



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Kootenai N. F.

506 US Highway 2 West
Libby, MT 59923

File Code: 1950

Date: March 1, 2000

The Kootenai National Forest is involved in many programs and activities. Enclosed you will find a copy of the latest issue of the "Kootenai Highlights" and information about projects for which we have a specific proposal, and are in the process of analyzing as directed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The projects are arranged in a table format and are sorted by Ranger District, by type of project, and by date expected for each decision for each project. There are several points in the planning process during which you can be the most helpful and influential, but exact steps and timing may vary depending on the type and complexity of the project. For example, the whole planning process may only take a few days for small, non-complex projects, or several years for large complex projects such as a major mining proposal. Nevertheless, there are some basic steps we go through for every project. The enclosure labeled "Project Planning Process and Where You Fit In" describes these steps and identifies what you can do to be involved. It is important for you to understand this process so that you may receive the environmental documents in which you are interested. I want to stress that your participation in these activities, in a timely manner, can promote better decisions by helping us better understand alternatives to our proposals and to evaluate their implications on the land and the adjacent communities.

If you would like more information on a specific project, please contact the district or forest contact person listed for each project.

Sincerely,

BOB CASTANEDA
Forest Supervisor

enclosure



DEFINITIONS USED FOR THE QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

If you've received previous editions of this list you'll notice that some projects don't appear anymore. That's because we've finished the analysis, made the decision, and the appeal period (if applicable) has ended. In other cases, we've removed the projects from the list because we're unable to pursue them for various reasons (lack of funding, conflicts with other forest priorities, etc.). Please call the person listed as the "contact" for a project anytime you have a question.

This list is not all inclusive. Some projects may come up after publication that require our immediate attention, and we may complete the decision document before the next edition.

At the top of each table we have listed the Ranger District, their address, and the "Newspaper of Record" (used by the District for legal notices of decisions, and scoping of projects).

The following items describe the column headings and contents in the tables that follow, beginning on the left side of the table.

MAP KEY: Identifies a number which goes with the attached small forest map to show the general location of the project.

TYPE OF PROJECT: Identifies the Resource Program area that's affected. Acronyms used are:

Mgmt - management

Exchg - Exchange

PROJECT NAME: Identifies the name of the environmental document. Also included is a general description of the project, such as estimated timber volume, acres proposed for treatment, acres involved with a land exchange, etc. Acronyms used are:

EIS - Environmental Impact Statement

WL - Wildlife

BPA - Bonneville Power Administration

OSR - Overstory Removal

ORV - Off Road Vehicle

Salv - Salvage

MMBF - Million board feet

LE - Land Exchange

MBF - Thousand board feet

CCF-Hundred cubic feet

RUP-Road use permit

LOCATION: Identifies both legal land description, and the drainage or other identifying on-the-ground feature. If a project is located within an inventoried roadless area, it is also noted here. Acronyms used are:

T - Township

R - Range

S - Section

NEPA STATUS: Identifies where we are and will be in the NEPA process during the next three months. This corresponds to the table "Project Planning Process". If several items are listed, it means we'll be moving through several stages of the planning process in the next three months. NOI means Notice of Intent that is published in the Federal Register.

ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE: This is the best estimate of when the NEPA analysis will be completed. Sometimes we're not able to meet the date for various reasons, but the schedule will be validated and updated each time we send it out.

