



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

04/01/2022 to 06/30/2022

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

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: 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.				

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)

R8 - Southern Region

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)					R8 - Southern Region
Amendment of Appendix F of the Forest Plan EA *UPDATED*	- Land management planning	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 03/11/2022	Expected:06/2022	06/2022	Janine Book 479-964-7282 janine.book@usda.gov
	Description: This is a programmatic plan amendment affecting vegetation management practices described in Appendix F of the Forest Plan. ***Comments on the Draft EA are being accepted starting March 12 through April 11, 2022.*** Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58633				
	Location: UNIT - Ozark-St. Francis National Forest All Units. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Baxter, Benton, Conway, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Lee, Logan, Madison, Marion, Newton, Phillips, Pope, Searcy, Stone, Van Buren, Washington, Yell. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Ozark-St. Francis National Forest.				
Ozark Vegetation Management Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Janine Book 479-964-7282 janine.book@usda.gov
	Description: Vegetation management activities across Ozark National Forest, including timber, silvicultural treatments, burning, and wildlife management, also connected actions such as roads/firebreaks. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61695				
	Location: UNIT - Ozark-St. Francis National Forest All Units. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Baxter, Benton, Conway, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Lee, Logan, Madison, Marion, Newton, Phillips, Pope, Searcy, Stone, Van Buren, Washington, Yell. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Ozark National Forest.				

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
2020 Richland Creek Road Land Slide CE	- Watershed management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Michael Mulford 870-446-5122 michael.mulford@usda.gov
	Description: Stabilize a section of Searcy County Road 1205 and remove material sliding down onto the road. Currently, the area impacted is less than five acres Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58055				
	Location: UNIT - Buffalo Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Searcy. LEGAL - Township 13 North, Range 18 West, Section 18. This project is less than 5 acres in size and has impacted Searcy County Road 1205 and the hillside above the road. Material would need to be removed and the road stabilized.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Bayou Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
2022 Blue Hole Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management - Special area management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/17/2022 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 05/2022	Expected:09/2022	11/2022	Michael Mulford 870-446-5122 michael.mulford@usda.gov
	Description: Ensuring the Blue Hole Special Interest Area retain its undisturbed and natural conditions for primitive and non-mechanized recreational enjoyment, to improve water quality, and protect the geological and scenic values				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61646				
Location: UNIT - Bayou Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Pope. LEGAL - T10N R18W SEC14 the SIA covers parts of sec 10, 11, 12, 13,14,15,22 ,23, 27. This project is approximately 3 miles northeast of the community of Hector, AR. Project lies north of White oak mountain and south of East Fork Wilderness Area.					
Brock Creek Trail Sustainability Project CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/02/2021	Expected:04/2022	05/2022	Michael Mulford 870-446-5122 michael.mulford@usda.gov
	Description: Make the trail system more sustainable by rerouting areas which have increased erosion due to being badly located and rehabilitating the closed sections. Additionally, maintain the whole trail system				
	Location: UNIT - Bayou Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Van Buren. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Brock Creek Trail System in the Southeast corner of the Big Piney Ranger District approximately 6 miles north of the community of Jerusalem.				

