



BUTTE COUNTY FOREST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 26, 2020—5:00 P.M. Meeting via ZOOM

ITEM NO.

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- 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, Bob Gage, Frank Stewart, Carolyn Denero, Holly Jorgensen
Invited Guests: Deb Bumpus (Forest Supervisor, Lassen National Forest); Russell Nickerson, (District Ranger, Almanor Ranger District, Lassen National Forest); David Brillenz (District Ranger, Feather River Ranger District (FRRD), Plumas National Forest); Clay Davis (NEPA Planner, FRRD); Brett Sanders (Congressman LaMalfa's Representative); Dennis Schmidt, Director of Public Works; Dan Efsaeff, Director, Paradise Recreation and Park District, Butte County Sheriff's Office Representative; Plumas County Sheriff's Office Representative.
- 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 2-24-20 – 5 Min. (March and April Meetings canceled due to COVID-19 Restrictions)
- 4.00 **Agenda**
- 4.01 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 prescribed fire plans, pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA – 20 Min
 - Update on LEO planned activity – LNF
 - Plumas NF Feather River Ranger District, David Brillenz, District Ranger or Clay Davis (District Planner): Report and Q & A on pending, proposed and modified projects, SOPA and Non-SOPA and Collaborator's Meeting Update – 20 Min.
 - Update on any planned LEO activity - PNF
- 4.02 Butte County Sgt. Dave Ennis: Report on planned Law Enforcement activity on and around public lands for the upcoming recreational season, updates on OHV grants for law enforcement, and any impacts anticipated due to the COVID-19 restrictions.
- 4.03 Plumas County Sheriff – updates on plans for Law Enforcement in the High Lakes and other areas (yet to be confirmed)
- 4.04 Follow up issues: BLM Public Comment on E-bikes – any concerns? Anyone comment on a personal level? Poe Powerhouse Relicensing Draft Recreation Plan – any comments? Peggy/Thad Pacific Forest Trust request for endorsement – letter of support for their legislative efforts – competing plans also in the making
- 4.05 Drones for seeding trees on denuded landscapes - handout
- 4.06 New Business–Considerations for upcoming meetings: Next meeting is June 22, 2020 - ZOOM, 5:00 PM
- Access to evacuation routes, traffic studies, in the event of wildfire (CalFire, PW, BCFSC, Nick R.) To include all rural foothill areas
 - Mining Claims and how they work, how many are out there, how they are regulated
 - Fish & Wildlife
- 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 Action (SOPA)

04/01/2020 to 06/30/2020

Lassen 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
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Projects Occurring Nationwide

Locatable Mining Rule - 36 CFR 228, subpart A EIS <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">*NEW LISTING*</p>	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress: DEIS NOA in Federal Register 09/13/2018 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 11/2021	Expected:12/2021	12/2021	Nancy Rusho 202-731-9196 nancy.rusho@usda.gov
Description: The U.S. Department of Agriculture proposes revisions to its regulations at 36 CFR 228, Subpart A governing locatable minerals operations on National Forest System lands. A draft EIS & proposed rule should be available for review/comment in late 2020					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57214					
Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - Not Applicable. These regulations will be applicable to all NFS lands open to mineral entry under the United States Mining Law.					

Lassen National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)

R5 - Pacific Southwest Region

Lassen NF Communication Uses Permit Reissuance Project CE <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">*UPDATED*</p>	- Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/27/2019	Expected:04/2020	06/2020	Nancy Barrera 530-257-2151 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
Description: Lassen National Forest proposes to issue new special use authorizations for existing communication uses on the Forest, to replace existing or expired authorization terms.					
Location: UNIT - Lassen National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Antelope Lookout, Keddie Ridge, Turner Mtn., Table Mtn., Hamilton Mtn., West Prospect, Hat Creek, and Morgan Summit.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest, Forestwide (excluding Projects occurring in more than one Forest)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Lassen National Forest Motor Vehicle Use Map Update Project EA	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/05/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 05/2019	Expected:12/2019	01/2020	Leslie Ross 530-252-6622 lross@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project enhances off-highway motorized recreation opportunity by increasing the mileage of existing roads and connectivity of routes, available to off highway vehicles, while providing for public safety and protecting resources.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55457				
Location: UNIT - Lassen National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Lassen, Plumas, Shasta, Tehama. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Multiple linear features throughout Lassen National Forest.					
Lassen National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle(OSV) Use Designation EIS *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Road management	In Progress: Objection Period Legal Notice 04/04/2018	Expected:07/2020	07/2020	Chris Obrien 530-252-6698 cjobrien@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Forest Service is evaluating management of over snow vehicle (OSV) use on the Lassen National Forest for the designation of LNF system roads, trails, and areas where OSV use will be allowed.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45832				
Location: 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.					

Lassen National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Hat Creek-Westwood Hazard Reduction Project CE *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/22/2019	Expected:06/2020	07/2020	Andrew Orlemann 530.252.6693 andrew.orlemann@usda.gov
	Description: The project involves timber stand improvements designed to reduce hazards associated with PG&E's Hat Creek to Westwood transmission line.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56660				
Location: UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District, Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen, Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Township (T) 35 North (N), Range (R) 40 East (E); T35N, R50E; T34N, R50E; T34N, R60E; T33N, R60E; T33N, R70E; T32N, R70E; T32N, R80E; T31N, R80E; T30N, R90E;and T29N, R90E of the Mount Diablo Meridian.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
Southwest Lassen Watershed Improvement Project CE *UPDATED*	- Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 06/20/2018	Expected:05/2020	05/2020	Chris Obrien 530-252-6698 cjobrien@fs.fed.us
	Description: 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.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54111				
Location: 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.					

Lassen National Forest	Almanor Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R5 - Pacific Southwest Region			
Jones Meadow Fuels Reduction CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 07/2020	Expected:03/2021	06/2021	Jennifer Erickson 530-258-5141 jlerickson@fs.fed.us
	Description: 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.				
	Location: 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).				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest Almanor Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) R5 - Pacific Southwest Region					
Robbers Creek Watershed EA *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	In Progress: Scoping Start 06/14/2019	Expected:07/2020	08/2020	Coye Burnett 530-258-5197 coye.burnett@usda.gov
	Description: The Robbers Creek Watershed EA project objective is to restore watershed health by implementing treatments that improve the ecological resilience of aspen, meadow, stream and forest habitats.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56356				
Location: UNIT - Almanor Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen, Plumas. LEGAL - T29N R8E sec. 1, 2, 12, 13; T29N R9E sec. 6, 7, 18, 19 and 20; T30N R8 sec. 7, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 26, 27, 34 and 35; MDM. Located within the Swain Management Area, on the Almanor Ranger District. The southern extent of the project boundary is located 2.5 miles North of Westwood, CA on Hwy A-21 and north to Barnes Flat.					
West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project EA *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation management - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	In Progress: Scoping Start 05/01/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 06/2020	Expected:10/2020	10/2020	Matthew Cerney 530-258-5191 matthew.cerney@usda.gov
	Description: Mixed-conifer forest veg mgt project designed to 1)reduce haz fuels within WUI;2)increase forest health and veg diversity;3)provide an economic benefit to the local community;4)Protect ecosystems and wildlife habitat;5)Improve forest health in RCAs				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56312				
Location: UNIT - Almanor Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T. 27N, R. 8E, Sections 18, 19, 20, and 30; T27N, R7E, Sec. 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, and 24; Mount Diablo Meridian. In Plumas County, CA on the Lassen National Forest adjacent to Lake Almanor's west shore, surrounding the communities of Lake Almanor West and Prattville & the Rocky Point Campground.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest	Almanor Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Yellow Creek Watershed Restoration EA *NEW LISTING*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 05/2020	Expected:10/2020	10/2020	Coye Burnett 530-258-5197 coye.burnett@usda.gov
Description: Project aims to recover the ecological potential of meadows, aspen, riparian and forested vegetation in the project area by restoring their form and function to a self-sustaining state that is resilient to a range of future conditions and wildfire.					
Location: UNIT - Almanor Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - The project area falls within Township 27 North, Range 6 East, Sections 27, 34, and 35 Mount Diablo Base Meridian (MDBM). The Yellow Creek Project is located on the Lassen National Forest on the Almanor Ranger District (Figure 1). The project encompasses approximately 4 miles of Yellow Creek within the Upper Feather River Watershed in Plumas County, CA.					

