

# APPENDIX I

## USDA Forest Service Schedule of Proposed Actions for 2001

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#### First Quarter, Calendar Year 2001

The Schedule of Proposed Actions is published on a quarterly basis to keep you informed on projects that are specific to the Okanogan National Forest. This Schedule helps to notify you about proposed and deferred projects, and projects for which planning has been completed within the forest. Although we normally update our mailing list in the first quarter, we will do so in the second quarter in order to combine our SOPA with the Wenatchee National Forest.

Any project that is scoped after the publication of this Schedule will appear in the next quarterly publication. Since this is a quarterly report, some projects may be scoped and approved between publications. In this case, the project is listed as a project in the Decisions section. The SOPA does not replace public scoping, but is a separate and supplementary way to notify the public of activities on national forests. Should you wish additional information on a project, or wish to comment on any proposal, you may call or write the "contact person" listed for each project. Addresses are listed at the beginning of each District's section and the OVO address is listed above. We urge you to contact the appropriate office with respect to any projects in which you may have an interest. Early involvement assures that the Responsible Official knows your concerns so that they can be recognized and addressed in the analysis and documentation. By expressing an interest in a specific action, you will have the opportunity to receive copies of all environmental documents and decision documents produced for that specific action.

Any changes to estimated decision dates (from prior publications), as well as other changes, additions, or deletions are due to a combination of factors: new priorities; a change in circumstances; the normal accomplishment of work. Many projects were delayed this year because of the extreme fire season, and new dates for completion are reflected herein.

We encourage your comments during the environmental analysis process for any or all of the projects listed in this Schedule. However, please be aware that individuals and organizations that write to comment on projects listed in the Schedule of Proposed Actions may have their letters released in their entirety, if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

## **Tonasket Ranger District**

### **DECISIONS & FINAL PRODUCTS**

Association of Okanogan County Snowmobile Clubs Special Use Permit:  
See Forestwide Decisions.

#### **Jack's RV Special Use Permit**

Issue a short term special use permit to Jack's RV for snowmobile outfitting and Guiding. Various locations and management areas west of the Okanogan River. Scoping complete. Decision signed 1/17/01. Currently being implemented. Contact: Phil Christy, 509/ 486-5137.

#### **Timber Stand Improvement 2000**

Pre-commercial thinning to improve stand conditions on 250-500 acres. Various locations district-wide. Forest Plan: 5, 14, 25, 26. Scoping was completed as part of forest-wide EA. Decision signed 10/00. Implementation Spring 2001. CE/DM. For specific information, contact Tryg Clup, 509/486-2186.

### **CANCELLED OR DEFERRED**

The following projects were listed in the previous publication under Proposed Actions. Due to various reasons, these projects are cancelled or delayed. Should planning begin again, the projects will reappear on the Schedule at that time.

#### **Tonasket Range Improvements 2001**

This project consists of the construction or reconstruction of various range water developments throughout the Tonasket District to improve water quality. The project is located at various locations throughout the District. Most Management Areas where grazing is permitted are included. The project areas will be located within both PACFISH and INFISH areas. Project deferred due to lack of funding. CE/DM. Contact Theresa Messerlie or Don Rees at (509) 486-2186.

#### **Toroda Watershed Assessment**

Watershed assessment for the Toroda watershed and associated lands. The project is located in Toroda Creek, including Cougar, Beaver, Bodie, Marias, Cedar and Nicholson Creeks and the Pontiac Ridge areas; T.40N., R30-32E.; T.38N., R30-32E, T.37N., R.30-31E. Forest Plan: 5, 8, 14, 17, 25, 26, 27. INFISH. Includes portions of Jackson, Bodie Mountain and Clackams Mountain Roadless Areas. Deferred due to lack of funding. Area Analysis/No Decision Document Required. Contact Don Rees, (509) 486-5108.

### **PROPOSED ACTIONS**

We encourage your comments during the environmental analysis process for any or all of the projects listed in this schedule. However, please be aware that your names, addresses, and comments become part of the public record for those specific projects and may be subject to public disclosure.

