

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA
May 19, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
Supreme Court Chambers, Mazurek Justice Building
Helena, MT

ACTION ITEMS

- 0525-1 Timber Sales **APPROVED 5-0****
- A. Balding Bear**
Location: Missoula County
Benefits: Capitol Buildings and Common Schools
 - B. Chopax**
Location: Lincoln County
Benefits: Common Schools
 - C. Four Score**
Location: Mineral County
Benefits: Capitol Buildings, Common Schools, MSU Eastern/UM Western, and MSU 2nd
 - D. Starvation**
Location: Missoula County
Benefits: Common Schools
 - E. Swift Stryke**
Location: Flathead County
Benefits: Common Schools
- 0525-2 Communitization Agreement: **APPROVED 5-0****
- A. Kai Wells**
Location: Roosevelt and Richland County
Benefits: Common Schools and Public Land Trust
 - B. Storvik 3H and 4H**
Location: Richland County
Benefits: Public Land Trust
 - C. Storvik LW 18-7-6 1H**
Location: Richland and Roosevelt County
Benefits: Public Land Trust
- 0525-3 Easements **APPROVED 5-0****
- Location: Custer, Fallon, Flathead, Golden Valley, Lewis & Clark, McCone, Rosebud, and Teton Counties*
Benefits: Common Schools, MSU-Eastern/UM-Western, MSU Morrill, Capitol Buildings, Public Land Trust, MT Tech, Deaf & Blind School, and General Fund
- 0525-4 Land Board Approval to Seek Outside Legal Counsel (Executive Session) **APPROVED 5-0****
- Location: N/A*
Benefits: N/A

PUBLIC COMMENT

0525-1

TIMBER SALES

A. Balding Bear

B. Chopax

C. Four Score

D. Starvation

E. Swift Stryke

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-1A Timber Sale: Balding Bear

Location: Missoula County

Trust Benefits: Capitol Buildings and Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$213,858 (estimated, minimum bid)

Item Summary

Location: The Balding Bear Timber Sale is located approximately 5.5 miles northeast of Greenough, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 8 harvest units (*808 acres*) of ground-based logging.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 20,926 tons (*2.8 MMBF*) of sawlog.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$10.50 per ton for non-Ponderosa Pine sawlogs and \$2.00 per ton for Ponderosa Pine sawlogs. This would generate approximately \$213,858 for the Capitol Buildings (67%) and Common School (33%) Trusts and approximately \$61,317 in Forest Improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize shelterwood, commercial thinning, sanitation salvage, and individual tree selection harvest prescriptions designed to manage healthy and biologically diverse forests, improve stand growth and vigor, reduce the risk of stand-replacing fire, insects, and disease, and promote regeneration.

Road Construction/Maintenance: DNRC is proposing 8.03 miles of new permanent road construction and 7.4 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through county and state-owned roads.

Public Comments: Five comments were received. Three comments were submitted by representatives of the Fort Belknap, Northern Cheyenne, and Blackfeet Tribes, who requested an archaeological report and to be informed if any cultural artifacts are identified. DNRC's State Archaeologist conducted a Class 1 review of the project area, which did not identify any cultural resources. One comment from a logging industry representative expressed general support for the project. One comment was received from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) regarding project effects on wildlife. DNRC coordinated with FWP during project development.

DNRC Recommendation

The DNRC recommends the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Balding Bear Timber Sale.

State Trust Land Vicinity Map Clearwater Unit

BALDING BEAR VICINITY MAP

Project Name: Balding Bear Projects

Project Location: West of Ovando Montana and southeast of the junction of HWY's 83 and 200

Section: 13, 14, and 24 **Township:** 14N **Range:** 14W

County: Missoula

● Towns

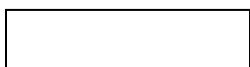
— County Lines

— Major Roads

■ Water Bodies

— Rivers

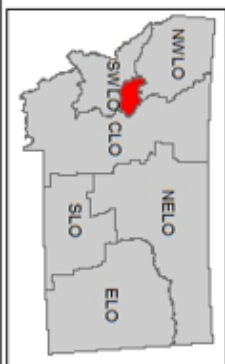
■ State Trust land



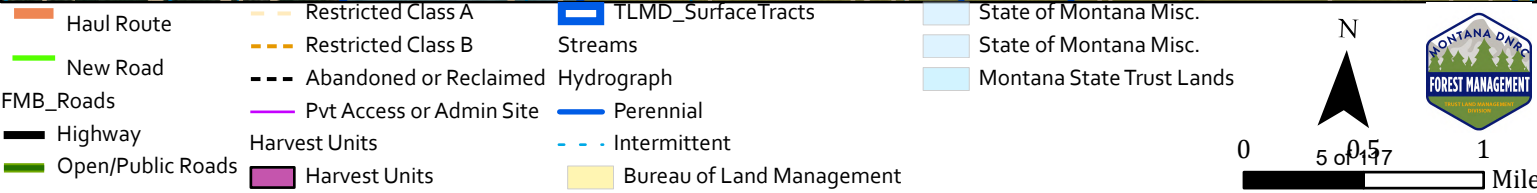
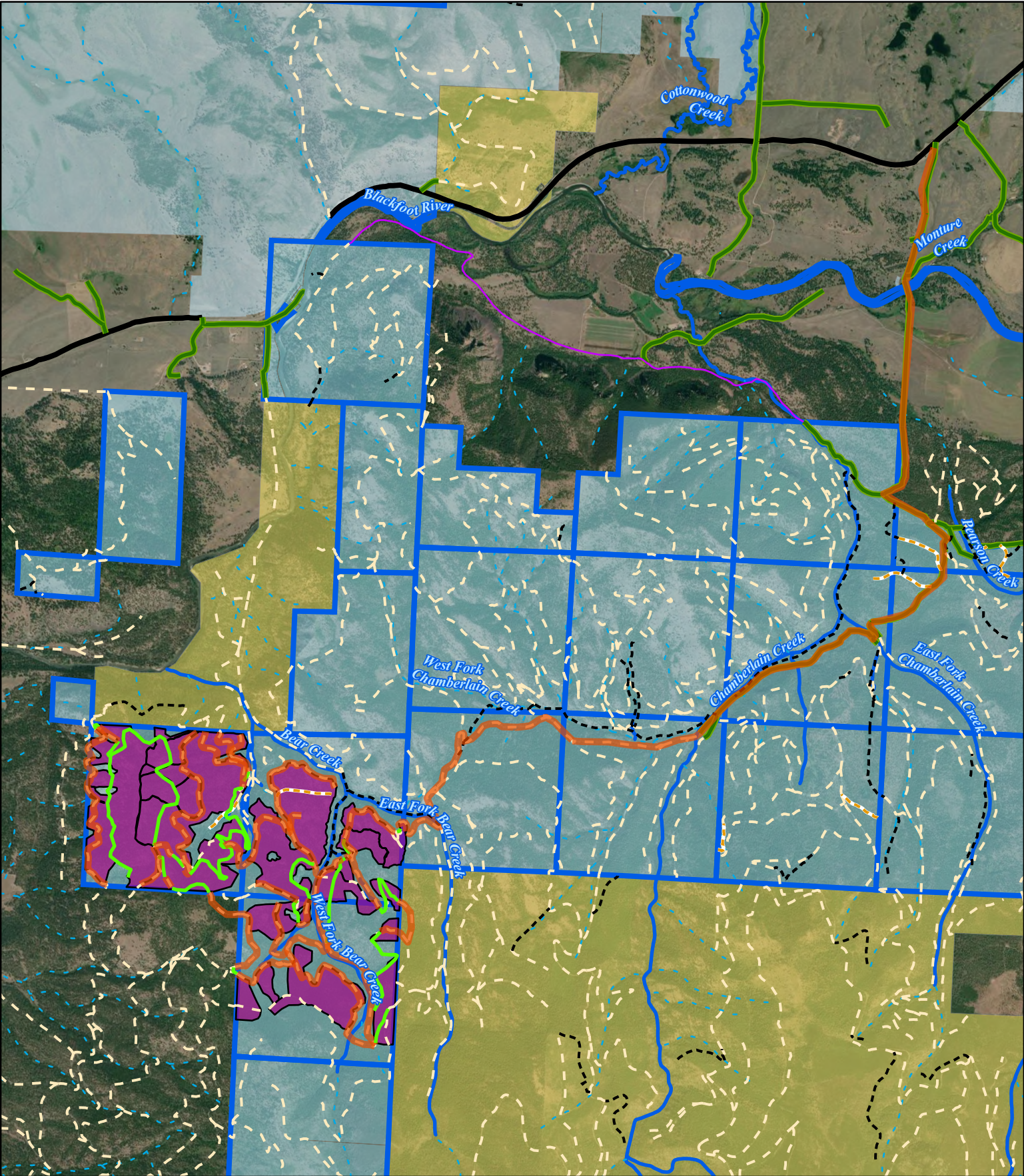
0 5 10 20 Miles



Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation 11/1/2019
Datum: NAD 1983 State Plane



Balding Bear Timber Sale Haul Route



This map displays the Forest Management Units (FMB_Roads) for a specific region. The map includes a legend with the following categories:

- Haul Route:** Solid orange line
- New Road:** Solid green line
- FMB_Roads:** Solid black line
- Highway:** Solid black line
- Open/Public Roads:** Solid green line
- Restricted Class A:** Dashed orange line
- Restricted Class B:** Dashed orange line
- Abandoned or Reclaimed:** Dashed black line
- Pvt Access or Admin Site:** Dashed purple line
- Harvest Units:** Solid purple area
- TLMD_SurfaceTracts:** Solid blue area
- Streams:** Solid blue line
- Hydrograph:** Dashed blue line
- Perennial:** Solid blue line
- Intermittent:** Dashed blue line
- Bureau of Land Management:** Solid yellow area
- Montana State Trust Lands:** Solid light blue area

The map also includes a scale bar (0 to 0.5 miles) and a north arrow. The map shows various land management units, roads, and streams, with labels for specific units (e.g., 3-112, 3-117, 3-108, 3-113, 3-114, 3-115, 3-116, 3-117, 3-121, 3-122) and streams (e.g., Bear Creek, East Fork Bear Creek, West Fork Bear Creek).

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-1B Timber Sale: Chopax

Location: Lincoln County

Trust Benefits: Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$82,749 (estimated, minimum bid)

Item Summary

Location: The Chopax Timber Sale is located approximately 7 miles north of Stryker, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 3 harvest units of tractor (*198 acres*) and cable (*219 acres*) logging.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 14,646 tons (*2.1 MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$5.65 per ton, which would generate approximately \$82,749 for the Common School Trust and approximately \$56,680 in Forest Improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize seed tree and clearcut-with-reserve harvest prescriptions designed to establish regeneration areas with the desired species mix, improve tree vigor and growth, and promote biodiversity on state-owned land.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 2.4 miles of new temporary road construction, 0.5 miles of road reconstruction, and 9.17 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through state-owned roads.

Public Comments: Two public comments were received. A nearby resident expressed concern about proper stand regeneration, and DNRC explained that site preparation and planting methods would be used to ensure successful post-harvest site regeneration. One comment letter was received from a non-profit environmental organization, which raised concerns about old growth, wildlife, fisheries, roads, soils, weeds, and economics. DNRC addressed all concerns in the associated Environmental Assessment.

DNRC Recommendation:

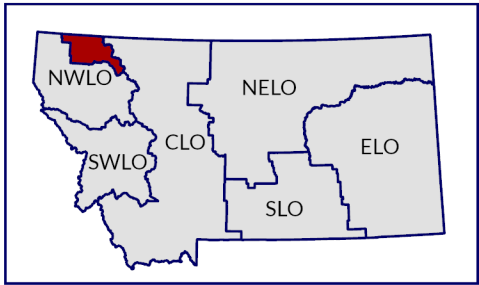
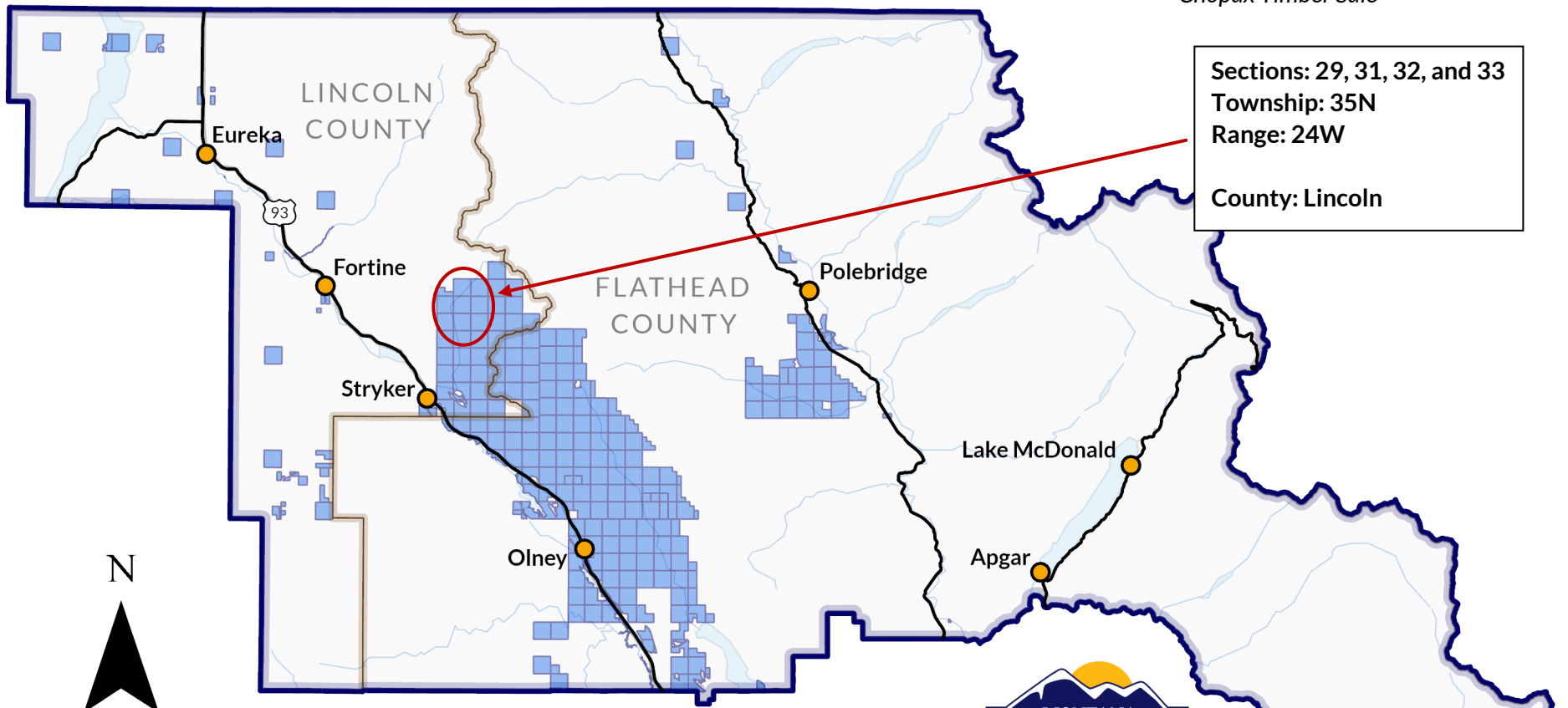
The DNRC recommends the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Chopax Timber Sale.

State Trust Land Vicinity Map

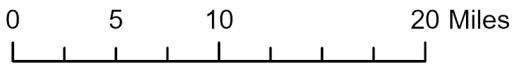
Stillwater Unit

Chopax Timber Sale

Sections: 29, 31, 32, and 33
Township: 35N
Range: 24W
County: Lincoln

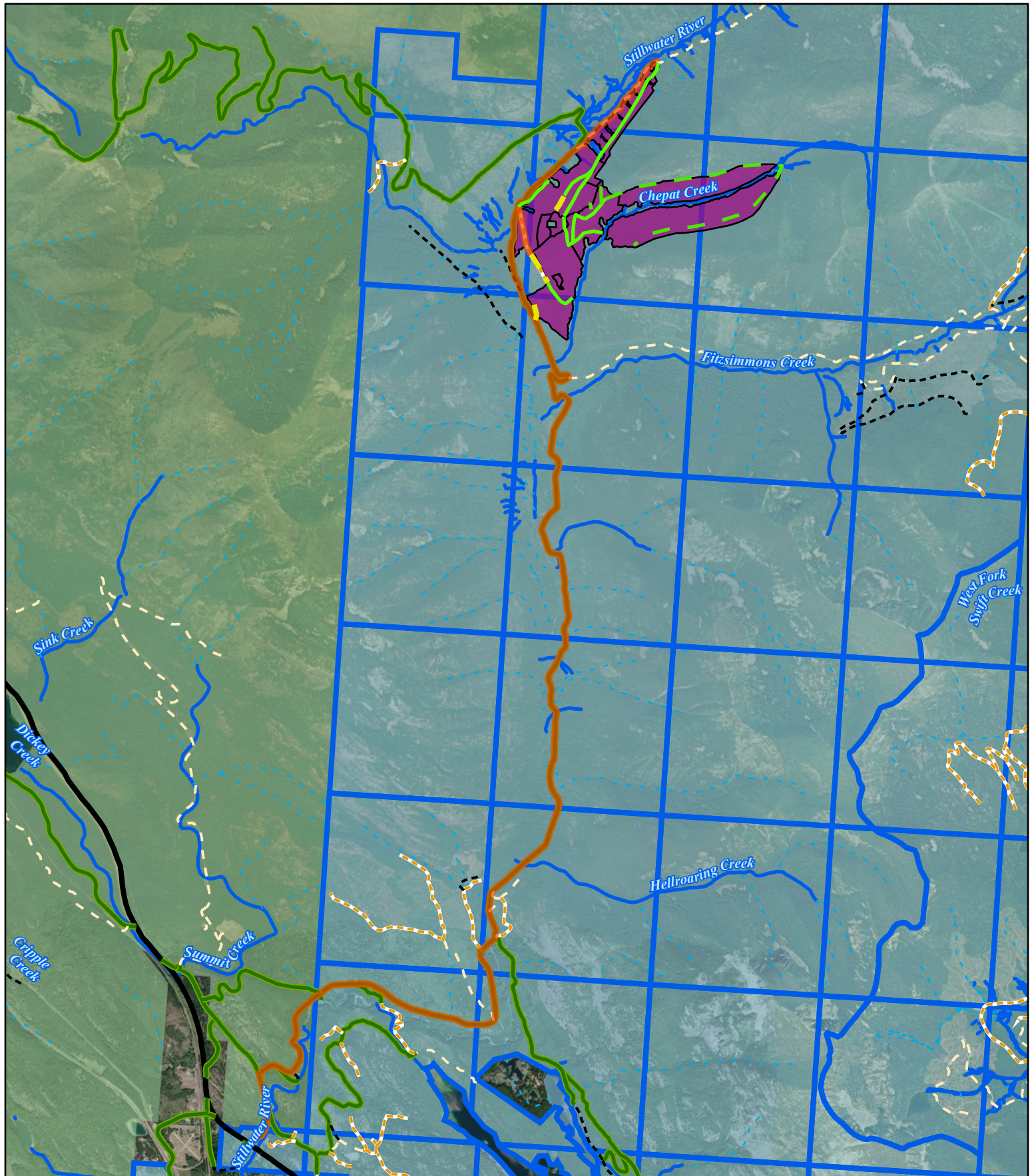


- Towns
- County Lines
- Major Roads
- Rivers & Lakes
- State Trust Land



Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – 2025
NAD 1983 State Plane

Chopax Timber Sale Haul Route and Harvest Units

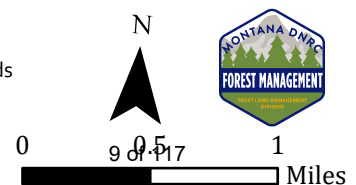


- Haul Route
- New Road
- Reconstruction of Existing Road
- Temporary Road

- FMB_Roads
- Highway
 - Open/Public Roads
 - Restricted Class A
 - Restricted Class B
 - - - Abandoned or Reclaimed

- Harvest Units
- Harvest Units
 - TLMD_SurfaceTracts
- Streams
- Perennial

- - - Intermittent
- US Forest Service
- Montana State Trust Lands



**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-1C Timber Sale: Four Score

Location: Mineral County

Trust Benefits: Capitol Buildings, Common Schools, MSU Eastern/UM Western,
MSU 2nd

Trust Revenue: \$81,792 (estimated, minimum bid)

Item Summary

Location: The Four Score Timber Sale is located approximately 4 miles southeast of St. Regis, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 6 units of line/combination logging (*505 acres*) and tractor logging (*66 acres*).

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 22,103 tons (3.3 *MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$4.25 per ton for non-Ponderosa Pine sawlogs and \$2.00 per ton for Ponderosa Pine sawlogs, which would generate approximately \$81,792 for the Capitol Buildings (24%), Common Schools (46%), MSU Eastern/ UM Western (27%), and MSU 2nd (3%) Trusts and approximately \$72,456 in Forest Improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize individual tree selection and sanitation harvest prescriptions designed to reduce stand density, remove shade-tolerant species, remove dead and dying trees, improve stand vigor, and bring stands closer to historical conditions.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 2.9 miles of new permanent road construction, 1 mile of new temporary road construction, and 9.3 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through cost share roads with the United States Forest Service.

Public Comments: One comment was received from Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) with suggestions related to retaining/promoting heterogenous stand structures, retaining large diameter snags and dense patches of small diameter trees, and ensuring new roads are gated to protect and improve habitat for a range of game and non-game wildlife species. DNRC addressed all comments in the Four Score Timber Sale Environmental Assessment.

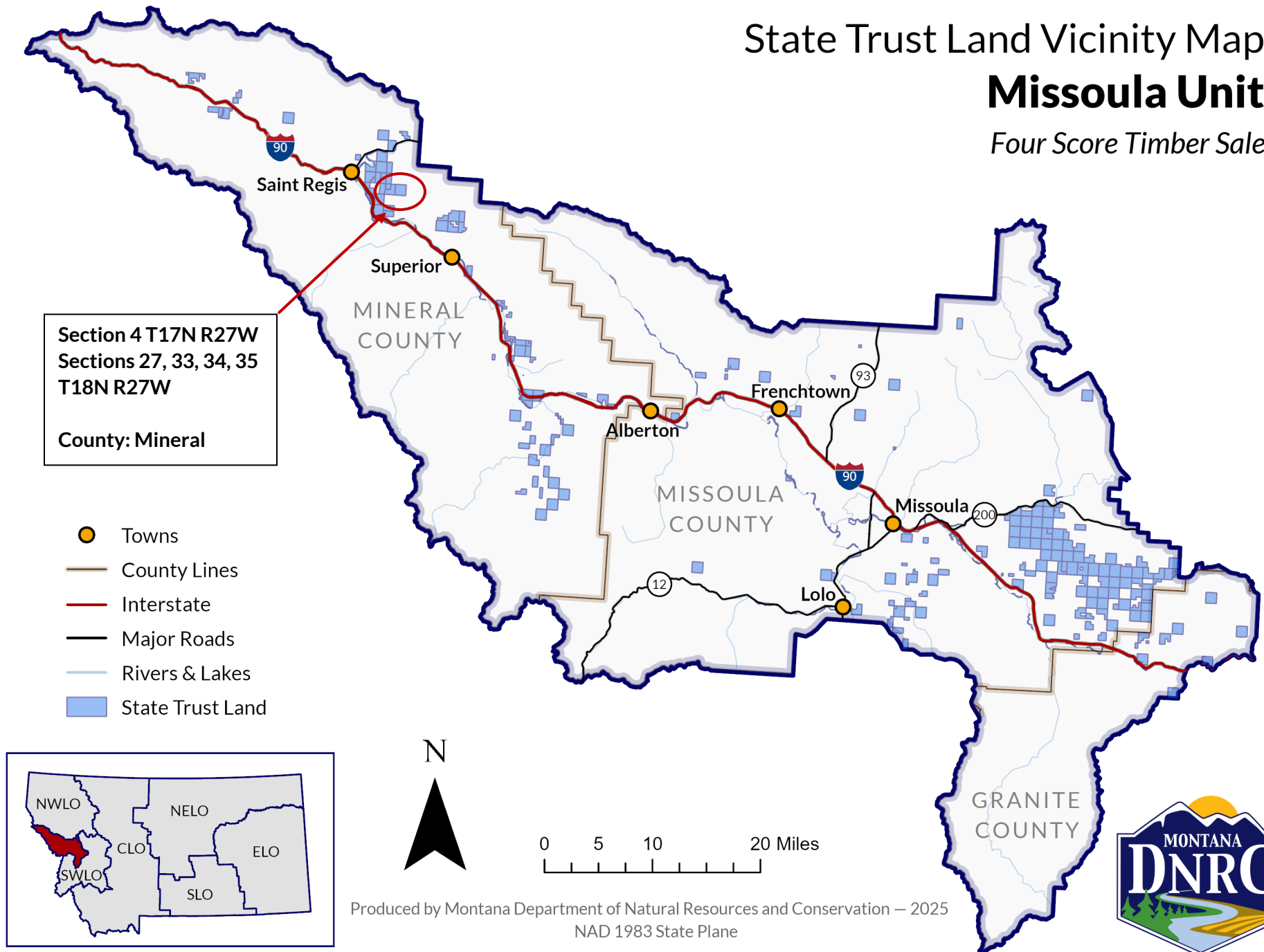
DNRC Recommendation

The DNRC recommends the Land Board direct DNRC to sell Four Score Timber Sale.

