



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

01/01/2024 to 03/31/2024

Monongahela 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 *NEW LISTING*	- Land management planning	Developing Proposal Est. NOI in Federal Register 12/2023	Expected:01/2025	01/2025	Jennifer Ruyle 520-388-8351 jennifer.mcrae@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 .				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Projects Occurring Nationwide					
Nationwide Aerial Application of Fire Retardant on National Forest System Land. EIS	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/11/2022 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/2023	Expected:09/2023	01/2024	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.				

Monongahela National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R9 - Eastern Region
2023 Reauthorization of Expiring SUP's (Forest Wide) CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/23/2023	Expected:01/2024	01/2024	Nathaniel Dulaney (304) 478-3251 ext. 5552123 Nathaniel.Dulaney@usda.gov
	Description: This project reauthorizes several special use permits across the Monongahela National Forest				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District, White Sulphur Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Grant, Greenbrier, Pendleton, Randolph, Tucker. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The area affected by this decision is located throughout the Monongahela National Forest. Maps can be found in the pinyon public folder for the project.				

Monongahela National Forest	Cheat/Potomac Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R9 - Eastern Region
------------------------------------	---	----------------------------

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Cheat/Potomac Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
Blackwater River Loop FY19 Abandoned Mine Land Economic Revitalization Project EA *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Road management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Thomas Craig 304-257-4488 Thomas.Craig@usda.gov
	Description: Friends of Blackwater received a grant through Office of Surface Mining (administered by WVDEP) to develop this project o promote hiking, biking and tourism in the Blackwater River area by creating a loop trail to link the towns of Davis & Thomas.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60885				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Tucker. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Located south of the towns of Davis and Thomas, WV, on land owned by the WV Division of Natural Resources (Blackwater Falls State Park) and US Forest Service (Monongahela National Forest).				
CHT205123-Mon Power Amendment #7 CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/26/2023	Expected:01/2024	01/2024	Carol Whetsell 304-478-3251 carol.whetsell@usda.gov
	Description: An existing powerline utility permit holder is proposing a new 950' aerial line to serve a private residence near Whitmer, WV. Due to slope, vegetation, a grazing allotment, and soils resources, an aerial line poses the least disturbance.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=64928				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Randolph. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approx 500 feet west of county road 29/4 north of Whitmer in the Whitmer range allotment.				
Dobbin House Trail System Improvements CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/26/2023	Expected:03/2024	04/2024	Jonathan Wheeler 540-291-2188 jonathan.wheeler@usda.gov
	Description: Proposes converting 3 miles of existing social trails to forest service system trails with reroutes as needed, and maintenance on existing system trails in the Dobbin House trail system. Social trails not converted would be brushed in to prevent use.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=64942				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Tucker. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The Dobbin House trail system is located in Tucker County West Virginia in the area of Blackwater Falls State Park. Some of the system trails and proposed trails are on state park property.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Cheat/Potomac Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
Elklick Run Stream Restoration Project CE *UPDATED*	- Watershed management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 04/04/2023	Expected:05/2024	10/2024	Thomas Craig 304-257-4488 Thomas.Craig@usda.gov
	Description: This project proposes to drain the Elk Lick Reservoir in the Fernow Experimental Forest and either partially or fully remove the dam which created the reservoir. This project also includes stream restoration of Elk Lick Run to its pre-dam conditions.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63487				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Tucker. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Located in the Fernow Experimental Forest, south of Parsons and Hambleton WV. The Reservoir is located along Forest Road 701 approximately 2.5 miles from the northern entrance to the forest.				
Stuart Bike Trail System CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Brooke Andrew 304-257-4488 ext 7124 brooke.andrew@usda.gov
	Description: Construction of a 5 to 10 mile pedestrian/non-motorized vehicle trail system in the Stuart Recreation Area to meet the need for more mountain bike trails on the Forest in order to enhance recreation and tourism.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60389				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Randolph. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The proposed trail system would be located in the vicinity of Stuart Recreation Area, approx. 4 miles to the east of the town of Elkins, WV. Trails would be planned both E and W of Shavers Fork Rd.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Cheat/Potomac Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
Upper Cheat River EA *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 09/13/2022	Expected:02/2024	02/2024	Amy Albright 304-257-4488 x 7128 amy.albright2@usda.gov
	Description: This project aims to move the Upper Cheat watershed closer to the Forest Plan desired conditions by improving forest health & age class diversity, providing recreation opportunities, and improving wildlife habitat & stream/riparian conditions.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58364				
	Location: UNIT - Cheat Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Barbour, Preston, Tucker. LEGAL - Not Applicable. This 86,138-acre project area is located north of Parsons, WV. The area encompasses 33,991 acres of National Forest System land within the Upper Cheat River watershed.				

