



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

07/01/2024 to 09/30/2024

Nebraska 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

Land Management Plan Direction for Old-Growth Forest Conditions Across the National Forest System EIS *UPDATED*	- Land management planning	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 06/21/2024 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 12/2024	Expected:01/2025	01/2025	Jennifer McRae 202-791-8488 SM.FS.NFSWONGA@usda.gov
	Description: Amend all land management plans for units of the National Forest System to include consistent direction to conserve and steward existing and recruit future old-growth forest conditions and to monitor their condition across planning areas of NFS.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=65356				
	Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - Not Applicable. National Forests and Grasslands (128 units).				
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 .				

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

R2 - Rocky Mountain Region

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands Land Management Plan Revision EIS *NEW LISTING*	- Land management planning	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 11/2025	Expected:04/2028	04/2028	Kit Bramblee 605 224-5517 Kit.Bramblee@usda.gov
	Description: Revision of the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands Land Management Plan				
	Location: UNIT - Nebraska National Forest All Units. STATE - Nebraska, South Dakota. COUNTY - Cherry, Dawes, Sioux, Custer, Fall River, Jackson, Jones, Lyman, Pennington, Stanley. LEGAL - Not Applicable. All Forest System Lands managed by the Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands.				
Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands Undesirable Plant Management EIS EIS *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 03/22/2024 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 08/2024	Expected:09/2024	09/2024	Kim Dolatta 308-432-0323 kimberly.dolatta@usda.gov
	Description: The Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands propose to update the Forests' guidance for plant management strategies through an environmental analysis for the management of invasive, noxious, alien, non-native, and undesirable native plant species.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62500				
	Location: UNIT - Nebraska National Forest All Units. STATE - Nebraska, South Dakota. COUNTY - Blaine, Cherry, Dawes, Sioux, Thomas, Custer, Fall River, Jackson, Jones, Lyman, Pennington, Stanley. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands.				

Nebraska National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
South Dakota Army National Guard Aviation Training Special Use Permit CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 08/2024	Expected:10/2024	12/2024	Julie Bain 308-221-0748 julie.bain@usda.gov
	Description: Issue a special use permit for army national guard to conduct aviation training.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=65098				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District, Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer, Fall River, Pennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Buffalo Gap National Grassland, six locations south of State Highway 44, north of Lower Spring Creek Road, and west of Creston Road.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest	Bessey Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Whitetail Road (FR 224) Travel Management EA *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Road management	Completed	Actual: 04/08/2024	03/2025	Tedd Teahon 308-533-2257 tedd.teahon@usda.gov
	Description: Improve motorized access along and in the vicinity of the Whitetail Road, including to Whitetail Campground.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62606				
	Location: UNIT - Bessey Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Blaine, Thomas. LEGAL - T21N, R26W, Sec. 11, 12, 13 and T21N, R25W, Sec. 18. Eastern end of Forest Road (FR) 224, the southern part of off-highway vehicle (OHV) Trail 112 (portions of T21N, R26W, Sec. 11, 12, 13 and T21N, R25W, Sec. 18), and the portion of FR 277 in section 13.				

Nebraska National Forest		Fall River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Bennett Dam Habitat Exclosures CE	- Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Watershed management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Matthew Lucas 605-745-8212 matthew.lucas@usda.gov	
	Description: Installation of a new fence to protect the dam face, part of the waterbody and spring source from livestock affects while providing a source of water for livestock and enhancing recreational opportunities for the public.					
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63633					
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 5 miles southeast of Oelrichs, SD.					
Crowe Dam Habitat Improvement CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/07/2023	Expected:08/2024	04/2025	Matthew Lucas 605-745-8212 matthew.lucas@usda.gov	
	Description: Prescribed fire within the Crow Dam pasture, designated a special plant and wildlife habitat area, to enhance native vegetation and reduce invasive and/or non-native grass species.					
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63631					
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 3 miles west of Rumford, SD.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Fall River Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Red Shirt Water Line Project EA *UPDATED*	- Grazing management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 06/06/2024	Expected:08/2024	08/2024	Mandy Irwin 605-745-8204 Mandy.Irwin@usda.gov
	Description: Install 1.25 miles of underground water line and one permanent stock tank.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=65336				
Tear Drop # 1-9 EA *UPDATED*	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Custer. LEGAL - T4S R9E sec. 1, 12, 13. In the Red Shirt Allotment, east of Hermosa, South Dakota, on Highway 40.				
	- Minerals and Geology	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Matthew Lucas 605-745-8212 matthew.lucas@usda.gov
	Description: Analyze and disclose environmental effects that may result from implementing one vertical oil and natural gas well. Project includes proposed construction, drilling, completion, production and reclamation.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62497				
	Location: UNIT - Fall River Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Fall River. LEGAL - 11 S 1 E Section 9. Fall River County, South Dakota. Fall River Ranger District.				

