



# Wayne Quarterly

**Schedule of Proposed Actions**

**July 2001**

## Wayne NF receives USDA Secretary's Award

For the first time ever, the Wayne National Forest won a prestigious U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Honor Award. Ann Veneman, USDA Secretary, presented the award in June to the group at a special ceremony in Washington DC.

The 2001 Honor Award was received for the work done on National Forests in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. The project was one of 15 selected from nationwide nominations. Forest archaeologists on the three forests went to Washington DC to receive the award.

The Forests were recognized "for innovative methods in creating employment opportunities for minority students to research the African American heritage of the national forests and the Underground Railroad." Nationally, Ann Cramer, Forest Archaeologist explains "There are currently only about 20 African American archaeologists." She said. "We saw this research as an opportunity to get college students excited about their heritage and perhaps interested in a career in archaeology."

Little is known of the African Americans who settled in the southern reaches of the three states in the early years of the 19th century. However each of the three states have remnants of African-American communities that provide archaeological resources for study of this important part of our country's past. The community of Poke Patch in Gallia County, Ohio has allowed researchers to uncover some of the past of these courageous settlers.

This year, the third year for the project, three African-American students are continuing the research project on the Wayne. Brandon Collins and Adam Carrington, computer science majors from Lincoln University in Missouri are organizing material amassed in the past two years into a useable database. Harold Garner Jr., a history major from Tennessee State University is in his second year of research on Underground Railroad sites.

Cramer hopes to identify an historic homesite to excavate for additional clues to the people who lived in these communities and assisted in the Underground Railroad movement.



*Angie Krieger (Hoosier National Forest) Ann Veneman (U.S. Secretary of Agriculture), Mary McCorvie (Shawnee National Forest) and Ann Cramer (Wayne National Forest) with the Honor Award received for their work on the Underground Railroad.*

# About this Report

## Purpose

The purpose of the Wayne Quarterly is to provide a status report and short summary of environmental analysis on the Wayne National Forest. Issued quarterly, this is intended to complement other public involvement initiated by the Forest Supervisor or District Rangers.

Legal notices will continue to be published in local newspapers: the Athens Messenger for Forest-wide decisions and those affecting the Athens Ranger District, and the Ironton Tribune for those affecting the Ironton District.

For further information or to provide comments regarding any of the items described in this report or for copies of available documents, please contact the responsible Ranger District. We encourage you to pass on any information having a bearing on the decisions being considered. Addresses and telephone numbers are on the back page or contact us through email at: [r9\\_wayne\\_website@fs.fed.us](mailto:r9_wayne_website@fs.fed.us).

## Organization

Projects are listed alphabetically in three categories. Each includes a brief description of the project and approximate time frames.

The three types of listings in the Wayne Quarterly are:

### Proposed Projects:

Projects are listed for which public input is being or is about to be sought. These include those currently under study or analysis. Forest activities or events may also be included.

### Completed Decision Documents:

These projects have culminated in the preparation of completed environmental assessments and decision documents. Also included, are projects "categorically excluded" from documentation in an EA (Environmental Assessment) or EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) but documented in a decision memo.

### Projects in Progress:

Projects listed here are actively underway. They are listed in order to keep you apprised of ongoing forest activities.

### Editor's Note:

Contact Bob Gianniny at 740-753-0101 with suggestions for the Quarterly, to obtain more copies, or change the mailing list.

**Large Print copies available on request.**

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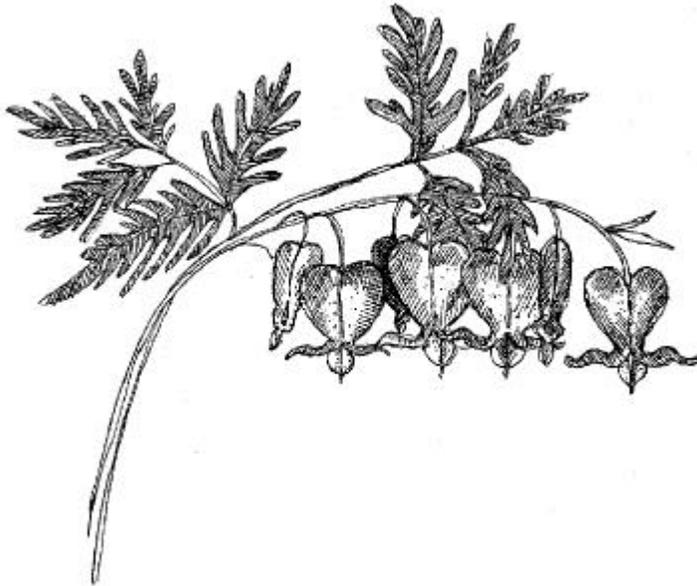
# ***Forest-wide Programs/Projects***

