

SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

February 04, 2004

The attached is the Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA) for the Rio Grande National Forest and San Luis Resource Area. The schedule includes project proposals that we currently anticipate analyzing during the spring/summer2004.

This schedule is not a NEPA document, nor is it a solicitation for comments. Comments addressed to the schedule do not provide standing for appeal purposes. The purpose of the Schedule of Proposed Actions is to provide you with information on whom to contact should you wish to become involved through site-specific comments. This only provides enough information to enable you to contact the proper person to become involved in the analysis and decision process on the forest. Comments received by project leaders, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on the proposed action and will be available for public inspection.

Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, those who submit anonymous comments will not have standing to appeal the subsequent decision under 36 CFR Parts 215 or 217. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requestor of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality, and where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address within (xx) days.

We welcome your interest and participation. We also encourage your involvement in each project that you are interested in. Your participation is particularly helpful during the early stages of project formulation known as "scoping". It is during the "scoping" process that we define the Purpose and Need for the project, identify issues and define the extent of analysis that is needed. All projects are scoped separately from this SOPA. If you identify a project or projects that you are interested in, please contact the ID Team Leader shown on the schedule and provide project specific comments.

If you want to be added to the mailing list for this SOPA, please contact Leon Montoya at the address listed inside this packet for the Supervisor's Office of the Rio Grande National Forest or e-mail our office at mailroom_r2_rio_grande@fs.fed.us. This document can be seen on our website at <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/riogrande/planning.htm>.

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**USDA Forest Service
Rio Grande National Forest**

Supervisor's Office Rio Grande National Forest 1803 West Hwy 160 Monte Vista, CO 81144 Phone: (719) 852-5941 TDD: (719) 852-6271	e-mail: mailroom_r2_rio_grande@fs.fed.us See our website at: www.fs.fed.us/r2/riogrande
Conejos Peak Ranger District 15571 County Road T.5 LaJara, CO 81140 Phone: (719) 274-8971 TDD: (719) 274-6339	Divide Ranger District 13308 West Hwy 160 Del Norte, CO 81132 Phone: (719) 657-3321 TDD: (719) 657-6038
Divide Ranger District (Creede) PO BOX 270 Creede, CO 81130 Phone: (719) 658-2556 TDD: (719) 658-2556	Saguache Ranger District 46525 State Hwy 114 Saguache, CO 81149 Phone: (719) 655-2547 TDD: (719) 655-2547