1. Area Analysis: These documents contain analysis providing the tie between forest planning and project level planning. Although these are not NEPA documents, and no decisions are made through them, they provide the basis for carrying projects forward into NEPA analysis and form the basis for the existing condition analysis in our NEPA documents.

#### West Fork Granite Watershed Assessment

Watershed assessment for the West Granite watershed and associated lands. Project is located in Sweat, Maple, and Garder creek areas; T36N, R31-32E; T37N, R31-32E. Forest Plan: 5, 8, 14, 17, 25, 26. INFISH; Clackamas Mtn. 6003 Roadless Area. Scoping began 1/00. Document expected to be completed 2/01. Area Analysis/No Decision Document Required. Contact Don Rees, 509/486-5108.

#### 2. Fire Recovery and Prescribed Fire

##### Tonasket Fuels Outyear Batch

Reintroduce fire across Black Diamond (Mt. Hull), Cumberland, and Cayuse (deferred acres from previous 9/00 decision) areas in fire dependent ecosystems to improve forest health, improve big game forage, and decrease fuel loading, and the fire hazard along urban interface boundaries. Approximately 7,000 acres to be treated. Locations are in portions of T.37N., R.29E. (Cayuse), T.38N., R30-31E. (Cumberland); and T.39N., R.27-28E., T.40N., R.27-28E. (Black Diamond). Forest Plan: 11, 14, 25, 26. PACFISH. Scoping began 3/00. Decision expected 9/01. Implementation Fall 2002. EA/DN. Contact Sharon Barton-Wood, 509/486-5151.

#### 3. Range

##### Spaulding Grazing Permit

Review and consider a grazing permit. This area has been managed under a pasture permit since 1981. The permit would be for 145 acres in T.35N., R.31E., Sections 16, 20 and 21 and covers up to 40 Animal Unit Months. Management Areas: 5, 26. INFISH. Scoping commenced 10/00. EA expected to be available for public review 5/01. Decision expected 6/01. Implementation expected 7/01. EA/DN. Contact Phil Christy (509) 486-5137.

#### 4. Recreation and Wilderness

*Nothing to report this quarter.*

#### 5. Reforestation & Stand Tending

##### Timber Stand Improvement 2001

Pre-commercial thinning to improve stand conditions on 250-500 acres. Various locations district-wide. Forest Plan: 5, 14, 25, 26. Scoping was completed as part of forest-wide EA. Decision expected 9/01. Implementation Spring 2002. CE/DM. For specific information, contact Tryg Clup, 509/486-2186.

## 6. Special Uses (Recreation and Non-Recreation)

### **Highland Stage Company Special Use Permit**

Review and consider issuing a 5-year Special Use Permit for the operation of Horse-drawn Wagon Trips and Pack and Saddle Stock Trips on various portions of the Tonasket and Republic Ranger Districts. Locations: The wagon trips extend from Chesaw to Bonaparte Lake Resort and/or Republic and from Conconully to Salmon Meadows. Trails used on pack and saddle trips include Clark Ridge, Tiffany Lake, North Summit, 4th of July Ridge, Bonaparte Lookout, Southside Trails and non-system trails within the Clackamas Mountain block. Management Areas: various areas in PACFISH and INFISH. Scoping began 1/01. EA expected to be available for public review 4/01. Decision expected 5/01. Implementation Summer 2001. EA/DN. Contact: Phil Christy, 509/486-5137.

### Hogan Road Use Permit Re-issuance

Review and consider reissuing a road use permit to access a private residence. This permit has been in existence for greater than 30 years. Hogan's Permit is located in T.38N., R.30E., Sections 11 and 12. Management Area 14. INFISH. Scoping commenced 10/00. Decision expected 2/01. Implementation expected 4/01. CE/DM. Contact: Phil Christy (509) 486-5137.

