



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Bitterroot National Forest

1801 North First
Hamilton, MT 59840
(406) 363-7100

File Code: 1950

Date: October 14, 2015

Dear Interested Party:

Enclosed is the current schedule of proposed projects for the Bitterroot National Forest, along with a general location map and map key.

Please note that this report is our primary means to inform you about the proposed activities expected to be analyzed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) during the next three months. Contact the individual listed with each specific project if you wish to provide comments, receive more detailed information including any environmental documents, or be notified of the final decision. This is our primary means for developing project mailing and contact lists.

I welcome your involvement in the development and review of these activities. This document, as well as the schedule of proposed actions for every National Forest, is available on the internet from one convenient location: <http://www.fs.fed.us/sopa>.

Sincerely,

For: JULIE K KING
Forest Supervisor

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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**Map Index
Bitterroot National Forest
Schedule of Proposed Actions
October 2015**

Map Number	Project Name
N/A	American Rivers Touring Association (ARTA) Permit Renewal
N/A	Backdoor Outfitters Permit Renewal
N/A	Big Wild Adventures Permit Renewal
N/A	Bitterroot National Forest Travel Management Planning
1	Bitterroot Outfitters Proposal
2	Cameron Blue Ecoburn
3	Como Forest Health Project (FHP)
4	Darby Lumber Lands Watershed Improvement and Travel Management Project
5	Meadow Vapor
6	North Sleeping Child Grazing Allotment EA
7	Reroute on the Indian Ridge Trail #10.0
N/A	Rick Wemple Outfitters Permit Renewal
8	Sheep Creek Culvert Replacement
N/A	Storm Creek Outfitters Permit Renewal
N/A	Storm Creek Outfitters Proposal
9	Westside Collaborative Vegetation Management Project
N/A	Whitewater Adventures Permit Renewal



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)

10/01/2015 to 12/31/2015

Bitterroot 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
Bitterroot National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)					R1 - Northern Region
Backdoor Outfitters Permit Renewal CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2016	Expected:02/2016	03/2016	Debra Gale 406-821-1217 ddgale@fs.fed.us
	Description: 10-year permit renewal for fishing on the East Fork and West Fork Bitterroot Rivers.				
	Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. East Fork and West Fork Bitterroot Rivers.				
Big Wild Adventures Permit Renewal CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2016	Expected:02/2016	03/2016	Debra Gale 406-821-1217 ddgale@fs.fed.us
	Description: 10-year permit renewal for backpacking in Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness areas.				
	Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness areas.				
Bitterroot National Forest Travel Management Planning EIS *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 10/2015	Expected:01/2016	01/2016	Chris Fox 406-777-5461 x7415 cfox@fs.fed.us
	Description: This effort will result in clear standardized designations of where motorized recreation is appropriate, sustainable and desirable on the Bitterroot National Forest.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=21183				
	Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Region 1, Bitterroot National Forest.				
Rick Wemple Outfitters Permit Renewal CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2015	Expected:12/2015	01/2016	Debra Gale 406-821-1217 ddgale@fs.fed.us
	Description: 10-year permit renewal for day use hunting Forest-wide.				
	Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest-wide.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	Darby Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Como Forest Health Project (FHP) EIS	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Completed	Actual: 07/14/2015	09/2015	Sara Grove 406-821-3269 fs-comments-northern-bitterroot-darby@fs.fed.us
	Description: The proposed project would address immediate and long-term vegetation concerns resulting from the mountain pine beetle, reduce fire hazard, increase age and species diversity in forested stand, and protect the visual integrity of the recreation area				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=33829				
	Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - R22W,T4N - Sections 13, 24, 25 and 36; R21W, T4N - Sections 17, 18, 19,20, 21, 28, 29,30,and 31. The proposed project is located on Forest Service lands on the Darby Ranger District. The project area is located north of Lake Como, between Lake Como and Lost Horse Road.				
Darby Lumber Lands Watershed Improvement and Travel Management Project EA	- Recreation management - Watershed management - Road management	Completed	Actual: 07/02/2015	07/2015	Ed Snook 406-363-7103 esnook@fs.fed.us
	Description: Road system management on acquired lands, including decommissioning and storage of roads, designation of OHV routes, and construction of OHV linking routes				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=36615				
	Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Upper Sleeping Child watershed, approximately 12 air miles East of Darby, on Darby Ranger District.				
North Sleeping Child Grazing Allotment EA EA *UPDATED*	- Grazing management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Gilbert Gale 406-544-6321 ggale@fs.fed.us
	Description: Analysis of the North Sleeping Child Grazing Allotment for reissuance of grazing permits.				
	Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Sec 36 & portions of 35, T5N, R20W; Portions of Sec 31 & 32, T5N, R19W; Portions of Sec 1,2 & 3 T4N, R20W; Sec or portions of Secs 6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, PB38, PB39, PB40 & PB41 T4N, R19W. Two Bear Creek on the Darby Ranger District.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	Darby Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Westside Collaborative Vegetation Management Project EA *NEW LISTING*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 08/28/2015	Expected:02/2016	04/2016	Sara Grove 406-821-1251 comments-northern-bitterroot-west-fork@fs.fed.us
Description: Commercial timber harvest and thinning on about 2,300 acres between Lost Horse and Roaring Lion Creeks. Project includes prescribed burning, forest regeneration, permanent and temporary road construction, and bridge installation.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47641					
Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T.5N. R.21W., sections 16, 21, 27, 28, 32-33; T.4N. R.22W. sections 1, 12; and T.4N., R.21W. sections 4-8, 17, 18 PMM. The project is located on National Forest between Lost Horse and Roaring Lion Creeks and private land and Selway-Bitterroot IRA. The project area includes 927 acres of the Selway-Bitterroot IRA.					

