

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA
AUGUST 17, 2026, AT 9:00 A.M.
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 303
HELENA, MT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Approval of the August Land Board Agenda **APPROVED: 4-0**
Approval of the July Land Board Meeting Minutes **APPROVED: 4-0**

ACTION ITEMS

- 0826-1 Department of Military Affairs: Sale of Culbertson Readiness Center and Vehicle Maintenance Shop** **APPROVED: 4-0**
Location: Roosevelt County
Benefits: N/A (non-trust land)
- 0826-2 Timber Sales** **APPROVED: 4-0**
A. Baldy Buzzcut
Location: Granite County
Benefits: Common Schools
B. Fast Horse
Location: Missoula County
Benefits: Pine Hills School
C. Klinger Blowdown
Location: Lincoln County
Benefits: Common Schools
D. Section 36
Location: Lake County
Benefits: Common Schools
- 0826-3 Easements** **APPROVED: 4-0**
Location: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Daniels, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead, Judith Basin, Lewis & Clark, Toole, Valley, and Wheatland Counties
Benefits: Common Schools, MSU 2nd Grant, and Public Land Trust
- 0826-4 Settlement Agreement State of Montana v. Talen Montana, LLC (Executive Session)** **APPROVED: 4-0**
Location: Cascade County
Benefits: Public Land Trust – Navigable Rivers

Public Comment

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
JULY 20, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M.
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 303
HELENA, MT

Members Present

Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor
Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Austin Knudsen, Attorney General
James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State
Brenda Johnson, Land Board Secretary
Sonia Gavin, Land Board Secretary

Members Absent

None

Testifying Staff

Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director
Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
Ryan Weiss, DNRC Trust Lands Deputy Administrator
Parker Osterloh, DNRC Land Sections Supervisor
Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief
Deidra Klobberdanz, DNRC Real Estate Management Bureau Chief
Trevor Taylor, DNRC Minerals Management Bureau Chief
Brian Bramblette DNRC Chief Legal Counsel

Attachments

Related Materials, Attachment 1 – Sign-in-Sheet
Related Materials, Attachment 2 – Randal Rucker written testimony

Call to Order

00:00:00 Lieutenant Governor Juras called the meeting to order.

Adopt Proposed Agenda

00:00:58 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, moved to approve the July agenda. The motion was seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State, and carried unanimously.

Adopt Prior Months Meeting Minutes

00:01:15 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, moved to approve the June, minutes. The motion was seconded by Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and carried unanimously.

Business Considered

0726-1 Timber Sales A, B & C

00:02:31 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

00:04:33 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, moved to approve item 0726-1. The motion was

seconded by Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State and carried unanimously.

0726-2 Cramer Creek Land Exchange: Preliminary Approval

00:00:00 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment:

00:08:34 Dwight Maclay Schulte, Public Citizen

00:12:12 Mark Aagenes, Montana Chapter of the Nature Conservancy

00:14:47 Denny Iverson, Public Citizen

00:16:56 Todd Johnson, Public Citizen

00:19:26 Ryan Chapin, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

00:20:30 Doug Hall, Public Citizen

00:22:21 Jeff Schulz, Bonita-Clinton Potomac Grazing Association

00:24:04 Ben Lamb, Montana Conservation Society

00:25:50 Phil Ramsey, MPG Ranch

00:26:51 David Maclay-Schulte, Public Citizen

00:32:33 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State moved to approve item 0726-2. The motion was seconded by Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Board Discussion/Comments:

00:32:48 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

00:36:06 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:37:38 Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction

00:38:13 The motion to approve item 0726-2 carried unanimously.

0726-3 Informational Item: Land Banking Program Briefing

00:38:21 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Presentation:

00:38:52 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor. Presentation delayed due to technical difficulties.

00:43:21 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, moved to defer item 0726-3 to the August meeting due to technical difficulties and the motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

Public Comment:

00:44:40 Kevin Farron, Montana Wildlife Federation

Presentation:

00:47:05 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor

Public Comment:

00:56:04 Kevin Farron, Montana Wildlife Federation

Board Discussion/Comments:

00:58:11 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:58:29 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

00:58:39 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

00:59:09 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor

00:59:12 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 00:59:29 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 00:59:31 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 00:59:44 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 00:59:46 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:00:34 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:00:36 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:00:43 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:00:46 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:00:58 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:01:04 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:01:25 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:01:28 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:01:51 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:01:53 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:01:55 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:02:26 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:02:39 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:02:59 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:03:18 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:03:23 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:03:24 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:03:37 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:03:48 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:03:52 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:04:07 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:04:28 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:04:42 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:04:44 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:04:54 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:05:18 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:05:40 Seth Goodwin, DNRC Land Section Supervisor
 01:05:44 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director
 01:05:53 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:06:31 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director
 01:06:48 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance
 01:08:08 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State
 01:08:25 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director
 01:08:35 Ryan Weiss, DNRC Trust Lands Deputy Administrator

0726-4 Land Banking Sale: Preliminary Approval

01:08:08 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

01:10:26 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State, moved to approve item 0726-4. The motion was seconded by James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, and carried unanimously.

0726-5 Easements

01:10:46 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment: N/A

01:11:26 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General, moved to approve item 0726-5. The motion was seconded by Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and carried unanimously.

0726-6 Land Board Policy – Production Livestock Policy

01:11:47 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

Public Comment:

01:13:18 Raylee Honeycutt, Executive Vice President of the MT Stockgrowers Association

01:14:25 Emma Quist, Montana Stockgrowers Policy Intern

01:15:38 Becky Williams, American Prairie Foundation

01:20:58 Tom Franz, Representative HD 99

01:29:04 Michael King, Fort Belknap Tribal Council

01:34:09 Tylee Wellman, World Wildlife Fund Native Nations Team and Blackfeet Tribal Member

01:36:04 Kevin Farron, Montana Wildlife Federation

01:37:21 Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction moved to approve item 0726-6. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

Board Discussion/Comments:

01:37:36 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:38:07 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

01:38:21 Parker Osterloh, DNRC Land Sections Supervisor DNRC Land Sections Supervisor

01:38:44 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:39:00 Parker Osterloh, DNRC Land Sections Supervisor DNRC Land Sections Supervisor

01:39:03 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:39:56 Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction

01:40:17 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

01:40:25 Parker Osterloh, DNRC Land Sections Supervisor DNRC Land Sections Supervisor

01:41:06 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:41:43 Parker Osterloh, DNRC Land Sections Supervisor DNRC Land Sections Supervisor

01:42:12 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:42:15 Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction

01:42:46 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:44:00 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

01:44:05 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:44:20 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, moved to amend to defer this matter to a future meeting. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

01:45:28 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:45:30 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:45:36 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

01:45:47 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:46:06 The motion to amend item 0726-6 carried unanimously.

01:46:21 The motion item 0726-6 as amended carried unanimously.

0726-7 Lease No. 5183

01:46:58 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

01:48:00 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

Public Comment:

01:48:34 Lacey Nichol, Land Owner

Board Discussion/Comments:

01:51:07 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:51:23 Lacey Nichol, Land Owner

01:51:24 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:51:25 Lacey Nichol, Land Owner

01:51:26 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:51:31 Lacey Nichol, Land Owner

01:52:22 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

Board Discussion/Comments

01:53:03 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:53:20 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

01:53:41 Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief

01:54:46 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:55:26 Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief

01:55:31 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:55:45 Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief

01:55:48 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

01:55:53 Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief

01:56:42 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

01:56:57 Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief

01:57:30 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

01:57:40 Kelly Motichka, DNRC Agricultural and Grazing Bureau Chief

01:57:57 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

0726-8 Legislative Proposals

01:58:34 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

01:59:48 Deidra Klobberdanz, DNRC Real Estate Management Bureau Chief

02:01:58 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

02:02:07 Trevor Taylor, DNRC Minerals Management Bureau Chief

02:03:45 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

Public Comment:

02:04:10 Kevin Farron, Montana Wildlife Federation

02:06:45 Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction moved to approve item 0726-8. The motion was seconded by Austin Knudsen, Attorney General.

Board Discussion/Comments:

02:06:57 Austin Knudsen, Attorney General

02:07:50 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

02:08:00 Travis Taylor, DNRC Minerals Management Bureau Chief

02:08:26 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

02:08:30 Deidra Klobberdanz, DNRC Real Estate Management Bureau Chief

02:08:57 Christi Jacobsen, Secretary of State

02:09:11 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

02:09:15 Travis Taylor, DNRC Minerals Management Bureau Chief

02:09:40 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

02:10:45 Susie Hedalen, Superintendent of Public Instruction

02:10:58 Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

02:11:23 The motion to approve item 0726-8 carried unanimously.

0726-9 Informational Item: Quarterly Litigation Update

02:11:45 Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director, gave an overview of the item.

02:12:05 Brian Bramblette, DNRC Chief Legal Counsel

Board Discussion/Comments:

02:13:30 James Brown, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

General Public Comment: N/A

Adjournment

02:14:07 Adjournment

PRESIDENT

ATTEST

/s/ _____ Date

Kristen Juras, Lieutenant Governor

/s/ _____ Date

Amanda Kaster, DNRC Director

Please note: The Land Board has adopted the audio recording of its meetings as the official record, as allowed by [2-3-212, MCA](#). These minutes provide an abbreviated summary of the Land Board discussion, public testimony, action taken, and other activities. The time designations listed are approximate and may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio recording of this meeting. You may access the minutes and the audio recording on our website: <https://dnrc.mt.gov/TrustLand/About/LandBoardMeetingArchive>.

0826-1

Department of Military Affairs:

Sale of Culbertson Readiness Center
and Vehicle Maintenance Shop

**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-1 Department of Military Affairs, Sale of Culbertson Readiness Center and Vehicle Maintenance Shop

Location: Roosevelt County

Trust Beneficiaries: N/A (non-trust land)

Trust Revenue: N/A (non-trust land)

Item Summary: The Montana Department of Military Affairs (DMA) requests approval to sell two parcels, together amounting to 5.17 acres, located at 819 and 821 6th Avenue East in Culbertson, Montana. The site is also known as the Culbertson Readiness Center ("RC") and Vehicle Maintenance Shop (VMS) (together the Property). The land and structures are no longer needed by the Montana Army National Guard (MTARNG) due to changes in force structure stationing and operations.

The 15,771 square-foot RC building was built in 1980, and the 8,622 square-foot VMS building was built in 1989. An assembly hall, retired indoor firing range, classrooms, kitchen, vault, office, restrooms and storage rooms are located inside the RC. Separate accessory structures are also located on the Property, namely three storage structures totaling approximately 2,511.12 square feet, a hazardous waste material storage facility and a flammable material storehouse.

The State of Montana acquired the parcels in two transactions from Roosevelt County. The 1.38-acre VMS parcel transferred to the State in 1956, and the 3.79-acre RC parcel transferred to the State in 1977. The adjacent parcel to the southeast is owned by the Montana Department of Transportation. The remaining parcels surrounding the RC/VMS consist of a parcel owned by Roosevelt County, residential housing, and Big Sky Field Airport.

Sale Price and Process: The Property's sale price would be at or above the appraised value of \$1,085,000.00. As required by MCA § 77-2-306(4) (2025), DMA offered the Property at appraised value to Roosevelt County. In March of 2026, the Roosevelt County Board of Commissioners submitted a Letter of Intent and Commitment to Purchase RC and OMS Shop addressed to Joel Miller of the Department of Military Affairs. The March 2026 letter of intent expressed Roosevelt County's intent to acquire Culbertson RC and VMS. Therefore, rather than exercising the public auction procedures under MCA § 77-2-321 (2025), DMA proposes to sell the Property to Roosevelt County in accordance with MCA § 77-2-306(4) (2025). Pursuant to MCA § 10-1-108(3) (2025), the sale proceeds will be deposited into the Montana National Guard Land Purchase Account in the state special revenue fund.

Background Documentation: The most recent appraisal, an Environmental Baseline Survey, Letter of Intent, MEPA document (App. D contains lead and asbestos reports), deed copies, title history, and other applicable records are included in the supporting documentation. In 2026, DMA recleaned and encapsulated the Culbertson RC indoor firing range (IFR) to mitigate lead dust contamination. Following re cleaning, lead levels tested below the HUD standard in the IFR.

Asbestos containing materials were removed from the RC in 2019 and a final air clearance performed in abated areas found airborne fiber concentrations below EPA and MDEQ clearance criteria. These documents are included in the supporting documentation.

Rationale for Land Board Action: Transferring ownership to Roosevelt County serves as one method of satisfying Title 77 of Montana Code Annotated, which requires that DMA dispose of excess state property. Additionally, transferring ownership to Roosevelt County would extend the useful life of the Property.

DMA Recommendation: DMA recommends the Land Board approve the sale of the Culbertson Readiness Center at the sale price of at least \$1,085,000.

