



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

01/01/2023 to 03/31/2023

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 *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.				

Rio Grande National Forest	Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R2 - Rocky Mountain Region
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Rio Grande National Forest	Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Acquisition of La Jara State Trust Lands CE *UPDATED*	- Land acquisition	Completed	Actual: 12/05/2022	08/2023	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.				
Iron Creek Access CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/11/2009	Expected:09/2023	09/2023	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	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.				
Jones Lakeview Access CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/10/2022	Expected:07/2023	07/2023	Kyle Burton 719-313-0873 kyle.burton@usda.gov
	Description: Issue a special use authorization for the motorized use and maintenance of a non-system route across National Forest System lands for the purpose of accessing private property.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - A right-of-way approximately 230 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 0.13 acres, more or less, in Sec. 16, T. 36 N., R. 4 E., NMPM, Conejos County, Colorado. Proposed access is off of NFSR 247 to the Lakeview Lode along the west shore of Mix Lake approximately one mile west of Platoro, Colorado.				

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Rio Grande National Forest Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Sheepshead Enterprises, LLC Access. CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/03/2010	Expected:09/2023	09/2023	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	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.				
Trail Gulch Vegetation Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Completed	Actual: 10/27/2022	11/2022	Judith Perez 719-852-6240 judi.perez@usda.gov
	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.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60258				
Trujillo Meadows Reservoir Reauthorization CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 11/29/2022	12/2022	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	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.				
	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.				

Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R2 - Rocky Mountain Region
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Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Benino Trail Reroute CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/17/2021	Expected:06/2022	08/2022	Jody Fairchild 719-658-2556 jody.fairchild@usda.gov
	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.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - Not Applicable. 14 miles north of South Fork, CO.				
Five Below Timber Management Project EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2023	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.					
Recreation parking area creation: San Luis Peak, Pool Table Road, Poage Lake CE	- 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.				

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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	
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.					

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