

Ozark-St. Francis National Forests

Dear Interested Citizen:

Date: January 1, 2004

The enclosed *Schedule of Proposed Actions (SPA)* serves two purposes:

- To keep you informed of upcoming projects the Forest is considering and
- To ask for your input on these projects within the required time frames.

How to Use This Schedule:

The SPA highlights important dates for project scoping, analysis, and implementation. It summarizes proposed projects by ranger district or staff area and is updated quarterly. Individuals can provide input on these proposals through the “scoping” process, which helps forest managers identify important issues and formulate alternatives. If you need more information about a particular project, contact the ranger district or staff area.

Some additional environmental analysis may be needed for unscheduled projects. These proposals may allow short time frames for analysis. Examples include oil and gas exploration and special use applications such as utility rights-of-way. If you wish to be notified of these proposals, contact the Forest Supervisor’s Office or the responsible District Ranger.

How To Comment:

If you wish to be involved in project planning for specific projects, contact the appropriate office. Addresses and phone numbers for the contact person at each office are found at the top of the following pages. The comments that are most useful during the scoping process are those that deal with site-specific environmental concerns associated with the project proposal. Your comments can be submitted in writing (preferred) or by calling the Forest Supervisor’s Office or the appropriate district office. Our web site (www.fs.fed.us/oonf/ozark/projects/planning/planning.html) also features the Schedule of Proposed Actions.

Sincerely,

Duane Dipert
Planning Staff Officer

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

SYLAMORE RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Joseph Dabney, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 1279
 Mtn. View, AR 72560
 Telephone: (870) 269-3228

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Grassy Thinning</i> Thinning, road maintenance, temporary road construction, and wildlife burning.	Stone	15N 12W	1/2004	5/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Wildlife Habitat Improvement of District Food Plots and Blanchard Field System</i> Food plot and field restoration or maintenance with herbicide and machinery.	Stone, Baxter, Searcy	District Wide	10/2003	2/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Barkshed Bridge Replacement</i> Replacement of bridge at Barkshed Recreation Area located north of Fifty Six, AR.	Stone	16N 12W	7/2000	6/2004	2005	Analysis in progress.
<i>FY2004 Precommercial Thinning with Saws</i>	Baxter, Stone	District Wide	10/2003	1/2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Wildlife Habitat Maintenance Ponds</i>	Baxter, Stone	District Wide	10/2003	1/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Syllamo Mt. Bike Trail Phase 4 & 5</i> Development of multi-use trail.	Stone	11N 16W	1/2004	6/2004	2005	Proposed action being developed.

SYLAMORE RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Kudzu Treatment and Control</i>	Stone	15N 11W 16N 10W	7/2003	1/2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Clifty Canyon Ecosystem Burn</i>	Baxter, Stone	16N 12W 16N 13W 17N 12W 17N 13W	8/2002	11/2003	2004	In Appeal Period.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Ron Bush, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 427
 Jasper, AR 72641
 Telephone: (870)-446-5122

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description		Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
		T	R				
<i>2004 Landscape Prescribed Burning and Wildlife Projects</i> Wildlife Stand Improvement (WSI) on approx. 1,950 acres to aid in oak woodland restoration and provide forage for wildlife species with early successional needs. Prescribed burning on approx. 30,395 acres to improve forage, forest health, and reduce fuels. Project consists of areas scattered across the Buffalo District.	Johnson Newton, Pope, Searcy	12N 12N 12N 12N 13N 13N 13N 14N 14N	19W 20W 21W 22W 18W 19W 20W 18W 19W	10/2003	1/2004	2004	Proposed Action being prepared for scoping letter.
<i>Stack Rock WSI</i> WSI on approx. 700 acres to aid in oak woodland restoration and provide forage for wildlife species with early successional needs. Project lies north of the Richland Campground and east of Iceledo Gap.	Newton, Searcy	14N 14N	18W 19W	12/2002	1/2004	2004	Decision being prepared.
<i>Boss Hollow WSI</i> Project consists of approx. 200 acres of WSI and the creation of approx. 10 wildlife ponds and openings. Project is located immediately west of Pelsor, AR.	Newton, Pope	12N 13N	20W 20W	1/2004	2/2004	2004	Proposed Action being prepared for scoping letter.