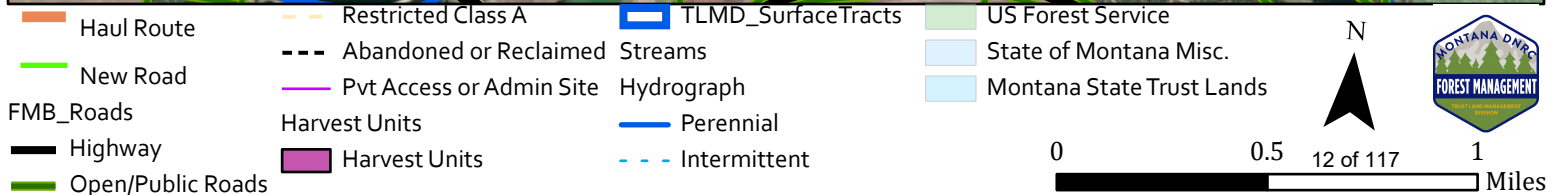
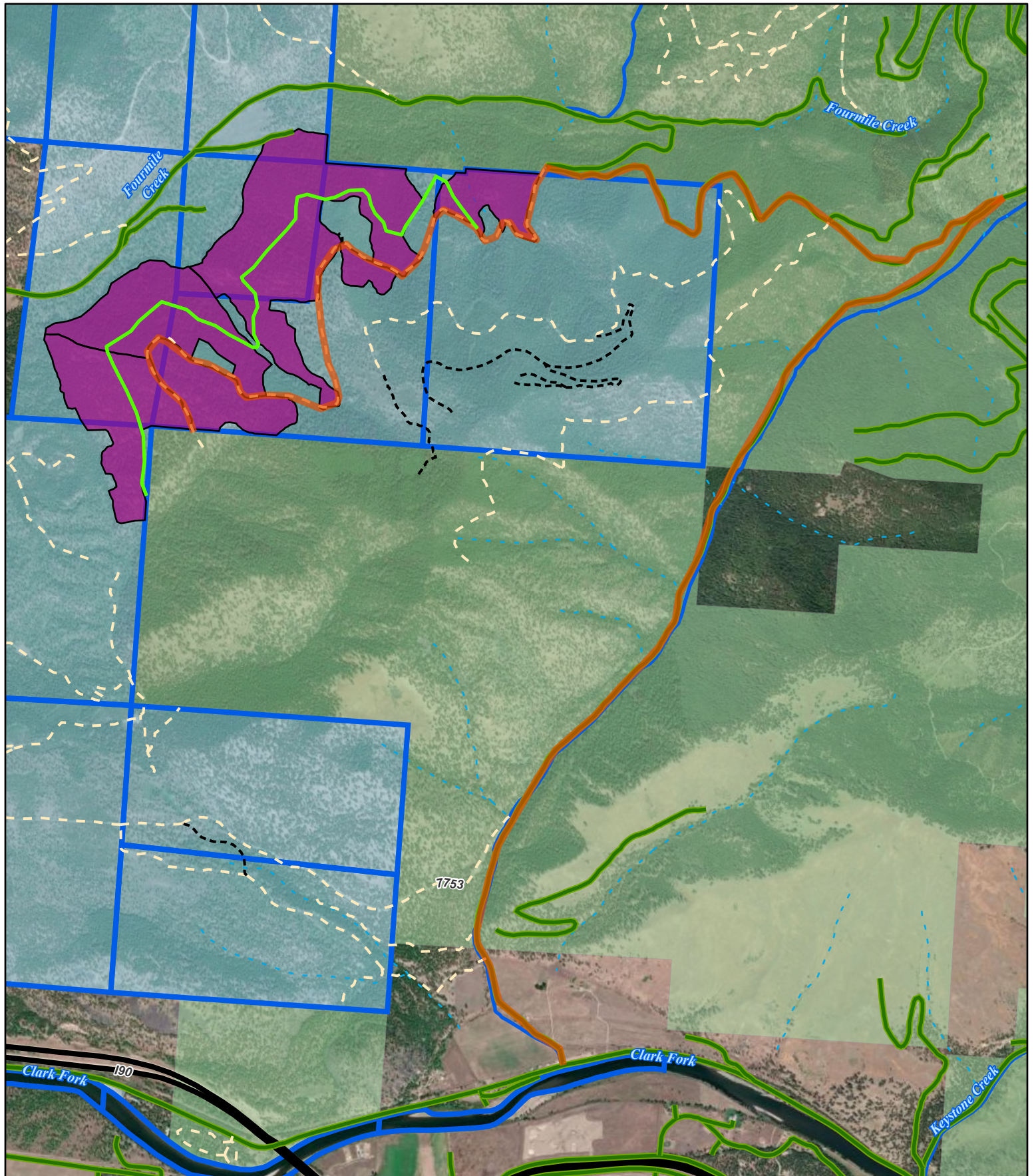
State Trust Land Vicinity Map

Missoula Unit

Four Score Timber Sale



Four Score Timber Sale Haul Route and Harvest Units



**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-1D Timber Sale: Starvation

Location: Missoula County

Trust Benefits: Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$42,974 (estimated, minimum bid)

Item Summary

Location: The Starvation Timber Sale is located approximately 1 mile southeast of Clinton, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 6 harvest units of tractor (*117 acres*) and skyline (*139 acres*) logging.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 8,739 tons (*1.2 MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$5.83 per ton for all non-Ponderosa Pine species and \$2.00 per ton for Ponderosa Pine, which would generate approximately \$42,974 for the Common Schools Trust and approximately \$26,151 in Forest Improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize a harvest prescription of individual tree selection and seed tree methods, designed to improve stand health and vigor by reducing basal area and prioritizing the retention of early seral species. The prescription would favor the removal of unhealthy, suppressed Douglas-fir, and would reduce fuel loading and the likelihood of a stand-replacing fire.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 0.7 miles of new permanent road construction, 2.5 miles of road reconstruction, and 7.5 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through county-owned roads and secured easements on The Nature Conservancy and private roads.

Public Comments: One comment from Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) was received expressing the importance of maintaining wildlife habitat connectivity with recommendations for reducing human/bear interactions. DNRC addressed FWP's concerns and all impacts to wildlife in the Starvation Timber Sale Project Environmental Assessment (EA).

DNRC Recommendation

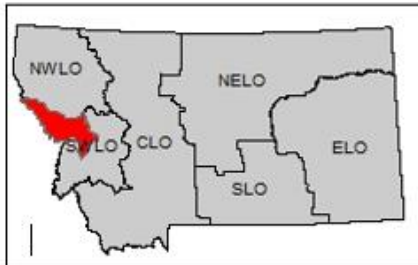
The DNRC recommends the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Starvation Timber Sale.

State Trust Land Vicinity Map Missoula Unit

Starvation Timber Sale VICINITY MAP



- Towns
- State Trust Land
- Major Roads
- County Lines
- Interstate
- Water Bodies
- Rivers



Project Name: Starvation

Project Location: Section 36 T12N R17W

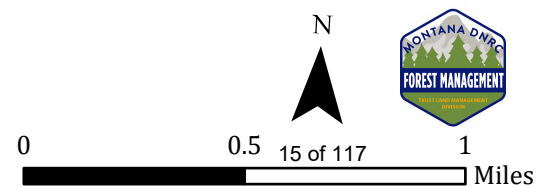
County: Missoula County

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Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation 11/1/2019

Datum: NAD 1983 StatePlane





**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-1E Timber Sale: Swift Stryke

Location: Flathead County

Trust Benefits: Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$800,913 (estimated, minimum bid)

Item Summary

Location: The Swift Stryke Timber Sale is located approximately 3.5 miles east of Olney, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 22 harvest units (*1,270 acres*) of tractor logging.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 34,271 tons (*4.4 MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$23.37 per ton, which would generate approximately \$800,913 for the Common Schools Trust and approximately \$117,396 in Forest Improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize sanitation and commercial thinning harvest prescriptions designed to remove trees compromised by insects and disease, reduce stand densities to improve growth and forest health through thinning, and decrease fuel loading along primary forest roads.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 15 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through state-owned roads.

Public Comments: Five comments were received regarding the Swift Stryke Forest Management Project. Two comments from logging industry representatives expressed general support for the project. Lincoln Electric Cooperative requested consultation if the harvest units are located along powerline rights-of-way. A local resident raised concerns about noise from log hauling traffic, slash pile burning, and noxious weeds. A non-profit environmental group commented on issues including old growth forest, roads and soils, wildlife, fisheries, water quality, climate change, cumulative effects, weeds, and economics. The DNRC addressed all concerns either directly with the commenters or within the Swift Stryke Forest Management Project Environmental Assessment

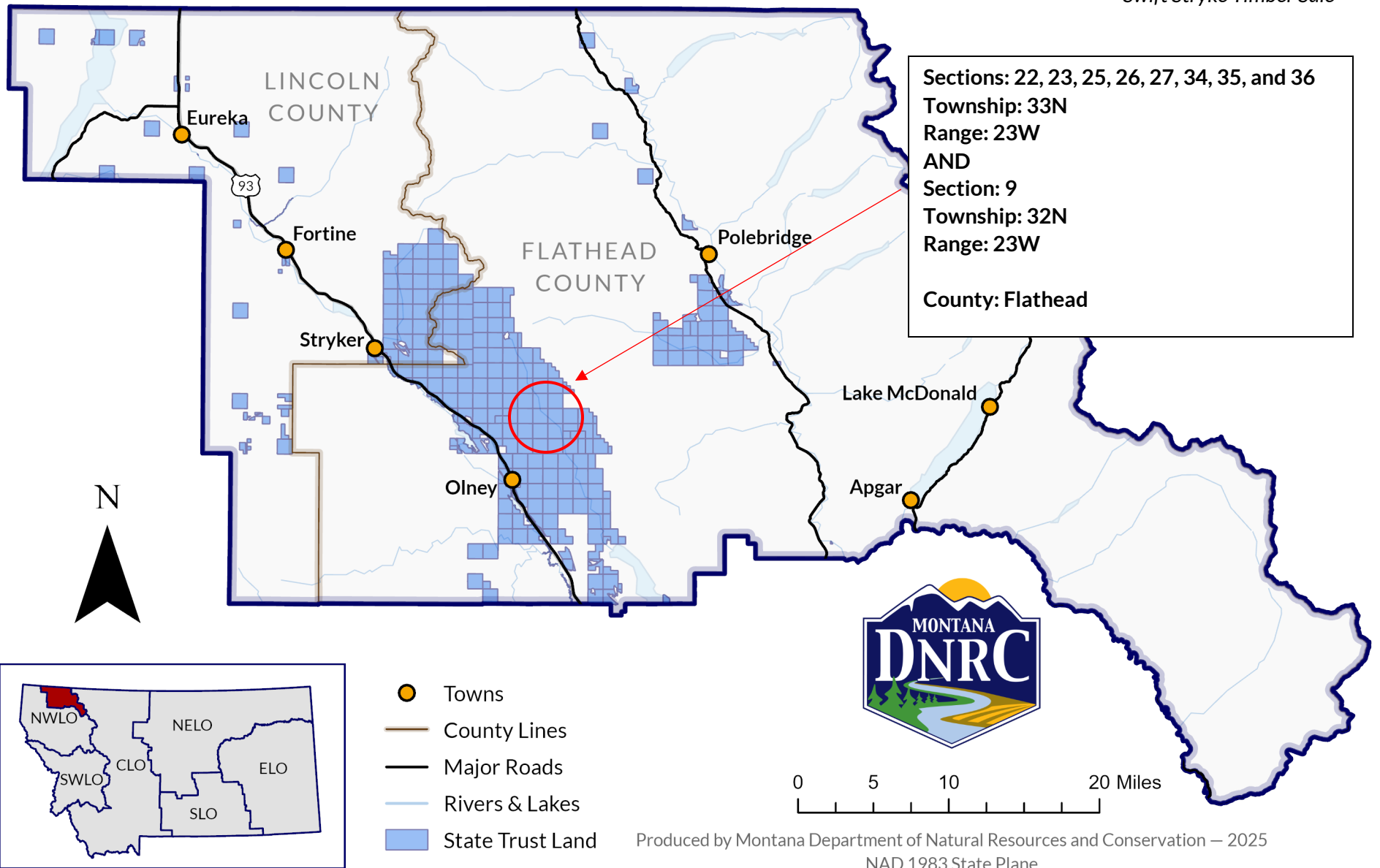
DNRC Recommendation

The DNRC recommends the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Swift Stryke Timber Sale.

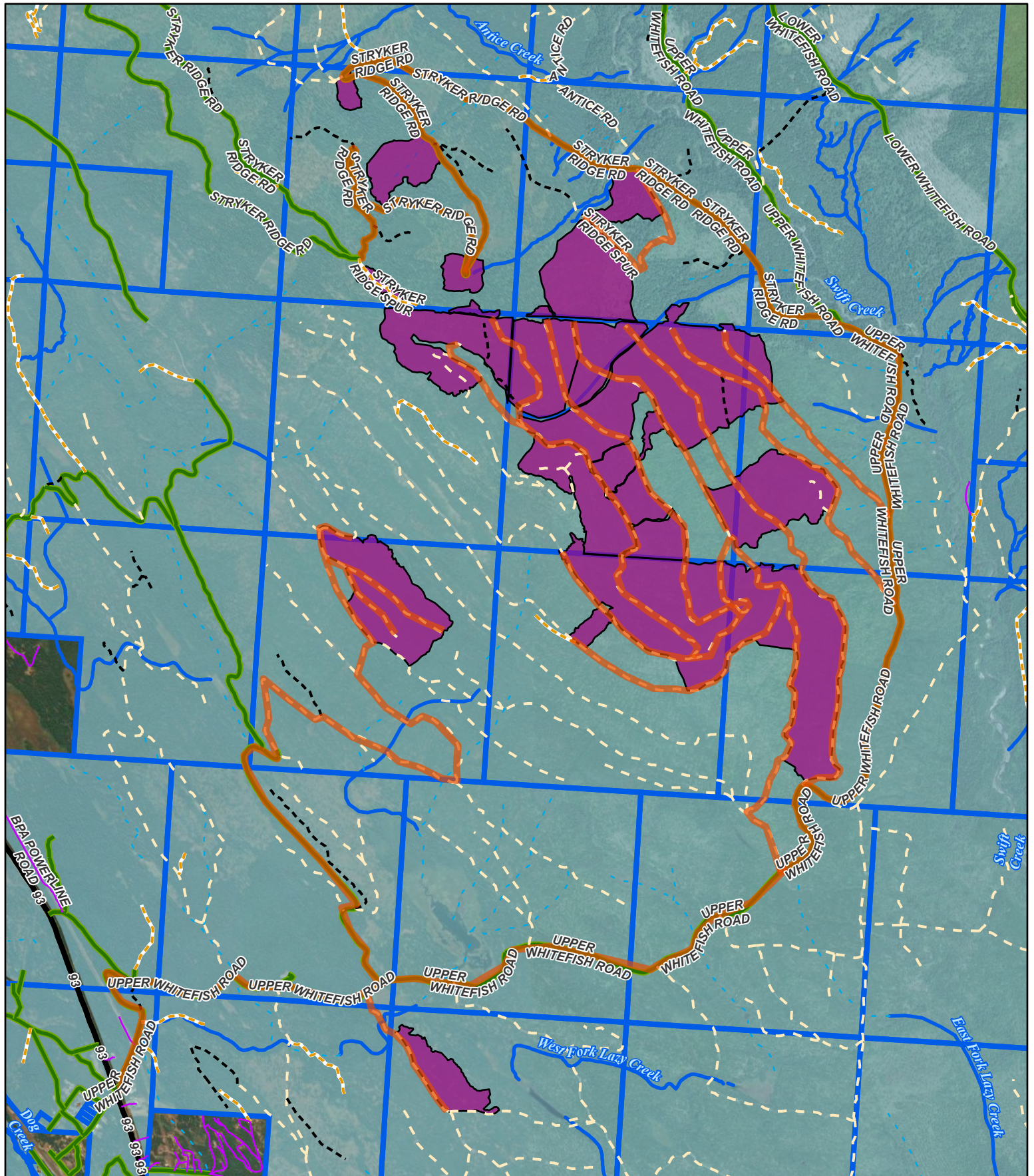
State Trust Land Vicinity Map

Stillwater Unit

Swift Stryke Timber Sale



Swift Stryke Timber Sale Haul Route and Harvest Units



- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| — Haul Route | - - - Restricted Class B | Streams |
| — FMB_Roads | - - - Abandoned or Reclaimed | Hydrograph |
| — Highway | — Pvt Access or Admin Site | — Perennial |
| — Open/Public Roads | Harvest Units | - - - Intermittent |
| - - - Restricted Class A | Harvest Units | US Forest Service |
| — TLMD_SurfaceTracts | Montana State Trust Lands | |



0525-2

COMMUNITIZATION AGREEMENT

A. KIA Wells

B. Storvik 3H and 4H

C. Storvik LW 18-7-6 1H

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-2A Kai Wells Communitization Agreement

Location: Roosevelt and Richland Counties

Trust Benefits: Common Schools and Public Land Trust

Trust Revenue: \$10.2 million

Item Summary:

This item requests Land Board approval of a communitization agreement for three Bakken Formation oil and gas wells in Roosevelt and Richland Counties. The Kai 2H, 3H, and 4H wells were drilled by Kraken Oil and Gas and have produced oil and natural gas from the Bakken Formation since March 2022.

Based on royalties already paid to the department and future forecasted production using decline curve analysis, assuming an average of \$65/bbl oil and \$3.50/mcf gas, these three wells are expected to contribute approximately 10.2 million dollars in oil and gas royalties to the Common Schools and Public Land Trust.

A communitization agreement is a formal declaration of the State of Montana's oil and gas ownership percentage within the wells spacing unit. It is signed by the operator of the wells and the DNRC Director on behalf of the Land Board, for the proper distribution of oil and gas royalties. The State of Montana owns approximately 49.5% of the mineral acreage within the spacing unit.

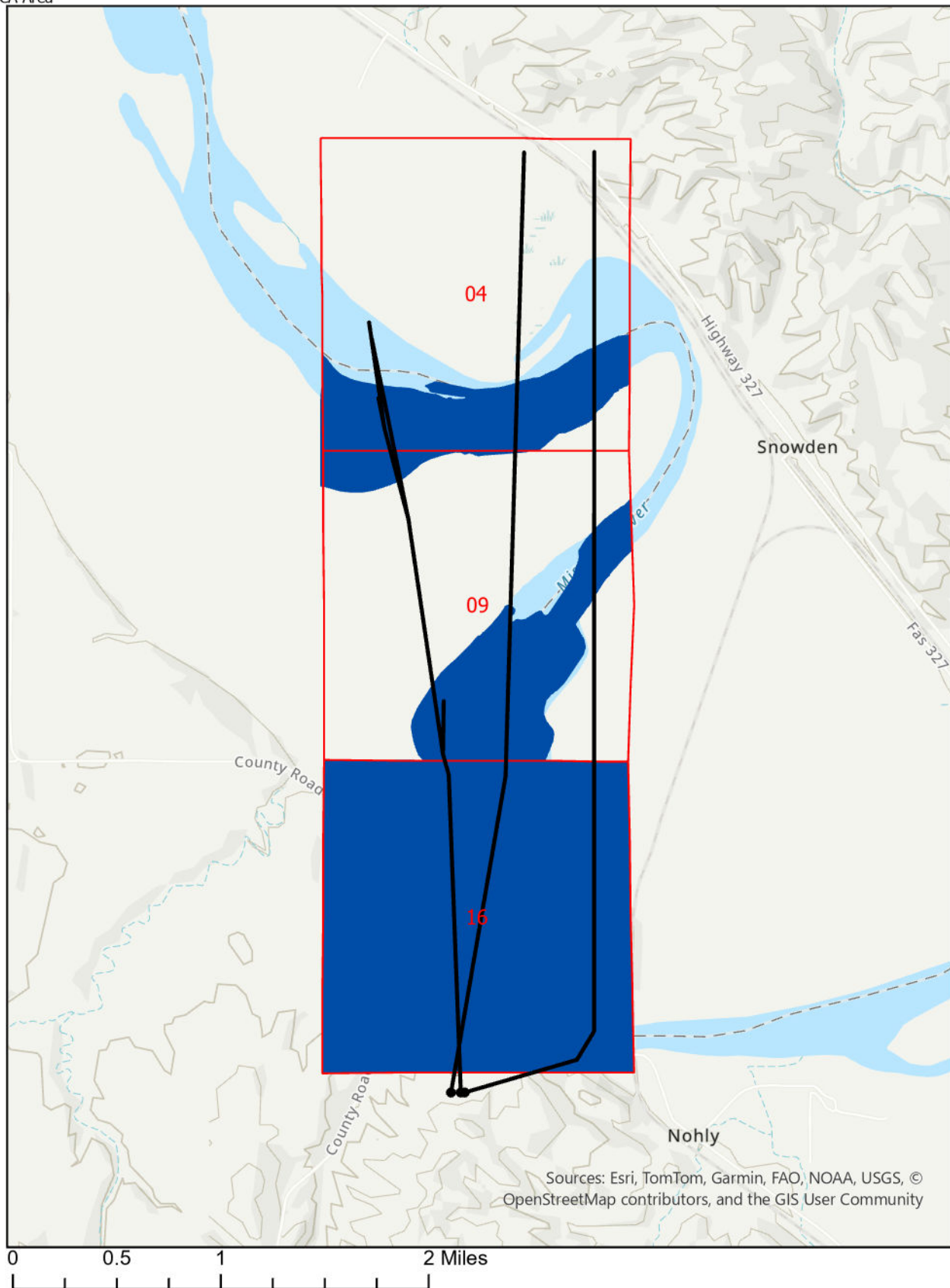
DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the Kai Wells Communitization Agreement..

Legend

- Kai Paths
- Communitized Area with Section Numbers
- Kai Wellheads
- State of Montana Trust
- Lands Mineral Ownership in CA Area

Communitized Area - Kai 16-4 2H, 3H, 4H Township 26N Range 59E Roosevelt and Richland Counties, MT



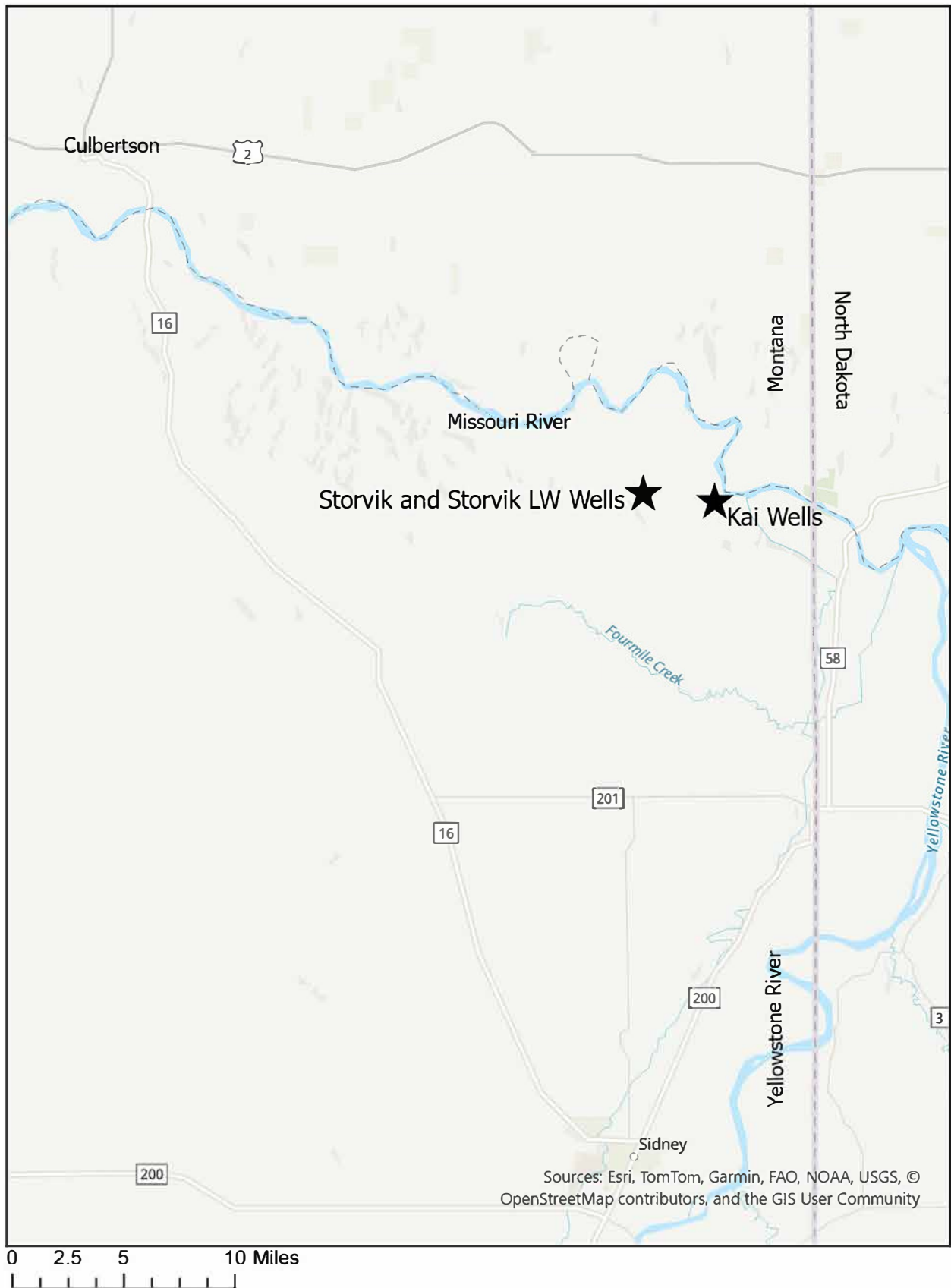
Recapitulation Table

Tract Number	Owner	Acreage	Unit Acreage	% ownership	Oil Royalty	Net Owner's Interest
1	State of Montana	945.342	1911.409	49.457861%	Section 16: 16.67% Sections 4&9: 13%	7.658354%
2	All Others	966.067	1911.409	50.542139%	Unknown	Unknown

Vicinity Map

Kai, Storvik and Storvik LW Wells

Richland and Roosevelt County, Montana



**APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF A COMMUNITIZATION
AGREEMENT CONCERNING LANDS IN
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, MONTANA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

Township 26 North, Range 59 East, M.P.M.

Section 16: ALL

Section 09: ALL

Section 04: ALL

Acting under the authority vested in the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana under Section 77-1-201, MCA, et seq., and in order to secure the proper protection of the State's mineral interests, the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana hereby:

A. Ratifies and approves the Communitization Agreement dated March 1, 2022; concerning the above-described lands, and recognizes the interests of the parties therein stated;

B. Approves the inclusion of the following lands of the State of Montana in the above-described Communitized Area for the development and operation of the area, County of Roosevelt, State of Montana; provided, that said Communitization Agreement shall become effective as to the following State of Montana lands now or hereafter included within the limits of the area as to which lands the leases have been committed by the working interest owners, to-wit:

Township 26 North, Range 59 East, M.P.M.

Section 16: ALL

Section 09: Missouri Riverbed Related Acreage

Section 04: Missouri Riverbed Related Acreage

C. Certifies that lands of the State of Montana included in said Communitization Agreement shall, from the effective date thereof and concurrently therewith, become subject thereto, all upon the conditions hereinafter set forth;

This Approval and Certification is subject to the conditions that nothing in the Communitization Agreement shall be construed as altering or waiving any of the following provisions or conditions relating to State of Montana lands:

1. The Communitization Agreement herein referred to is made subject to the laws of the State of Montana and the United States of America and shall be construed in conformity therewith.
2. The Board agrees that the leases covering State of Montana lands described above can be extended beyond their primary lease term only upon the happening of one of two events. However, the extension of the primary term of the lease by these events shall not relieve the lessee of any obligations of the lease, and the violation of any lease provisions may justify the cancellation of the lease regardless of any of the provisions of the Communitization Agreement.

- a. If the above-described state lands are included in a Communitized Area in which a well is completed and is capable of production in economic quantities, or;
 - b. If drilling or completion operations are diligently performed on some portion of the communitized area, such operations will extend the lease. Within the meaning of this paragraph, such operations shall be deemed to be diligently performed if not more than ninety (90) days elapse between the drilling, completion, or abandonment of one well and the commencement of drilling of another well or reworking of the same well or between cessation of drilling operations on a well, and recommencement of drilling operations on that same well.
3. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana does not warrant title to its lands.
4. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, no liens may be levied against the State of Montana for any of its lands in said pooled area, nor shall any taxes be charged to or against the State of Montana.
5. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana, pursuant to Section 77-3-434, Montana Code Annotated, shall be paid for its share of the oil and gas produced from the Communitized Area, the posted field price existing on the date such oil or gas is run into any pipeline or storage tank to the credit of the operator, plus any bonus actually paid or agreed to be paid to the lessee for such oil or gas; or, at the option of the state exercised in writing by the State Board of Land Commissioners not more often than every thirty (30) days, the operator shall deliver the state's royalty oil or gas free of cost or deductions into the pipeline to which the wells of the Communitized Area may be connected or into any storage designated by the state and connected with such wells.
6. It is understood that in the event any such dispute arises affecting State of Montana lands under the agreement, the Department may authorize royalties payable to the royalty interest in dispute to be withheld to be deposited in an escrow account which bears interest until such time as the dispute is finally settled or determined. Royalty reports continue to be required pursuant to Section 77-3-431, MCA, et seq., and shall report the total amount claimed by the State, the amount withheld and deposited into the escrow account, and the net amount paid to the State for any undisputed State interest.
7. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, no enlargement or contraction of the size of the Communitized Area shall be accepted unless approved by the State Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana.
8. The State of Montana is not liable, and the operator is not authorized to withhold or deduct from the State of Montana's share of any disbursements, a sufficient sum to pay ad valorem taxes assessed on said oil and gas.

9. The Department's joinder in the above-described Communitization is subject to the power of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation under Section 77-3-444, MCA, to suspend overriding royalties in excess of 5% above the royalty due the Department.
10. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana does not waive any right of inspection concerning the State of Montana lands committed to the Communitized area.
11. That, the state's lessee, or the operator of the above-described Communitized Area, shall have no obligation to offset any well or wells completed upon separate component tracts within this Communitized Area and producing from the same formation covered by this Communitization Agreement. However, the State's lessee and the Operator of the Communitized Area shall retain the obligation to protect the Communitized Area from drainage from wells completed outside the Communitized Area.