PLANNING

<p>Response to the Secretary of Agriculture's Discretionary Review of the Forest Service Chief's Decision on the Revised Forest Plan Appeal #97-13-00-0057</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review of projects for sufficient protection of species viability. 2) The Forest was instructed conduct the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A.) Amend the Revised Forest Plan to incorporate MIS into the plan, add monitoring protocols for the selected MIS, and to add scientific literature cites used to determine habitat needs, distribution, and trends of sensitive species and MIS. B.) Expand display of habitat effects for a Longer period of time. C.) Develop a new livestock grazing suitability determination. D.) Expand display of environmental effects. E.) Comply with Section 505 of FLPMA. F.) Wilderness fish stocking amendment. <p align="center">Contact ROBERT DALRYMPLE (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office</p>	<p align="center">On-going.</p> <p>Decision made October 24, 2003</p> <p>The analysis was completed in 2003</p> <p>The analysis is scheduled for completion by February 2004.</p> <p>The analysis is scheduled for completion by February 2004.</p> <p>Errata sheet completed on December 19, 2001.</p> <p>The 1998 wilderness amendment meets the intent of the Secretary's decision.</p>
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Forest Roads Analysis	<p>This analysis is an inventory and assessment of the inventoried roads on the Rio Grande National Forest. It will provide information to develop and maintain a road system which is safe and responsive to public needs and desires, effectively managed and balanced with available funding, has minimal negative ecological effects on the land and meets the objective of the forest plan. This analysis is not a decision document, rather it will be used to support future analysis and decisions.</p> <p>Contact ROBERT DALRYMPLE (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office</p>	Analysis will be available for comment in February 2004
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<p>Programmatic Assessments for Various Recreation Projects</p>	<p>The Revised Rio Grande Land and Resource Management Plan provides management direction, standards and guidelines and desired conditions for the Forest's recreation program.</p> <p>To be consistent with the Forest Plan direction and comply with the current terrestrial species status, the Forest plans to do programmatic assessments and decisions that address:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Scheduled Deferred Maintenance Projects. FY02 projects include: (1) Big Meadow Water System; (2) Forest Toilet Replacement (Buffalo Pass CG, Elk Creek CG, Trujillo Meadows Res and Tucker Ponds Fishing Area); (3) Toilet installation at South Fork Guard Station; and (4) Dam repair work at Spectacle Lake. FY03 projects are: (1) Platoro Guard Station Bunkhouse and water system maintenance and (2) Highway Spring well. FY04 projects are: (1) Forest campground water system upgrades (Lake Fork, Lost Trail and POSO Campgrounds); (2) Hansen Mill TH toilet replacement; (3) Love Lake and Jumper Lake Maintenance work, and (4) Creede Office furnace replacement. FY05 projects are: (1) Creede Administrative Site septic system upgrade; (2) Forest campground water system upgrade (Alamosa CG and Big Springs PA), and (3) Forest Toilet Replacement (Spectacle Lake CG and Fern Creek TH). 2.) Short Term Special Uses. This assessment will cover a variety of activities (weddings, races, events) that involves occupancy or use of National Forest System Lands of a temporary nature (either 4-8 hours to 1-2 day events) and are consistent with the Forest Plan. 3.) Winter Use Capacity. Plan amendment tiered to tiered to the Forest Plan capacity allocation process that will establish service days for commercial, institutional and public winter use on the Rio Grande NF. <p>For further information regarding these proposed actions, contact GREG THOMPSON at the Supervisor's Office (719) 852-5941</p>	<p>Completed and signed.</p> <p>Completed and signed.</p> <p>Spring 2004</p>
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TRAILS

BLANCA/ELLINGWOOD AND LITTLE BEAR PEAKS	This project involves relocation and improvement on the access trail to these popular peaks in the Sangre de Cristo's. Project location is approximately 8 miles NW of the town of Blanca. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Project put on hold.
MOON PASS OHV TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENT	Project involves grading, shaping and definition of existing parking areas for South Carnero Trail, Miners Trail, and Bowers Peak Trail. Gravel surface may be applied and trailhead signs installed. Contact KRISTI MURPHY (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Project implementation in Summer 2004
CHAMA BASIN TRAILS	This project involves rehabilitation of gullies across Trail 124 and creating switchbacks in a steep section of Trail 741 to control erosion. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	NEPA complete. Implementation in summer 2004

CRESTONE PEAK/ NEEDLE TRAIL IMPROVEMENT	This project consists of evaluating a desirable route to the top of Crestone Peak & Crestone Needle. Existing braided routes would be rehabbed, erosion controlled, and re-vegetated. The more desirable routes to the mountaintops would be delineated. These peaks are located in the Sangre De Cristo Wilderness just east and slightly south of the Town of Crestone. Primitive means are required for this trail work. Contact KRISTI MURPHY, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	NEPA work CY '04 and project implementation CY '05
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RANGE