### *Tunk Mountain Powerline*

Review and consider reissuing the long term Special Use Permit for the Tunk Mountain powerline, which serves the Tunk Mountain Communications Site. This line consists of 600' of #6 weatherproof overhead 3-wire line (120-240 volt) and approximately 2400' of standard aerial construction. This permit covers an area of land approximately 0.56 acres (corridor less than 25' wide). Charter Communications presently holds the permit. Location: Tunk Mountain, T.35N., R.29E., Sec. 8. Management Areas: 26, PACFISH. Scoping began 1/01. Decision expected 3/01. Implementation expected 4/01. CE/DM. Contact: Phil Christy, 509/486-5137.

### Vejraska Road

Issue a permit for the construction of a temporary road to harvest private timberlands located in T.35N., R.31E., Section 19. This road will be less than 300 feet in length and is being constructed to avoid the need to use creek fords on the existing road and on private land for timber haul. Lost Creek is fish bearing. No trees of merchantable size are expected to be removed to construct/reconstruct the road. Two locations are being considered for this possible road. The project may also try to resolve an old, private homestead building on National Forest System land. Management Area 26. INFISH. Scoping commenced 10/00. The decision is expected 7/01. Implementation expected Summer 2001. CE/DM. Contact: Phil Christy, (509) 486-5137.

### Western Washington University Pasayten Wilderness Trip

Issue a permit to WWU to allow a class to camp in the Pasayten Wilderness for 10 days in May and June 2001. Location: Horseshoe Basin, Windy Peak and Albert Camp.

Management Area: 15B, PACFISH. Scoping to begin immediately. Decision expected April 2001. Implementation in May and June 2001. CE/No Decision Document. Contact: Phil Christy, (509) 486-5137.

## 7. Integrated Resource Projects

### Conger Integrated Resource Project

Commercial and pre-commercial thinning to reduce susceptibility to insects and disease, accelerate growth of residual stands, and accelerate development of late and old structure in mixed conifer. Prescribed fire to reduce in-growth of Douglas fir, control stand density, and reduce ladder fuels. Prescribed fire of rangeland will be used to reduce mountain big sagebrush and increase forage production. Road closures to meet Forest Plan standards and guidelines; proposed road closures include 3700-200, 400, 435, 515, 599, 500, 550, 600 and 310. Decrease potential for noxious weed spread, reduce impacts to water quality and increase wildlife security. Integrated noxious weed management, including use of herbicides; 4.0-8.5 MMBF on 6,500-7,000 acres. Project is located in the West and South Forks of Salmon Creek, T36N, R23-24E, and T35N, R23-24E. Forest Plan: 5, 25; PACFISH. Scoping is completed. The EA will be sent out for an additional public review 2/01. Decision expected 4/01. Implementation expected 5/01. EA/DN. Contact Paul Nash, 509/486-5153.

### Mutton Integrated Resource Project

Proposed action includes silviculture treatments of approximately 57 acres of hazard tree removal and other treatments in Cottonwood, Salmon Meadows, Sugarloaf, Kerr and Oriole Campgrounds; 36 acres of pre-commercial thinning; 610 acres of timber harvest outside of campgrounds; and up to 9,430 acres of landscape scale fuels treatments including up to 2,055 acres of ladder fuel reduction. Road closures to meet Forest Plan standards and guidelines, decrease potential of noxious weed spread, reduce impacts to water quality, and increase wildlife security will be considered. Volume approximately 2.1 MMBF. Project located in North Fork of Salmon Creek, Pelican Creek, Dunn Creek, Buckhorn Creek, Schalow Mtn, Middle Mtn and Funk Mtn. areas, T36N, R24E, Sections 1-5, 7-18, and 20-25; T36N, R25E, Sections 19-21, 27-30, 33, 34; T37N, R24E, Sections 28-34. PACFISH. Scoping began 12/99. EA out for public review 7/01. Decision expected 9/01. Implementation expected 10/01. EA/DN. Contact Phil Christy, 509/486-5137.

