

NOTICE OF SALE

Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Timber Sale

The Balding Bear Timber Sale is located within Sections 13,14, & 24, T14N-R14W on the State's Clearwater Unit. Approximately 20,926 tons, consisting of mixed conifer sawlogs, are offered for sale.

Sealed bids will be opened at the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana on **June 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.** Bids may be hand delivered or mailed and will be accepted any time prior to the bid opening. DNRC recommends that bidders contact the Trust Land Management Division (406-542-4300) prior to the bid opening to ensure that your bid has been received. **Bids must be accompanied by a deposit of \$10,693.00.00**, representing 5% of the minimum bid value of the sale in cashier's check, certified check, bank money order or bank draft to be applied to the first sale invoice for the successful bidder. Bid bonds will be accepted and, for the successful bidder, will be closed upon execution of the Timber Sale Contract and Timber Sale Bond.

The sale will be awarded to the highest responsible bidder. If the successful bidder is unable to execute the contract within **30** calendar days from the date the sale is awarded, the bid deposit will be retained by the Department as liquidated damages. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Prospective bidders can obtain the sale prospectus, sale contract and bid forms from the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, Trust Land Management Division, in Missoula (406-542-4300).

Visit our website at <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Forest-Products/timber-sales> for upcoming sales and bid results.

TIMBER SALE PROSPECTUS
STATE OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Timber Sale Name: Balding Bear			
For specific sale information, contact: Craig V. Nelson			
Phone	406-244-2386		Clearwater Unit Office
For copies of the Timber Sale Contract and bid forms, contact:			
Phone	406-542-4300	Forest Management Bureau	DNRC Missoula Office
Phone	406-542-4200		Southwest Land Office

General Bidding Information

1. Bids must be submitted on Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (State) bid forms.
2. Timber will be sold to the highest responsible bidder; however, the State reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
3. The State recommends that bidders contact the Forest Management Bureau, Trust Land Management Division (406-542-4300) prior to the bid opening to ensure that your bid has been received.
4. A **Bid Deposit** must accompany all bids and must be in the form of cash, cashiers check, certified check, money order, bank draft, surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit.
5. The Purchaser must submit a **Performance Bond** to the State within 30 days of notification of sale award. The bond amount will be, at a minimum, 20% of the total bid value of the sale. The performance bond may be cash, irrevocable letter of credit, surety bond or certificate of deposit. The performance bond must be maintained separately from other payments for the duration of the Timber Sale Contract. See the Timber Sale Contract for additional information.
6. The purchaser must submit an **Advance Stumpage Payment** prior to cutting any timber. The amount of the advance stumpage payment will cover six weeks of harvesting and be based on the expected harvest rate and the bid value of the stumpage. The advance stumpage payment may be cash, irrevocable letter of credit, payment bond or certificate of deposit.
7. At rates specified in the Contract, the purchaser will pay **Forest Improvement Fees** on all sawlog volume. All applicable **Road Use and/or Maintenance fees** will also be paid by the Purchaser in addition to stumpage payments.
8. This sale is being sold based on the gross weight of all species. Minimum price and bid price are on a per ton basis. Unless otherwise specified, the price applies to all species, green and dead. Price may vary by product. Billing will be based on gross weight. A weight ticket from a certified scale is required for each load hauled, regardless of product type.
9. The State has estimated the net scale merchantable sawlog volume to be sold under this Contract. Other products may be part of this sale. All delivered wood will be weighed and billed at per ton bid rates. The State recognizes that a percentage of delivered wood may not meet the log manufacturing and recovery standards of the Timber Sale Contract. The actual percentage will vary based on the log manufacturing and recovery specifications of the purchaser and tree conditions in the sale area. The actual delivered weight may vary, resulting in an overrun or under-run of the estimated tonnage. The State strongly recommends that bidders evaluate these effects before bidding.
10. The State does not conduct detailed road appraisals. All appraised costs are gross estimates or averages, provided only to show the relative amount of work required, and not the true market value. The State strongly recommends that bidders make their own estimates based on Contract requirements. Cost estimates provided are not guaranteed.
11. Bidders are encouraged to examine the complete Timber Sale Package and Sale Area prior to bidding. Additional information is available at the phone numbers shown above.
12. Estimates for sale volume, species percents, defect, product class, etc. provided in this prospectus and volume estimates listed in the Timber Sale Contract are not guaranteed.
13. This prospectus is provided for information purposes only. If the prospectus is in error or contradicts the Timber Sale Contract, the Contract governs.

