



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

01/01/2008 to 03/31/2008

Shawnee 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
--------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------	-------------------------	-----------------

Projects Occurring Nationwide

Aerial Application of Fire Retardant EA	- Fuels management	Completed	Actual: 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: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 08/31/2007 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 01/2008	Expected:02/2008	02/2008	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/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.					

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

R9 - Eastern Region

Non-Native Invasive Species Management EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:09/2008	10/2008	Steve Hupe 618-253-7114 shupe@fs.fed.us
Description: Forest-wide assessment of the management of non-native invasive species. Potential treatments include pulling, hand-torching, controlled burns, and herbicides.					
Location: UNIT - Shawnee National Forest All Units. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Gallatin, Hardin, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Pulaski, Saline, Union, Williamson. Forest-wide.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Shawnee National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)					R9 - Eastern Region
Shawnee Trails End Outfitter-Guide Permit CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management - Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:02/2008	02/2008	Robert Monroe 618-658-2111 robertmonroe@fs.fed.us
	Description: Sonja Kirkland currently has a permit for equestrian guiding on the Shawnee, she is now requesting an Outfitter Permit. Wants to rent horses and RV.				
	Location: UNIT - Shawnee National Forest All Units. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Gallatin, Hardin, Pope, Saline, Williamson. Located 3 miles off highway 34 in Herod, Illinois.				

Shawnee National Forest Hidden Springs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Addendum to the Cistern and Well Closure Environmental Assessment EA	- Watershed management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Nick Giannettino 618-253-1025 ngiannettino@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Shawnee National Forest proposes to update the Cistern and Well Closure EA. The Forest has successfully implemented this project for the last 5 years and, although no major changes are expected, a review and update are required.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Gallatin, Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope, Saline. Old homesites are scattered throughout the National Forest on the Hidden Springs Ranger District, and are located primarily on ridges. Many of these homesites have open cisterns or wells.					
Cave Hill, Dennison Hollow, Stoneface, and Simpson Barrens Vegetation Management EA	- Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Special area management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:03/2008	10/2008	Elizabeth Shimp 618-658-2111 eshimp@fs.fed.us
	Description: Prescribe burn a total of about 3600 acres around 4 natural areas and adjacent lands for vegetation management (other than forest products) and animal habitat improvement.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Johnson, Saline. Three areas within Saline County and one in Johnson County..					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Shawnee National Forest Hidden Springs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Harris Branch - Restoration of Hardwoods in Pine Stands EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Forest products	In Progress: 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 03/11/2007	Expected:03/2008	04/2008	Tom Neal (618) 658-2111 tneal@fs.fed.us
	Description: Thinning of pine stands using commercial sale and prescribed fire to restore hardwoods in non-native pine stands. Note: This project has been renamed from Cadiz to Harris Branch to better describe its location.				
	Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Hardin. LEGAL - T11S, R8E, Section 24. Karbers Ridge, Cadiz Area.				
Lake of Egypt North Prescribed Burn CE	- Fuels management - Forest products - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Tom Neal (618) 658-2111 tneal@fs.fed.us
	Description: Lake of Egypt prescribed fire management unit consists of nine individual burn units. Total acres in Lake of Egypt North is about 3251 acres. The burning is to improve wildlife habitat and timber stands.				
	Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Johnson. LEGAL - Sections 2,3,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17,18 Township 11S Range 3 E Sections 18,19,20 Township 11S Range 5E. Near Lake of Egypt .				
Lake of Egypt South Prescribed Burn CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Forest products - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Tom Neal (618) 658-2111 tneal@fs.fed.us
	Description: Lake of Egypt prescribed fire management unit consists of 10 individual burn units. Total acres in Lake of Egypt South is 4056 acres. The burning is to improve wildlife habitat and timber stands.				
	Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Johnson. LEGAL - Sections 31,32,33,34 Township 11S Range 3E and Sections 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,12 Township 12S Range 2E. Near Lake of Egypt.				
Lusk Creek Canoe Launch EA	- Facility management - Recreation management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Robert Monroe 618-658-2111 robertmonroe@fs.fed.us
	Description: Construct a small parking lot and stream access ramp for launching small watercraft.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/environmental/nepa/sopa/				
Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Pope. LEGAL - T12S R6E Sec 16. Eddyville Blacktop adjacent to the Eddyville Bridge over Lusk Creek.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Shawnee National Forest Hidden Springs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
South Pope County Burning. CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Tom Neal (618) 658-2111 tneal@fs.fed.us
	Description: The South Pope burn consists of 21 different burn units totaling 4455 acres. The burning is to improve wildlife habitat and timber stands.				
	Location: UNIT - Hidden Springs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Pope. Six miles SE of Dixon Springs Agricultural Center.				