Lassen National Forest	Eagle Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Acer Vegetation Management Project EA *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Watershed management - Road management 	In Progress: Scoping Start 11/25/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 06/2020	Expected:10/2020	11/2020	Andrew Orlemann 530-252-6693 andrew.orlemann@usda.gov
Description: Project objectives are fuels reduction, forest health improvement and watershed restoration. Activities include:Plantation thinning & windrow redistribution; fuels thinning; prescribed burning; and transportation management.					
Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55762					
Location: UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Lassen National Forest, Eagle Lake Ranger District, Approximately 20 miles northwest of Susanville, Lassen County, California.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest	Eagle Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Confluence Meadow Restoration Project EA *UPDATED*	- Watershed management	Completed	Actual: 03/30/2020	07/2020	Douglas Peters 530-252-6456 dwpeters@fs.fed.us
	Description: 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.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52590				
	Location: 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.				
Dyer Mountain Communication Site Development CE	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 08/2021	Expected:10/2021	05/2022	Nancy Barrera 530-258-5107 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
	Description: 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.				
	Location: 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.				
Janesville Road Access Project CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 03/10/2020	04/2020	Nancy Barrera 530-257-2151 nbarrera@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Lassen National Forest proposes to issue a new special use authorization to New Cingular Wireless, PCS, LLC, for the use of road 28N05, to replace existing expired authorization terms.				
	Location: UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Elysian Valley Area, Janesville. T28N,R12E,Sec1. Road 28N05.				
McKenzie Meadow Restoration Project CE *UPDATED*	- Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 09/17/2019	Expected:04/2020	06/2020	Bobette Jones 530-257-4188 bobettejones@fs.fed.us
	Description: The goal of this project is to enhance meadow habitat by re-connecting the stream to a multiple channel system and increasing stream base elevation.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56722				
	Location: UNIT - Eagle Lake Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Project area is approximately 26 miles NW of Susanville, CA. It encompasses 61 miles, between McKenzie Cow Camp and Highway 44, where lowest downstream perennial portion of Pine Creek flows.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest Eagle Lake Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
North Eagle Lake, Champs Flat, and Lower Pine Creek Allotments Grazing Mgt. Project EA *UPDATED*	- Grazing management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/06/2018 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 04/2020	Expected:07/2020	08/2020	Kirsten Pasero 530-252-5854 kpasero@fs.fed.us
	Description: Grazing allotment management plans. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=48381				
	Location: 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.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest Hat Creek Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region		
17 Road Crossings Project, Phase II CE *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Watershed management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 03/2020	Expected:11/2020	07/2021	Shawn Wheelock 530-336-3340 swheelock@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project is intended to restore a degraded section of North Digger Creek Channel, reduce the sediment entering the Battle Creek watershed, provide effective aquatic organism passage, protect NFS infrastructure, and enhance aspen stands. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=56425				
	Location: UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately three miles west of Lassen Volcanic National Park in Township 30 North, Range 3 East, sections 22 and 27, Mount Diablo Meridian.				
2014 Hat Creek Fire Restoration Project EA *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/17/2019 Est. Comment Period Public Notice 07/2020	Expected:12/2020	01/2021	Tamera Taylor 530-336-5521 tataylor@usda.gov
	Description: The purpose of this project is to successfully reforest suitable portions of the landscape deforested by the 2014 Bald and Eiler Fires and to reduce the spread of known and new invasive plant infestations within the fire areas. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57170				
	Location: UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Lassen, Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Bald and Eiler Fire areas: various sections within T33N:R3E and R4E; T34N:R3E,R4E,R5E,R6E, and R7E; T35N:R4E,R5E,R6E,and R7E; and T36N;R5E and R6E, Mount Diablo Meridian, Lassen and Shasta Counties.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest	Hat Creek Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Black Ranch Flood Plain Enhancement Project CE *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Watershed management - Road management 	Completed	Actual: 03/12/2020	03/2020	Shawn Wheelock 530-336-3340 swheelock@fs.fed.us
	Description: This project is designed to enhance the historic flood plain, allow natural flows to resume, and address infrastructure damage and tree mortality caused by flooding.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55470				
Location: UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 4 miles northwest of the community of Johnson Park, California, Township 36 north, Range 3 east, Sections 17-19.					
Citizens Utility Company Aerial Telephone Line project CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Kimberly Ganz 530-336-3383 kganz@fs.fed.us
	Description: 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.				
	Location: 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.				
Crossroads Project CE *UPDATED*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management - Road management 	Completed	Actual: 01/31/2020	01/2020	Greg Mayer 530-336-5521 gmayer@fs.fed.us
	Description: The Crossroads Project is designed to improve resilience of stands to future disturbance events, decrease fuel loads, enhance oak woodlands, improve ingress and egress, and refine the transportation system for safe public access and travel.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55825				
Location: UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Approximately 2 miles northeast of Burney, CA, within the Shasta-Trinity NF administered by the Lassen NF. T36N, R3E, Sec. 3-6,8-9,17,19,21,22,26-28,30,31,34,35 and T37N, R3E, Sec. 17-19 and 30.					

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Lassen National Forest	Hat Creek Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R5 - Pacific Southwest Region	
Hat Creek Wells Project CE *NEW LISTING*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Grazing management - Fuels management - Road management 	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/05/2020	Expected:04/2020	05/2020	Greg Mayer 530-336-5521 gmayer@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: The Hat Creek Ranger District is proposing the Grayback and Procter Creek Wells Project to provide two non-potable water sources on NFS lands to be used for fire, forest management activities, road maintenance, and wildlife and livestock watering.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=57503</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Hat Creek Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Shasta. LEGAL - Not Applicable. The Grayback site would be located near Big Lake on the west side of the District in T32N, R3E, sec. 10. The Procter Creek site would be located on the Hat Creek Rim within T35N, R5E, sec. 2-3, 34-35.</p>					

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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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Projects Occurring Nationwide					
Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Locatable Mining Rule - 36 CFR 228, subpart A. EIS *UPDATED*	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	In Progress NOI in Federal Register 09/13/2018 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 11/2021	Expected: 12/2021	12/2021	Nancy Rusho 202-731-9196 nancy.rusho@usda.gov
<p>Description: The U.S. Department of Agriculture proposes revisions to its regulations at 36 CFR 228, Subpart A governing locatable minerals operations on National Forest System lands. A draft EIS & proposed rule should be available for review/comment in late 2020 Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=57214</p> <p>Location: UNIT - All Districts-level Units. STATE - All States. COUNTY - All Counties. LEGAL - Not Applicable These regulations apply to all NFS lands open to mineral entry under the US mining laws. More Information is available at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/science-technology/geology/minerals/locatable-minerals/current-revisions</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
Plumas National Forest Over-Snow Vehicle (OSV) Use Designation EIS	- Recreation management	In Progress DEIS NOA in Federal Register 02/08/2019 Est. FEIS NOA in Federal Register 08/2020	Expected: 10/2020	11/2020	Katherine Carpenter 530-283-7742 katherine.carpenter@usda.gov
<p>Description: 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. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=47124</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Plumas National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Lassen, Plumas, Sierra, Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable National Forest System lands administered by the Plumas National Forest (forest-wide).</p>					

