

Glenda Wiles

From: MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Friday, April 6, 2018 9:16 AM
To: MACO
Subject: National Forests in MT - Schedules of Proposed Actions (for April 1-June 30, 2018)
Attachments: BeaverheadDeerlodge-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; Bitterroot-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; Custer-Gallatin-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; Fleathead-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; Helena-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; Kootenai-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; LewisAndClark-SOPA-2018-04.pdf; Lolo-SOPA-2018-04.pdf

From: Hagengruber, John -FS [<mailto:jhagengruber@fs.fed.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 5:19 PM
Subject: National Forests in MT - Schedules of Proposed Actions (for April 1-June 30, 2018)

Attached are the current quarter's Schedules of Proposed Actions ("SOPAs") for the National Forests in Montana. So....What's a "SOPA?" ...

SOPAs are compiled each quarter (based on federal fiscal year calendar) and include proposed actions that will either soon begin or are currently in the pipeline in terms of undergoing environmental analysis and documentation, and, eventually, implementation. SOPAs describe each proposed action, its current status as well as indicate when the decision will be signed and the action will be implemented, along with points of contact at the Forest or Ranger District for each action. They also usually include link to find additional information about each action.

Please share the attached SOPAs. Current/past SOPAs for National Forests in Montana are available at <https://www.fs.fed.us/sopa/state-level.php?mt>



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Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA)
04/01/2018 to 06/30/2018
Bitterroot National Forest

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

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| Bitterroot National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest) | | | | | R1 - Northern Region |
|---|---|--|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
| 2017 Bitterroot Stand Improvement Thinning Project CE | - Vegetation management (other than forest products) | In Progress: Scoping Start 03/09/2017 | Expected:04/2018 | 05/2018 | Amy Campbell 406-777-7421 aacampbell@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Non-commercial thinning of small trees in stands previously harvested, planted and are now densely stocked. Thinning will increase tree health and vigor, and reduce the risk of mountain pine beetle caused mortality and large fires in the future. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51131 | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Units are scattered across the Bitterroot National Forest. | | | | |
| Bitterroot Outfitters Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year period to allow overnight hunting | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Idaho. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Portions of the Selway-Bitterroot and Frank Church Wilderness Areas south of the Little Clearwater Drainage and north of the Salmon River and West of the Selway River to the Forest boundary. | | | | |
| Bitterroot Outfitters Snow Shuttle Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year term to allow day-use over snow shuttling | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Idaho, Montana. COUNTY - Idaho. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Shuttling over snow at Nez Perce Pass - Roads 468 & 6223. | | | | |
| East Fork Outfitters Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year period to allow overnight hunting. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness and adjacent portions of the Bitterroot National Forest. | | | | |
| MT Hunting Outfitter, Inc. Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year term to allow day-use hunting. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest-wide in Montana excluding the Anaconda Pintler Wilderness. | | | | |
| Montana All Mountain Adventures Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year period to allow day use hiking, mountain biking, interpretive walks, snowshoeing and skiing. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Montana portion of the Bitterroot Forest on trails designated in the 5-year operating period. | | | | |
| Montana Rivers and Ridges Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a ten year period to allow day-use hunting and overnight hunting. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Piquett Creek drainage for overnight use. Day use on Montana portion of the Bitterroot National Forest. | | | | |
| Montana West Outfitters Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10 year term to allow day-use and overnight hunting. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Montana portion of the Bitterroot National Forest. | | | | |
| Montana Wilderness School Special Use Permit CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Issue a 2-year transitional permit to allow for guided Leave-No-Trace backpacking trips for youth. This is a new outfitted use. After 2 years, reissue as a 10-year priority use permit provided performance is satisfactory. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Idaho, Montana. COUNTY - Idaho, Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Portions of the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness on Stevensville, Darby and West Fork Ranger Districts. Travel on and off-trail. Emphasis is on Leave No Trace camping and traveling practices. | | | | |

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| | trail. Emphasis is on Leave-No-Trace camping and traveling practices. | | | | |
| Ranger Peak Outfitting Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year term to allow day-use hunting. | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Forest-wide in Montana. | | | | | |
| Trapper Peak Outfitters Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a ten-year period to allow day-use hunting and overnight hunting. | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Big Creek and Bear Creek for overnight use, Day use on Montana portion of the Bitterroot National Forest. | | | | | |
| Western Hunt Company Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 01/2019 | Bill Goslin 406-821-3269 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10 year period to allow day-use hunting. | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Bitterroot National Forest All Units. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Montana portion of the Bitterroot National Forest. | | | | | |