CANON ALLOTMENT AMP	Environmental Analysis for an Allotment Management Plan on the Canon C&H Allotment. Location is the Rio Grande drainage above Rio Grande Reservoir, including West Lost Trail Creek, portions of Bear Creek and Pole Creek. GILBERT BECENTI, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Release draft EA for comments February 2004.
SOUTH SAN JUAN WILDERNESS S&G	Environmental Analysis for the Jarosa Mesa, Dipping Lakes, Bancos Alazon, Glacier Lake, Twin Lakes, Roaring Fork, Saddle Creek & Mesa S&G Allotments. One EA and several Allotment Management Plans will be prepared for these allotments. These sheep allotments are located within the South San Juan Wilderness on the Conejos Peak Ranger District. Contact DEAN ERHARD, (719) 852-5941. Supervisor's Office,	Scoping out for spring 2004. EA for comment fall 2004.
FOX CREEK, C&H ALLOTMENT	Environmental Analysis for Allotment Management Plan for the Fox Creek cattle allotment located along Fox Creek drainage north of Magote, Colorado. Will be re-combined with the Long Park and Big Meadows C&H allotments. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping Spring 2005. EA for comment summer 2005
SULPHUR C&H AMP	Environmental Analysis for an Allotment Management Plan to be prepared for Sulphur Cattle and Horse Allotment located southwest of Creede, CO in the Trout Creek drainage. GILBERT BECENTI (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Scoping April 2004
ALDER/SILVER ALLOTMENT EA	Environmental Analysis for an Allotment Management Plan to be reviewed for the Alder Silver Allotment located north of Saguache, CO. LAMAR TAYLOR, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	EA completed & delayed due to reversal.
CONEJOS CANYON ALLOTMENT ANALYSIS	Environmental Analysis and Allotment Management Plan for Conejos Canyon grazing Allotment. Located between Orca, CO and Conejos River Ranch, west into South San Juan Wilderness. T34N, R4E, R5E. GARY SNELL (719)274-8971 Conejos Peak Ranger District.	In planning
PLATORO ANALYSIS	EA and AMP for Platoro Allotment which is located adjacent to Platoro Reservoir, East to Silver Lakes, T 36N, R4 & 5E. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping in Spring 2004 EA for Comment Fall 2004
TRIANGLE SPRINGS DEVELOPMENT	Water to be developed for Platoro and Cat Creek Allotments with additional development for wildlife. T36N, R6E., Sec 12. KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	CE in progress expected completion Summer 2004.
ALDER C&H ALLOTMENT	Environmental Analysis for Allotment Management Plan preparation for the Alder C&H Allotment, located in the Sangre de Cristo range from Poncha Pass south to Hayden Pass (North East of Villa Grove, CO). Contact LAMAR TAYLOR 719-655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	New project. Will start in 2004
NOTCH TRAIL DRIFT FENCE, ROUGH CREEK C&H ALLOTMENT	Prevent drift of cattle between the Rough Creek Allotment and the Conejos Cattle Allotment (T33N, R5E, South ½ Sec 32). Contact GARY SNELL, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak District	On Hold.
ARCHULETA CHAMA BASIN AREA ANALYSIS	Look at Recreation, Travel Management, Grazing issues, Conflicts, opportunities to arrive at solutions to resource issues. JIM HONG or KELLY GARCIA (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Winter 2004
SAGUACHE DISTRICT RANGE IMPROVEMENTS	Projects will be scoped individually as needed and evaluated prior to initiation. LAMAR TAYLOR, (719) 655-2547, SAGUACHE RANGER DISTRICT.	Ongoing
HANDKERCHIEF RANGE	Environmental Analysis for 5 range allotments (Cattle Mountain, Church, Little Beaver, Cross Creek and Handkerchief C&H Allotment). Contact TRISTRAM POST, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Scoping to be April 2004
SPANISH CREEK- MANN CREEK CORRALS	Proposal to construct each on the Spanish Creek and Canero Allotments for livestock handling. Expect CE for this project. Contact LAMAR TAYLOR, (719)655-2547 Saguache Ranger District.	In planning. Anticipated NEPA Spring 2004

DIVIDE DISTRICT RANGE IMPROVEMENTS	Projects will be scoped individually as needed and evaluated prior to initiation. Contact TRISTRAM POST, (719)657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Ongoing
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TIMBER

