



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)
01/01/2022 to 03/31/2022

Beaverhead-Deerlodge 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 .				

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)					R1 - Northern Region
Forestwide Outfitter & Guide Permits EA *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 01/29/2020 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 11/2021	Expected:06/2022	07/2022	Leaf Magnuson 406-683-3950 lmagnuson@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project analyzes the environmental effects of activities proposed as new priority outfitter guide permits, expanded activities under existing permits, and creating a pool of use days for future priority and non-reoccurring temporary permits.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56926				
	Location: UNIT - Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Madison, Powell, Silver Bow. LEGAL - Not Applicable. National Forest System Lands as displayed in the supporting documents tab.				

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)	R1 - Northern Region
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Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R1 - Northern Region
East Pioneer Watershed Project EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 05/29/2020	Expected:02/2021	03/2021	Elizabeth Herrmann 406-683-3990 eherrmann@fs.fed.us
	Description: Proposal includes 900 acres of treatment on Forest Service land to reduce conifer encroachment in sagebrush/grasslands using chainsaws and prescribed fire. Treatment areas include Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Dillon Field Office lands				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58127				
Location: UNIT - Wisdom Ranger District, Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Canyon, Trapper, Cherry, and Rock Creek watersheds in the East Pioneer Landscape.					

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Butte Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region	
Brown's Gulch - Lockhart Boundary Fence Extension CE	- Grazing management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/21/2016	Expected:12/2016	04/2017	Lucas Phillips 208-677-8290 ljphillips@fs.fed.us
	Description: We propose to extend the existing fence about 1100 feet with wildlife friendly barbed wire fence to keep livestock from trailing back and forth between pastures. If the initial route doesn't work we will add the second extension shown on the map.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=50524				
Location: UNIT - Butte Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Silver Bow. LEGAL - T5N, R8W, Section 23. Upper Clark Fork Landscape, Butte North Management Area.					

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Dillon Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region	
Andrus and Bull Creek Allotments Range Improvement Project EA	- Grazing management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Scot Shuler 406-683-3988 swshuler@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project proposes to develop 10 springs, construct two drift fences totaling 1.5 miles of fence on the allotments, and install a hardened water crossing at the fence line's water gap on Bailey Creek.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53601				
Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Lima Tendoy Landscape, Selway-Saginaw Management Area and Pioneer Landscape, West face Management Area.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Dillon Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Birch Creek Recreation Residence Special Use Permit CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/04/2021	Expected:03/2021	05/2021	Jeff Ingalls 406-683-3931 jeff.ingalls@usda.gov
	Description: New owners propose to install a 1500 gal underground gray water storage tank, drill a new water well, and build a utility shed in the existing footprint of the special used permit for the residence.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59459				
Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - T5S, R10W, Section 9. Pioneer Landscape, East Face Management Area on the Birch Creek Road.					
Selway Saginaw Vegetation Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Leaf Magnuson 406-683-3950 lmagnuson@fs.fed.us
	Description: Project to move conditions toward Forest Plan Timber, Vegetation, and Fuel Management Goals and Objectives using commercial timber harvest, precommercial thinning, and conifer expansion treatments.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56912				
Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Township 7 & 8 South, Range 14, 15 & 16 West. The Lima Tendoy Landscape primarily in the Selway-Saginaw and Horse Prairie North management areas (MAs). A smaller portion is planned in the Big Hole Landscape, West Big Hole Flats MA.					
Sensibar Ditches CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2021	Expected:10/2021	05/2022	Jeff Ingalls 406-683-3931 jeff.ingalls@usda.gov
	Description: A private land owner proposes to reconstruct two dilapidated headgates and reconstruct two existing irrigation ditches across National Forest System lands to provide irrigation water to their private lands.				
	Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Section 5, T.16S., R.11W.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Dillon Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Southern Montana Telephone (SMT) Grant Exchange Fiber Optic Upgrade CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/15/2021	Expected:07/2021	07/2021	Jeff Ingalls 406-683-3931 jeff.ingalls@usda.gov
	Description: SMT proposes to replace existing underground copper telephone wire with underground fiber optic cable in Beaverhead County near Grant, MT. The project involves 78 miles on other ownerships, but only 1732 feet on NFS lands.				
	Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - T9S, R15W, Section 14. Primary Forest Route 181 (Bloody Dick Road).				
Tendoy Project EA *UPDATED*	- Minerals and Geology	Completed	Actual: 10/12/2021	11/2021	Licette Hammer 406-683-3935 licette.hammer@usda.gov
	Description: The BLM Dillon Field Office and Dillon Ranger District are starting the Environmental Assessment(EA) on Applications for Permit to Drill, submitted by the Lima Exploration Company, LLC.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48576				
Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Two locations are being considered: BLM surface location is Shearing Pen Gulch with access from Big Sheep Creek Road. USFS surface location is White Pine Ridge with access from Little Sheep Creek Road.					
Vigilante Electric Cooperative Special Use Permit. CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/04/2021	Expected:03/2021	06/2021	Jeff Ingalls 406-683-3931 jeff.ingalls@usda.gov
	Description: Vigilante Electric proposes to rebuild an existing 69kV overhead transmission line. The new overhead transmission line runs across approximately 4,224 feet of NFS lands in a 50 foot wide corridor.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59457				
Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Section 8, T.6S., R.13W. Lima Tendoy Landscape, Horse Prairie North Management Area along Montana State Highway 278 near Big Hole Pass.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Dillon Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Willow Creek Fish Barrier CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Kevin Weinner 907-874-7567 kweinner@fs.fed.us
Description: We propose to work with Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks to modify the existing waterfall on Willow Creek to become a fish barrier to contribute toward future native fish restoration and benefit existing restoration projects.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51237					
Location: UNIT - Dillon Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - T4S, R10W, Section 18. Pioneer landscape, Torrey Mountain Recommended Wilderness and East Face Management Areas.					