Walker Fire Rehabilitation Project CE	- Fuels management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Grazing management	In Progress Scoping Start 04/03/2020	Expected: 06/2020	07/2020	Katherine Carpenter 530-283-7742 kacarpenter@fs.fed.us
NEW LISTING					
<p>Description: This project includes removing and/or rearranging fire-killed and fire-injured trees and replacement of twenty-six miles of range fencing, four water systems, three cattle guard wings, and eleven wildlife guzzlers.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=58032</p>					
<p>Location: UNIT - Plumas National Forest All Units. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T25N, R11E Sections 1, 11-13; T25N R12E Sections 1-18, 20-24; T25N R13E Sections 3-10, 15-18; T26N R11E Section 36; T26N R12E Sections 1-5, 7-36; more in "other project information" The Walker Fire perimeter is located on the Mt. Hough and Beckwourth Ranger Districts of the Plumas National Forest.</p>					

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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
<p>Description: 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.</p> <p>Location: 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.</p>					
Haskell Project CE	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Forest products - Road management	In Progress Scoping Start 09/05/2018	Expected: 04/2020	06/2020	Michael Friend 530-836-7167 mjfriend@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: Improve forest health and enhance resistance to insect and disease attacks. Proposed activities may include: mechanical thinning, hand thinning, grapple piling, pile burning, underburning, and decommissioning of non-system roads.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52569</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable The project is located 4 to 6 miles Southeast of Graeagle, CA and 10 miles south of Portola in Plumas and Sierra Counties, California.</p>					
Ramelli Ranch Erosion Improvement, Pipeline and Corral Maintenance Project CE	- Grazing management - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Watershed management	In Progress Scoping Start 12/17/2019	Expected: 05/2020	10/2020	Martha Roberts 530-836-7166 martha.roberts@usda.gov
<p>Description: The project proposes to authorize maintenance of buried irrigation pipeline, address erosion concerns near the river corridor, and authorize reconstruction of an existing corral.</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Beckwourth Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T23N, R14E, Sections 27 and 28. The Ramelli Ranch Allotment is located approximately 2 miles west of Beckwourth and south of State Highway 70 on National Forest Systems Lands in Plumas County, California.</p>					
				09/2020	

Thompson Meadow Restoration Project EA	- Watershed management - Grazing management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants	In Progress Comment Period 01/08/2020	Expected: 04/2020		Joseph Hoffman 530-283-2050 jahoffman@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: 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>Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=52760</p>					
<p>Location: 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: 01/2020	01/2020	Jeremy Dorsey 909 382-2837 jdorsey02@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: 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>Location: 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
Concow Resilience Project CE	- Fuels management - Watershed management - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	In Progress Scoping Start 12/11/2019	Expected: 09/2020	10/2020	Clay Davis 907-747-4225 clayrdavis@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: Proposes to undertake a series of reforestation, revegetation, and brush control activities following high-severity fire in and around the Concow Basin.</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=57311</p>					
<p>Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte. LEGAL - Not Applicable Lands of the Lassen National Forest administered by the Plumas National Forest in the Concow Basin, east of Paradise, California off CA Highway 70.</p>					
FRRD Abandoned Mine Closures 2019 CE	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 08/12/2019	Expected: 04/2020	05/2020	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us
<p>Description: Abandoned mine closures and site reclamation</p> <p>Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=56831</p>					
<p>Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Plumas, Sierra. LEGAL - Not Applicable Four sites on the Feather River Ranger District</p>					
French Creek I Hazardous Fuels Reduction CE	- Forest products - Fuels management	In Progress Scoping Start 09/11/2019	Expected: 08/2020	09/2020	Jason Vermillion 530-532-7434 jvermillion@fs.fed.us

	<p>Description: The French Creek I project proposes to reduce hazardous fuels and stand density through commercial and pre-commercial thinning, mastication of brush and prescribed burning using GTR-220 and 237 methods. The project will treat no more than 3,000 acres Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=56798</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte. LEGAL - Not Applicable Located ~ 10 miles north of Berry Creek, at elevations ranging between 2,300 and 4,500 feet. Annual precipitation ranges between 55 and 70 inches. The Camp Fire burned through the majority of the area</p>				
Granite Basin OHV Trail Development Project EA	- Recreation management - Road management	In Progress Scoping Start 05/15/2019 Est. Comment Period 05/2020	Expected: 08/2020	09/2020	Clay Davis 530-532-8940 clay.davis@usda.gov
	<p>Description: The Forest Service is proposing to meet the need for additional OHV riding opportunities for the Granite Basin recreation area. This proposal has two components: construction/reconstruction of OHV trail and road reclassification to authorize OHV use. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=55986</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Granite Basin</p>				
Lower Four Trees Road Fire Salvage Project CE *NEW LISTING*	- Fuels management - Road management - Forest products	In Progress Scoping Start 05/12/2020	Expected: 05/2020	06/2020	Eric Murphy 530-532-8922 ejmurphy@fs.fed.us
	<p>Description: Areas along Four Trees Road (23N00) were burned severely in the Camp Fire (November 8-25, 2018). Tree mortality has occurred in areas of high and mixed fire severity. We propose to log the trees that have died, are dying, and will die. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=58166</p> <p>Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte. LEGAL - Not Applicable Four Trees Road (NFS Road 23N00) above CA Highway 70 and West of NFS Road 23N28 in the French Creek area.</p>				
Mooreville Ridge Insect and Disease Resilience Project CE *UPDATED*	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Analysis Completed	Expected: 04/2020 Actual: 05/06/2020	05/2020	Eric Murphy 530-532-8922 ejmurphy@fs.fed.us
	<p>Description: 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. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54027</p> <p>Location: 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>				
PG&E Underground Electric Powerline Special Use Request CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Erika Brenzovich 530-283-7622 ebrenzovich@fs.fed.us
	<p>Description: PG&E is proposing to install a new underground electric power line within the Highway 70 corridor that will replace approximately 10 miles of the Bucks Creek 1101 12kV pole line that was damaged during the Camp Fire. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=56962</p>				

	Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Approximately 10 miles within the Highway 70 corridor between Pulga Road and Cresta Dam.				
Strawberry Wildfire Resilience Project CE	- Forest products - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	In Progress Scoping Start 03/29/2019	Expected: 05/2020	08/2020	Eric Murphy 530-532-8922 ejmurphy@fs.fed.us
	Description: Reduce hazardous fuels and reduce the risk of insect and disease-caused tree mortality through mechanical and hand thinning, mastication of brush, grapple and hand piling, targeted grazing, and prescribed and pile burning. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=55801				
	Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Butte, Plumas, Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable Located nearby Sly Creek Reservoir on and near the La Porte Quincy Highway, Strawberry Valley, CA, is one of a number of small, rural communities surrounded by the Plumas National Forest (WUI).				
YWA - Cottage Creek Dam Modification Special Use CE	- Special use management	In Progress Scoping Start 03/31/2020	Expected: 05/2020	06/2020	Clay Davis 907-747-4225 clayrdavis@fs.fed.us
	Description: Yuba Water Agency has requested authorization to modify a 1960 earthen dam partially occupying NFS lands. The dam is not within the FERC boundary and is not currently authorized through a special use. We propose to authorize modification and operation Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=57979				
	Location: UNIT - Feather River Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Yuba. LEGAL - Not Applicable Cottage Creek Dam is located in northeastern Yuba County, approximately 30 miles northeast of Yuba City, at an approximate elevation of 2,000 feet, on Plumas National Forest and YWA-owned land that is directly adjacent to the Tahoe National Forest.				