Culbertson Readiness Center and Vehicle Maintenance Shop



0826-2

Timber Sales

- A. Baldy Buzzcut
- B. Fast Horse
- C. Klinger Blowdown
- D. Section 36

**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-2A Timber Sale: Baldy Buzzcut

Location: Granite County

Trust Beneficiaries: Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$103,658 (estimated, minimum)

Item Summary:

Location: The Baldy Buzzcut Timber Sale is located approximately 13 miles East of Clinton, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 14 harvest units (*566 acres*) of tractor, skyline, and combination logging.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 12,128 tons (*2.1 MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$8.55 per ton, which would generate approximately \$103,658 for the Common Schools Trust and approximately \$45,844 in Forest Improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize sanitation, individual tree selection, clearcut with reserves, and seed tree harvest prescriptions designed to improve stand health and vigor, establish new seedling growth, and reduce fuel loading and the likelihood of a stand-replacing fire.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 0.5 miles of new road construction and 18.6 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through secured easements with six private landowners.

Public Comments: Three public comments were received. One comment of support was received from Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company. One comment from an adjacent landowner expressed concerns about the DNRC needing access to the project area through his property. DNRC assured the landowner that access to the state parcels would not be needed through his property. One comment from an adjacent landowner expressed concerns about prescribed burning and potential logging traffic and road work on the easement road through his property. The DNRC explained that if the project is awarded, the road easement would be utilized by logging vehicles and any road work would be limited to the terms of the easement documentation. DNRC also explained that if a prescribed burn, which is an important forest management practice, is appropriate for this project, the burn plan would include intensive safety measures and the landowner would be notified prior to the burn.

DNRC Recommendation:

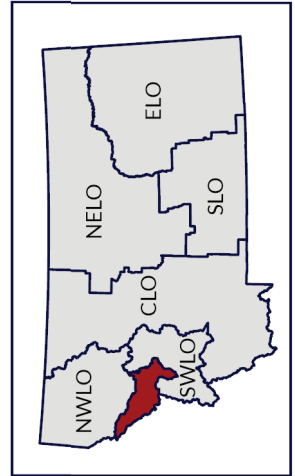
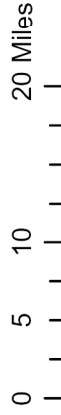
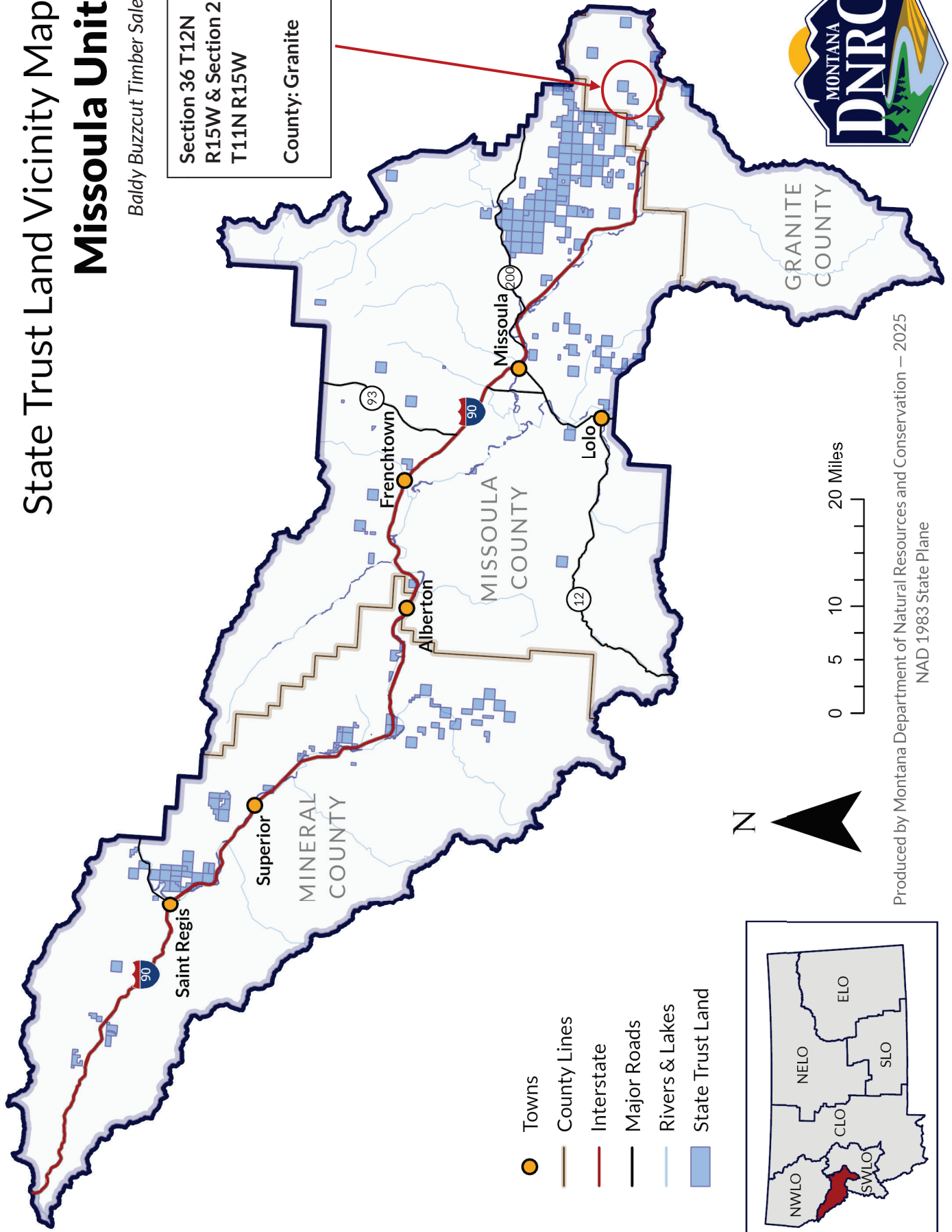
The DNRC recommends that the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Baldy Buzzcut Timber Sale.

State Trust Land and Vicinity Map

Missoula Unit

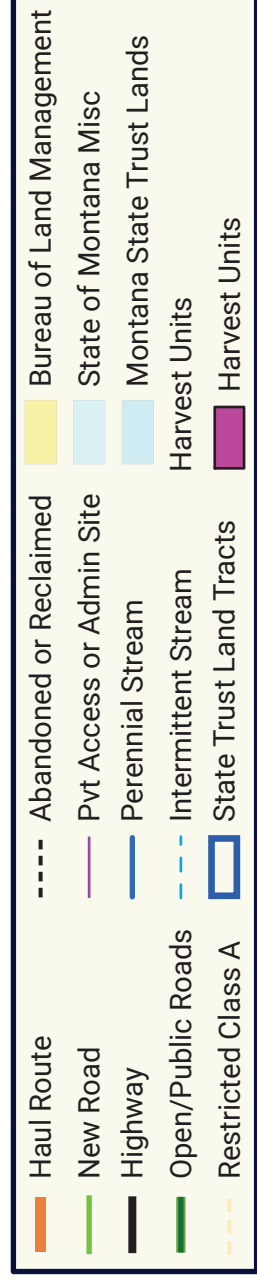
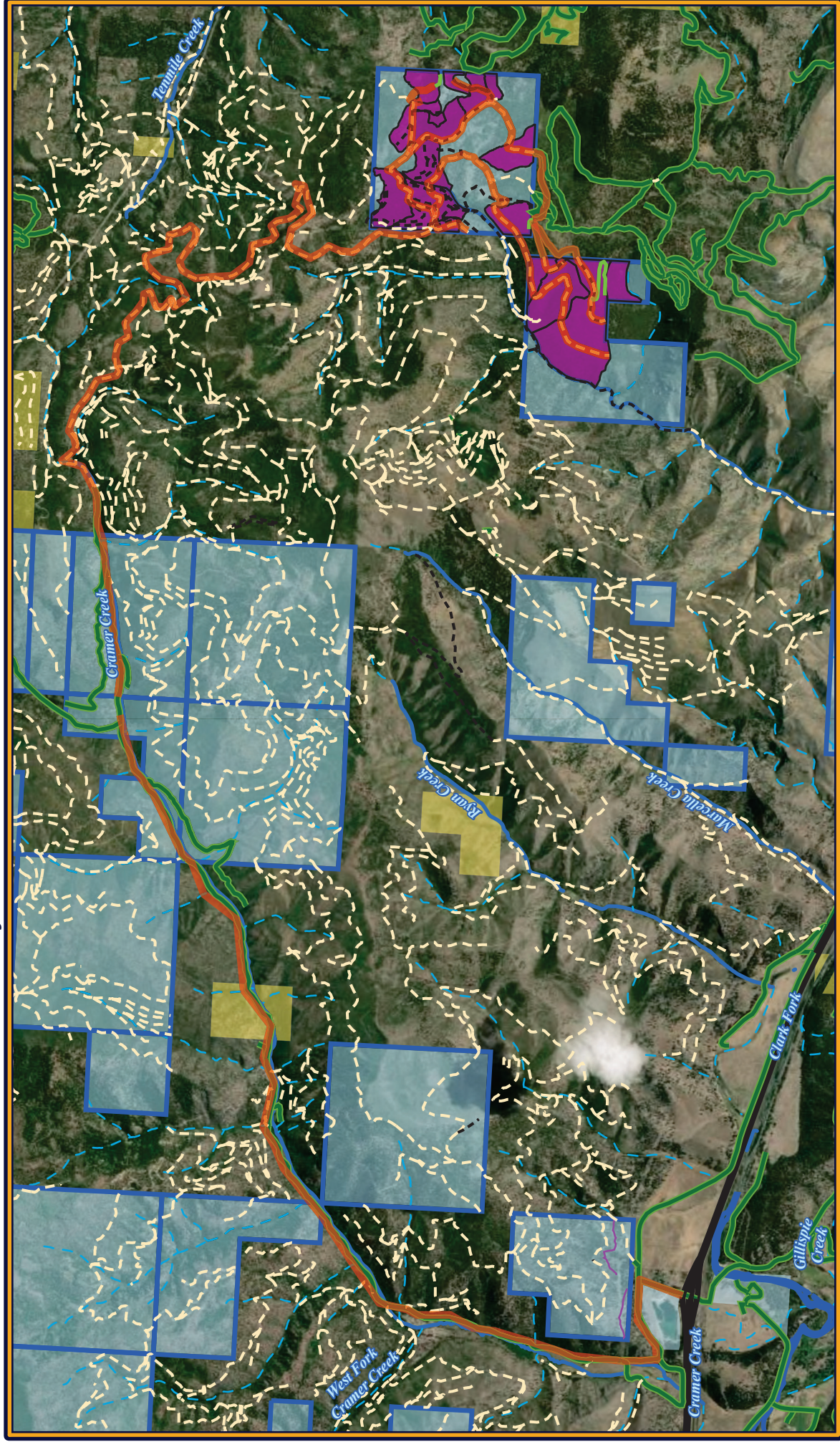
Baldy Buzzcut Timber Sale

Section 36 T12N
R15W & Section 2
T11N R15W
County: Granite

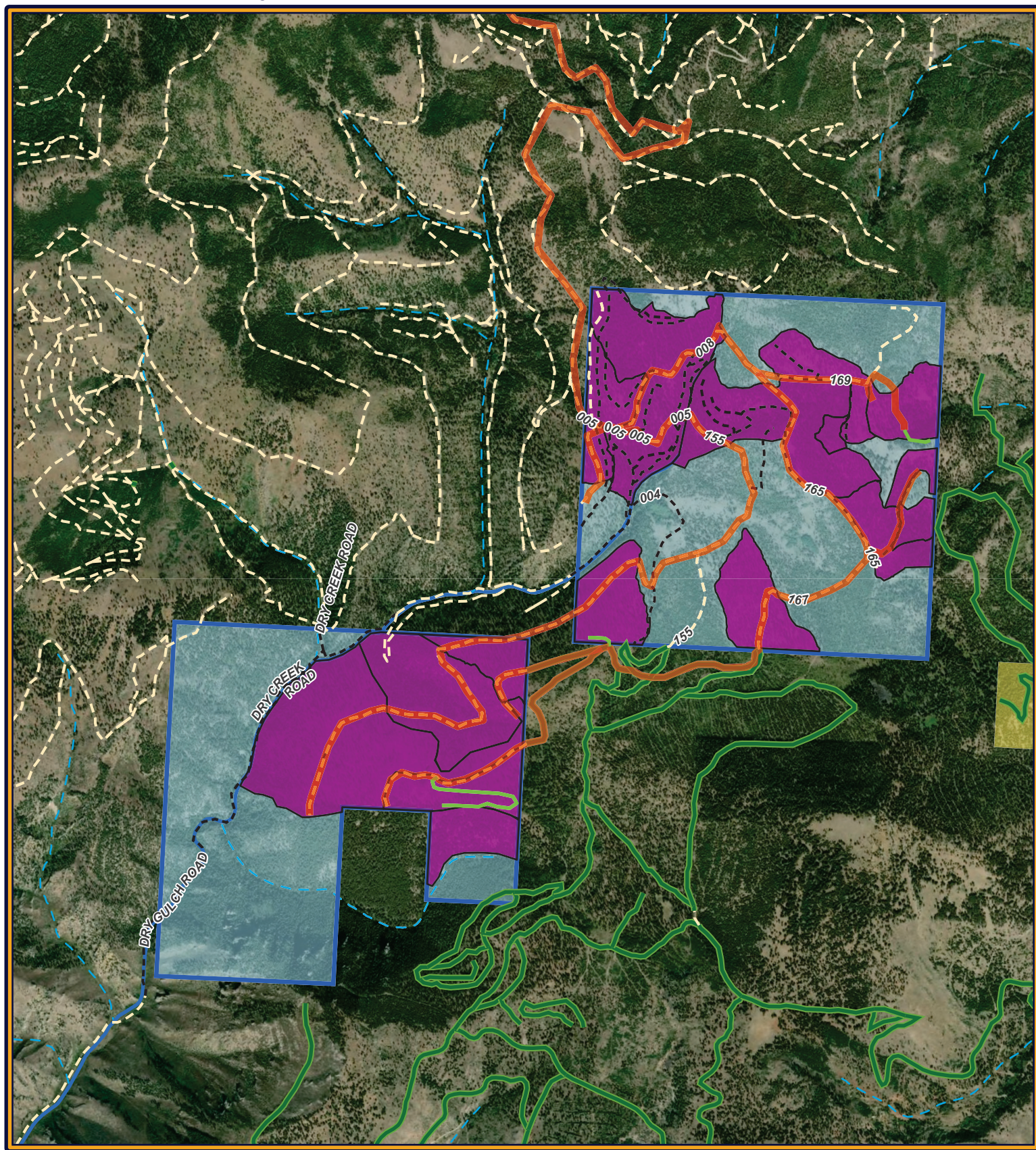


Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation — 2025
NAD 1983 State Plane