This Approval and Certification shall likewise encompass and apply to any additional wells drilled and completed in conformity with the approved Board of Oil and Gas spacing unit and producing from the Bakken/Three Forks formation underlying the communitized area.

The Board of Land Commissioners does hereby alter, change modify and revoke the drilling, production and royalty requirements of such lease or leases included in this Agreement to the extent necessary to conform the same to the approved Board of Oil and Gas Commission spacing unit, the corresponding Communitization Agreement, and the aforesaid provisions pertaining to the well.

Executed on behalf of the State of Montana, acting by and through its Board of Land Commissioners on this ____ day of _____, 2025.

BY: _____
Amanda Kaster, Director
Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-2B Storvik 3H and 4H Communitization Agreement

Location: Richland County

Trust Benefits: Public Land Trust

Trust Revenue: \$33,000

Item Summary:

This item requests Land Board approval of a communitization agreement for two Bakken Formation oil and gas wells in Richland County. The Storvik 3H and 4H wells were drilled by Kraken Oil and Gas and have produced oil and natural gas from the Bakken Formation since August 2024.

Based on decline curve analysis, assuming an average of \$65/bbl oil and \$3.50/mcf gas, the Storvik 3H and 4H wells are expected to contribute approximately \$33,000 to the Public Land Trust.

A communitization agreement is a formal declaration of the State of Montana's oil and gas ownership percentage within the wells spacing unit. It is signed by the operator of the wells and the DNRC Director on behalf of the Land Board, for the proper distribution of oil and gas royalties. The State of Montana owns approximately 0.17% of the mineral acreage within the spacing unit.

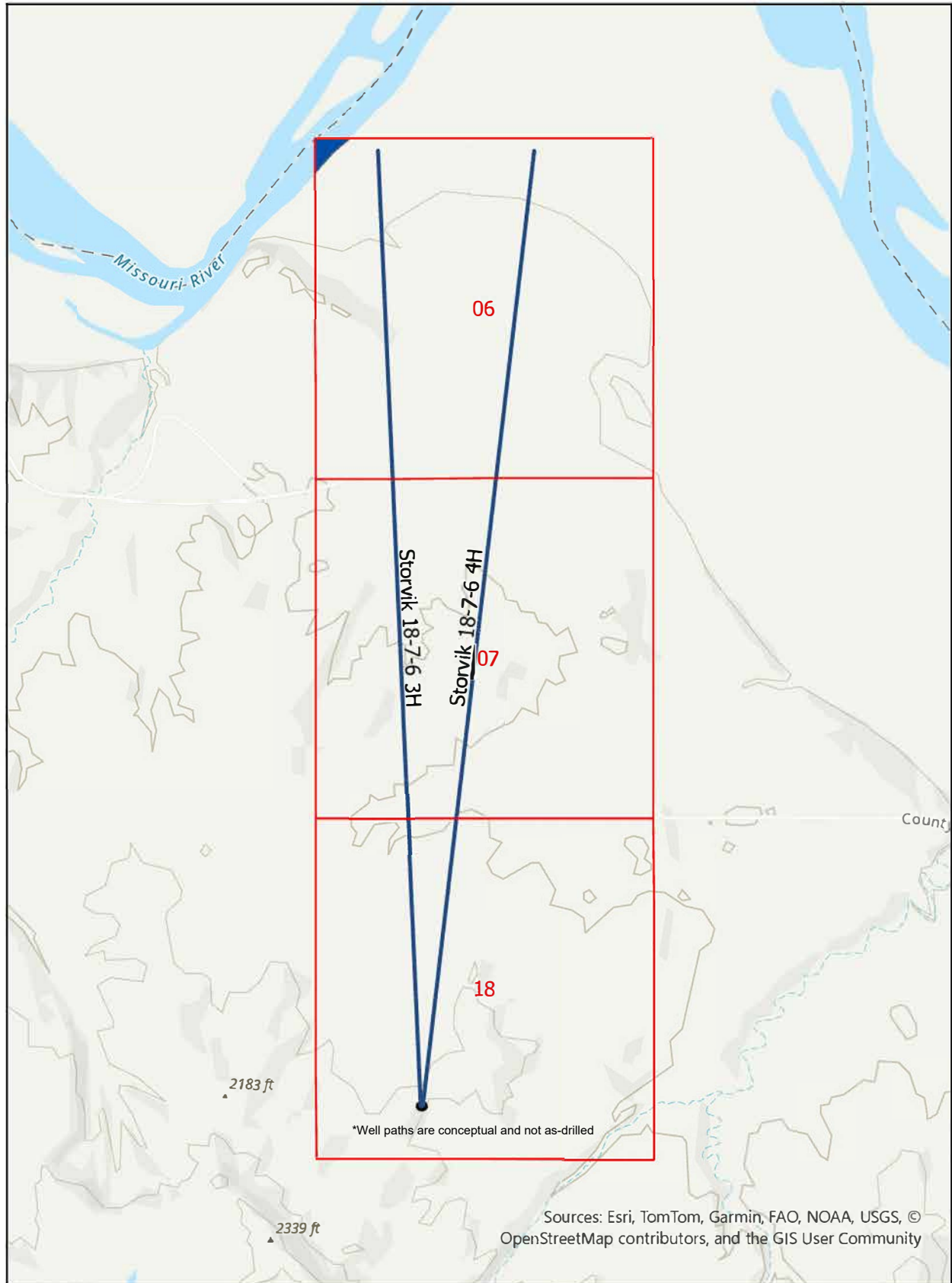
DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the Storvik 3H and 4H Wells Communitization Agreement.

Legend

- Storvik Wellheads
- Storvik Well Paths
- Communitized Area with Section Numbers
- State of Montana Trust Lands Mineral Acreage in CA Area

Communitized Area - Storvik 18-7-6 3H and 4H Wells Township 26N Range 59E Richland County, MT



0 0.5 1 2 Miles



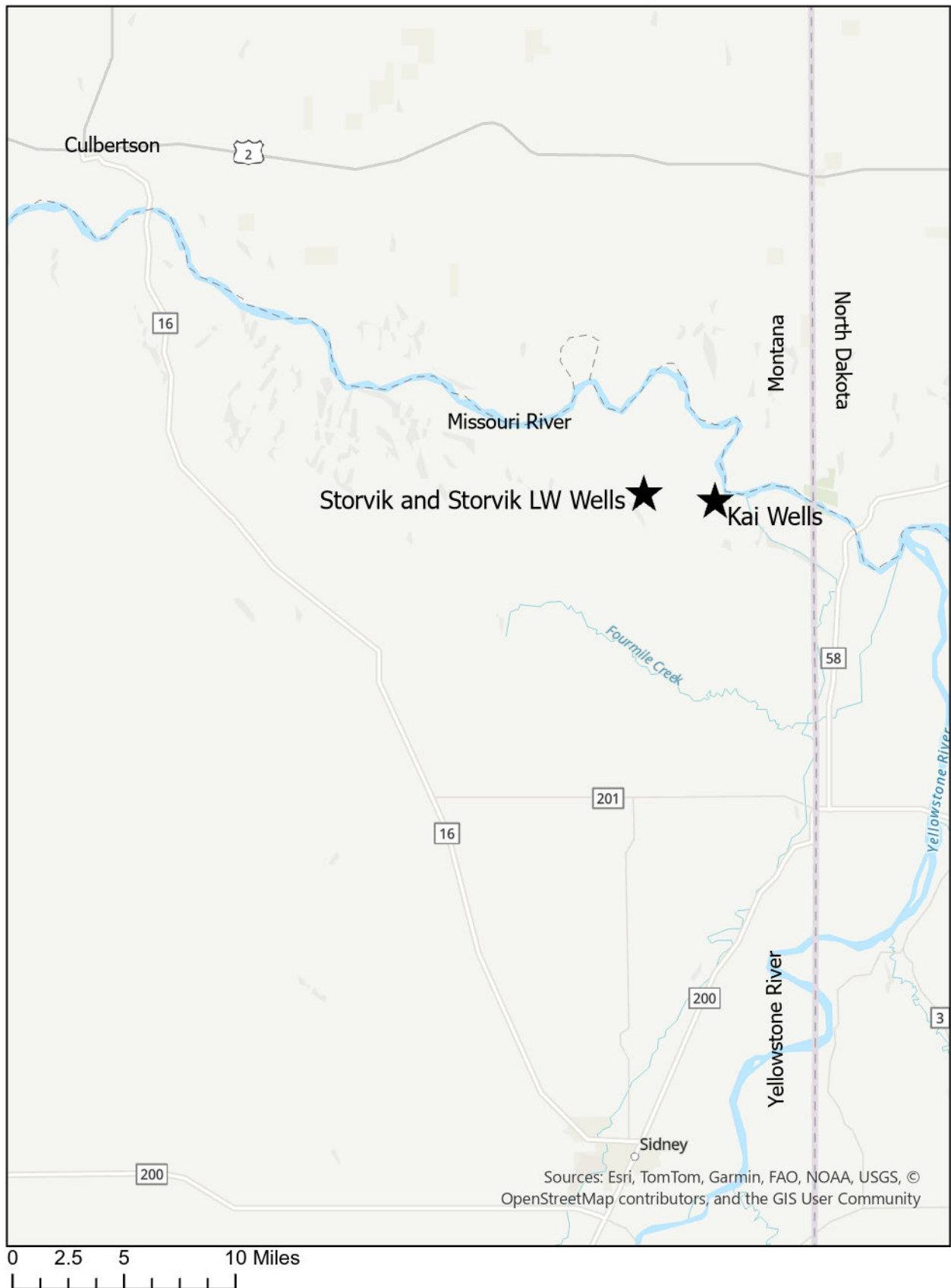
Recapitulation Table

Tract Number	Owner	Acreage	Unit Acreage	% ownership	Royalty	Net Owner's Interest
1	State of Montana	3.26	1920.3	0.169765%	16.67%	0.0282998%
2	All Others	1917.04	1920.3	99.830235%	Unknown	Unknown

Vicinity Map

Kai, Storvik and Storvik LW Wells

Richland County, Montana



**APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF A COMMUNITIZATION
AGREEMENT CONCERNING LANDS IN
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, MONTANA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

Township 26 North, Range 59 East, M.P.M.

Section 06: ALL

Section 07: ALL

Section 18: ALL

Acting under the authority vested in the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana under Section 77-1-201, MCA, et seq., and in order to secure the proper protection of the State's mineral interests, the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana hereby:

A. Ratifies and approves the Communitization Agreement dated August 1, 2024; concerning the above-described lands, and recognizes the interests of the parties therein stated;

B. Approves the inclusion of the following lands of the State of Montana in the above-described Communitized Area for the development and operation of the area, County of Roosevelt, State of Montana; provided, that said Communitization Agreement shall become effective as to the following State of Montana lands now or hereafter included within the limits of the area as to which lands the leases have been committed by the working interest owners, to-wit:

Township 26 North, Range 59 East, M.P.M.

Section 06: Missouri Riverbed Related Acreage

C. Certifies that lands of the State of Montana included in said Communitization Agreement shall, from the effective date thereof and concurrently therewith, become subject thereto, all upon the conditions hereinafter set forth;

This Approval and Certification is subject to the conditions that nothing in the Communitization Agreement shall be construed as altering or waiving any of the following provisions or conditions relating to State of Montana lands:

1. The Communitization Agreement herein referred to is made subject to the laws of the State of Montana and the United States of America and shall be construed in conformity therewith.
2. The Board agrees that the leases covering State of Montana lands described above can be extended beyond their primary lease term only upon the happening of one of two events. However, the extension of the primary term of the lease by these events shall not relieve the lessee of any obligations of the lease, and the violation of any lease provisions may justify the cancellation of the lease regardless of any of the provisions of the Communitization Agreement.
 - a. If the above-described state lands are included in a Communitized Area in which a

well is completed and is capable of production in economic quantities, or;

- b. If drilling or completion operations are diligently performed on some portion of the communitized area, such operations will extend the lease. Within the meaning of this paragraph, such operations shall be deemed to be diligently performed if not more than ninety (90) days elapse between the drilling, completion, or abandonment of one well and the commencement of drilling of another well or reworking of the same well or between cessation of drilling operations on a well, and recommencement of drilling operations on that same well.
3. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana does not warrant title to its lands.
4. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, no liens may be levied against the State of Montana for any of its lands in said pooled area, nor shall any taxes be charged to or against the State of Montana.
5. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana, pursuant to Section 77-3-434, Montana Code Annotated, shall be paid for its share of the oil and gas produced from the Communitized Area, the posted field price existing on the date such oil or gas is run into any pipeline or storage tank to the credit of the operator, plus any bonus actually paid or agreed to be paid to the lessee for such oil or gas; or, at the option of the state exercised in writing by the State Board of Land Commissioners not more often than every thirty (30) days, the operator shall deliver the state's royalty oil or gas free of cost or deductions into the pipeline to which the wells of the Communitized Area may be connected or into any storage designated by the state and connected with such wells.
6. It is understood that in the event any such dispute arises affecting State of Montana lands under the agreement, the Department may authorize royalties payable to the royalty interest in dispute to be withheld to be deposited in an escrow account which bears interest until such time as the dispute is finally settled or determined. Royalty reports continue to be required pursuant to Section 77-3-431, MCA, et seq., and shall report the total amount claimed by the State, the amount withheld and deposited into the escrow account, and the net amount paid to the State for any undisputed State interest.
7. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, no enlargement or contraction of the size of the Communitized Area shall be accepted unless approved by the State Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana.
8. The State of Montana is not liable, and the operator is not authorized to withhold or deduct from the State of Montana's share of any disbursements, a sufficient sum to pay ad valorem taxes assessed on said oil and gas.
9. The Department's joinder in the above-described Communitization is subject to the power

of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation under Section 77-3-444, MCA, to suspend overriding royalties in excess of 5% above the royalty due the Department.

10. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana does not waive any right of inspection concerning the State of Montana lands committed to the Communitized area.
11. That, the state's lessee, or the operator of the above-described Communitized Area, shall have no obligation to offset any well or wells completed upon separate component tracts within this Communitized Area and producing from the same formation covered by this Communitization Agreement. However, the State's lessee and the Operator of the Communitized Area shall retain the obligation to protect the Communitized Area from drainage from wells completed outside the Communitized Area.

This Approval and Certification shall likewise encompass and apply to any additional wells drilled and completed in conformity with the approved Board of Oil and Gas spacing unit and producing from the Bakken/Three Forks formation underlying the communitized area.

The Board of Land Commissioners does hereby alter, change modify and revoke the drilling, production and royalty requirements of such lease or leases included in this Agreement to the extent necessary to conform the same to the approved Board of Oil and Gas Commission spacing unit, the corresponding Communitization Agreement, and the aforesaid provisions pertaining to the well.

Executed on behalf of the State of Montana, acting by and through its Board of Land Commissioners on this ____ day of ____, 2025.

BY: _____
Amanda Kaster, Director
Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-2C Storvik LW 18-7-6 1H Communitization Agreement

Location: Richland and Roosevelt Counties

Trust Benefits: Public Land Trust

Trust Revenue: \$332,000

Item Summary:

This item requests the Land Board approval of a communitization agreement for one Bakken Formation oil and gas wells in Richland and Roosevelt Counties. The Storvik LW 18-7-6 1H well was drilled by Kraken Oil and Gas and has produced oil and natural gas from the Bakken Formation since August 2024.

Based on decline curve analysis, assuming an average of \$65/bbl oil and \$3.50/mcf gas, the Storvik LW 18-7-6 well is expected to contribute approximately \$332,000 in oil and gas royalties to the Public Land Trust.

A communitization agreement is a formal declaration of the State of Montana's oil and gas ownership percentage within the wells spacing unit. It is signed by the operator of the wells and the DNRC Director on behalf of the Land Board, for the proper distribution of oil and gas royalties. The State of Montana owns approximately 3.42% of the mineral acreage within the spacing unit.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the Storvik LW 18-7-6 1H Well Communitization Agreement.

Communitized Area with
Section Numbers
Storvik Lease Line Well
Path
Storvik Lease Line Well
State of Montana Trust
Lands Mineral
Ownership in CA Area

Storvik LW 18-7-6 1H

01 06 12 07 13 18

2183 ft 2339 ft

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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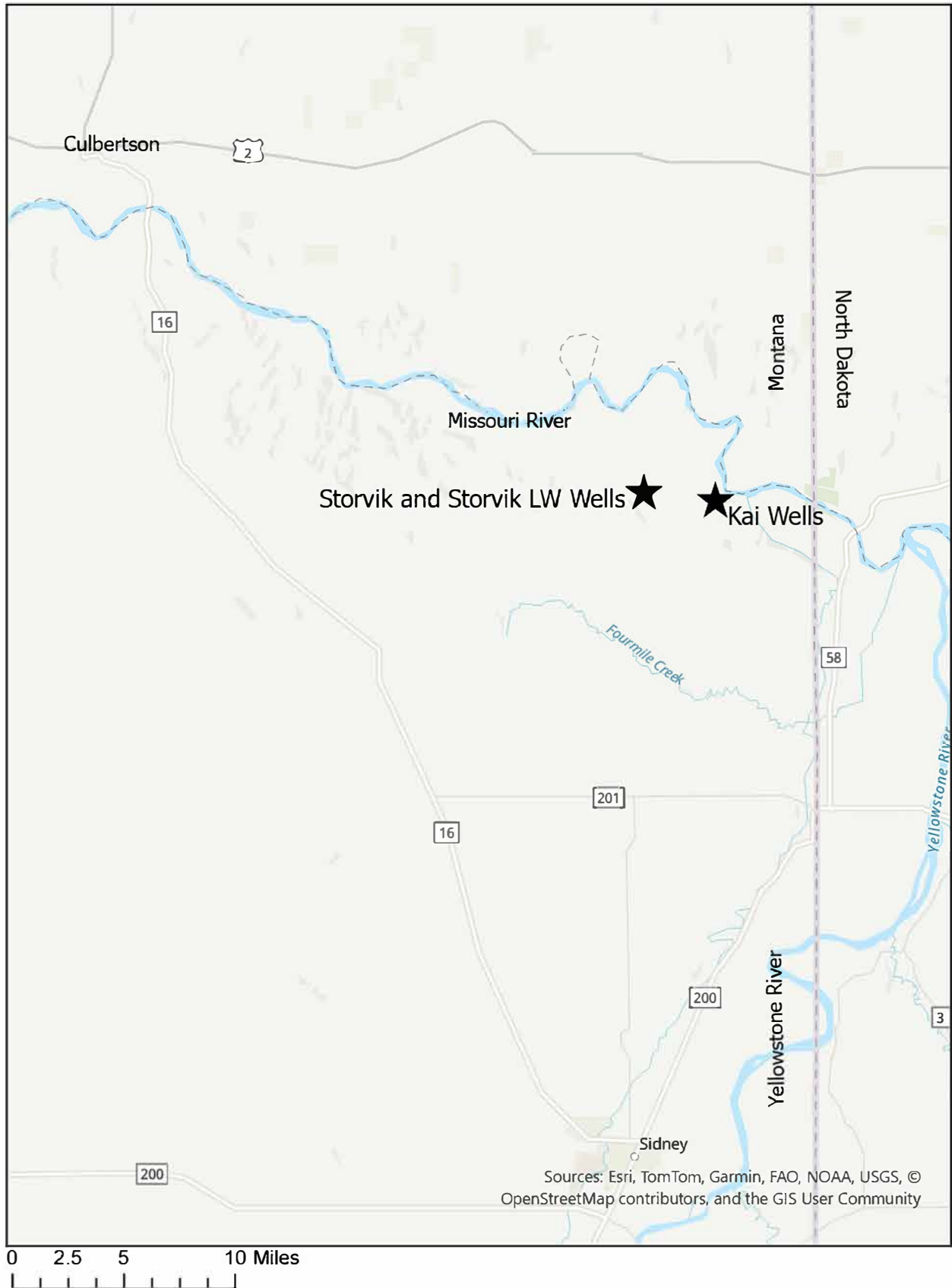
Recapitulation Table

Tract Number	Owner	Acreage	Unit Acreage	% ownership	Royalty	Net Owner's Interest
1	State of Montana	131.26	3840.24	3.418016%	16.67%	0.5697832%
2	All Others	3708.98	3840.24	96.581984%	Unknown	Unknown

Vicinity Map

Kai, Storvik and Storvik LW Wells

Roosevelt and Richland County, Montana



**APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF A COMMUNITIZATION
AGREEMENT CONCERNING LANDS IN
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, MONTANA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:**

Township 26 North, Range 59 East, M.P.M.

Section 06: ALL

Section 07: ALL

Section 18: ALL

Township 26 North, Range 58 East, M.P.M.

Section 01: ALL

Section 12: ALL

Section 13: ALL

Acting under the authority vested in the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana under Section 77-1-201, MCA, et seq., and in order to secure the proper protection of the State's mineral interests, the Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana hereby:

A. Ratifies and approves the Communitization Agreement dated August 1, 2024; concerning the above-described lands, and recognizes the interests of the parties therein stated;

B. Approves the inclusion of the following lands of the State of Montana in the above-described Communitized Area for the development and operation of the area, County of Roosevelt, State of Montana; provided, that said Communitization Agreement shall become effective as to the following State of Montana lands now or hereafter included within the limits of the area as to which lands the leases have been committed by the working interest owners, to-wit:

Township 26 North, Range 59 East, M.P.M.

Section 06: Missouri Riverbed Related Acreage

Township 26 North, Range 58 East, M.P.M.

Section 01: Missouri Riverbed Related Acreage

C. Certifies that lands of the State of Montana included in said Communitization Agreement shall, from the effective date thereof and concurrently therewith, become subject thereto, all upon the conditions hereinafter set forth;

This Approval and Certification is subject to the conditions that nothing in the Communitization Agreement shall be construed as altering or waiving any of the following provisions or conditions relating to State of Montana lands:

1. The Communitization Agreement herein referred to is made subject to the laws of the State of Montana and the United States of America and shall be construed in conformity

therewith.

2. The Board agrees that the leases covering State of Montana lands described above can be extended beyond their primary lease term only upon the happening of one of two events. However, the extension of the primary term of the lease by these events shall not relieve the lessee of any obligations of the lease, and the violation of any lease provisions may justify the cancellation of the lease regardless of any of the provisions of the Communitization Agreement.
 - a. If the above-described state lands are included in a Communitized Area in which a well is completed and is capable of production in economic quantities, or;
 - b. If drilling or completion operations are diligently performed on some portion of the communitized area, such operations will extend the lease. Within the meaning of this paragraph, such operations shall be deemed to be diligently performed if not more than ninety (90) days elapse between the drilling, completion, or abandonment of one well and the commencement of drilling of another well or reworking of the same well or between cessation of drilling operations on a well, and recommencement of drilling operations on that same well.
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4. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, no liens may be levied against the State of Montana for any of its lands in said pooled area, nor shall any taxes be charged to or against the State of Montana.
5. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana, pursuant to Section 77-3-434, Montana Code Annotated, shall be paid for its share of the oil and gas produced from the Communitized Area, the posted field price existing on the date such oil or gas is run into any pipeline or storage tank to the credit of the operator, plus any bonus actually paid or agreed to be paid to the lessee for such oil or gas; or, at the option of the state exercised in writing by the State Board of Land Commissioners not more often than every thirty (30) days, the operator shall deliver the state's royalty oil or gas free of cost or deductions into the pipeline to which the wells of the Communitized Area may be connected or into any storage designated by the state and connected with such wells.
6. It is understood that in the event any such dispute arises affecting State of Montana lands under the agreement, the Department may authorize royalties payable to the royalty interest in dispute to be withheld to be deposited in an escrow account which bears interest until such time as the dispute is finally settled or determined. Royalty reports continue to be required pursuant to Section 77-3-431, MCA, et seq., and shall report the total amount claimed by the State, the amount withheld and deposited into the escrow account, and the net amount paid to the State for any undisputed State interest.

7. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, no enlargement or contraction of the size of the Communitized Area shall be accepted unless approved by the State Board of Land Commissioners of the State of Montana.
8. The State of Montana is not liable, and the operator is not authorized to withhold or deduct from the State of Montana's share of any disbursements, a sufficient sum to pay ad valorem taxes assessed on said oil and gas.
9. The Department's joinder in the above-described Communitization is subject to the power of the Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation under Section 77-3-444, MCA, to suspend overriding royalties in excess of 5% above the royalty due the Department.
10. That, regardless of any of the provisions of the said Communitization Agreement, actual or implied, the State of Montana does not waive any right of inspection concerning the State of Montana lands committed to the Communitized area.
11. That, the state's lessee, or the operator of the above-described Communitized Area, shall have no obligation to offset any well or wells completed upon separate component tracts within this Communitized Area and producing from the same formation covered by this Communitization Agreement. However, the State's lessee and the Operator of the Communitized Area shall retain the obligation to protect the Communitized Area from drainage from wells completed outside the Communitized Area.

This Approval and Certification shall likewise encompass and apply to any additional wells drilled and completed in conformity with the approved Board of Oil and Gas spacing unit and producing from the Bakken/Three Forks formation underlying the communitized area.

The Board of Land Commissioners does hereby alter, change modify and revoke the drilling, production and royalty requirements of such lease or leases included in this Agreement to the extent necessary to conform the same to the approved Board of Oil and Gas Commission spacing unit, the corresponding Communitization Agreement, and the aforesaid provisions pertaining to the well.

Executed on behalf of the State of Montana, acting by and through its Board of Land Commissioners on this ____ day of _____, 2025.