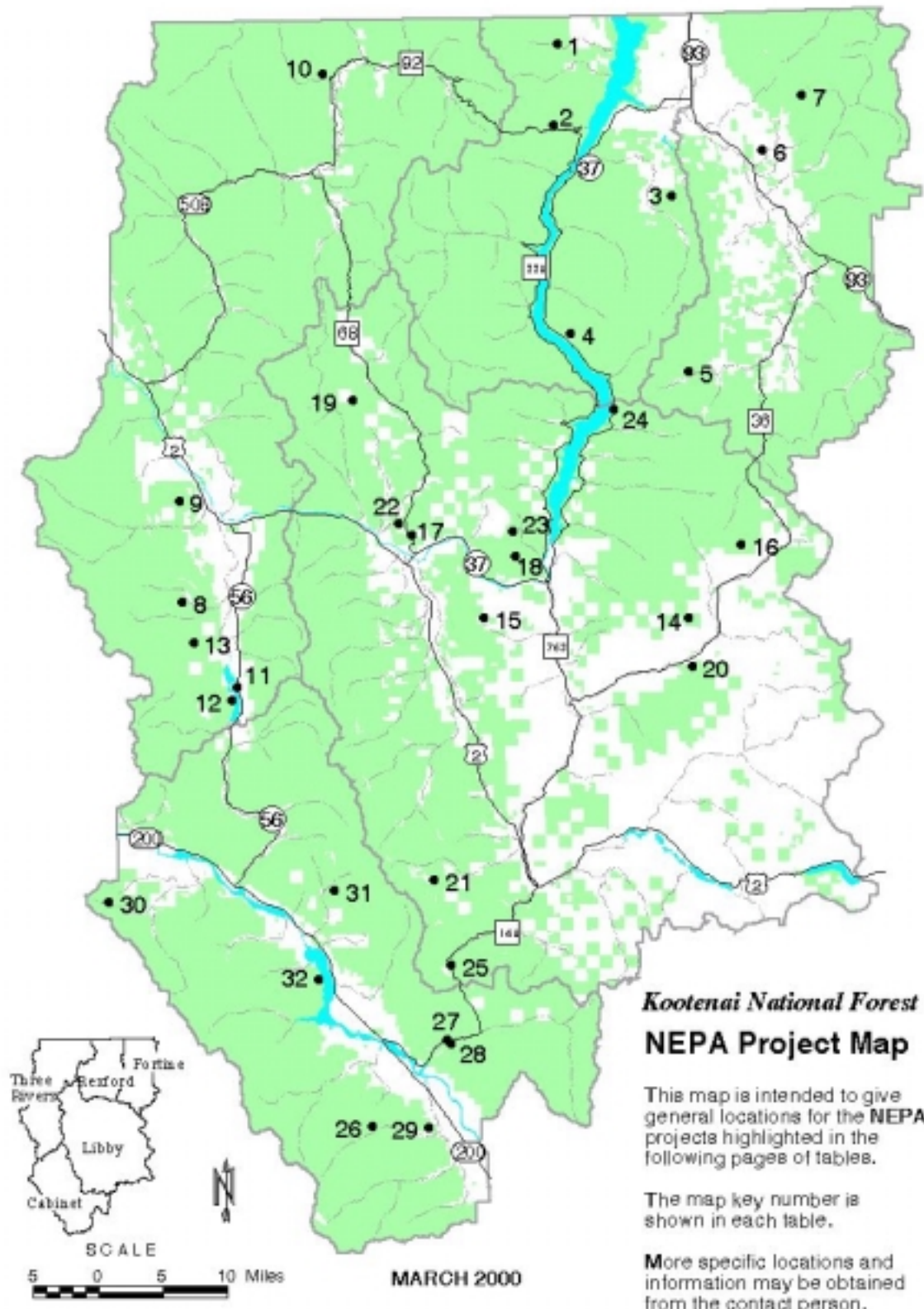
YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON THE GROUND: This is the best estimate of when ground disturbing activities would occur and/or contracts or permits would be offered.

CONTACT PERSON: This is the person at the Ranger District or Forest to contact for further information regarding the project.

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THE PROJECT PLANNING PROCESS & WHERE YOU MIGHT FIT

ANALYSIS STEP	PARTICIPATION OPTIONS
Identify need for project - Forest Service, business or individual suggests a project	Bring need for a project to the attention of Forest Service
Develop detailed project proposal (Forest Service or other project proponent)	Develop project proposal
Scoping - solicit public comment on the proposal (how it might affect forest resources & uses; how the project could be done better). This defines the scope of environmental analysis needed and the range of alternatives that should be considered	Comment on proposal - suggest issues, alternatives or mitigation measures to reduce impacts on the environment
Develop range of alternatives based on the issues raised during scoping. One alternative is to stay with the status quo (No Action)	Suggest variations to the original proposal
Initiate public comment process which includes a 45 day comment period for Draft EIS's and 30 day comment period for EA's and timber sales that can be categorically excluded. A copy of the EIS or EA will be mailed to those who requested a copy and to those who have participated in the environmental analysis process. A legal notice, requesting comments, will be published in the Daily Interlake, Kalispell, MT, which is our newspaper of record (36 CFR 215.5)	Provide comments on the environmental analysis. See 36 CFR 215.6 for description of information to provide
Notice of decision will be published in the newspaper of record. Copies of the decision document will be sent to those who submitted comments on the proposed action either before or during the comment period identified above (36 CFR 215.9)	Review decision: exercise option to appeal through administrative process
Appeal period will be open for 45 days following legal notice of decision in the newspaper except if no one expressed interest and there is no change from the proposed action. (36 CFR 215.10)	File Notice of Appeal (see section 36 CFR 215.14 for contents of an appeal) NOTE: Only those who commented through the process described above or expressed interest will be able to appeal. (36 CFR 215.11)
Implement the project	Contribute labor, equipment or funding
Monitor & evaluate project results	Provide feedback on the project



QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS - MARCH 2000

REXFORD RANGER DISTRICT, 1299 Highway 93 North, Eureka, MT 59917 - Phone: 406-296-2536, Fax: 406-296-2588 **NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: DAILY INTERLAKE**, Kalispell, MT

MAP KEY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NAME OF PROJECT	LOCATION	NEPA STATUS	ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE	YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON GROUND	CONTACT PERSON
1	Timber Sale	North Marias Houselogs; 4634 CCF (1.9 MMBF)	T37N, R29W, Sec 14-16, 21-23, 26-27. South Fork Young Creek area.	Decision Signed 1/10/00	Completed	2000	Phil Emery
2	Timber Sale, Prescribed Burning, Thinning, Watershed Restoration	Gold/Boulder/Sullivan	T34-36N, R28, 29W, PMM, Lincoln Co., MT; Gold, Boulder, and Sullivan drainages. Proposes road decommissioning. Includes Forest Plan Amendments	Seeking Public Comment	July 2000	2001	Ron Komac
3	Mineral Material Source	Virginia Hill Quarry	T35N, R27W, Sec 16. Virginia Hill Area	Seeking Public Comment	July 2000	2001	Jennifer Swan
4	Prescribed Burning	Rocky Gorge Fuels	T33N, R28W, Secs 6,7; T33N, R29W, Secs 1,2, 12	Decision Signed 2/8/00	Completed	2000	Sheila Braun

FORTINE RANGER DISTRICT, P.O. Box 116, Fortine, MT 59918 - Phone: 406-882-4451, Fax: 406-882-4835 **NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: DAILY INTERLAKE**, Kalispell, MT

MAP KEY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NAME OF PROJECT	LOCATION	NEPA STATUS	ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE	YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON GROUND	CONTACT PERSON
5	Timber Sale	Swamp Timber Sales and Associated Activities EIS; 29000 - 49000 CCF (12-20 MMBF)	T34N, R26W, Sec. 17-36; T33N, R26W, Sec. 1-11, 14-22, 28-32; T34N, R27W, Sec. 24-26, 33-36; T33N, R27W, Sec. 1-4, 8-17, 19-36; T32N, R27W, Sec. 2-11, 14-16; T33N, R28W, Sec. 36; T32N, R28W, Sec. 1-3, and 11-12; Swamp, Lake, and Edna Creek areas. Proposes road decommissioning.	Decision Pending	April 2000	2000	Rob Carlin
6	Timber Sale	Foothills Management Project EA	T36N, R26W, Sections 15, 17, 20, 23, 27, 28, 33 and 34; T35N, R26W Sections 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11. Proposes road decommissioning.	Seeking Public Comment	September 2000	2000	Rob Carlin
*	Pre-Commerical Thinning	FY-2000 Pre-Commercial Thinning	District-Wide Below 4100' Elevation	Decision Pending	March 2000	2000	Scott Bates
7	Watershed Restoration	Williams Creek Channel Restoration	T36N, R25W, Sections 25, 26, and 36; T35N, R25W Sections 6 and 7. Proposes road decommissioning.	Decision Pending	April 2000	2000	Don Tincher

MAP KEY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NAME OF PROJECT	LOCATION	NEPA STATUS	ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE	YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON GROUND	CONTACT PERSON
8	Timber Sale, Prescribed Burning, Thinning, Watershed Restoration	Spar and Lake Subunits Forest Health Project	T28N - T31N, R33W and 34W, PMM, Lincoln Co., MT; Iron, Keeler, Twilight, Stanley, Ross, Camp, Madge, Spring, and Noggle drainages. May include road decommissioning. Prescribed burning activities are proposed within the Scotchman Peaks Inventoried Roadless Area and/or proposed wilderness area. Includes Forest Plan Amendments.	Draft EIS completed. Comments due 4/17/00	May 2000	2000	Michael Donald
9	Timber Sale	Troy Beetle Salvage	Sec. 20, T34N, R34W; Sec. 32, 33, T34N, R33W; Sec. 20, 31, 32, T33N, R33W; Sec. 3, 10, 15, T33N, R34W; Sec. 16, 18-20, 29, T32N, R33W; Sec. 13, T32N, R34W; Sec. 2, T32N, R35W; Sec. 2, 4, 9, T31N, R33W; Sec. 1, 12, T31N, R32W; Sec. 2, 3, 10, 11, 14, 15, 23, 24, 26, T31N, R34W; Lincoln County, Montana; and Sec. 10, T60N, R3E, Boundary County, Idaho. Includes Forest Plan Amendment.	Analyzing effects	May 2000	2000	Michael Donald
10	Prescribed Burning, Timber Sale	Yaak Community Hall Fuels Reduction	T36N, R31W, Sec. 30, PMM, Lincoln Co., MT.	Analyzing Effects	June 2000	2000	Kathy Mohar
*	Silviculture	Timber Stand Improvement 2000	Districtwide	Analyzing Effects	April 2000	2000	Joe Hessenkemper
11	Recreation	Dorr Skeels Recreation Area	T29N, R33W, Sec. 20, P.M.M. on Bull Lake	Decision Signed 2/4/00	Completed	2000	Mark Mason
12	Easement	Bull Lake Estates Road Access	T29N, R33W Sec. 29, Bull Lake area	Decision Pending	March 2000	2000	Mark Natale
13	Easement	Keeler Mountain FRTA Easement	Forest Service Roads 4610 and 4602 and 300 feet of new road construction. The roads are in Secs. 1 & 2, T29N, R34W; Sec. 30, T30N, R33W; and Secs. 25, 26, and 35, T30N, R34W, PMM, Lincoln Co., MT..	Decision Signed 2/9/00	Completed	2000	Mark Natale