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Madison Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
California Creek Placer Evaluation CE *UPDATED*	- Minerals and Geology	Completed	Actual: 12/06/2021	06/2022	Erik Torgerson 406-683-3890 etorgerson@fs.fed.us
Description: The California Creek Placer Test is designed to sample a cross-section at regular intervals across the mineral deposit. The claimant plans to dig 22 holes during this operation. Each test hole will be 5ft wide, 10ft long, and 3ft to 5ft deep.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55623					
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T 5S., R 3W., Sec. 8. From Laurin, take county rd. to FS Boundary where it turns to FSR 1217. There is a rd. that takes off to East just past FS Boundary in Sec. 7 to Cali. Crk.					
Crockett Lake Whitebark Pine Demonstration CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/23/2014	Expected:08/2014	10/2014	Paul Roose 406-682-4253 plroose@fs.fed.us
Description: This project is intended to remove all conifers and slash (except limber pine) from the understory in identified whitebark pine stands in order to reduce competition and increase sunlight so that the WBP reproduces fully and faster.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=34987					
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T9S, R2W,Section 5. Gravelly Landscape, Upper Ruby and Wigwam-Cherry Management Areas.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Madison Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Greenhorn Vegetation Project EA	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 10/08/2017	Expected:04/2020	04/2020	Daniel Pliley 406-587-6892 Daniel.Pliley@usda.gov
	Description: The proposed project is to help restore and maintain the structure, function, composition and ecological connectivity of the forest system in order to increase resiliency to future natural disturbance events like wildfire, insects, and disease.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51053				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The project addresses lands in the Greenhorn Range in the northwest corner of the Gravelly Mountains, Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest.					
Hill Reservoir Dam Decommissioning Revised CE	- Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/16/2016	Expected:06/2016	08/2017	Darin Watschke 406-657-6200 dwatschke@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project proposes the same work attempted in 2014 under a previous decision to breach the dam with explosives. It wasn't completed because of a constriction in the culvert. This revision of the proposal is to do the same work with an excavator.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49422				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T3S, R4W, sections 25 & 36. Tobacco Roots Landscape, Tobacco Root Peaks Management Area.					
Klatt (Kelly) Reservoir Dam Decommissioning CE	- Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/16/2016	Expected:06/2016	08/2017	Darin Watschke 406-657-6200 dwatschke@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project to decommission the Klatt Dam is proposed to prevent failure should the old corroded culvert should a heavy snow or rain event clog the piped causing water to overflow the dam. An excavator would be used to breach it at the outlet.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49423				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T10S, R1W, section 18. Gravelly Landscape, Wall Creek Management Area.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Madison Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Nelson Water Pipeline Special Use Permit CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Jacob Stewart 406-682-4253 jwstewart@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project is a proposal to issue a special use permit to allow connection of a pipeline to the overflow of a water trough on NFS lands and install approximately 2000 feet of subsurface line to water livestock on adjacent private land.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49426				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T4S, R2W, section 21. Tobacco Root Landscape, Meadow Creek Management Area.					
Saw Log Placer Placer Exploration Project CE	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/11/2019	Expected:09/2019	09/2019	Erik Torgerson 406-683-3890 etorgerson@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Saw Log Placer Project is testing for placer deposits. The claimant plans to dig 3 test holes during this operation. Each test hole will be 6ft to 10ft wide, 10ft long, and 5ft to 10ft deep.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56465				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T4S R2W Sec. 16. Project site is located approximately 10 miles Northwest of McCallister, MT in the Saw Log Creek area.					
South Gravelly Allotment Management Plans EIS	- Grazing management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jacob Stewart 406-682-4253 jwstewart@fs.fed.us
	Description: Review grazing practices and infrastructure for 4 domestic livestock grazing allotments (Eureka Basin, Pole Creek, Southwest Corner and Robb Creek)to ensure compliance with applicable Forest Plan direction.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48643				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead, Madison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. South end of the Gravelly and Snowcrest Mountains, Beaverhead and Madison Counties, Montana.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Madison Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Strawberry to Cascade Allotment Management Plan EIS	- Grazing management	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 09/14/2018 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 07/2022	Expected:12/2022	01/2023	Megan Mallowney (406) 494-0258 mcmallowney@fs.fed.us
	Description: Revise as necessary grazing management on the Barnett, Black Butte, Coal Creek, Cottonwood, Fossil, Hellroaring, Lyon, Wolverine, Poison Basin and portions of the Upper Ruby allotments in the Gravelly Mountains.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54522				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Barnett, Black Butte, Coal Creek, Cottonwood, Fossil, Hellroaring, Lyon, Wolverine, Poison Basin and portions of the Upper Ruby allotments in the Gravelly Mountains.					
West Fork Madison River Stream Restoration Project CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/17/2017	Expected:06/2019	07/2019	Darin Watschke 406-657-6200 dwatschke@fs.fed.us
	Description: We propose to use bioengineering techniques to create up to 20 pool habitats to improve stream habitat condition and water quality to improve long-term persistence of westslope cutthroat trout in their native range.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51222				
Location: UNIT - Madison Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - T12S R3W Sec 12 and T12S R2W Sec 7. Gravelly Landscape, Upper Ruby Management Area.					