Shawnee National Forest Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Atwood Ridge, Ozark Hill Prairie and Opposum Trot Trail Natural Area Management EA	- Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 02/2008	Expected:04/2008	10/2008	Steve Widowski 618-833-8576 swidowski@fs.fed.us
	Description: The project includes prescribed burning about 3,000 acres and 100-200 acres of selective tree and shrub removal in barrens and dry woodland communities.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Alexander, Union. Atwood Ridge, Ozark Hill Prairie and Opposum Trot Trail Natural Area and surrounding areas.					
Broken Wheel Equestrian Outfitter Special-Use Permit CE	- Watershed management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Recreation management	Completed	Actual: 11/14/2007	11/2007	Marlene Rivero 618-833-8576 mrivero@fs.fed.us
	Description: This permit would allow the applicant to operate an equestrian campground near the River-to-River trail and the Bald Knob/Clear Spring Wildernesses. The permittee will agree to specific measures to protect resources.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Union. LEGAL - T11SR 2 and 3. Near the River-to-River trail and the Bald Knob/Clear Spring Wildernesses..					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Shawnee National Forest Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Buttermilk Hill / Talbott Hollow Blowdown Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/14/2007 Est. 215 Comment Period Legal Notice 02/2008	Expected:04/2008	10/2008	Scott Crist 618-687-1731 scrist@fs.fed.us
	Description: To reduce fire risk and restore healthy ecosystems, the Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District of the Shawnee National Forest proposes to burn about 5400 acres of Forest land and private land in the Buttermilk Hill/Talbott Hollow Blowdown Project.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/scoping/2008/butter-talb/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Jackson. Bounded on the south by State Highway 3, bounded on the east by Kinkaid Lake, bounded on the north by Gum Ridge Rd and Dry Hill Rd, bounded on the west by Logan Hollow Rd..					
LaRue-Pine Hills/Otter Pond Natural Area Management EA	- Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:03/2008	10/2008	Steve Widowski 618-833-8576 swidowski@fs.fed.us
	Description: The project includes prescribed burning on approximately 4,000 acres and approximately 100-200 acres of selective tree and shrub removal in limestone and gravel barrens and dry-woodland communities to maintain ecological diversity.				
	Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Union. LaRue-Pine Hills/Otter Pond Natural Area and surrounding area.				
Lincoln Memorial Interpretation Site Improvements CE	- Facility management - Heritage resource management - Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/05/2007	Expected:01/2008	02/2008	Dan Lentz 618-833-8576 dlentz@fs.fed.us
	Description: Improve the existing memorial site to include one new short path, two new life-size statues, and foundation/wall/walkway work around the existing memorial				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Union. Lincoln Memorial Interpretation Site - Jonesboro, IL.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Shawnee National Forest Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Natural Gas Pipeline Permit Ammendment CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/06/2007	Expected:12/2007	01/2008	Marlene Rivero 618-833-8576 mrivero@fs.fed.us
	Description: Amend an existing permit to include a communication tower on about 0.2 of an acre within their existing permit area.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Jackson. LEGAL - 9 ESouth 3 West section 20. East side of Route 3 north east of Gorham.					
Prescribed Fire for Improvement of Wildlife Habitat and Urban Interface EA	- Fuels management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Scott Crist 618-687-1731 scrist@fs.fed.us
	Description: Five separate prescribed burning projects, totaling about 23,400 acres (about 4,800 acres each). The projects are spread across the District.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/environmental/nepa/sopa/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Jackson, Johnson, Pulaski, Union, Williamson. Lands administered by the ranger district.					
Qualls Reforestation Project CE *NEW LISTING*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2008	Expected:01/2008	02/2008	Ronald Moore 618-833-8576 ronaldmoore@fs.fed.us
	Description: The planting of native hardwood bare root seedlings on the recently acquired Qualls (107 acres) Track, on four farm fields that were in agriculture production two years ago.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Union. LEGAL - Section 31, T11S, R2W & Section 36, T11S, R3W. Shawnee National Forest, MBRD, .					
Skeeter Park/Worthen Bayou Wetlands CE	- Watershed management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/12/2007	Expected:01/2008	04/2008	Steve Widowski 618-833-8576 swidowski@fs.fed.us
	Description: The project includes construction of 2 small earthen levees and water control structures in 2 existing drainage ditches to restore a more natural hydrologic condition on approximately 30 acres of bottomland forest in southwestern Jackson County				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/shawnee/projects/projects/				
Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Jackson. LEGAL - T9S R3W sec 17, 19, 20, 29. On east and west sides of Rt. 3, about 2 miles north of Gorham turn off..					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Shawnee National Forest	Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region	
Verizon North, Inc. Renew Permit CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 01/04/2007	Expected:04/2008	04/2008	Marlene Rivero 618-833-8576 mrivero@fs.fed.us
	Description: Issue a new special use authorization for a new term to replace an existing or expired special use authorization with Verizon Telephone. Inc.				
	Location: UNIT - Mississippi Bluffs Ranger District. STATE - Illinois. COUNTY - Alexander, Jackson, Union. Various location throughout the Mississippi Bluffs RD.				

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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