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Boston Mountain Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Devil's Den Trail System CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/18/2020	Expected:08/2022	09/2022	Amanda Bataineh 479-754-2864 amanda.bataineh@usda.gov
	Description: Construct 6.27 miles of mountain bike trail, reconstruct 0.36 miles of existing mountain bike trail, and maintain 20.17 miles of existing hiking and horse trails in addition to the mountain bike trails on FS land adjacent to Devils Den State Park.				
	Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest Service System land surrounding Devil's Den State Park.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Boston Mountain Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Fanes Mill EA *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 04/2022	Expected:10/2022	12/2022	Coy Longshore 479-667-2191 coy.longshore@usda.gov
Description: Multi-resource project to help improve forest conditions; stands more resilient to stressors such as weather, insects, and disease. Improving habitat for game species as well as threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. Improving trails, roads. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57438					
Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Crawford, Franklin, Madison. LEGAL - multiple sections in T 12N R 26W, T 12N R 27W, T 13N R 26W, T 13N R 27W. Primarily in Madison and Franklin counties. Bounded on the north by the White River, the east by Highway 23. Near towns: Cass to the south, Brashears northeast, Combs northwest.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Boston Mountain Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Ford Project EA *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Heritage resource management - Special area management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Special use management - Road management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 10/22/2021	Expected:08/2022	10/2022	Jobi Brown 479-667-2191 x2175 jobi.brown@usda.gov
	Description: Multi-resource project to help improve forest conditions with trees that are more resilient to insects, diseases, weather events; improve habitat for threatened, endangered and sensitive species; improve watershed conditions.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44980				
Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Crawford, Franklin. LEGAL - multiple sections in townships 11N 28W, 11N 29W, 11N 30W, 12N 28W, 12N 29W, 12N 30W. On main division in vicinity of Mountainburg and Chester Arkansas. About 10 miles south of Winslow, AR and 15 miles North of Alma, AR. East of interstate I49 and north of interstate I40.					
Hurricane Road ERFO Project CE *UPDATED*	- Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 05/2022	Expected:07/2022	08/2022	Jobi Brown 479-667-2191 x2175 jobi.brown@usda.gov
	Description: Repair and Maintenance of Hurricane Road including road reconstruction, culvert replacement.				
	Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Crawford. LEGAL - section 13 T 12N R29 W. North of Richardson Mountain on the main unit.				
Range Allotment Management Project EA	- Grazing management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jobi Brown 479-667-2191 x2175 jobi.brown@usda.gov
	Description: Manage allotments on district by grazing livestock to combat woody plant encroachment and maintain open conditions.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53774				
Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Benton, Crawford, Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Multiple allotments on Wedington, Lee Creek, and Main Units of the district.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Boston Mountain Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Sunset Salvage CE *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/15/2021	Expected:04/2022	04/2022	James Lindsay 479-667-2191 jalindsay@fs.fed.us
	Description: Salvage of dead and dying trees on 22 acres damaged by an EF-1 tornado on 15th October 2021.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61052				
Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Madison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Brannon Community in Madison County Arkansas on northern boundary of main unit.					
Temple Hill Project CE *NEW LISTING*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Watershed management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 04/2022	Expected:07/2022	07/2022	James Lindsay 479-667-2191 jalindsay@fs.fed.us
	Description: 252 acres pine and 434 acres hardwood thinning. Prescribed burning in total project area of 2603 acres.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61864				
Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Benton, Washington. LEGAL - T13N R28W Sections 19 and 20. Main Unit near the Temple Hill Community.					
Wedington Waterline Project CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Facility management	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/09/2021	Expected:04/2022	04/2022	David Brickley 479-667-2191 david.brickley@usda.gov
	Description: Convert water system at the Wedington Recreational Area from the current well water system to the Washington County public water system. Requires the construction of a new waterline along an existing road to tie into municipal line.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61063				
Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - sections 9 and 10 in T 16N R 32W. South of Lake Wedington to proclamation boundary along road 95630B.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Boston Mountain Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
White Rock Mountain Road Repair Project CE *UPDATED*	- Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 04/2022	Expected:05/2022	06/2022	Jobi Brown 479-667-2191 x2175 jobi.brown@usda.gov
	Description: Temporarily close White Rock Mountain Road between Ragtown and Potato knob to repair a section where road bed is sliding down slope, creating a safety hazard.				
	Location: UNIT - Boston Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Franklin. LEGAL - Sections 30 and 21 in T 12N R 27W and sections 25 and 36 in T12N R 28W. Main unit of Boston Mountain Ranger District west of Hwy 23 one mile west of Grey Spring.				