BY: _____
Amanda Kaster, Director
Department of Natural Resources
and Conservation

0525-3

EASEMENTS

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-3 Easements

Location: Custer, Fallon, Flathead, Golden Valley, Lewis & Clark, McCone, Rosebud, and Teton Counties

Trust Benefits: Common Schools, MSU Eastern/UM Western, MSU Morrill, Capitol Buildings, Public Land Trust, MT Tech, School for Deaf & Blind

Non-Trust Benefit: General Fund – Pine Hills School \$979

Trust Revenue: Common Schools \$36,606, MSU Eastern/UM Western \$70,219, MSU Morrill \$4,158, MT Tech \$25,433, Capitol Buildings \$44,068, Public Land Trust \$7,367, School for Deaf & Blind \$2,312

Item Table of Contents

Applicant	Right-of-Way Purpose	Term	Page(s)
Lincoln Electric Cooperative	Buried Electric Line (Amendment)	Permanent	44-45
InterBel Telephone Cooperative	Buried Fiber Optic Cable	Permanent	46-89
Central MT Regional Water Authority	Buried Water Transmission Line	Permanent	90-91
MT Dept. of Transportation	Highway & Bridge Construction	Permanent	92-97
Intermountain Infrastructure Group	Fiber Optic Cable	Permanent	98-109
NorthWestern Energy	Natural Gas Line	30 Years	110-115

APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. PO Box 628 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	15059 (Amended)
R/W Purpose:	a buried three phase 25kV distribution power line
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (unleased)
Acreage:	1.23
Compensation:	\$8,509.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NE4SE4, SE4NE4, Sec. 6, Twp. 30N, Rge. 22W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MSU Eastern/UM Western

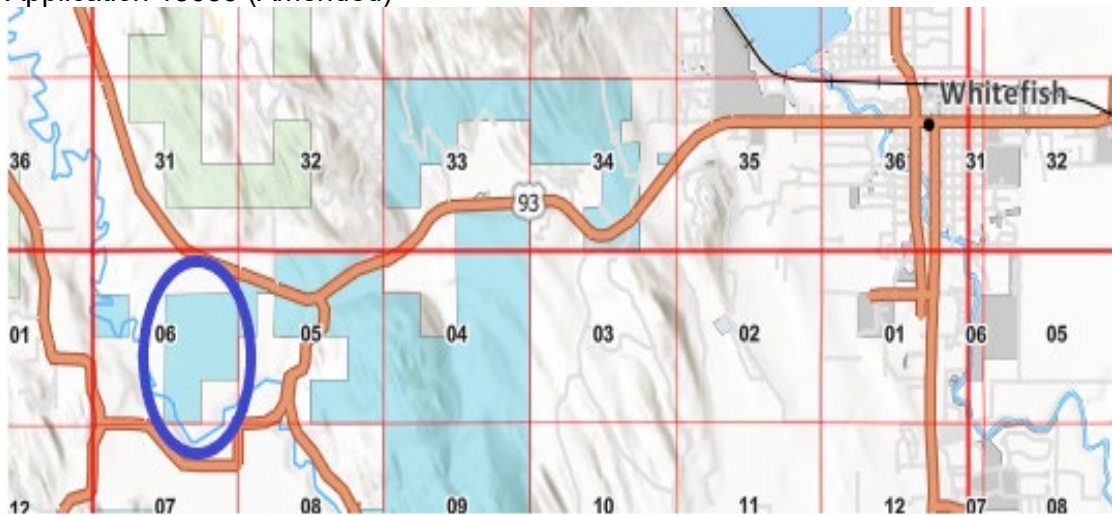
Item Summary:

Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc. has requested an amendment to an existing historic easement to convert the overhead power line to a buried distribution line within the existing right of way. This proposed change from overhead to buried will help fire mitigation efforts in this area where trees often conflict with powerlines. Additionally, a buried electrical line will improve system reliability for customers in the area.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Application 15059 (Amended)



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19724
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.10
Compensation:	\$867.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SE4NE4, Sec. 7, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	School for Deaf & Blind

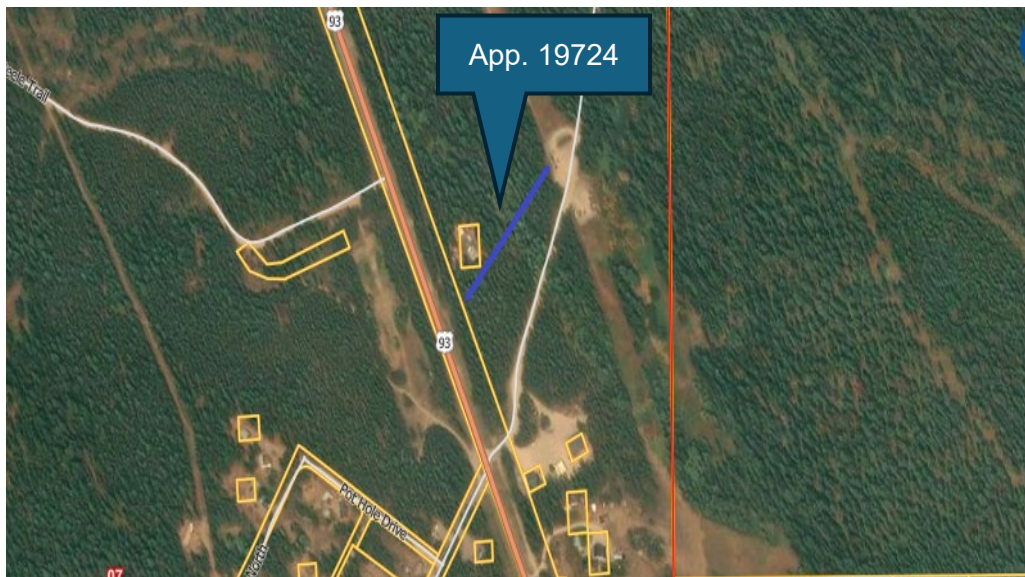
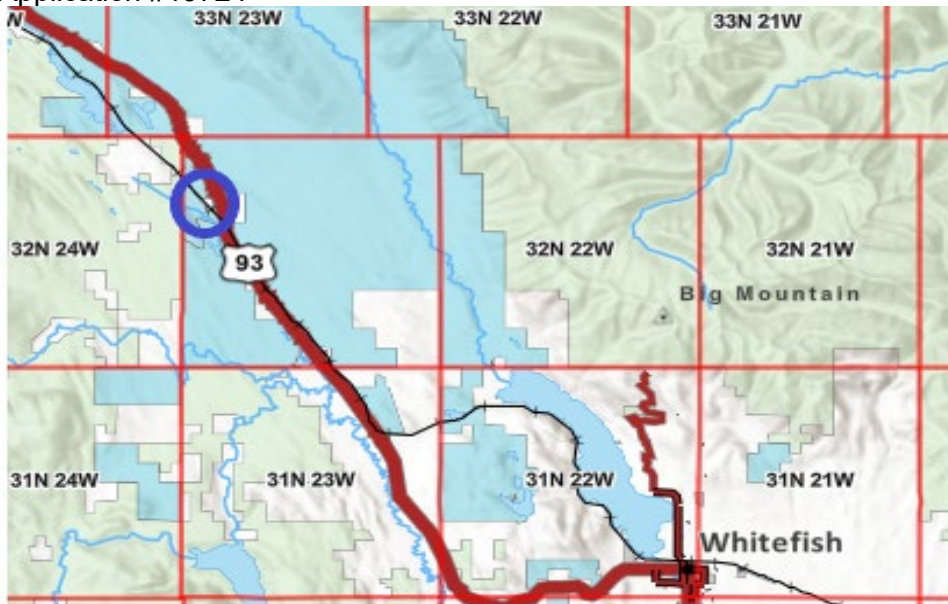
Item Summary:

InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. is requesting an easement to install a buried fiber optic telecommunications cable. The line will provide service to unserved and/or underserved homes and businesses in the Olney, Star Meadows and Highway 93 areas. The proposed route was determined by field review as the most direct route between terminus locations while also providing access to existing and future network considerations. The proposed route will provide accessibility for construction and maintenance since it is located primarily along existing roadways.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19724



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19738
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A
Acreage:	3.96
Compensation:	\$33,660.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through N2NE4, SW4NE4, SE4NW4, N2SW4, SW4SW4, Sec. 14, Twp. 31N, Rge. 24W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Capitol Buildings

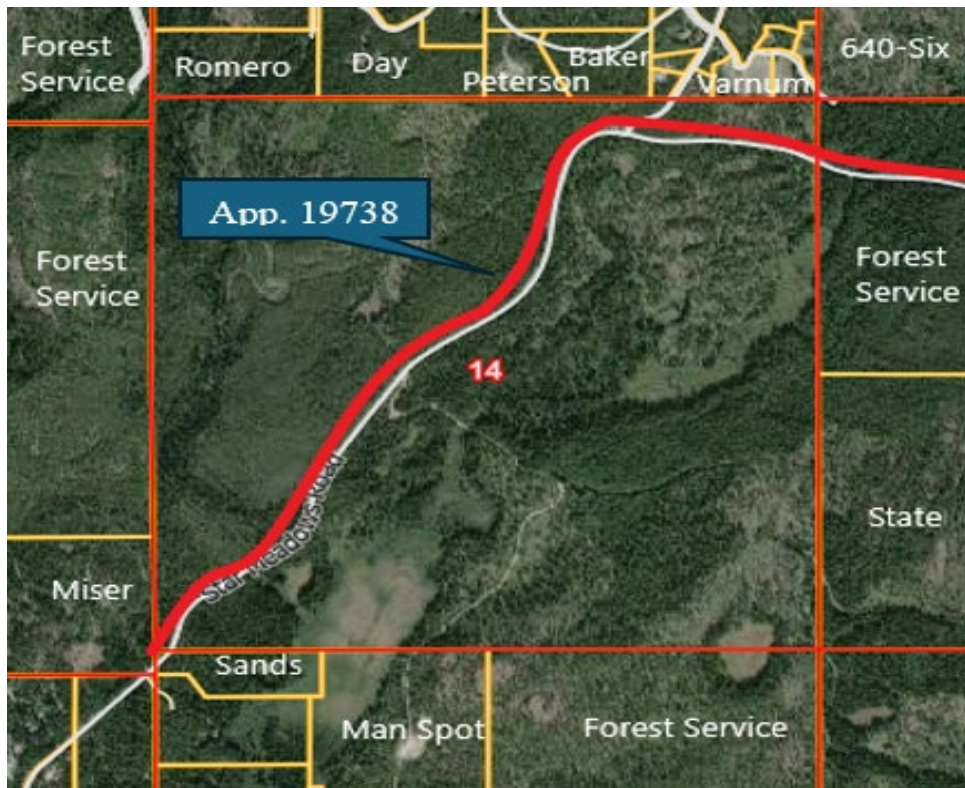
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19738



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.
PO Box 648
Eureka, MT 59917

Application No.: 19740
R/W Purpose: a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement: N/A
Acreage: 0.11
Compensation: \$935.00
Legal Description: 20-foot strip through NE4SE4, Sec. 7, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W,
Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary: School for Deaf & Blind

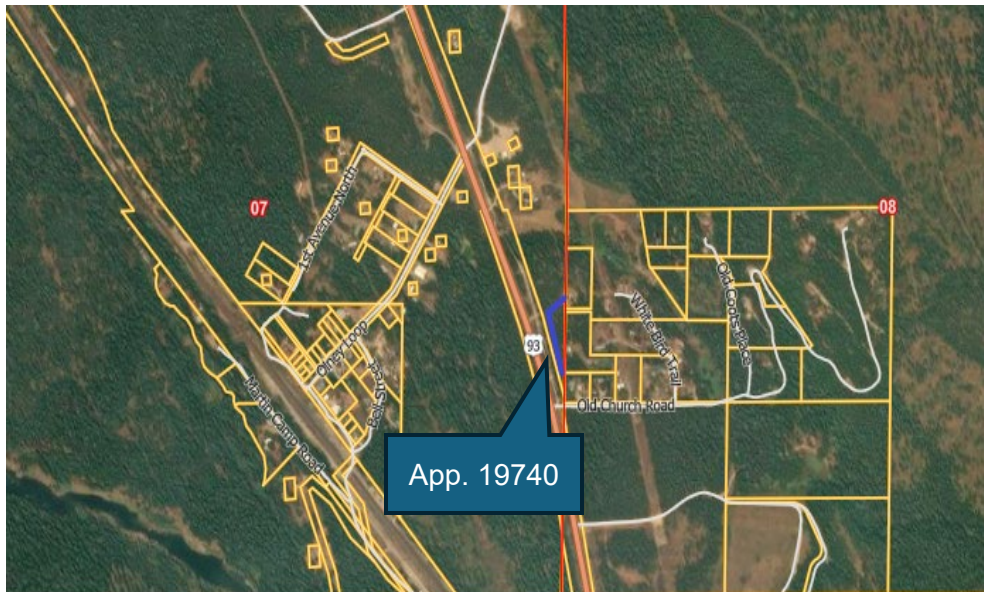
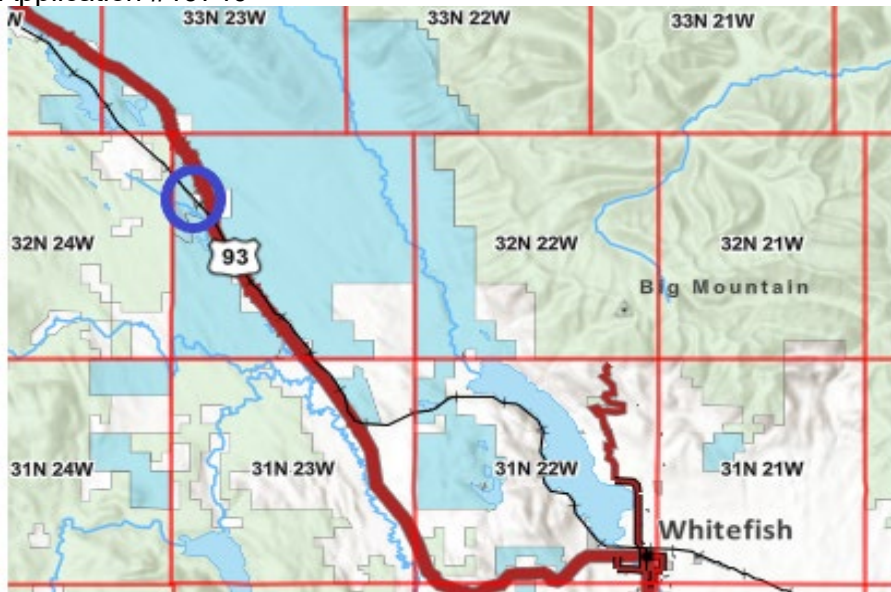
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19740



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19741
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A
Acreage:	0.06
Compensation:	\$510.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NE4SE4, Sec. 7, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	School for Deaf & Blind

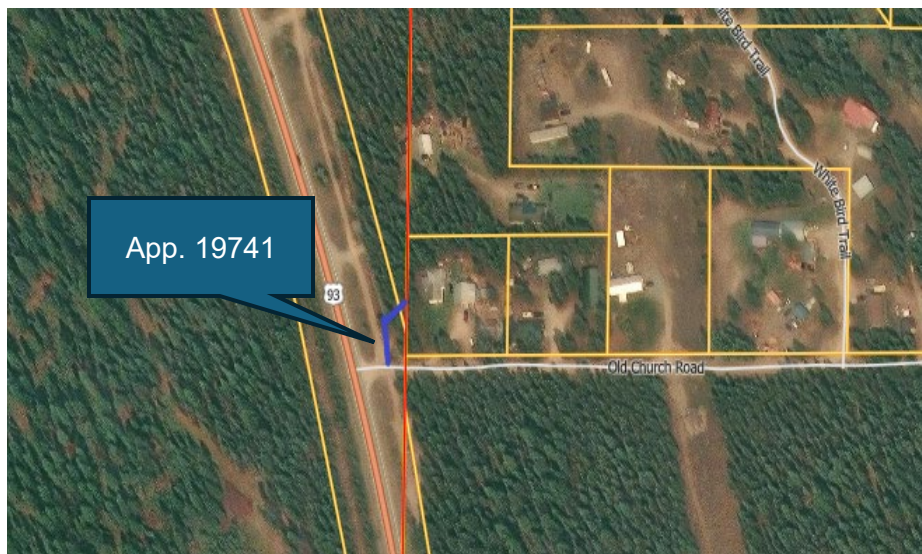
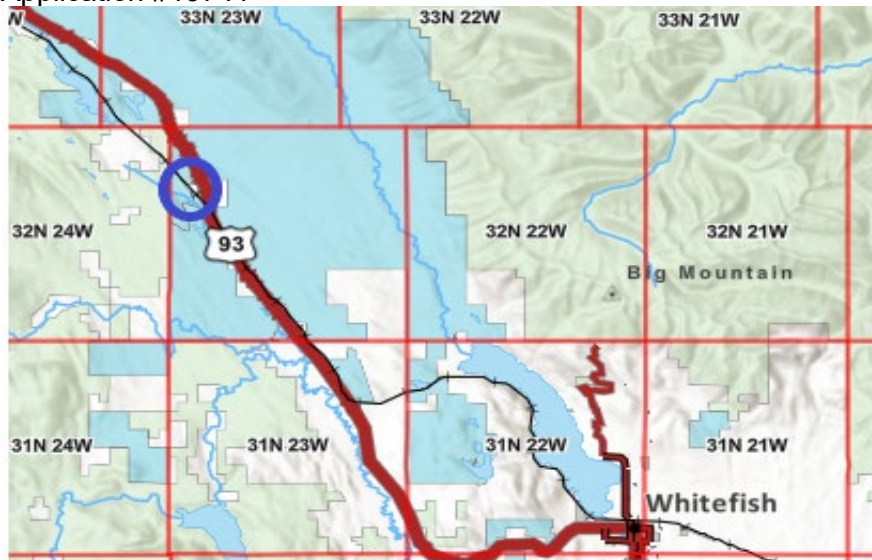
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19741



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19743
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.47
Compensation:	\$3,995.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SW4SW4, Sec. 17, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MSU Eastern/UM Western

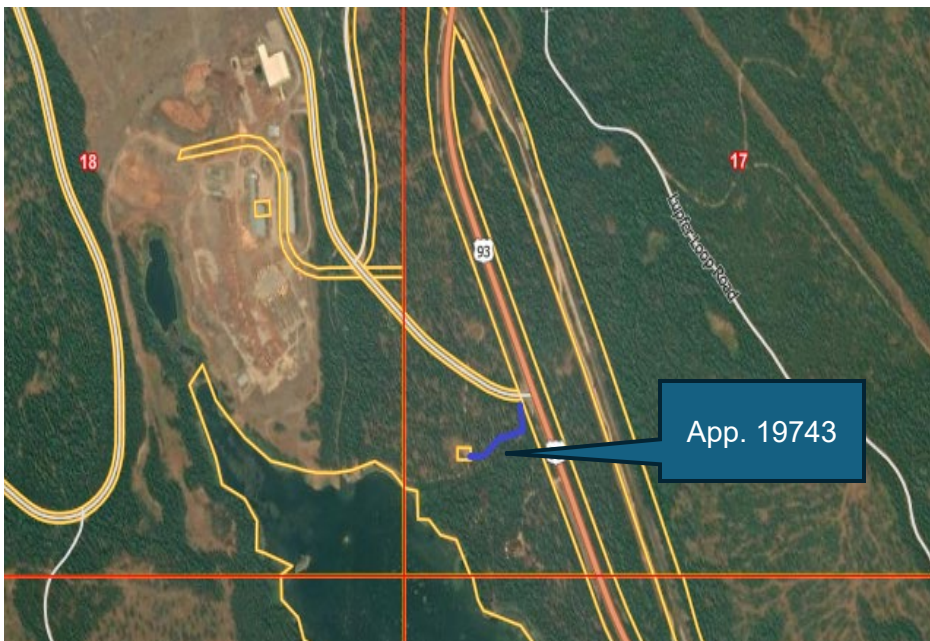
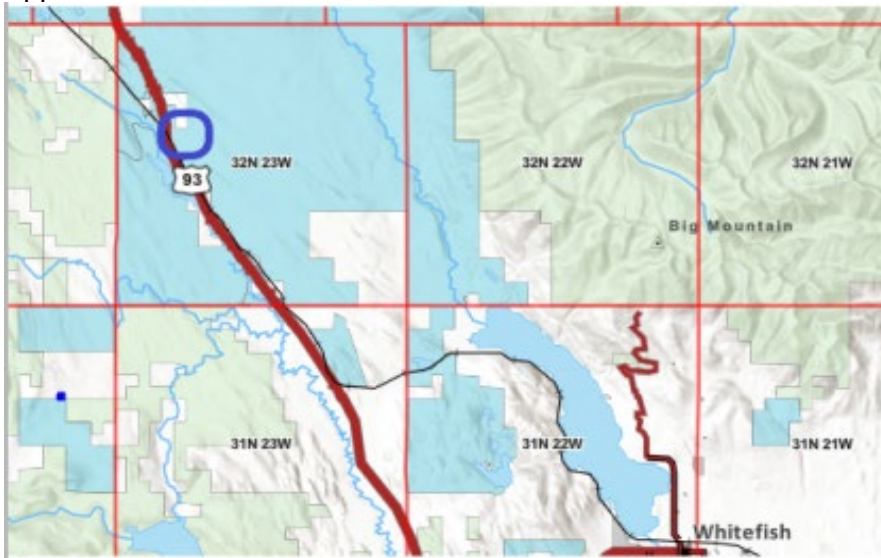
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19743



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19744
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A
Acreage:	0.12
Compensation:	\$1,020.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4NW4, Sec. 17, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MSU Eastern/UM Western

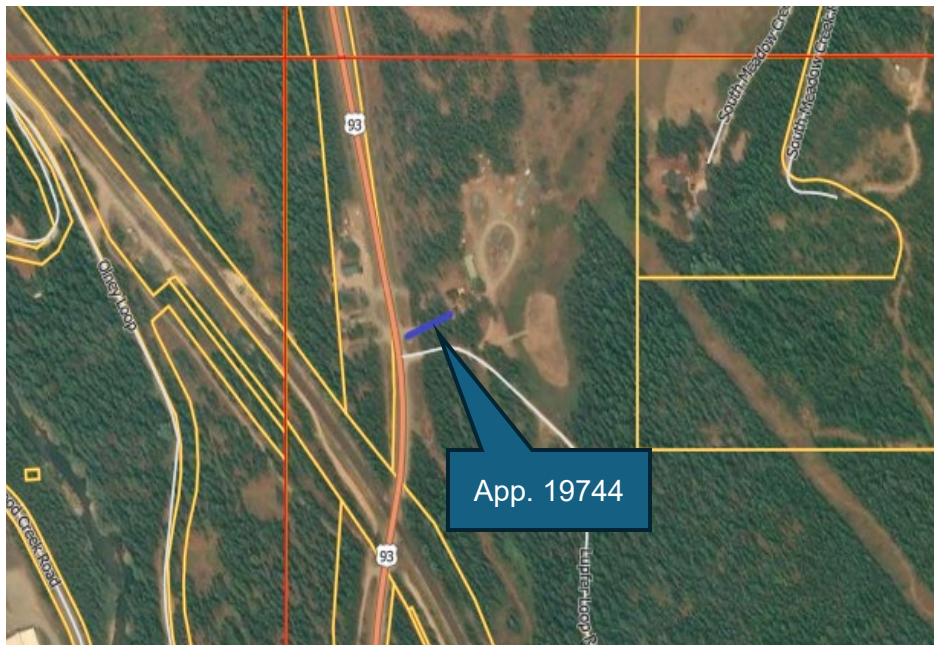
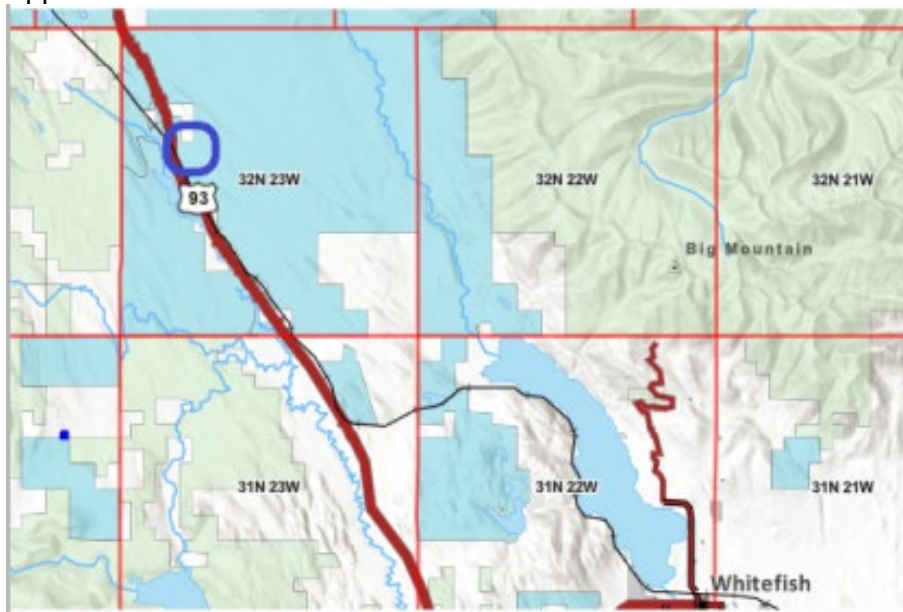
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19744



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19745
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A
Acreage:	6.67
Compensation:	\$56,695.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through W2NW4, SE4NW4, NE4SW4, W2SE4, SE4SE4, Section 17; E2NE4, NE4SE4, Section 20; SW4NW4, N2SW4, S2SW4, Section 21, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MSU Eastern/UM Western

Item Summary:

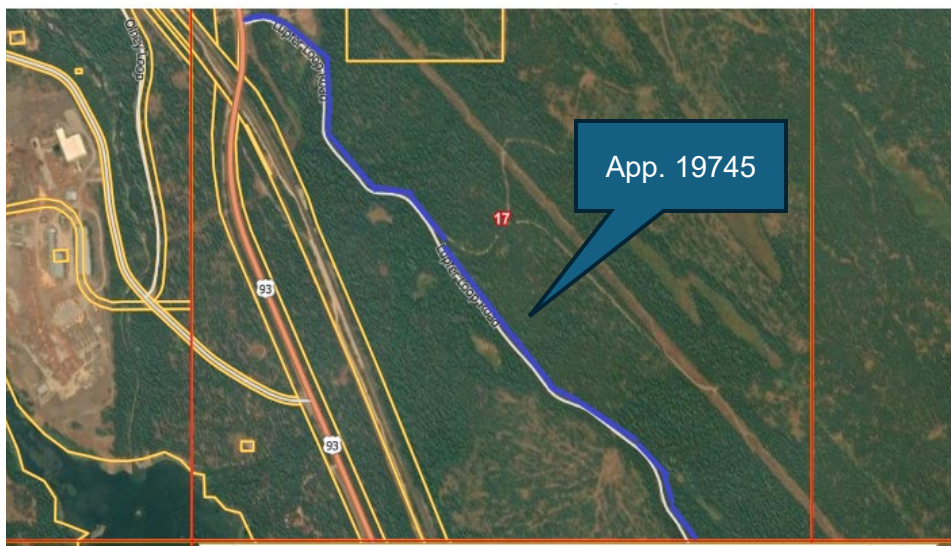
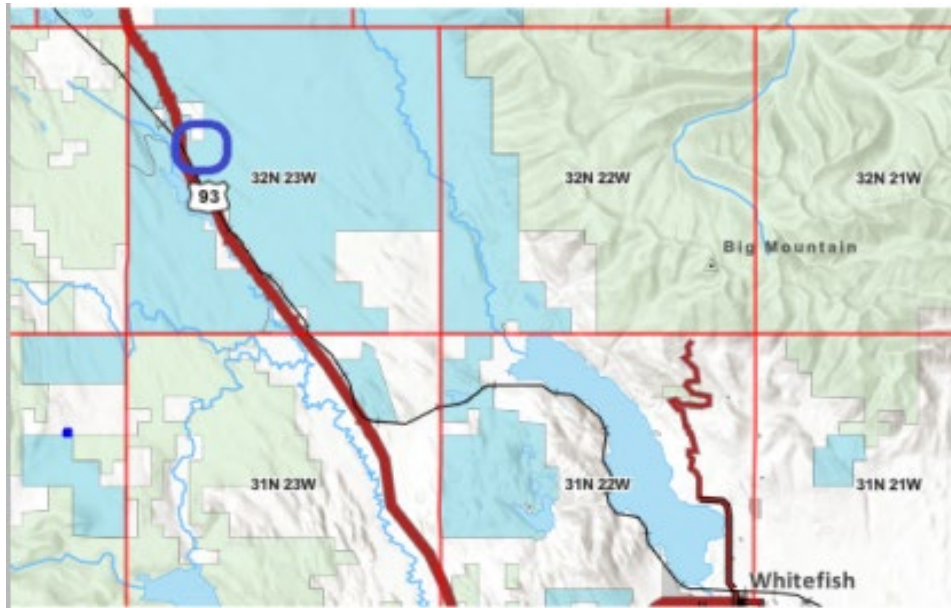
Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

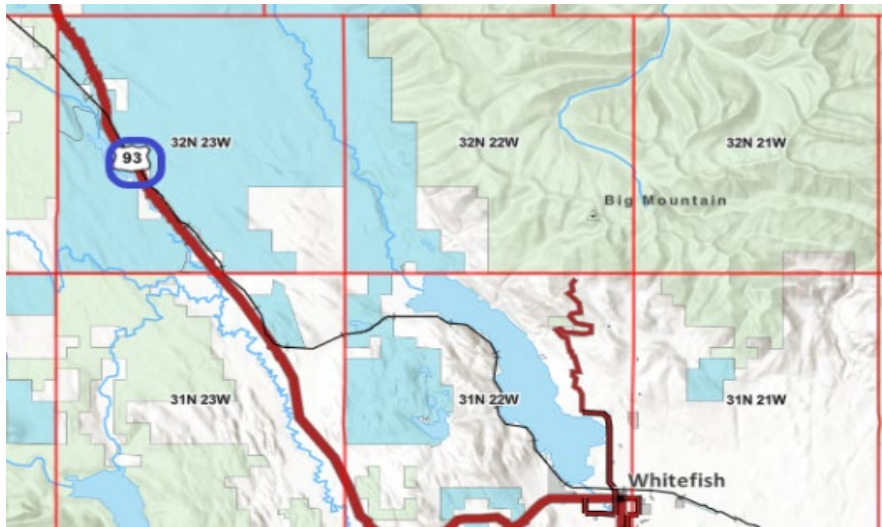
The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19745