## **Anticipated "Walk-in" Business.**

Requests from the public occasionally necessitate analysis be completed with a short turn-around. This may mean that decisions are made without prior notice in the Quarterly, however, they will continue to be announced by legal notices in newspapers as appropriate. Scoping efforts for these requests would be conducted as applicable. Examples of walk-in requests include special use roads, oil and gas exploration, utility right-of-way, forest products such as firewood or house logs, and recreation special events. Fees are collected annually for special use permits, although in some cases (such as rural electric companies) may be waived. Local government receives a portion of the fees collected for special use permits. Analysis and documentation is done on each request.

## **Land Acquisition.**

As of July 15, 2001, there were 230,589 acres of public land on the Wayne National Forest. During the past quarter the Forest has acquired 263 acres on the Marietta Unit. The highest priority for future acquisition is placed on tracts within Management Areas 2.1, 6.1, 6.2, and 9.2. Additional priorities are placed on tracts with unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species or geological features, tracts that provide needed recreation opportunities, tracts that contain cultural resources, and tracts that consolidate the land base or provide access to other National Forest lands. Fair market value is paid to willing sellers. Contact Regina Martin, Athens office, for more information.



**Bleeding Hearts**

# Proposed Projects

Project Name and Description	Location	Initial Public Inv.	Est. Decision Date	Contact Person	Status of Project
<b>Watershed Restoration Projects</b>					
<b>1. Essex Subsidence</b>	Hocking County	April 2001	August 2001	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	The proposed project is located approximately 2 miles east of New Straitsville on State Route 216. The proposed action is to fill one subsidence, redirect an intermittent stream away from an open mine entrance, and close the mine entrance either with filling it in, or with a bat gate.
<b>2. Long Hollow Subsidence</b>	Hocking County	April 2001	August 2001	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	The Proposed project is located approximately 2 miles north of Buchtel near Township Road 212. The proposed action is to fill eight subsidence in an unnamed, intermittent branch of Long Hollow. ORV trails in the area will be rehabilitated or relocated as needed.
<b>3. Orbiston North Subsidence Closure.</b>	Athens County	August 2000	August 2001	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	This project is located off SR 78 north of Buchtel. The proposed action is to close the subsidence and return the captured stream to the surface.
<b>4. Rock Run Gob Pile — Phase II</b>	Perry County	April 2001	August 2001	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	This project is located approximately 2 miles north of New Straitsville on County Road 41. The proposed action is to prevent water from percolating into the reclaimed gob pile by sealing the area of percolation and moving the water away from the gob pile in two open limestone-lined channels.
<b>5. Rock Run 24</b>	Perry County	April 2001	August 2001	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	The proposed project is located approximately 1 mile north of New Straitsville on County Road 41 in an unnamed tributary to Rock Run. The proposed action is to treat an acidic seep by adding limestone to the stream channel.