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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
Bud Lee Placer Mining Plan of Operations EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 02/11/2020 Est. Comment Period 04/2020	Expected: 06/2020	06/2020	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 donna.duncan@usda.gov
	Description: Continued mining using heavy equipment to excavate materials from existing pit, and process with a trommel wash plant 7 sluice box. Occupancy of the site during operations will include tents and a portable toilet. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=57744				
	Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T25N, R7E, Sec 27 The Bud Lee claim is near Richbar, in the Feather River Canyon				
China Bar Placer Mining Plan of Operations EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 04/01/2019 Est. Comment	Expected: 06/2020	06/2020	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us

		Period 05/2020			
	Description: Placer mining bench gravels in the North Fork Feather River Drainage. Use of a small backhoe and a trommel. Settling ponds will prevent discharge into river.				
	Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T26N, R8E, Sec 19 Seneca, CA, China Bar				
Golden Willow Placer Mining 2020 CE	- Minerals and Geology	Analysis Completed	Expected: 04/2020 Actual: 04/13/2020	05/2020	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 donna.duncan@usda.gov
UPDATED	Description: Placer mining along creek banks, long term occupancy				
	Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T27N, R12E, Sec 9, MDBM The Golden Willow Placer claim is located along Indian Creek, north of Antelope Lake. Access is along Fruit Growers Boulevard (NFS Road 28N03).				
Long Valley Forest Health Project CE	- Fuels management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Forest products	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2019	Expected: 02/2020	09/2020	Kyla Sabo 530-283-7652 kylasabo@fs.fed.us
	Description: Improve forest health and fire resiliency within the project area as well as reduce meadow and aspen encroachment by lodgepole pine. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=56891				
	Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T26N R8E Sections 11-13, 24, T26N, R9E Sections 7, 18, 19, 30 The project area is South of Round Valley Reservoir.				
Moonlight-Superior Drill Project CE	- Minerals and Geology	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us
	Description: Exploratory drilling, drill pad construction, sump pit excavation, water for drilling, improve some roads, some cross country travel.				
	Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T27N, R10E, Sec 1,12, T27N, R11E, Sec 6 Moonlight Valley, north of Taylorsville, CA				
Plumas Imperial Mining Plan of Operations EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Comment Period 03/18/2020	Expected: 05/2020	05/2020	Leslie Edlund 530-283-7650 ledlund@fs.fed.us
UPDATED	Description: Plan of Operation submitted to mine using heavy equipment to excavate material, processing through a trommel and use of settling ponds. .5 miles of non-system road was constructed under a previous plan. This road will be maintained. Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=55636				
	Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T24N, R9E, Sec 18 Near Meadow Valley, CA				
R.E. Dahlens Placer Mining Plan of Operations EA	- Minerals and Geology	In Progress Scoping Start 01/30/2019 Est. Comment Period 04/2020	Expected: 05/2020	05/2020	Donna Duncan 530-283-7614 dmduncan@fs.fed.us

Description: Placer mining, continuing operation, on North Fork Feather River

Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T26N, R8e, Sec 16 west of Seneca, CA

Soper Wheeler	- Road management	In	Expected:	04/2020	Erika Brenzovich
Silver Creek	- Special use	Progress	12/2019		530-283-7620
Pipeline	management	Scoping			ebrenzovich@fs.fed.us
Replacement		Start			
Project		10/11/2018			
EA		Est.			
		Comment			
		Period			
		09/2019			

Description: The proposed project includes the replacement of the existing plastic and metal pipe with new high-density polyethylene (HDPE) 14-20 diameter pipe for a total length of 5,405 feet

Web Link: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=54827

Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - T 24 N, R 8 E, Sec 15 & 16 The project is located near Meadow Valley, CA adjacent to Silver Creek

Toilet Removal -	- Recreation	In	Expected:	06/2020	Leslie Edlund
Snake Lake and	management	Progress	04/2020		530-283-7620
Greenville		Scoping			ledlund@fs.fed.us
Campground		Start			
CE		12/09/2019			

NEW LISTING **Description:** Removal of two vault toilet buildings: one at Snake Lake Campground and one at Greenville Campground. The Snake Lake toilet is old and has been replaced with a CXT. The Greenville toilet has a suspected cracked vault.

Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Snake Lake Campground - T24N, R9E, Section 6. Greenville Campground - T27N, R9E, Section 34

Union Pacific	- Special use	In	Expected:	06/2020	Leslie Edlund
Railroad Debris	management	Progress	05/2020		530-283-7620
Straining Grizzlies		Scoping			ledlund@fs.fed.us
CE		Start			
		08/06/2019			

NEW LISTING **Description:** UPRR proposes to maintain two debris-straining structures, referred to as grizzlies, located in the Plumas National Forest. The project involves two grizzly structures, the north grizzly and the south grizzly, located above the RR tracks, Fern Creek.

Location: UNIT - Mt. Hough Ranger District. STATE - California. COUNTY - Plumas. LEGAL - Not Applicable Fern Canyon, a tributary to the Feather River. North grizzly - latitude 40.003532 ,longitude -121.244470. South grizzly - latitude 40.003366, longitude -121.244678.

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(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.

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

This would normally be when I write to schedule our next quarterly meeting of our Feather River Ranger District Collaborative. As things stand we don't know when we will no longer be practicing social distancing and again be planning things like in-person collaborative meetings and field trips. The Forest Service is still here managing the National Forests, but we are in an almost 100% virtual workplace as we do our part to support California Governor Newsom's March 19, 'Stay at Home' order.

Things the FRRD Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) have been up to since our February 19, meeting:

- On February 19, the FRRD IDT led a field trip to the area of the Ponderosa and Bullards Bar Fires. Butte County Resource Conservation District (BCRCD) joined seven members of the FRRD team visiting Burnt Bridge Campground, Fuels team 2020 prescribed burning site off 18N01 Road, PG&E enhanced vegetation management, Cottage Creek Campground, and a 2.1 mile segment of new trail built near Cottage Creek.
- The February 19, collaborative meeting was attended by 22 representing California Fire Safe Councils, Butte County Board of Supervisors, Butte County Fire Safe Council (BCFSC), Berry Creek Fire Safe Council, Butte County Forest Advisory Committee (BCFAC), BCRCD, Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI), Sierra Forest Legacy, members of the public, and FRRD – Thibault Hoppe-Glosser with the BCFSC briefed the proposed the Butte County Collaborative Group (BCCG), there was a long discussion about the need for a collaborative group at the County level, coordinating forest health at the landscape level, and what values and services it would bring to the Butte County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Workgroup and other interested stakeholders;
- Clay attended the February 24, BCFAC meeting, briefed the recent collaborative meeting, current projects, and answered questions;
- The District Ranger signed the Woodleaf Salvage Project (PALS# 57757) decision March 5, to salvage log bug-killed trees near the community of Woodleaf;
- FRRD hosted the Plumas NF integrated vegetation management (IVM) team March 9, for their quarterly in person meeting;
- March 17, the Regional Forester paused all prescribed burning on NFS lands in California;
- The Regional Forester issued a Regional Order March 25, to close all developed recreation sites on NFS lands in California, general forest areas including extensive trail systems remain open and available;
- March 30, the FRRD IDT and BCRCD met virtually to discuss a number of partnership projects including Concow Resilience, Granite Basin OHV Development, Dome Trail Stairs Replacement, and Dixie Road Repairs;
- On April 1, FRRD and Yuba Water District initiated the Cottage Creek Dam Modification – Special Use Project (PALS# 57979), sending scoping to 127 partners representing Federal, Tribal, State, and local governments and agencies, industry, utilities, environmental organizations, education, and members of the public;
- On April 1, sent out a note from entomologist Danny Cluck along with a Forest Health Fact Sheet regarding diseases and insect pests of Pacific madrone, based on questions from our December collaborative meeting;
- April 13, FRRD participated in the PNF IVM monthly teleconference;
- On April 15, the IDT met to discuss the status of the program of work and what could be done and what would be affected by the COVID-19 emergency;
- April 16, members of the FRRD IDT participated in a virtual meeting of Plumas NF and local collaborators (Sierra Institute, BCFSC, Plumas County FSC, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, BCRCD,