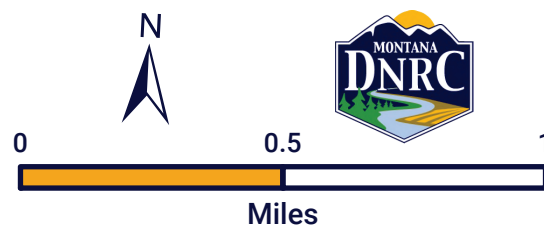
Baldy Buzzcut Timber Sale Haul Route



Baldy Buzzcut Timber Sale Harvest Units



- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Haul Route | Abandoned or Reclaimed | Bureau of Land Management |
| New Road | Perennial Stream | Montana State Trust Lands |
| Open/Public Roads | Intermittent Stream | Harvest Units |
| Restricted Class A | State Trust Land Tracts | Harvest Units |



**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-2B Timber Sale: Fast Horse

Location: Missoula County

Trust Beneficiaries: Pine Hills School

Trust Revenue: \$100,692 (estimated, minimum)

Item Summary:

Location: The Fast Horse Timber Sale is located approximately 10.5 miles southwest of Seeley Lake, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes four harvest units (*199 acres*) of tractor logging.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 5,931 tons (*1.1 MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$16.98 per ton, which would generate approximately \$100,692 for the Pine Hills School Trust and approximately \$22,953 in forest improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize a combination of group selection, overstory removal, and seed tree harvest prescriptions designed to reduce insect and disease issues, promote forest health and promote progression towards the desired future condition.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 9.5 miles of road maintenance.

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

Public Comments: Three public comments were received. Two comments from representatives of Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company and F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company provided support for the project. One comment from Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) suggested project-related wildlife mitigations.

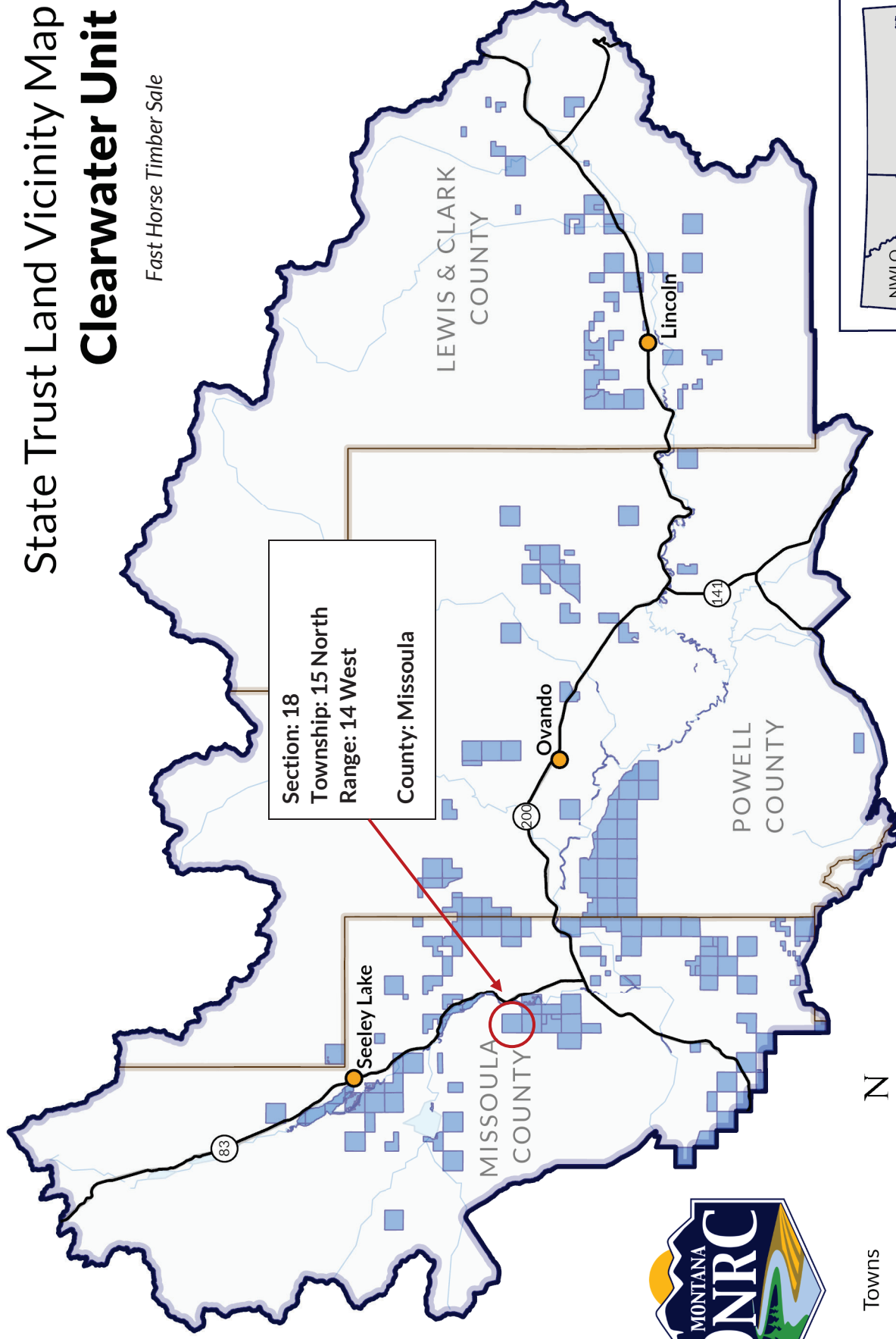
DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends that the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Fast Horse Timber Sale.

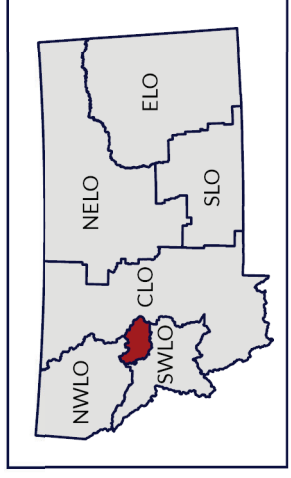
State Trust Land and Vicinity Map

Clearwater Unit

Fast Horse Timber Sale



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



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



**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-2C Timber Sale: Klinger Blowdown

Location: Lincoln County

Trust Beneficiaries: Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$32,439 (estimated, required minimum)

Item Summary:

Location: The Klinger Blowdown Timber Sale is located approximately 9 miles south of Libby, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 5 harvest units (*318 acres*) of salvage logging. Two of the harvest units at 122 acres total are optional for harvest.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 4,431 tons (*852 MBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$14.84 per ton for non-Ponderosa Pine sawlogs and \$2.00 per ton for Ponderosa Pine sawlogs, which would generate approximately \$32,439 for the Common Schools Trust and approximately \$14,613 in forest improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize salvage harvest prescriptions designed to improve forest health, reduce hazardous fuels and salvage blown down timber that would otherwise be lost due to decay.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 6.8 miles of road maintenance.

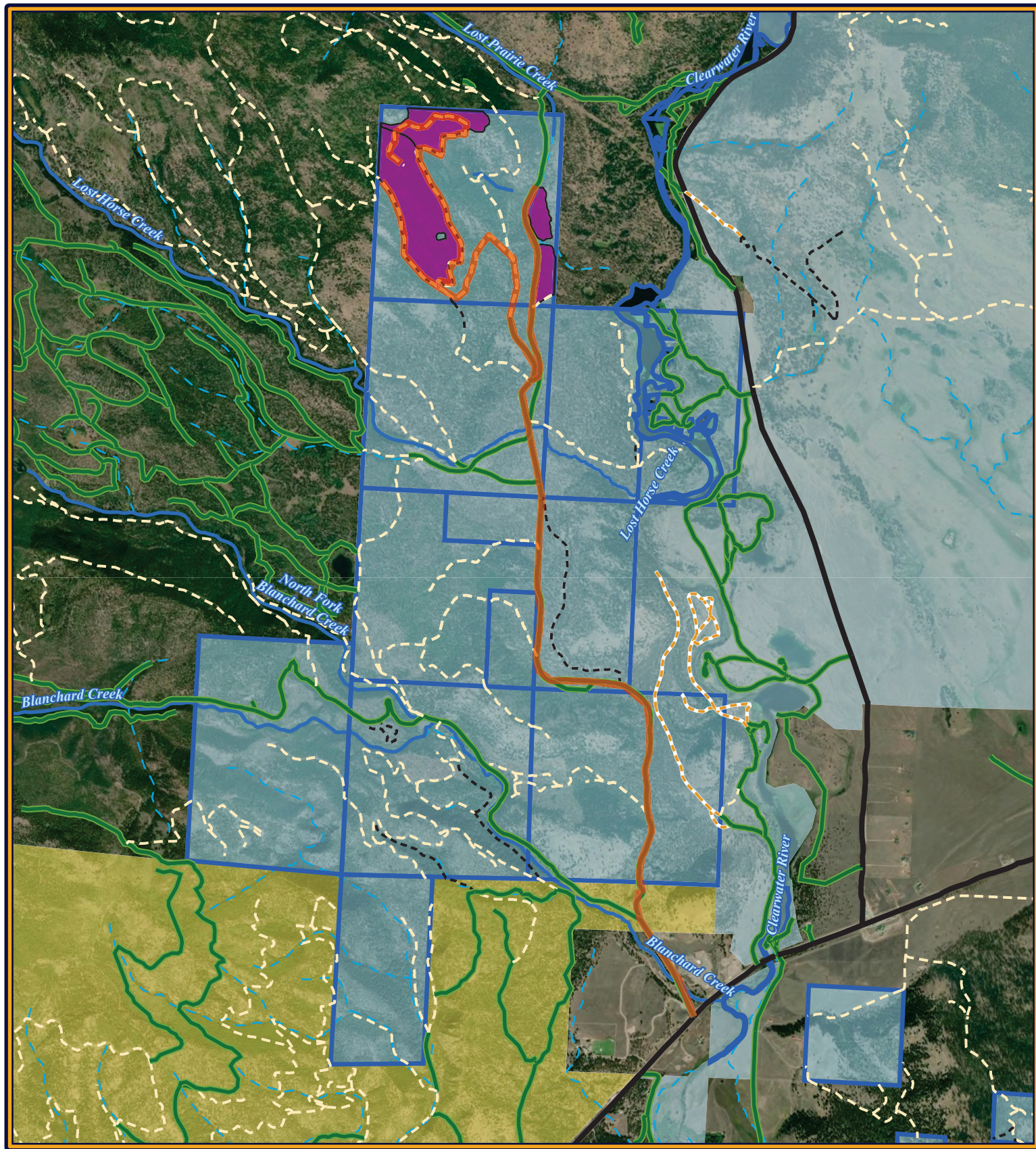
Access: Access is obtained through easements with private industry and the United States Forest Service.

Public Comments: No public comments were received.

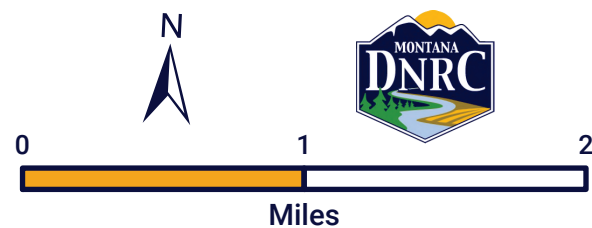
DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends that the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Klinger Blowdown Timber Sale.