Additional Sale Information:**1. MARKING:**

THIS SALE HAS SEVERAL UNITS (1301, 1303, 1401, and 1402) THAT ARE SAMPLE MARKED. SEVERAL SAMPLE AREAS WITHIN UNIT ARE PROVIDED AS ARE CRUISE PLOTS THAT HAVE BEEN MARKED. MAPS ARE INCLUDED WITHIN THE CONTRACT. GIVEN THIS DIFFERENCE OF THIS UNIT FROM THE REST OF THIS SALE, THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS ARE NECESSARY:

DURING HARVESTING, IF THE LEAVE TREE RESULTS ARE NOT TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOREST OFFICER, THE FOREST OFFICER, CONTRACTOR, AND LOGGING OPERATIONS WILL BE REMINDED VERBALLY AND IN SALE INSPECTION REPORT. A WALK THROUGH OF THE UNIT WILL BE DONE TO EXPLAIN WHAT IS REQUIRED.

IF THERE IS A SECOND INCIDENCE AS ABOVE, THE PURCHASER MUST MARK THE UNIT WITH PAINT. ALL PAINT FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE SUPPLIED BY THE PURCHASER. THERE WILL BE NO HARVEST UNTIL THIS IS MARKED AND THE UNIT IS ACCEPTED BY THE FOREST OFFICER.

A DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLE MARKED UNIT PRESCRIPTIONS*:

UNIT	SILVICULTURAL PRESCRIPTION	APPROX. OVERSTORY Trees Per Acre LEFT*	APPROX. SPACING RANGE*	SPECIES LEAVE PREFERENCE
1301	Commercial Thin	35 - 110	20' - 35'	WL, PP, DF
1303	Commercial Thin	30 - 105	20' - 38'	WL, PP, DF
1401	Shelterwood	10 - 25	42' - 66'	WL, PP, DF
1402	Individual Tree Selection	20 - 65	26' - 47'	PP, WL, DF

** Units have portions with tree spacing that is less than the spacing prior to harvest.*

TREES MARKED TO CUT: Within all harvest units, cut trees are marked with a horizontal PURPLE paint mark at Diameter Breast Height (DBH) and a mark below stump height

TREES MARKED TO LEAVE: Within harvest units 1302 AND 1304 all trees will be marked with at least ONE HORIZONTAL YELLOW paint mark at DBH. In harvest 1301, 1302, 1401, 1402, 1402a, and 1402b, ONE HORIZONTAL ORANGE paint mark at DBH..

HARVEST UNIT BOUNDARIES:

- 1301 Marked with **Three Horizontal BLUE paint stripes and BLUE ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1302 Marked with **Three Horizontal ORANGE paint stripes and ORANGE ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1303 Marked with **Three Horizontal BLUE paint stripes and BLUE ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1304 Marked with **Three Horizontal ORANGE paint stripes and ORANGE ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1401 Marked with **Three Horizontal BLUE paint stripes and BLUE ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1402 Marked with **Three Horizontal BLUE paint stripes and BLUE ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1402a Marked with **TWO Horizontal BLUE paint stripes and ONE Horizontal ORANGE Horizontal stripe and BLUE and a PINK / BLACK CHECKER ribbon** facing into the unit.
- 1402b Marked with **TWO Horizontal BLUE paint stripes and ONE Horizontal ORANGE Horizontal stripe and BLUE and a PINK / BLACK CHECKER ribbon** ribbon facing into the unit.