BUFFALO RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Buffalo District Noxious Weed Project</i> Complete analysis on fields and openings on the district (approx. 250 acres) to remove noxious weeds and restore and maintain native grasses and forbs and desirable non-invasive species beneficial to wildlife.	Johnson, Madison, Newton, Pope, Searcy,	District Wide	10/2002	1/2004	2004	Analysis for project underway.
<i>Hideout Hollow WSI</i> WSI on approx. 300 acres to aid in oak woodland restoration and provide forage for wildlife species with early successional needs.	Newton, Searcy	13N 19W 13N 20W	6/2003	12/2003	2004	Decision being prepared.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Lew W. Purcell, Jr., District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 12000 SR 27
 Hector, AR 72843
 Telephone: (479) 284-3150

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Woodland Ecosystem Project</i> Forest health, wildlife, and fire use proposal in 5 areas on the district. Thinning silvicultural treatments, wildlife stand improvement treatments, wildland urban interface fuels treatment, and prescribed fire.	Conway, Johnson, Pope, Searcy Van Buren	10N 17W 10N 18W 11N 21W 12N 18W 12N 20W 12N 21W 13N 18W	Done 7/2003	12/29/2003	2004	Environmental Assessment 30-day comment period ends 12/28/2003
<i>Upper Brock Lake Fisheries Improvement</i>	Van Buren	10N 17W	2004	2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Middle Mountain Project Pine and Hardwood Timber Management: Compartments 221, 222, 223, and 224</i> Timber and wildlife management proposal involving shortleaf pine and oak-hickory stands north-northwest of Scottsville, AR. Silvicultural treatments will result in multi-product sales.	Pope	10N 19W 10N 20W	Done 4/2003	2/2004	2004	Proposed Action and Alternatives have been developed and Environmental Assessment is being written.

BAYOU RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Indian Moccasin Wildlife, PETS, and Soil & Watershed Improvements</i> Wildlife habitat improvement projects to benefit species such as turkey, woodpecker, and deer. Projects are food plot rejuvenation, prescribed burning, and thinning to encourage mast, fruit, or browse production. Pond repairs are planned. PETS habitat improvement projects for Bachman's Sparrow and Small-headed Pipewort. Treatments such as prescribed burning and thinning to restore glade ecosystems are planned. Soil and watershed improvements include rehabilitation and closure of selected roads with active erosion and stream bank stabilization. These treatments are planned within the Indian/Moccasin Landscape.</p>	Johnson, Pope	10N 20W 11N 20W 11N 21W 12N 20W 12N 21W	2004	2004	2004	Field Inventory is complete and site-specific projects have been developed.
<p><i>Broomfield Rx Burn</i> Prescribed fuels reduction burn on approx. 2,500 acres on recently acquired lands north of Broomfield Road.</p>	Pope	9N 19W 9N 20W 10N 20W	1/2004	2/2004	2/2004	Analysis in progress.
<p><i>Site Prep Rx Burn</i> Conduct fuels reduction burns around site prep units in order to take advantage of roads and reduce chances of wildfire damage to regenerated timber stands.</p>	Pope		1/2004	1/2004	1/2004	Analysis in progress.
<p><i>Pine Planting</i> Plant approximately 4 acres in a recently regenerated pine stand that was damaged by an escaped Rx burn.</p>	Conway	10N 17W	1/2004	1/2004	2/2004	Analysis completed. CE is being prepared.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Pat Kowalewycz, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 2591 Highway 21
 Clarksville, AR 72830
 Telephone: (479) 754-2864

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Proposed Timber & Wildlife Project: Sarah Hollow</i> Pine/hardwood mix of even-aged management and uneven-aged management (EAM/UAM). Site prep with hand tools/herbicide and burning along with timber stand improvement (TSI) and fuel reduction (FR) burning; road construction/maintenance; and wildlife openings/ponds with burning of thinned pine stands. Some hardwood stands may receive forest health harvests due to drought stress and insect attacks. Located west of Highway 103, north of the Batson community, and south of Mulberry River.</p>	Johnson	11N 24W 11N 25W 12N 24W 12N 25W	01/2004	5/2004	2004	Proposal development stage.

