



# BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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## July 23, 2018—5:00 P.M. Meeting

### ITEM NO.

- 1.00 Call to order – Butte County Public Works Facility, 44 Bellarmine Ct, Chico, CA
- 2.00 Pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
- 2.01 Roll Call – **Members:** Nick Repanich, Thad Walker, Teri Faulkner, Trish Puterbaugh, Dan Taverner, Peggy Moak  
**Alternates:** Vance Severin, Jim Shary, Bob Gage, Angel Gomez, Pete Moak (voting Alt)  
**Invited Guests:** Lynn Campbell (Sierra Nevada Conservancy); Calli-Jane DeAnda (Butte County Fire Safe Council); Russell Nickerson, (District Ranger, Almanor Ranger District, Lassen National Forest), David Brillenz (District Ranger, Feather River Ranger District; Plumas National Forest), Laura Page (Congressman LaMalfa); Dennis Schmidt (Coordinating Committee, Public Works); Dave Derby (Cal Fire)
- 2.02 Self-introduction of Forest Advisory Committee Members, Alternates, Guests, and Public – 5 Min.
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- 3.00 Consent Agenda
- 3.01 Review and approve minutes of 6-25-18 – 5 Min.
- 4.00 Agenda
- 4.01 Upcoming Grant Opportunities for 2018/2019 – Lynn Campbell, Sierra Nevada Conservancy; Calli-Jane DeAnda, Butte County Fire Safe Council; Cal Fire Representative – 30 Min.
- 4.02 Forest Projects Review – Current Quarter: Discussion & required FAC action for USFS projects affecting Butte County residents' forest management, recreational, environmental, socio-economic interests(Chair)
- Lassen NF Almanor Ranger District- Russell Nickerson (District Ranger): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – 30 Min.
  - Plumas NF Feather River Ranger District, David Brillenz (District Ranger): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – 30 Min.
- 4.03 Bullards Bar Invasive Plant Treatments Project- Feather River Ranger District – 15 Min.
- 4.04 Four Trees Road Meeting Recap and Debrief – 10 Min.
- 4.05 Roads, OHV Grants Update – Dennis Schmidt
- 4.06 New Business – Considerations for upcoming meeting agendas: Next meeting is August 27, 2018 - Chico, 5:00 PM
- South Feather Water & Sewer District - Recreation and Water Projects
  - Butte County Fire Safe Council
  - Other
- 4.07 Public Comment (THE COMMITTEE IS PROHIBITED BY STATE LAW FROM TAKING ACTION ON ANY ITEM PRESENTED IF IT IS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.)

## Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA)

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

### Report Contents (click to jump to a section):

- [Lassen National Forest, Forestwide \(excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest\)](#)
- [Lassen National Forest, Occurring in more than one District \(excluding Forestwide\)](#)
- [Lassen National Forest, Almanor Ranger District](#)
- [Lassen National Forest, Eagle Lake Ranger District](#)
- [Lassen National Forest, Hat Creek Ranger District](#)

Lassen National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)				R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle(OSV) Use Designation EIS	- Recreation management - Road management	In Progress NOI in Federal Register 01/20/2015 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 10/2017	Expected: 08/2018	08/2018	Chris Obrien 530-252-6698 cjobrien@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> The Forest Service is evaluating management of OSV use on the Lassen National Forest and is releasing a Revised Draft EIS (RDEIS) for the designation of LNF system roads, trails, and areas where OSV use will be allowed.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=45832">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=45832</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Lassen National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable Forest wide existing miles of groomed OSV trails and open cross country areas of the LNF which receive adequate snowfall for OSV use to occur.</p>					
Lassen National Forest PG&E Master Special Use Permit Renewal Project CE	- Special use management	In Progress Scoping Start 03/19/2018	Expected: 09/2018	09/2018	Spencer Bleadorn 858-674-2904 sbleadorn@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Approve continued operation, maintenance and use of existing distribution and transmission powerlines and infrastructure for Pacific Gas and Electric located within designated corridors on the Lassen National Forest</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53492">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53492</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Lassen National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable Almanor Ranger District, Eagle Lake Ranger District, and Hat Creek Ranger District</p>					

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Lassen National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)				R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Southwest Lassen Watershed Improvement Project CE	- Watershed management	In Progress Scoping Start 06/20/2018	Expected: 11/2018	05/2019	Chris Obrien 530-252-6698 cjobrien@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> The LNF proposes a limited set of activities that could be implemented to address the purpose and need. The activities can be categorized into two different types: activities at road-stream intersections and rehabilitation of non-NFS routes.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54111">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54111</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Almanor Ranger District, Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, Tehama. LEGAL - Not Applicable The project area includes Lassen NF lands within Old Cow, Battle, Antelope, Mill, Deer, Big Chico, Butte and upper Feather River watersheds.</p>					