Monongahela National Forest	Gauley Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
Cranberry Spring Creek EA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation management - Heritage resource management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/29/2021 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 08/2023	Expected:11/2023	11/2023	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: The focus of the proposed action is on improving forest health and resiliency, restoring red spruce/northern hardwood forests, improving wildlife habitat and increasing age class diversity based on the specific Forest Plan Desired Future Conditions.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=58824				
	Location: UNIT - Gauley Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Nicholas, Pocahontas, Webster. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Within the Cranberry River/Spring Creek watersheds. Includes Cranberry Glades, the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center, part of the Cranberry Wilderness and the Falls of Hills. East of Richwood, WV.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Gauley Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region	
FSR 76 (Cranberry) and FSR 911 (Big Ditch) Bridge Repair and Maintenance CE	- Special area management - Watershed management - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2023	Expected:12/2023	02/2024	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: Replace bridge superstructures on National Forest System (FSR) 76 at Tumbling Rock and Birchlog Runs and protect abutments with riprap. Replace decking on the Homcomb Run bridge on FSR 911 and spot paint girders that are exposed and corroding.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63893				
	Location: UNIT - Gauley Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas, Webster. LEGAL - Not Applicable. FSR 76 bridges approximately 10 miles northwest of Richwood, WV. Holcomb bridge is approximately 1.8 miles southeast of Cowen, WV.				

Monongahela National Forest	Greenbrier Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region	
Deer Creek Integrated Resource Project EA *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management - Climate Change Adaptation	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/27/2022 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 02/2024	Expected:05/2024	05/2024	Thomas Craig 304-538-4446 Thomas.Craig@usda.gov
	Description: This project seeks to improve stream habitat, riparian corridors, and hydrologic connectivity, improve public recreation and interpretive opportunities, reduce fuel loads, encourage oak regeneration, and improve forest diversity and wildlife habitat.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60882				
	Location: UNIT - Greenbrier Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The 89,050-acre project area is centered on the town of Green Bank, WV & contains Deer Creek, Greenbrier River, and a portion of Sitlington Creek headwaters. Approx 39% is National Forest System land.				

Monongahela National Forest	Marlinton Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region	
------------------------------------	---	--	--	----------------------------	--