HANDKERCHIEF MESA ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	Proposal to manage timber and road resources in the Handkerchief Mesa Landscape, with various treatments including harvesting of 10 to 13 MMBF of timber, timber stand improvement, prescribed burning, and road management. Area runs from South Fork to the Continental Divide, from Highway 160 and Wolf Creek Pass (on West) to Beaver Mountain, Willow Park and Crystal Lakes (on East). Range has been eliminated from this EA. STEVE BRIGHAM (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Project will be reevaluated after the amendment of the Land Management Plan.
BLACK MOUNTAIN TIMBER SALE	Proposal to harvest approximately 2 MMBF of timber in the Jarosa analysis area. The Jarosa Analysis area is located about 25 miles west of Creede, Colorado on Highway 149 in Hinsdale County. The area is located south of Spring Pass and East and West of Highway 149. Contact STEVE BRIGHAM (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Scoping expected in Fall 2004 or following amendment of the LMP.
MILLION SALVAGE	EA for salvage of 2 MMBF of timber in the Million Fire burn area near South Fork, T39N, R3E, Sec. 2. Contact STEVE BRIGHAM, (719) 852-5941, Monte Vista Supervisors Office.	Final decision expected February 2004
MISC. SMALL SALES-SAGUACHE	The district will look at treatment of insects and diseases infested trees thru; Small timber sales, Post and Pole sales, and Firewood sales located at; Browns/Mill Creek, Duck Pond, Bear creek, Spanish Creek, and Fullerton Park. The district will analyze each area using the District Small Sales EA. Contact Jack Lewis, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Scoping for Saw Timber Sales expected 2004
CONEJOS CANYON BEETLE TREATMENT	Beetle treatment within Conejos Canyon Corridor/Campgrounds (Aspen Glade/Magote). Contact PAUL MINOW (719) 274-8971 Conejos Peak Ranger District.	In progress and ongoing.
ANTELOPE SALVAGE	Proposal to Manage Insect & Disease Infestations and fuels in the Antelope Creek area. Analyze using District Small Sales EA. Small Sales EA check list started. Contact JACK LEWIS, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Range District	Checklist completed. Project implementation Fall 2004
COUNTY LINE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS	Proposal to manage beetle infested timber in an 1800 acre analysis area and to manage other stands in the analysis to create conditions less susceptible to insects and disease infestations. Proposal would result in the harvest of approx. 20 MMBF of timber and may require up to 0.3 miles of road realignment. The analysis area is located about 2 miles Northwest of Cumbres Pass on the Conejos Peak Ranger District. Contact JOHN MURPHY (719)852-5941, Monte Vista Supervisory Office.	Scoping completed in 2003. EA for comment in March 2004.

LANDS

SMALL TRACT S ACT CASES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slack, Sec 35, T 42N, R1W, NMPM, Mineral County • Nolen , Sec 22, T42N, R4E, NMPM, Saguache County • STA Interchange, Union Minere, Sec 21 & 22, T36N, R4E, NMPM, Conejos County • Getz, Sec 36, T41N, R5W, NMPM, Hinsdale County Contact PAT PRENTICE, (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office	Ongoing. Transactions reviewed prior to final approval.
PRIVATE ROAD EASEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baker - T37N, R5E, Sec. 1, 2, 11, 12, 30,31 & 32, Rio Grande County • Brady - T32N, R4E, Sec. 1, Conejos County Contact PAT PRENTICE, (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office	Ongoing
LAND EXCHANGE RIO OXBOW	The proposed exchange involves land located in: T40N, R1W and R2W, and T41N R1W, NMPM, Mineral County, Colorado (Federal Land) T38N, R6E, NMPM Rio Grande County, Colorado (Non-Federal Land) Carson Mining District, NMPM, Hinsdale County, Colorado (Non-Federal Land) PAT PRENTICE (719) 852-5941. Supervisors Office	Decision made January 20, 2004
HOT CREEK ACQUISITION	Proposed acquisition of the Hot Creek Parcels – T35N, R6E, Sec 12 Contact PAT PRENTICE, (719) 852-5941. Supervisor's Office	Purchase completed

EDUCATIONAL LAND GRANT	Educational Land Grant is for Creede Consolidated School District. T42N, R1E, Sec.36, Mineral County, CO. Contact PAT PRENTICE (719)852-5941 Supervisor's Office.	Pending
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FUELS

