



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

07/01/2022 to 09/30/2022

Rio Grande 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

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	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 08/08/2020 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/2022	Expected:06/2022	07/2022	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.					

R2 - Rocky Mountain Region, Occurring in more than one Forest (excluding Regionwide)

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
R2 - Rocky Mountain Region, Occurring in more than one Forest (excluding Regionwide)					
Xcel Energy Transmission and Distribution Authorization; Operation and Maintenance Plan Project CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 10/01/2021	10/2021	Matthew Custer 720-822-4321 mscuster@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Forest Service proposes to reauthorize approximately 293 miles of existing electric transmission line and 196 miles of electric distribution line; develop and implement a standardized O&M Plan for routine maintenance and vegetation management.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District, Saguache Ranger District, Pawnee Ranger District, Clear Creek Ranger District, Sulphur Ranger District, South Park Ranger District, West Zone/Rifle Ranger District, East Zone/Dillon Ranger District, Boulder Ranger District, East Zone/Holy Cross Ranger District, West Zone/Sopris Ranger District, Leadville Ranger District, East Zone/Eagle Ranger District, Salida Ranger District, Pikes Peak Ranger District, Gunnison Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Boulder, Chaffee, Clear Creek, Conejos, Eagle, Fremont, Garfield, Gilpin, Grand, Gunnison, Jefferson, Lake, Park, Rio Grande, Saguache, Summit, Weld. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Project located on applicable Xcel transmission and distribution lines on National Forests and Grasslands in Colorado,.				

Rio Grande National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)				R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Supervisor's Office Auto Shop/Fire Building Construction CE *NEW LISTING*	- Facility management	Completed	Actual: 06/07/2022	09/2022	Judith Perez 719-588-8889 Judith.Perez@usda.gov
	Description: Proposed construction of 8,000 sq ft building to house and maintain FS fleet.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61964				
Location: UNIT - Rio Grande National Forest All Units. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. 18Also described as Lot 2 of the Del Norte Consolidated School District Subdivision. Plat recorded 9/3/2019 at Reception No. 436689, Town of Del Norte County of Rio Grande, State of Colorado.					

Rio Grande National Forest	Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R2 - Rocky Mountain Region
-----------------------------------	--	-----------------------------------