PULP:

Sub-merchantable material may be left behind using “chopper’s choice” leaving: quality crowns (greater than 30% crown), quality stems with no forking or cull. These trees can be spaced at approximately 35 feet x 35 feet or more. The remaining sub-merchantable material must be treated as below.

All unhealthy trees (poor crowns, poor appearance, etiolated stems, forked or damaged stems) that are greater than 5” DBH, that do not meet sawlog standards and has not been determined to be left as a reserve tree. If the previously accepted delivery point still accepts non-sawlog material through the sale, it will be hauled off the site and delivered. If there is a long-term shut down of the delivery point the purchaser will:

NON-SAWLOG MATERIAL will be handled / processed in a combination of ways (these are in order of acceptance by the DNRC) and slash returned to the unit and placed into a “skidder pile”:

- * cut into a pulp (to the total of 600 tons) to be decked and/or hauled. If the delivery mill begins accepting deliveries prior to the contract termination date, purchaser must haul this material.

NON-SAWLOG MATERIAL TREATMENT OVER THE 600 TONS CAN BE HANDLED IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- * cut and placed in a “skidder” pile (clear bole left on the ground and the crown and slash placed in a pile),
 - * or slashed in the unit if non-sawlog is minimal (not enough to create a pile).
2. **PONDEROSA PINE:** Ponderosa pine is offered at a lower price (\$2.00 / ton) given limited delivery points. **Forest-improvement fees are charged for ponderosa pine sawlogs.**
 3. **NEW ROAD IN UNIT:** There is a new construction road within some units. Road must be constructed prior to the harvest in that area.
 4. **BROADCAST BURN:** Some units will be broadcast burned. Majority of slash will be returned and spread within to the unit.
 5. **E/L FENCE:** Electric fence along Lower Bear Creek Road, will be removed prior to sale activities.
 6. **“SKIDDER PILES”:** To redistribute logging slash it is required that the purchaser pile a majority of the landing slash in the unit. This process is done to reduce landing slash AND return the nutrients to the forest. This is generally done using a grapple skidder (thus the name) that returns landing slash produced by the landing operations (generally a stroke boom de-limber) and piles it within the harvest unit. These piles will be at least 8 feet tall and will be piled in a way to promote burning (higher **NOT** wider). These will be placed in larger openings. If another operation is used, it is necessary for the Purchaser to get written approval from the Forest Officer. **An approximation of slash skidded back into the unit v.s. left on the landings should be 70% in the unit, 30% in landing piles**
 7. **LOPPING AND SLASHING OF LOGGING-DAMAGED TREES REQUIRED:** The purchaser shall fell all sub-merchantable trees with logging-related root or stem damage, causing lean. The stem shall be completely severed from the stump below the lowest live limb. **Maximum stump height shall be 12 inches on the uphill side. The purchaser shall buck and delimb all slash as required to reduce main stems to within 12 inches of the ground from bottom side, and reduce total slash depth, including branches, to within 18 inches of the ground.**
 8. **SEVERAL WET SITE CROSSINGS ARE INCLUDED:** A larger fish bearing is crossed using a 60” (squash) x 48’ CMP is to be installed. Two (2) 24” not for fish bearing streams are to be installed. These ALL require a two-week notice. These must be done prior to September 30 given fish concerns.
 9. **WARNING SIGNS REGARDING NEARBY HARVEST:** It will be necessary to have signs that warn potential public use or other operators / management in the area.
 10. **ROAD CONSTRUCTION SEASON CLOSURE:** No road construction repairs or construction will occur from **October 15 - June 16.** *Given the usual break-up conditions, July 1 is a normal beginning time.* Some approval for small projects may be allowed.
 11. **HERBICIDE APPLICATION:** Purchaser will be required to ensure application of herbicide on **15.44 miles** of roads in the sale area.
 12. **GATES:** Given the likelihood of general public travel within this area, all gates must **remain closed and locked when not being IMMEDIATELY used.** Violation could result in as much as **\$750.00 per occurrence.**

