



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

01/01/2023 to 03/31/2023

Flathead 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 .					
Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Land. EIS *UPDATED*	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/11/2022 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 01/2023	Expected: 01/2023	02/2023	Laura Conway 406-802-4317 laura.conway@usda.gov
Description: Programmatic Supplemental EIS for the Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Land.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60450					
Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The direction in the SEIS will apply to use of aerially delivered fire retardant on all National Forest System land.					

Projects Occurring in more than one Region (excluding Nationwide)

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Projects Occurring in more than one Region (excluding Nationwide)					
Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan EA	- Recreation management - Special area management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/01/2017 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 01/2023	Expected:08/2023	01/2024	Becky Blanchard 503-808-2449 becky.blanchard@usda.gov
	Description: The Comprehensive Plan will develop administrative and management objectives and practices and desired conditions for the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail on public lands in Forest Service Regions 1 and Regions 6.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52259				
Location: UNIT - Glacier View Ranger District, Mt Baker Ranger District, Bonners Ferry Ranger District, Fortine Ranger District, Three Rivers Ranger District, Three Rivers Ranger District, Republic Ranger District, Methow Valley Ranger District, Sullivan Lake Ranger District, Olympic National Forest All Units, Priest Lake Ranger District, Rexford Ranger District, Tonasket Ranger District. STATE - Idaho, Montana, Washington. COUNTY - Bonner, Boundary, Flathead, Glacier, Lincoln, Clallam, Ferry, Island, Jefferson, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Skagit, Stevens, Whatcom. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The trail begins at the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park and travels 1,200 miles through 7 National Forests, 3 National Parks, BLM, state, tribal, municipal and private lands in MT, ID, WA.					

R1 - Northern Region, Occurring in more than one Forest (excluding Regionwide)					
Bob Marshall Wilderness Outfitter and Guide Permit Reissuance CE	- Recreation management - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/29/2014	Expected:04/2015	04/2015	Debbie Mucklow 406-758-6464 dmucklow@fs.fed.us
	Description: Reissuance of existing outfitter and guide permits in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44827				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District, Hungry Horse Ranger District, Lincoln Ranger District, Rocky Mountain Ranger District, Seeley Lake Ranger District, Spotted Bear Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead, Glacier, Lewis and Clark, Missoula, Pondera, Powell, Teton. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
R1 - Northern Region, Occurring in more than one Forest (excluding Regionwide)					
Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan EA	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/01/2017 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 10/2019	Expected:11/2020	12/2020	Matthew McGrath 503-808-2405 mtmcgrath@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Comprehensive Plan will develop administrative and management goals, objectives and practices for public lands in Forest Service Regions 1 and Regions 6.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52259				
Location: UNIT - Glacier View Ranger District, Bonners Ferry Ranger District, Fortine Ranger District, Three Rivers Ranger District, Priest Lake Ranger District, Rexford Ranger District. STATE - Idaho, Montana. COUNTY - Bonner, Boundary, Flathead, Glacier, Lincoln. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The trail begins at the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park and travels 1,200 miles through 7 National Forests, 3 National Parks, BLM, state, tribal, municipal and private lands in MT, ID, WA.					

Flathead National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)					R1 - Northern Region
Flathead Forest Plan Suitability Changes: Winter Travel Management and Recommended Wilderness EA	- Land management planning - Recreation management - Special area management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2022	Expected:12/2022	12/2022	Michele Draggoo 406-758-5269 michele.draggoo@usda.gov
	Description: Site-specific proposal on the Flathead National Forest to address the changes the revised forest plan (2018) made pertaining to suitability of motorized over-snow vehicle use and recommended wilderness areas				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61460				
Location: UNIT - Flathead National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Flathead National Forest.					