### Summit Restoration

Use prescribed fire and commercial silvicultural treatments to reduce disease and insect infected trees, improve long term deer winter range, improve security for bighorn sheep, maintain or promote development of late/old structure (LOS) habitats, reduce natural fuels and rehabilitate the transportation system within the analysis area. 2-4.0 MMBF. Project is located in Mt. Hull Block from Summit Lake, Haley Mtn south and west to Forest boundary, T39N, R28E, Sections 7, 8, 15-22; T39N, R27E, Sections 12, 13, 24. Forest Plan: 5, 11, 25, 26; PACFISH. Scoping began 7/00. EA out for public review 4/01. Decision expected 5/01. Implementation expected 10/01. EA/DN. Contact Michael Alvarado, 509/486-5111.

#### Upper Aeneas/Peony Integrated Resource Project

Proposed action includes silvicultural treatments of approximately 2,000-3,500 acres of commercial harvest treatments and up to 600 acres of precommercial thinning, with up to 4.9 miles of road construction; introduction of fire into fire-adapted ponderosa pine and larch stands across up to 6,700 acres. Overall road densities would be reduced through road closures ranging from 14.5-32.5 miles; 12.5 miles of road obliteration. Peony Seed Orchard Buffer project analyzed as part of project. Project located in Sections 1-28, T35N, R29E and Sections 8-33, T36N, R29E, near Peony, Cole, Bench and Aeneas creeks. Forest Plan: 14, 25, 26; INFISH, PACFISH. Scoping began 12/99. EA expected for public review 2/01. Decision expected 4/01. Implementation expected 6/01. EA/DN. Contact Phil Christy, 509/486-5137.

#### 8. Transportation & Engineering

*Nothing to report this quarter.*

#### 9. Other

##### Cox Meadows Restoration Project

Public notice of Cox Meadows Fencing and Restoration Project was included in a letter mailed to interested people and organizations during February 2000. Since that time, the purpose of the project has been expanded to incorporate protection and restoration of an historic cabin located within the site. Cox Meadows restoration will now include: fence construction and establishment of a riparian pasture at Cox Meadows to control and limit livestock grazing, installation of a water development near the meadow, construction of a protective pole and rail fence around the historic cabin, and restoration of the cabin itself. Cox Meadows is located near Lyman Lake on the east side of the District in Section 34, T35N, R30E. Management Area: 25; INFISH. Scoping began 2/00. Decision expected 4/01. Implementation expected 5/01. CE/DM. Contact Patti Baumgardner (509) 486-5123.

##### Maple Mountain Research Natural Area (RNA)

Establish Maple Mountain RNA as identified in the Forest Plan. Project is located about 35 miles each of Tonasket and about 4 miles north of SH 20 near the headwaters of Cougar Creek in T38N, 31E, Section 35 and T37N, R31E, Sections 1, 2, 11, 12. Forest Plan: 8; INFISH. Scoping is completed. Establishment report expected 9/01. EA expected for public review 9/01. Decision 10/01. Implementation Fall 2001. Contact Rod Clausnitzer, 509/826-3278.

### Forest-Wide Projects Forest-Wide Projects

#### DECISIONS AND FINAL PRODUCTS

**Association of Okanogan County Snowmobile Clubs Special Use Permit:** A special use permit was issued to the Association of Okanogan County Snowmobile Clubs, Inc. for the following identified activities: Butte Busters Club, Poker Run on 12/31/01; 206 Snowriders Club, Poker Run on 1/14/01, Drag Race on 1/21/01 and Cross Country Run on 2/4/01; Tri-Rivers Snowmobile Club, Poker Run on 1/6/01; Methow Valley

Snowmobile Club, Bucket Run on 2/18/01; and Cascade Mountain Toppers Snowmobile Club, Bucket Run on 3/4/01. Runs are for various locations across the Forest. Decision Document was signed 1/2/01. Implementation is currently occurring. CE/DM. Contact Dan Rogers, Methow Valley Ranger District, 509/997-9754.