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Marlinton Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
Aerial Fiber Installation Project CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2023	Expected:07/2023	01/2024	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: The Pocahontas County Commission is proposing to install 49 miles of aerial fiber along existing utility poles to provide broadband service to local businesses and residents.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=64366				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Aerial fiber will be installed along existing utility poles crossing approximately 0.5 mile over three sections of Forest Service property in Pocahontas County.				
Brushy Mountain Wildlife Habitat Improvement Project CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Chad Stachowiak 304-799-4334 x7995535 Chad.Stachowiak@usda.gov
	Description: Create early successional wildlife habitat by mulching and enhance tree regeneration for species preferred by wildlife.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54154				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Greenbrier. LEGAL - Not Applicable. South of Minnehaha Springs, West Virginia in Greenbrier County.				
FSR 135 (at Tea Creek Campground) Bridge Replacement CE	- Special area management - Watershed management - Road management - Climate Change Adaptation	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2023	Expected:10/2023	10/2023	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: Replace the low water crossing on National Forest System Road 135 at Williams River with a bridge designed for higher flow passage, better adapted to changing climate conditions, and egress from Tea Creek Campground during high water flows.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=63889				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Adjacent to Tea Creek Campground. Approximately 2.3 miles northwest of Hadley Public Hunting and Fishing Area.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Marlinton Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
MAR2030 Pocahontas County OEM Special Use Permit CE	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/24/2022	Expected:08/2023	08/2023	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: To issue a special use permit to the Pocahontas County Office of Emergency Management for right-of-way (ROW) of road 438A for approximately 2.5 miles, allowing ingress/egress, routine maintenance, and limited road upgrades.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62958				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Road 438A on Day Mountain. Approximately 9 miles north of Mill Point.				
MAR261 Road Right-of-Way Special Use Permit CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 06/2023	Expected:07/2023	07/2023	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: To authorize a special use permit to construct, maintain, and utilize a permitted use access road of approximately 70 feet in length and twenty feet wide for passenger vehicle travel to a part of the landowner's farmland that is inaccessible				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas. LEGAL - Not Applicable. East of the Greenbrier River trail in the Huntersville district of Pocahontas County, West Virginia. Near corner 29 on FS Tract 391.				
Sitlington Creek - Greenbrier River Watershed Improvement EA	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2023	Expected:08/2024	08/2024	Adrienne Nottingham 304-636-1800 adrienne.nottingham@usda.gov
	Description: Needs exist in the project area include wildlife habitat improvement. Possible treatments include vegetation management and prescribed fire.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=62246				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Greenbrier, Pocahontas. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Boundary includes all of the Sitlington Creek-Greenbrier River watershed within the forest proclamation boundary. It centers around Marlinton, WV.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	Marlinton Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region	
Upper Elk Ecological Restoration Project EA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Watershed management - Road management 	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 12/09/2021	Expected:11/2023	12/2023	Jason Hattersley 540-291-2188 jason.hattersley@usda.gov
	Description: The goals of the proposed action include improving forest health and resiliency, restoring red spruce/northern hardwood forests, improving wildlife habitat and increasing age class diversity based on the specific Forest Plan Desired Future Conditions				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57646				
	Location: UNIT - Marlinton Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pocahontas, Randolph, Webster. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The project area is approximately 6 miles north of Marlinton, WV along US-219. The area encompasses the National Forest System land within the Upper Elk Watershed and is centered near Slaty Fork, WV.				

Monongahela National Forest	POTOMAC RANGER DISTRICT (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region	
POT206013-Timber LLC Skid Right-of-Way CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/26/2023	Expected:01/2024	01/2024	Thomas Craig 304-257-4488 Thomas.Craig@usda.gov
	Description: proposing to temporarily improve, use, and restore a yarding corridor, using an old skid road on USFS to move timber cut on private property to a landing on private property.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=64929				
	Location: UNIT - Potomac Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pendleton. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 3 miles north of Seneca Rocks off of WV-28.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Monongahela National Forest	POTOMAC RANGER DISTRICT (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R9 - Eastern Region
POT206014-Briery Gap Gravity Water Pump Proposal CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/26/2023	Expected:03/2024	03/2024	Carol Whetsell 304-478-3251 carol.whetsell@usda.gov
	Description: Proposal to place a gravity powered (non-electric) pump and 300ft of 2" PVC pipe in Briery Gap Run on USFS property with 300ft of 1.25" PVC pipe extending on ground to a private residence.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=64941				
	Location: UNIT - Potomac Ranger District. STATE - West Virginia. COUNTY - Pendleton. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Briery Gap Road approx. 1 mile east of FR 112 and 1.5 miles west of state route 28.				

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.