Flathead 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
Flathead National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R1 - Northern Region
BIKEternity CE	- Recreation management - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/28/2022	Expected:06/2022	08/2022	Royelynn Warren 406-758-5207 royelynn.warren@usda.gov
	Description: BIKEternity is requesting a permit to guide a bike tour in August that follows the Great Divide mountain bike route going south. Use is requested on the Kootenai, Flathead, and Lolo NFs. Requesting 100 service days for use on the Flathead NF.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62080				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District, Glacier View Ranger District, Tally Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead, Lake, Missoula. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Grave Creek, Polebridge, Whitefish, Holland Lake, Seeley Lake, Cooper's Lake, and Marysville.					
Dry Riverside EA *NEW LISTING*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2022	Expected:09/2023	09/2024	Gary Blazejewski 406-387-3827 gary.blazejewski@usda.gov
	Description: A project to improve the diversity and resilience of vegetative communities, remove and reduce fuels to promote a fire resilient forest and limit impacts to natural resources, and provide forest products to local economy.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63176				
Location: UNIT - Hungry Horse Ranger District, Spotted Bear Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Flathead Cty, SE of Hungry Horse, MT. Project is along the east side of the Hungry Horse Reservoir. Project extends from just north of Riverside boat launch to just south of Peters Creek Campground.					
Flathead Comprehensive River Management Plan EA	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/30/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 04/2022	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Chris Prew 406-758-3538 chrisprew@fs.fed.us
	Description: Preparation of a river management plan for the Flathead River Wild and Scenic River system				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56536				
Location: UNIT - Hungry Horse Ranger District, Glacier View Ranger District, Spotted Bear Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead, Powell. LEGAL - Not Applicable. North Fork Flathead River from the Canadian border to its confluence with the Middle Fork, the entire Middle Fork, and the South Fork from its headwaters to Hungry Horse Reservoir.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Flathead National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R1 - Northern Region
Tree Improvement Test Plantation Thinning CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Research and Development	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2016	Expected:06/2016	06/2016	Michele Draggoo 406-387-3827 mdraggoo@fs.fed.us
	Description: Implement removal (pre-commercial thinning)of selected trees in five test plantations on the Flathead National Forest.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49561				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District, Hungry Horse Ranger District, Glacier View Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. T21N, R17W, Sec. 30, Sec. 25, T21N R18W, Sec. 4, T32N, R21W Sec. 23., T29 N, R17W Sec. 1 and Sec. 2.					

Flathead National Forest	Hungry Horse Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Flathead Electric Line Replacement Nyack Flats CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 07/2019	Expected:08/2019	08/2019	Sadie Wehunt 406-758-5364 sadieawehunt@fs.fed.us
	Description: Replacing an underground powerline (300 feet) to a BNSF railroad signal.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56546				
Location: UNIT - Hungry Horse Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Nyack Flats.					
Private over-the-snow winter access Essex CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 09/2022	Expected:11/2022	12/2022	Sean Cranmer 406-758-5227 sean.m.cranmer@usda.gov
	Description: Proposed route is 300 yards and adjacent to the Essex Creek Rd.The area is managed as closed to motorized over-the-snow use. One single track with a width of 50-inches (snowmobile use only) would be authorized. Period of use would be Dec01-Mar31.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62915				
Location: UNIT - Hungry Horse Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. PB 45, T29N, R16W.					

Flathead National Forest	Spotted Bear 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
Flathead National Forest Spotted Bear Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Bunker Park Cabins CE	- Recreation management - Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	James Flint 406-758-5376s 406-387-3845w James.Flint@usda.gov
	Description: This project proposes to develop a cabin rental opportunity to be added into the Flathead National Forest Cabin Rental Program at Bunker Park (adjacent to Bunker Creek in the South Fork of the Flathead River Drainage).				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59643				
Location: UNIT - Spotted Bear Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Bunker Park is located on National Forest System Road 549, also known as the Bunker Creek Road, approximately 8 miles southeast of the Spotted Bear Ranger Station.					
Spotted Bear Mountain EA *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Completed	Actual: 12/21/2022	08/2023	Gary Blazejewski 406-387-3827 gary.blazejewski@usda.gov
	Description: A project to improve the diversity and resilience of vegetative communities, reduce fuel loadings within the wildland-urban interface to result in less intense fire behavior, and provide forest products to contribute to economic sustainability.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61010				
Location: UNIT - Spotted Bear Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 40 miles southeast of Hungry Horse, MT. The northwest corner of the project area lies near the Spotted Bear Ranger Station and extends to the southeast for approximately 5 miles.					