Timber Sale Information Sheet
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Balding Bear												
Timber Sale Cruise Data (Scribner 5.6" top DIB, Filter: All All Cut)												
SPECIES	PP	DF	WL	LP	ES	GF	RC	AF	WP	WH	Dead	TOTAL or AVE
Minimum Bid per ton												All Except PP: \$10.50
Pounds per cubic foot	62.0	61.7	58.3	56.0	57.0						40.0	
Estimated CF	24947.9	616741.6	134714.1	11582.4	16514.2						0.0	804,500 CF
Estimated CF of non-sawlog material	332.7	8065.3	2639.1	91.7	224.1						0.0	11,353 CF
Estimated tons of sawlogs	690	16178	3342	296	420						0	20,926 tons
Estimated tons of non-sawlog material	10	214	66	2	6						0	299 tons
Gross MBF	102	2477	611	50	62						0	3,302 MBF
% Cull and Breakage	10.7	14.9	14.9	8.7	10.7						0.0	14.6%
Net MBF	91	2107	520	45	56						0	2,819 MBF
Average logs per MBF	23.1	24.7	22.9	21.4	22.1						0.0	24.2 logs/MBF
Average DBH	12.8	12.8	11.5	13.4	13.8						0.0	12.6 in.
Average tons to cut per acre												26 tons/ac
Average MBF to cut per acre												3.5 MBF/ac
Total Average TPA Cut												51
Calculated Sampling Error: Total cruised volume will fall between			2,455 and 3,184 Net MBF in 9 out of 10 cruises									12.9%
Tons Per Thousand Board Feet												
Conversion Factor - Estimated tons hauled per thousand Scribner board feet	20,926 estimated tons / 2,819 Net MBF											7.42 tons/MBF

Contract Information		
Contract Termination Date:	July 31, 2028	
Operating Period:	ROADS: June 16 - October 15 HARVESTING: June 16 - February 28	

Timber Sale Information Sheet
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Logging Information	
% of volume logged by clearcut or seed tree cut	00%
% of volume logged with tractors	100%
% of volume logged by skyline	00%
% of volume logged by other system (specify)	00%
Yarding distance tractor (average)	950 ft.
Yarding distance skyline (average)	0 ft.
Yarding distance other system (specify)	0 ft.
Estimated haul distance (paved)	63.0 miles
Estimated haul distance (unpaved)	10.0 miles