Sacramento River Watershed Program, Feather River RCD, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)) to discuss Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR) Program applications;

- IDT attended the PNF, PG&E annual (virtual) meeting April 21, to discuss last year's results and this year's upcoming work under the operations and maintenance plan of the master special use permit;
- On April 22, the IDT met (virtually) and discussed Mooreville Ridge, AML 2019, new contracts, new agreements, Cottage Creek dam modification SU, SNC Valley Creek grant, Granite Basin, PG&E, AML 2020, and NOI for Upper Milsap;
- Members of the FRRD team (virtually) attended the April 23, Butte County CWPP Working Group meeting regarding formation of the Butte County Collaborative Group;
- The IDT will meet (virtually) April 29, to discuss the Strawberry and French Creek I projects; and
- The District Ranger will sign the Mooreville Ridge Insect and Disease Resilience Project decision Thursday or Friday.

This is such a fluid time that since I have started this note, the R5 and the Plumas NF have finalized processes to authorize limited work in the office and the field. Forest Service employees are still encouraged to perform as much work virtually and from home as possible. Beginning Monday, May 3, employees may go to the office or to the field as necessary when project work is consistent with Federal and State guidance, has been previously approved, and risk has been analyzed and mitigated.

Please contact the District with topics you are interested in. We look forward to everyone returning to a healthy, normal society and workplace as soon as it is possible. May you and yours remain safe in the meantime.

Thanks, Clay

Lower Four Trees Road Fire Salvage Project

PALS 58166, 05/12/2020

Areas along Four Trees Road (23N00) were burned severely in the *Camp* Fire (November 8-25, 2018). Tree mortality has occurred in areas of high and mixed fire severity. We propose to log the trees that have died, are dying, and will die. These dead, dying, and structurally damaged live trees present an imminent safety hazard and risk to forest visitors, neighboring landowners and their homes, employees and facilities.

The project includes mixed conifer species: ponderosa pine, white fir, incense cedar, sugar pine, Douglas-fir, madrone, tan-oak, and black-oak. It is proposed to salvage these trees in the summer of 2020 using conventional logging practices. This project includes the identification and removal of hazard trees.

Re-entry may occur up to 3 years to remove any additional danger trees for additional volume. Trees to be removed under this project will be designated with Blue Paint for cut tree mark in the low severity areas or Leave Tree mark of white paint will be used in high severity fire areas. Boundaries will be flagged with blue flagging and have painted orange. The boundary of the polygons on the attached map shows the location of proposed tree removal.

FRRD timber staff and wildlife biologists have visited Camp Fire and other tree mortality sites with provincial entomologist Danny Cluck. As a group they have marked units using the marking guidelines for fire-injured trees in California and hazard tree removal guidelines for Forest Service facilities and roads. Danny Cluck is a co-author of these marking guidelines and served as a subject matter expert on the marking guidelines and standardizing their interpretation across the interdisciplinary team.

On May 9, 2019, 10 representatives of local government, environmental organizations, industry, and the Forest Service visited nearby areas as part of a larger field trip of the FRRD Collaborative to tour National Forest System lands in the Camp Fire area.

The project was entered into PALS and appeared on the Schedule Of Proposed Actions (SOPA) on May 12. The project is anticipated to have a decision in May, 2020. Please provide any comments to Eric J. Murphy, ejmurphy@usda.gov or Clay R. Davis, clay.davis@usda.gov



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR
**BUREAU OF LAND
MANAGEMENT**



BLM SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED E-BIKE REGULATIONS

WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today announced a 60-day public comment period on proposed electric bike, or e-bike, regulations, intended to make it easier for more Americans to recreate on and experience their public lands. This effort is in line with Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt’s call for the BLM and other Interior bureaus to expand access on public lands to e-bikes. E-bikes have small electric motors that help with pedaling, make bicycle travel easier for people with disabilities, younger children and people who aren’t experienced mountain bikers.

“We want all Americans to have a chance to create life-long memories exploring and enjoying the great outdoors,” said BLM Deputy Director for Policy and Programs William Perry Pendley. “The BLM is working hard to implement Secretary Bernhardt’s directive wherever it can because our agency believes these public lands are managed in trust for all citizens, and that people of every ability should be able to explore them to the greatest extent possible.”

Given their use of a small (1 horsepower or less) electric motor, the BLM currently manages e-bikes as off-highway vehicles. As a result, there is some uncertainty among e-bike users as to where they may ride their bikes on BLM-managed public land.

As a remedy, the [proposed rule](#) would amend the BLM’s current off-road vehicle regulations to add a definition for e-bikes, compatible with [Secretarial Order 3376, *Increasing Recreational Opportunities through the use of Electric Bikes*](#). This proposed change would then give local BLM land managers the authority to use that definition to conduct their own lawful decisions on whether e-bikes may be operated on public lands in their jurisdictions.

In addition, the proposed rule would direct the entire BLM to specifically address e-bike usage in future land-use or implementation-level decisions.

Public lands designated by Congress as “wilderness areas” will remain off-limits to both traditional bicycles and e-bikes. Also, e-bikes would not be given special access beyond what traditional, non-motorized bicycles are allowed.

While the BLM has already empowered its local land managers to permit the use of e-bikes wherever they have the statutory authority to do so, the comment period provides an opportunity for the public to offer feedback on the proposed rule. The BLM will consider informative and unique feedback as part of crafting its final rule.

The 60-day public comment period has commenced and the proposed rule has been published in the Federal Register. The public comment period will end on June 9. You can find the proposed rule at this link [here](#). Interested parties may submit comments on the proposed regulation, identified by the number RIN 1004-AE72, by any of the following methods:

- *Mail*: U.S. Department of the Interior, Director (630), Bureau of Land Management, Mail Stop 2134 LM, 1849 C St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, Attention: RIN 1004-AE72.
- *Federal eRulemaking portal*: <http://www.regulations.gov>. In the Searchbox, enter “RIN 1004-AE72” and click the “Search” button. Follow the instruction at this website.

For more information about the proposed rule, please contact Britta Nelson at bknelson@blm.gov or 303-236-0539.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. In fiscal year 2018, the diverse activities authorized on BLM-managed lands generated \$105 billion in economic output across the country. This economic activity supported 471,000 jobs and contributed substantial revenue to the U.S. Treasury and state governments, mostly through royalties on minerals.

