



Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
NWLO – Stillwater Unit – Olney, Montana

INITIAL PROPOSAL – LUPFER MORRILL TIMBER SALE

March 13, 2018

Dear Adjacent Landowner or Interested Party:

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Stillwater Unit, is proposing timber harvest activities from State Trust lands located in sections 20, 21, 27, and 28 of T32N, R23W. These lands are accessed by the Lupfer Loop Road, and begin south and east of the Stillwater Unit Office in Olney, Montana. Work on the sale design is scheduled to begin this spring, with sale activities potentially starting in the fall of 2018 and extending into 2020.

The objectives of this timber sale are:

- Contribute 0.5-1 MMbf to the annual targets of timber-harvest volumes of DNRC and the Northwestern Land Office. DNRC is required by state law (MCA 77-5-221 through 223) to sell approximately 56.9 MMbf of timber annually and continue to produce revenue over time.
- Generate revenue for the Forest Improvement Fund and the following Trust accounts:
 - Morrill (sections 20, 28)
 - State Normal School (section 21)
 - Public Buildings (section 27)
- Continue to apply silvicultural prescriptions in the Lupfer area to promote biodiversity as called for in the State Forest Land Management Plan (1996), as well as implement the next phases of forest management on past silvicultural treatments.
 - Silvicultural opportunities to promote biodiversity diversity lie in:
 - Harvesting to create openings and growing sites primarily for western larch to help achieve the desired future condition of forest cover types; most of the Lupfer area should be represented by a western larch/Douglas-fir forest type with a mix of western white pine.
 - Silvicultural opportunities to promote tree growth lie in:
 - the removal of seed trees where the removal of the larger, overtopping trees would benefit the trees regenerating from past harvests,
 - Past timber treatments including Good Long Boyle East (2004), Good Long Boyle 2 (2013), Lupfer 2 (1997) and Lupfer 3 (2010), are all projects that have promoted biodiversity in project area in the recent past.

Some temporary road construction may be needed to access the project area.

The attached Vicinity Map (Attachment A) shows the general project area location, and the Project Map (Attachment B) shows the proposed project area in more detail.

We are currently in the process of identifying issues and concerns regarding the harvest proposal for this area. To help with this process we would like to receive any input you may have regarding this proposal by April 12, 2018; please direct comments to the address or telephone number listed below.

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Attn: Les Thomas
P.O. Box 164, Olney, Montana 59927
e-mail: LesThomas@mt.gov
phone: (406) 881-2665

Sincerely,

Les Thomas

Les Thomas
Management Forester, Stillwater Unit

Enclosures:
Attachment A- Vicinity Map
Attachment B- Project Area Map

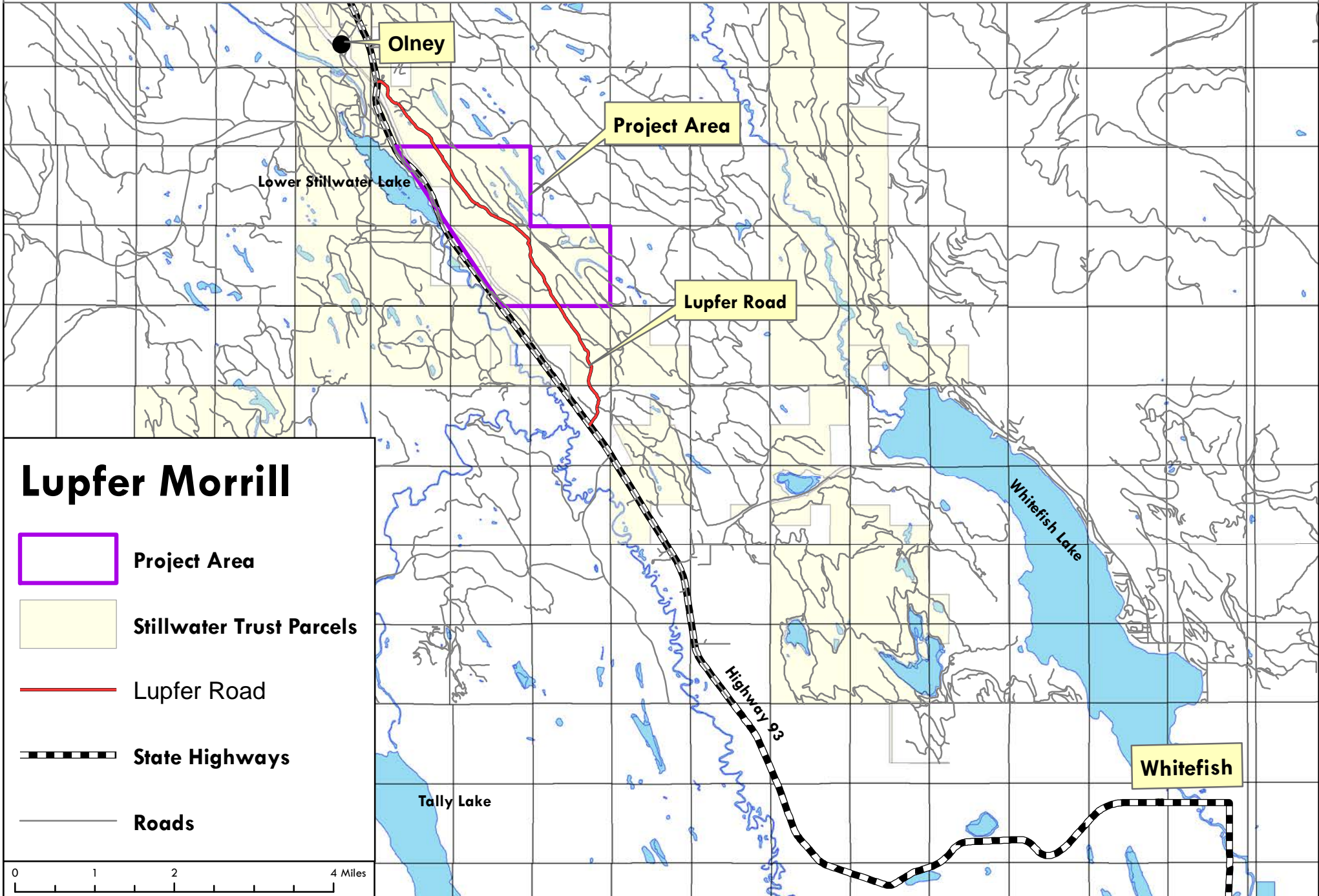


Lupfer Morrill Timber Sale Proposed Project Vicinity Map








Sections 20, 21, 27 & 28 of T32N R23W

March 6, 2018 LHT



Lupfer Morrill

-  Project Area
-  Stillwater Trust Parcels
-  Lupfer Road
-  State Highways
-  Roads

0 1 2 4 Miles



Lupfer Morrill Timber Sale Project Proposal Map



Sections 20, 21, 27 & 28 of T32N R23W

March 5, 2018 LHT