Flathead National Forest Swan Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Blacktail Remote Automated Weather Station CE	- Fuels management - Research and Development	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/26/2022	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Brett Pargman 406-837-7549 brett.pargman@usda.gov
	Description: The USDA Forest Service (USFS) Swan Lake Ranger District (SLRD) is proposing to install a National Fire Danger Rating approved remote automated weather station (RAWS) on Blacktail Mountain.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62681				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Township 26 North, Range 22 West, Section 13.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Flathead National Forest Swan Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Holland Lake Lodge Facility Improvement & Expansion CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/01/2022	Expected:03/2023	04/2023	Chris Dowling 4068377500 christopher.dowling@usda.gov
	Description: Flathead National Forest is proposing facility expansion of Holland Lake Lodge. Holland Lake Lodge, Inc. Master Development Plan details building and infrastructure improvements, enhancing the visitor experience, within the current permitted area.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61746				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Missoula. LEGAL - T20S R16W Sec35 NW/SE. Holland Lake Lodge is about three miles to east of the Montana HWY 83. Located on the north side of Holland Lake near the East Holland Connector Trail (trail# 415) Trailhead.					
Mid-Swan Landscape Restoration and Wildland Urban Interface Project EIS	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 08/28/2020 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/2021	Expected:01/2022	01/2023	Joseph Krueger 406-758-5243 joseph.krueger@usda.gov
	Description: The purpose of the Mid-Swan Project is to restore and maintain terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity in light of climate change, and reduce the risk from wildfire in the WUI.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54853				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead, Lake, Missoula. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Project area is located just south of Swan Lake and extends down to the community of Condon, MT.					
Missoula Electric Co-op - Jim Creek Line CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/29/2021	Expected:12/2021	12/2021	Sadie Wehunt 406-387-3814 sadie.wehunt@usda.gov
	Description: Special Use Permit Amendment- Add approximately 350 feet of new cable to be installed along Jim Creek Road for approximately 138 feet to the intersection of Peck Lake Road and north along Peck Lake Road for approximately 216 feet to private property.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61194				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Missoula. LEGAL - NW ¼ Section 32, T22N, R17W, PMM. Near the intersection of Jim Creek and Peck Lake road close to Condon, MT.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Flathead National Forest Swan Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Swan Mountain Outfitters - Expanded Area CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/20/2021	Expected:09/2021	09/2021	Darlene Bridges 208-677-8304 darlene.bridges@usda.gov
	Description: Expand the operating area for Swan Mountain outfitters to allow for greater flexibility and to adjust for changing on the ground conditions. Select current permitted uses would continue in the expanded area with no increase in service use days.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60675				
Location: UNIT - Swan Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead, Lake, Missoula. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Nearly all NFS lands in the Swan valley north and south of the Swan River State Forest to the boundary with the Lolo National Forest as well as a portion of the Hungry Horse Ranger District.					

Flathead National Forest Tally Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Chair 4 Project CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/25/2021	Expected:09/2021	10/2021	William Wehunt 406-387-3856 william.wehunt@usda.gov
	Description: Management at the Whitefish Mountain Resort (WMR) has requested authorization to relocate and extend the Chair 4 ski lift corridor. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase skier circulation while utilizing existing terrain.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60691				
Location: UNIT - Tally Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Section 36, T32N, R22W. Project is located on Big Mountain on the Whitefish Mountain Resort North of Whitefish Montana.					
Chang Lincoln Electric Line Install CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/14/2021	Expected:05/2021	07/2021	Sadie Wehunt 406-758-5204 sadie.wehunt@usda.gov
	Description: The Forest Service is considering a proposal from LEC to install 6,637 feet of electric line to private land.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59939				
Location: UNIT - Tally Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - NE 1/4 NE 1/4, E 1/2 NW 1/4 Sec 19, T31N, R23W. Power line would extend from NFSR 2929, Hill Meadow Road, along NFSR 11206, Upper Nineteen Road, to private property.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Flathead National Forest Tally Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Round Star Project EA	- Recreation management - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 08/22/2022	Expected:11/2022	03/2023	Ellen Mering 406-758-3531 ellen.mering@usda.gov
	Description: A project to reduce fuels, provide egress to local communities, improve diversity and resilience of vegetative communities, and contribute to the economy.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60892				
Location: UNIT - Tally Lake Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Flathead. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Project is located on the northwest side of the Flathead Valley on the Tally Lake Ranger District.					

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