RELEASE DATE

Thursday, April 2, 2020

ORGANIZATION

Bureau of Land Management

CONTACTS

Email: Blm_Press@blm.gov

ATTACHMENTS

[PROPOSED REGULATION RIN 1004-AE72 \(FORMAT PDF / 246 KB\) »](#)

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HEALTHY WATERSHEDS CALIFORNIA

Pacific Forest Trust is advancing a new approach to permanently safeguard our water supply by restoring California's key source watersheds.

Water security and supplies are threatened in California and the West. Catastrophic fire, periods of extreme drought alternating with major floods, and a warming climate have created a dangerous landscape for the state's precious water resources. Water restrictions and competing demands leading to legal battles are becoming common. Even maintaining existing supplies is made more challenging with climate change. Increasing water supplies by conventional means, such as new dams or desalination, is expensive, contentious, and undependable. We are developing a new approach to permanently safeguard our water and increase supplies by restoring and securing our primary source watersheds.

Securing our water at the source.

The vast majority of California's drinking and irrigated agricultural water—as well as 85% of freshwater to San Francisco Bay—comes from the watersheds that feed the Shasta/Trinity and Oroville reservoirs. Without these watersheds, no amount of infrastructure can guarantee

California's water security. The current conditions and future function of these watersheds are compromised by increased fire, degradation, fragmentation, and development. Current conservation and restoration efforts lack the sustained investment and landscape approach necessary for an effective, lasting solution.

A partnership for water security.

To make significant gains in enduring water security, we need a strategic, integrated, comprehensive landscape approach to restore and protect these key source watersheds. Implementing this strategy in collaboration with both private and public landowners using the best science, restoration, and conservation techniques, we can keep forests intact and healthy and increase water supplies, while also decreasing catastrophic fire risk.

OUR PROPOSED APPROACH:

California's key watersheds provide clean drinking water for more than 28 million Californians and support the state as the nation's leading agricultural producer. The economic value of this water far exceeds that of any other forest product.

- 1** State funds/finances comprehensive watershed restoration (e.g. forest thinning, road removal, wet meadow, and riparian improvement) and conservation to ensure watershed integrity (permanent working forest conservation agreements that maintain desired conditions on private lands).
- 2** Contracts for work on private lands are issued; bids for federal lands work are let.
- 3** State makes a 15-20 year commitment for strategy, funding, and implementation that results in 75-85% of watersheds restored and maintained in resilient condition.



Pictured above: California's five key source watersheds, the Feather, Pit, McCloud, Upper Sacramento, and Upper Trinity, feed the Shasta and Oroville reservoirs, the core of the state's utilized water supply. These watersheds span seven million acres and provide drinking water for over 28 million Californians, including the large majority of the water for the State Water Project.

Cooler and wetter than other landscapes, California's key watersheds, if protected, can help climate-proof our water supplies.

WATER SECURITY, NATURALLY.

California's key forested watersheds are the most abundant source of the state's invaluable water supply, receiving the large majority of the state's precipitation. This will continue and increase with climate change.

Research shows that forest restoration can increase water flows from watersheds by 5-20%, decrease flood risks by 25-40%, and extend cold water flows by 2-3 weeks into the hot summer months. [Read more in our Risk Assessment.](#)

While each watershed differs in its specific characteristics, overall, a more natural forest structure that mimics the region's diverse, older, and more complex structure, with a mosaic of meadows, is key to restoring more natural water capture, storage, and release. Here are some of our recommended restoration actions and approaches:

**Reduce Fire Risk & Increase Fire Resiliency:**

Decrease fire intensity by restoring more open, natural forest structure of larger, older trees that withstand fire.

Increase Snow-Water Yield: Restore a more open, complex canopy cover to allow snow to filter to shaded areas for longer retention, slower melt, and greater soil moisture.

Increase Total Precipitation: Manage harvests to develop old forest characteristics. Large, tall trees with uneven canopy capture more moisture, have lower transpiration demands, and allow deeper soil moisture.

Keep it Clean: Reduce sediment through increased low-harvest buffers and upslope tree retention.

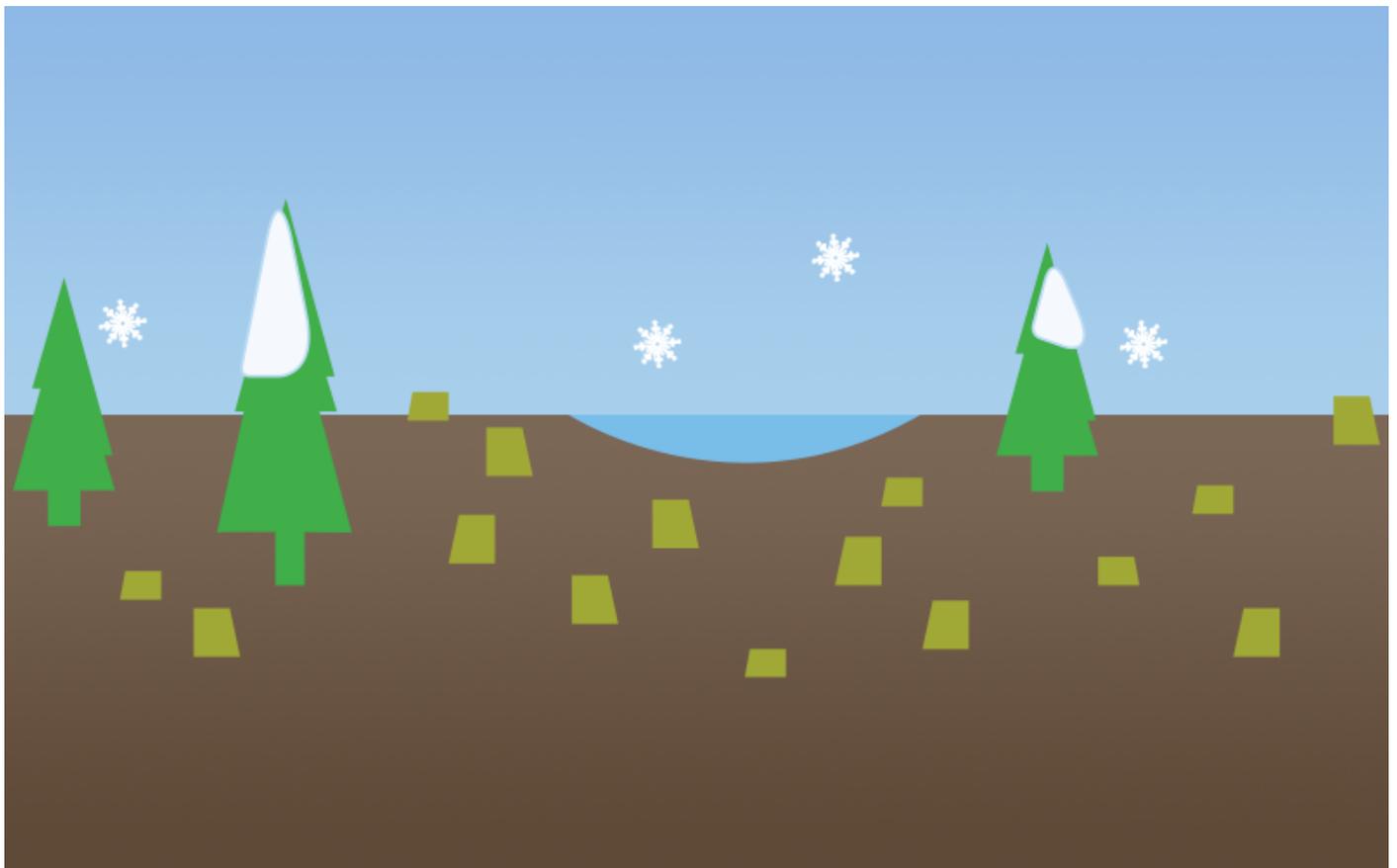
Keep it Cool, Slow it Down: Restore and maintain canopy cover over streams to shade and cool water; large dead trees create eddies and pools to hold water longer.

