

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION**

Southwestern Land Office - Missoula Unit

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STATE OF MONTANA

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**Initial Proposal
Top Secret Timber Sale
10/8/2020**

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Missoula Unit is proposing to harvest timber on the following state-owned parcel:

Section 16 T12N R14W

This section is located approximately 40 miles east of Missoula, Montana in the Secret Gulch drainage in Granite County.

The primary objectives of the proposed project are:

- Remove trees that contain insects, disease and/or poor form and vigor.
- Maintain forest productivity.
- Promote seral species.
- Generate revenue for the Common School Trust.

The proposal would harvest approximately 2 million board feet from up to 640 acres using a combination of sanitation and commercial thin harvest prescriptions. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222 MCA.

Approximately 2 miles of road construction may be needed to access the project area. Road maintenance would take place on existing roads within the section and along the haul route to improve function and drainage of the road surface.

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

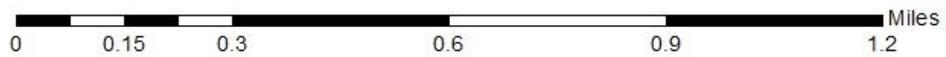
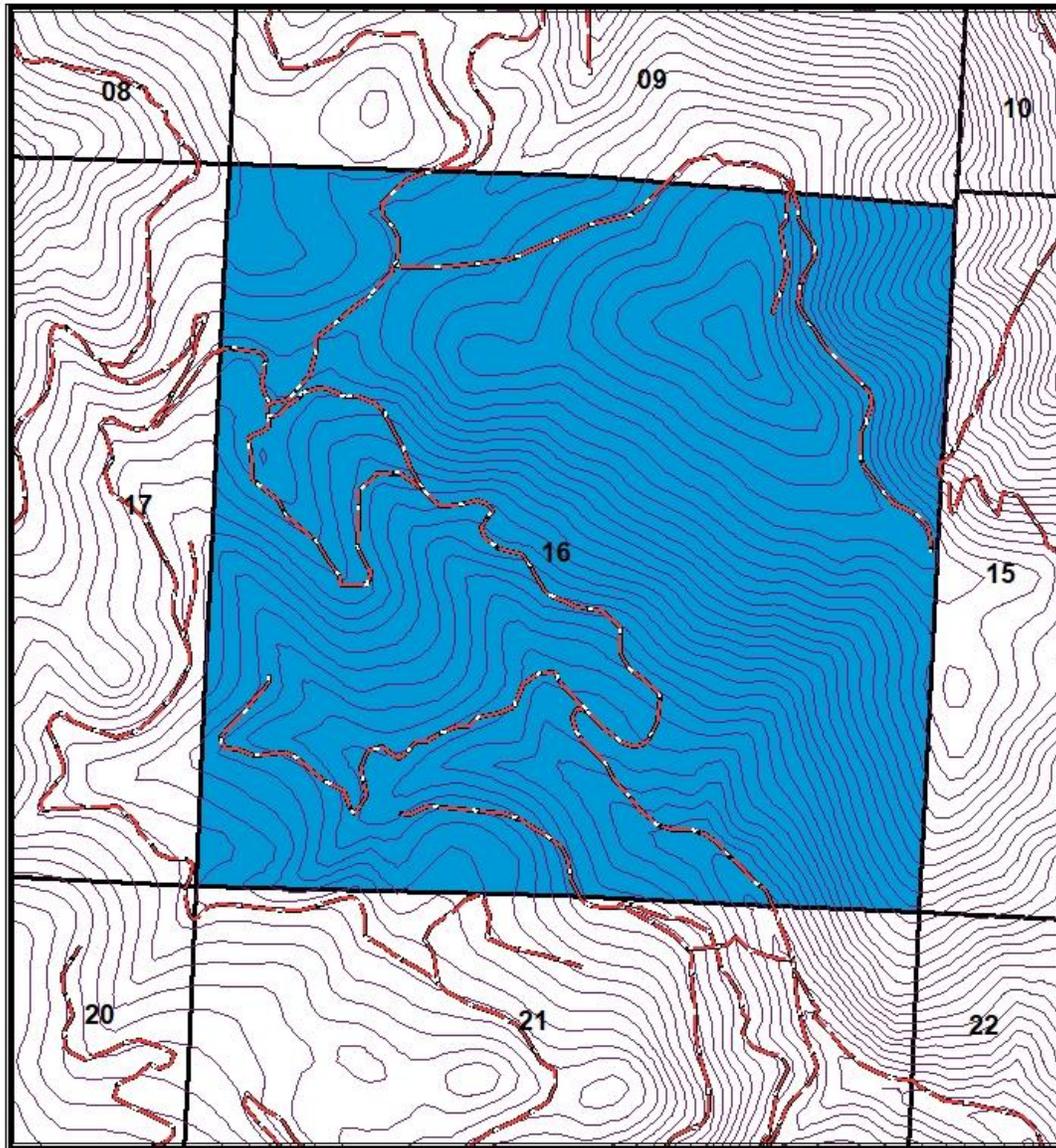
The DNRC is in the scoping phase of the project environmental assessment so all volumes, acreages and road distances are preliminary estimates. In preparation for this project, specialists such as wildlife biologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, and archeologists will be consulted.

The Montana DNRC invites written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal. Please respond by November 9, 2020 to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Attn: Amy Helena
Missoula Unit
3206 Maverick Lane
Missoula, MT 59804



Top Secret Scoping
Section 16 T12N R14W
DNRC-MISSOULA UNIT



A. Helena
10/8/2020