Lassen National Forest, Almanor Ranger District			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Jones Meadow Fuels Reduction EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Comment Period	Expected: 05/2018	07/2018	Jennifer Erickson 530-258-5141 jlerickson@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Project proposes to improve defensibility of the Jones Meadow Community by removing surface fuels & snags to reduce potential fire behavior, reduce hazards to fire fighters, improve stand health & reduce the threat of wildfire in the project area.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Almanor Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte. LEGAL - T25N, R5E, Section 32. Mount Diablo Meridian Jones Meadow is 18 mi NE of the town of Paradise and roughly 3 mi from the edge of the 2000 Storrie Fire perimeter. The project is located within the Mt Hope Management Area (47).					
Little Bear Forest Health Restoration Project EA	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Research	In Progress Comment Period 04/25/2018	Expected: 07/2018	08/2018	Laura Corral 530-258-5156 lcorral@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Little Bear Restoration is proposed to increase forest health and diversity with variable thinning and fuels treatments. This project includes research proposals for future management activities and was **originally part of the Grizzly Project.					
<b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=51477">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=51477</a>					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Almanor Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T27N, R6E, Sections 27 & 34; T26N, R6E, Sections 2,11,25,26,36. Approximately 6 miles West of Butt Valley Reservoir & Approximately 5 miles South of Soldier Meadows.					
Ridge Project CE	- Special area management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress Scoping Start 10/20/2016	Expected: 12/2018	06/2019	Susan Wilcox 530-257-4188, ext. 808 swilcox@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Begin post-fire restoration in Inventoried Roadless Area to help promote a diversity of habitats that have been lost. Activities include re-establishment of native conifers with reforestation methods. Fuels treatments are no longer proposed.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Almanor Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T25N,R6E,Sec 2-4, 9 and 11; T26N,R6E,Sec 32-35 MDBM East of Saucer Lake on Soda Ridge, in Soda Ridge IRA of Management Area 45, on Almanor Ranger District					

Lassen National Forest, Eagle Lake Ranger District			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
BNSF Railway Road Easement CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 07/2018	Expected: 09/2018	06/2019	Nancy Barrera 530-258-5107 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> BNSF is requesting a road easement allowing access to portion of the railroad where a siding (extra track for passing trains) will be constructed and maintained within the existing BNSF Right-of-way.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable The easement is located on the Eagle Lake Ranger District consisting of 0.682 acres being a 40 foot wide strip of land. SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Sec 7 and NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Sec18, T28N,R9E MDBM.					
Confluence Meadow Restoration Project	- Watershed management	In Progress Scoping Start	Expected: 12/2018	07/2019	Tyanna Blaschak 530-257-4188

EA		12/26/2017 Est. Comment Period 08/2018			tsblaschak@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Restore meadow hydrology and habitat by redirecting flow into historic remnant channels along a reach of Pine Creek while filling the degraded channel and ditch to match the floodplain elevation.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52590">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52590</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable Roughly 24 air miles NW of Susanville, Lassen County, CA, in meadow S of Little Harvey mountain and W of Lassen County Rd 105 near the confluence of Pine Creek and Little Harvey Valley tributary.</p>					
Dyer Mountain Communication Site Development CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2018	Expected: 02/2019	03/2019	Nancy Barrera 530-258-5107 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Plumas County Sheriff's office propose to construct and develop a communications tower and prefabricated communications vault for the operation and maintenance of emergency radio communication equipment, at the current Dyer Mountain Lookout location.</p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - T28N,R08E,Section 36 Eagle Lake Ranger District, Dyer Mountain Communication Site. The exact location on the .96 acre parcel of the project will be determined once the historic evaluation is completed.</p>					
LMUD Master Permit Issuance CE	- Special use management	In Progress Scoping Start 04/06/2018	Expected: 07/2018	10/2018	Nancy Barrera 530-258-5107 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Consolidating and reissuing LUMD's three existing use permits, for power lines and facilities, under a single master permit. There will be no change in scope or intensity of existing authorized activities, and no ground disturbance will occur.</p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - T32N,R10E,Sec33; T33N,R11E,Sec29; T31N,R10E,Sec10,14,21; T31N,R11E,Sec7,18; T31N,R10E,Sec14,15,16; T29N,R10E,Sec21,28,29. The permit will cover multiple locations across the Eagle Lake Ranger District including: Spalding, Eagle Nest, Eagle Lake Campgrounds, Hamilton Mountain, Westwood to Susanville line.</p>					
North Eagle Lake, Champs Flat, and Lower Pine Creek Allotments Grazing Mgt. Project EA	- Grazing management	In Progress Scoping Start 03/06/2018 Est. Comment Period 08/2018	Expected: 12/2018	05/2019	Kirsten Pasero 530-252-5854 kpasero@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Grazing allotment management plans.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=48381">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=48381</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - T32N and T33N,R9E and R10E,MDM (West of Eagle Lake, CA; North, East and South of Logan Mtn. area) North half of the Eagle Lake Ranger District.</p>					

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Lassen National Forest, Hat Creek Ranger District			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Bailey Creek Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Project CE	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Road management - Watershed management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2018	Expected: 03/2018	08/2019	Shawn Wheelock 530-336-3340 swheelock@fs.fed.us