Nebraska National Forest		Fort Pierre Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
US Highway 83 Snow Fence EA *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/21/2024 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 09/2024	Expected:01/2025	05/2025	Dan Svingen 605-224-5517 daniel.svingen@usda.gov	
	Description: Permit for the South Dakota Department of Transportation to construct a snow fence on USFS System Lands adjacent to US Highway 83.					
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66111					
	Location: UNIT - Fort Pierre Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Lyman. LEGAL - Section 29, T107N, R79W. Approximately 20 miles south of Fort Pierre, SD.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Fort Pierre Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Venture Communications Fiber Optic SUP CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/13/2024	Expected:09/2024	10/2024	Dan Svingen 605-224-5517 daniel.svingen@usda.gov
	Description: Special use authorization for the installation of 28.77 miles of fiber optic cable in existing road rights-of-way adjacent to USFS System lands.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=65757				
	Location: UNIT - Fort Pierre Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Lyman, Stanley. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Throughout the Fort Pierre National Grassland.				
War Creek Waterline Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Grazing management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/29/2024 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 08/2024	Expected:01/2025	04/2025	Kelly Waage 605-224-5517 kelly.waage@usda.gov
	Description: Authorize the installation of approximately 10 miles of buried waterline as well as 14 water tanks and 6 water lots.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66211				
	Location: UNIT - Fort Pierre Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jones, Stanley. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 15 miles southwest of Fort Pierre, SD on the Fort Pierre National Grassland.				

Nebraska National Forest Pine Ridge Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Aristocrat, West Ash, & Coffee Mill Butte Fire Reforestation Project CE *UPDATED*	- Land management planning - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Sarah Myers 308-432-0384 sarah.myers2@usda.gov
	Description: Hand plant 112 container ponderosa pine seedlings throughout & near various areas where forest fires consumed ponderosa pine forested stands & their seed source. Approximately 50-200 seedlings/ac would be planted depending on terrain & microclimates.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=59162				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes. LEGAL - Not Applicable. (1) Aristocrat T32N, R48W, Sections 5 & 6; T33N, R48W, Sections 33 ; (2) West Ash T31N, R51W, Sections 13, 24, 25, & 26; T31N, R50W, Sections 18, 19, 29, 30, 31, & 32; (3) Coffee Mill Butte T31N, R49W.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Nebraska National Forest Pine Ridge Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)		R2 - Rocky Mountain Region			
Bordeaux Area Access Improvement Project CE *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 06/07/2024	Expected:09/2024	09/2024	Jordan Price 308-432-0300 Jordan.Price@usda.gov
	Description: Change designation of Forest Road 723 from Open to Highway Legal Only to Open to all Vehicles. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66264				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Dawes. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest Road 723 between Kings Canyon Road (Forest Road 718) to the Cliffs Picnic Area and the Bordeaux area.				
Toadstool Campground Site Additions CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/10/2023	Expected:12/2024	04/2025	Jordan Price 308-432-0300 Jordan.Price@usda.gov
	Description: Add 10 camp sites within the established campground area by adding gravel camping pads, fire rings, grills, picnic tables, and pavilions. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63925				
	Location: UNIT - Pine Ridge Ranger District. STATE - Nebraska. COUNTY - Sioux. LEGAL - 33N/53W/5. Toadstool Campground, Oglala National Grasslands.				

Nebraska National Forest Wall Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)		R2 - Rocky Mountain Region			
Special Use Permits: Wall Ranger District Highway 73 Improvements CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/14/2024	Expected:07/2024	09/2024	Julie Bain 308-221-0748 julie.bain@usda.gov
	Description: Issue 3 special use permits to perform shoulder work on Highway 73, move a fiberoptic cable, and move a water line that serves the Oglala Sioux Tribe.				
	Location: UNIT - Wall Ranger District. STATE - South Dakota. COUNTY - Jackson. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Highway 73 on National Forest System lands from south of the White River to Kadoka.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
--------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------	-------------------------	-----------------

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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