Decrease Flooding: Reduce “rain-on-snow” events in cleared openings by retaining some tree cover and shading. Slowing snowmelt also provides well-metered water yields later into the year.

Increase Summer Release: Retain big, downed logs which hold moisture longer; thin dense forests of small tree stands, restore and maintain wet meadows, and keep snow and soil moisture longer with increased tall tree shade.

Keep Forests Continuous: Conserve forests and reduce fragmentation.

Good forest management helps secure our water supplies.



Clearcut forest: Snow melts quickly and gets little ground penetration. More “rain on snow” events lead to flooding and erosion.



Dense, unrestored forest: Snow cannot penetrate to forest floor, which causes canopy melt with up to 70% evaporation, less snow pack, and less soil penetration.

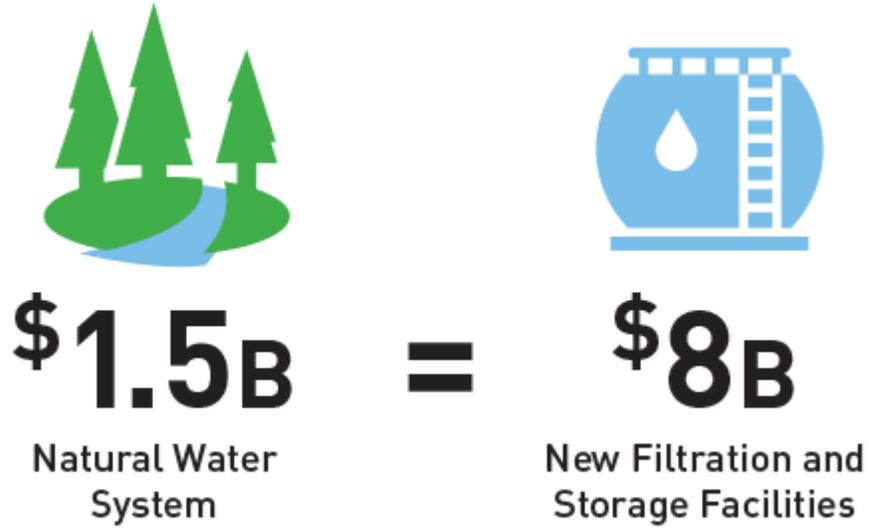


Healthy forest cover: 8% deeper snow and a higher snow/water equivalent with reduced sediment. Snowmelt extends 3 times longer than in overly dense forests. Downed logs hold water and release it slowly, like a sponge.

NATURAL SYSTEMS = ESSENTIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

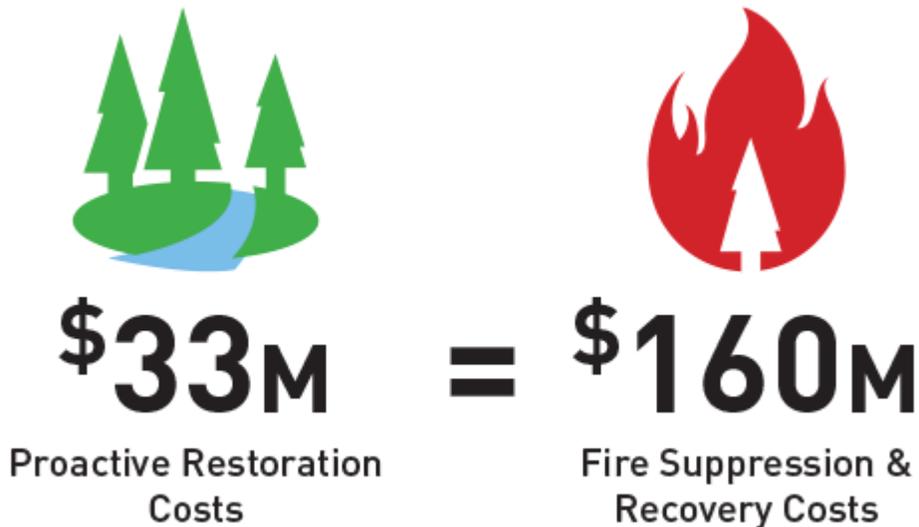
Water authorities across the country realize that natural water infrastructure is essential for a safe and secure water supply. Built infrastructure alone cannot solve our supply problems, and neglecting our watersheds is both dangerous and costly. Unmanaged or ill-managed forests set the stage for catastrophic wildfires that take lives, damage homes, and cost the state millions of dollars in suppression and recovery efforts. Encroaching development in watersheds causes erosion and reduces water quality. We can conserve and restore our forested watersheds for a fraction of the cost, in a fraction of the time it takes to build dams and filtration systems. It is time to invest in natural infrastructure to secure our water.

EXAMPLE 1: NEW YORK CITY

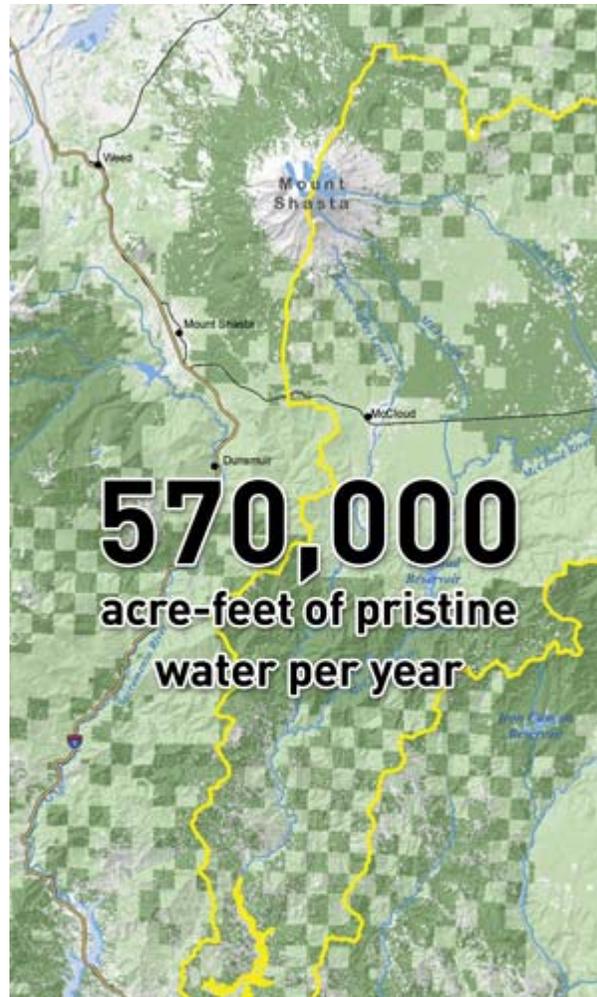


Investing in natural infrastructure over filtration facilities saved New York City more than six billion dollars while preserving the myriad benefits of healthy ecosystems, such as biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

EXAMPLE 2: DENVER



After a catastrophic fire cost taxpayers \$160 million, Denver Water decided to restore their key watersheds. A partnership with the U.S. Forest Service protects key watersheds at a cost of just \$1.65 a year per household.



