## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

**Trust Land Management Divison** 

STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

1625 ELEVENTH AVENUE



DIRECTOR'S OFFICE: (406) 444-2074 FAX: (406) 444-2684 P.O. BOX 201601 HELENA, MONTANA 59620

## Initial Proposal Basin Creek Road Relocation March 12, 2020

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Dillon Unit is proposing to relocate a portion of open public road on the following state-owned parcel:

## Section 30, Township 12 South, Range 6 West

The purpose of this project is to relocate the current public access road bed from a low-elevation riparian area to higher-elevation ground. The project is located approximately 13 miles northeast of Lima, Montana.

The Department of Natural Resources Conservation (DNRC) proposes Basin Creek Road be relocated to reduce erosion and subsequent sediment delivery to a stream identified as a Westslope cutthroat trout (WCT) habitat. This Project has been identified as a requirement within DNRC's Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) conservation strategy for sediment reduction.

Approximate 2,024 feet of new road will be constructed using native material and gravel. Fabric and rocks may be used to raise the road bed and reduce the risk of erosion. In addition, two fish passage culverts will be installed. Any disturbed surface areas associated with construction of the new right-of-way will be reseeded using a proposed seed mix of native grasses. In addition, the existing, low-elevation road (approximately 1,700 feet) will be reclaimed and reseeded with a recommended seed mix which provides quick cover that reduce particle detachment and subsequent erosion.

The project area will be monitored for noxious weeds for 3 years following project completion and weed spraying will occur if noxious weeds are found.

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 April 17, 2020 to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Attn: Don Copple Dillon Unit 840 North Montana St. Dillon, MT 59725 dcopple@mt.gov 406-683-6305

