



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

07/01/2024 to 09/30/2024

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
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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 .				

Rio Grande 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
Rio Grande National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
Rio Grande National Forest Over Snow Travel Management Project EIS *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 05/01/2024 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 10/2026	Expected:12/2026	01/2027	Judith Perez 719-872-4008 Judith.Perez@usda.gov
	Description: The Rio Grande National Forest proposes to designate National Forest System roads, trails and areas for motorized over snow vehicle use for all three Ranger Districts.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/riogrande/?project=65529				
	Location: UNIT - Rio Grande National Forest All Units. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Alamosa, Archuleta, Conejos, Hinsdale, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache, San Juan. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Rio Grande National Forest including the Conejos Peak, Divide, and Saguache Ranger Districts.				

Rio Grande National Forest		Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region
Burnt Creek LLC Access CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/27/2023	Expected:09/2024	09/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: A right-of-way approximately 4,900 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 2.70 acres, more or less, in Secs. 20 & 29, T. 37 N., R. 5 E., NMPM, Rio Grande County, Colorado, for the purpose of accessing private property.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66069				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - A right-of-way approximately 4,900 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 2.70 acres, more or less, in Secs. 20 & 29, T. 37 N., R. 5 E., NMPM, Rio Grande County, Colorado. Private inholding is located approximately one mile north of Jasper, CO. Burnt Creek runs through the middle of the property.				
Dry Creek Trail Re-Route CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Watershed management	Completed	Actual: 01/23/2024	04/2024	Antonio Lucero 719-274-6329 antonio.lucero@usda.gov
	Description: Reroute a .75-mile section of the 700 trail east of Forest Service Road 334 and west of Marble Mountain. Check dams would be constructed in the existing section of trail to prevent further erosion and resource damage.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - T. 37 N, R. 4 E., Sec. 12; T. 37 N., R. 5 E., Sec. 7. 700 trail east of Forest Service Road 334 and west of Marble Mountain.				

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Rio Grande National Forest Conejos Peak Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)		R2 - Rocky Mountain Region			
Fondren Access CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/17/2024	Expected:08/2024	08/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: It is proposed that the agency consider an application for the use of non-system roads for the purpose of accessing private property. The need is the applicants right to adequate access. If approved, the use would be authorized by special use permit.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Conejos. LEGAL - There are three routes; 90, 390 and 1300 ft in length. A right-of-way 1,780 ft in length and 24 feet in width would encompass 0.98 acres in Secs. 4 & 5, T36N, R4E, NMPM, Conejos County. Roads are located off of NFSR 250 in the upper Alamosa River drainage just downstream from Stunner Campground.				
NRCS Elwood SNOTEL CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/16/2024	Expected:08/2024	08/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: NRCS is proposing to place a new SNOTEL weather station near Elwood Pass.				
	Location: UNIT - Conejos Peak Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - 11.54 acres in the SE 1/4 of Sec. 34, T. 37 N., R. 3 E., NMPM, Rio Grande County, Colorado. Between Elwood Pass and Elwood Cabin.				
Sheepshead Enterprises, LLC Access. CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 04/03/2024	09/2024	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.				

Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R2 - Rocky Mountain Region
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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	
Cattle Mountain Water Trap CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2024	Expected:07/2024	08/2024	Madison Groven 719-937-3066 Madison.Groven@usda.gov
	Description: Create a fence around a boggy water trap. Cattle and wildlife get stuck in the boggy area and perish. Fence is estimated to be 40%u2019 x 60%u2019.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Cattle Mountain Allotment South-South-West of South Fork, CO.				
Divide RAC New Vault Toilet at Frisco Creek TH. CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 05/2024	Expected:06/2024	06/2024	Tanner Dutton 719-655-6114 tanner.m.dutton@usda.gov
	Description: Install new vault toilet at the Middle Frisco Creek trailhead parking area.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - (376660.59 m E, 4157562.00 m N Middle Frisco Cr TH) . Frisco Creek Trail Head parking area.				
Edge Access CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 02/23/2024	06/2024	Kyle Burton 719-872-4036 kyle.burton@usda.gov
	Description: The Forest Service proposes to authorize construction of approximately 250 feet of driveway for the purpose of accessing private property thus satisfying the proponents statutory right to reasonable access.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - Sec. 23, T. 42 N., R. 1 W., NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado. Private Road permit off of NFSR 504.				
Elk Creek Ranch Access CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 05/23/2024	09/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: It is proposed to authorize the use of an existing road used by Elk Creek Ranch. The purpose and need is to provide legal access per the owners statutory right to adequate access for the reasonable use and enjoyment of the property.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - A right-of-way approximately 1,400 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 0.77 acres, more or less, in Sec. 24, T. 40 N., R. 2 E., NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado. Along Elk Creek approximately 3 miles northwest of South Fork, Colorado. The road connects the upper and lower sections of the ranch.				

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					
Embargo Mastication CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 05/2024	Expected:06/2024	07/2024	Kent Smith 719-655-6131 kent.smith@usda.gov
	Description: There is a need to reduce understory fuels to maintain desired conditions via mastication, consistent with the Rio Grande National Forest Land Management Plan as described in Management Area 5.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Embargo Creek area northwest of Del Norte Colorado.				
Fern Creek Spring Development and Tank CE *NEW LISTING*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/24/2024	Expected:08/2024	08/2025	Madison Groven 719-937-3066 Madison.Groven@usda.gov
	Description: The proposal is to construct a spring box for the existing spring and pipe water to a single fiberglass tank. There is a need for a spring box that would transfer water from the spring to the watering tank via a short pipeline.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66127				
Luther Driveway Realignment CE *UPDATED*	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - Sec. 27, T. 37 N., R. 5 E., NMPM. 37.422122, -106.437496. To the Southwest of Silver Mountain and the 704 Trail.				
	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 02/23/2024	06/2024	Kyle Burton 719-872-4036 kyle.burton@usda.gov
	Description: Approximately 80 feet of a 150 feet driveway would be relocated to a gentler grade. The purpose is the need for reasonable access and the need is for a driveway more able to accommodate emergency vehicles, septic trucks, cement trucks, etc.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - A private road right-of-way approximately 150 feet in length and 20 feet in width encompassing 0.07 acres in Sec. 11, T. 42 N., R. 1 W., NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado. Off of NFSR 504.				