**Douglas Fir Tussock Moth Suppression Project:** Aerial application of biological insecticides to suppress outbreak of Douglas-fir Tussock Moth. Aerial application to occur early summer of 2000-2005 as needed, in cooperation with the Colville and Wenatchee national forests, as well as various national forests in eastern Oregon. This is a forest-wide project. Project will take place as needed within high population areas of the tussock moth, which are distributed across the forest. Covers all Management Areas. Scoping was initiated June 1999 with publication of Notice of Intent in the Federal Register. FEIS issued 4/00, and Record of Decision signed for Forests other than the Okanogan on 5/26/00. Record of Decision covering the Okanogan was signed November 7, 2000. Implementation of some areas is planned for Spring/Summer 2001. EIS/ROD. Contact John Townsley, Okanogan Valley Office, 509/429-0485.

#### **CANCELLED OR DEFERRED**

Nothing to report at this time. FOREST-WIDE PROPOSED ACTIONS: We encourage your comments during the environmental analysis process for any or all of the projects listed in this schedule. However, please be aware that your names, addresses, and comments become part of the public record for those specific projects and may be subject to public disclosure.

#### Noxious Weeds

**Noxious Weed Program:** Treat noxious weed species that are difficult to control with non-chemical methods, manage previously treated sites where non-chemical methods have not been effective to control weed spread or where treatment of noxious weed populations with non-chemical methods are too expensive. Treatment locations are forest-wide. Forest Plan: Various. Scoping began 7/00. Public review complete on EA. Decision expected 3/01. Implementation Spring/Summer 2001. Contact Mel Bennett, Okanogan Valley Office, 509/422-2021.

#### Range

**Mt. Hull/Beaver/Frazer/Finley Allotment Management Plans:** Update all management plans for the Mt. Hull, Beaver, Frazer, and Finley allotments. Locations: Western portion of Mt. Hull area, T39N, R27-28E; Beaver Creek drainage, T34-35N, R23E; Frazer Creek drainage, T33N, R23E; and Finley Canyon drainage, T32-33N, R23E. Forest Plan: 4M, 5, 11, 14, 17, 25, 26. PACFISH. Scoping completed Fall 1998. EA for public review 2/01. Decision expected 4/01. Implementation Summer 2001. EA/DN. Contact Jennifer Zbyszewski, Methow Valley Ranger District, 509/996-4021; Frank Hanford, Methow Valley Ranger District, 509/996-4008; Don Rees, Tonasket Ranger District 509/486-5108.



#### Recreation and Wilderness

##### **Snowmobile Special Use Permit(s) and Winter Use of Blackpine Basin Warming Hut:**

Provide a variety of winter recreation opportunities through the issuance of five year special use permits for snowmobile outfitting, guiding and renting. Permittees include Chewuch Guest Ranch, Jack's RV and possibly one other. Analyze proposed use of the Blackpine Basin Warming Hut. Location: 8-mile ranch snopark, T36N, R21E, Section 23, Blackpine Basin Warming Hut, T37N, R19E, Section 35, and various other snoparks west of the Okangoan River. Management Areas: 5, 12, 14, 17, 25, 26. NwFP: Matrix, LSR. PACFISH. Scoping: to begin 2/01. EA expected to be available for public review 6/01. Decision expected 7/01. Implementation expected 11/01. EA/DN. Contact Jennifer Zbyszewski; 509/996-4021.

#### Timber Stand Improvement

**Forest-Wide TSI:** Precommercial thinning and prescribed fire to improve stand conditions. Various sites forest-wide. Forest Plan: 4, 5, 14, 25, 26. NWFP: Matrix, LSR, Key Watershed; PACFISH, INFISH. Scoping is completed. EA being finalized and expected for public review Spring 2001. Decision expected Spring 2001. Implementation Summer 2001. For specific information, contact John Townsley, Okanogan Valley Office, 509/429-0485.