ALPINE HYDRO AXE	Initiate NEPA scoping of hazardous fuels mitigation projects around Alpine developments. 400 acres in T 40N, R3E, Sec 24, and T40N, R4E, Sec 19. Contact GUY KEENE, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Initiate scoping and evaluation Spring 2004.
CONEJOS RIVER WILDLAND-URBAN PROJECT	Initiate NEPA scoping of hazardous fuels mitigation projects around Conejos River corridor developments. Contact PAUL MINNOW, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Initiate scoping and evaluation Spring 2004
CATHEDRAL THINNING	Thinning out dense Ponderosa Pine understory to reduce fuels and prepare the site for prescribed burn. T41N, R4E. Sec 19 and T41 N, R3E. Sec 24. Contact either JIM GRIFFIN at the Supervisor's Office (719) 852-6276 or GUY KEENE, (719) 657-3321 Divide Ranger District.	CE expected June 2004.
COCHETOPA HILLS	Proposal to analyze at the landscape sale, forest health issues affecting forest and range lands in the Cochetopa Hills area. Analysis will look at multiple use treatments that are designed to reduce fuels; improve wildlife habitat and provide forest products. Contact Dwight Irwin, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Scoping expected early 2004
BUFFALO PASS FUELS REDUCTION	Variety of treatments to reduce natural and activity fuels and treat insect/disease infestation. T45N, R4E, Sec3. Contact SID HALL, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	Analysis ongoing
ANTELOPE FUELS REDUCTION	Variety of treatments to reduce natural and activity fuels and treat insect/disease infestation. T45N, R5E, Sec16,20 Contact SID HALL, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	Analysis ongoing
JACOBS HILL SAW WORK	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine as the dominant species, to improve big game winter range. T36N, R6E, Sec.25,36 Contact Paul Minnow, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak RD	CE expected to be signed early 2004
COLD SPRINGS FUELS REDUCTION	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine as the dominant species, to improve big game winter range, reduce the risk of an extreme fire event, protect the inherent resources, and decrease the fire risk to surrounding private property. T32N, R7E, portions of sections 3, 4, and 10; T33N, R7E, portions of sections 33 and 32. <u>ACRES</u> : 922. Contact PAUL MINNOW, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District,	Implementing project
RITO HONDO FUELS REDUCTION	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine/grass savannah as the dominant vegetation type. Other goals from the CE include improving big game winter range, reduce the risk of an extreme fire event, protect the inherent resources, and decrease the fire risk to surrounding private property. T32N, R7E, portions of section 10. (142 acres) Contact PAUL MINNOW, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Implementing project
SCHILLING SPRINGS FUELS REDUCTION	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine as the dominant species. Other goals from the CE include improving big game winter range, reduce the risk of an extreme fire event, protect the inherent resources, and decrease the fire risk to surrounding private property. T36N, R6E, portions of sections 11, 12, 13, and 14. <u>ACRES</u> : 852 Contact PAUL MINNOW, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Implementation summer 2004
JACOBS HILL MECHANICAL TREATMENT	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine as the dominant species, to improve big game winter range. T36N, R6E, Sec.25,36 Contact PAUL MINNOW, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak RD	CE expected to be signed early 2004
EMBARGO MECHANICAL FUELS REDUCTION	Initiate NEPA scoping of hazardous fuels projects in the lower Embargo Creek area. A variety of treatments to reduce stand density. T40N, R4E, all or parts of section 4,5,8,9,10, and 15. Contact GUY KEENE,(719)657-3321 Divide Ranger District	Scoping spring/winter 2004
CATHEDRAL PRESCRIBED BURN	Initiate NEPA scoping of a prescribed fire project to reduce hazardous fuels in the upper Embargo Creek area. T41N, R3E, all or parts of section 22,23,25,26, and R4E, sec 19,30. . Contact GUY KEENE,(719)657-3321 Divide Ranger District	Scoping spring/winter 2004
PIEDROSA FUELS REDUCTION	Proposal to reduce hazardous fuels via various treatments such as; prescribed fire, mechanical thinning or hand thinning, with a long term goal of maintaining a healthy Ponderosa-mixed conifer forest improving wildlife habitat and reducing the fire risk to adjacent private properties. Approx total acres 2,995. T36N, R6E, sec.27,28,33,34, and T35N, R6E, sec.1-3. Contact PAUL MINNOW,(719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Initiate scoping and evaluation Spring 2004

HOT CREEK FUELS REDUCTION	Proposal to reduce hazardous fuels via various treatments such as; prescribed fire, mechanical thinning or hand thinning, with a long term goal of maintaining a healthy Ponderosa-mixed conifer forest improving wildlife habitat and reducing the fire risk to adjacent private properties. T35N, R6E, sec.3,4,8-12, 14-17, with four possible projects areas totaling 4,322 acres. Contact PAUL MINNOW,(719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Initiate scoping and evaluation Spring 2004
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SPECIAL USES