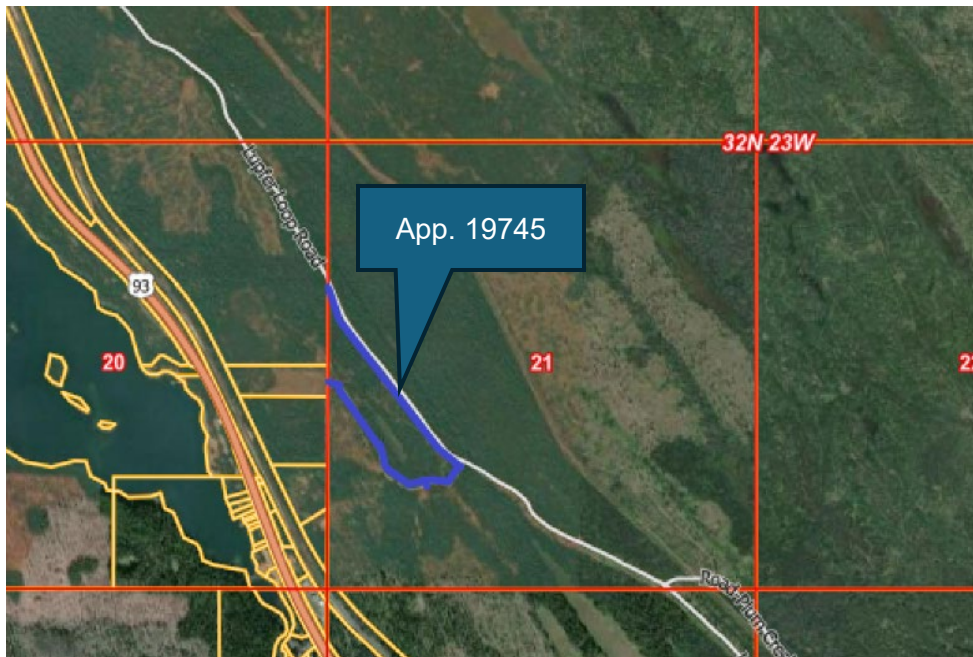
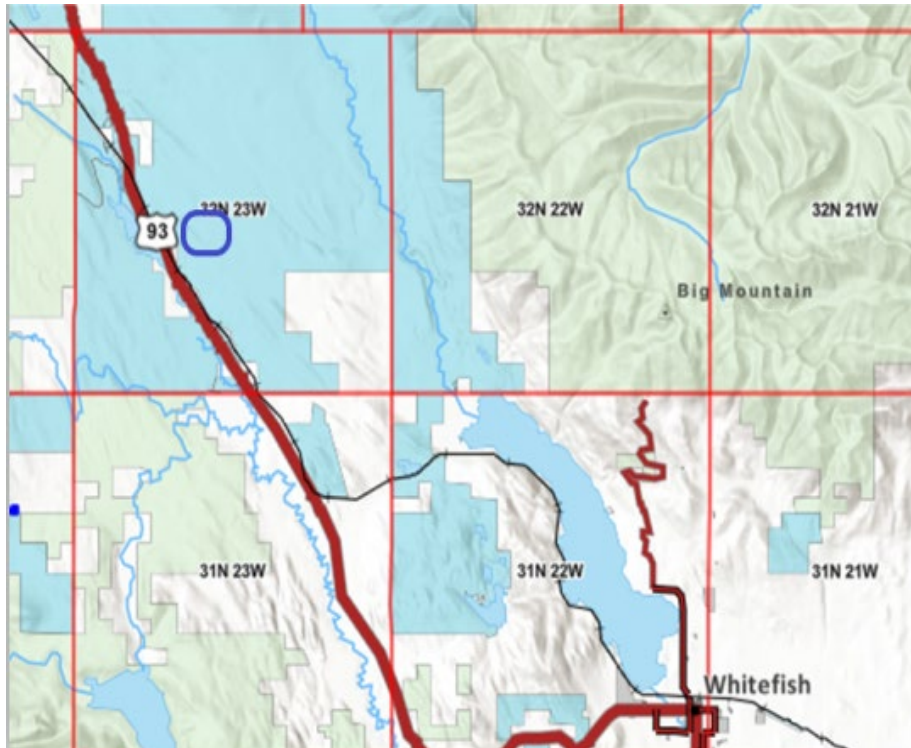
Section 17



Section 20



Section 21



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19746
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.30
Compensation:	\$2,550.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SE4NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

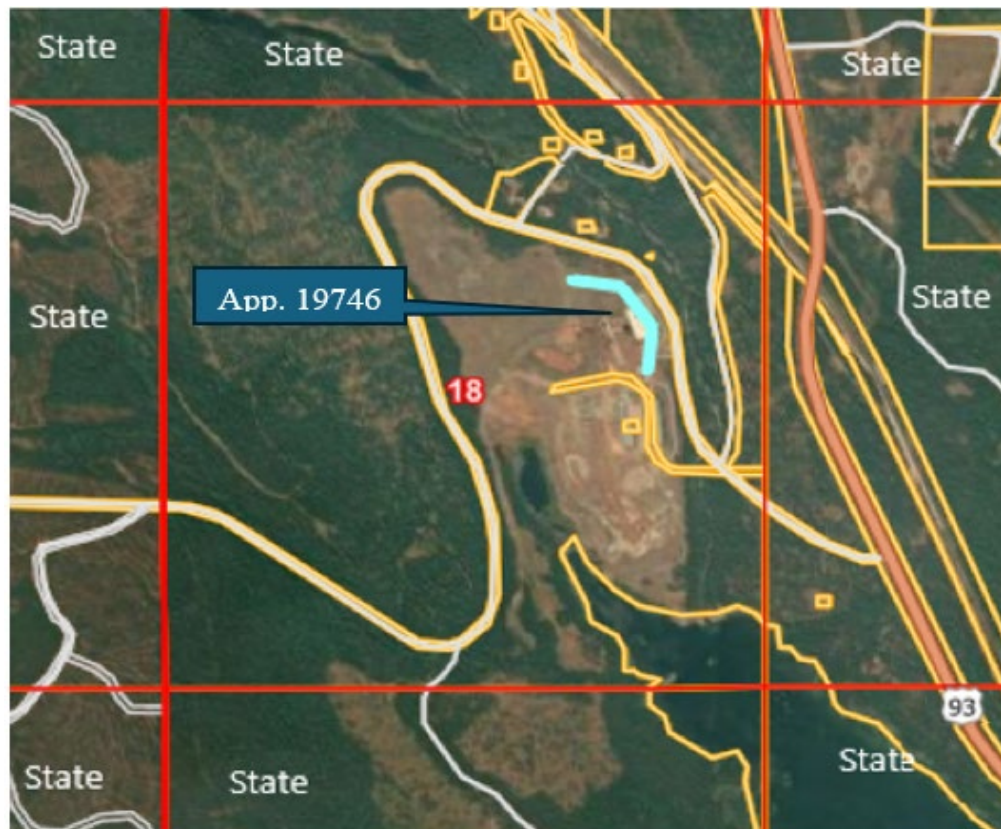
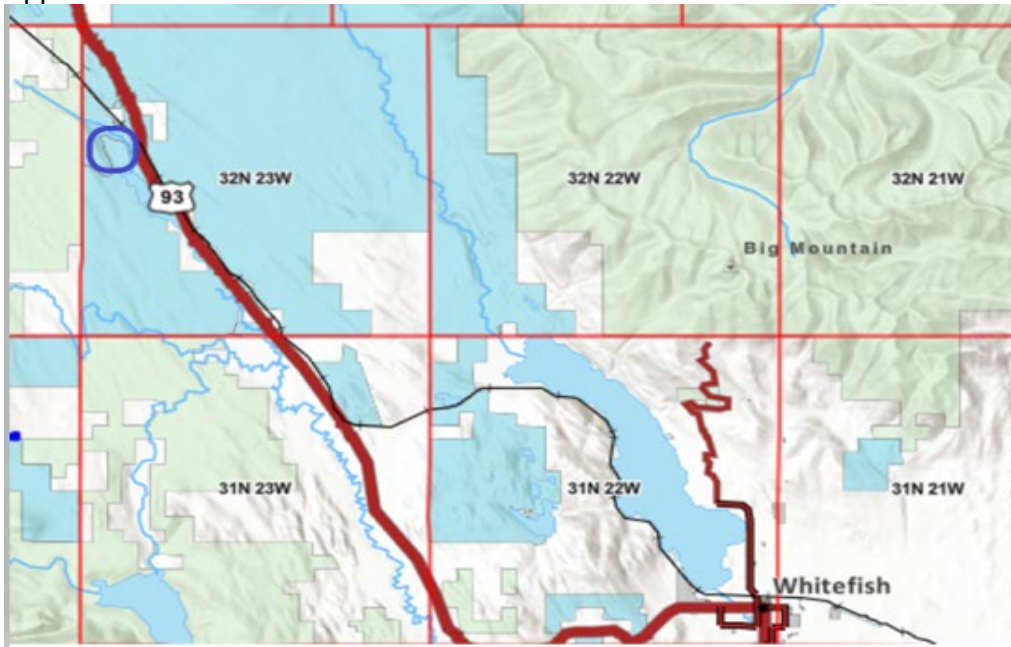
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19746



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.
PO Box 648
Eureka, MT 59917

Application No.: 19747
R/W Purpose: a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement: Needed
Acreage: 0.57
Compensation: \$4,845.00
Legal Description: 20-foot strip through SE4NE4, NE4SE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N,
Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary: MT Tech

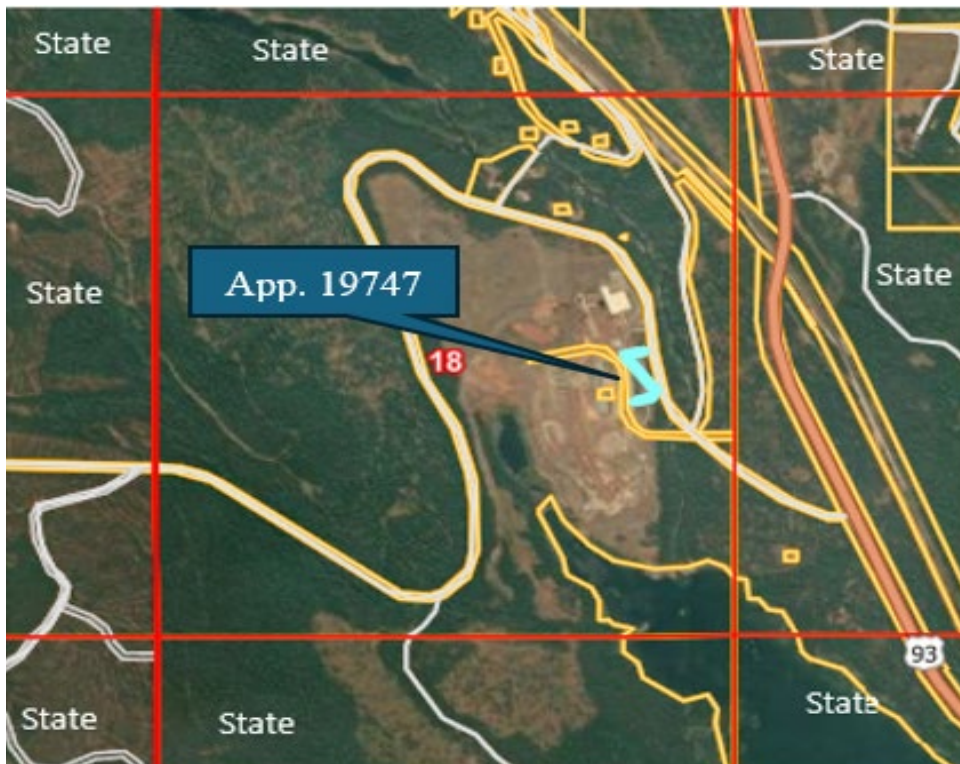
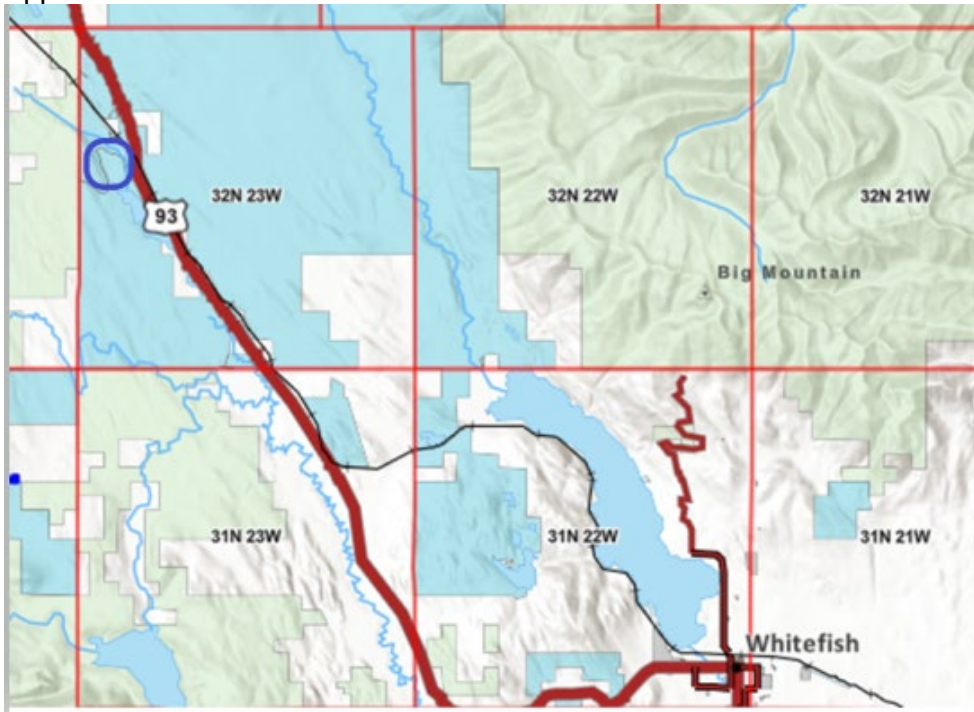
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19747



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19748
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.14
Compensation:	\$1,190.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NE4NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

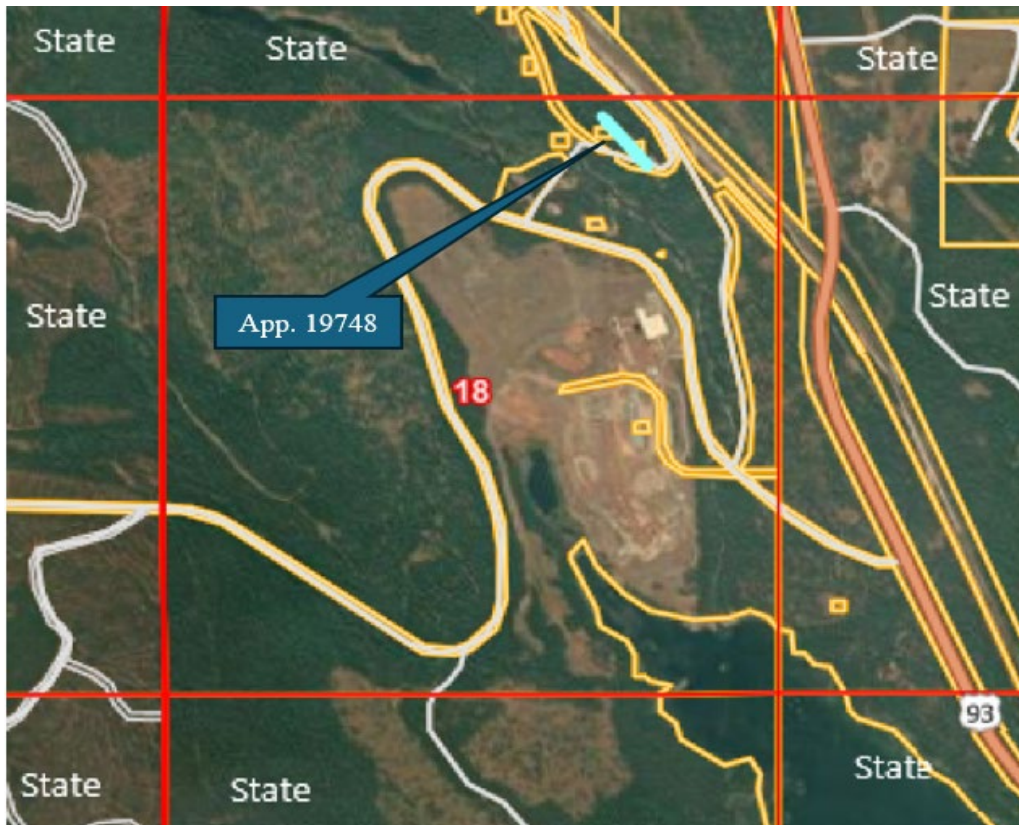
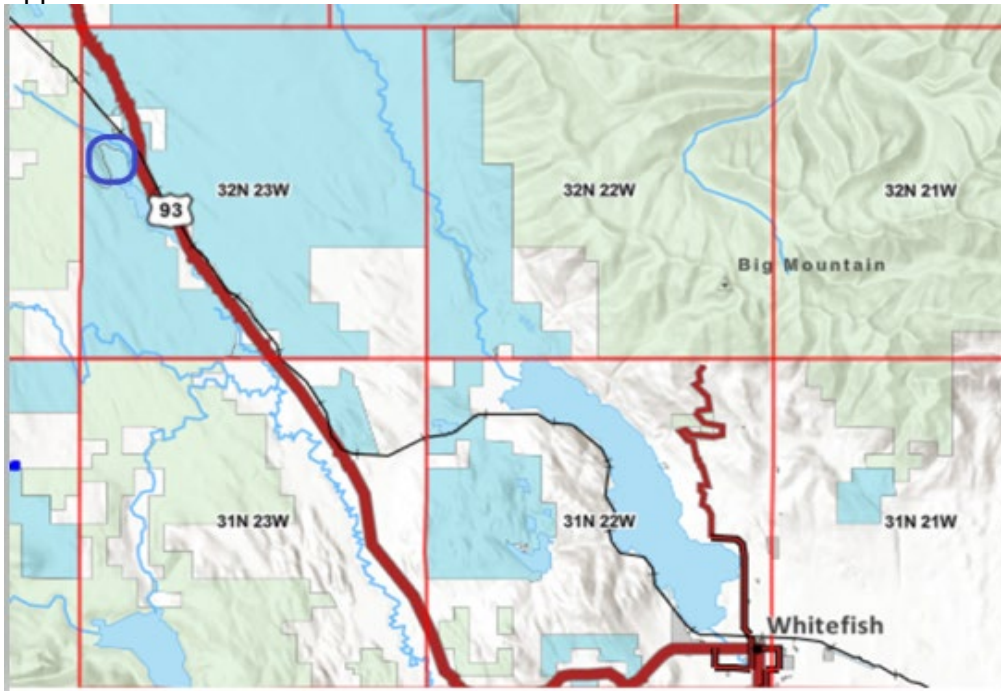
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19748



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19749
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.08
Compensation:	\$680.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

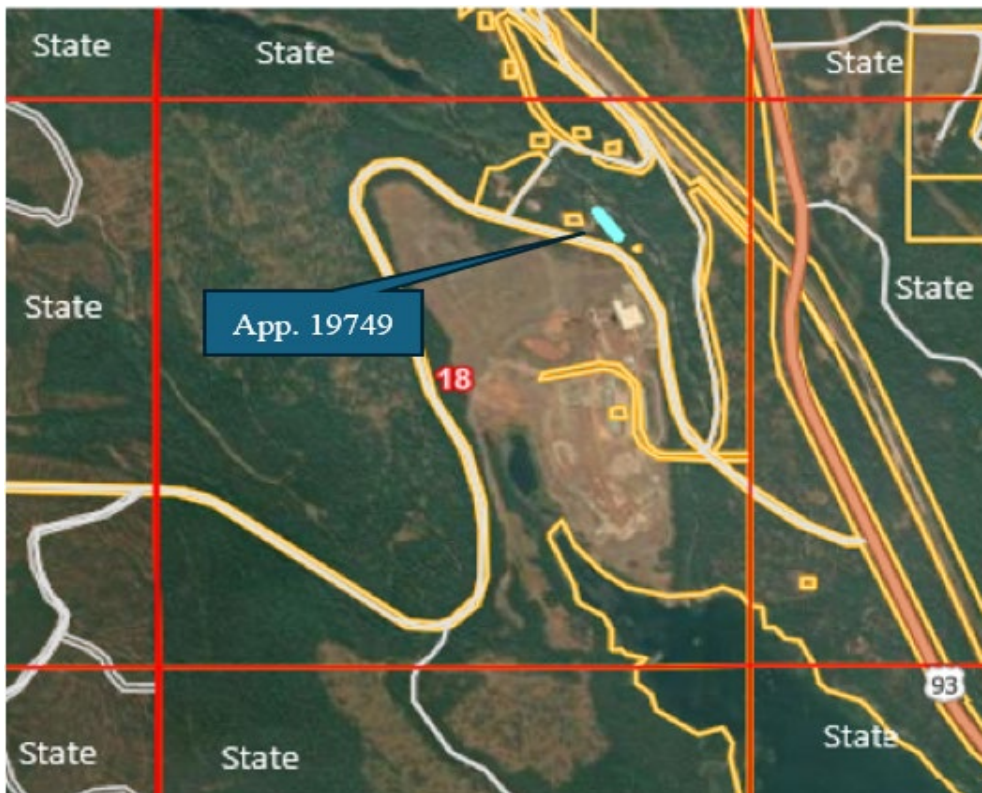
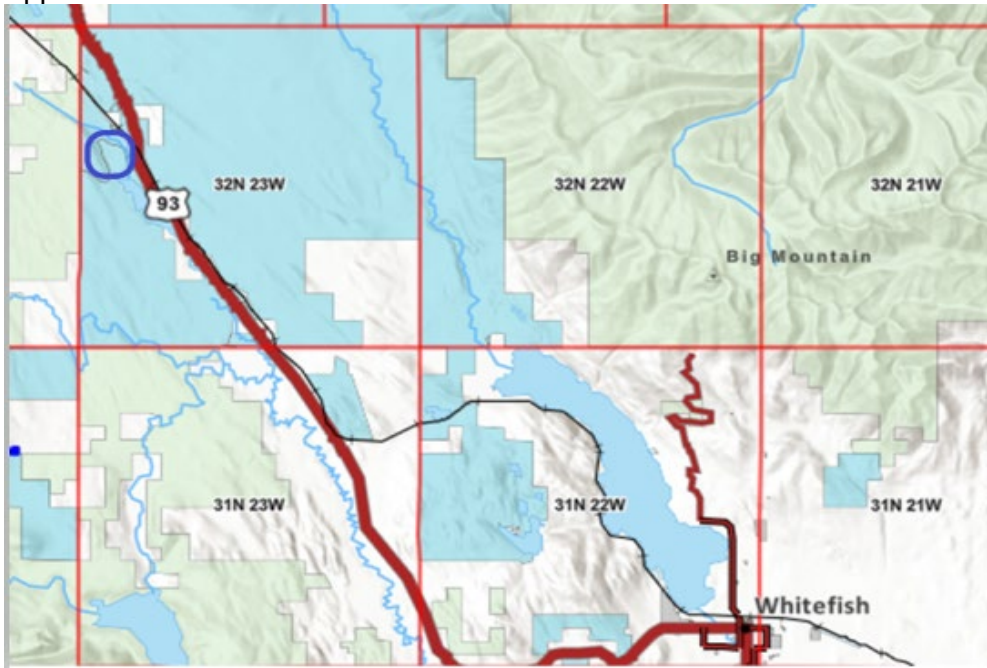
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19749



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19750
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.10
Compensation:	\$850.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

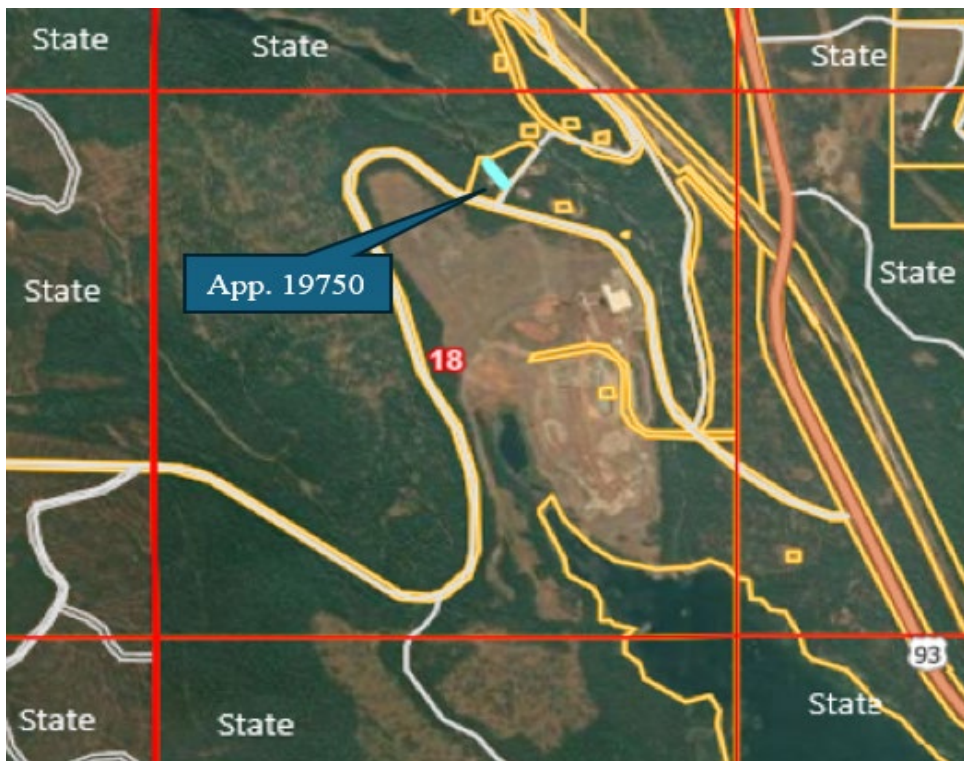
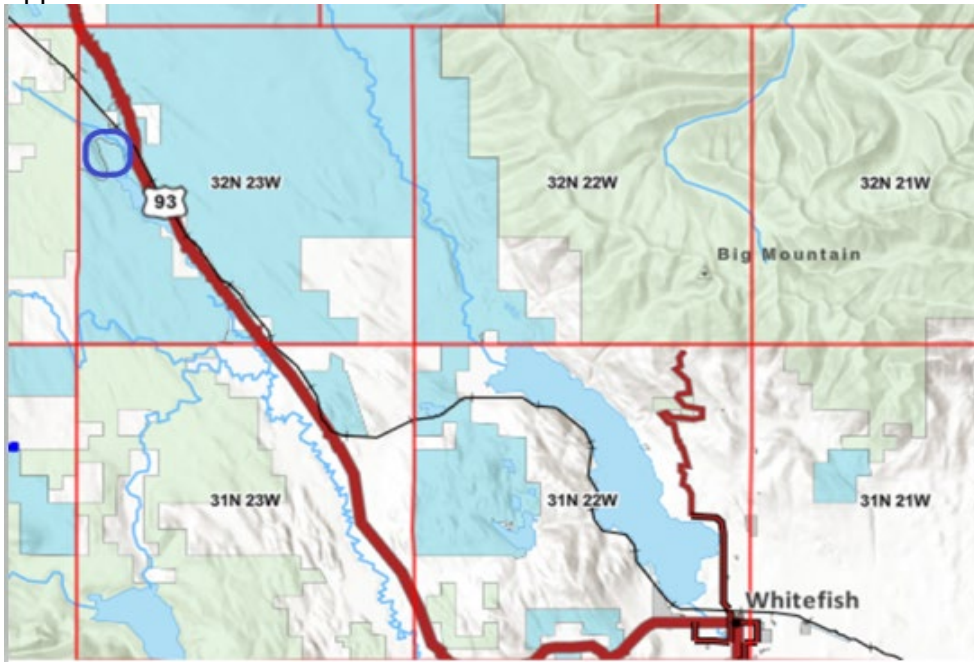
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19750



