Initial Scoping Coyote Greenough Projects

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

- Section 18 T13N R14W - Public Buildings
- Section 14 T13N R15W – Public Buildings
- Section 22 T13N R15W – Common Schools, Public Buildings, Pine Hills Permanent
- Section 23 T13N R15W – Public Buildings
- Section 24 T13N R15W – Public Buildings
- Section 36 T14N R15W - Common Schools

(These parcels are between Potomac and Greenough Montana)

The primary objective of this proposal is to produce funds for the above-mentioned Trusts. This project will contribute to the DNRC’s planned sustained yield. Planned timber harvest prescriptions will likely be shelterwood, uneven-aged management, and commercial thinning. The State would also use this as an opportunity to remove dying, stagnant, diseased, and overstocked trees. Many of the stands in the area are in a condition resulting from fire suppression and past management. Traditionally this area was primarily dominated by Douglas-fir, western larch, and ponderosa pine stands. The proposed treatments will favor seral tree species.

The proposed harvest is in accordance with State Statute 77-1-202 and would contribute to the DNRC’s sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222.

The proposed harvest would take place under several timber sales and small timber permits if needed. The proposal may harvest approximately 5.5 million board feet from approximately 1,000 acres. Additional management activities including noxious weed management, pre-commercial thinning, planting, and prescribed burning (pile burning) may occur. This project may require 5.0 miles of new road construction. Roads used for this sale will be maintained and improved to meet Best Management Practices or DNRC guidelines and would exist behind gates or closures. Some older segments will be closed and rehabilitated. The proposed action would likely be implemented in the summer of 2023 and possibly be completed by 2028.

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. 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 September 26, 2022, to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Attn: Craig V. Nelson
Clearwater State Forest
48455 S. Sperry Grade Rd.
Greenough, MT 59823

or: email: crnelson@mt.gov

or: (406) 244-2386
Project Name: Coyote Greenough Projects
Project Location: Near Greenough and Potomac Montana
Section: 18 Township: 13N Range: 14W
Section: 36 Township: 14N Range: 15W
Sections: 14, 22, 23, 24 Township: 13N Range: 15W
County: Missoula