CENTURY TEL COMMUNICATION INC & US WEST	The proposal concerns installation of buried telephone lines Forest wide for new service or upgrade to existing lines. Each project is scoped individually as contacts are made. Contact PAT PRENTICE (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office,	Ongoing.
SAN LUIS VALLEY REC	Electrical line extensions and/or upgrades to existing lines (T42N, R1W). The proposed projects will provide electric service to private landowners. Each project is scoped individually as contacts are made. Contact PAT PRENTICE, (719)852-5941, Supervisor's Office	Ongoing.
DOMESTIC WELL TO BE DRILLED AT SUMMER HOME	Proposal from permitted summer home owner David Silva to drill a domestic well and pipe the water to the cabin. The cabin is located on the Forest between South Fork and Wagon Wheel Gap in T40N, R2E, Sec 11. The well permit and water rights would be in the name of the USFS for a maximum of 15 gallons per minute. The well would replace an antiquated cistern that gathers runoff behind the cabin. Contact RONNIE DAY, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District,	Scoping completed. Pending decision memo.
NORTH CRESTONE GAGING STATION	Relocate (install new) gaging station on North Crestone Creek to a location near lower campsite (camp site #13) and remove old gaging station. Colorado Division of Water Resources is proponent and needs to replace existing gage because it is ineffective during high flows. T 44N, R12E, Sec 31. Contact KRISTI MURPHY, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	Project may move to private land.
DOMESTIC WELL TO BE RE-DRILLED AT SUMMER HOME	Proposal from permitted summer home owner Herbert Noelke to re-drill an existing well. The cabin is in the Rio Grande Box Canyon Summer Home Group locate in T41N, R3W, Sec25, Hinsdale County. Contact RONNIE DAY (719) 657-3321. Divide Ranger District.	Scoping Underway
CDOT WETLAND MITIGATION	Proposed issuance of an amendment for a special use permit that will be used for mitigation. T39N, R3E, Sec.9, Rio Grande County. Contact PAT PRENTICE (719) 852-5941 Supervisor's Office.	CE and Permit issued January 2004
SNOTEL	Proposal to construct the snow monitoring device near Greyback Mountain. Construction would be planned for summer 2004 and includes an instrument shelter, a 12 foot antenna tower, and a snow pillow pad. , T37N, R4E, Sec. 10, NMPM. Contact RON DAY (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	NEPA ongoing, Scoping spring 2004
DIVIDE RANGER DISTRICT RE-ISSUANCE OF OUTFITTER/GUIDE PERMITS	Various Special Use authorizations that have historically been in place are being considered for re-issuance. Majority of use occurs on the Divide Ranger District. Contact JODY FAIRCHILD, (719)658-2556 Divide RD, Creede Office.	Scoping in progress
POWERLINE RIGHT OF WAY MAINTAINENCE	CE for clearing of Right of Ways of powerlines across the forest. Contact PAT PRENTICE, (719)852-5941, Supervisor's Office	Scoping underway
LUJAN CREEK SNOWTEL SITE INSTALLATION	The NRCS proposes to install a snow precipitation measuring station (Snowtel) on or near Cochetopa Pass. Plans would call for utilization of an existing suitable cleared opening that would then have solar powered satellite connectivity and the site would be fenced. Data is necessary for predicting spring runoff, possible forest fire danger and stream flows. Contact KRISTI MURPHY, (719)655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	NEPA work winter 2004 and installation summer 2005.

MINERALS

SUMMITVILLE EXPLORATION ROADS RECLAMATION	Approximately one mile of abandoned mining related exploration roads (Upper and Lower Red Butte Roads) will be reclaimed. This area is adjacent to the Summitville Mine Superfund Site, Rio Grande County, CO. Contact DIANN GESE (719)657-3321 Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Analysis in progress Expected completion summer 2005
BONANZA SAFETY CLOSURES	The Superior Mill will be removed and ten abandoned mines will be closed along the Bonanza Mines Off-Highway Vehicle tour near the town of Bonanza. Saguache County, CO. Abandoned mines will either be backfilled or closed using a bat-compatible gate. Contact DIANN GESE (719)655-2547 Saguache Ranger District.	Analysis in progress expected completion summer 2006
NORTH CRESTONE ABANDONED MINE CLOSURES	Two abandoned mines will be closed by the Colorado Division of Minerals and Geology adjacent to the North Crestone Trail. Sites are north of the town of Crestone, CO. One site will be backfilled and one site will be gated. Contact DIANN GESE (719) 655-2547 Saguache Ranger District.	Analysis in progress expected completion Fall 2004

