



Finger Lakes National Forest, Hector, New York

Forest Happenings!!

Caring for the Land and Serving People

Summer Happenings

Finger Lakes 50s Event

The 23rd annual Finger Lakes 50s running race will occur again this year on July 2nd. This race brings roughly 250 people to the National Forest thru a Special Use Permit and has received recognition throughout the racing circles. More information about the race can be found at www.fl50sultraz.blogspot.com

Annual Hector Fair

Forest staff will join other agencies at the Hector Fair. Be sure and look for Smokey Bear in the parade on July 29th!

Trails

Three Student Conservation Association employees recently completed trail condition surveys on the majority of the trails located on the Forest. These surveys provide a detailed inventory of existing structures on the trails (i.e. culverts, water bars, etc.) and will assist in identifying priorities for maintenance throughout the years.

Broken boardwalk replacement is a top priority this year - and was started with the assistance of two volunteers from the Finger Lakes Trail Conference, on June 18th. Broken boardwalks have been replaced on the Interloken Trail south of Mathews Road and South of Blueberry Patch. Please contact Steve Catherman at the Finger Lakes Trail Conference if you would like to volunteer for a variety of trail maintenance

needs (ph: 607-664-2479 or email: SteveC@roadrunner.com.)

Downed trees and brush has been cleared by Lake Country Horsemen's Association volunteers. They will also be repairing hitching rails at the Backbone Horse Campground this summer.

Special Use Permits - Horseback Riding

Two new special use permits (Painted Bar Stables of Burdett and Happy Trails Walking Horses of Interlaken) have been issued that will allow commercial horseback riding operations to occur on the Forest.

These permits allow for day and overnight horse trips to occur on designated horse trails on the Forest.

Caywood Point

Construction of the trail to the waterfront at Caywood Point is progressing very well. Slate Hill Construction of Auburn, NY has completed moving the historic Queen's Castle away from the embankment. They will be creating the trail to the point as they work their way out. In addition an outhouse will be located at the parking area. Please use caution with visiting Caywood Point as this is an active construction site. The access road will remain closed until all work is completed. A Grand Opening celebration is being planned for late summer.

Campgrounds

Camping is available at the Backbone Horse Camp – for horse users only, Blueberry Patch Campground and thru the National Recreation Reservation Service for the Potomac Group Campground. Reservations can be made for the Potomac Group Campground at the following www.ReserveAmerica.com or by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Wildlife and NNIS Plants

Mowing will be done on a portion of the grassland for wildlife management area south of Neal Road in Lodi. Our focus is to maintain grass within these areas for nesting birds.

Experimental control of the non-native plant leafy spurge is ongoing elsewhere at that large field with the release of flea beetles that eat spurge plants.

Cornell University sheep were also eating spurge there at plots established for three years. The sheep are eating the spurge and results of annual regrowth will be published later this year by Cornell animal nutrition professor, Dan Brown.

Grazing

Cattle began coming on to pastures May 15th. Our regional range program manager visited in June. Ross McElvain was particularly impressed by the lush grass in pastures following spring time rains. If you are interested in grazing livestock, contact Hector Grazing Association manager, Charlie Baldwin at 607-387-9822.

Mowing will begin soon in pastures where bird surveys have been completed. There are approximately 1,000 acres scheduled for mowing this year.

Herbicide spraying is planned to control knapweed and thistle in pastures beginning in late-June. Signs will be posted at trailheads in advance of spraying for those trails going through pastures to be sprayed.

Helping out with the Southwest Wildfires...

Paul Widowski, Wildlife Biologist, is completing his second firefighting detail in Texas. Paul, went on his first assignment in April, and most recently in early June. Hats of to Paul for his dedication and commitment to Fire!

Upcoming Events

Caywood Point Grand Opening

End of Summer!

Hector Fair: July 28 – 30

Parade July 29th

Don't miss Smokey Bear!

Empire Farm Days: August 9 – 11

See you there!

Forest Field Days: August 23 & 24th

New Location: Caywood Point

Rangers Note

After all the spring rains, it's nice to finally have smmer arrive. And of course, that means a busy field season. Caywood Point is moving along, and is looking incredible. We can't wait to officially open the gate for everyone to enjoy.

From cattle grazing in the pastures to hiking a trail, there is a lot to take in on the Finger Lakes National Forest. I hope you take the time to come out and see what's going on.

Just For Fun! Just For Kids!

WHAT'S THE BUZZ? Join the conversation about North America Native Bees that pollinate wildflowers and crops. You can find these local bees in floral landscapes of gardens, farms, forests, grasslands and urban wild lands.- See if you can find these bees in your local area!!

1. eumlBbBee

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7. cCeokouBe

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KEY: Just For Fun! Just For Kids!