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<p><i>Wildlife Habitat & Hazardous Fuel Reduction Prescribed Burning-(Various)</i> Hardwood & pine stands and hay fields. Total acreage is 3, 484. Burning is proposed to reduce hazardous fuel loading and encourage wildlife habitat production and oak regeneration. Areas are in various locations in Johnson and Franklin Counties.</p>	Franklin Johnson,	11N 23W 11N 26W 11N 27W 12N 22W 12N 25W 12N 26W	11/2003	12/2003	2004	Documentation with Decision Memo completed. Awaiting implementation in the Spring.
<p><i>Proposed Forest Health & Wildlife Project: West Morgan (formerly Fly Gap Project)</i> Forest Health and Oak Ecosystem Restoration treatments of thinnings and regeneration cuts in hardwood and pine. Site prep with hand tools/herbicide and burning along with timber stand improvements and hazardous fuel reduction burning; road construction/maintenance; and wildlife openings/ponds with burning of thinned pine stands. Some hardwood stands may be considered salvage operation due to drought stress. Located on the east side of State Highway 23 about 12 miles north of Ozark in the Cass community.</p>	Franklin	12N 26W 12N 27W	7/2003	12/2003	2004	Inventory stage.

PLEASANT HILL RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Ozone Water Association</i> Special-use permit for water line installed across several parcels of National Forest along Scenic Highway 21 and several side roads. Project located about 15 miles northwest of Clarksville, AR.	Johnson	11N 23W 12N 23W	12/2003	5/2004	6/2004	Inventory stage.
<i>Tower Prescribed Burns</i> Use of prescribed fire on approx. 3,717 acres to reduce hazardous fuels, improve wildlife habitat, and encourage oak regeneration. Project is located in the Locust Gap area, northwest of Fallsville, AR.	Madison	13N 24W 13N 25W 14N 24W 14N 25W	3/2003	12/2003	2004	Documentation with Decision Memo completed. Awaiting implementation in the Spring.
<i>I. W. Owens Exchange</i>	Johnson Pope	9N 18W 11N 24W	5/2004	2004	2004	Internal scoping started. Cultural Resources and Biological Evaluation started.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Gary Williams, District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 76
 Ozark, AR 72949
 Telephone: (479) 667-2191

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description		Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
		T	R				
<i>Jethro West Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, and roadwork. Located between Jethro and Shores Lake, AR.	Franklin	11N 11N	27W 28W	3/2003	12/2003	2004	Decision Notice issued 12/19/2003.
<i>Lake Fort Smith Land Exchange Project</i> Several parcels of land are proposed for exchange in conjunction with the Lake Fort Smith elevation change. Includes amending the Forest Plan to include new acres in Management Area 8.	Varied	Varied		6/2002	2/2004	2004	Review copy of Environmental Assessment available, comments close 12/26/2003.
<i>Keets Project</i> Multiple-use project including harvest, wildlife improvements, roadwork, and red oak borer salvage. Located near Brannon, AR.	Madison, Washington	13N	28W	11/2003	4/2004	2004	Scoping letter issued 11/28/2003. Assessment in progress.
<i>Fly Gap Road Reconstruction Project</i> FDR 1506 (Fly Gap Rd.) will be reconstructed. Kudzu eradication treatments using herbicide are needed along portions of the roadway. Begins at State Highway 23 and ends at County Road 79.	Franklin	12N 13N	27W 27W	3/2002	2/2004	2004	Environmental Assessment in progress.
<i>Spud Rock Prescribed Burning Project</i> A 17,900-acre burn east of White Rock Mountain, AR.	Crawford, Franklin	12N 12N 12N	27W 28W 29W	7/2003	1/2004	2004	Decision Memo issued 12/30/2003.

