Initial Proposal
Shorts-Evers Timber Sale
May 31, 2022

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Stillwater Unit is proposing to harvest timber on the following state owned parcel:

Section 13, 14, & 24 T31N R24W

The proposed Shorts-Evers timber sale is located approximately 13 miles west of Whitefish in Flathead County.

The primary objectives of the proposed project are:

• Contribute to DNRC’s sustained yield by generating revenue for the following Trust: Public Buildings and the School for the Deaf and Blind
• Promote biodiversity on State ownership by managing for appropriate or desired stand structures and species composition based on ecological characteristics such as topography, habitat type, disturbance regime, and unique characteristics
• Capture economic value of dead and dying trees and to promote the regeneration of healthier, more resilient trees

The proposal would harvest 1 to 3 million board feet (MMbf) within a 1,440 acre project area. Harvest prescriptions would vary by unit, but are not limited to; commercial thinning, insect salvage, seed tree, group selection, and overstory removal. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC’s sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222 to sell approximately 60 MMbf of timber annually and continue to produce revenue over time.

Road maintenance, improvements, and reconstruction may be needed on existing roads to improve function and drainage of the haul route. Approximately 1 to 2 miles of temporary road construction may also be necessary. No permanent roads would be built as part of this project.

Noxious weed management, pre-commercial thinning, tree planting, mechanical scarification, slash pile burning, and prescribed burning may also occur.

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 July 1, 2022 to:

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