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- 1. BumbleBee _____
- 2. SweatBee _____
- 3. MegachilidaeBee _____
- 4. CarpenterBee _____
- 5. OilBee _____
- 6. ColletidaeBee _____
- 7. CuckooBee _____
- 8. SquashBee _____
- 9. DiggerBee _____
- 10. LeafcutterBee _____

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Finger Lakes National Forest

Schedule of Proposed Actions



July 1 to September 30, 2011

ABOUT THIS SCHEDULE

The purpose of the Schedule of Proposed Actions (Schedule) is to provide a status report and short summary of project proposals that are undergoing, or will undergo, environmental analysis on the Finger Lakes National Forest. Issued quarterly, this Schedule is intended to provide the public with informal notice of proposed activities. The publishing of this Schedule is required by Forest Service regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

An effort will be made to seek public input (called "scoping") on proposed projects based on specific response to this Schedule. Scoping may be in the form of letters, email requests or phone calls that will include more specific information in order for the public to provide meaningful feedback that may be incorporated into the environmental analysis process. When required, legal notices announcing project decisions will be published in the *Ithaca Journal*, our newspaper of record.

The Schedule lists projects by name, location, and a brief description of the proposal. Also included is the scoping date (which indicates when public participation began or will begin), decision date, and the expected implementation date.

Analysis which supports any decision is documented in either an Environmental Assessment (EA), or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Proposals which have been "categorically excluded" from documentation in an EA or EIS are supported by project files, which may or may not include a Decision Memo. The analysis and decision documents are kept on file at the Hector Ranger District office and is available for your review.

HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED

Your participation is important. Read through the list of proposed projects. If you want to provide site-specific comments on a project, get more information, or be placed on a project mailing list, either write or call using 1) the contacts listed at the end of the Schedule or; 2) the project contact included for the specific project of your interest. A generic statement of interest in all projects based on your review of this Schedule is not specific enough. It is only through site-specific input that we can be responsive to and incorporate your concerns into project development.

Walk in Requests: Requests from the public occasionally require that the environmental analysis be completed with a short turnaround time. This means that the analyses may be conducted and decisions made without prior listing in this Schedule. Efforts for public input for such requests will be conducted as applicable in accordance to regulations. An example of a walk-in request would be a short-term special use permit for a recreation event on the forest.

VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE

For more information about planning or projects on the Finger Lakes National Forest you may visit our website at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/forests/greenmountain/html/fingerlakes/f_proj.htm



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

07/01/2011 to 09/30/2011

Hector Ranger District

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					
Gypsy Moth Management in the United States: A Cooperative Approach EIS	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/19/2008 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/2011	Expected:10/2011	10/2011	Noel Schneeberger 610-557-4121 nschneeberger@fs.fed.us
	Description: The USDA Forest Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service are analyzing a range of strategies for controlling gypsy moth damage to forests and trees in the United States.				
	Web Link: http://www.na.fs.fed.us/wv/eis/				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. Nationwide.				
Land Management Planning Rule EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/25/2011 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 11/2011	Expected:12/2011	12/2011	Larry Hayden 202-205-1559 lhayden@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Department of Agriculture proposes to promulgate a new planning rule, which will set out the process for development, revision, and amendment of National Forest System land management plans.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/planningrule				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. Agency-wide Rule.				
Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Lands. EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 08/27/2010 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 05/2011	Expected:12/2011	01/2012	Glen Stein 208-869-5405 gstein@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Forest Service will prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement for the continued nationwide aerial application of fire retardant on National Forest System lands.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/retardant/index.html				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. Nationwide.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Hector Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Engel Hay Harvesting Special Use CE	- Special area management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 07/2011	Expected:09/2011	09/2011	David Bosch 802-747-6746 dbosch@fs.fed.us
	Description: Hay harvesting in existing fields on two tracts of NFS land in Grassland for Wildlife MA. One field is in Military Lot (ML) 8 on the north side of Searsburg Rd. opposite the end of Grove Rd; the second is in ML 13 on the west side of Wardner Corner.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/project_content.php?project=33891				
Location: UNIT - Hector Ranger District. STATE - New York. COUNTY - Schuyler. Military Lot 8 on the north side of Searsburg Road opposite the end of Grove Road, and in ML 13 on the west side of Wardner Corners Road.					
Outfitting and Guiding Horseback Riding 2011 CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 04/04/2011	05/2011	Carol Burd 802-747-6749 cburd@fs.fed.us
	Description: Use of existing trails by outfitter guide for horse riding.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/project_content.php?project=36402				
Location: UNIT - Hector Ranger District. STATE - New York. COUNTY - Schuyler, Seneca. Finger Lakes National Forest, Hector Ranger District, Towns of Hector and Lodi.					

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information on the projects described in this Schedule of Proposed Actions, contact:

Colleen Pelles Madrid
Forest Supervisor
Green Mountain & Finger Lakes
National Forests
231 North Main Street
Rutland, VT 05701
802-747-6700

Jodie Vanselow, District Ranger
Hector Ranger District
Finger Lakes National Forest
5218 State Route 414
Hector, NY 14841
607-546-4470

Dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Service

This document available in large print upon request.



U.S. Department of Agriculture



Forest Service

Green Mountain and Finger Lakes

National Forests

231 North Main Street

Rutland, VT 05701

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