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Magazine Mountain Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Boston Mountain and Mt. Magazine Developed Recreation Improvements EA	- Recreation management - Special use management - Facility management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Amanda Bataineh 479-754-2864 x2877 amanda.bataineh@usda.gov
	Description: Improve the Boston Mountain and Mt. Magazine Ranger Districts developed recreation sites - Shores Lake, White Rock, Lake Wedington, Cove Lake, and Spring Lake - on a sustainable basis.				
	Location: UNIT - Magazine Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Franklin, Logan, Washington, Yell. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Shores Lake, White Rock, Lake Wedington, Cove Lake, and Spring Lake Recreation Areas on the Boston Mountain and Mt. Magazine Ranger Districts of the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests.				
Carter Mountain Project EA *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 03/09/2022	Expected:05/2022	05/2022	Charles Stokes 479-264-6024 Charles.Stokes@usda.gov
	Description: Forest management in the Carter Mountain area of the Mt. Magazine Ranger District.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60502				
	Location: UNIT - Magazine Mountain Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Logan, Yell. LEGAL - Not Applicable. T6N-7N, R22W-23W.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Pleasant Hill Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Grassy-Batson Farm Bill CE *NEW LISTING*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/17/2022	Expected:04/2022	04/2022	Charles Stokes 479-754-2864 Charles.Stokes@usda.gov
	Description: Forest management activities to reduce the risk of insect and disease outbreaks on the Pleasant Hill Ranger District.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61633				
Location: UNIT - Pleasant Hill Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Johnson. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Township 11 North, Ranges 24 & 25 West, 5th Principal Meridian in Johnson County, Arkansas.					
Provide Access to Private Property in Section 28 of T13N R24W CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/10/2020	Expected:08/2022	09/2022	Amanda Bataineh 479-754-2864 ext 2877 amanda.bataineh@usda.gov
	Description: Provide access across a closed road to an adjacent private landowner. Landowner will be responsible for the construction and maintenance of the closed road.				
	Location: UNIT - Pleasant Hill Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Johnson. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Road will go west starting at Forest Service Road 1434a and south of the Ozark Highlands Trail in Section 28 of T13N R24W.				

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests St. Francis Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Amendment of Permits STF0138, STF0141, STF0151, and STF0155 CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 02/16/2022 06/07/2021	03/2022	Kenney Smedley 479-284-3150 kenney.smedley@usda.gov
	Description: Responding to requests from recreation residence permit holders to modify or add authorized improvements on their respective use areas.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57697				
Location: UNIT - St. Francis Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Lee. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Bear Creek Lake Recreation Residence Tract, Use Areas 1, 15, 17 and 19.					

R8 - Southern Region

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Sylamore Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Blanchard Springs Caverns Facilities Renovation Project EA	- Heritage resource management - Facility management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/31/2020 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 05/2022	Expected:08/2022	08/2022	Jan Franks 870 269 3228 jan.franks@usda.gov
	Description: Renovation of the Blanchard Springs Caverns Visitor Information Center and cavern trail infrastructure within Blanchard Springs Caverns				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58732				
Location: UNIT - Sylamore Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Stone. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Blanchard Springs Caverns Visitor Information Center and cavern trails within the Blanchard Springs Developed Recreation Area Complex.					
Blanchard Springs Recreation Area Complex Utility Replacement Project CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/24/2020	Expected:05/2022 Actual: 04/19/2021	05/2022	Jan Franks 870-269-3228 jan.franks@usda.gov
	Description: Replace existing utility lines crossing North Sylamore Creek				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57941				
Location: UNIT - Sylamore Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Stone. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Blanchard Springs recreation area complex.					
Sylamore Range Allotment Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 06/29/2020 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 06/2022	Expected:09/2022	09/2022	Jan Franks 870-269-3228 jan.franks@usda.gov
	Description: Proposing management of 4 range allotments with conversion from exotic pasture grass to native grasses, forbs and herbaceous species on fields; proposal includes placing 2 allotments in closed status and removing them from the NFS range system.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=42968				
Location: UNIT - Sylamore Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Baxter, Stone. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Six range allotments on the Sylamore District located within Baxter (2 allotments) and Stone (4 allotments) County.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests Sylamore Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R8 - Southern Region
Walk and Roll Trail Management Project EA *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 01/25/2021 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 04/2022	Expected:07/2022	07/2022	Jan Franks 870-269-3228 jan.franks@usda.gov
	Description: Maintenance and improvement of non-motorized trails; actions will include realignment when needed;limited herbicide use; converting a road and a user-created trail to system trail; constructing new trail				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44724				
Location: UNIT - Sylamore Ranger District. STATE - Arkansas. COUNTY - Baxter, Searcy, Stone. LEGAL - Not Applicable. corridors up to 400' wide of NFS land centered on system trail treads.					

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