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

SCHRADER CREEK MECHANICAL TREATMENT	Partnership project designed to improve big game winter range by reducing density of pinyon-juniper and wildland urban interface fuels reduction. Year I done and Year II in planning. T 39N, R5E, Sec 20. DALE GOMEZ, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	CE completed. Implementation. In 2004
LAKE FORK BARRIER REPAIR	Project to repair existing structures. Contact SUE SWIFT-MILLER, (719) 274-8971. Conejos Peak Ranger District,	Completed
BEAR CREEK MULE DEER HABITAT IMPROVEMENT	Project consists of pruning over mature Mountain Mahogany to encourage it to re-sprout and reducing density of encroaching conifers. (WUI Project) T40N, R3E, Sec15. Contact DALE GOMEZ, (719)657-3321, Divide Ranger District	In planning stage. CE expected by March 2004
NORTH 40 WATER DEVELOPMENT	Combination of spring developments and water improvements for wildlife. Project will be located near Old Women's Creek/Natural Arch area. T41N, R5E, Sec. 13,14,15,22,23,25. Contact DALE GOMEZ, (719)657-3321,Divide Ranger District	In planning stage. CE expected by May 2004
CHURCH CREEK WILLOW PLANTING	Project consists of planting willows to stabilize the bank on Church Creek. T39N, R3E, Sec2,11. Contact BARRY WILEY, (719) 852-5941, Supervisor's Office.	Project completed

WATERSHED & SOIL PROJECTS

CALIFORNIA GULCH AND MINERS CREEK SOIL AND WATER IMPROVEMENT	Minor stream/road culvert repair and relocating and minor road/stream-crossing relocation. Project designed to reduce sediment going into streams and realign to natural stream course. Contact KRISTI MURPHY, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District.	NEPA Spring 2004 as needed to supplement Programmatic. Implement in 2005.
CONEJOS PEAK WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS	Multiple erosion control projects located on Conejos Peak Ranger District in the following areas: Jacobs Hill area, Massey Gulch, Red Mountain, Rough Creek, Pinorealosa, E-N Osier, Wolf Creek Includes rehab projects, gully work, sub-soiler work. Contact JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	NEPA scheduled for fall/winter 2004. Ongoing
TWISTER SUBSOILING	Project to continue work to alleviate soil compaction. Contact GILBERT BECENTI, (719) 657-3321, Divide RD	NEPA completed. Implementation 2004
WIMPS	Programmatic analysis for watershed improvements. This project will conduct an environmental analysis for the various methods of protecting soil, water and fisheries resources through land and other treatments. Check dams, bank stabilization, revegetation, soil aeration, soil stabilization, fish structures, and other techniques will be analyzed. Contact JOHN RAWINSKI, Supervisor's Office, (719) 852-5941.	EA for comments will be available in the spring 2004.

RECREATION

MIX LAKE HANDICAP ACCESS PROJECT	Project to improve accessibility at Mix Lake. May include hardened trail, fishing pier, and installation of accessible toilet. SUE SWIFT-MILLER, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District	Project on hold
SPECTACLE LAKE HANDICAP ACCESS PROJECT	Project to improve accessibility at Spectacle Lake. May include; hardened trail, fishing pier, installation of handicap accessible toilet, dam repair, and wetland restoration. Contact SUE SWIFT-MILLER, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping underway.
ELK CREEK CAMPGROUND REHABILITATION	Reconstruction of parts of existing campground units, pressurized water system, minor road improvement work. No expansion. JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak Ranger District.	Scoping and NEPA underway. Scheduled for 2004.
ADVANTURE RACE	Divide RD has received a proposal for a one day adventure race to take place between Wolf Creek Ski Area and Beaver Creek Reservoir on roads and trails to include running, biking and boating, in September 2004. Contact STEVE BRIGHAM, (719) 657-3321, Divide Ranger District.	Application review in progress Public scoping expected in April
MIX LAKE CAMPGROUND WATER SYSTEM REHAB.	Project is located on the Conejos Peak Ranger District at the Mix Lake Campground near Platoro. The project consists of drilling a water well and replacing the water distribution system at the campground. Contact JIM HONG, (719) 274-8971, Conejos Peak RD	NEPA underway
CONEJOS CAMPGROUND BANK STABILIZATION & FISHERIES HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	Project includes bank stabilization and to provide fish habitat structures on the Conejos River locate at the Conejos Campground. T34N, R5E, Sec.19 Contact GREG THOMPSON, (719) 852-5941, Supervisors Office	Analysis/Scoping Underway