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19751
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.02
Compensation:	\$170.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

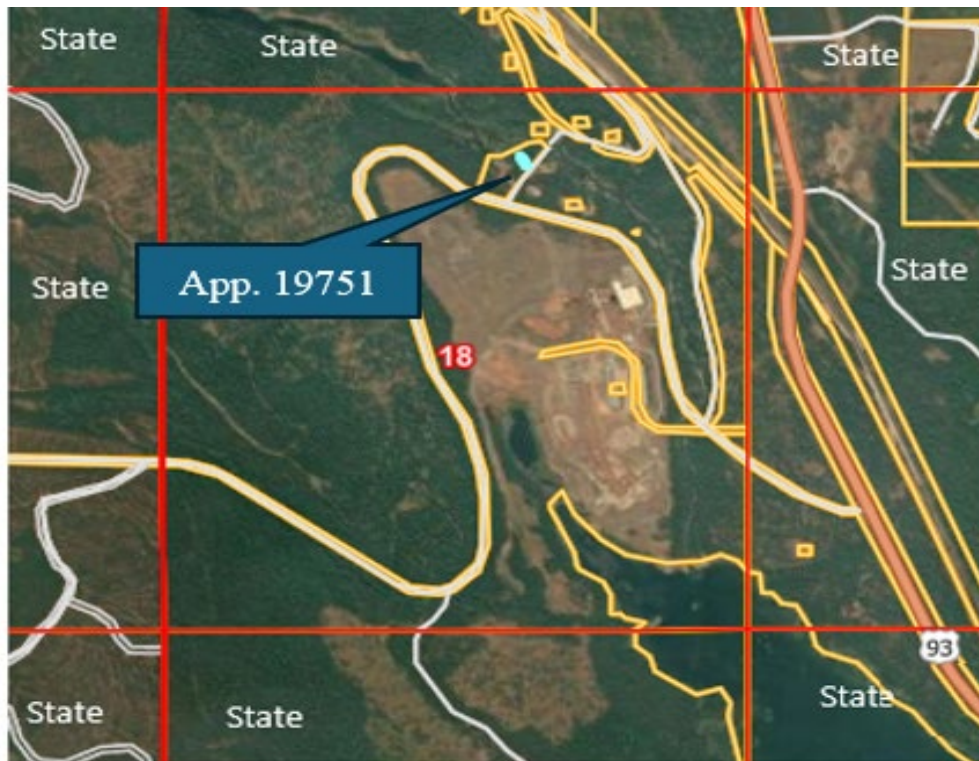
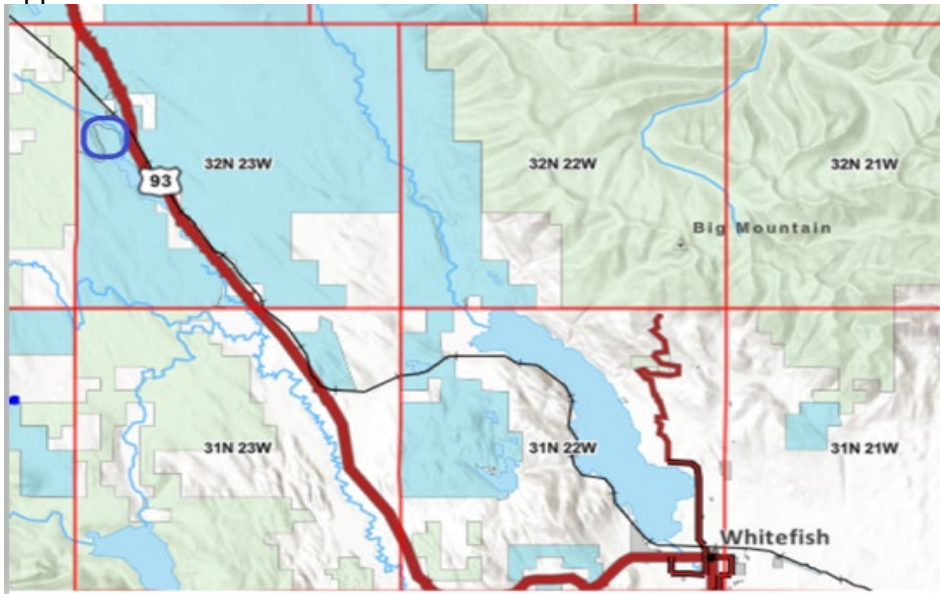
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19751



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19752
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.14
Compensation:	\$1,190.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

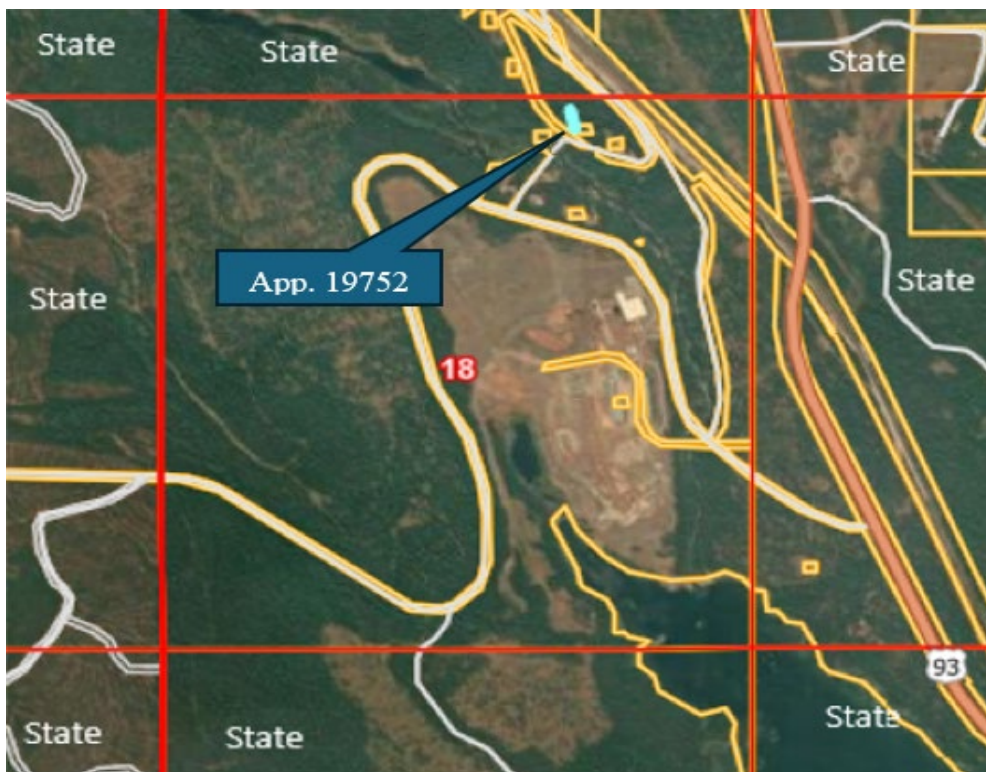
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19752



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19753
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.249
Compensation:	\$2,117.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through N2NE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

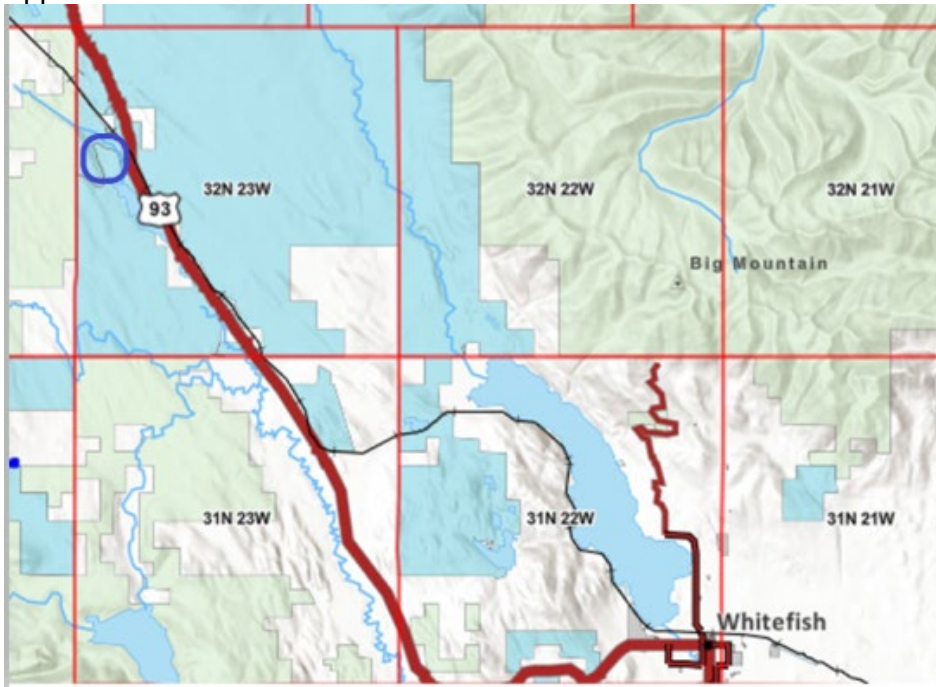
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19753



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19757
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Unleased)
Acreage:	1.393
Compensation:	\$11,841.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through W2SE4, SE4SE4, Sec. 34, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	MT Tech

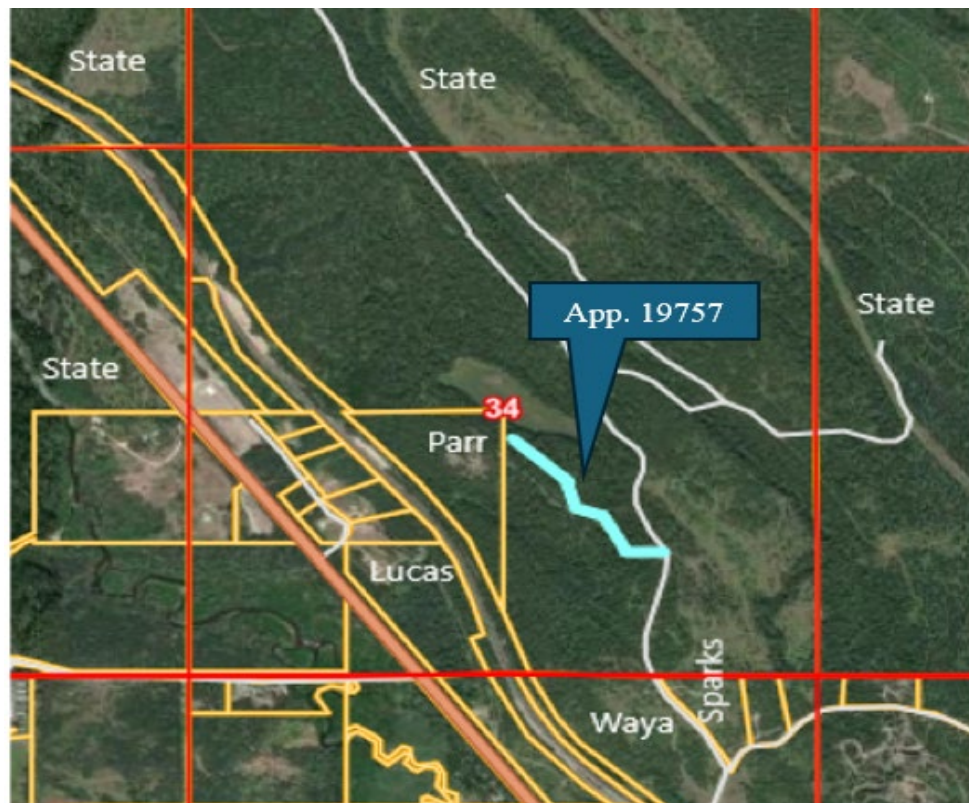
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19757



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19759
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.05
Compensation:	\$225.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SE4NW4, Sec. 30, Twp. 33N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Capitol Buildings

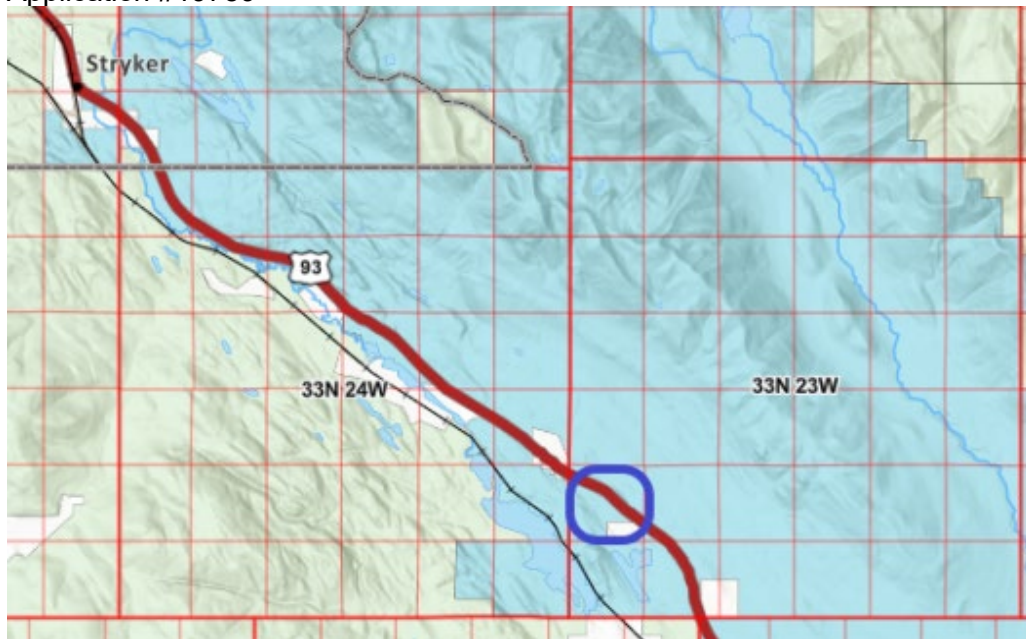
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19759



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19760
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A
Acreage:	1.198
Compensation:	\$10,183.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through S2NE4, NW4SE4, Sec. 32, Twp. 33N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Capitol Buildings

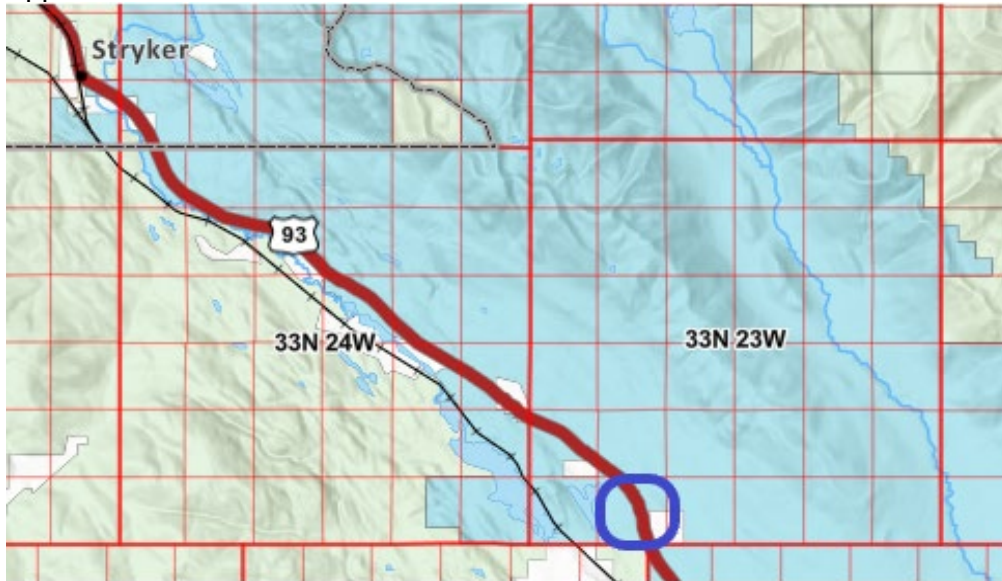
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19760



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19761
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Needed
Acreage:	0.19
Compensation:	\$1,573.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SW4NE4, Sec. 23. Twp. 33N, Rge. 24W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

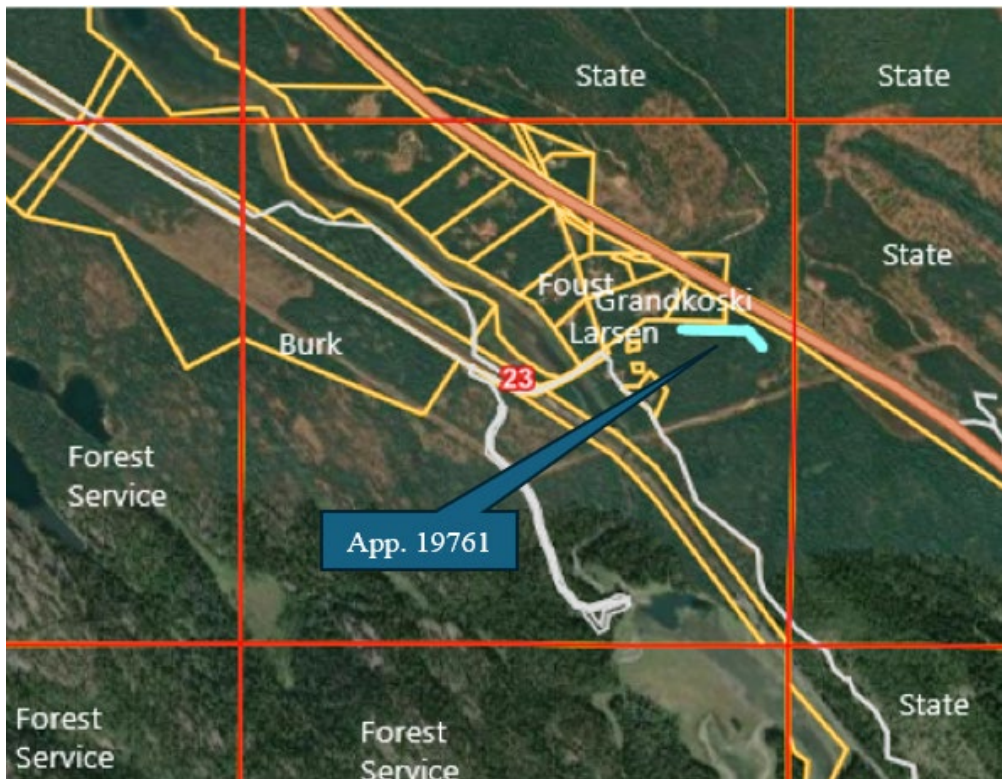
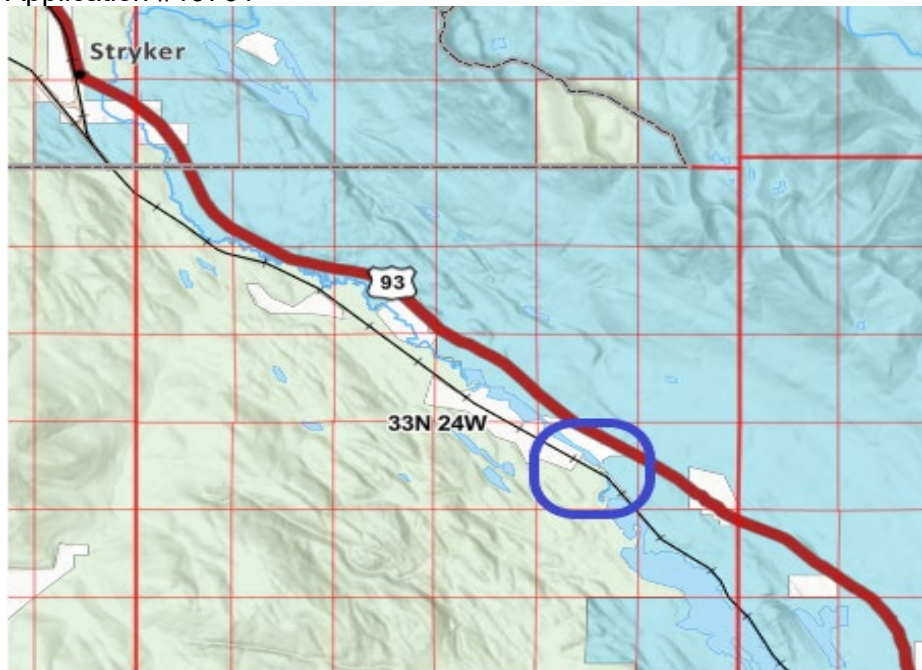
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19761



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.
PO Box 648
Eureka, MT 59917

Application No.: 19762
R/W Purpose: a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement: N/A
Acreage: 0.05
Compensation: \$360.00
Legal Description: 20-foot strip across the Stillwater River in NW4NE4, Sec. 18,
Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary: Public Land Trust

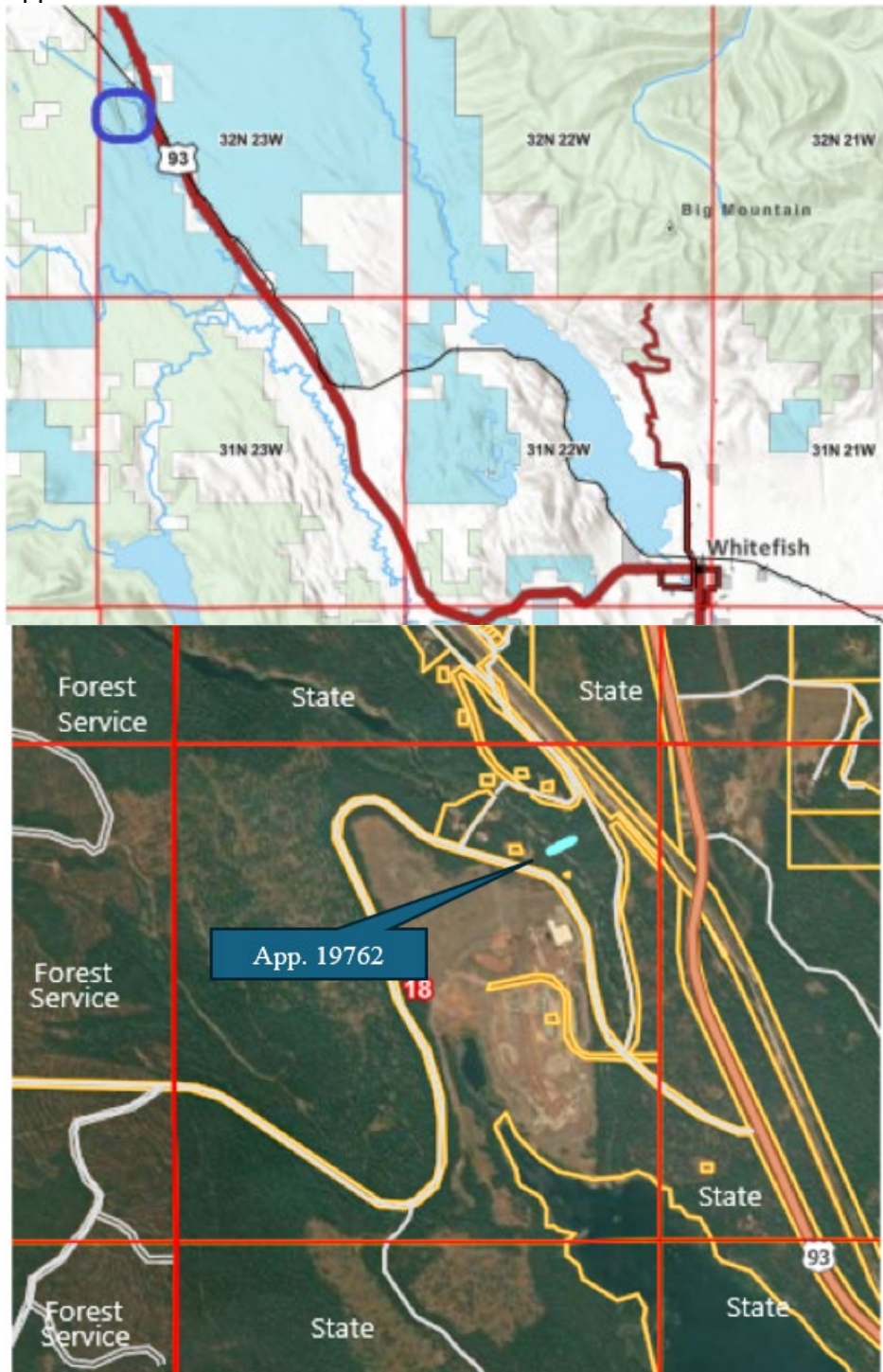
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19762



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. PO Box 648 Eureka, MT 59917
Application No.:	19763
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Navigable River)
Acreage:	0.05
Compensation:	\$360.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip across the Stillwater River in NE4SE4, Sec. 18, Twp. 32N, Rge. 23W, Flathead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Public Land Trust

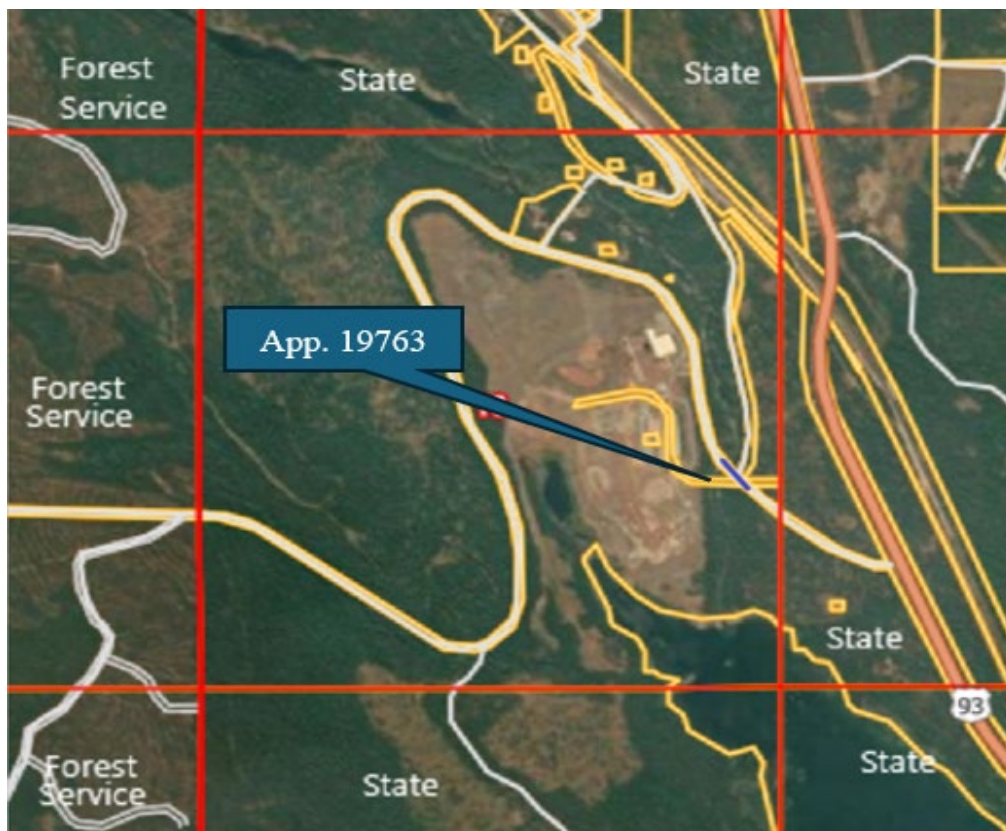
Item Summary:

Continuation of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc. applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of InterBel Telephone Cooperation, Inc.