Fast Horse Timber Sale Haul Route and Harvest Units



- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Haul Route | Abandoned or Reclaimed | State of Montana Misc |
| Highway | Perennial Stream | Montana State Trust Lands |
| Open/Public Roads | Intermittent Stream | Local Government |
| Restricted Class A | State Trust Land Tracts | Harvest Units |
| Restricted Class B | Bureau of Land Management | Harvest Units |



State Trust Land Vicinity Map

Libby Unit

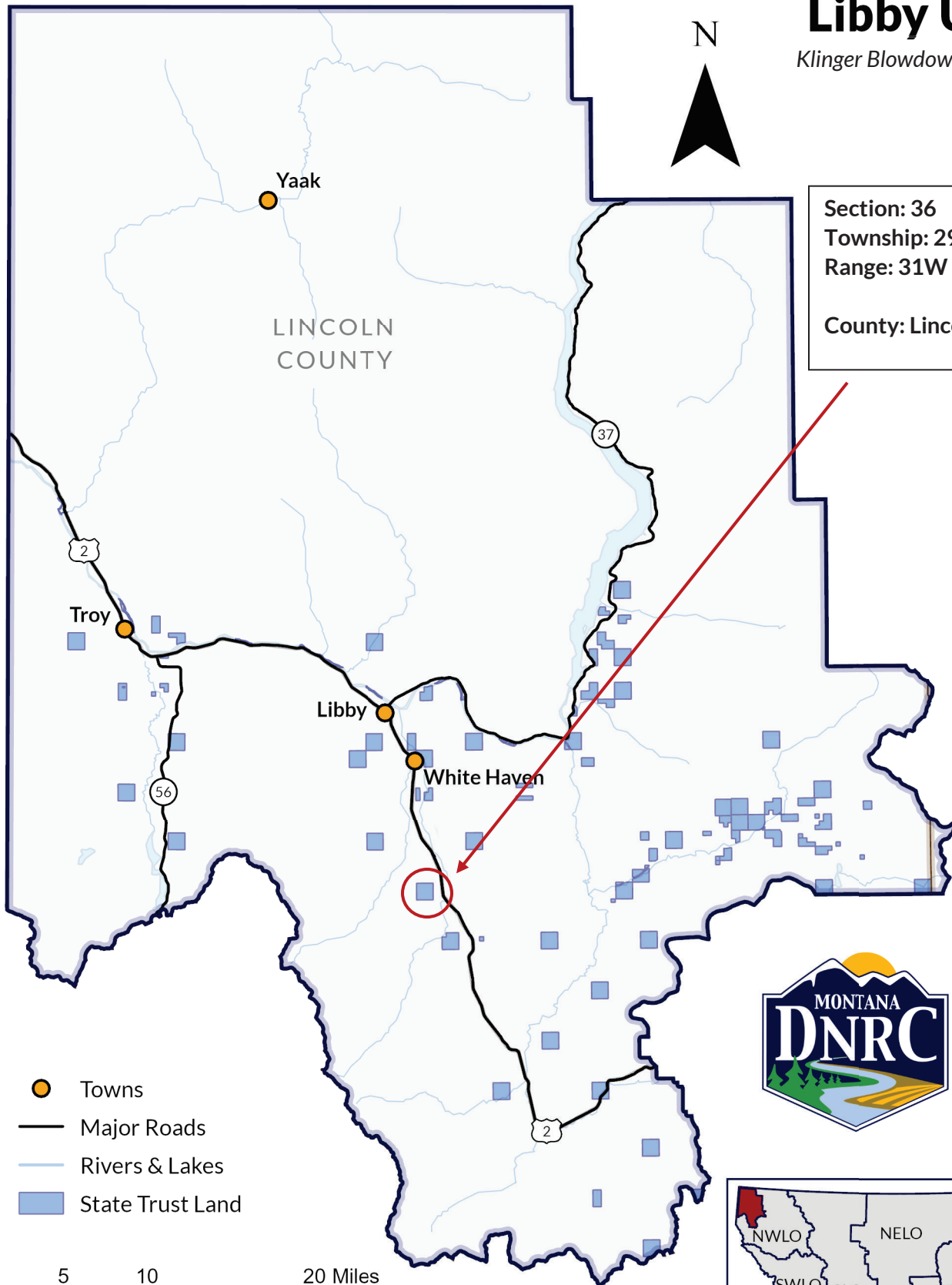
Klinger Blowdown Timber Sale

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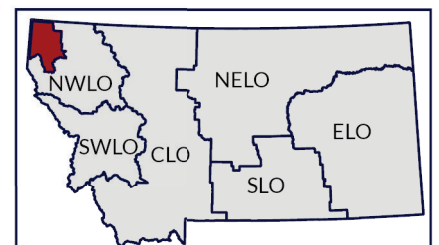


Section: 36
Township: 29N
Range: 31W

County: Lincoln



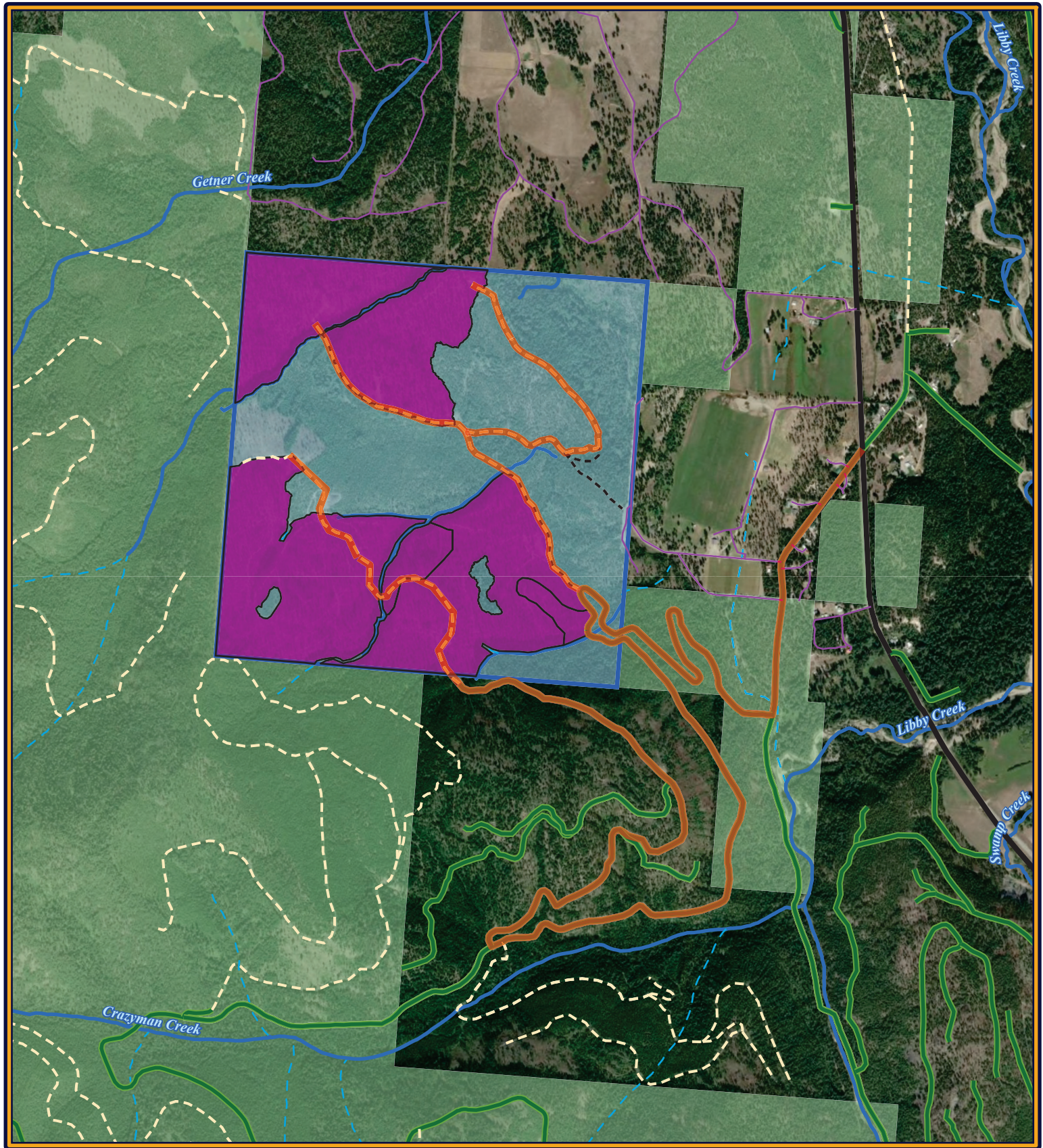
- Towns
- Major Roads
- Rivers & Lakes
- State Trust Land



0 5 10 20 Miles

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NAD 1983 State Plane

Klinger Blowdown Timber Sale Haul Route and Harvest Units



- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Haul Route | Abandoned or Reclaimed | State Trust Land Tracts |
| Highway | Pvt Access or Admin Site | US Forest Service |
| Open/Public Roads | Perennial Stream | Montana State Trust Lands |
| Restricted Class A | Intermittent Stream | Harvest Units |



**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-2D Timber Sale: Section 36

Location: Lake County

Trust Beneficiaries: Common Schools

Trust Revenue: \$135,553 (estimated, required minimum)

Item Summary:

Location: The Section 36 Timber Sale is located approximately 15 miles southeast of Swan Lake, Montana.

Size and Scope: The sale includes 10 harvest units (*675 acres*) of ground and cable-based logging. One harvest of 108 acres is optional for harvest.

Volume: The estimated harvest volume is 33,006 tons (*5.4 MMBF*) of sawlogs.

Estimated Return: The minimum bid is \$5.00 per ton, which would generate approximately \$135,553 for the Common Schools Trust and approximately \$115,734 in forest improvement fees.

Prescription: This sale would utilize commercial thinning, individual tree selection, shelterwood and seed tree harvest prescriptions designed to move the stands towards the desired future conditions, reduce insect and disease issues and to promote forest health.

Road Construction/Maintenance: The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is proposing 3.6 miles of road construction and 14.9 miles of road maintenance.

Access: Access is obtained through state-owned roads.

Public Comments: This timber sale is covered under the Squeezer Meadow Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Twenty public comments were received during the scoping of the Squeezer Meadow EIS and an additional five individuals indicated that they had no comments but would like to stay informed during project development. Nine comments provided general support for the project, six comments were neutral, and five comments were opposed to the project. Commenters expressed concern about wildlife, silviculture, hydrology and soils, roads and traffic, fisheries, climate change, visual aesthetics, air quality, cultural resources, and economics. All public comments and concerns were considered and addressed in the Squeezer Meadow Final EIS.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends that the Land Board direct DNRC to sell the Section 36 Timber Sale.

State Trust Land Vicinity Map

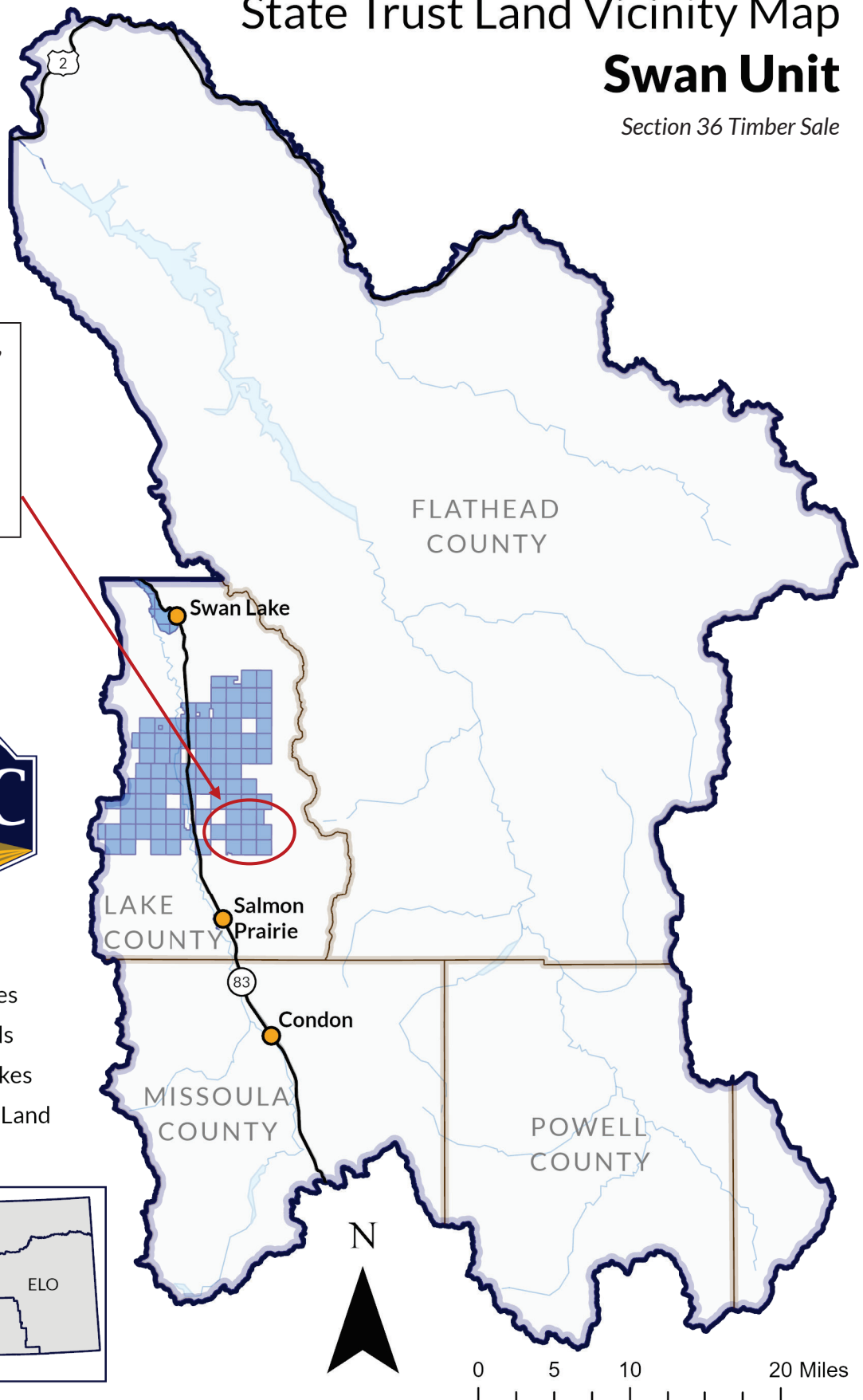
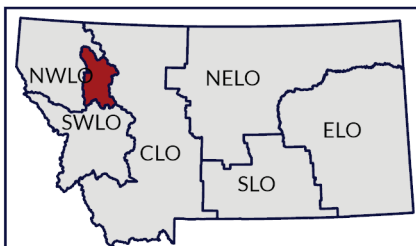
Swan Unit