LIBBY RANGER DISTRICT:Canoe Gulch RS, 12557 HWY 37, Libby, MT 59923 Phone: 406-293-7773, FAX: 406-293-5758 NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: DAILY INTERLAKE, Kalispell, MT

MAP KEY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NAME OF PROJECT	LOCATION	NEPA STATUS	ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE	YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON GROUND	CONTACT PERSON
14	Timber Sale	Syrup Salvage; 2683 CCF (1.1 MMBF)	T29N, R27W, Sections 19-20 and 30-33 and T29N, R28W, Sections 13 and 24; Syrup Creek Drainage. Includes over 40 acre openings & Foest Plan amendments. Proposes road decommissioning.	Decision Pending	March 2000	2000	Tim Charnon
15	Timber Sale	McSwede; 9020 CCF (3.7 MMBF)	T30N, R31W, Sections 1, 12, 13 and 24; T30N, R30W, Sections 6-8, 17-20 and 30-33; T29N, R30W, Sections 3-10 . Swede and McMillan areas. Includes a Forest Plan amendment & openings over 40 acres. Proposes road decommissioning.	Analyzing Effects	April 2000	2000	Tim Charnon
16	Timber Sale	Sheppard 16 Salvage 48800 CCF (2.0 MMBF)	T31N, R27W, Section 36, T31N, R26W, Section 31, T30N, R26W, Sections 3,4,9,10, & 15. Sheppard Mtn. area. Includes Forest Plan ORD amendment. Proposes road decommissioning.	Decision Pending	April 2000	2000	Kirsten Kaiser
17	Timber Sale	Sheldon Heights 10,980 CCF (4.5 MMBF)	T31N, R30W, Sections 20, 29,30; T31N, R31W, Sections 10,11,14,15,16,21-27,34. Sheldon Mtn. area.	Developing Alternatives	June 2000	2000	Kirsten Kaiser
18	Timber Sale	Alexander 4630 CCF (1.9 MMBF)	T31N, R29W, Sections 7-9,16-21,28-33; T31N, R30W, Sections 3,4,9-11,13-17,20-29,32-36;T30N, R30W, Sections 1-5,9-15; T30N, R29W, Sections 5-8,17,18; T32N,R30W, Sections 32-34. Alexander and Rainy Creek drainages. May include Forest Plan ORD amendment. Includes prescribed burning in the Alexander Inventoried Roadless Area. Proposes road decommissioning.	Developing Alternatives	June 2000	2000	Anne Weber
19	Timber Sale	Pipestone 17,800 CCF (7.3 MMBF)	T34N, R32W, Section 36; T34N, R31W, Sections 11,14,15,21-36; T34N, R30W, Section1; T33N, R32W, Sections 1,12,23-5,36; T33N, R31W, Sections 1-36; T33N, R30W, Sections 18-20,29-33; T32N, R32W, Sections 1,12-13,24,25,36; T32N,R31W,Sections 1-36; T32N, R30W, Sections 5-10,15-21,29-32; T31N, R31W, Sections 1-22,29,30; T31N, R30W, Sections 4-9,17,18. May include Forest Plan ORD amendment and openings greater than 40 acres. Includes prescribed burning in the Gold Hill West Roadless Area. Proposes road decommissioning.	Developing Alternatives	November 2000	2001	Kirsten Kaiser
20	Minerals	Kavalla	T29N, R27W, Section 20. Wolf Creek area. Commercial building stone sale.	Decision Pending	April 2000	2000	Bobbi Lacklen
21	Special uses	Wayup Mine/Fourth of July Road Access EIS	T27N, R31W, Sections 33-34; T26N, R31W, Section 12; T26N, R30W, Sections 6-7. Along Fourth of July Trail. Cabinet Face East Roadless Area #671. Proposes road decommissioning.	Decision Signed 2/4/00	Completed	2000	Tim Charnon
22	Special uses	Pipe Creek Private Road	T31N, R31W, Section 21. Pipe Creek area. Reconstruction of 1 mile of existing road on FS lands.	Decision Pending	June 2000	2000	Dick Harlow
23	Special uses	Bonneville Power Association (BPA) Road Access	T31N, R30W, Section 25. Alexander Creek area. Includes 1/4 mile road construction.	Analyzing Effects	June 2000	2000	Dick Harlow
24	Special uses	Bloomgren road access	T32N, R28W, Section 5. Volcour Gulch area. Includes 1/4 mile road construction.	Seeking Public Comment	July 2000	2001	Dick Harlow
25	Special uses	King Mine road use	T25N, R30W, Section 8. Silver Butte, King Mine area. Includes 500 feet road improvement work.	Deferred			Dick Harlow