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| Bitterroot National Forest, Darby Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) | | | | | | R1 - Northern Region |
|---|--|--|------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact | |
| Canyon Creek Fuels Reduction CE | - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management | In Progress: Scoping Start 09/15/2017 | Expected:06/2018 | 07/2018 | Jacque Parks 406-821-4268 jmparks@fs.fed.us | |
| Description: Small tree thinning, handpiling, and prescribed fire on approximately 250 acres within the Wildland Urban Interface/Inventoried Roadless Area. Treatments will help to reduce ladder and surface fuels within the Wildland Urban Interface. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51995 | | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T6N R21W Sec 20 & Sec 29. Project is located at the 3 miles west of Hamilton near the Canyon Creek Trailhead and south along the private land boundary to Barley Creek. | | | | | | |
| Darby Lumber Lands Phase 2 EA | - Recreation management - Watershed management - Road management | In Progress: Scoping Start 09/13/2017 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 06/2018 | Expected:12/2018 | 03/2019 | Eric Winthers 307-739-5525 ewinthers@fs.fed.us | |
| Description: Road system and vegetation management, commercial timber harvest. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49700 | | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Darby Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The project is located along the Forest boundary, east of Darby, from Robbins Gulch watershed at the south end to Little Sleeping Child in the north. Rye Creek and North Fork Rye Creek are the larger streams in the project area. | | | | | | |
| North Sleeping Child Grazing Allotment EA | - 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. | | | | | | |

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| Bitterroot National Forest, Stevensville Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) | | | | | | R1 - Northern Region |
|---|--|--|------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact | |
| Gold Butterfly EIS | - Recreation management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management | In Progress: NOI in Federal Register 06/09/2017 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 04/2018 | Expected:11/2018 | 09/2019 | Tami Sabol 406-777-7410 tjsabol@fs.fed.us | |
| Description: Project to harvest, thin, and prescribe burn forest stands to improve resilience to insects, disease, and wildfire and restore the fire return intervals. Move trailheads and manage roads to improve stream conditions. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=51486 | | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Stevensville Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T.6N.R.18W. sec. 1-12, 16-20, 29,30, T.6N.R.19W. sec. 1,2,10-15,22-27, T.7N.R.18W.sec. 2-36,T.7N.R.19W. sec. 1,2,11-14,22-27,34-36, T.8N.R.18W.sec. 20,21,28-34. On the east side of the Bitterroot Valley, from Little Three Mile Creek south to Saint Clair Creek and from the Bitterroot Forest boundary east to the boundary with the Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF. | | | | | | |
| Sawmill Undetermined Roads CE | - Watershed management - Road management | In Progress: Scoping Start 03/08/2017 | Expected:08/2018 | 09/2018 | Marilyn Wildey 406-363-7101 mwildey@fs.fed.us | |
| Description: This project proposes to decommission 12.1 miles and store 2.9 miles of unneeded, non-system roads that are grown in with vegetation and pose no resource concerns. No physical ground disturbance is proposed other than installation of one Kelly hump. | | | | | | |
| Location: UNIT - Stevensville Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - T8N R18W Sec(s)16, 17, 18, 20. Project located in the Sawmill Drainage, accessible from County Road 2700, the Burnt Fork Road, to NFSR 710 in the Sawmill drainage. | | | | | | |

| Bitterroot National Forest, West Fork Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) | | | | | R1 - Northern Region |
|--|--|--|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Project Name | Project Purpose | Planning Status | Decision | Expected Implementation | Project Contact |
| Bitterroot Anglers, Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:04/2018 | 04/2018 | Bill Goslin 406-777-7419. bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year term to allow day use fishing access. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. River access sites along the West Fork of the Bitterroot River. | | | | |
| Triple Creek Ranch Outfitting Permit Renewal CE | - Special use management | Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018 | Expected:04/2018 | 04/2018 | Bill Goslin 406-821-1222 bgoslin@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: Renewal of a special use permit for a 10-year term to allow day use horse riding. | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. West Fork Ranger District. | | | | |
| West Fork Highway Dispersed Sites Rehab Project CE *NEW LISTING* | - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Fuels management - Watershed management | In Progress: Scoping Start 03/30/2018 | Expected:05/2018 | 05/2018 | Mike Jakober 406-821-3269 mjakober@fs.fed.us |
| | Description: The project proposes to stop illegal off-road vehicle use and prevent associated resource damage. The resource damage that is occurring includes cutting firewood too close to the river and trespassing onto private lands with motorized vehicles. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53739 | | | | |
| | Location: UNIT - West Fork Ranger District. STATE - Montana. COUNTY - Ravalli. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Two parcels of National Forest lands on the river side of the West Fork Highway. The two parcels are located at mileposts 11 and 12. | | | | |

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