	<p><b>Description:</b> Two existing culverts on the North &amp; South Forks of Bailey Creek will be replaced with bridges to eliminate barriers to the passage of aquatic organisms and damage to road crossing when rivers are at high stage.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=48504">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=48504</a></p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - T31N,R3E,S34 Lassen NF 17 Road to the west of Lassen Volcanic National Park</p>				
Citizens Utility Company Aerial Telephone Line project CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 08/2017	Expected: 10/2017	10/2017	Kimberly Ganz 530-336-3383 kganz@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> Authorize Citizens Communications Co. of CA (Frontier) to install an overhead phone cable from a utility pole on National Forest System Lands to a utility pole on Big Springs Estates. Aerial cable is ~300' long w/aerial phone line 6' below power line.</p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - T32N, R4E, Section 12, NE1/4 The existing utility pole is located ~3 mi SW of Old Station, CA. The pole lies E of SR44/89 and W of Hat Creek near Big Springs Estates Subdivision on the Lassen National Forest in Eastern Shasta Co.</p>				
Cornaz Lake Boulderling Project CE	- Watershed management - Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018	Expected: 03/2018	06/2018	Shawn Wheelock 530-336-3340 swheelock@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> The Cornaz Lake Boulderling Project is being proposed to protect a wet meadow system, allow riparian vegetation to become re-established, and protect resources as directed in the 2010 Lassen National Forest Travel Management Record of Decision.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53496">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53496</a></p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable Township 34N, Range 4E, Section 21, adjacent to NFS Road 34N77C at Cornaz Lake.</p>				
Hat Creek Debris Removal and Stream Bank Stabilization Project CE	- Watershed management - Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2018	Expected: 03/2018	05/2018	Shawn Wheelock 530-336-3340 swheelock@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> The Hat Creek Debris Removal and Stream Bank Stabilization Project is proposed to stabilize the channel and minimize further sedimentation, protect state and federal infrastructure, and improve visitor safety.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53523">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53523</a></p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable Hat Creek channel between Cave Campground and Bridge Campground, Township 33N, Range 5E, Sections 8,9,16,21,and 28.</p>				
Hat Creek Rim Hang Glider & Paraglider Project CE	- Special area management	In Progress Scoping Start 05/02/2017	Expected: 07/2017	07/2017	Kimberly Ganz 530-336-3383 kganz@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> Hat Creek Pilots Association (HCPA) requests a special use authorization for an established recreation special use of the Hat Creek Rim for hang gliding and paragliding launches and associated landing zones.</p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - T34N, R5E, Sections 4, 5, 9 &amp; 16 MDM On the Hat Creek Ranger District along the Hat Creek Rim and Murken Bench area and near the rural communities of Fall River Mills, Burney and Hat Creek.</p>				
Lake Britton Trail Bridges Project CE	- Recreation management	In Progress Scoping Start 10/01/2017	Expected: 09/2018	09/2018	Greg Mayer 530-336-5521 gmayer@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> This project is intended to restore two trail bridges along the Great Shasta Rail Trail at Lake</p>				

	Britton to provide continuous public access for non-motorized trail purposes across the lake and State Route 89.				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable Township 36N, Range 3E, section 3 and Township 37N, Range 3E, section 28, MDM in the Hat Creek Ranger District, Lassen National Forest, west of Dusty Campground at Lake Britton.				
Plum Restoration Project EA	- Forest products - Watershed management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Road management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress Scoping Start 04/24/2018 Est. Comment Period 10/2018	Expected: 04/2019	05/2019	Greg Mayer 530-336-5521 gmayer@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> This restoration project will encompass: surface fuels treatment for fire hazard reduction; thinning for ponderosa pine, silver sage, meadow and aspen enhancements; noxious weed treatments; and road improvements. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47742">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47742</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen, Shasta. LEGAL - Townships 32, 33 & 34 North, Ranges 5 & 6 East, various sections, Mount Diablo Baseline & Meridian The project area is located E. of Hwy 89 at the top of the Hat Creek Rim (approx. 1-1/2 miles E. of the town of Old Station), N. of Hwy 44 to Forest Road 34N49 and E. to the Butte Creek Rim.				
Soldier Mountain Lookout Permit Issuance CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 07/2017	Expected: 09/2017	09/2017	Nancy Barrera 530-258-5107 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> Special use permit issuance for the operation of a fire detection lookout and communication uses.				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - T37N, R3E, Sec 1 (SE 1/4 - NE 1/4) Soldier Mountain Lookout is approx. 4 miles NE of "the Pines" off Hwy 89 and approx. 6 miles NW of Fall River Mills.				
Table Mountain Wildfire Protection Project CE	- Fuels management - Forest products	In Progress Scoping Start 06/06/2018	Expected: 10/2018	10/2018	Crystal Danheiser 530-258-5183 cdanheiser@fs.fed.us
	<b>Description:</b> This project would reduce vegetation density on 70 acres surrounding the Table Mountain Communications Site in order to reduce the risk of wildfire and minimize signal interference to the microwave path that supports critical infrastructure. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54088">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54088</a>				
	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable Location: Table Mountain approximately 1.5 miles northeast of the junction of Highways 44 and 89, immediately north of the Lassen Volcanic National Park. Sections 6 and 7 T31N, R4E,MDM				

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Schedule Of Proposed Actions (SOPA) -

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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

## Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA)