Section 36 Timber Sale

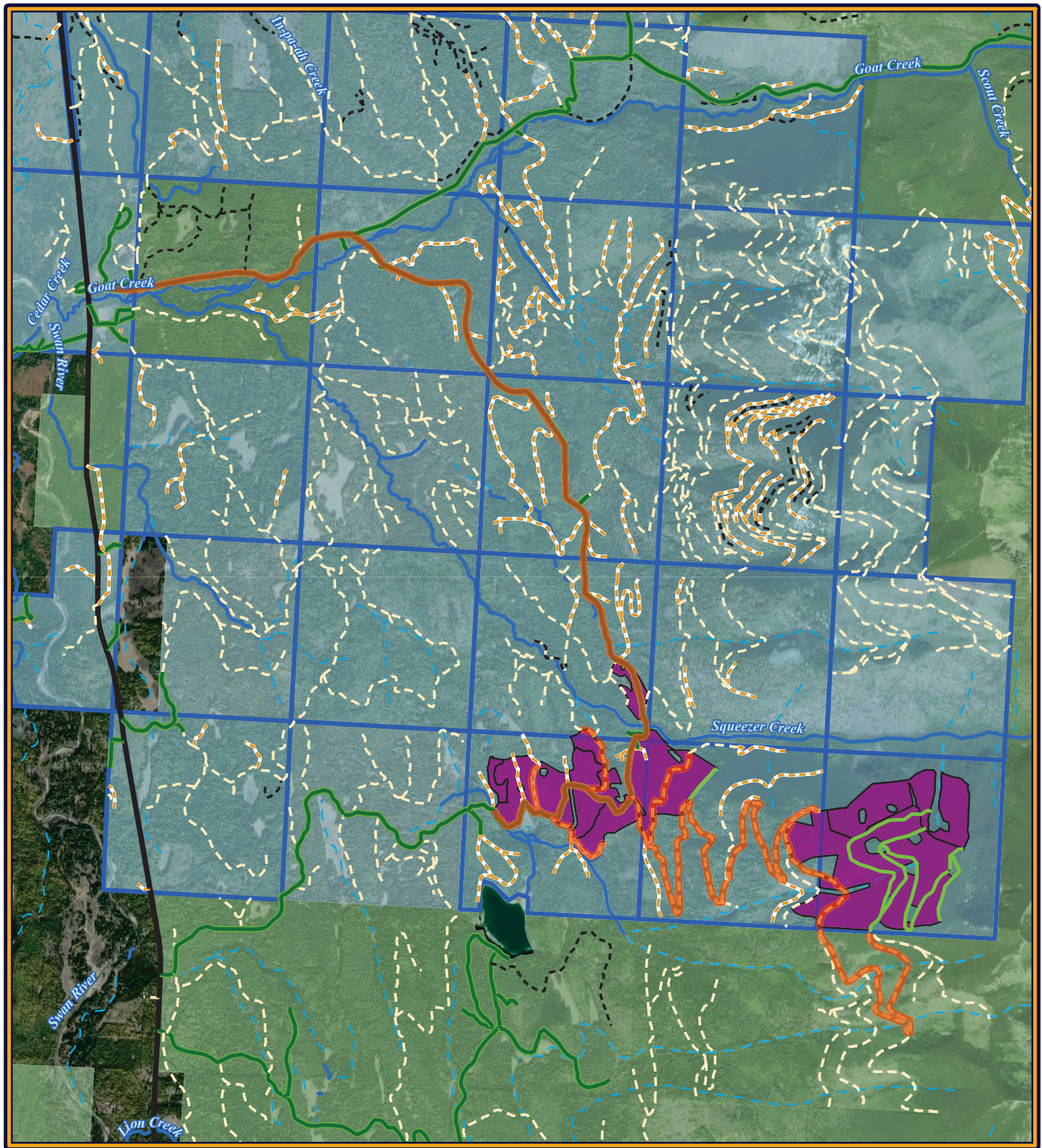
Section: 26, 27, 34,
35, and 36
Township: 23N
Range: 17W
County: Lake



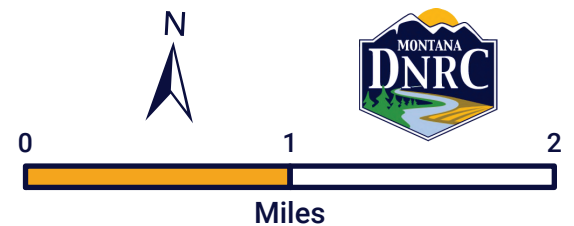
- Towns
- County Lines
- Major Roads
- Rivers & Lakes
- State Trust Land



Section 36 Timber Sale Haul Route and Harvest Units



Haul Route	Restricted Class B	US Forest Service
New Road	Abandoned or Reclaimed	State of Montana Misc
Highway	Perennial Stream	Montana State Trust Lands
Open/Public Roads	Intermittent Stream	Harvest Units
Restricted Class A	State Trust Land Tracts	Harvest Units



0826-3

Easements

**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-3 Easements

**Location: Beaverhead, Broadwater, Daniels, Fallon, Fergus, Flathead,
Judith Basin, Lewis & Clark, Toole, Valley, and Wheatland Counties**

**Trust Beneficiaries: Common Schools, MSU 2nd Grant, and Public
Land Trust**

**Trust Revenue: Common Schools \$28,011, MSU 2nd Grant \$179, and
Public Land Trust \$33,052**

Item Table of Contents

Applicant	Right-of-Way Purpose	Term	Page(s)
NorthWestern Energy	Natural Gas Pipeline	30-Year	TBD
Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley	Private Access Road	Permanent	TBD
Big Rose Colony, Inc.	Private Access Road	Permanent	TBD
Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative	Fiber Optic Cable	Permanent	TBD
Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.	Fiber Optic Cable	Permanent	TBD
Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC	Fiber Optic Cable	Permanent	TBD
Nicole M. Tomlinson	Private Access Road	Permanent	TBD
Lyons Creek Ranch, LLC	Private Access Road	Permanent	TBD
City of Scobey	Water and Sewer Pipelines	Permanent	TBD

APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	NorthWestern Energy 1903 S. Russell Street Missoula, MT 59801
Application No.:	19900
R/W Purpose:	a buried 8-inch natural gas pipeline
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Navigable River)
Acreage:	1.01
Compensation:	\$24,439.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip under the Flathead River in Gov. Lots 1 & 3 in Sec. 2 and Gov. Lots 3 & 4 in Sec. 11, Twp. 30N, Rge. 20W, Flathead County.
Trust Beneficiary:	Public Land Trust

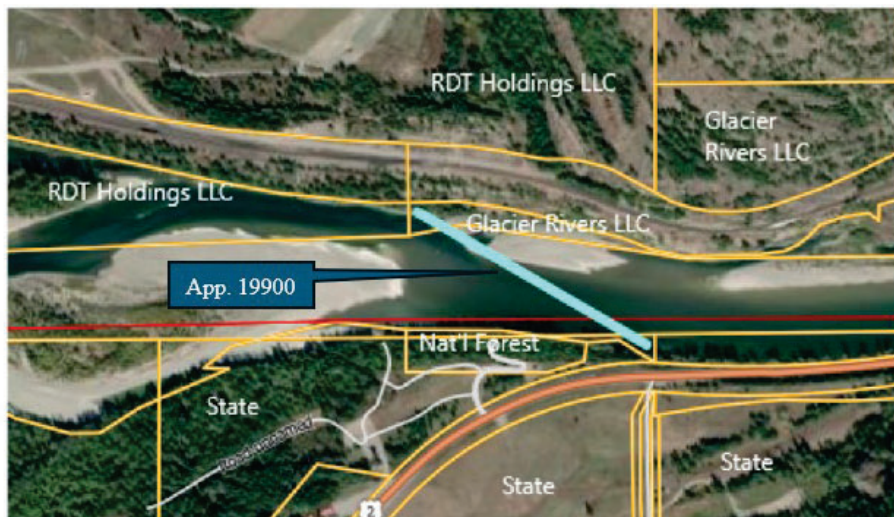
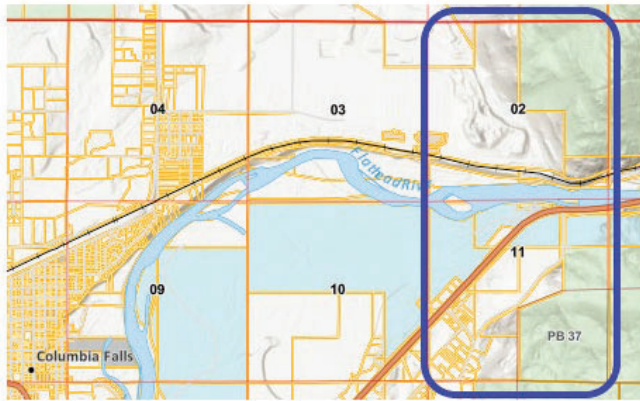
Item Summary:

NorthWestern Energy is requesting an easement to install a buried 8-inch natural gas pipeline beneath the bed of the Flathead River. This pipeline is a part of a project by NorthWestern Energy to reroute and update infrastructure within the Whitefish and Columbia Falls service area. Consistent with direction for natural gas and crude oil pipelines, a 30-year term would be imposed.

DNRC Recommendation:

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

Application #19900



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley PO Box 371 Dillon, MT 59725
Application No.:	19967
R/W Purpose:	a private access road to a single-family residence and associated outbuildings and to conduct normal farming and ranching operations.
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Historic)
Acreage:	0.29
Compensation:	\$319.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip through SE4SE4, Sec. 29, Twp. 14S, Rge. 7W, Beaverhead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Commons Schools

Item Summary:

Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley are requesting a historic easement for a private access road for the purpose of accessing a single family residence and to conduct farming and ranching operations. The access road passes through private lands before it both enters and leaves state land, as well as passing through Forest Service lands. The private property accessed is an in-holding within the Forest Service block. An easement has been granted by the private landowner and the Forest Service is agreeable to granting an easement if the Land Board approves the grant of an easement through state land. This application is made pursuant to amendments of §77-2-101, MCA for recognition of historic uses across state trust land.

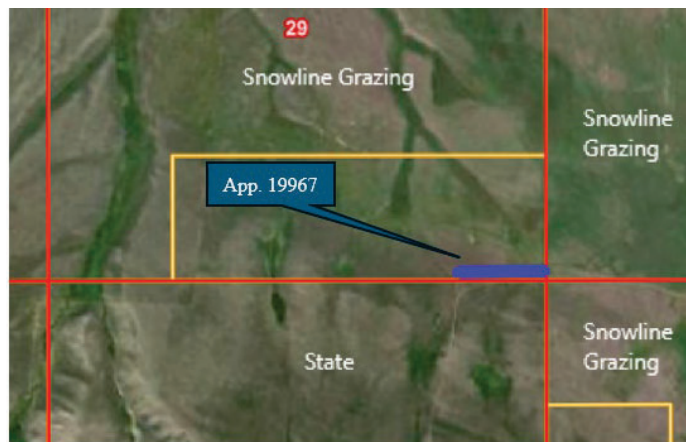
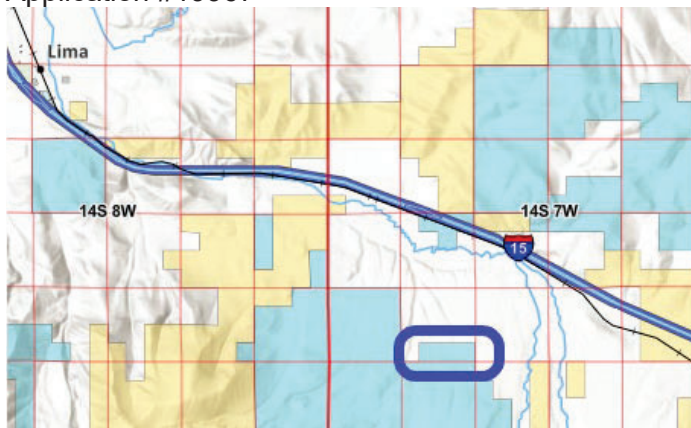
Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley's private land to be accessed is described as follows:

- SW4NE4, NE4SW4, Section 12, Township 15 South, Range 8 West

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley.