CABINET RANGER DISTRICT, 2693 Highway 200, Trout Creek, MT 59874 - Phone: 406-827-3533, Fax: 406-827-3203 **NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: DAILY INTERLAKE, Kalispell, MT**

MAP KEY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NAME OF PROJECT	LOCATION	NEPA STATUS	ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE	YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON GROUND	CONTACT PERSON
26	Timber Sale	Whitepine Creek EIS 33,000 CCF (15MMBF)	T22N, R32W, Sec 4,5: T23N, R31W, Sec 3-11, 14-24, 27-30: T23N, R32W, Sec 1-3, 10-17, 20-29, 31-34: T24N, 31W, Sec 31-33: T24N, R32W, Sec 24-26, 35, 36. Includes FP amendments: openings over 40 acres. Proposes road decommissioning. NOI published April 23, 1999.	Draft EIS expected March 2000	June 2000	2000	Dave Clay
27	Roads	20-Odd Road #2211 Relocation	Rd #221; T24N, R30W, Sec 6,7: T24N, R31W, Sec 12 20-Odd Peak area.	Analyzing Effects	April 2000	2000	Chuck Williams
28	Minerals	Vermilion Suction Dredging	T24N, R30N, Sec 8 Vermilion River/ Cataract Creek area.	Decision Signed 12/6/99	Completed	2000	Bruce Haflich
29	Minerals	Whitepine Gravel Pit Development and Rehabilitation Project	T23N, R31W, Sec 14	Analyzing Effects	March 2000	2000	Mike Harris
30	Natural Fuels	Elk Creek Restoration Project	Boise Meridian, T54N,R3E, Sections 15,22 and 27. Principle Meridian, T26N, R35W, sec 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25 and 26. T26N,R34W,sec 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34 and 35. T25N, R34W, sec1,2,3,4 and 11.	Analyzing Effects	March 2000	2000	Bob Lambrecht

KOOTENAI SUPERVISORS OFFICE, 1101 US Hwy 2 West, Libby, MT 59923 - Phone: 406-293-6211, Fax: 406-293-6418 **NEWSPAPER OF RECORD: DAILY INTERLAKE, Kalispell, MT**

MAP KEY	TYPE OF PROJECT	NAME OF PROJECT	LOCATION	NEPA STATUS	ANTICIPATED DECISION DATE	YEAR ACTIVITY TO START ON GROUND	CONTACT PERSON
31	Minerals	ASARCO; Copper/ Silver Mine	T26N, R32W; Rock Creek. Includes FP amendments	Responding to Comments	March 2000	2000	John McKay
*	Fuels	Forestwide Fuels Reduction	Forestwide (site specific locations available upon request)	Decision Pending	February 2000	2000	Joan Dickerson
32	Land Exchange	Crown Pacific Land Exchange	Portions of : T29N, R33W, Sec19; T25N, R32W, Sec 7; T32N, R34W, Sec 26;T33N, R34W, Sec 17 & 20; T31N, R34W, Sec 2; T26N, R34W, Sec 15	Analyzing Effects	June 2000	2000	Tom Grabinsky
*	Travel Management/ Forest Plan Amendment	BLM and FS Off-Highway Vehicle Forest Plan Amendment / EIS for MT, ND and Portions of SD	All BLM and FS lands in MT, ND and portions of SD excluding lands administered by Region 2 of the FS.	Draft EIS issued 11/15/99	June 2000	2000	Jerry Majerus BLM (406-538-1924)