

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION



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## STATE OF MONTANA

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### **Initial Proposal Whiskey Spring Timber Sale July 3, 2024**

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

#### **Sections 1, 2, 3, 12; Township 12S; Range 6W**

The proposed Whiskey Spring Timber Sale is located in the West Fork of Blacktail Creek drainage approximately 30 miles southeast of Dillon, Montana in Beaverhead County.

The primary objectives of the proposed project are:

- Promote forest resilience to insect and disease infestation.
- Reduce probability of uncharacteristically severe wildfire.
- Capture diminishing value of dying and dead timber.
- Generate revenue for the Common Schools Trust.

This proposal includes the harvest of approximately 1.5 million board feet of timber on up to 300 acres. Harvest prescriptions including shelterwood, seed tree, and individual tree selection methods would be designed to sanitize forest stands of insects and disease while promoting new age classes of trees. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222.

This timber sale would be accessed by county roads, existing state roads, and roads to be constructed on state land. Approximately 1.25 miles of existing road on state land, excluding the county right-of-way, would be improved and maintained to facilitate access to harvest areas. Roughly 2.5 miles of new permanent roads would be constructed. All roads would be improved and constructed to meet Montana Forestry Best Management Practices.

The DNRC would monitor noxious weed propagation in the project area and would facilitate herbicide application as needed in the years following project completion.

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 **August 3, 2024** to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation  
Attn: Riley Stevenson 406-925-7073  
Dillon Unit  
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[riley.stevenson@mt.gov](mailto:riley.stevenson@mt.gov)

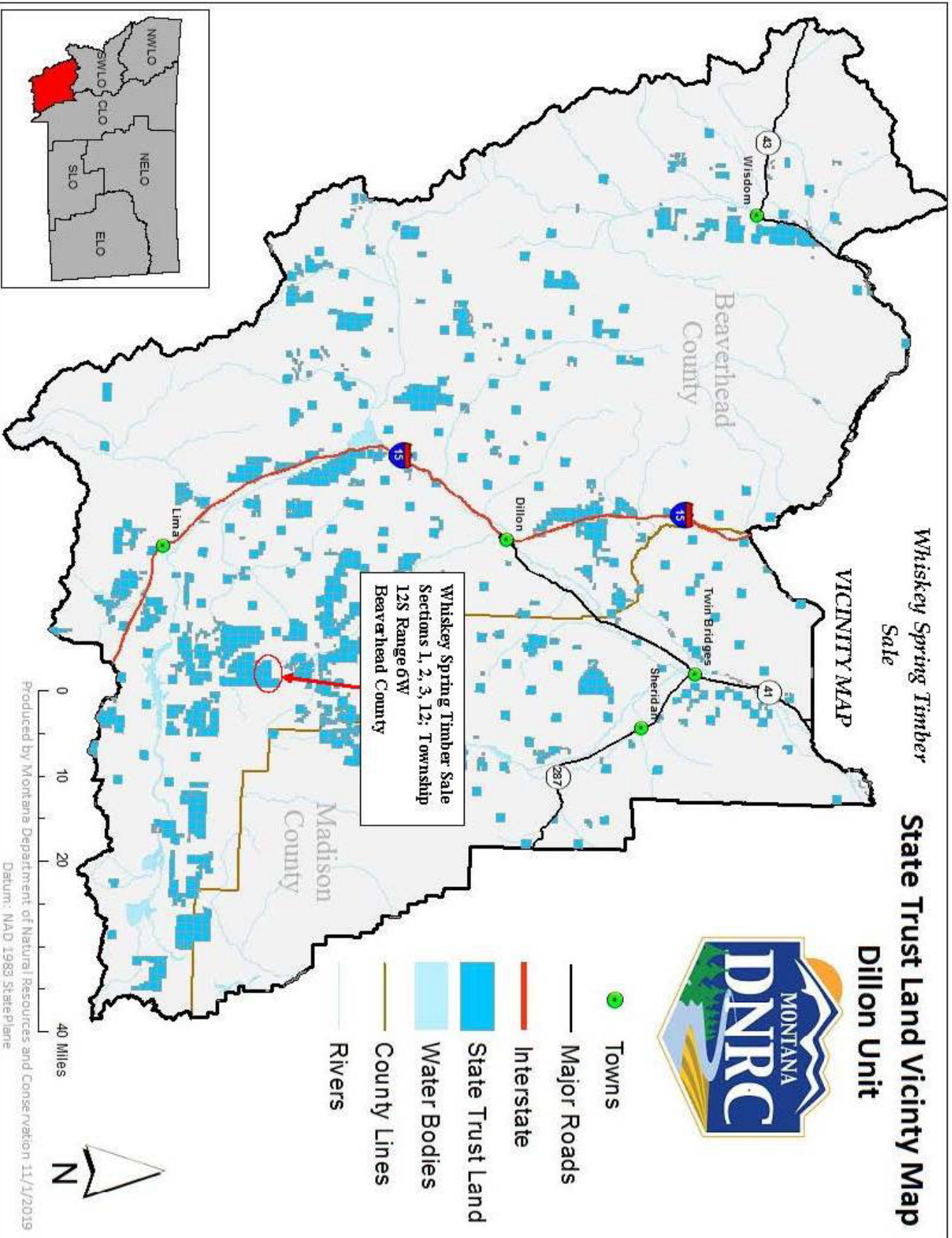
# Whiskey Spring Timber Sale

## State Trust Land Vicinity Map

### Dillon Unit



#### VICINITY MAP



Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation 11/1/2019  
 Datum: NAD 1983 StatePlane



# Whiskey Spring Timber Sale

## Initial Proposal