Application #19967



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley PO Box 371 Dillon, MT 59725
Application No.:	19968
R/W Purpose:	a private access road to a single-family residence and associated outbuildings
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Historic)
Acreage:	4.11
Compensation:	\$4,521.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip through E2NE4, NE4SE4, W2SE4, Sec. 32, Twp. 14S, Rge. 7W, Beaverhead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

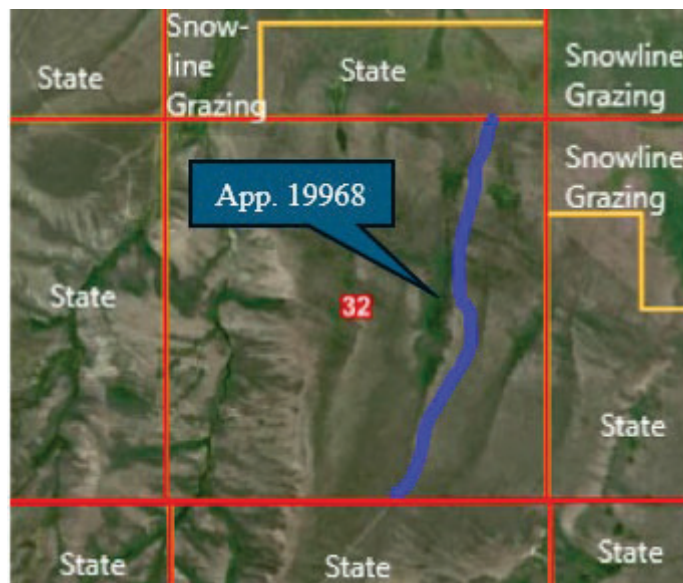
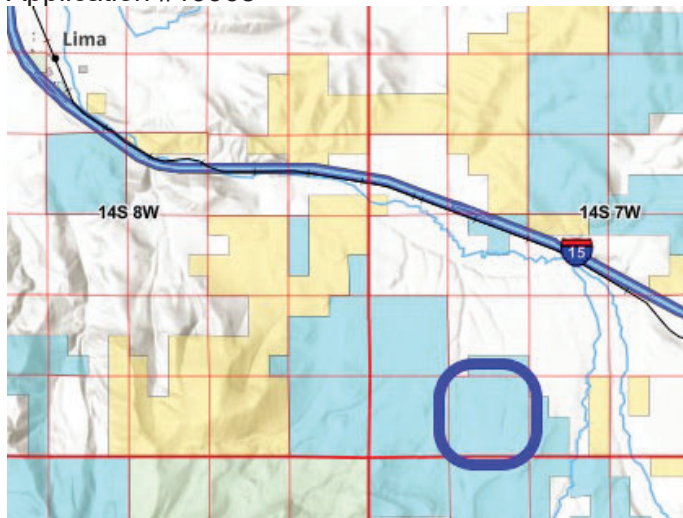
Item Summary:

Continuation of Robinson & Hartley private access applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley.

Application #19968



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley PO Box 371 Dillon, MT 59725
Application No.:	19969
R/W Purpose:	a private access road to a single-family residence and associated outbuildings and to conduct normal farming and ranching operations.
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Historic)
Acreage:	3.60
Compensation:	\$3,960.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip through Gov. Lots 2 & 3, SE4NW4, N2SW4, SW4SW4, Sec. 5, Twp. 15S, Rge. 7W, Beaverhead County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

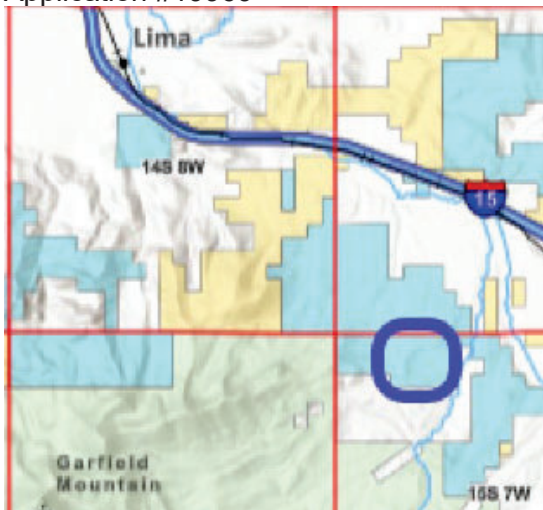
Item Summary:

Continuation of Robinson and Hartley historic private access applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Vicki Robinson and Joe Hartley.

Application #19969



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Big Rose Colony, Inc. PO Box 905 Shelby, MT 59474
Application No.:	19970
R/W Purpose:	a private access road to conduct normal farming and ranching operations
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (historic)
Acreage:	2.42
Compensation:	\$1,210.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through S2S2, Sec. 36, Twp. 34N, Rge. 1W, Toole County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

Item Summary:

Big Rose Colony, Inc. is requesting a historic easement for a private access road for the purpose of conducting normal farming and ranching operations. An easement has been secured from an intervening private landowner adjacent to the state land. This application is made pursuant to amendments of §77-2-101, MCA for recognition of historic uses across state trust land.

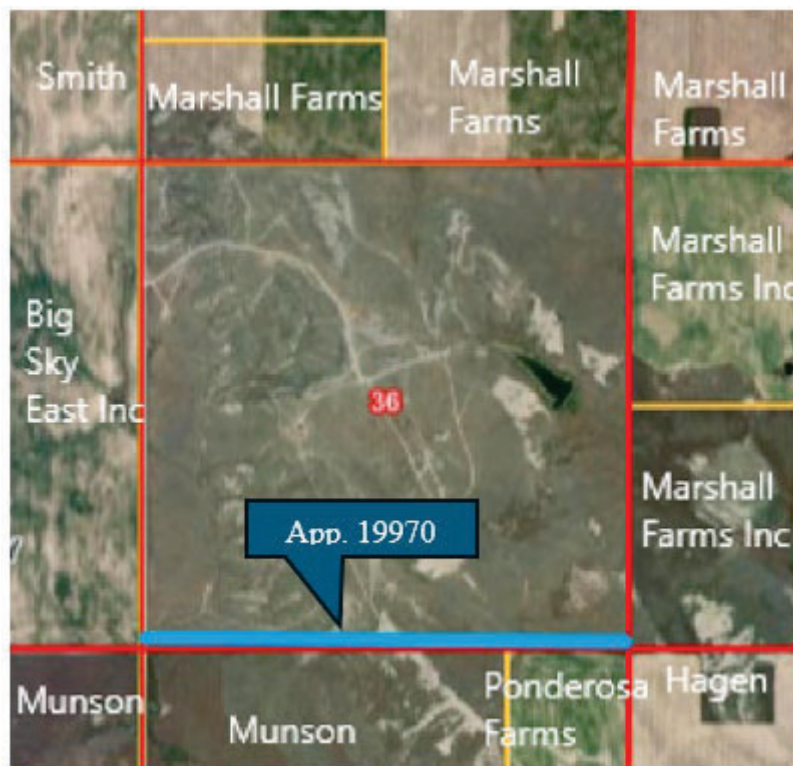
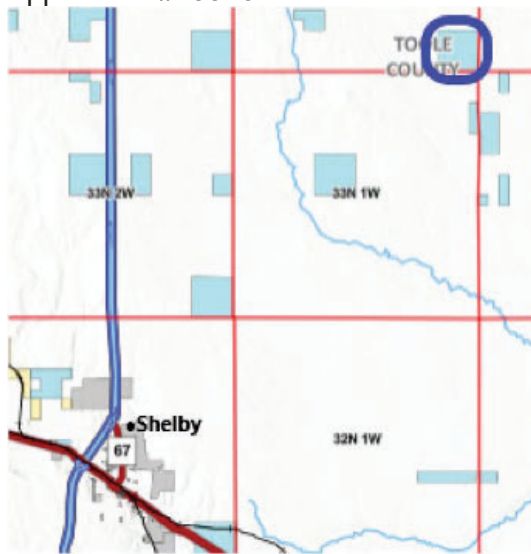
Big Rose Colony, Inc. private land to be accessed is described as follows:

- E2, Section 32, Township 34 North, Range 1 East
- N2, Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 1 East

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Big Rose Colony, Inc.

Application #19970



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative PO Box 280 Circle, MT 59215
Application No.:	19971
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.03
Compensation:	\$100.00
Legal Description:	16-foot strip through NE4NE4, Sec. 24, Twp. 8N, Rge. 56E, Fallon County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

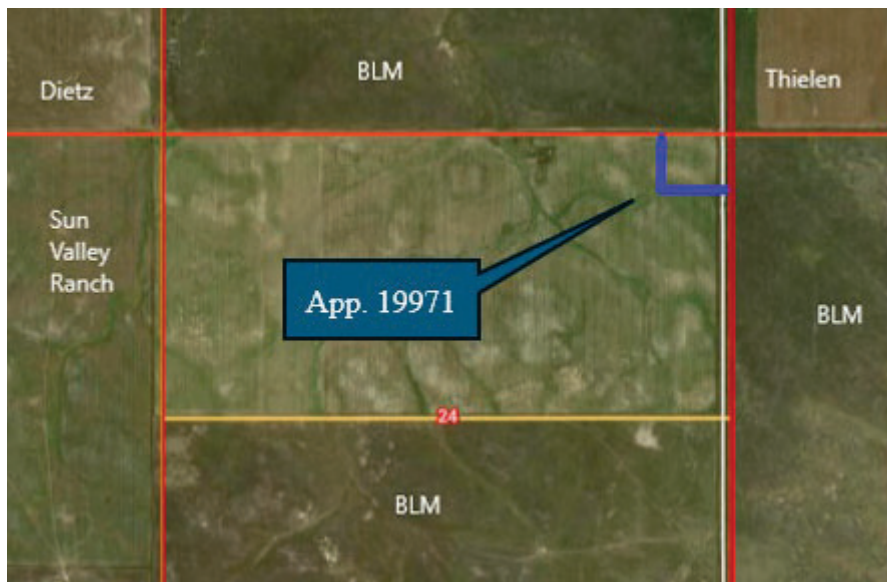
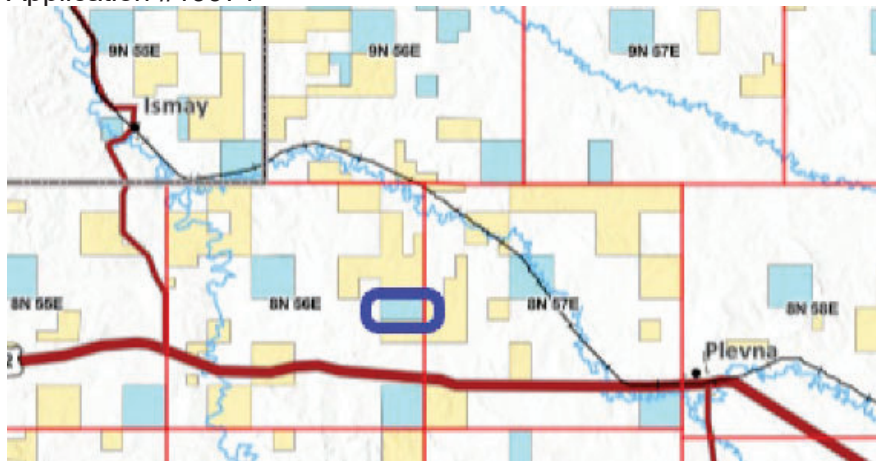
Item Summary:

Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative is requesting an easement to install a buried fiber optic telecommunications cable. The line will provide reliable telephone and broadband services to homes and businesses in Fallon County. The proposed route was chosen in order to follow the existing roadway, Westmore Road. Other routes were considered and eliminated for topographical, environmental, and economic reasons.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative.