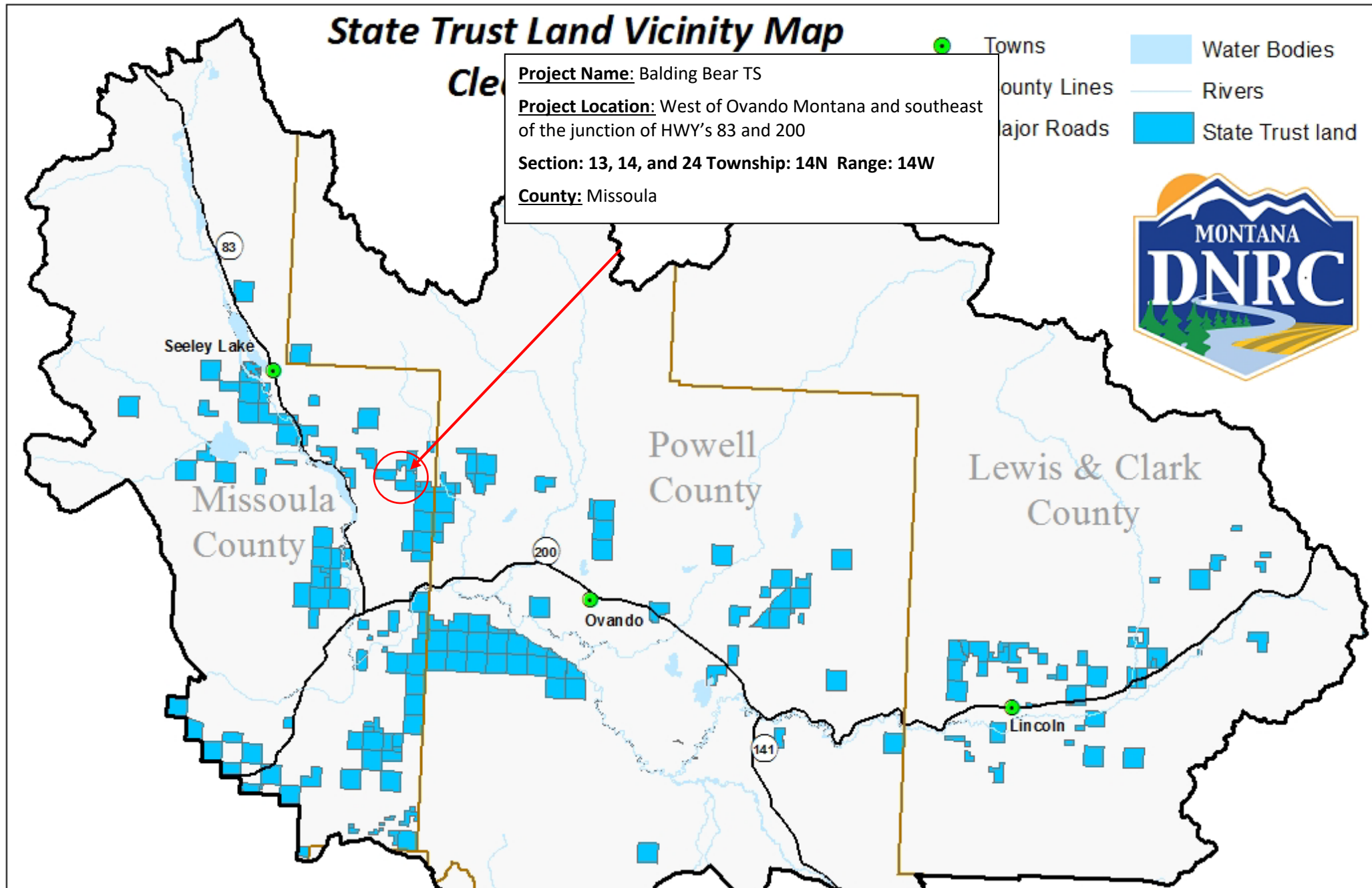
Purchaser fees and estimated costs	
Forest Improvement fee perMBF	\$21.75/MBF
Forest Improvement fee per ton	\$2.93/ton
Forest Improvement fee estimated total	\$61,313.18
Forest Improvement fee quarterly installment	\$10,218.86
Estimated Purchaser-do FI total \$	\$25,115
Estimated Purchaser-do FI per ton	\$1.20/ton
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work total	\$0.00
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work per ton	\$0.00/ton

Road development and maintenance fees and estimates	
Estimated road development cost total	\$178,877
Estimated road development cost per ton	\$8.55/ton
Estimated road development cost perMBF	\$63.45/MBF
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost total	\$0
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost per ton	\$0.00/ton
Private road maintenance charges per ton	\$0.00/ton
USFS road maintenance charges per ton	\$0.00/ton
Miles of road construction	8.0 miles
Miles of road reconstruction	0.1 miles
Miles of road with site improvements	0.0 miles
Miles of road reclamation or abandonment	1.8 miles
Miles of road maintenance and blading	7.4 miles

Unit harvest volume				
Unit #	Acres	Est Tons	Est MBF	Harvest Deadline
1301	103.00	3999	539	Feb. 28, 2026
1302	99.24	1547	208	Feb. 28, 2026
1303	19.97	344	46	Feb. 28, 2026
1304	44.47	528	71	Feb. 28, 2026
1401	192.78	5687	766	Feb. 28, 2027
1402	280.86	7020	946	Feb. 28, 2028
1402a1	42.84	1123	151	Feb. 28, 2028
1402a2	24.38	678	91	Feb. 28, 2028
	808 Ac.	20,926 tons	2,819 MBF	

