



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

10/01/2021 to 12/31/2021

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
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Projects Occurring Nationwide

Locatable Mining Rule - 36 CFR 228, subpart A. EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Sarah Shoemaker 907-586-7886 sarahshoemaker@fs.fed.us
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)

R1 - Northern Region

Forest Plan Amendment - Elk Habitat Objectives EA	- Land management planning	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/18/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 06/2021	Expected: 11/2021	11/2021	Amy Fox 406-363-7120 amy.fox@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.					

Bitterroot National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)

R1 - Northern Region

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R1 - Northern Region
Eastside Forest & Habitat Improvement Project CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/11/2021	Expected:06/2021	08/2021	Stephen Brown 406-777-7410 steve.brown2@usda.gov
	Description: Project proposes to use a mix of prescribed fire and pre-commercial thinning to address forest health and wildlife habitat improvement needs.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59985				
Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District, Sula Ranger District, Stevensville Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Project covers most of the "eastside" of the Bitterroot National Forest located east of Highway 93, as well as the entire Sula Ranger District.					

Bitterroot National Forest	Darby Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Bitterroot Front EA	- 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 04/2021	Expected:12/2021	01/2022	Eric Winthers 406-821-4244 ewinthers@fs.fed.us
	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.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57341				
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.					

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
C. Ben White Trail Construction CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Completed	Actual: 07/21/2021	08/2021	Mark Smith 406-821-1218 marksmith@fs.fed.us
	Description: The C Ben White - Stomberg trail proposal is Pack and Saddle designed, class 3 with 24" tread width and less than 15% grades. It involves new construction of 0.50 miles and 0.15 miles of road converted to trail.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59358				
Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. R21W, T2N, Sec 13.					
Cold Spring Hill ATV Trail CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 01/20/2021	Expected:06/2021	07/2021	Mark Smith 406-821-1218 marksmith@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project would construct 5 new connector trails (approximately 0.70 miles total)while also converting existing closed FS Roads to trail status. The trail would be constructed to Trail Class 3 with 60" tread width.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59360				
Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. R20W, T4n, Section 35W.					

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 *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 06/25/2021 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 10/2021	Expected:12/2021	12/2021	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
East Fork Fishing Access Site Project CE *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/16/2021	Expected:08/2022	08/2022	Mike Jakober 406-821-3269 mjakober@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project would use boulders to create a parking area and prevent unauthorized, motorized access to a user-created route that is currently causing damage to a wetland along the East Fork Bitterroot River.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59533				
Location: UNIT - Sula Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest Service land along the East Fork Bitterroot River at milepost 12.9 of the East Fork Highway.					
Schultz Saddle Prescribed Burn CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Completed	Actual: 07/13/2021	04/2022	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: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55156				
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 *UPDATED*	- Forest products	Completed	Actual: 07/17/2021	07/2021	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.					

Bitterroot National Forest West Fork 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	West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Mud Creek Vegetation Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 07/07/2021	Expected:11/2021	12/2021	Seth Carbonari 406-821-1212 scarbonari@fs.fed.us
	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.					
West Fork Boat Launch Minor Improvement CE	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 05/2021	Expected:08/2021	08/2021	Erica Strayer 406-821-4298 erica.strayer@usda.gov
	Description: The West Fork Boat Launch is a developed site, equipped with a vault toilet, hardened boat ramp, information board, and parking. The proposed improvements include the installation of a picnic table, a few benches, interpretive signs on river and res				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T1N, R21W, Sec 19. The West Fork Boat Launch is located approximately 18 miles southwest of Darby, MT, off of State Highway 473.				

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