The McCloud Example

The McCloud River has the coldest, cleanest water in California, and is globally recognized for its fishery, biodiversity, and recreation. It hosts some of the most productive forestlands nationally, with sustainable forestry driving the local economy.

A key source watershed, the McCloud River basin provides 10% of the Sacramento River's water supply. This work would create potential gains of ten to twenty percent additional water supplied, reduce fire risk, and improve resilience.

Working with willing landowners, investments would protect at least 100,000 acres of forested watershed by acquiring working forest conservation easements. Easements are already in

place on 44,000 acres or more of the McCloud.

For both public and private forests, investments would target thinning, riparian area restoration, and meadow area restoration. These investments would cost less than \$200 million but would result in twice the quantity of water supplied by, for example, a desalinization plant at a fraction of the price.

The McCloud River basin on the eastern flanks of Mount Shasta encompasses 432,620 acres of interwoven public and private lands—a typical pattern for many of the state's key watersheds.

FEATURED CONSERVATION PROJECTS



BEAR CREEK WORKING FOREST CA | 8,230 ACRES

Conserving the headwaters of the Fall River protects California's water supply, wildlife habitat, and jobs.

BUTTE CREEK MEADOWS WORKING FOREST CA | 3,468 ACRES

A home to headwaters that provide cold, clear water for people and an abundance of wildlife.

MC CLOUD DO WORKIN CA | 12,6

This project expa of the McCloud R benefitting Califo wildlife, and clim

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A Risk Assessment of California's Key Source

Watershed Infrastructure

PFT's report looks upstream to find a cost-effective long-term water solution: repairing & maintaining California's watersheds.

THE LATEST FROM OUR NEWSROOM

PFT comments on California's Water Resilience Portfolio

PFT made comments at a public forum for California Water's Future held by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) in Redding, CA on August 6, 2019, and submitted detailed comments on September 1, 2019. Find out more.

A new model for water security in the face of climate change

The health of our forested watersheds is crucial to water security, and the effects of climate change only reinforce that vital role. Here's what PFT is doing to ensure healthy watersheds and water security in California.

Joint Informational Hearing: Wildfire Impacts on Watershed Lands

At a joint hearing of California Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Resources and the Transportation and Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, PFT President Laurie Wayburn testified on the use of natural infrastructure restoration to increase water storage and climate adaptation.



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[These drones will plant 40,000 trees in a month. By 2028, they'll have planted 1 billion](#)

We need to massively reforest the planet, in a very short period of time. Flash Forest's drones can plant trees a lot faster than humans.

[Photo: courtesy Flash Forest] One of Flash Forest's prototype drones.

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- 5-15-20
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By Adele Peters 4 minute Read

This week, on land north of Toronto that previously burned in a wildfire, drones are hovering over fields and firing seed pods into the ground, planting native pine and spruce trees to help restore habitat for birds. [Flash Forest](#), the Canadian startup behind the project, plans to use its technology to plant 40,000 trees in the area this month. By the end of the year, as it expands to other regions, it will plant hundreds of thousands of trees. By 2028, the startup aims to have planted a full 1 billion trees.



[Photo: courtesy Flash Forest] The company, like a handful of [other startups that are also using tree-planting drones](#), believes that technology can help the world reach ambitious goals to restore forests to stem biodiversity loss and fight climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says that it's necessary to plant 1 billion hectares of trees—a forest roughly the size of the entire United States—to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Existing forests need to be protected while new trees are planted; right now, that isn't working well. “There are a lot of different attempts to tackle reforestation,” says Flash Forest cofounder and chief strategy officer Angelique Ahlstrom. “But despite all of them, they're still failing, with a net loss of 7 billion trees every year.”

[Image: courtesy Flash Forest] Drones don't address deforestation, which is arguably an even more critical issue than planting trees, since older trees can store much more carbon. But to restore forests that have already been lost, the drones can work more quickly and cheaply than humans planting with shovels. Flash Forest's tech can currently plant 10,000 to 20,000 seed pods a day; as the technology advances, a pair of pilots will be able to plant 100,000 trees in a day (by hand, someone might typically be able to plant around 1,500 trees in a day, Ahlstrom says.) The company aims to bring the cost down to 50 cents per tree, or around a fourth of the cost of some other tree restoration efforts.

When it begins work at a site, the startup first sends mapping drones to survey the area, using software to identify the best places to plant based on the soil and existing plants. Next, a swarm of drones begins precisely dropping seed pods, packed in a proprietary mix that the company says encourages the seeds to germinate weeks before they otherwise would have. The seed pods are also designed to store moisture, so the seedlings can survive even with months of drought. In some areas, such as hilly terrain or in mangrove forests, the drones use a pneumatic firing device that shoots seed pods deeper into the soil. "It allows you to get into trickier areas that human planters can't," Ahlstrom says.



Flash Forest's latest model.

[Photo: courtesy Flash Forest]

After planting, the company returns to track the progress of the seedlings. "Depending on the project, we'll go back two months after, and then a year or two after, and then three to five years after" to make sure the trees are actually sequestering as much carbon as they planned, she says. "If we fall under a threshold plant goal of a certain number of trees, we'll go back and ensure that we are hitting our goal." Because the company chooses native species and uses its seed pods to protect the seeds from drought, the process doesn't typically require work from humans to keep the seedlings alive; instead, the strategy is to plant a large number of trees and let some naturally survive.

Each planting is using about four species, with a goal of eight. "We very much prioritize biodiversity, so we try to plant species that are native to the land as opposed to monocultures," says Ahlstrom. "We work with local seed banks and also take into account that the different changes that climate change brings with temperature

rise, anticipating what the climate will be like in five to eight years when these trees are much older and have grown to a more mature stage, and how that will affect them.”



[Photo: courtesy Flash

Forest]After launching the company in early 2019, the small team had a working prototype by the middle of the year and ran a pilot test in August, followed by larger tests in September and October. So far, Ahlstrom says, they’ve seen high rates of survival in controlled studies, and are hoping to replicate those in real world settings.

After the current planting near Toronto and another in British Columbia, the company will begin a restoration project in Hawaii later in the year, with plans to plant 300,000 trees there. It’s also planning tree-planting pilots in Australia, Colombia, and Malaysia. In some cases, funding comes from forestry companies, government contracts, or mining companies that are required to replant trees; in other cases, the startup plants trees for companies that offer tree-planting as a donation with the sale of products, or for landowners who can get a tax break, in some areas, for planting trees. “There’s a lot of philanthropy around it, and then also just a solid business model with a desperate need and demand to plant trees,” Ahlstrom says.

To quickly plant [around a trillion trees](#)—a goal that some researchers have estimated could [store more than 200 gigatons of carbon](#)—Flash Forest argues that new technology is needed. In North America, trees need to grow 10-20 years before they efficiently store carbon, so to address climate change by midcentury, trees need to begin growing as quickly as possible now. “I think that drones are absolutely necessary to hit the kind of targets that we’re saying are necessary to achieve some of our carbon sequestration goals as a global society,” she says. “When you look at the potential for drones, we plant 10 times faster than humans.”

About the author

Adele Peters is a staff writer at Fast Company who focuses on solutions to some of the world's largest problems, from climate change to homelessness. Previously, she worked with GOOD, BioLite, and the Sustainable Products and Solutions program at UC Berkeley, and contributed to the second edition of the bestselling book "Worldchanging: A User's Guide for the 21st Century."