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- [Plumas National Forest, Forestwide \(excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest\)](#)
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R5 - Pacific Southwest Region, Occurring in more than one Forest (excluding Regionwide)					
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Beckwourth Peak Recreation Project CE	- Recreation management	In Progress Scoping Start 10/04/2017	Expected: 08/2018	09/2018	Jeremy Dorsey 707-574-6877 jdorsey02@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> Objectives are to provide access to Beckwourth Peak area and to provide alternative recreation activities to relieve congestion in heavily-used areas. Propose construction of approximately 20 miles of non-motorized trails around Beckwourth Peak.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52465">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52465</a></p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District, Sierraville Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Township 22 North, Range 13 East, Sections 13, 14, and 22-24; Township 22 North, Range 14 East, Sections 5-9, 17, and 18; and Township 23 North, Range 14 East, Section 31, MDBM. The project area is located immediately south and east of Portola in Plumas County, California.</p>				
Mammoth Base Area Land Exchange EIS	- Land ownership management	In Progress DEIS NOA in Federal Register 07/07/2017 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/2018	Expected: 11/2018	12/2018	Janelle Walker 760-924-5523 janellewalker@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> Exchange of approximately 35.6 acres of National Forest System land, currently under special use authorization to Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, located near the Main Lodge north of Highway 203 for approximately 1296.7 acres of private land in California</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=30428">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=30428</a></p>				
	<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mammoth Ranger District, White Mountain Ranger District, Mt. Hough Ranger District, Mi-Wok Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Inyo, Mono, Plumas, Tuolumne. LEGAL - Land to be exchanged is located in T.3S, R. 27E., Sec 30, MDM. Proposal includes the addition of non-federal parcels to the Inyo, Plumas, and Stanislaus National Forests in California The area near Main Lodge, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area would be exchanged for up to 11 non Federal parcels in Inyo, Mono, Plumas and Tuolumne Counties.</p>				

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Plumas National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest) R5 - Pacific Southwest Region					
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
PG&E Master Special Use Permit and Easement Project CE	- Road management - Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 04/2018	Expected: 05/2018	05/2018	Timothy Cardoza 530-478-6210 tcardoza@fs.fed.us
	<p><b>Description:</b> Plumas National Forest, proposes to continue authorizing the use and occupancy of NFS land to Pacific Gas &amp; Electric for existing electric system facilities and infrastructure by issuance of special use authorizations.</p>				



	<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Plumas National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable Across the Plumas National Forest				
Plumas National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle (OSV) Use Designation EIS	- Recreation management	In Progress NOI in Federal Register 09/29/2015 Est. DEIS NOA in Federal Register 10/2018	Expected: 06/2019	07/2019	Katherine Carpenter 530-283-7742 kacarpenter@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Designate over-snow vehicle (OSV) use on National Forest System roads and trails and areas on National Forest System lands as allowed, restricted, or prohibited. Identify trails for snow grooming for OSV use would be conducted. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47124">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47124</a>					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Plumas National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable National Forest System lands administer by the Plumas National Forest (forest-wide).					

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Plumas National Forest, Beckwourth Ranger District			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Feather River Inn Water System CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Robert Hawkins 916-849-8037 rhhawkins@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Re-Issue a 30 year special use authorization to Schomac, Inc. for the Feather River Inn water system. The water system includes two diversion structures, a storage tank, waterlines and road and trail access.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Section 3, T. 22 N., R. 12 E., Mt Diablo Meridian The water system is located along Bonta Creek just north of the National Forest boundary and the Feather River Inn.					
Lakes Basin Project EA	- Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Recreation management - Forest products - Road management	In Progress Comment Period 02/28/2018	Expected: 08/2018	08/2018	Gretchen Jehle 530-283-7689 gjehle@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Improve forest health and reduce hazards around recreation sites. Activities include mechanical thinning, grapple piling, mastication, hand thinning and underburning. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=40964">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=40964</a>					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas, Sierra. LEGAL - Not Applicable Lakes Basin recreation area					
Mills Peak Trail South CE	- Recreation management	In Progress Scoping Start 09/27/2016	Expected: 08/2018	09/2018	Jeremy Dorsey 707-574-6877 jdorsey02@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Construct 0.95 mile of new non-motorized trail and add 2.8 miles of existing user-created trails to the National Forest Trail System. The new trails would connect the existing Mills Peak Trail to the Round Lake Trailhead.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Trail system would connect the Mills Peak Trail to the Round Lake Trailhead.					
Thompson Meadow Restoration Project	- Watershed management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	In Progress Scoping Start	Expected: 10/2018	11/2018	Joseph Hoffman 530-283-2050

EA	- Grazing management	11/08/2017 Est. Comment Period 06/2018			jahoffman@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> To restore historic floodplain function and the historic meadow water table elevation along a 0.6 mile reach of Thompson Creek, a tributary to McReynolds Creek, which flows to Red Clover Creek.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52760">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52760</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Township 25N, Range 13E, Sections 25 and 36 Approximately 11 air miles north of Portola, CA in Plumas County, California.</p>					
Two Rivers Soccer Camp Permit Re-issue CE	- Special use management	In Progress Scoping Start 05/01/2015	Expected: 08/2018	09/2018	Jeremy Dorsey 909 382-2837 jdorsey02@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Re-issue a 20 year permit to Two Rivers Soccer Camp for the following uses: bridge, road, parking area, portion of a soccer field, water transmission lines, storage tank and spring boxes.</p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Sections 30, 31, 32, T. 22 N., R. 12E., Mt. Diablo Meridian Two Rivers Soccer Camp is located near Blairsden, California.</p>					