PLATORO WORK STATION WATER SYSTEM REHAB	Project includes installation/replacing of the water system at the Platoro Work Station. Location T36N, R4E, Sec.22. Contact STAN MATTINGLY, (719) 852-5941 Supervisors Office	NEPA Analysis in progress
LA GARITA WILDERNESS SPECIAL ORDERS	Special Order for Use and Occupancy in the La Garita Wilderness. Contact KRISTI MURPHY, (719) 655-2547, Saguache Ranger District	Implementation summer 2004

BLM SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS San Luis Resource Area



<p>North Half Saguache Field Office 46525 W. Hwy 114 Saguache, CO 81149 Voice: (719) 655-2547 TDD: (719) 655-2547 Ext. 35</p>
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The **Saguache Field Office** (FO) is soliciting public comments on the renewal of **3** grazing permits as part of a landscape health assessment during **2004**. We need to determine the level of public interest, concern, and resource conditions on each of the allotments up for assessment and renewal. Once the FO receives the public comments, the staff will meet as an interdisciplinary team. Using the comments and all other available information, the team will evaluate the following **three allotments for compliance with the standards for rangeland health**.

Following are the **three allotments and acreages** identified in the FO that we are soliciting input for rangeland health assessments. For comments or questions please contact Chris Robbins, Saguache Field Office (719) 655-2547

RANGE

Name	Federal Acreage
Spring Creek Ind.	99
Rabbit Canyon	3,865
McIntyre Gulch	4,408

South Half
LaJara Field Office
15571 County Road T.5
LaJara, CO 81140
Voice: (719) 274-8971
TDD: (719) 274-3139

FUELS

SAW WORK JACOBS HILL BLM	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine as the dominant species, to improve big game winter range. T36N, R7E, Sec.21, NE1/4. Contact BRIAN GARCIA, Supervisors Office, (719) 852-5941	ID Team & scoping spring 2004
MECHANICAL TREATMENT JACOBS HILL BLM	The project/goal is to reduce juniper and pinon encroachment, with the long-term goal of re-establishing ponderosa pine as the dominant species, to improve big game winter range. T36N, R7E, Sec.21, NE1/4 Contact BRIAN GARCIA, Supervisors Office, (719) 852-5941	ID Team & scoping spring 2004

RANGE

7 grazing permits will expire during FY 2004 (10/1/03 to 9/30/04). To process the renewal of these permits we would like the public to identify any issues, concerns or resource conditions on the allotment(s) associated with the permits, to assist us in prioritizing the work. If you have any information or concerns, wish to be considered as an interested party on a permit or allotment, or wish to be involved in a health of the land assessment, please contact Melissa Shawcroft, Conejos Peak Field Office 719-274-8971 with any comments or questions.

Permits that are scheduled for renewal in FY 2004 on the following grazing allotments:

Allotment Name	Federal Acres	Permittee/Less ee	County
Poso Allotment	2,240 acres	2J Ranches	Conejos
Schrader Creek	640 acres	Robert Kernan	Rio Grande
Raton Creek	3,935 acres	Rim Rock Ranch	Rio Grande
Llano	5,255 acres	Ernest & Dennis Moeller	Conejos
RaJadero Canyon	6,210	Roberto Marquez	Conejos
Capulin	7,600	George Gallegos	Conejos
Romero Canyon	2,000	George Gallegos	Conejos
RaJadero Canyon	6,210	George Gallegos	Conejos
County Line	200 acres	Klecker Ranches	Rio Grande
Indian Head	400 acres	Klecker Ranches	Rio Grande
Nicomodes	1,960 acres	Klecker Ranches	Rio Grande
Refuge	480 acres	Klecker Ranches	Rio Grande