Application #19971



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. PO Box 1220 Havre, MT 59501
Application No.:	19972
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.59
Compensation:	\$442.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through NW4NW4, Sec. 16, Twp. 20N, Rge. 17E, Fergus County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

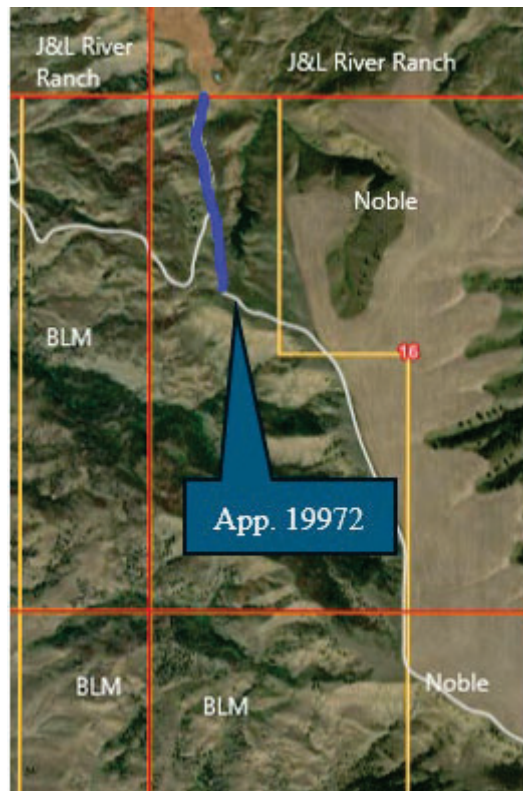
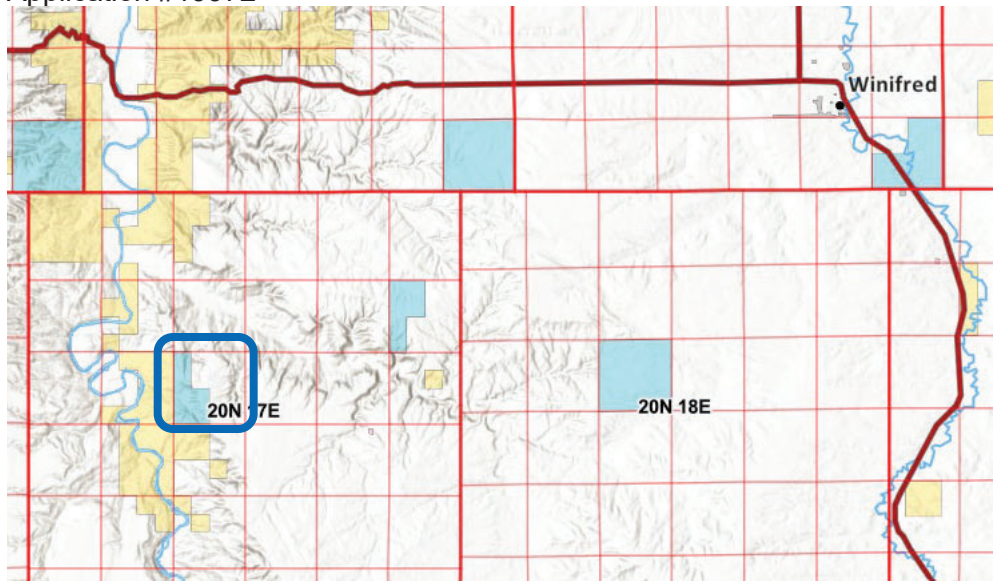
Item Summary:

Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. is requesting an easement to install a buried fiber optic telecommunications cable. The line will provide reliable telephone and broadband services to homes and businesses in Fergus County. The proposed route was chosen in order to follow the existing roadway. Other routes were considered and eliminated for topographical, environmental, and economic reasons.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

Application #19972



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. PO Box 1220 Havre, MT 59501
Application No.:	19973
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.61
Compensation:	\$1,525.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through N2NW4, Sec. 36, Twp. 11N, Rge. 18E, Wheatland County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

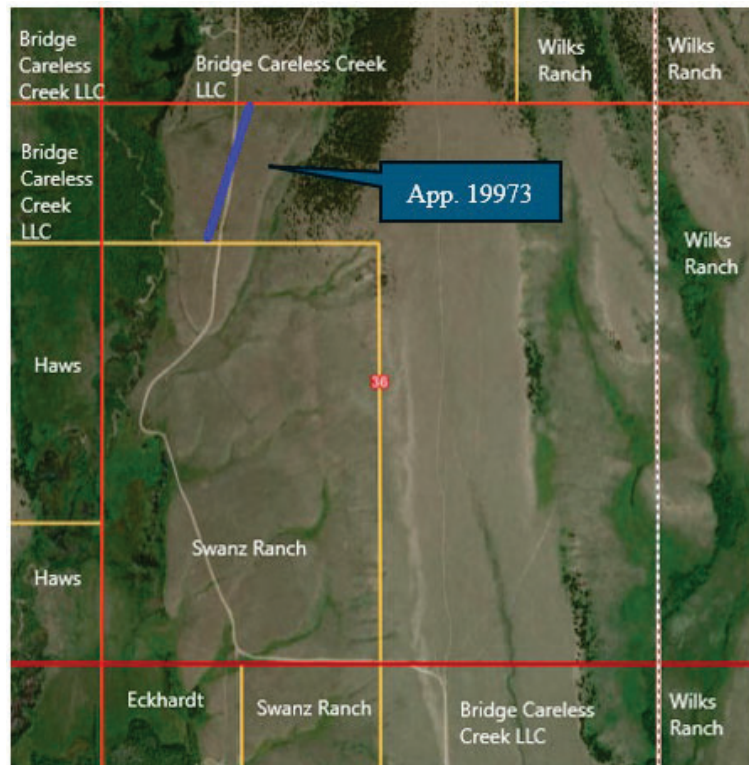
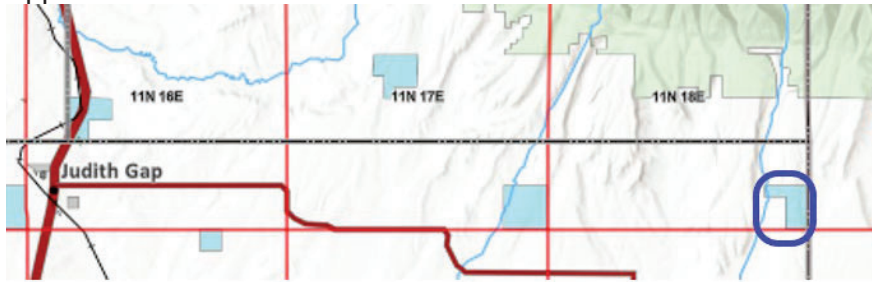
Item Summary:

Continuation of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

Application #19973



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. PO Box 1220 Havre, MT 59501
Application No.:	19974
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	3.02
Compensation:	\$4,530.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through W2W2, NE4NW4, Sec. 36, Twp. 18N, Rge. 11E, Judith Basin County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

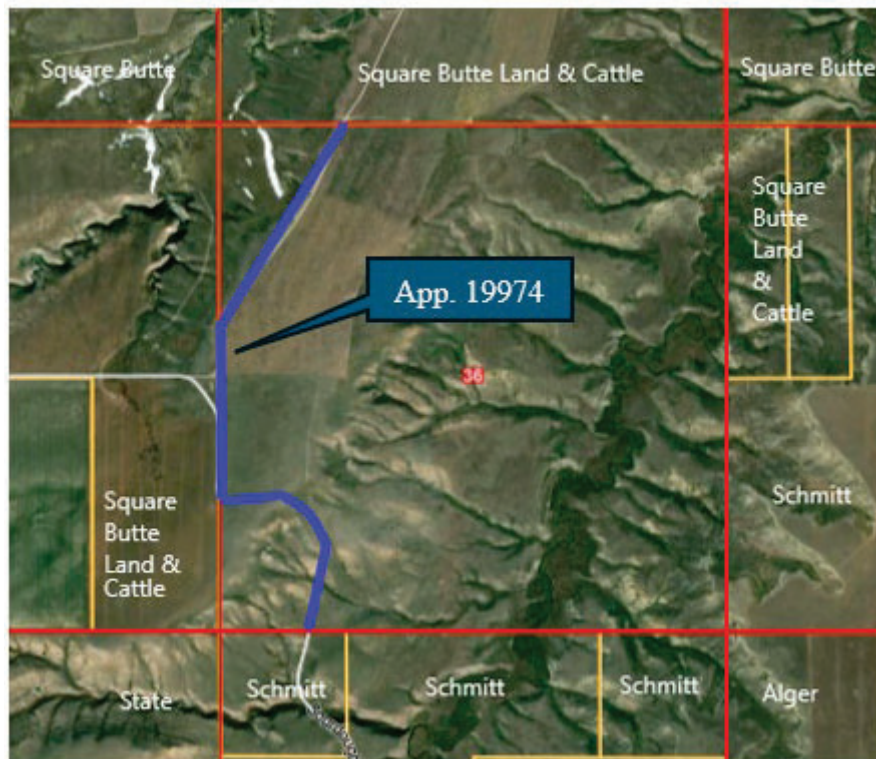
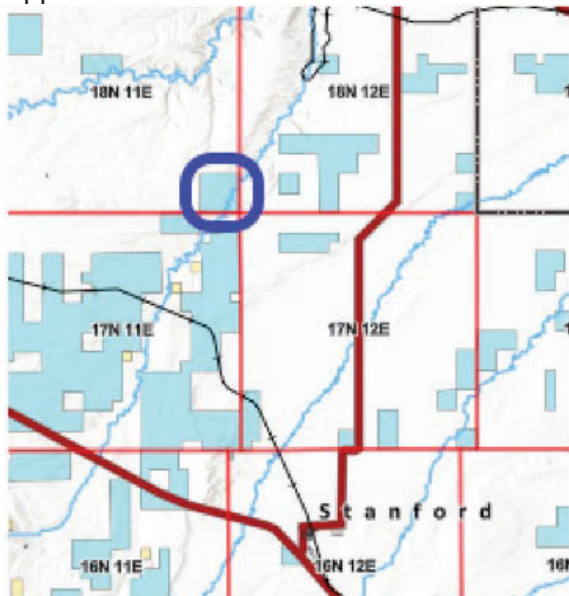
Item Summary:

Continuation of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

Application #19974



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. PO Box 1220 Havre, MT 59501
Application No.:	19975
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	2.24
Compensation:	\$5,600.00
Legal Description:	20-foot strip through N2NE4, SW4N4, SE4NW4, NE4SW4, Sec. 16, Twp. 11N, Rge. 17E, Fergus County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

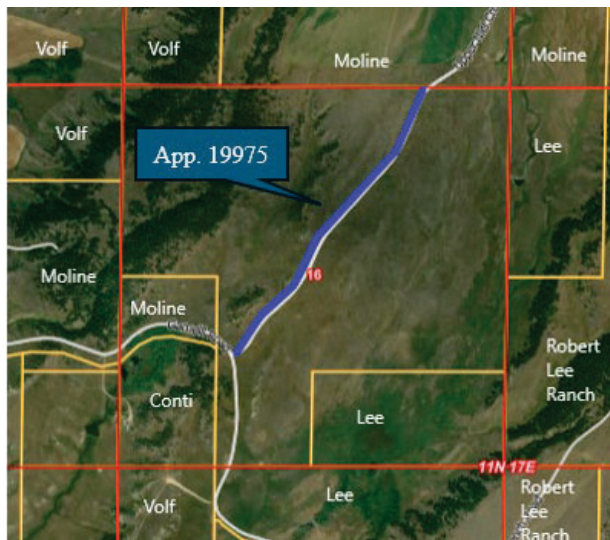
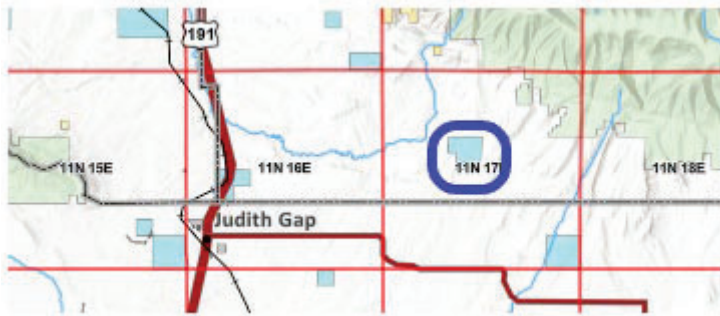
Item Summary:

Continuation of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

Application #19975



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC 454 Moore Lane Suite 5 Billings, MT 59101
Application No.:	19976
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.92
Compensation:	\$1,104.00
Legal Description:	15-foot strip through N2NW4, Sec. 16, Twp. 2N, Rge. 1E, Broadwater County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

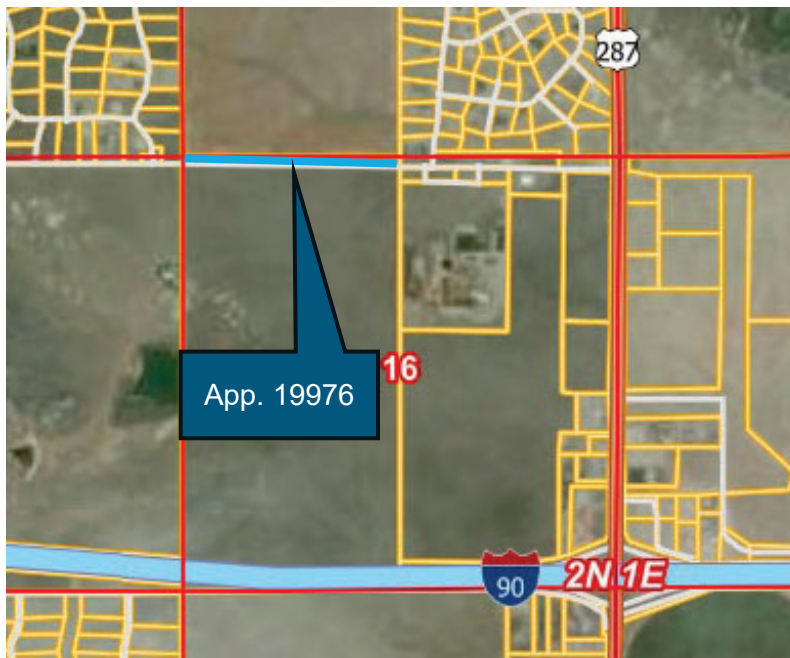
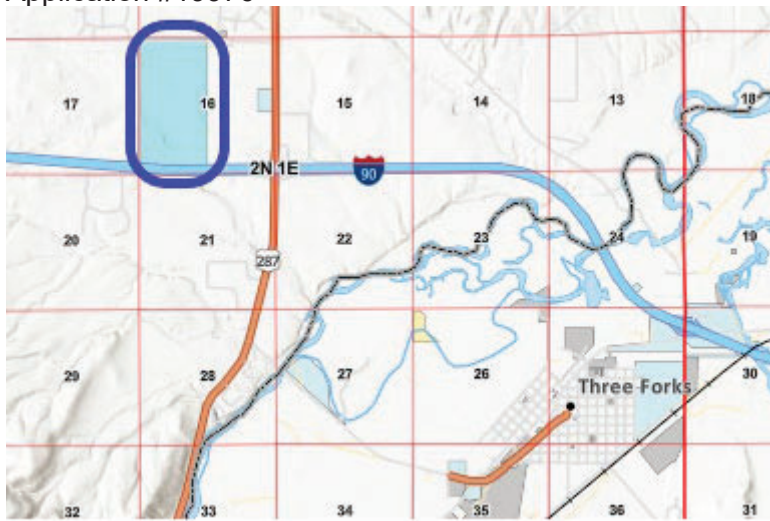
Item Summary:

Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC is requesting an easement to install a buried fiber optic telecommunications cable. The line will provide reliable telephone and broadband services to homes and businesses in Three Forks and the surrounding areas. The proposed route was chosen in order to follow the existing roadway. Other routes were considered and eliminated for topographical, environmental, and economic reasons.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC.

