



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

01/01/2021 to 03/31/2021

Bitterroot 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					
Locatable Mining Rule - 36 CFR 228, subpart A. EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/13/2018 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 11/2021	Expected:12/2021	12/2021	Nancy Rusho 202-731-9196 nancy.rusho@usda.gov
Description: The U.S. Department of Agriculture proposes revisions to its regulations at 36 CFR 228, Subpart A governing locatable minerals operations on National Forest System lands. A draft EIS & proposed rule should be available for review/comment in late 2020					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57214					
Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - Not Applicable. These regulations apply to all NFS lands open to mineral entry under the US mining laws. More Information is available at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/science-technology/geology/minerals/locatable-minerals/current-revisions .					

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

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)					R1 - Northern Region
Forest Plan Amendment - Elk Habitat Objectives EA *UPDATED*	- Land management planning	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/18/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 03/2021	Expected:09/2021	10/2021	Jeffrey Shearer 406-375-2608 jeffrey.shearer@usda.gov
	Description: The Bitterroot National Forest is evaluating the need to conduct a programmatic amendment for elk habitat objectives under the 1987 Forest Plan.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57302				
Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Idaho, Montana. COUNTY - Idaho, Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The programmatic forest plan amendment would cover the entire Bitterroot National Forest.					
Montana All Mountain Adventures Permit Renewal CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us
	Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year period to allow day use hiking, mountain biking, interpretive walks, snowshoeing and skiing.				
	Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Montana portion of the Bitterroot Forest on trails designated in the 5-year operating period.				

Bitterroot National Forest	Darby Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R1 - Northern Region
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Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	Darby Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Bitterroot Front EA *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation management - Heritage resource management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2021	Expected:09/2021	10/2021	Eric Winthers 406-821-4244 ewinthers@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: This project aims to increase forest resiliency by addressing insect and disease risks, reducing risk of high severity wildfire, maintaining/improving wildlife habitat and watershed conditions, as well as maintaining/improving recreation and roads.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57341</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Missoula, Ravalli. LEGAL - Multiple sections in: T10N/R20W-R21W, T11N/R20W-R21W, T2N/R21W-R22W, T3N/R21W-R22W, T4N/R21W-R23W, T5N/R21W-R23W, T6N/R21W-R22W, T7N/R21W-R22W, T8N/R21W-R22W, T9N/R20W-R21W. Project area includes Forest Service lands on the eastern front of the Bitterroot Range from Darby, MT (Trapper Creek area) to Florence, MT (McClain Creek area) on the Darby and Stevensville RDs.</p>					
Higgins Pipeline Special Use Permit Issuance CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 11/19/2020	11/2020	Kristin Troop 406-363-7138 kristin.troop@usda.gov
<p>Description: Proposal to allow landowners install a 2" buried water pipeline from Tin Cup Ditch to their property. The total length of buried line on NFS would be ~250 feet.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. 650 Tin Cup Road, Darby, MT.</p>					
Two Bear Outfitters CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Rebecca Shufelt 406-821-3269 rrshufelt@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: 10-year permit renewal for an overnight hunting outfitter in the Sapphire Mountains on the Darby Ranger District.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Two Bear Area north of Divide Creek in the Sapphire Mountains.</p>					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest Stevensville Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Gold Butterfly Project - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement EIS *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 12/2020	Expected:07/2021	09/2021	Matthew Anderson 406-363-7121 matthew.anderson3@usda.gov
	Description: This SEIS for the Gold Butterfly Project will analyze a project-specific forest plan amendment related to management of old growth within the project area.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59262				
Location: UNIT - Stevensville Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. On the east side of the Bitterroot Valley, from Little Three Mile Creek south to Saint Clair Creek and from the Bitterroot Forest boundary east to the boundary with the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest Sula Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Schultz Saddle Prescribed Burn CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jacquie Parks 406-821-4271 jmparks@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Schultz Saddle Rx is approx. 6,300 acres within the 2000 Valley Complex fire. The intent of this burn would be to clean up the fuels, open corridors for winter range, rejuvenate the elk habitat and improve a grazing allotment conditions.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/bitterroot/landmanagement/projects				
Location: UNIT - Sula Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T1N R18W Sec 22-24, 36,25-26,13-14 T1N R17W Sec 19, 29-30. Schultz Saddle Rx is located 7 air miles southeast of Sula, MT and 8 air miles east of Lost Trail Ski Area.					
Tolan Firewood Sale CE *NEW LISTING*	- Forest products	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2021	Expected:03/2021	06/2021	Ryan Hughes 406-210-0869 ryan.hughes@usda.gov
	Description: Harvest of dead and/or dying tress on approximately 85 acres along the Tolan Road (FS 5740 road) and Hilltop Road (FS 13343 road). Harvest activity would be confined to within 150 feet of each side of the road.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59310				
Location: UNIT - Sula Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Proposed units are in T1N &1S, R18W, Sections 16, 20, 21, and 28; Principal Meridian.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
High Plains Drifter and Missoula on the Fly Special Use Permits CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/30/2020	Expected:02/2021	02/2021	Rebecca Shufelt 406-821-3269 rrshufelt@fs.fed.us
	Description: Reissuance of a transitional special use permit as a priority special use permit for the remainder of a 10-year period to allow for day-use access to Forest Service access sites on the West Fork Bitterroot River				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. FOREST SERVICE RIVER ACCESS SITES ALONG THE WEST FORK OF THE BITTERROOT RIVER.				
Hughes River Expeditions CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/28/2020	Expected:02/2021	02/2021	Rebecca Shufelt 406-821-3269 rrshufelt@fs.fed.us
	Description: Reissuance of a transitional special use permit as a priority special use permit for the remainder of a 10-year term to allow for overnight whitewater rafting trips on the Selway River.				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Not Applicable. ALONG THE SELWAY RIVER FROM PARADISE TO RACE CREEK.				
Missoula on the Fly CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/28/2020	Expected:01/2021	02/2021	Rebecca Shufelt 406-821-3269 rrshufelt@fs.fed.us
	Description: Reissuance of a transitional special use permit as a priority special use permit for the remainder of a 10-year term to allow for day-use access to Forest Service access sites on the West Fork Bitterroot River.				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Fishing access sites on Forest Service along West Fork Bitterroot River.				
Mud Creek Vegetation Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/06/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 02/2021	Expected:08/2021	10/2021	Jeffrey Shearer 406-375-2608 jeffreyshearer@usda.gov
	Description: Project purpose is to design and implement a suitable transportation system and to improve landscape resilience to disturbances, such as insects, diseases, and fire.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55744				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Project is located in the Mud Creek watershed and portions of the Nelson Lake, Little West Fork, Lloyd Creek, Lower Blue Joint, and Painted Rocks watershed areas of the Bitterroot Mountains.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Selway River Adventures CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/28/2020	Expected:02/2021	02/2021	Rebecca Shufelt 406-821-3269 rrshufelt@fs.fed.us
	Description: Reissuance of a transitional special use permit as a priority special use permit for the remainder of a 10-year term to allow for overnight whitewater rafting trips on the Selway River.				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Not Applicable. ALONG THE SELWAY RIVER FROM PARADISE TO RACE CREEK.				

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