Application #19763



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: Central Montana Regional Water Authority
PO Box 660
Roundup, MT 59072

Application No.: 19779
R/W Purpose: an 8" water transmission pipeline
Lessee Agreement: ok
Acreage: 3.32
Compensation: \$2,234.00
Legal Description: 30-foot strip through NE4NW4, W2NE4, SE4NE4, NE4SE4,
Sec. 16, Twp. 7N, Rge. 22E, Golden Valley County
Trust Beneficiary: Common Schools

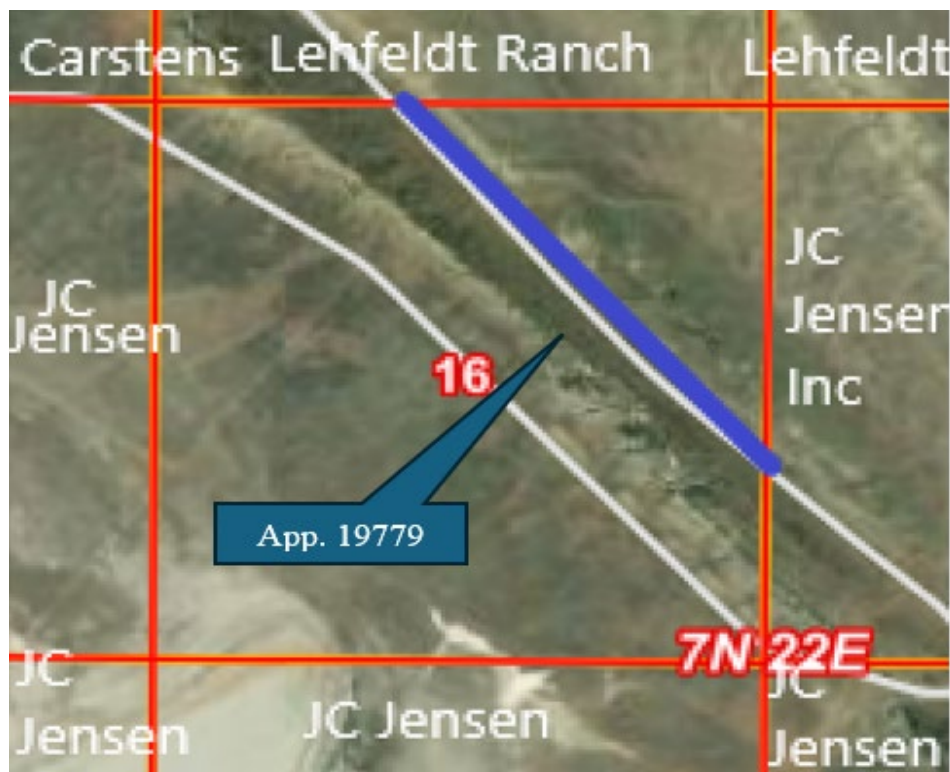
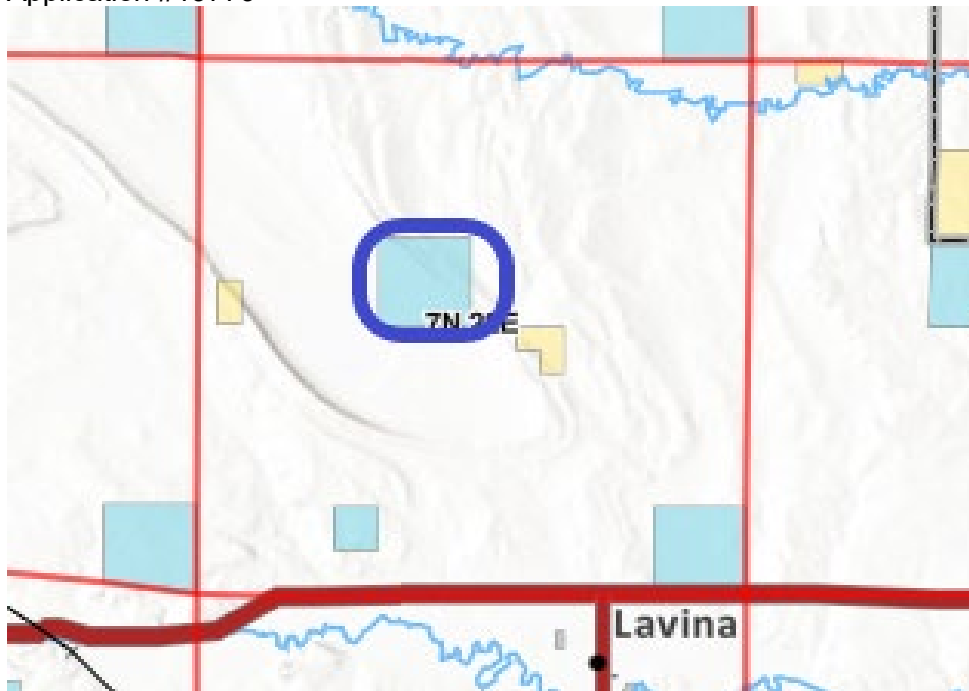
Item Summary:

Central Montana Regional Water Authority has requested an easement for an 8" water transmission pipeline to provide communities and rural residents in Golden Valley County with a reliable supply of high-quality drinking water from the Madison aquifer. The selected route across state lands is the most cost-effective route. Other routes were considered however this is the most technically and financially feasible route.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Central Montana Regional Water Authority.

Application #19779



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Montana Department of Transportation PO Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620
Application No.:	19780
R/W Purpose:	highway construction and maintenance including occupancy by public utilities as defined in §69-4-101, MCA
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	2.06
Compensation:	\$2,781.00
Legal Description:	a tract of land in E2SE4, Sec. 16, Twp. 23N, Rge. 4W, Teton County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

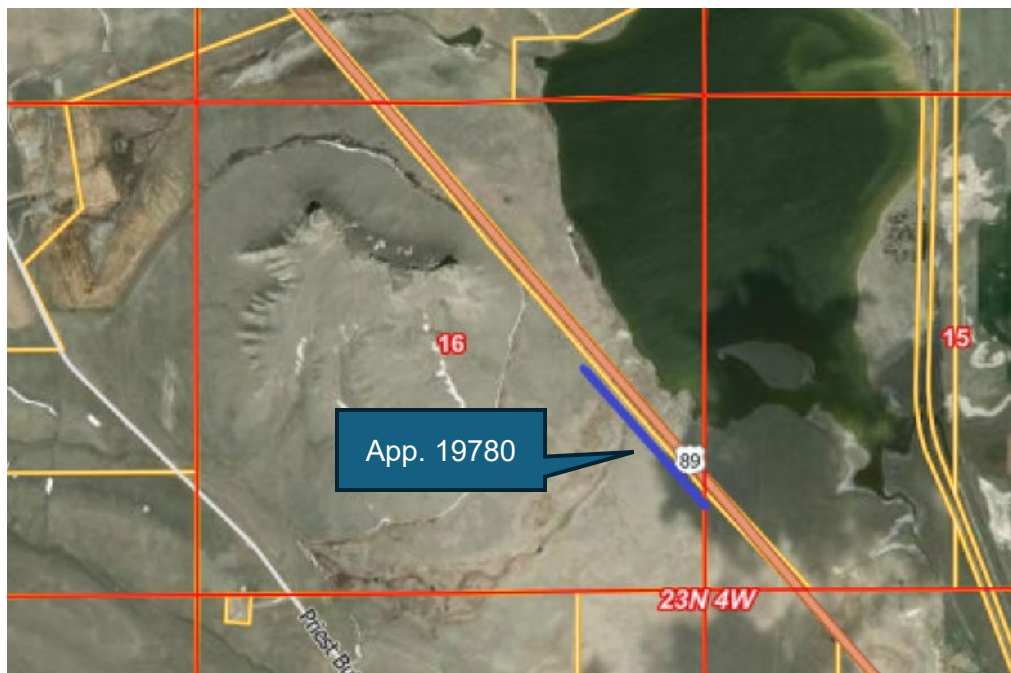
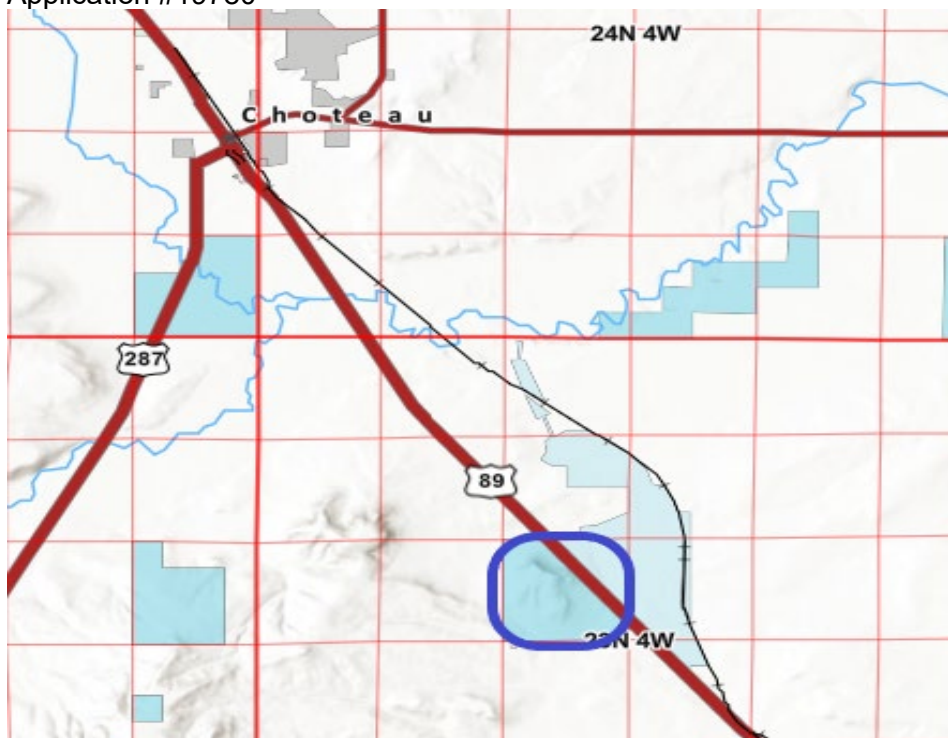
Item Summary:

The Montana Department of Transportation is requesting an easement to provide highway improvements to US89 to update the facility design features, improve safety of travel through the corridor, provide an acceptable level of service in the corridor, and provide enhancements for recreational users.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Montana Department of Transportation.

Application #19780



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Montana Department of Transportation PO Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620
Application No.:	19781
R/W Purpose:	highway bridge construction and maintenance, including occupancy by utilities as defined in §69-4-101, MCA
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Navigable River)
Acreage:	0.44
Compensation:	\$6,647.00
Legal Description:	a tract of land across the Teton River in NW4SE4, Sec. 31, Twp. 24N, Rge. 4W, Teton County
Trust Beneficiary:	Public Land Trust

Item Summary:

Continuation of Montana Department of Transportation applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Montana Department of Transportation.

Application #19781



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Montana Department of Transportation PO Box 201001 Helena, MT 59620
Application No.:	19784
R/W Purpose:	highway construction and maintenance including occupancy by public utilities as defined in §69-4-101, MCA
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	17.14
Compensation:	\$12,855.00
Legal Description:	a tract of land through NW4NW4, S2N2, Sec. 16, Twp. 18N, Rge. 45E, McCone County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

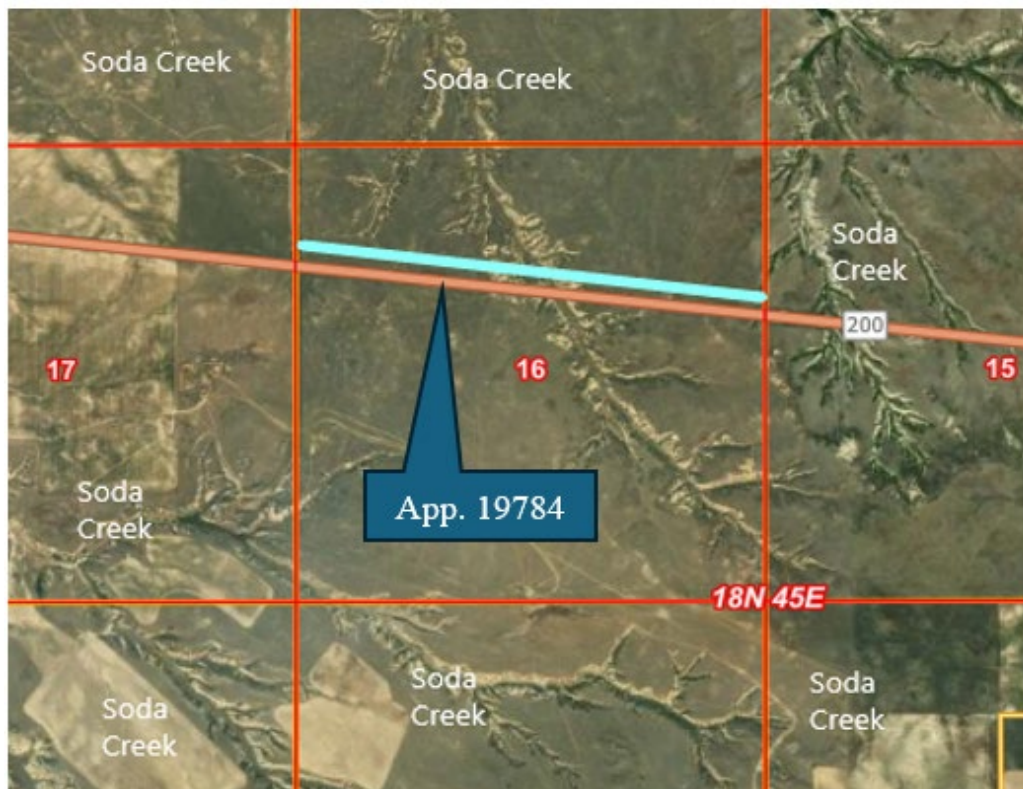
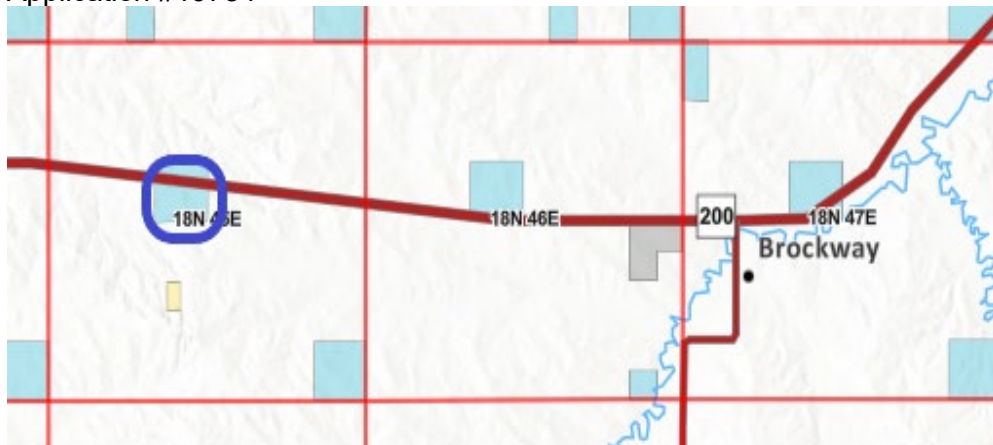
Item Summary:

The Montana Department of Transportation is requesting an easement to provide highway improvements to Montana 200 to update the facility design features, improve safety of travel through the corridor, and provide enhancements for recreational users.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Montana Department of Transportation.

Application #19784



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC 1925 Grand Avenue, Suite 127 Billings, MT 59102
Application No.:	19786
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.60
Compensation:	\$435.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SW4SW4, Sec. 16, Twp. 6N, Rge. 42E, Rosebud County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

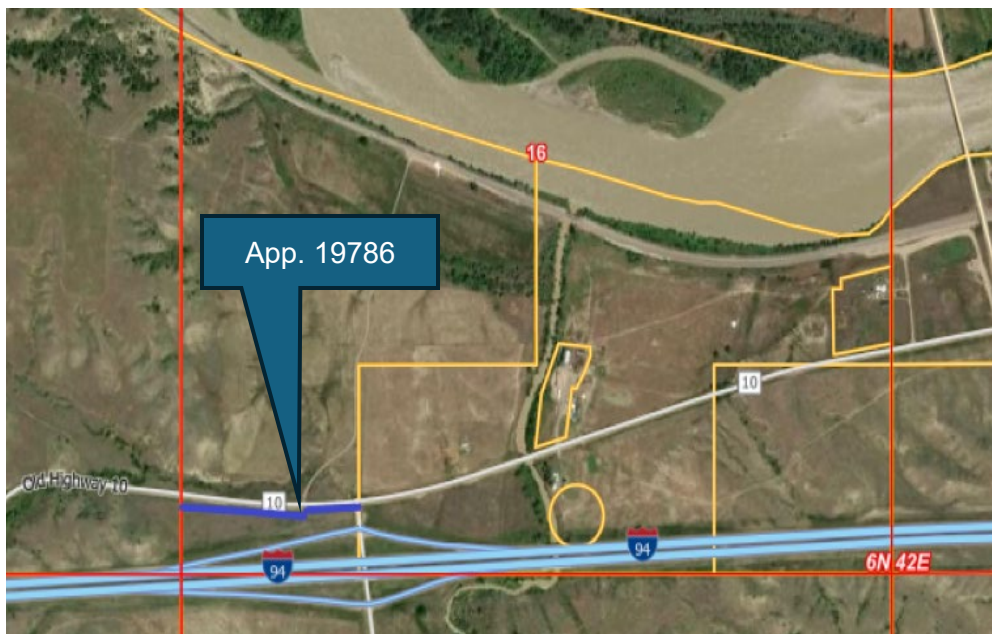
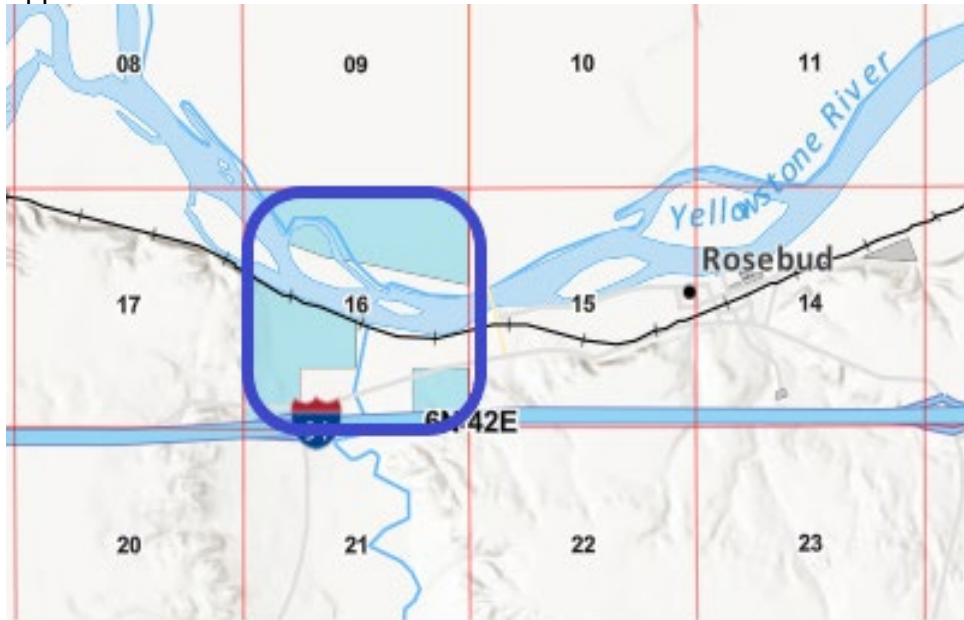
Item Summary:

Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC is requesting an easement to install a buried fiber optic telecommunications cable. The line will connect service from Forsyth, Montana to the Montana/North Dakota border. This installation will connect into the existing network and provide connectivity between service areas. The proposed route is along previously disturbed road right of way and is the most direct route between Forsyth and the Montana/North Dakota border, while remaining within the previously disturbed right of way that crossed through state owned land. Avoiding state owned land would result in more disturbance, a great utilization of resources for construction, and a high-cost project.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC.

Application #19786



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC 1925 Grand Avenue, Suite 127 Billings, MT 59102
Application No.:	19787
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.60
Compensation:	\$435.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through SE4SE4, Sec. 16, Twp. 6N, Rge. 42E, Rosebud County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

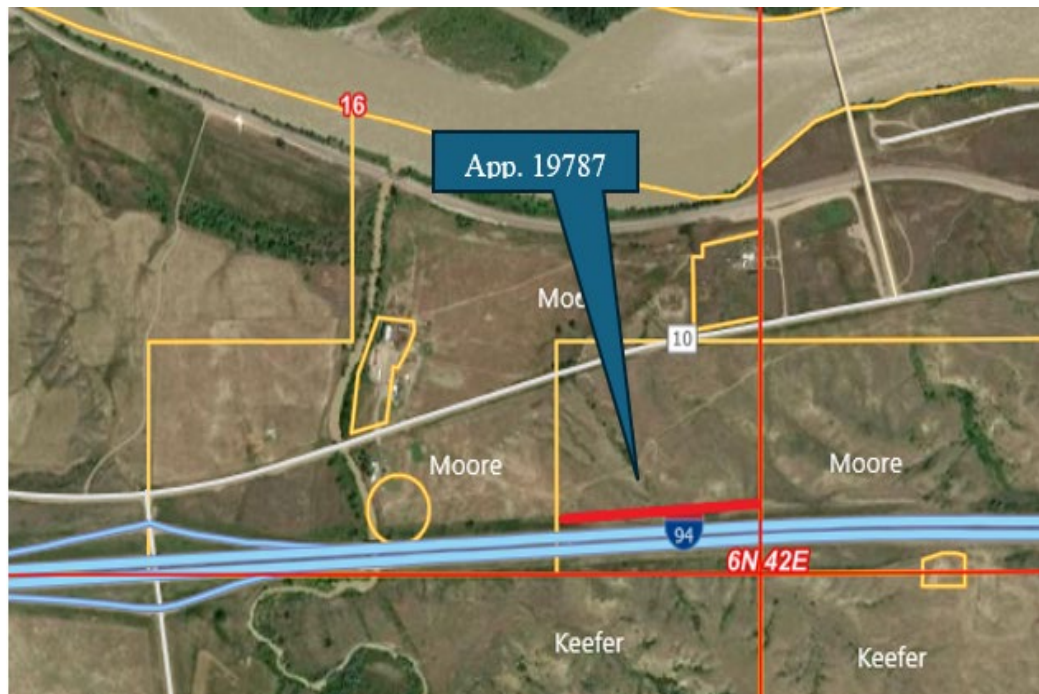
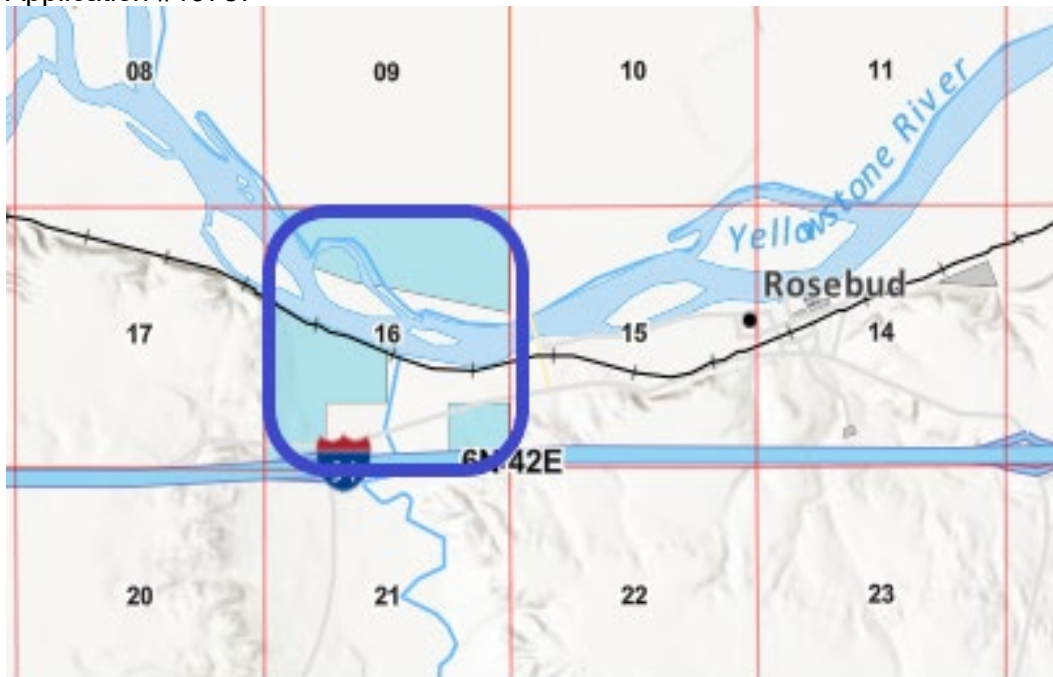
Item Summary:

Continuation of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC.

Application #19787



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC 1925 Grand Avenue, Suite 127 Billings, MT 59102
Application No.:	19788
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	Ok
Acreage:	1.22
Compensation:	\$884.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through N2NW4, Sec. 16, Twp. 7N, Rge. 59E, Fallon County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

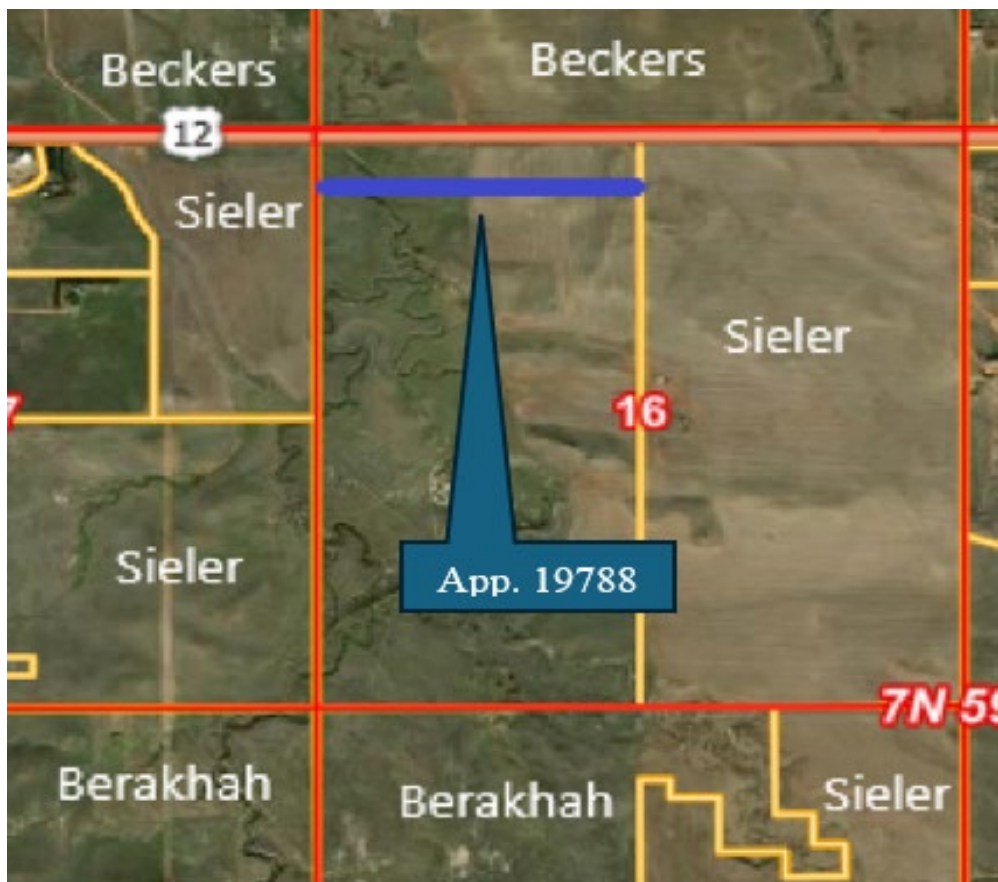
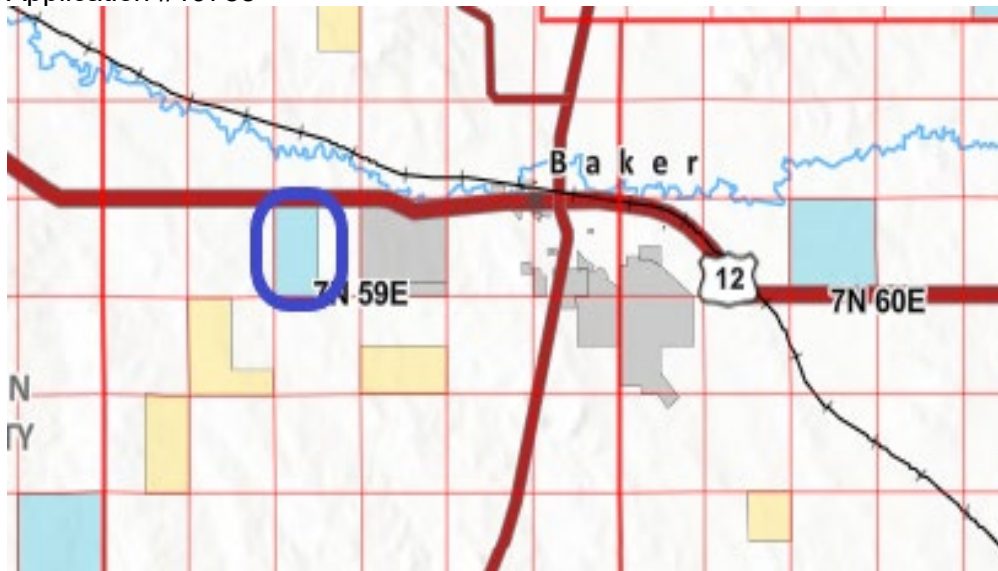
Item Summary:

Continuation of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC.

