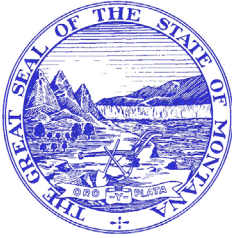


DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION  
Central Land Office



STEVE BULLOCK, GOVERNOR

(406) 458-3500  
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8001 NORTH MONTANA AVENUE  
HELENA, MONTANA 59602-9388

Scoping Notice  
Sterling Line Timber Permit  
3/20/2020

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Trust Land Management Division (TLMD) Helena Unit is proposing the Sterling Line Timber Permit. The proposed timber harvest is located in Lewis and Clark County on Trust Land administered by the DNRC-Helena Unit, approximately 5 miles south of Craig, MT. The harvest is proposed on the following parcels:

Township 15 North, Range 3 West, Section 36  
Township 14 North, Range 3 West, Section 6 & 8

The purpose of the proposed project is to encourage regeneration, remove trees impacted by western spruce budworm, the Douglas-fir beetle, and fire. Other objectives include improving stand genetics and replicating historic stand densities. This includes capturing the value of live as well as dead and dying trees. Under the proposed action; road construction, maintenance and improvement would take place. Other management activities may include; noxious weed management, prescribed burning, construction of log landings.

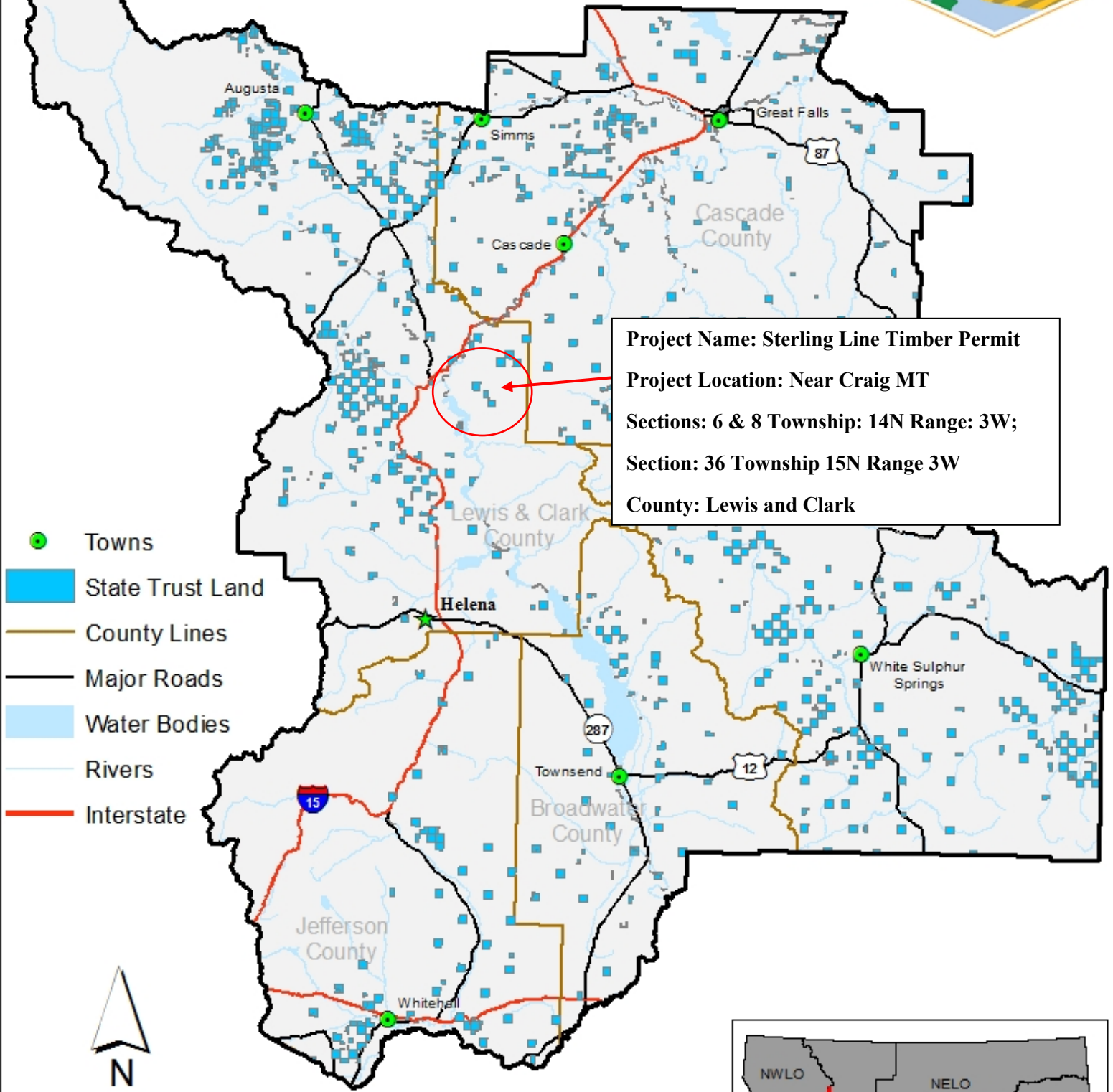
The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222. DNRC strives to balance its fiduciary responsibilities with its stewardship responsibilities that are intended to promote biodiversity and subsequently protect the future income-generating capacity of the forest. All forested lands involved in the proposed action would thus be managed in accordance with DNRC's State Forest Land Management Plan (SFLMP), and Forest Management Rules.

The proposal would harvest up to 500 thousand board feet from approximately 300 acres of timber. The proposed action would likely be implemented in summer of 2020 and be completed by 2024. The DNRC is in the scoping phase of the project environmental assessment so all road distances, volumes and acreages are preliminary estimates. In preparation for this project, specialists such as wildlife biologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, and archeologists will be consulted. Neighboring landowners will also be asked for their input. The Montana DNRC invites comments and suggestions concerning this proposal from all interested parties. Please respond by end of business April 10<sup>th</sup> to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation  
Attn: Devin Healy  
MT DNRC Helena Unit  
8001 North Montana Ave  
Helena MT, 59602  
or: [dhealy@mt.gov](mailto:dhealy@mt.gov)

# State Trust Land Vicinity Map Helena Unit

STERLING LINE VICINITY MAP



**Project Name:** Sterling Line Timber Permit  
**Project Location:** Near Craig MT  
**Sections:** 6 & 8 Township: 14N Range: 3W;  
**Section:** 36 Township 15N Range 3W  
**County:** Lewis and Clark

