

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Southwestern Land Office - Missoula Unit

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STATE OF MONTANA

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Initial Proposal Burr Saddle Forest Management Projects January 12, 2016

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Missoula Unit is proposing timber management activities on up to 5,172 acres on the following state owned parcels:

Sections 16, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34 and 35 T18N R27W

These sections are located approximately 1 mile east of St. Regis, Montana in the Mill Creek and Fourmile Creek drainages of Mineral County.

The primary objectives of the proposed project are:

- To return stands to the desired future conditions by promoting seral species.
- Maintain forest productivity.
- Reduce insect and disease mortality rates.
- Generate revenue for the trusts associate with these lands.
- Reduce chance of wildland fire potential by reducing stand density and fuel loads.
- Perform Old Growth maintenance treatments to reduce shade tolerant species, while maintaining Old Growth status in designated Old Growth stands.
- Pre-Commercially thin stands to reduce competition and improve vigor.
- Improve access and BMP compliance with new construction and road maintenance activities.

The proposed project would harvest approximately 10 million board feet of timber, using a variety of silvicultural prescriptions such as; Shelterwood, Seed Tree, Species Designation and Individual Tree Selection harvests. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222.

Road maintenance and improvements would be needed on existing access roads and some new road construction (approximately 6 miles) may be necessary to improve function and drainage of the haul route.

Noxious weed management, pre-commercial thinning and tree planting will also occur under the proposed action.

The DNRC is in the scoping phase of the project environmental assessment so all volumes and acreages are preliminary estimates. In preparation for this project, specialists such as wildlife biologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, and archeologists will be consulted.

The Montana DNRC invites written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal.
Please respond by February 9, 2016 to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Attn: Bill Burdick
Missoula Unit
3206 Maverick Lane
Missoula, MT 59804

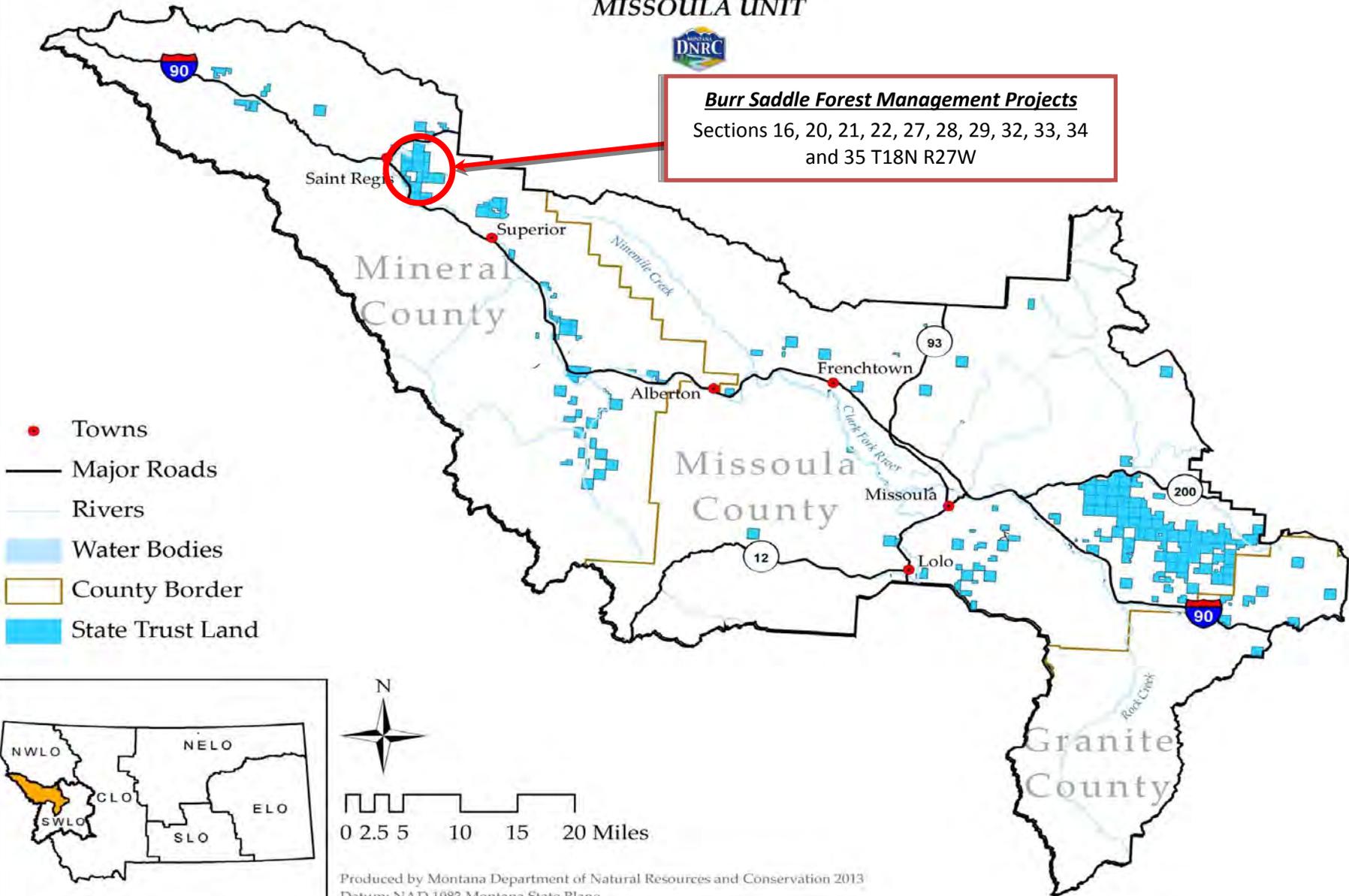
Email: bburdick@mt.gov

Burr Saddle Forest Management Projects VICINITY MAP

MISSOULA UNIT



Burr Saddle Forest Management Projects
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and 35 T18N R27W



Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation 2013
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