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Pintler Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Haase Private Road Special Use Permit CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/04/2021	Expected:01/2022	05/2022	Leigh Wexler 406-626-5201 leigh.m.wexler@usda.gov
	Description: Issuance of a private road special use permit authorizing the holder to use an existing road (UR8-265) to access a private inholding year-round. The permit would also authorize operation and maintenance of the road--a total of 751 ft.--on NFS lands.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61266				
Location: UNIT - Pintler Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Granite. LEGAL - T9N, R12W, Section 27. Located near Douglas Creek in the Flint Foothills Management Area of the Clark Fork-Flint Landscape on the Pintler Ranger District. The existing road used to access an old mining claim.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Wisdom Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
3 Rivers Communications Melrose Exchange Fiber Optic Upgrade CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/16/2021	Expected:09/2021	09/2021	Jeff Ingalls 406-683-3931 jeff.ingalls@usda.gov
	Description: 3 Rivers Communications proposes to bury fiber optic cable along the shoulder of existing roads to replace the existng underground copper telephone wire near Melrose, MT. The project involves approximately 8,485 feet across Forest Service Lands.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60802				
Location: UNIT - Wisdom Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. T2S., R10W., Sections 13 and 14, T3S., R.10W., Section 12.					
Beaverhead County Wise River Radio Site CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/20/2020	Expected:08/2020	08/2020	Molly Ryan 406-689-3243 mollymryan@fs.fed.us
	Description: Construction of underground power and fiber optic lines to the Wise River Radio Site. Installation of VHF antennae and associated equipment for enhancing 911 services for Beaverhead County.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58702				
Location: UNIT - Wisdom Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - T.1N., R.11W. Section 34 and T.1S. R.11W., Section 3. Located at existing radio site approximately one mile south of Wise River ranger district office.					
Chief Joseph Ski Trail Maintenance & Construction CE	- Recreation management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Nathan Gassmann 406-784-2344 ngassmann@fs.fed.us
	Description: Project would re-shaping the existing road prism on the old log hauling routes used as ski trails and dig stumps on approximately 32 kilometers of cross country ski trails and construct a connector trail between Moose and Sentinel Meadow trails.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=36828				
Location: UNIT - Wisdom Ranger District. STATE - Idaho, Montana. COUNTY - Lemhi, Beaverhead, Ravalli. LEGAL - T 2S, R 19W, Sections 2 and 3. Trail Creek Management Area, Big Hole Landscape, a small portion of the trails overlaps on the Bitterroot and Salmon/Challis National Forests.					

Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest	Wise River 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
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest Wise River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Cherry Creek Trail Reroute CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/20/2019	Expected:09/2019	10/2019	David Scherbel 406-494-0249 david.scherbel@usda.gov
	Description: Construct a 1/2 mile reroute of Bear Gulch Trail #2089 so people can safely access Cherry Creek Trail #2123.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56035				
Location: UNIT - Wise River Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - T3S,R10W, Sec(s)8,9,17 . Pioneer Landscape, East Face Management Area beginning at the junction of Bear Gulch Trail #2089 with Forest Service System Road #1011.					
Schwinegar Lake Trail #2259 Reroute CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Completed	Actual: 06/01/2017	08/2017	Roger Anderson 208-677-8303 rogeranderson@fs.fed.us
	Description: We plan to decommission the lower portion of Schwinegar Lake Trail #2259 that is eroding and causing resource damage. We propose to reroute about three quarters of a mile of trail along the contour line of the slope to tie in with Trail #2758.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51228				
Location: UNIT - Wise River Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Beaverhead. LEGAL - T3S, R13W, Sections PB 39&8. Pioneer Landscape, West Pioneer Wilderness Study Area.					

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