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Plumas National Forest, Feather River Ranger District			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
2018 Emergency Road Repairs CE	- Watershed management - Road management	In Progress Scoping Start 05/15/2018	Expected: 06/2018	06/2018	Herman Wendell 530-532-7466 hwendell@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> These Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads (ERFO)funded projects would replace failed culverts with larger pipe and other water control improvements before repairing damaged roadbed with the existing travel ways to reestablish access.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54024">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54024</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable China Gulch, FSR 23N60, MP 8.95; Four Trees Sites 1 and 2, FSR 23N28, MP 14.5 and 15.3; Milsap Bar, FRS 23N60, MP 6.8; Ponderosa Way Sites 1 and 2, FSR 20N24, MP 2.85 and MP 2.87</p>					
Big Pan Mining Plan of Operations EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Comment Period 03/28/2018	Expected: 05/2018	05/2018	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Continued placer mining operation, using gold pans and sluice box. Long term occupancy. Non-system road with gate.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53004">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=53004</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T22N, R11E, Sec 7 eight miles west of the Beckwourth ranger station</p>					
Bullards Bar Invasive Plant Treatments Project CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress Scoping Start 11/23/2017	Expected: 06/2018	10/2018	Lawrence Janeway 530-532-7417 ljaneway@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> To eradicate or control six species of non-native invasive plants: rush skeletonweed, yellow star-thistle, Scotch broom, barbed goatgrass, Italian thistle, and Medusa head using a combination of chemical (herbicide) and manual treatments.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52835">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52835</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable Within one (the western) of two quarry sites along Marysville Road in the vicinity of the New Bullards Bar Dam.</p>					
Challenge Stand Maintenance and Wildlife	- Watershed management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	In Progress Scoping Start	Expected: 06/2018	07/2018	Jason Vermillion 530-532-7434

Habitat Improvement Project CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Forest products	08/09/2016			jvermillion@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> To authorize new entry and reentry into stands within the WUI, including experimental forest and spotted owl habitat to perform forest health improvement activities such as mechanical and hand-thinning, mastication, targeted grazing, prescribed fire.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54023">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54023</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable In and around the communities of Challenge and Woodleaf, California.</p>					
Devils Gap Road Side Hazard Tree Project CE	- Forest products - Fuels management - Road management	In Progress Scoping Start 05/18/2018	Expected: 06/2018	07/2018	Eric Murphy 530-532-8922 ejmurphy@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Tree mortality has occurred along the 21N51 road from American House to Devils Gap. The District proposes to remove hazard trees with structural defects likely to cause failure of all or part of the tree, which may fall and hit the road prism.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54028">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54028</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Along the National Forest System Road 21N51 from American House to Devils Gap.</p>					
FRRD Abandoned Mine Closures - 2018 CE	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 05/18/2018	Expected: 09/2018	05/2019	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> These abandoned mines currently pose a safety and health risk to the public. There are five open adits. Underground, unstable rock, rotting timbers, rusting metal, bad air, low oxygen levels, deep water, and other unknown hazards may exist.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54025">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54025</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte. LEGAL - MDM, T19N, R6E, Sections 3-5 &amp; 8 South and East of South Fork Feather River entering Lake Oroville.</p>					
Hughes Wetland Development and Maintenance CE	- Watershed management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	In Progress Scoping Start 03/28/2017	Expected: 09/2018	10/2018	James Johnson 530-283-7827 jamesmjohnson@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Propose to protect, maintain and enhance existing habitat conditions and provide additional breeding habitat for the California red-legged frog by constructing ponds, remove invasive species, and other activities in designated critical habitat.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=51541">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=51541</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte. LEGAL - Not Applicable Hughes Place within the French Creek watershed has been designated as critical Habitat for the California Red-Legged Frog.</p>					
Mooreville Ridge Insect and Disease Resilience Project CE	- Forest products - Fuels management	In Progress Scoping Start 05/18/2018	Expected: 10/2018	11/2018	Eric Murphy 530-532-8922 ejmurphy@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Reduce the risk of insect and disease-caused tree mortality through mechanical thinning. Fuels deduction and maintenance would be accomplished with mastication and prescribed burning. Residual stands will be more open, increasing resources for trees.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54027">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54027</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Project area is located ~2 miles west and southwest of La Porte, CA at elevations ranging between 3,700 and 5,900 feet. Stands are Region 5 Forest Health Protection priority areas for treatment.</p>					
Regular Baptist Camp Waterlines Special Use	- Special use management	Developing Proposal	Expected: 05/2019	05/2019	Mary Sullivan 530-532-7460

CE		Est. Scoping Start 10/2018			mcsullivan@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Authorize holder to operate, maintain, and upgrade existing waterlines across NFS lands to adjoining private camp through issuance of a 20 year Special Use permit.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=50386">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=50386</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Sierra. LEGAL - Portions of T. 22N., R. 10E., section 20 NFS lands north of Delahunty Lake, adjacent to private lands known as Pilot Lake Camp.</p>					