Application #19976



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC 454 Moore Lane Suite 5 Billings, MT 59101
Application No.:	19977
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Navigable River)
Acreage:	0.68
Compensation:	\$6,337.00
Legal Description:	two 15-foot strips across the Jefferson River in SW4NE4 and NE4SE4, Sec. 24, Twp. 2N, Rge. 1E, Broadwater County
Trust Beneficiary:	Public Land Trust

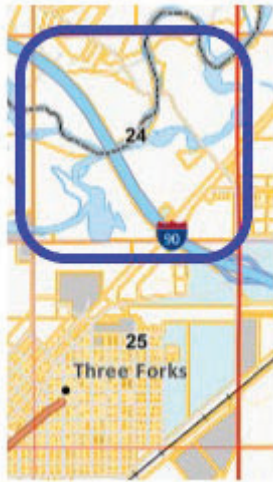
Item Summary:

Continuation of Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC.

Application #19977



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC 454 Moore Lane Suite 5 Billings, MT 59101
Application No.:	19978
R/W Purpose:	a buried fiber optic cable
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Navigable River)
Acreage:	0.09
Compensation:	\$2,276.00
Legal Description:	15-foot strip across the Jefferson River in SW4NW4, Sec. 27, Twp. 2N, Rge. 1E, Broadwater County
Trust Beneficiary:	Public Land Trust

Item Summary:

Continuation of Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC applications.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Gallatin Wireless Internet, LLC.

Application #19978



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Nicole M. Tomlinson 3450 Gladstone Creek Road Wolf Creek, MT 59648
Application No.:	19979
R/W Purpose:	a private access road to a single-family residence and associated outbuildings and to conduct normal resource management activities
Lessee Agreement:	N/A (Unleased)
Acreage:	0.179
Compensation:	\$179.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip through NE4NE4, Sec. 34, Twp. 15N, Rge. 5W, Lewis and Clark County
Trust Beneficiary:	MSU 2 nd

Item Summary:

Nicole M. Tomlinson is requesting an easement for a private access road for the purpose of accessing a single family residence and for resource management activities. This private driveway spur road was constructed off of the main traveled way by the previous private landowner without authorization due to threatening behavior by the adjacent landowner, over whose property legal access is provided. A dispute over this access was litigated approximately 20 years ago, resulting in a reciprocal access settlement agreement between the original owner of the Tomlinson parcel and the adjacent landowner. Despite the court action, the adjacent landowner refused to provide access and has obstructed the roadway on his private land, destroying the road bed in some locations. As a result, there is a safety concern for Tomlinson and her invitees and guests. The DNRC has analyzed the impact of the small driveway to management of the adjacent state trust land and concluded there will no negative impact to future activities. The driveway will need to be slightly upgraded and Tomlinson will be required to follow road construction and BMP requirements.

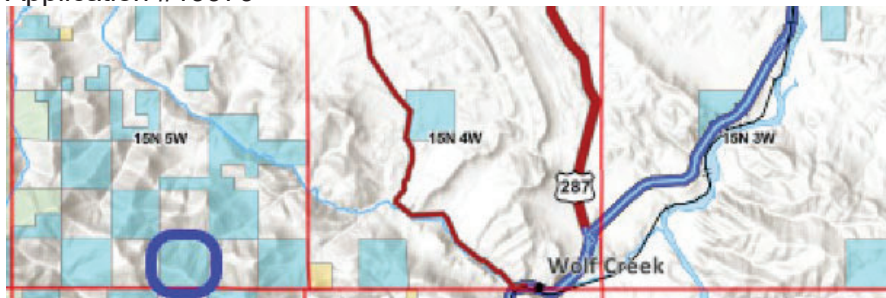
The Tomlinson private land to be accessed is described as follows:

- E2E2NE4 Sec. 27, Township 15 North, Range 5 West

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Nicole M. Tomlinson.

Application #19979



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	Lyons Creek Ranch, LLC PO Box 1799 Bozeman, MT 59771
Application No.:	19980
R/W Purpose:	a private access road to conduct normal farming and ranching operations and conduct resource management activities
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	1.5
Compensation:	\$1,500.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip through S2SE4, Sec. 16, Twp. 14N, Rge. 5W, Lewis and Clark County
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

Item Summary:

Lyons Creek Ranch, LLC is requesting an easement to access their property to perform livestock and agriculture management activities. This application will reconstruct and relocate an existing road that is impacting Lyons Creek. Stipulations on reconstruction will include adhering to road construction guidelines provided by DNRC to meet BMPs.

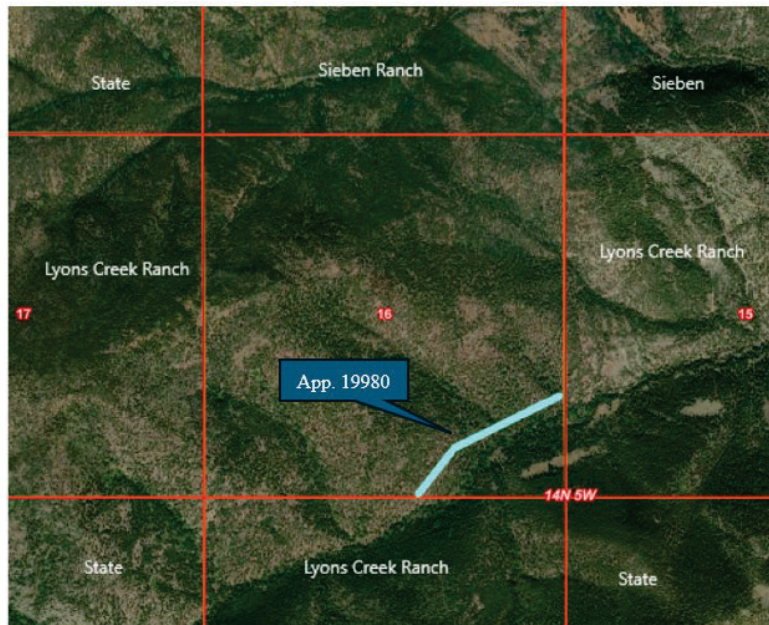
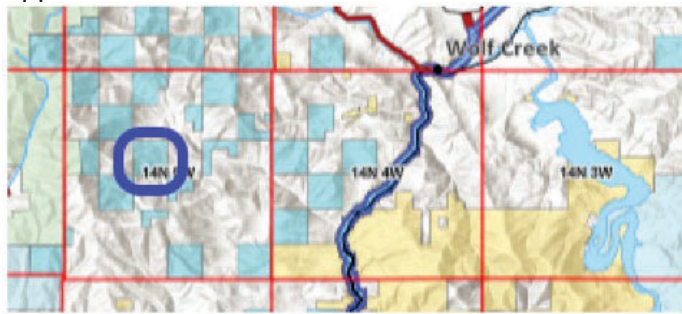
Lyons Creek Ranch lands to be accessed are described as follows:

- All, Section 17, Township 14 North, Range 5 West
- All, Section 21, Township 14 North, Range 5 West.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of Lyons Creek Ranch, LLC.

Application #19980



APPLICANTS AND RIGHTS OF WAY INFORMATION

Applicant:	City of Scobey PO Box 68 Scobey, MT 59263
Application No.:	19981
R/W Purpose:	an 8-inch buried water pipeline and 8" sanitary sewer pipeline
Lessee Agreement:	ok
Acreage:	0.48
Compensation:	\$3,200.00
Legal Description:	30-foot strip through NE4NE4 in Sec. 16, Twp. 35N, Rge. 48E in Daniels County.
Trust Beneficiary:	Common Schools

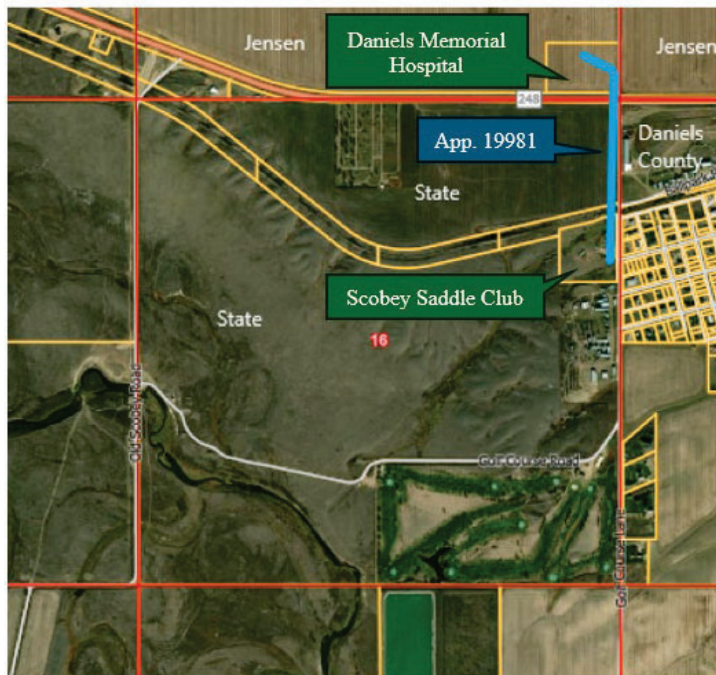
Item Summary:

City of Scobey is requesting an easement to place both a water pipeline and sewer pipeline within an existing road corridor through a portion of state trust land. This city infrastructure is needed to provide service to the new Daniels Memorial Hospital that is being constructed just north of state trust land in Scobey. The proposed pipeline corridors are the most direct route to tie in to from existing city utilities. While other alternatives were considered the cost would be prohibitive and would result in increased maintenance costs in the future. Additionally, given the topography the proposed route is the most feasible for the gravity wastewater collection system for the hospital.

DNRC Recommendation:

The DNRC recommends approval of the application of City of Scobey.

Application #19981



0826-4

Settlement Agreement: State of Montana
v. Talen Montana, LLC

**Land Board Agenda Item
August 17, 2026**

0826-4 Settlement Agreement: State of Montana v. Talen Montana, LLC (Executive Session)

Location: Cascade County

Trust Beneficiaries: Public Land Trust - Navigable Rivers

Trust Revenue: \$4,000,000

Item Summary:

At the April 20, 2026, Land Board meeting, Commissioner Brown made a motion and the Board approved authorizing the Attorney General's Office and his designees to participate in the court approved mediation in *State of Montana v. Talen Montana, LLC, et. al.*, (6:16-CV-00035-DLC, United States District Court for Montana, with full authority on behalf of the State Board of Land Commissioners to negotiate the terms of settlement of any past due rentals owed by Talen Montana, LLC.

On April 27, 2026, the State of Montana and Talen Montana, LLC, participated in mediation which resulted in a proposed settlement of all claims between the State of Montana and Talen Montana, LLC in Cause No. 6:16-CV-0035-DLC and Montana's Bankruptcy claim against Talen pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas under Case Number 22-90054. The State of Montana and Talen Montana, LLC, agreed to an "allowed claim" of \$4,000,000.00 to be distributed by the Talen GUC Trust to the State of Montana pursuant to the Confirmation Order of the Bankruptcy Court.

The proposed settlement between the State of Montana and Talen Montana, LLC., does not apply to or resolve the State of Montana's claims for past and future rental against Northwestern Corporation (d/b/a NorthWestern Energy).

Attorney General's Office Recommendation:

The Attorney General's Office recommends that the Land Board approve the settlement agreement between the State of Montana and Talen Montana, LLC.