Application #19788



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC
1925 Grand Avenue, Suite 127
Billings, MT 59102

Application No.: 19789
R/W Purpose: a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement: ok
Acreage: 2.27
Compensation: \$1,646.00
Legal Description: 20-foot strip through Gov. Lots 2, 3, NE4NW4, W2NE4, Sec. 36,
Twp. 8N, Rge. 48E, Custer County
Trust Beneficiary: Common Schools

Item Summary:

Continuation of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC.

Application #19789



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC
1925 Grand Avenue, Suite 127
Billings, MT 59102

Application No.: 19790
R/W Purpose: a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement: ok
Acreage: 2.43
Compensation: \$1,762.00
Legal Description: 20-foot strip through N2N2, Sec. 36, Twp. 8N, Rge. 57E,
Fallon County
Trust Beneficiary: Common Schools

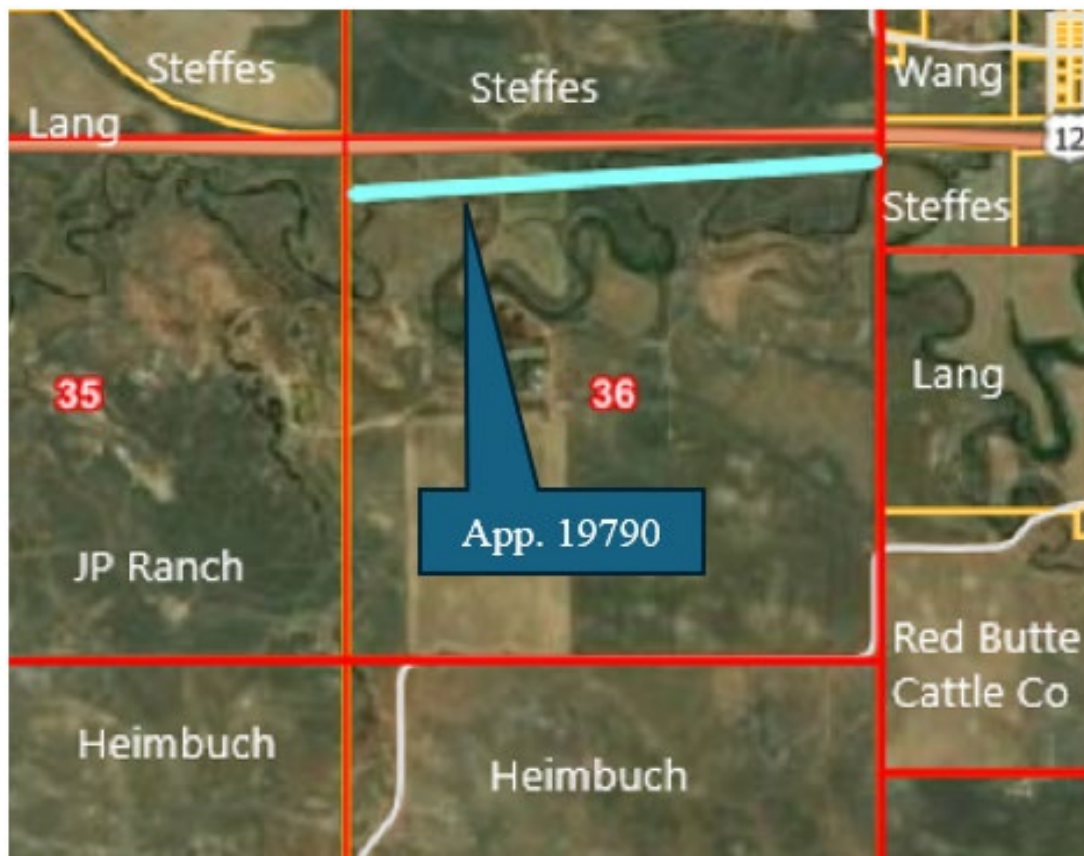
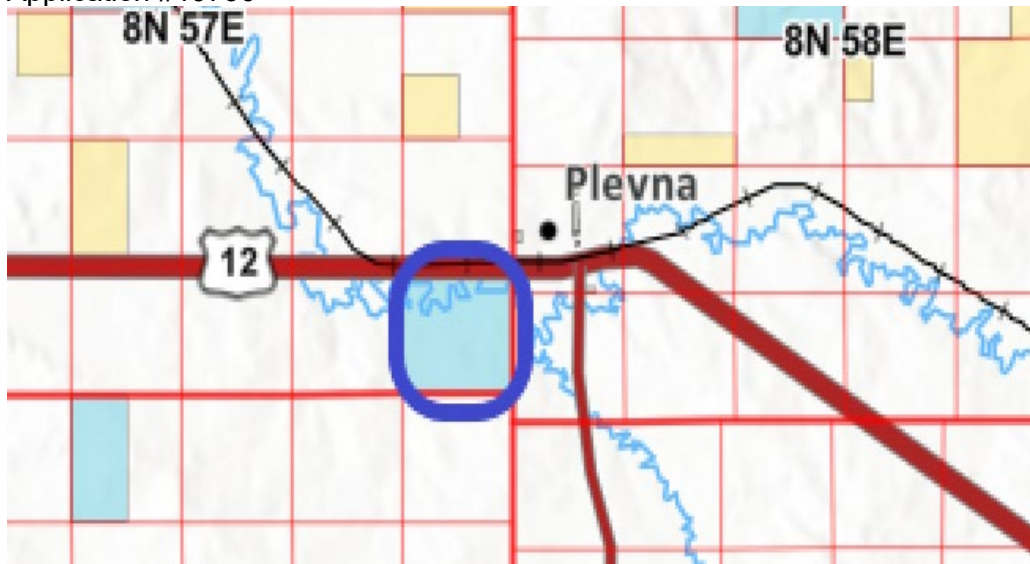
Item Summary:

Continuation of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC.

Application #19790



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC 1925 Grand Avenue, Suite 127 Billings, MT 59102
Application No.:	19791
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	1.35
Compensation:	\$979.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4SW4, S2SW4, Sec. 25, Twp. 8N, Rge. 48E, Custer County
Trust Beneficiary:	General Fund (Land Owned by Pine Hills School)

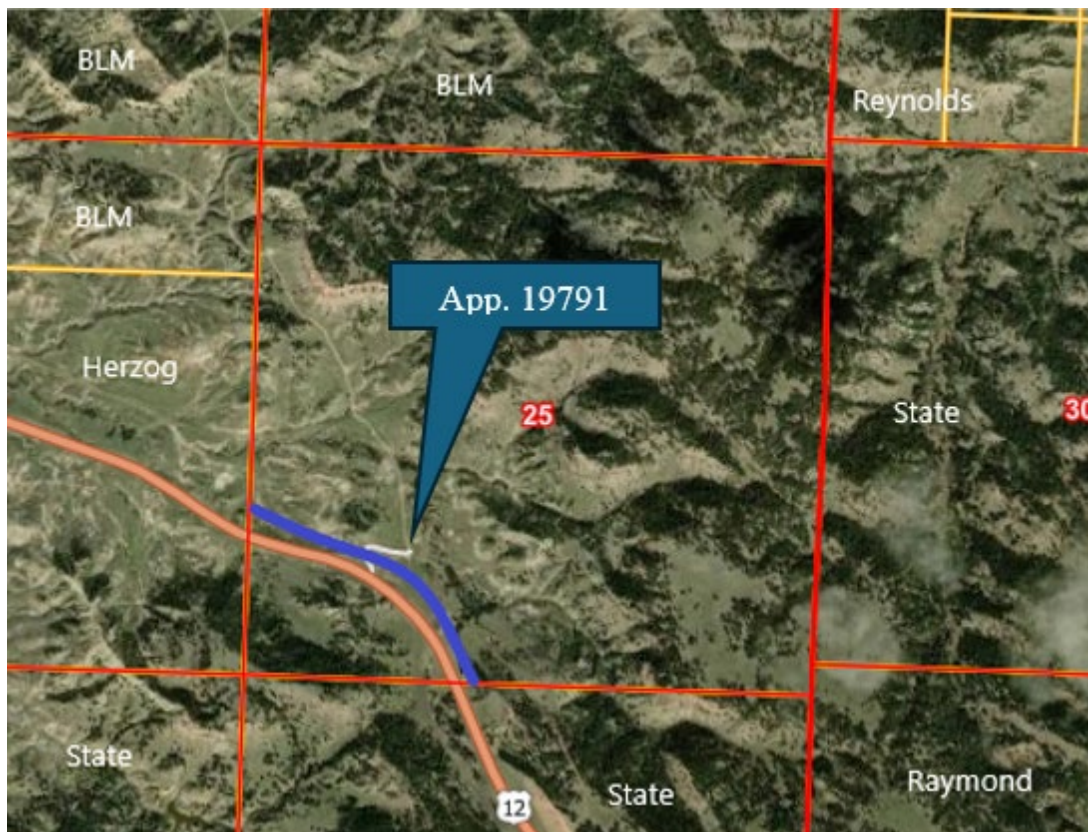
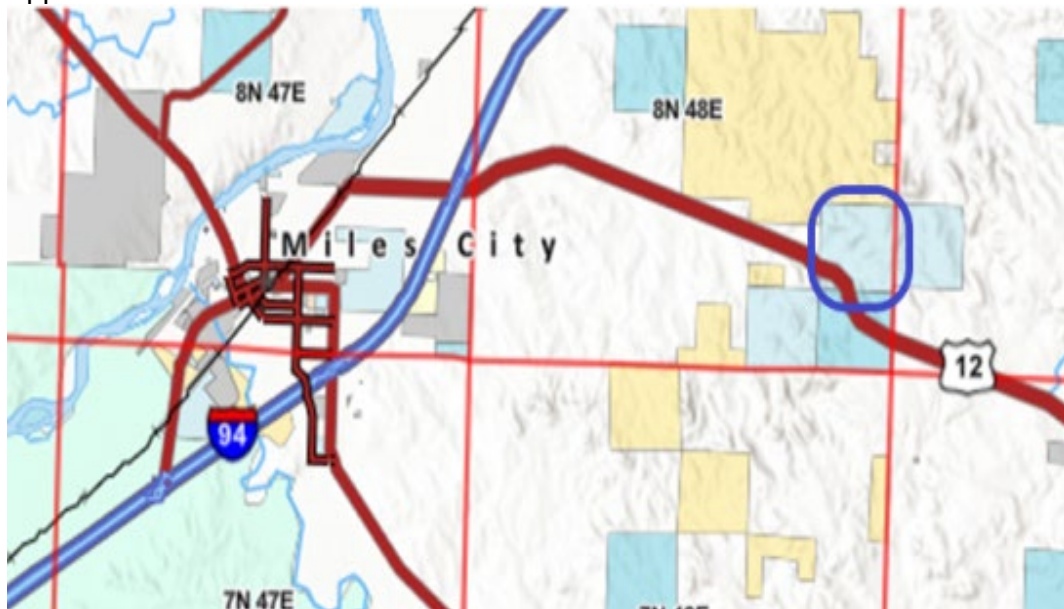
Item Summary:

Continuation of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC applications. This application is on lands owned by Pine Hills School and is not Trust land. Per the request of the school's Warden, this application is being presented to the Land Board for consideration.

DNRC Recommendation:

The Pine Hills School recommends approval of the application of Intermountain Infrastructure Group, LLC.

Application #19791



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	NorthWestern Energy 11 East Park Street Butte, MT 59701
Application No.:	19793
R/W Purpose:	a buried 12" natural gas transmission line
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	6.35
Compensation:	\$6,985
Legal Description:	50-foot strip through Gov. Lot 4, NW4SW4, W2NW4, Sec. 4, Twp. 18N, Rge. 4W, Lewis and Clark County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

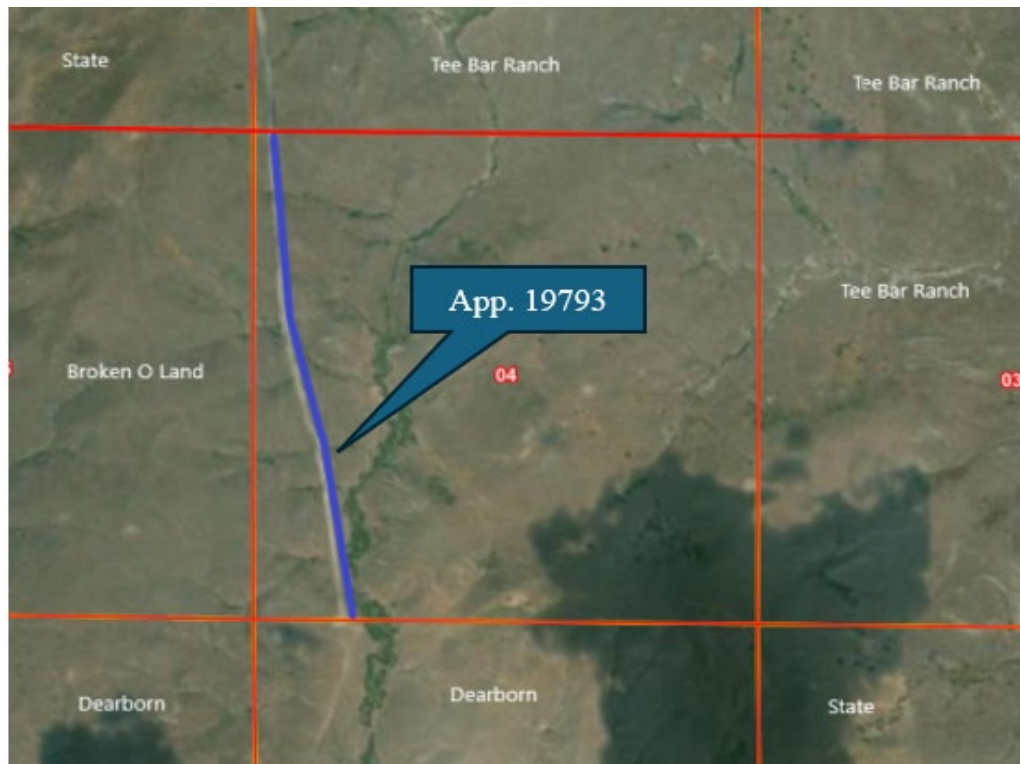
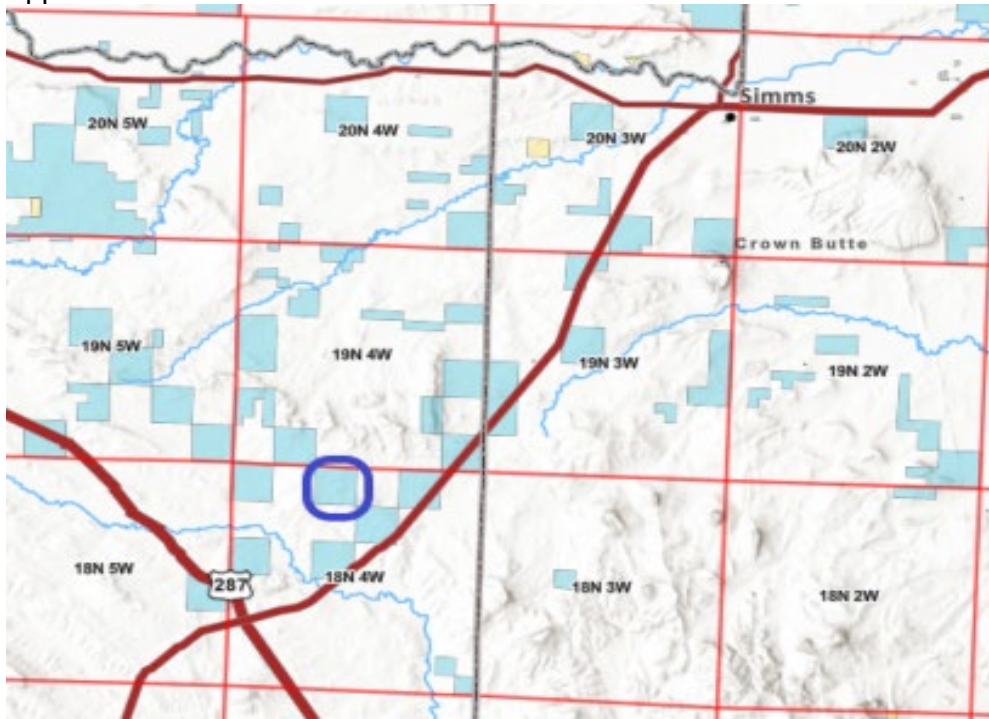
Item Summary:

NorthWestern Energy is requesting an easement to install a new 12" natural gas pipeline to update the existing pipeline infrastructure in this area. The pipeline will replace existing infrastructure that is aging. Consistent with the issuance of oil and gas pipelines, a 30-year term is recommended.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of NorthWestern Energy for a 30-year term.

Application #19793



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	NorthWestern Energy 11 East Park Street Butte, MT 59701
Application No.:	19794
R/W Purpose:	a buried 12" natural gas transmission line
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	4.56
Compensation:	\$5,016.00
Legal Description:	50-foot strip through W2SE4, SW4NE4, Sec. 8, Twp. 19N, Rge. 4W, Lewis and Clark County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

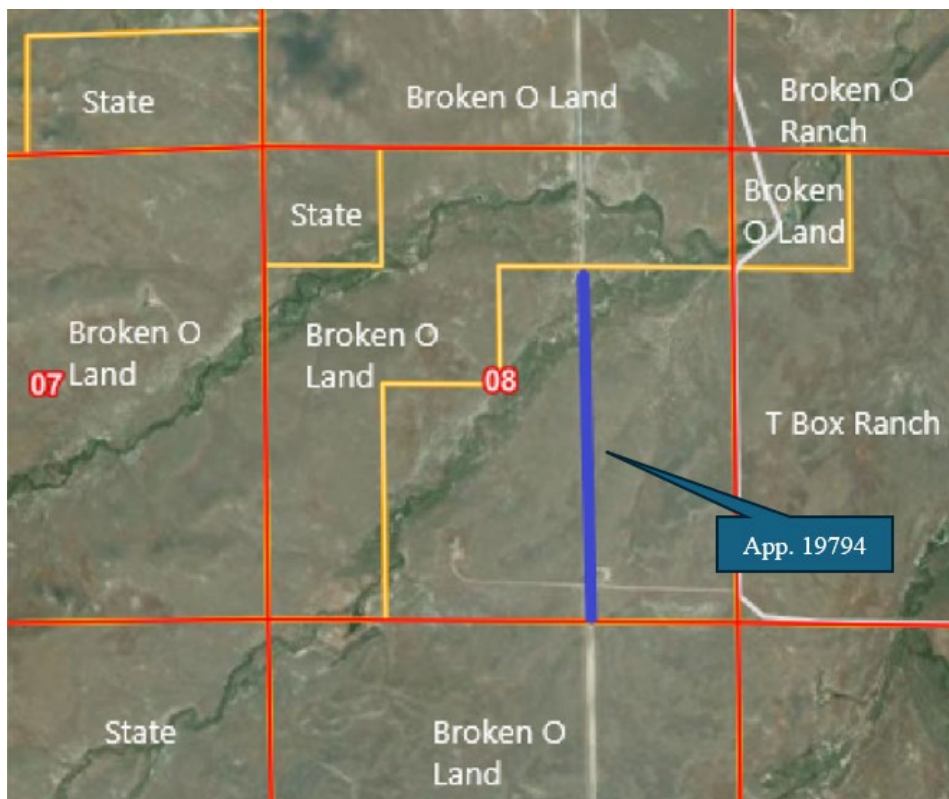
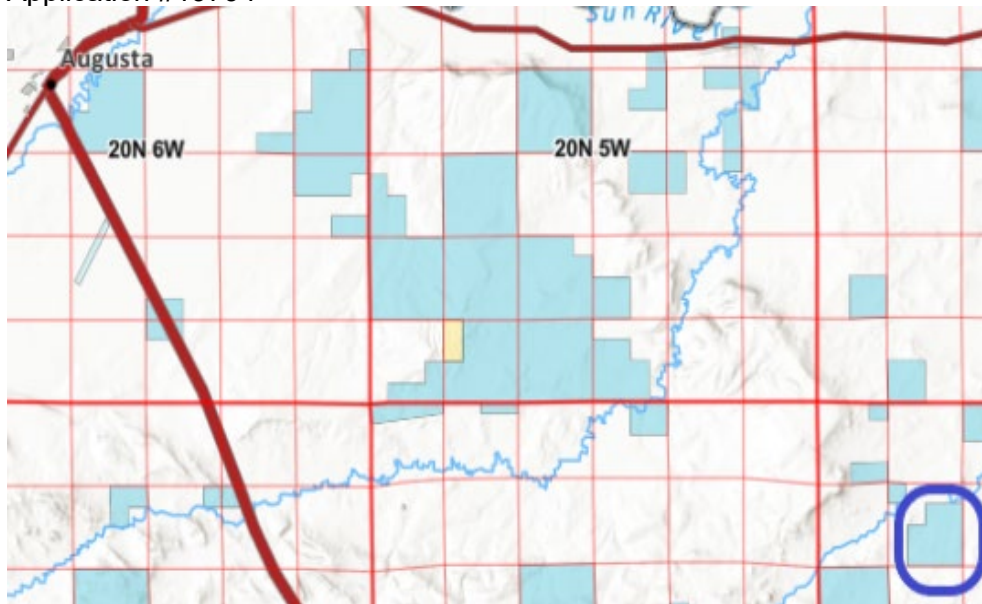
Item Summary:

Continuation of NorthWestern Energy applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of NorthWestern Energy.

Application #19794



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant: NorthWestern Energy
11 East Park Street
Butte, MT 59701

Application No.: 19795
R/W Purpose: a buried 12" natural gas transmission line
Lessee Agreement: ok
Acreage: 3.78
Compensation: \$4,158.00
Legal Description: 50-foot strip through NESE4, E2NE4, Sec. 32, Twp. 19N,
Rge. 4W, Lewis and Clark County
Trust Beneficiary: MSU Morrill

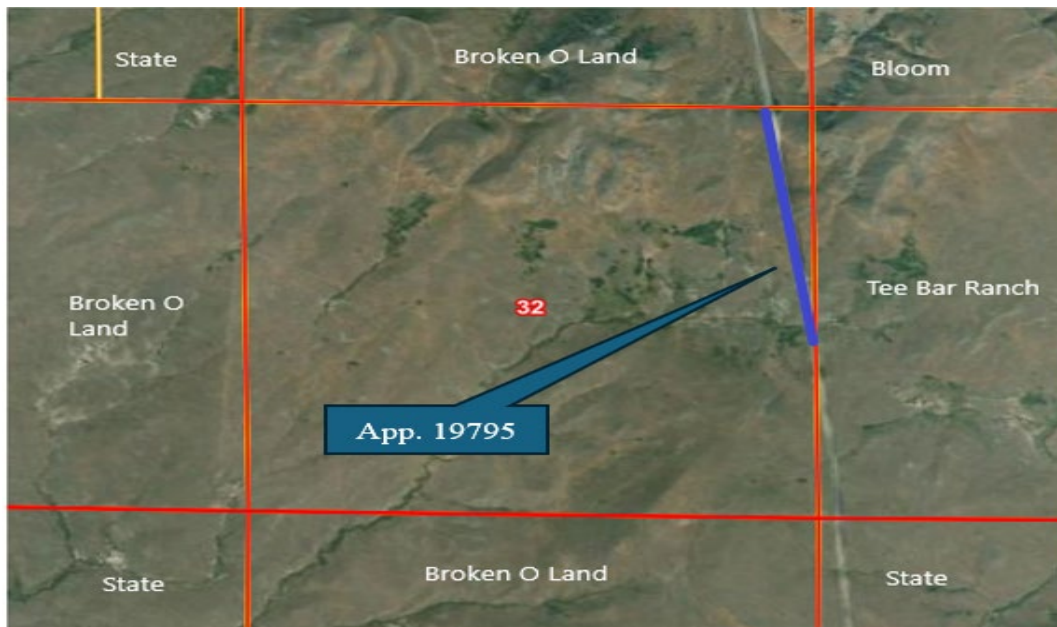
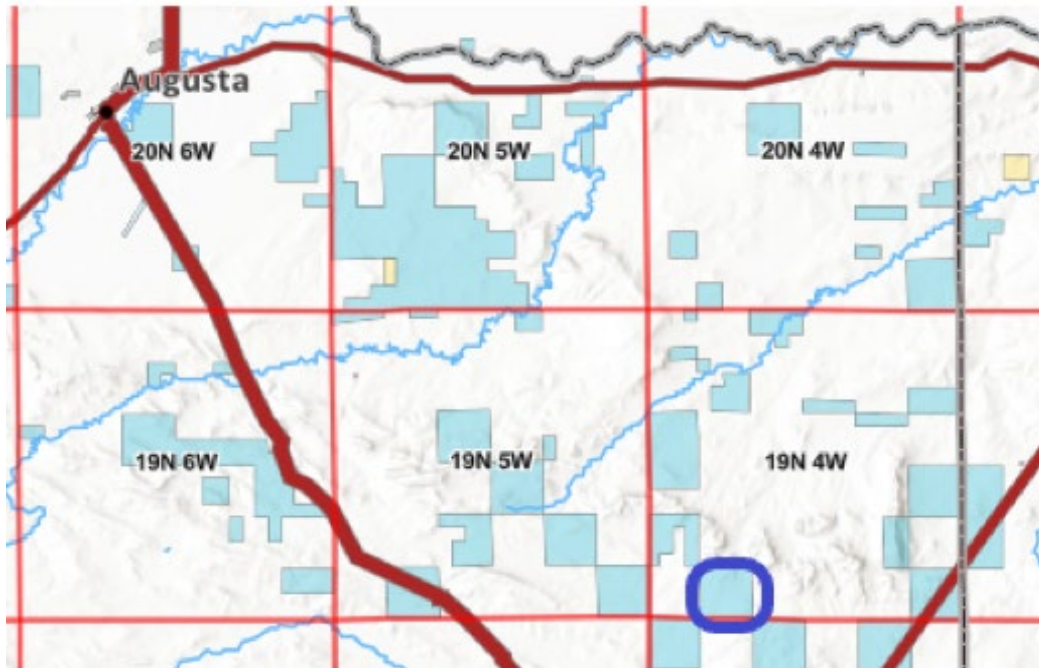
Item Summary:

Continuation of NorthWestern Energy applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of NorthWestern Energy.

Application #19795



0525-4

LAND BOARD APPROVAL TO
SEEK OUTSIDE LEGAL COUNSEL

**Land Board Agenda Item
May 19, 2025**

0525-4 Land Board Approval to Seek Outside Legal Counsel

Location: N/A

Trust Benefits: N/A

Trust Revenue: N/A

Item Summary:

Motion to approve outside legal counsel to represent the Land Board in litigation matters.