<b>Project Name and Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Initial Public Inv.</b>	<b>Est. Decision Date</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Status of Project</b>
<b>6. Snake Hollow Restoration</b>	Hocking County	September 2001	February 2002	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	This project could involve a variety of actions including: construction of limestone channels, closing of water collecting subsidences, contouring and capping a coal waste site, and other acid mine drainage remediation activities.
<b>7. Trash Pile Road Subsidence and Portal Closure</b>	Athens County	April 2001	Deferred – site may be in corridor to be impacted by highway development.	Gary Willison, Nelsonville	The proposed project is located north of Nelsonville along Woodland Lane (Trash Pile Road). The proposed action is to close an open mine, seen as a safety problem because of it's proximity to Nelsonville, either by filling or with a bat gate. A nearby subsidence, from an intermittent stream flowing through sandy soil into a mine, may also be closed.
<b>General Projects</b>					
<b>8. Fish Habitat &amp; Access Improvements at Lake Vesuvius</b>	Lawrence Co.	Winter 2001	Fall 2001	Becky Ewing, Ironton	This project proposes fisheries and recreation improvements to Lake Vesuvius and the surrounding recreation area. The proposed projects are short-term in nature (those that may be done while the lake is drawn down to fix the dam), and some that are long-term in nature. The proposal includes (1) fish structures to be placed in the upper half of the lake; (2) the area around the boat ramp to be deepened; (3) barrier-free piers and boardwalk to be constructed; (4) bridge to be constructed across the lake; (4) modify the Lakeshore Trail to include mountain biking opportunities; (5) upgrades to the campgrounds; and (6) construction of a horsecamp.
<b>9. Forest Plan Amendment for Threatened and Endangered Species</b>	Forest-wide	August-September 2001	February 2002	Bob Gianniny, Nelsonville	The Wayne National Forest anticipates having a completed Biological Opinion from the US Fish and Wildlife Service in August 2001. Once received, the Forest will undertake an environmental analysis to amend our Forest Plan based on the Biological Opinion.
<b>10. Kenton Lake Access Improvement</b>	Ironton Ranger District	April 2001	Winter 2001	Becky Ewing, Ironton	This proposal is to harden a boat launch site and to construct an accessible fishing pier and trail.

<b>Project Name and Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Initial Public Inv.</b>	<b>Est. Decision Date</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Status of Project</b>
<b>11. New Straitsville Land Exchange</b>	Athens Ranger District	May 2001	To be determined	Regina Martin, Nelsonville	A proposal has been received from the Village of New Straitsville and the feasibility of the exchange is being analyzed and negotiations are ongoing. The Village is interested in economic development and wish to expand development onto what is now federal land.
<b>12. ORV Trail Reroutes.</b>	Ward Twp, Hocking Co.	April 2001	August 2001	Marsha Wikle, Nelsonville	The Forest is looking at re-locating a 0.75 mile section of off-road vehicle trail east of State Route 278. The Fish and Wildlife Service has been asked for concurrence before proceeding. A Decision Memo may then be issued.
<b>14. Re-introduction of threatened and endangered species</b>	Forest-wide	June 2001	December 2001	Lynda Andrews – Nelsonville	This proposal is to reintroduce the American burying beetle. Staff is reviewing conservation strategies for these species. Any formalized proposal will be done in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ohio Division of Wildlife.
<b>15. Timber Stand Improvement</b>	Forest-wide	September 2001	January 2002	Phil Perry, Nelsonville	Specific areas are being identified as potentially needing treatment for control of grape vines competing with desirable tree species.
<b>16. Timber Stand Improvement – Crop Tree Release</b>	Forest-wide	September 2001	February 2002	Phil Perry, Nelsonville	Specific areas of regeneration are being field checked as potentially needing a crop tree release to improve conditions for desirable tree species.
<b>17. Reforestation with native species</b>	Forest-wide	August 2001	December 2001	Phil Perry, Nelsonville	Proposal is to plant native tree and shrub species on former agricultural fields and strip-mined land.
<b>18. Prescribed Burning Program</b>	Forest-wide	September 2001	Pending	Kevan Moore, Nelsonville	Forest is preparing a contract for an environmental assessment on the impacts of prescribed burning to accomplish resource and fuels management objectives.

<b>Project Name and Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Initial Public Inv.</b>	<b>Est. Decision Date</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Status of Project</b>
<b>Special Use Permits</b>					
<b>19. Renewals of Special Use Permits.</b>	Ironton District	August 15, 2001	October 15, 2001	Nelson Krueger, Ironton	Most special use permits are issued for a 10-year period. Permits may be renewed if the use is still desired and all conditions have been met. Several permits on the Ironton District have come up for renewal in recent months, so public involvement is being sought on all of them as a group. The group include utilities such as Hecla Water waterlines, Ohio Bell telephone rights-of-way, Texas Eastern and Columbia Gas pipelines, hay cultivation permits, private road rights-of-way, military training exercises, a boat dock, and radio antennas on a Forest Service tower. Maps and details on each of the 19 permits up for renewal are available from the Ironton office.
<b>20. Powerline Permit Application</b>	Starr Twp, Hocking Co.	June 2001	August 2001	Gary Cravens, Nelsonville	AEP (Columbus Southern Power) filed an application to construct an underground powerline across federal land along an existing road.
<b>21. Proposed Permit to Repair Land Slip</b>	York Twp, Athens Co.	June 2001	August 2001	Gary Cravens, Nelsonville	Application filed by Anthony Johnson to excavate area on federal land to repair soil slippage that is threatening a private home.
<b>22. Private Road Permit Request</b>	Swan Twp., Vinton Co.	July 2001	September 2001	Gary Cravens, Nelsonville	Application filed by Jack Luce to construct an access road on federal land to access his private land which is surrounded by federal land.