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Plumas National Forest, Mt. Hough Ranger District			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Franks Valley Forest Health Project CE	- Forest products - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Fuels management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress Scoping Start 05/15/2017	Expected: 08/2018	09/2018	Kristin Winford 530-283-7683 klwinford@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Improve forest health, wildlife habitat, Baker Cypress habitat and reduce fire risk around seasonal residences in Frank's Valley.</p> <p><b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=51526">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=51526</a></p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T26N R11E and R12E Located along Beardsley Grade north of Genesee Valley and southwest of Antelope Lake.</p>					
Golden Willow Placer Mining Exploration CE	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 02/05/2018	Expected: 05/2018	06/2018	Leslie Edlund 530-283-7650 ledlund@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Excavation of up to 11 test trenches with hand tools such as shovels, picks and pry bars. Material will be removed from stream banks and terraces and processed through a sluice or highbanker. The operators will stay in a RV at the site while mining.</p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Project is located at the confluence of Willow and Indian Creek, northwest of Antelope Lake along Fruit Growers Boulevard. Legal location is T27N, R12E, Section 9, MDBM.</p>					
Greenhorn Creek Guest Ranch Outfitting and Guiding Permit reissue CE	- Recreation management	In Progress Scoping Start 12/26/2012	Expected: 01/2018	01/2018	Elizabeth Sousa 530-283-7622 esousa@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Reissue a 10 year O&amp;G Permit for horseback rides and an assigned campsite on Nat Forest Sys land. This is the same operation as the past 10 years, with approximately 39 miles of trail and the majority of the rides with 8 miles of the Ranch</p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T24 R10,R11 T23R10 R11 T24 R12 Mt. Hough Ranger District and Little Summit Lake on Beckwourth Ranger District</p>					
Lucky Bar Placer Mining Exploration CE	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 03/27/2018	Expected: 06/2018	07/2018	Leslie Edlund 530-283-7650 ledlund@fs.fed.us
<p><b>Description:</b> Excavation of test pits with a small Toro tractor. Material would be shoveled into a highbanker, and processed using water pumped from Indian Creek. Waste water would discharge back to the sand and rocks to percolate into the soil.</p>					
<p><b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable The Lucky Bar placer mining project is located along Indian Creek, south of Taylorsville, CA. Access is along County Road 112, then north on the Mill Race levee road.</p>					
Ohio Creek Placer Mining	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress	Expected:	05/2018	Donna Duncan

PoO CE		Scoping Start 10/12/2017	05/2018		530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Small scale minerals exploration, road improvements, water source development, use of backhoe, on-site occupancy					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T26N, R8E, Sec 5 Near Seneca, along Ohio Creek					
Partner Mining Exploration Project EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Comment Period 02/28/2018	Expected: 06/2018	06/2018	Leslie Edlund 530-283-7650 ledlund@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Excavation of 20' x 20' pit within the river channel. Processing of material through a power sluice. Larger boulders would be moved out of the river with a derrick and choker system. Duration of the plan would be 3 years. <b>Web Link:</b> <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=50765">http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=50765</a>					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T26N, R7E, Section 24, MDBM. North Fork of the Feather River, southwest of Seneca and northeast of Belden, CA. Legal location T26N, R7E, SE 1/4 of Section 24, MDBM.					
Royal Rush Placer EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 08/10/2017 Est. Comment Period 04/2018	Expected: 06/2018	07/2018	Leslie Edlund 530-283-7650 ledlund@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Panning and sluicing within Rush Creek. Clearing, repair and maintenance of one mile of Forest Service system road to access the claim and camp area. Camping at the claim while mining.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Rush Creek near Providence Hill, north of Twain, CA. Legal location T25N, R8E, Section 2.					
Sierra Bible Camp Amendment CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 04/2018	Expected: 04/2018	06/2018	Kyla Sabo 530-836-7157 kylasabo@fs.fed.us
<b>Description:</b> Sierra Bible Camp is an organizational camp on Plumas National Forest. Usage of the camp is increasing and additional space is needed for camp staff and families. They are requesting to add two new buildings; a new bunkhouse, and storage building.					
<b>Location:</b> UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T27N, R8E, NE 1/4 Sec 27 MDBM Camp is between Canyon Dam and Lake Almanor off of the road to Seneca.					

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(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

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

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**DECISION MEMORANDUM**  
**BULLARDS BAR INVASIVE PLANT TREATMENTS PROJECT**  
**YUBA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**  
**FEATHER RIVER RANGER DISTRICT**  
**PLUMAS NATIONAL FOREST**  
**U.S. FOREST SERVICE**

**BACKGROUND**

There are six species of non-native invasive plants (NNIP) within in one (the western) of two quarry sites along Marysville Road in the vicinity of the New Bullards Bar Dam (Figure 1).

These six species are: rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*), yellow star-thistle (*Centurea Solstitialis*), Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), barbed goatgrass (*Aegilops triuncialis*), Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*), and Medusa head (*Elymus caput-medusae*). This extensive infestation of NNIP occupies 24 acres within the Bullards Bar Invasive Plant Treatment project area.

**PROPOSED PROJECT NAME AND LOCATION**

The quarry site, along Marysville Road, in the vicinity of New Bullards Bar Dam is located within T. 18 N., R. 7 E., section 26, SE1/4, Mount Diablo Meridian, Yuba County, California.

**PROPOSED PROJECT ACTION AND DESCRIPTION**

We propose to eradicate or control these NNIP using a combination of chemical (herbicides) and manual treatments as described in Table 1. Application methods include select, directed spray, or wicking. Manual treatments include digging, hand pulling, or tarping. No aerial application of herbicides is proposed in this project.