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest	Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Acquisition of Cliff Lake Property CE *NEW LISTING*	- Land acquisition	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/16/2021	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
Description: It is proposed that the Rio Grande National Forest acquire the 800 acre Cliff Lake property using LWCF funding.					
Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos, Rio Grande. LEGAL - 800 acres in Sec. 1, T36N, R4E; Secs. 1, 2, 11 & 12, T36N, R4.5E; Sec. 31, T37N, R5E, Conejos and Rio Grande Counties, Colorado. Cliff Lake about one mile south of Jasper, Colorado.					
Acquisition of La Jara State Trust Lands CE *NEW LISTING*	- Land acquisition	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/16/2021	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
Description: It is proposed that the Rio Grande National Forest use LWCF funding to acquire approximately 20,000 acres of the La Jara State Trust Lands.					
Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - Approximately 20,000 acres in T34N, R5E & T34N, R6E & T35N, R5E & T, 35N, R6E & T36N, R5E. La Jara State Trust Lands surrounding La Jara Reservoir approximately 20 miles west of La Jara, Colorado.					
Conejos Water Conservancy District Weather Station Reauth CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 07/22/2021	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
Description: The reauthorization of five weather stations operated and maintained by the Conejos Water Conservancy District. Two of the sites are in the South San Juan Wilderness and require review.					
Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - SE1/4 Sec. 24, T. 36 N., R. 3 E.; SW1/4 Sec. 34, T. 36 N., R. 4 E.; NE1/4 Sec. 35, T. 35 N., R. 3 E.; NE1/4 Sec. 14, T. 34 N., R. 4 E.; NW1/4 Sec. 29, T. 33 N., R. 5 E., NMPM, Conejos County, CO. Five sites on the Conejos Peak District in and around the South San Juan Wilderness.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest	Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Iron Creek Access CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/11/2009	Expected:09/2023	09/2023	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 ahpeter@fs.fed.us
	Description: Multiple private property owners have requested legal motorized access on the non-system road along Iron Creek in the vicinity of Prospect Mountain				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - A right-of-way approximately 6,700 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 3.69 acres, more or less, in Secs. 1 & 12, T. 36 N., R. 3 E.; Sec. 7, T. 36 N., R. 4 E., NMPM, Conejos County, CO. The Iron Creek road leaves NFSR 380 and travels up Iron Creek east of Sheepshead Mountain.				
Jasper Snow Plowing Permit CE	- Special use management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/25/2018	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: Snowplowing on National Forest System Road 250 to the town of Jasper, CO.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos, Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. NFS Road 250 up the Alamosa River Canyon to the town of Jasper, CO.				
Sheepshead Enterprises, LLC Access. CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/03/2010	Expected:09/2023	09/2023	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 ahpeter@fs.fed.us
	Description: A Forest Road Permit 8,000 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 4.41 acres in Sec. 2, T. 36 N., R. 3 E., NMPM, Conejos County, Colorado for the use of the closed NFSRs 380.6A and 380.6H to access private property.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - 4.41 acres in Sec. 2, T. 36 N., R. 3 E., NMPM, Conejos County, Colorado. Approximately five miles northwest of Platoro, Colorado.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest	Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Trail Gulch Vegetation Management Project EA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management 	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 02/18/2022	Expected:05/2022	06/2022	Judith Perez 719-852-6240 judi.perez@usda.gov
<p>Description: The Conejos Peak Ranger District is proposing to treat up to 13,200 acres of the 51,460-acre project area. The Conejos Peak Ranger District has identified a need to improve overall forest health in the project area.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60258</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - T.33N., R.5E.; T.33N., R.6E.; T.33N., R.7E.; T.32N., R.4E.; T.32N., R.5E.; T.32N., R.6E.; and T.32N., R.7E., New Mexico Prime Meridian. Conejos Peak RD Generally, south of highway 17,south to NM/CO border, west to Cumbres Pass, east to Fox Creek then south along the RGNF boundary, generally 10.38 miles west of Antonito, CO.</p>					
Trujillo Meadows Reservoir Reauthorization CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/06/2022	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
<p>Description: Reauthorize under a new FLPMA special use permit the use and occupancy of NFS lands by Colorado Parks and Wildlife for the Trujillo Meadows Reservoir.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - 71 acres, more or less, in Secs. 5 & 6, T. 32 N., R. 5 E.; Secs. 31 & 32, T. 33 N., R. 5 E., NMPM, Conejos County, Colorado. Trujillo Meadows Reservoir approximately nine miles northeast of Chama, New Mexico.</p>					
Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Benino Trail Reroute CE *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/17/2021	Expected:06/2022	08/2022	Jody Fairchild 719-658-2556 jody.fairchild@usda.gov
<p>Description: The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a sustainable 0.1 mile reroute of the Benino Trail. The existing trail in this section needs to be rerouted to avoid crossing Benino Creek two times in quick succession, which causes riparian damage.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - Not Applicable. 14 miles north of South Fork, CO.</p>					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest		Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region
Burdett Ditch Reauthorization CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 04/26/2022	05/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
Description: It is proposed to reauthorize under special use permit the Burdett Ditch. The ditch is now a buried 12-inch water transmission line. The current permit has expired.					
Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Hinsdale. LEGAL - A right-of-way 2,220 feet in length and 10 feet in width encompassing 0.51 acres in Secs. 3 & 10, T41N, R3W, NMPM, Hinsdale County, Colorado. Near the Troutvale/Browns Reservoirs about 14 miles west of Creede, Colorado.					
Change 0.2 mi of NFSR 263 to administrative use CE *NEW LISTING*	- Road management	Completed	Actual: 04/25/2022	05/2022	Jody Fairchild 719-658-2556 jody.fairchild@usda.gov
Description: NFSR 263 starts on BLM. The route on BLM is designated for administrative use only. The purpose of this project is to change to designation on NFS to admin use and gate access.					
Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. 8mi southwest of Monte Vista, CO.					
Five Below Timber Management Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2022	Expected:05/2023	06/2023	Kevin Duda 719-657-6037 kevin.duda@usda.gov
Description: The purpose of this project is to implement timber harvesting for the purpose of timber production (regulated harvest) and sanitation-salvage harvesting to utilize commercially valuable hardwood and softwood species within the project analysis area.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62319					
Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - New Mexico Principal Meridian, T.39 N., R.3 E., and T.39 N., R.4 E. Generally, the Del Norte Peak area, located south of U.S. Highway 160 between Del Norte, CO and South Fork, CO.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
MCH and Verbenone application in suitable timber base and developed recreation sites CE *UPDATED*	- Forest products	Completed	Actual: 04/07/2022	04/2022	Kevin Duda 719-657-6037 kevin.duda@usda.gov
	Description: The purpose is to improve stand conditions by reducing the likelihood of attack from Douglas-fir beetles and pine beetles. Bark beetles can cause tree mortality counter to timber production objectives and detrimental for visitor safety.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Hinsdale, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Douglas-fir stands within the designated timber base, primarily around South Fork CO; developed campgrounds in Douglas-fir and Ponderosa district-wide.				
Recreation parking area creation: San Luis Peak, Pool Table Road, Poage Lake CE *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/30/2022	Expected:05/2022	06/2022	Martha Williamson 7196573321 martha.williamson@usda.gov
	Description: This project will delineate and harden (grade and road base) parking areas at the San Luis Peak trailhead, an OHV unloading area on the Pool Table road (NFSR 600) and the Poage Lake trailhead. This will make these areas resilient to additional use.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral, Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. San Luis Peak TH: 7 miles N of Creede, CO, at the junction of NFSR 503 and NFST 882. Pool Table: 7 miles SE of Creede, CO, approx. 3 miles up NFSR600. Poage Lake TH: 11 miles S of South Fork, CO.				
Rito Hondo Reservoir Reauthorization CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 05/05/2022	05/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: It is proposed to reauthorize Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Rito Hondo Reservoir.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Hinsdale. LEGAL - 40.74 acres in Secs. 15 & 22, T. 42 N., R. 3 W., NMPM, Hinsdale County, Colorado. Along Forest System Road 513 west of Creede, Colorado.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Road Canyon Reservoirs Reauthorization CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 05/05/2022	05/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
Description: It is proposed to reauthorize Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Road Canyon Reservoirs No. 1 and No. 2.					
Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Hinsdale. LEGAL - 186.22 acres in Secs. 3 & 4, T. 40 N., R. 3 W.; Secs. 26, 27 & 34, T. 41 N., R. 3 W., NMPM, Hinsdale County, Colorado. Road Canyon Reservoirs along Forest System Road 520 west of Creede, Colorado.					
Troutvale (aka Browns) Reservoirs Reauthorization CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 05/05/2022	05/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
Description: It is proposed to reauthorize under special use autohorizations Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Troutvale Reservoir and Troutvale Reservoir No. 2.					
Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Hinsdale. LEGAL - 37.86 acres in Secs. 9, 10, 15 & 16, T. 41 N., R. 3 W., NMPM, Hinsdale County, Colorado. Troutvale Reservoirs (aka Brown Lakes) along Forest System Road 515 west of Creede, Colorado.					
Tucker Ponds Snowmobile Parking Lot expansion CE	- Recreation management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/01/2021	Expected:05/2021	10/2021	Martha Williamson 719.657.6007 martha.williamson@usda.gov
Description: The purpose of this project is to expand the existing Tucker Ponds winter parking area by 0.8ac in order to alleviate congestion at the US160 chain station. This project is in cooperation with CSP, CDOT, Mineral County, and snowmobile clubs.					
Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Intersection of NFSR 390 and US 160, approximately 13 miles west of South Fork, CO.					