Bitterroot National Forest	Sula Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Cameron Blue Ecoburn CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/30/2010	Expected:01/2016	04/2016	Sara Grove 406-821-1251 sgrove@fs.fed.us
Description: Prescribed burning to reduce natural fuels while maintaining the historic fire return interval. Small tree thinning will occur within plantations and around residual trees.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=30739					
Location: UNIT - Sula Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T3N, R 18W, Sections 31, 32, T2N, R18W, Sections 4-8, 16-22, 27-29 T2N, R19W, Sections 1, 12, 13, 24. Cameron Creek, Lyman Creek, Jennings Camp Creek, and Guide Creek.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	Sula Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Meadow Vapor EA *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2015	Expected:01/2017	01/2017	Amy Fox 406-363-7120 amyvfox@fs.fed.us
Description: The Meadow Vapor project proposes to treat accumulated fuels in the East Fork of the Bitterroot watershed in order to modify the potential for extreme fire behavior, especially along the National Forest boundary.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=42988					
Location: UNIT - Sula Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T2N, R17W, Sections 9, 10, 15, 16, 19-22, 28-30 and T2N, R18W, Sections 23-27. Project area is located approximately 11 mile NE of Sula, MT. Treatment units are located on National Forest land in close proximity to the Springer Bonanza subdivision on private land.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
American Rivers Touring Association (ARTA) Permit Renewal CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2016	Expected:02/2016	03/2016	Debra Gale 406-821-1217 ddgale@fs.fed.us
Description: 10-year permit renewal for whitewater outfitter on the Selway River. No changes from existing permit.					
Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Selway River.					
Bitterroot Outfitters Proposal EA *UPDATED*	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Debra Gale 406-821-3269 ddgale@fs.fed.us
Description: Add spring hunts to existing camp authorized for summer and fall hunts					
Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Sec 15, T26N, R15E. On Selway River in Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R1 - Northern Region
Reroute on the Indian Ridge trail #10.0 CE	- Recreation management	Cancelled	N/A	N/A	Mark Smith 406-821-1218 marksmith@fs.fed.us
UPDATED	<p>Description: This is a proposal to reroute 565' of new construction to avoid 235' of existing trail at steep grades of 35%.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=42017</p> <p>Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - T28N R13E Sec5 and T28N R15E Sec7. There many locations throughout the entire Indian Ridge trail #10. Access is from the Indian Creek trailhead.</p>				
Sheep Creek Culvert Replacement CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	Completed	Actual: 07/30/2015	08/2016	Mike Jakober 406-821-3269 mjakober@fs.fed.us
UPDATED	<p>Description: Replace the existing culvert on NFSR 6223 with an aquatic organism passage structure. The existing culvert is a barrier to the upstream movement of fish and other aquatic organisms.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T 29 N, R 14 E, Section 29, NW 1/4. NFSR 6223 crossing of Sheep Creek, tributary to the Selway River. Idaho County, Idaho.</p>				
Storm Creek Outfitters Permit Renewal CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2016	Expected:02/2016	03/2016	Debra Gale 406-821-1217 ddgale@fs.fed.us
NEW LISTING	<p>Description: 10-year permit renewal for over snow shuttle services on the West Fork District.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. West Fork Ranger District.</p>				
Storm Creek Outfitters Proposal EA	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Debra Gale 406-821-3269 ddgale@fs.fed.us
	<p>Description: Exchange three existing fall hunt camp locations with no overnight stock containment for three new locations (two adding summer use and overnight stock containment and one adding spring bear hunts, summer and no overnight stock containment).</p> <p>Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Proposed camps: Sec 5, T26N, R14E; Sec 11, T25N, R14E; Sec 24, T27N, R14E; Kit Carson water line: Sec 4, T27N, R15E. Frank Church - River of No Return Wilderness.</p>				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bitterroot National Forest	West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)				R1 - Northern Region
Whitewater Adventures Permit Renewal CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2016	Expected:02/2016	03/2016	Debra Gale 406-821-1217 ddgale@fs.fed.us
NEW LISTING	Description: 10-year permit renewal for whitewater outfitter on the Selway River. No changes to terms and conditions.				
	Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Selway River.				

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This report contains the best available information at the time of publication. Questions may be directed to the Project Contact.