



Schedule of Proposed Action (SOPA)
10/01/2025 to 12/31/2025
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests

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	- Regulations, Directives, Orders	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Sarah Shoemaker 907-586-7886 sarahshoemaker@fs.fed.us
	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/57214				
	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 .				

Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)

R9 - Eastern Region

Appalachian National Scenic Trail Rehabilitation Trail Infrastructure Project CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Heritage resource management - Special area management - Watershed management - Facility management - Projects that may affect Wilderness (for mailing list contacts)	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/25/2025	Expected:05/2026	07/2027	Steven Pytlik 802-747-6736 Steven.Pytlik@usda.gov
	Description: Repair and replacement of numerous critical facilities located along the Appalachian National Scenic Trail including but not limited to bridges, privies and shelters.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/67423				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District, Rochester Ranger District, Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington, Rutland, Windham, Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Killington, Mendon, Mount Tabor, Peru, Pomfret, Shrewsbury, Wallingford, Winhall and Woodford.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests, Occurring in more than one District (excluding Forestwide)					R9 - Eastern Region
Forest-wide Opening Maintenance CE *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Fuels management	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/31/2023	Expected:03/2026	04/2026	Shawn Langston 802-362-2307 x7217 Shawn.Langston@usda.gov
	Description: This project would authorize continuing management of permanent openings in 266 stands on the Green Mountain National Forest.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/61917				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District, Rochester Ranger District, Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison, Bennington, Rutland, Washington, Windham, Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Several Towns throughout Vermont.				
Vermont Huts Association Special Use Permit Amendment CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2026	Expected:02/2026	05/2026	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Amend existing special use permit to authorize improvements to the Chittenden Brook and Grout Pond Huts to meet their respective accessibility, storage and waste disposal needs.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68812				
	Location: UNIT - Rochester Ranger District, Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Rutland, Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Chittenden and Stratton.				

Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests one District)		Hector Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than			R9 - Eastern Region
Empire Telephone Broadband Permit CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 08/05/2025	09/2025	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Issue special use permit to install high speed internet services at the Burnt Hill communications site for the New York State troopers.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68438				
	Location: UNIT - Hector Ranger District. STATE - New York. COUNTY - Schuyler. LEGAL - Not Applicable. South Velie Pasture along Mathews Road.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Hector Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Finger Lakes Mountain Biking Enhancement CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 02/27/2025	Expected:10/2025	05/2026	Matthew Lark 479-667-2191 x2171 matthew.lark@usda.gov
	Description: This project would enhance mountain biking opportunities by the adoption of some existing user-created trails, and authorized use changes on some existing system trails. Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65926				
	Location: UNIT - Hector Ranger District. STATE - New York. COUNTY - Schuyler, Seneca. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Hector and Lodi.				
Finger Lakes National Forest Wetland Creation CE *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 02/2026	Expected:04/2026	07/2027	Gregory Flood 607-546-4470 x3312 gregory.flood@usda.gov
	Description: Creation of small, natural appearing wetlands in multiple locations where natural wetlands may have existed prior to artificial drainage by farmers. These wetlands would be fully functional and provide habitat and protection against flooding. Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65927				
	Location: UNIT - Hector Ranger District. STATE - New York. COUNTY - Schuyler. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Hector.				
Finger Lakes Trail Reroute CE *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2026	Expected:02/2026	06/2026	Matthew Kautz 607-546-4470 matthew.kautz@usda.gov
	Description: Relocate the Finger Lakes Trail trailhead from its current location to a more suitable spot 0.5 miles along Satterly Hill Road. A new trailhead and parking area would be improved at the new site. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/68790				
	Location: UNIT - Hector Ranger District. STATE - New York. COUNTY - Schuyler. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Burdett.				

Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests	Manchester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)	R9 - Eastern Region
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Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Manchester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Appalachian Trail/Long Trail (AT/LT) Homerstone Bridge Replacement CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Watershed management	Completed	Actual: 09/10/2025	07/2026	Danna Strout 802-362-2307 x7237 danna.strout@usda.gov
	Description: The Appalachian Trail/Long Trail (AT/LT) Homerstone Bridge crossing Homer Stone Brook was overtopped in 2011 and 2023. The foundation is eroded and the trail was washed out. Proposal would provide new trail tread and a safe structure to cross brook.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/67034				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Rutland. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Wallingford.				
Deerfield ADLS Construction Permit CE	- Special use management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Permit for construction, use, and maintenance of two aircraft detection lighting system (ADLS) towers and associated infrastructure on the East Ridge of the Deerfield Wind facility.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/67308				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Searsburg.				
Dover Parking Lot Special Use Permit CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 07/25/2025	08/2025	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Approve issuance of a special use permit authorizing construction, use and maintenance of a parking lot to access National Forest trails. Area occupied by the parking lot is about 0.03 acres.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68131				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Dover.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Manchester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Glastenbury and Stratton Tower Repairs CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Facility management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/30/2024	Expected:03/2026	04/2026	David Donahue 802-747-6726 david.p.donahue@usda.gov
	Description: Structural repairs to the Glastenbury and Stratton lookout towers.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65785				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington, Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Glastenbury and Stratton.				
Grout Pond Loop Trail Relocation CE	- Recreation management	In Progress: Scoping Start 01/09/2023	Expected:04/2026	06/2026	Danna Strout 802-362-2307 x7237 danna.strout@usda.gov
	Description: Relocate section of Pond Loop trail where it is currently trenched and heavily eroded southwest of Grout Pond. Trail relocation would be 310 feet in length and would be implemented in partnership with existing trail partners.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/63333				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Stratton.				
Hapgood Nature Trail Improvement Project CE *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 01/2026	Expected:04/2027	06/2027	Danna Strout 802-362-2307 danna.strout@usda.gov
	Description: Improve trail around Hapgood Pond Recreation Area. Project involves improving trail location and tread to meet accessibility requirements and provide a full trail loop experience.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov/68778				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Peru.				
Hapgood Pond Dredging CE	- Watershed management	In Progress: Scoping Start 12/06/2024	Expected:07/2026	11/2026	John Mccann 802-747-6739 john.mccann@usda.gov
	Description: Removal of accumulated fine sediment from Hapgood Pond in order to increase water storage volume, improve recreational experience, and prevent potentially hazardous high water temperatures.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65928				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Peru.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Manchester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Pinnacle Lodge Small Tracts Act Septic Treatment and Infrastructure Conveyance CE *UPDATED*	- Land ownership management - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 10/04/2024	Expected:07/2026	08/2026	Cassi Spires 802-747-6743 cassandra.spires@usda.gov
	Description: Small Tracts Act conveyance of -11.7 acres to Lodge at Pinnacle View, LLC in order to phase out hazardous material disposal use, in compliance with the Forest Plan, and to reduce special use administrative costs.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/66488				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Winhall.				
Searsburg Wind Facility Access Special Use Permit CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 02/2026	Expected:05/2026	10/2026	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Issue a permit with a term of five years, authorizing use and maintenance of the existing access road and bridge to access the Searsbury Wind Facility.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68813				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Searsburg.				
Stamford Road Right of Way Permit CE *NEW LISTING*	- Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 12/2025	Expected:01/2026	02/2026	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Issue permit for use and maintenance of an existing trail off of Roaring Brook Road (FR 264) for year-round ATV access.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68780				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Stamford.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Manchester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Velomont Trail - Manchester Ranger District CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management	Completed	Actual: 08/07/2025	09/2025	Danna Strout 802-362-2307 danna.strout@usda.gov
	Description: Construction and designation of non-motorized multiple use Velomont Trail across the Manchester Ranger District.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/66363				
	Location: UNIT - Manchester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Bennington, Rutland, Windham. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Dorset, Peru, Mount Tabor, Landgrove, Winhall, Stratton, Somerset, Dover, and Wilmington.				

Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Middlebury Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Dragon Brook Work Road and Sap Line Permit CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 08/06/2025	08/2025	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Issuance of a 20-year permit for construction, use, and maintenance of a work road to be used for the installation, use, and maintenance of sap lines connecting private properties.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/67309				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Ripton.				
Dutton Brook II Oak/Chestnut Release CE *UPDATED*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Research and Development - Climate Change Adaptation	Completed	Actual: 07/02/2025	09/2025	Joshua Wills 802-362-2307 x7213 joshua.wills@usda.gov
	Description: On 262 acres of stands included in the Dutton Brook II ON, a non-commercial mid-story removal will be implemented on trees up to 10 inches in diameter using chainsaws and herbicide to release red oak and chestnut seedlings.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/64493				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison, Rutland. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Goshen, Leicester and Brandon.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Middlebury Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District) R9 - Eastern Region					
Middlebury College Land Exchange CE	- Land ownership management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Christopher Mattrick 802-767-4261 x5513 christopher.mattrick@usda.gov
	Description: The Forest Service proposes to exchange an approximately 475 acre tract of land on the GMNF for approximately 402 acres of land owned by Middlebury College in the Breadloaf area of Ripton, Vermont.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/59518				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Ripton.				
Northern Escarpment Ecological Restoration and Fire Resilience CE *UPDATED*	- Special area management - Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Vegetation management (other than forest products) - Fuels management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2025	Expected:02/2026	09/2026	Suzanne Gifford 802-747-6741 suzanne.gifford@usda.gov
	Description: Restore fire-adapted ecosystems, enhance natural forest habitat conditions, and increase wildfire resilience with prescribed fire and non-commercial vegetation management.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov67318				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Leicester, Middlebury and Salisbury.				
Red Spruce Planting CE *NEW LISTING*	- Vegetation management (other than forest products)	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2025	Expected:02/2026	04/2026	James Donahey 802-767-4261 james.donahey@usda.gov
	Description: Plant 250 red spruce seedlings on approximately 2 acres in Compartment 20, Stand 101 (an existing wildlife opening) on the Middlebury Ranger District.				
	Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68815				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Bristol.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Middlebury Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Rikert - Upper Gilmore/Brown Gate Trail Reroute CE *NEW LISTING*	- Recreation management - Special use management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 11/2025	Expected:01/2026	08/2026	Jeffrey Hammell 802-747-6798 jeffrey.hammell@usda.gov
	Description: Reroute Rikert Ski Touring Center trails onto private land to prepare for Middlebury land exchange. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68817				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Ripton.				
South Pond Hut Special Use Permit and Project-Specific Forest Plan Amendment CE *NEW LISTING*	- Land management planning - Special use management	In Progress: Scoping Start 08/06/2025	Expected:10/2025	05/2026	Christopher Mattrick 802-767-4261 ext. 5513 christopher.mattrick@usda.gov
	Description: Conduct a project-specific Forest Plan amendment to waive Diverse Backcountry MA Recreation Standard S-1 within the proposed permit area. Issuance of a special use permit to construct, operate, and maintain a hut to provide year-round public use. Web Link: http://www.fs.usda.gov68586				
	Location: UNIT - Middlebury Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Rutland. LEGAL - Not Applicable. North of South Pond in Chittenden, VT. Located at the terminus of Hadley Lane off Route 100 in Killington.				

Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Rochester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Chittenden Brook Campground Renovation Project CE *UPDATED*	- Recreation management - Facility management	Developing Proposal Est. Scoping Start 10/2025	Expected:04/2026	07/2026	Philip MacAskill 802-767-4261 x5530 philip.macaskill@usda.gov
	Description: Renovation and reconstruction of a campground by replacing outhouses; installing accessible paths; replacing aging signs, kiosk, and other infrastructure; regravel and grade campsites as needed. Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65165				
	Location: UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Rochester.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests Rochester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)					R9 - Eastern Region
Green Mountain Power - Hancock Powerline Extension CE *UPDATED*	- Special use management	Completed	Actual: 08/05/2025	08/2025	Jennifer Edmonds 802-747-6746 jennifer.edmonds@usda.gov
	Description: Issue permit for the underground installation of 3,000 feet of primary electric line extension along a section of Forest Road 93 (Tucker Brook Road) to residential property. Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/67897				
	Location: UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Hancock.				
Rochester Administrative Site Garage Construction CE *UPDATED*	- Facility management	In Progress: Scoping Start 04/05/2024	Expected:04/2026	08/2026	David Donahue 802-747-6726 david.p.donahue@usda.gov
	Description: Construction of a new 20 vehicle garage and expanded parking to address limited parking at the Rochester Ranger District Administrative Site. Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65390				
	Location: UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Windsor. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Rochester.				
Sugarbush Gate House Mountain Bike Trails CE	- Recreation management - Special use management - Facility management	On Hold	N/A	N/A	Nathaniel Blanks 802-747-6714 Nathaniel.Blanks@usda.gov
	Description: Sugarbush Resort desires to improve their mountain bike opportunities by constructing 10.9 miles of mountain bike trails in the Gate House area. Some existing trails and a disc golf course would be decommissioned and rehabilitated. Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/62975				
	Location: UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY - Washington. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Town of Warren.				

Project Name	Project Purpose	Planning Status	Decision	Expected Implementation	Project Contact
Green Mountain And Finger Lakes National Forests		Rochester Ranger District (excluding Projects occurring in more than one District)			R9 - Eastern Region
Texas Gap Stream Enhancement Project CE *UPDATED*	- Wildlife, Fish, Rare plants - Watershed management - Climate Change Adaptation	In Progress: Scoping Start 03/04/2025	Expected:10/2025	07/2026	Jeremy Mears 802-767-4261 x5514 jeremy.mears@usda.gov
	Description: Restoring stream channels through addition of coarse woody materials to retain sediment and organic material, reduce flow to improve stream habitat, increase channel stability, reconnect flood plains and riparian habitat, reduce downstream effects.				
	Web Link: https://www.fs.usda.gov/r09/gmfl/projects/65930				
	Location: UNIT - Rochester Ranger District. STATE - Vermont. COUNTY -Addison. LEGAL - Not Applicable. Towns of Granville and Hancock.				

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