Rio Grande National Forest	Saguache Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
-----------------------------------	--	--	--	-----------------------------------	--

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Rio Grande National Forest	Saguache Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Cantonment Vegetation Management Project EA	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 02/11/2022	Expected:02/2023	06/2023	Rachael Sanchez 719-657-6023 rachael.sanchez@usda.gov
Description: The Rio Grande National Forest proposes to initiate multiple treatments within the Cantonment Creek and Luders Creek Drainages, including prescribed fire, salvage, precommercial thin, intermediate harvest and regeneration harvest.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61592					
Location: UNIT - Saguache Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - New Mexico Principal Meridian, T.45N., R.4E., sec. 6-8, 16-23, 27-30 and 34; T.45N., R.3E., sec. 1, 11-15, 23-28, and 33-36; T.44N., R.3E., sec. 1-3; T.44N., R.4E., sec. 6. The analysis area is located approximately twenty-five miles west of the town of Saguache, Colorado.					
Oyler Beetle Salvage CE	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/08/2022	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Rachael Sanchez 719-657-6023 rachael.sanchez@usda.gov
Description: The proposed action consists of salvage harvest of approximately 250 acres of dead/dying Engelmann spruce within stands adjacent to and surrounding the Oyler parcel located on NFSR 681.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61584					
Location: UNIT - Saguache Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - T.43N., R.4E., sections 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, NMPM. Project area is located adjacent to NFSR 681, off NFSR 675. Project borders the Oyler private property boundary.					

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, audiotope, 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.