

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION



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To Prospective Timber Sale Bidders:

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Good Neighbor Authority Program (DNRC-GNA), in collaboration with the BLM- Missoula Field Office, plans to advertise the Anderson Hill Fire Salvage Timber Sale with an estimated 1.5 million board feet of sawlog volume in late June/early July. We want to provide as much information as possible now so that bidders may plan accordingly. We will be asking the successful bidder to begin harvest operations immediately upon award. Environmental analysis is currently underway and a completed, signed decision document is expected mid-June. No advertisement or award will be executed prior to completion of all necessary NEPA provisions and are supplied to the DNRC in a signed decision document.

General Description:

The Anderson Hill Fire started on July 15, 2021 and burned a total of 750 acres. Anderson Hill is located approx. one mile east of Garnet Ghost Town in Granite County. The fire footprint covers multiple private mining claims and BLM managed property. Under the Good Neighbor Authority, the DNRC will facilitate timber salvage operations under a 250 acre Categorical Exclusion decision from the BLM. Approximately ½ mile of temporary road construction is necessary to facilitate harvest operations. Full re-contour/decommissioning of temporary roads will be required.

Timber Sale Specifics:

Acres:
249

Volume:
9,379 tons of Douglas-Fir Sawlogs, 985 tons of Lodgepole pine with lesser amounts of spruce and sub-alpine fir. Approximately 70 acres of the sale has a significant Lodgepole pine component with post and rail material available. This volume is not estimated.

Topography:
All units are under 35% slope with the vast majority of the sale under 20%. Suitable for ground-based equipment.

Harvest Systems:
Whole-tree or cut-to-length systems are ok.

Haul Routes:

Two haul routes are approved under the decision. The purchaser may use the Garnet Range Road to haul out to MT HWY 200 or the Cave Gulch Road-Bear Gulch Road to haul out to Interstate 90. The purchaser will be required to perform maintenance only on the haul route used.

Contract Length:

Harvest operations must be completed by November 15, 2023 and post-sale activities must be completed by November 15, 2024.

Special Provisions:

Archaeological features exist throughout the sale area. In June of 2022, specialists with the BLM will locate any areas within the sale area which require special protection. Harvest may occur in these areas but equipment will not be allowed across the boundaries and trees may not be laid or skidded across exclusion area. Also, non-merchantable fire killed trees greater than 3" in diameter will be felled and placed perpendicular to the slope to aid in soil erosion control and future nutrient cycling.

The GNA Anderson Hill Salvage Timber Sale, is expected to be advertised in late June 2022 and will be open for 14 days. For further information and inquiries, please contact Nate Arno at (406) 360-2055 or nathan.arno@mt.gov.