DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

CONRAD UNIT OFFICE



GREG GIANFORTE, GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

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Initial Proposal East Pioneers Conifer Encroachment Treatment Project

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) has received a request from the Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership (SMSP) to perform conifer encroachment removal and a potential prescribed burn of approximately 665 acres across two locations on State Trust Lands in the East Pioneer area of Beaverhead County. Conifer removal is proposed to begin in the Summer/Fall of 2024 and could extend for up to 5 years, with the potential for a prescribed burn to follow.

The State Trust Lands tracts are located in:

Section 16, T2S, R9W Section 36, T2S, R10W

The project is cross-boundary in nature, involving collaboration between the DNRC, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the United States Forest Service (USFS), and a private landowner, with the work facilitated by the SMSP. The total treatment area will encompass roughly 2,210 acres across all identified ownerships, but for this solicitation, the DNRC is only seeking input on whether to authorize this proposal on the State Trust Lands described above as part of their Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) analysis.

DNRC invites comments and suggestions concerning this proposal on State Trust Lands from interested parties. For further information on this proposed project, you may contact the Montana Forest Action Plan Forester, Michaela Kalinowski at michaela.kalinowski@mt.gov. We will be accepting comments until July 22, 2024, at 5 pm. Please respond to:

Montana DNRC Attn: Michaela Kalinowski 840 N. Montana Street Dillon, MT 59725

Sincerely,

Michaela Kalinowski MT Forest Action Plan Forester

Michaela Kalinowski

406-925-7076

