



# Green Mountain National Forest

## *Schedule of Proposed Action*

**January 1 to March 31, 2019**

**ABOUT THIS SCHEDULE**

The purpose of the Schedule of Proposed Action (Schedule) is to provide a status report and short summary of project proposals that are undergoing, or will undergo, environmental analysis by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Forest Service on the Green Mountain National Forest. Issued quarterly, this Schedule is intended to provide the public with informal notice of proposed activities. The publishing of this Schedule is required by Forest Service regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

An effort will be made to seek public input (called “scoping”) on proposed projects based on specific response to this Schedule. Scoping may be in the form of letters, email requests or phone calls that will include more specific information in order for the public to provide meaningful feedback that may be incorporated into the environmental analysis process. When required, legal notices announcing project information will be published in the *Rutland Herald*, our newspaper of record. In addition, at the discretion of the Responsible Official, project information may be published as legal notices in the following newspapers:

<u>District</u>	<u>Newspaper(s)</u>
Manchester	Bennington Banner Manchester Journal Brattleboro Reformer
Rochester	Randolph Herald Burlington Free Press Valley Reporter
Middlebury	Addison County Independent

The Schedule lists projects by each Ranger District or Forest-wide. The Schedule includes the name, location, and a brief description of the proposal. Also included is the scoping date (which indicates when public participation began or will begin), decision date, and the

expected implementation date. Analysis which supports any decision is documented in either an Environmental Assessment (EA), or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Proposals which have been "categorically excluded" (CE) from documentation in an EA or EIS are supported by project files, which may or may not include a Decision Memo. The analysis and decision documents are kept on file at the appropriate Ranger District or Supervisor’s (Forest Headquarters) office depending on the location of the project, and is available for your review.

**HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED**

Your participation is important. Read through the list of proposed projects. If you want to provide site-specific comments on a project, get more information, or be placed on a project mailing list, either write or call using 1) the contacts listed at the end of the Schedule or; 2) the project contact included for the specific project of your interest. A generic statement of interest in all projects based on your review of this Schedule is not specific enough. It is only through site-specific input that we can be responsive to and incorporate your concerns into project development.

Walk in Requests: Requests from the public occasionally require that the environmental analysis be completed with a short turnaround time. This means that the analyses may be conducted and decisions made without prior listing in this Schedule. Efforts for public input for such requests will be conducted as applicable in accordance to regulations. An example of a walk-in request would be a short-term special use permit for a recreation event on the forest.

**VISIT US ON OUR WEBSITE**

For more information about planning or projects on the Green Mountain National Forest you may visit our website at:  
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/gmfl/landmanagement/projects>

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information on the projects described in this Schedule of Proposed Action, contact:

John A. Sinclair  
Forest Supervisor  
Green Mountain & Finger Lakes  
National Forests  
231 North Main Street  
Rutland, VT 05701  
802-747-6700

Christopher Mattrick, District Ranger  
Middlebury and Rochester Ranger Districts  
Green Mountain National Forest  
99 Ranger Road, Route 100  
Rochester, VT 05767  
802-767-4261



David Francomb, District Ranger  
Manchester Ranger District  
Green Mountain National Forest  
2538 Depot Street  
Manchester Ctr., VT 05255  
802-362-2307

This document available in large print upon request.