**PURPOSE OF ACTION**

Invasive plants (also known as noxious weeds) can have strong negative effects on wildland values. The location, severity, and management of the Bullards Bar and earlier Pendola fires have created a high risk for invasive plant introduction and spread within the project area watershed. Fire suppression activities, combined with large areas of high burn severity, resulted in considerable ground disturbance and the creation of favorable conditions for the spread of invasive plants. This level of past disturbance, combined with the large number of invasive

species concentrated within the project area, alongside a well-traveled road, where the risk of spread is high, greatly increases the vulnerability of the area and adjacent landscape.

The purpose of the project is to reduce the spread of invasive plant infestations, through the eradication or control of these six species of NNIP within the project area in a timely and cost-effective manner, while protecting human health and critical ecosystem functions.

## **NEED FOR ACTION**

This action responds to the goals and objectives outlined in the Plumas forest plan, as amended by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment, and helps move the project area towards desired conditions described in that plan (USDA Forest Service 2004).

## **COLLABORATIVE INVOLVEMENT**

This action was listed November, 2017 as a proposed EA on the Plumas National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA), as well as the Feather River Ranger District 10 year Strategic Plan and Forest Program of Work (POW). The project was updated and revised May, 2018 to a CE, incorporating current project development design features, involving public input, using specific resource specialists for review and analysis.

1. Development. November 15, 2017, Yuba County Supervisors, Yuba County Fire Safe Council, and Sierra Forest Legacy among others were notified/informed of the Proposed Action.
2. Input. Collaborative input was accomplished through the following methods:
  - a. Collaborative Meetings.
    - i. Second Wednesday, monthly, Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council meeting, Dobbins-Oregon House, CA
    - ii. June 5, 2018, FRRD Collaborative meeting, Oroville, CA
    - iii. July 23, 2018, Butte County Forest Advisory Committee, Chico, CA

## **TRIBAL INVOLVEMENT**

This action was listed November, 2017 as a proposed EA on the Plumas National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA), as well as the Feather River Ranger District 10 year Strategic Plan and Forest Program of Work (POW). The project was updated and revised May, 2018 to a CE. The following tribes were invited to participate in the development, review, and implementation of the proposed project.

1. Development. The following tribal agencies were notified/informed of the Proposed Action:
  - a. Estom Yumeka Tribe of Enterprise Rancheria
  - b. Tyme Maidu Tribe of Berry Creek Rancheria



- c. Concow Maidu Tribe of Mooretown Rancheria
  - d. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
2. Input. Estom Yumeka Tribe of Enterprise Rancheria responded that after a thorough examination of the project and discussions with their cultural specialist and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer that they had determined that the project is within the aboriginal territory of the Tribe. Their records search failed to locate any known cultural sites within the project boundaries. However, they retain the right to consult should any post review discoveries be made.

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

This action was listed November, 2017 as a proposed EA on the Plumas National Forest Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA), as well as the Feather River Ranger District 10 year Strategic Plan and Forest Program of Work (POW). The project was updated and revised May, 2018 to a CE, incorporating current project development design features, involving public input, using specific resource specialists for review and analysis.

Scoping. Public scoping was accomplished through the following methods:

1. On November 9, 2017, we forwarded a project description and invitation to scoping on request to a member of the public.
2. On November 15, 2017, we received comments expressing concern about our proposal to use glyphosate as a follow-up treatment option for eradicating Scotch broom.

In its issue paper on glyphosate, the US EPA (2016) concluded that, based on the science, glyphosate is “not likely to be carcinogenic to humans” at proposed doses. The California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC 2017) supports the use of glyphosate in invasive plant management as part of an integrated pest management approach. When using glyphosate according to the label, with appropriate personal protective equipment and best practices, glyphosate is low-risk for wildlife, applicators, and the public.

3. On November 17, 2017, we sent a project description and invitation to scoping to 24 representatives of Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments, non-government organizations, and members of the public.
4. On November 23, 2017, we published a legal notice of public scoping in the Oroville Mercury-Register.

## ANALYSIS AND REVIEW

Given the project brief, project initiation notice, stakeholder input, public scoping comments and follow up information a comprehensive review and analysis was done of this project by the FRRD IDT. The review and analysis for botany (USDA Forest Service 2018a), hydrology and soils (USDA Forest Service 2018b), and aquatic and terrestrial wildlife (USDA Forest Service 2018c) is incorporated into the project record.

## LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

As the responsible official, I am responsible for evaluating the effects of the project relative to the definition of significance established by the CEQ Regulations (40 CFR 1508.13). I have found that the Context and intensity of the analyzed resource areas do not meet the threshold nor the criteria for extraordinary circumstances or potential negative or significant effects in the area of potential effect.

## RESULTS OF REVIEW AND ANALYSIS - FINDINGS

I find that there are no extraordinary circumstances that would warrant further analysis and documentation in an EA or EIS. I took into account resource conditions identified in agency procedures that should be considered in determining whether extraordinary circumstances might exist:

- Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species – There are no federally listed species or their designated critical habitat in the wildlife analysis area. A biological evaluation determined that the project will not affect species and or their habitat and is not likely to lead toward a trend of federally listing.
- Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds – There are no flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds in the project area.
- Congressionally designated areas such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas – None are present.
- Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas – None are present.
- Research natural areas – None are present.
- American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites – None are present.
- Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas – The project is a screened undertaking (class B) according to the provisions of the Regional PA 2013 (USDA Forest Service 2018d). No standard protection measures are required and the project may be implemented without further review or consultation.

## CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

Established by the Chief, this a one of a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and which have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by the agency in implementation of regulations (40 CFR 1508.4).

## DECISION

I have decided to approve/disapprove the project and proposed action with the requirements, design features, best management practices, or mitigation measures listed in this Decision Memorandum and in the appendices.

Design criteria to protect human health, water quality, and natural resources will be incorporated into the proposed action. Herbicides will be applied in accordance with:

1. product label directions;
2. California Department of Pesticide Regulation requirements;
3. Forest Service best management practices for water quality (USDA Forest Service 2011), Forest Service direction (FSM 2900, 2150 and 2200), and Handbook (FSH 2109.14); and
4. This project will include a Pesticide Use Spill Plan.

Prior to any herbicide use, a Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) (FS-2100-2) and safety plan (FS-6700-7) will be completed by the project leader and approved by the Responsible Official. These documents will be included in the project record.

Specific design features, best management practices, and mitigation measures are summarized in Appendix A. The Soil and Water Quality Monitoring Plan is Appendix B.

A June 20, 2014, Presidential Memorandum recommends additional best management practices to promote the health of honey bees and other pollinators. To address this recommendation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of the Interior have developed best management practices to protect pollinators when implementing management activities, including pesticide treatments (USDA and USDI 2015). Although not yet required, these best management practices will be followed and are consistent with the project design features for this project.

This action is categorically excluded from documentation in an environmental impact statement (EIS) or an environmental assessment (EA). The applicable category of actions is identified in agency procedures as 36 CFR 220.6(d)(3), *repair and maintenance of administrative sites*. This category of action(s) is applicable because the agency regularly and routinely implements an integrated pest management approach to non-native invasive plants. The Forest Service contracts with Syracuse Environmental Research Associates (SERA) to develop human health risk assessments. SERA human and ecological risk assessments for this project are summarized in the hydrology and soils report (USDA Forest Service 2018b). The potential for detrimental effects to water and soils from proposed herbicide treatments are negligible. The herbicides proposed for use in this project have relatively short half-lives and degrade in soils quickly. Past monitoring has shown little to no evidence of any measureable or lasting contamination and herbicides have not been detected moving into water bodies.

## FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS AND REGULATIONS

This decision is consistent with the Plumas National Forest Land Management Plan as amended by the 2004 Sierra Nevada Forests Plan Amendment (SNFPA) supplemental EIS and ROD.

This project meets the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

This project meets the requirements of the Clean Water Act of 1972.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW (APPEAL) OPPORTUNITIES**

This Decision does not provide for any “appeal” or “objection” opportunities. All public and stakeholder input was received and considered during the FRRD collaborative process for this project. Once this Decision is signed the project or proposed action may be implemented immediately, notwithstanding any other law or regulation from another agency that would preclude its immediate implementation.

### **IMPLEMENTATION DATE AND REQUIREMENTS**

This action may be implemented immediately following the delivery and discussion of the Regulatory Requirements, Best Management Practices (BMPs), Design Features, and/or Mitigation Measures required by this Decision Memorandum with those responsible for implementation. A notice of receipt or acknowledgement must be received by the Responsible Official or their designee and maintained with this Decision Memorandum prior to implementation and maintained until the project is complete and reviewed by District officials.

### **CONTACT**

For additional information concerning this decision, contact: Lawrence Janeway, District Botanist, [ljaneway@fs.fed.us](mailto:ljaneway@fs.fed.us).

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David B. Brillenz  
District Ranger  
Feather River Ranger District  
Plumas National Forest

Date

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**Department of Public Works**

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July 5, 2018

**RE: Four Trees Road – Invitation to Public Meeting**

Dear Property Owner,

I am writing to let you know that the Butte County Public Works Department will be hosting a public meeting on July 18, 2018 at 5:30 pm which you are invited to attend.

We would like to give all residents, property owners, and interested parties the opportunity to discuss the future possibilities for Four Trees Road. As most of you know, Four Trees Road is currently privately owned and maintained. There has been informal discussion between Butte County and Plumas National Forest about the potential value of Four Trees Road as an additional access point into the Plumas National Forest. The section in question is from Highway 70 to the Plumas National Forest border, a distance of approximately 1.7 miles.

At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to find out more information and express your interest or concerns to staff from both Butte County Public Works and Plumas National Forest.

It is important to note that no decisions have been made on this issue. This meeting is the first step in our research to determine the feasibility of working towards public ownership of this roadway.

The meeting will be held at 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville in the Tahoe Room. The length of the meeting will depend on the amount of questions that follow the presentations, but our goal is to finish by no later than 7:00 pm.

If you are not able to attend, but wish to provide comments, please feel free to contact me at (530) 538-7266 or email comments or questions to [ESchroth@buttecounty.net](mailto:ESchroth@buttecounty.net).

Sincerely,

Eric Schroth

cc: Dennis Schmidt, Butte County Public Works  
Clay Davis, Plumas National Forest