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Rio Grande National Forest	Divide Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R2 - Rocky Mountain Region	
Martz Access CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 06/18/2024	Expected:11/2024	11/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: It is proposed to authorize the motorized use and maintenance of an existing non-system route across NFS land for the purpose of accessing private property. The need is to satisfy the applicant's statutory right to adequate access.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - A right-of-way 3,200 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 1.76 acres, more or less, in Sec. 14, T. 41 N., R. 4 E., NMPM, Saguache County, Colorado. Route is off the Seitz Creek Road (NFSR 644) approximately 11.5 miles northwest of Del Norte, Colorado.				
NRCS Rat Creek SNOTEL CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/16/2024	Expected:08/2024	08/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: NRCS is proposing to place a new SNOTEL weather station in the Rat Creek drainage northwest of Creede, Colorado.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - 11.54 acres in the NE 1/4 of Sec. 33, T. 43 N., R. 1 W., NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado. About 1.5 miles up Rat Creek from the junction of NFSRs 505 and 505.1A.				
Powers Access CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 02/23/2024	05/2024	Kyle Burton 719-852-6293 kyle.burton@usda.gov
	Description: It is proposed to authorize under a new special use permit a right-of-way 12,500 feet in length and ten feet in width encompassing 2.87 acres, more or less, for a 50 inch or less motorized trail for the purpose of accessing private property.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - A trail ROW 12,500 feet in length and ten feet in width encompassing 2.87 acres, more or less, in Secs. 5 & 6, T. 41 N., R. 1 W.; Secs. 28, 29 & 32, T. 42 N., R. 1 W., NMPM, Mineral County. A permit for 50" or less motorized use of the nonmotorized Forest Trail 897.1 for access to the Legal Tender Lodes in the Shallow Creek drainage approximately 4.5 miles west of Creede, 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					
RAC Vault Toilet at Poage Lake Parking Lot. CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 05/2024	Expected:07/2024	07/2024	Tanner Dutton 719-655-6114 tanner.m.dutton@usda.gov
	Description: Installation of new vault toilet at Poage Lake Parking Lot				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - 355112.48 m E, 4151850.09 m N Poage Lake Parking Lot. Poage Lake Parking Lot.				
Vista Grande Road and Sign CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 02/23/2024	03/2024	Kyle Burton 719-872-4036 kyle.burton@usda.gov
	Description: Authorize an existing driveway crossing approximately 670 feet of NFS land. A 24 feet wide right-of-way would encompass 0.37 acres. And there is an existing entrance sign on NFS land encumbering 0.01 acres.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - A rights-of-way for a road 670 feet in length and 24 feet in width encompassing 0.37 acres and an entrance sign encompassing 0.01 acres in the SW of Sec. 11, T. 41 N., R. 1 W., NMPM, Mineral County. Located off of NFSR 550.				
West Pinos Well CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2024	Expected:07/2024	08/2024	Madison Groven 719-937-3066 Madison.Groven@usda.gov
	Description: Create a solar powered well to provide water to livestock and wildlife.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Rio Grande. LEGAL - Not Applicable. West Pinos Allotment Southwest of Del Norte, CO.				
Wolf Creek Ski Corporation Bus Barn Construction CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/03/2023	Expected:06/2024	07/2024	Andrew Peterson 719-852-6206 andrew.peterson@usda.gov
	Description: The Wolf Creek Ski Corporation (WCSC) is proposing to construct a new bus barn for storage of their equipment.				
	Location: UNIT - Divide Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Mineral. LEGAL - Sec. 5, T. 37 N., R. 2 E., NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado. Wolf Creek Pass on the north side of Hwy 160.				

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					
Blue Crow Mastication CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2024	Expected:07/2024	08/2024	Kent Smith 719-655-6131 kent.smith@usda.gov
	Description: The purpose of the Blue Crow Mastication project is to reduce stand density in TPJ (Pinyon-Juniper trees) to improve wildlife habitat and forest health via mastication.				
	Location: UNIT - Saguache Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The project area lies within the La Garita Hills EIS boundary and is adjacent to a BLM mastication project.				
Decker Creek Low Tech Process Based Restoration CE *NEW LISTING*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2024	Expected:07/2024	09/2024	William Remshardt 719-872-4049 rosalee.reese@usda.gov
	Description: The Forest proposes to install Low Tech Process Based Restoration structures in North Decker Ck. to stabilize/improve stream banks/erosion and sediment flow, riparian/floodplain condition, benefitting Gunnison Sage Grouse habitat.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66098				
Houselog Creek Low Tech Process Based Restoration CE *NEW LISTING*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/22/2024	Expected:07/2024	09/2024	William Remshardt 719-872-4049 Rosalee.Reese@usda.gov
	Description: The Forest proposes to install Low Tech Process Based Restoration structures in Houselog Ck. to stabilize/improve stream banks/erosion and sediment flow, riparian/floodplain condition, and benefitting Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout habitat.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=66105				
	Location: UNIT - Saguache Ranger District. STATE - Colorado. COUNTY - Saguache. LEGAL - Section- S23, Township-T44N R5E . Houselog Creek is Southwest of the town of Saguache. It is a tributary to Hodding creek which flows into Saguache Creek.				

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