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**Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)**  
**01/01/2019 to 03/31/2019**  
**Green Mountain 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
<b>Green Mountain National Forest, Forestwide</b>					<b>R9 - Eastern Region</b>
<b>Fairpoint Master Permit</b> CE  <b>*NEW LISTING*</b>	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2019	Expected:08/2019	01/2020	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Re-authorize the operation and maintenance of all existing Fairpoint Telephone lines located across the Forest.				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District, Rochester Ranger District, Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison, Bennington, Chittenden, Orange, Rutland, Windham, Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Multiple towns.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Green Mountain National Forest</b>		<b>Manchester Ranger District</b>			<b>R9 - Eastern Region</b>
<b>Arace Special Use Permit Project</b> CE  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 12/17/2018	03/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Bring a pre-existing spring, water pipeline and parking spot that serve a private camp in to compliance with Forest Service regulations by authorizing them under a special use permit.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54276">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54276</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Weston.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Early Successional Habitat Creation Project</b> EA  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Comment Period Public Notice 05/10/2018	Expected:02/2019	09/2020	Jay Strand 802-767-4261 x5522 jstrand@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Increase acres of early successional (0-9 age class) habitat for neotropical migrant passerine birds and other wildlife species primarily with timber harvest treatments on about 17,411 acres over a 15-year period.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53629">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53629</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington, Rutland, Windham, Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Manchester, Mount Holly, Mount Tabor, Peru, Pownal, Readsboro, Searsburg, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Stratton, Sunderland, Wallingford, Wardsboro, Weston, and Woodford.					
<b>Isaiah Slade Right of Way Permit</b> CE  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2018	Expected:12/2018	08/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Isaiah Slade has applied for a special use permit authorizing the construction of a driveway that is 85 feet long, and 20 feet wide to reach his private property. Surrounding private property is too steep to reach the building site.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54819">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54819</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Winhall.					
<b>Mount Snow Sunbrook Area Trail Widening</b> CE  <b>*NEW LISTING*</b>	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 02/2019	Expected:04/2019	07/2019	Justin Preisendorfer 603-536-6105 jpreisendorfer@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Sections of Moonwalk, Little Dipper, Big Dipper, and Moonbeam trails would be widened an average of 30%u2019 to better accommodate beginner level skiers.				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Dover.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Pinnacle Lodge Special Use Permit Reissuance</b> CE  *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 11/26/2018	01/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Reissue a 3 year permit for 13.85 acres for an open sewage lagoon, septic spray field, private building, sign, vendor, and parking lot. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53549">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53549</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Winhall.				
<b>Rose Logging Access Permit</b> CE  *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2018	Expected:12/2018	01/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> A private timber sale will occur in conjunction with and adjacent to the Forest Service (FS) Beech Ridge Timber Sale. Timber from the private sale will be skidded over skid trails from the FS sale, under the authority of a Special Use Permit. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54752">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54752</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of East Dorset.				
<b>Somerset Integrated Resource Project</b> EA  *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Heritage resource management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2019	Expected:07/2019	08/2019	David Francomb 802-362-2307 x7212 dfrancomb@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Multiple resource management to implement the Forest Plan across a large landscape area. Includes activities such as timber harvesting, wildlife & fisheries habitat improvement, recreation & forest access opportunities, and restoration work. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53706">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53706</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington, Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Multiple towns.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Stratton Pond Recreation Area Realignment Project</b> CE  *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Completed	Actual: 12/07/2018	07/2019	Danna Strout 802-362-2307 x 7237 dstROUT@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Relocate section of Lye Brook trail away from Stratton Pond, replace shelter and tenting area privies, relocate north shore tenting area to former Stratton View site, construct 10 person shelter at Stratton View site. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53072">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53072</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Stratton.				
<b>Town of Bennington Logging Access Permit</b> CE  *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2018	Expected:01/2019	02/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> The Town of Bennington plans to harvest timber on lands adjacent to National Forest System (NFS) land in 2019-22. The proposal includes 0.8 miles of skid trails to be constructed/reconstructed on NFS land under the authority of a Special Use Permit. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54748">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54748</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Pownal.				
<b>Woodford Lake Estates Snowmobile Trail Additions Project</b> CE  *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 02/2019	Expected:03/2019	07/2019	Emily Lauderdale (802)362-2307 x7227 elauderdale@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Designate 1.6 miles of existing snowmobile trail on a powerline and FR280. Grade trail, install water bars, ditches, 2 culverts, and inspect bridge. Remove/block off 2 unauthorized access trails. Remove snowmobile use on 4 miles of Dome Trail, FT393. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49272">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49272</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Woodford.				
<b>Woodford State Park Permit Reissuance</b> CE  *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Special use management	Completed	Actual: 11/05/2018	11/2018	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Reissue expired permit for 20 years to State of VT for 2 hiking trails that connect to Woodford State Park. Relocate one trail out of Aiken Wilderness. Trail right of way will be 4 ft v by 1.36 mi long for 0.43 acres. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53545">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53545</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Woodford.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Green Mountain National Forest</b>	<b>Middlebury Ranger District</b>				<b>R9 - Eastern Region</b>
<b>Apple Tree Maintenance and Release - Middlebury Ranger District</b> CE <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Michael Burbank 802-388-4362 x114 mburbank@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Cut and remove over-topping trees on multiple sites to provide apple trees access to sunlight across the Middlebury Ranger District. Includes pruning apple trees to promote tree health and fruit production. Project on hold until further notice.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41842">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=41842</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison, Rutland. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Multiple Towns.				
<b>Crossman Right of Way Permit</b> CE <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 11/05/2018	11/2018	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Issue a 20 year term permit to build a 12-16 foot wide, 0.76 miles long private road to access private property and install a sap line for removing maple sap from the property. The road would extend from Cobb Hill Road to the private property.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53548">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53548</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Lincoln.				
<b>Green Mountain Power Route 125 Power Line Reconstruction Special Use</b> CE <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 12/17/2018	06/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Green Mountain Power proposes to reconstruct a power line on VT Route 125 in Ripton, with 5 foot taller poles & covered conductors, under the authority of a Special Use Permit. 808 feet of the line crosses National Forest Lands.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54749">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54749</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Ripton.				
<b>Mountain Top Resort Special Use Permit Reissuance</b> CE <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/31/2017	Expected:01/2019	01/2019	Jeffrey Hammell 802-747-6798 jhammell@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Re-issue a ten year Special Use Permit Mountain Top Inn & Resort to operate and maintain 12 miles of Nordic trail system and operate guided horseback rides on 3.6 miles of roads and trails on National Forest System lands.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52785">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52785</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Rutland. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Chittenden.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Green Mountain National Forest</b>		<b>Rochester Ranger District</b>			<b>R9 - Eastern Region</b>
<b>Catamount Trail Connector</b> CE  <b>*NEW LISTING*</b>	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2019	Expected:03/2019	05/2019	Holly Knox 802-767-4261 x5530 holly.knox@usda.gov
	<b>Description:</b> Construct an approximate 1.6 mile segment of the Catamount Trail to provide connectivity between Forest Trail 134, Round Robin Trail, and the South Pond parcel. The trail will be managed for cross-country ski use.				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Rutland. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Chittenden.				
<b>Cow Mountain Pond Snowmobile Trail Special Use Reissuance</b> CE  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2018	Expected:05/2019	05/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Reissue a special use permit to Vermont Association of Snow Travelers for the operation and maintenance of a segment of a snowmobile trail located on a Forest Legacy Tract. The fee title of the tract located in Granby, VT is owned by the U.S.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49835">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=49835</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Essex. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Granby.					
<b>Forest Road 55 Relocation</b> CE  <b>*NEW LISTING*</b>	- Special use management - Road management	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/12/2018	Expected:03/2019	05/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> The Town of Granville has applied for a special use authorization to make necessary repairs to FR55. This includes moving the roadbed up to 25 feet to re-contour and stabilize a slumping bank with rip rap to increase its stability.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55219">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55219</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Grandville Vermont.					



Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Lincoln Brook Tributary Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP)</b> CE  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Road management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2018	Expected:01/2019	06/2019	Jeremy Mears 802-767-4261 x 5514 jmears@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Removal and replacement of the existing culvert structure on Hanks Brook at the intersection of Lincoln Gap Road and Hanks Road in the Town of Warren. the new structure will allow free aquatic passage along the stream.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54284">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54284</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Warren.					
<b>Lincoln Peak Communications Site Expansion Special Use</b> CE  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2019	Expected:01/2019	05/2019	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jedmonds@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> VELCO proposes to improve worker safety and emergency response by replacing their 10 foot tower with a taller tower and consolidating all other site users under the authority of an amendment to the Lincoln Peak Electronics Site Association Permit.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54751">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54751</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Warren.					
<b>Robinson Integrated Resource Project</b> EA  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Recreation management - Heritage resource management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management	Completed	Actual: 12/07/2018	12/2018	Jay Strand 802-767-4261 x5522 jstrand@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Multiple resource activities integrated across the landscape designed to bring the project area closer to the desired future conditions as provided by the Green Mountain National Forest Land & Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan).				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48884">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48884</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison, Rutland, Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Granville, Hancock, Rochester, Goshen, Braintree, Bethel, Stockbridge, Pittsfield, and Chittenden.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
<b>Sugarbush Heaven's Gate Ski Patrol Shack Relocation</b> CE  <b>*NEW LISTING*</b>	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 02/2019	Expected:04/2019	08/2019	Justin Preisendorfer 603-536-6105 jpreisendorfer@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Relocation of the ski patrol building at the top of Heaven's Gate ski lift, to a site adjacent to the skier unload area. The project would require the clearing of a 20% by 30% area of spruce and fir trees.				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Warren.				
<b>Sugarbush Sleeper Trail Widening</b> CE  <b>*UPDATED*</b>	- Recreation management - Special use management	Completed	Actual: 11/26/2018	07/2019	Thomas Paquette 802-767-4261 x5521 tpaquette@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Two sections of Sleeper Trail would be widened between 20-40 feet in order to meet intermediate level standards totaling 0.40 acres. Trees would be removed, stumps pulled and final grading. Blasting not anticipated, but may be necessary in locations.				
	<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53705">http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=53705</a>				
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Warren.					

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