BOSTON MOUNTAIN RANGER DISTRICT, CONTINUED

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Wildcat Fencing Project</i> Repair and install fence along pastures near Tontitown, AR.	Benton	17N 31W 17N 32W	7/2003	11/2003	2004	Decision Memo issued 11/4/2003.
<i>Fangorn Release Project</i> Release trees from competition in densely stocked stands of hardwood around Bidville and Mountain Crest, AR communities.	Crawford, Franklin, Madison	12N 28W 13N 27W 13N 28W	1/2004	4/2004	2004	Developing Proposed Action.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

MT. MAGAZINE RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Rob Kopack, Deputy District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 P.O. Box 511
 Paris, AR 72855
 Telephone: (479) 963-3076

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Brock Ridge Project</i> Shortleaf pine shelterwood harvesting; thinning; cedar thinning; road work; site prep; release; pre-commercial thinning; wildlife opening construction and restoration; wildlife pond construction and reconstruction; wildlife habitat improvement; and fuels reduction prescribed burning. Project located approx. two miles southeast of New Blaine, AR.	Logan	7N 22W 7N 23W	10/2003	1/2004	2004	Preparing Environmental Assessment.
<i>Mt. Magazine Fuels Reduction Project</i> Fuels reduction prescribed burning of approx. 4,450 acres of land that surrounds Mt. Magazine State Park and the communications site on the west end of the mountain. Project is located approximately 10 miles southeast of Paris, AR.	Logan	6N 24W	12/2003	2/2004	2004	Preparing Proposed Action.
<i>Huckleberry Mountain Horse Trail Revision Project</i> Decommissioning of approx. 3.1 miles of the existing Huckleberry Mountain Horse Trail along with establishing approx. 2.7 miles of new trail. Project is located approximately 4 miles southwest of New Blaine, AR.	Logan	7N 23W 7N 24W	01/2004	03/2004	2004	Preparing Proposed Action.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

ST. FRANCIS RANGER DISTRICT

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Devela Clark, Deputy District Ranger
 USDA Forest Service
 2675 Hwy 44
 Marianna, AR 72360
 Telephone: (870) 295-5278

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Wildlife Habitat Improvement District Food Plots</i> Food plot restoration or maintenance with herbicide.	Lee, Phillips	District Wide	11/2003	3/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>St. Francis Trail Construction</i> Construct 16-mile hiking trail from Bear Creek Lake Recreation Area to Storm Creek Lake Recreation Area.	Lee, Phillips	1N 4E 1S 4E 1S 5E	12/2000	9/2004	2004	Analysis in progress.
<i>Maintenance for Wildlife Habitat – Ponds</i>	Lee, Phillips	District Wide	11/2003	3/2004	2004	Proposed Action being developed.
<i>Horn Tower</i>	Lee, Phillips	1N 4E 1S 4E	1/2004	9/2004	2005	Proposed Action being developed.

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS
 OZARK-ST. FRANCIS NATIONAL FORESTS

LANDS/MINERALS/SPECIAL USES - SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

SECOND QUARTER, FY 2004
 JANUARY 1 TO MARCH 31, 2004

For more information contact:
 Ron Klouzek, Lands and Minerals Staff
 USDA Forest Service
 605 West Main
 Russellville, AR 72801
 Telephone: (479) 964-7248

Project Name and Description	County, AR	Legal Description T R	Begin Scoping	Estimated Decision	Begin Implementation	NEPA Status/Remarks
<i>Special Uses</i>	Various		At receipt of application	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.
<i>Land Acquisition</i>	Various		As offered for purchase	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.
<i>Small Tracts</i>	Various		As needed	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.
<i>Easement Acquisitions</i>	Various		As needed	2003/2004	2003/2004	Will complete as needed.

