: Two-Inch Diameter Buried Livestock Water Pipeline Crossing the Buffalo Gap National Grassland to Private Property				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jackson. LEGAL - T1S, R19E, Sec. 14: SW1/4, Sec. 15: SE1/4. Four miles east and 1/2 mile south of the town of Cottonwood, SD.				
Midcontinent Communications Buried Fiber Optic Communication Cable CE	- 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.				
Nebraska National Forest Travel Management EIS	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 01/2008	Expected:01/2009	02/2009	Randall Griebel 605-673-4853 rgriebel@fs.fed.us
	Description: Determine which roads, trails and areas will be open for motorized travel on the national forest and the effects on soils, vegetation and wildlife.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/nebraska/travelmanagement				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jackson, Pennington. LEGAL - That portion of the Buffalo Gap National Grassland primarily lying east of the Cheyenne River in SD. Buffalo Gap National Grassland, Wall Ranger District.				

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	
Nebraska National Forest Travel Management EIS	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 01/2008	Expected:01/2009	02/2009	Robert Hodorff 605-745-4107 rhodorff@fs.fed.us
	Description: Determine which roads, trails, and areas will be available for motorized travel on the national forests and grasslands, and the effects on soils, vegetation, and wildlife.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer, Fall River, Pennington. LEGAL - Buffalo Gap NG lands west of the Cheyenne River in SD. Buffalo Gap National Grassland, Fall River District.				
Prescribed Fires: Southwestern FPNG Combination EA	- Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:05/2008	08/2008	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.				
Shaun Grassel Black-Footed Ferret Research Special Use Permit for a doctoral dissertation. CE	- Research - Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2007	Expected:01/2008	02/2008	Kevin Heikkila 308-432-0312 kheikkila@fs.fed.us
	Description: Conduct research on black-footed ferrets and prairie dogs.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Pennington. LEGAL - T 4 S, R 13 E. Five miles south of Scenic, SD in Pennington County.				

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