## *Completed Decision Documents*

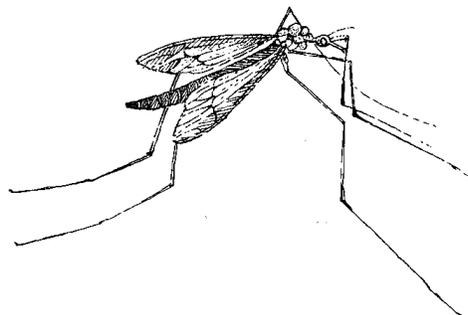
<b>Project Name and Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Public Inv.</b>	<b>Decision Date</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Status of Project</b>
<b>23. Mowing Permit</b>	Coal Twp., Perry Co.	March 2000	June 29, 2001	Gary Cravens, Nelsonville	The decision was made to grant a mowing permit to Sandy Brown to mow 0.25 acres of federal land adjacent to her private land. Permit was issued for 10 years.
<b>24. Public Road Easement Request.</b>	Green Twp, Hocking Co.	October 2000	June 21, 2001	Max Norris, Nelsonville	The decision was made to grant an easement to Hocking County to construct 480 feet of new County Road #19 on a realigned section using approximately 0.69 acres of federal land. The new location eliminates old roadbed that will be reclaimed.
<b>25. Consent to Oil and Gas Leasing</b>	Forest-wide	July 28, 1998	June 29, 2001	Bob Gianniny, Nelsonville	Decision was made to consent to the leasing of federally owned oil and gas resources under 4,609 acres of National Forest land. Stipulations and restrictions were also outlined for the leasing of these minerals. This decision allows the US Department of Interior to prepare a lease sale for these tracts. The decision sets the stage for, but does not authorize ground-disturbing activities. The decision was published on July 4, 2001 and is currently in the appeal filing period.
<b>26. Threatened and Endangered Species Protection</b>	Ironton Ranger District	November 2000	June 5, 2001	Kathy Flegel, Ironton	Bat gates were built across the entrance of three old limestone mine openings during the week of June 25th to keep people out of the mines and to protect bats using the mines for roosting and hibernation.

## ***Projects in Progress – Decision Documents Complete***

<b>Project Name and Description</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Public Inv.</b>	<b>Decision Date</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Status of Project</b>
<b>27. Handley Branch Area Improvements.</b>	Lawrence Co.	1992 - 1999	May 25, 2000	Becky Ewing & Kathy Flegel, Ironton	The restoration of this wetland is underway. The drain tiles have been broken and this summer the fields were seeded to warm season grasses. Other projects in the area include reforesting the riparian areas and restoring a barrens.
<b>28. Vesuvius Dam repair.</b>	Lawrence Co.	April 16, 1997	May 1998	Becky Ewing, Ironton	Construction is underway to upgrade the dam to withstand storm events and meet current safety regulations. The lake will be completely drained for the duration of the contract (approximately 2 years). When complete, ODNR will restock the lake.

**Wayne National Forest**  
**13700 US Highway 33**  
**Nelsonville, OH 45764**

*PRST STD*  
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*PAID*  
*USDA Forest Service*  
*Permit No. G-40*



## ***Wayne National Forest Offices***

**Forest Supervisor's Office  
and Athens Ranger District**  
13700 US Highway 33  
Nelsonville, OH 45764  
(740) 753-0101  
[Federal Deaf Service Relay:  
1-800-877-8339]  
FAX: 740-753-0119  
website: [www.fs.fed.us/r9/wayne](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/wayne)

### **Ironton Ranger District**

6518 State Route 93  
Pedro, OH 45659  
(740) 534-6500  
TDD: 740-534-6568  
FAX: 740-534-6565

### **Marietta Unit – Athens District**

Route 1, Box 132  
Marietta, OH 45750  
(740) 373-9055  
TTY: 740-373-4138  
FAX: 740-373-8079



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