ATTACHMENT A-1

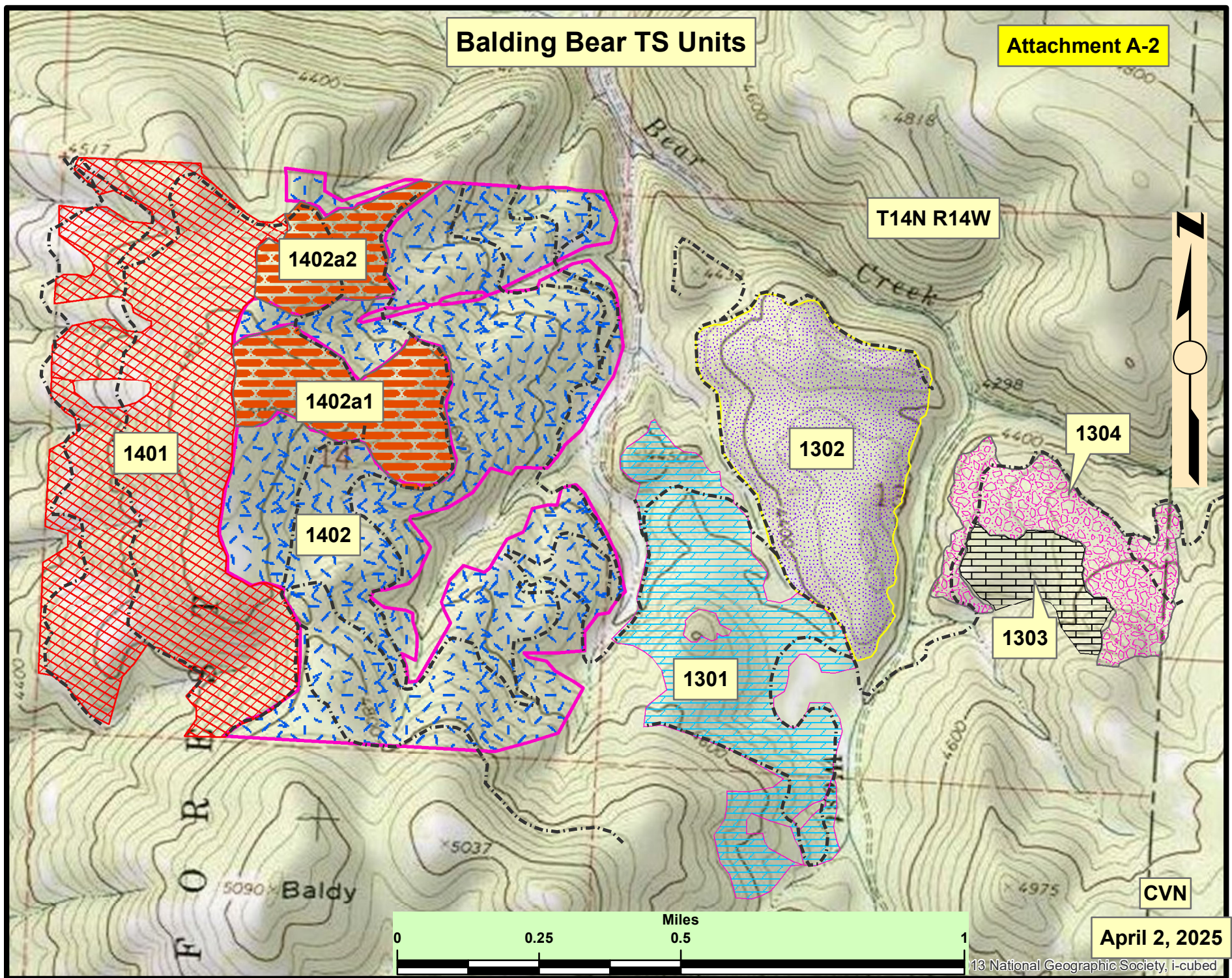
BALDING BEAR VICINITY MAP



Balding Bear TS Units

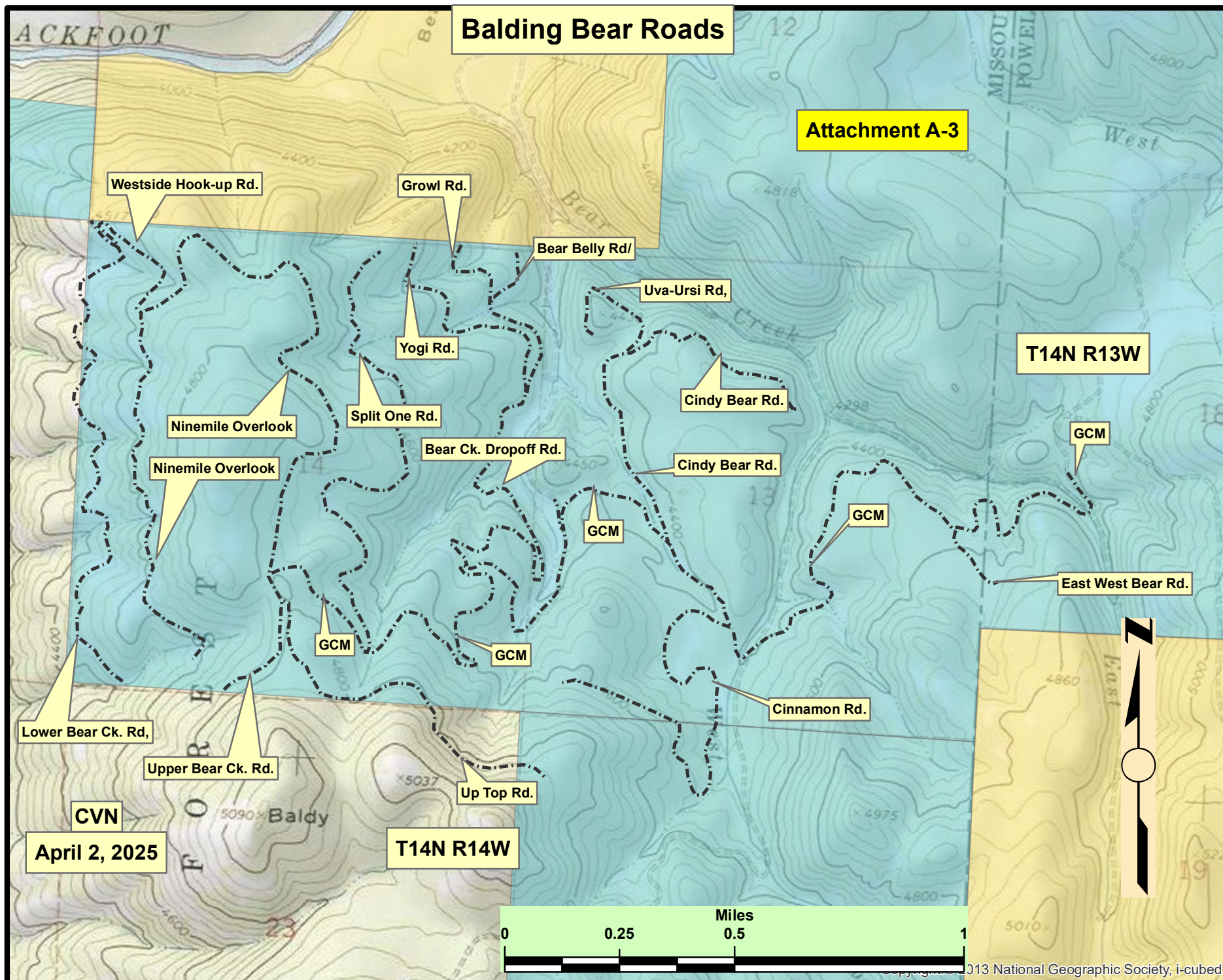
Attachment A-2

T14N R14W



April 2, 2025

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




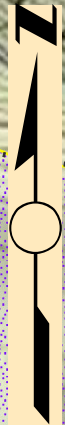
Balding Bear TS Sample

Attachment A-4a

T14N R14W

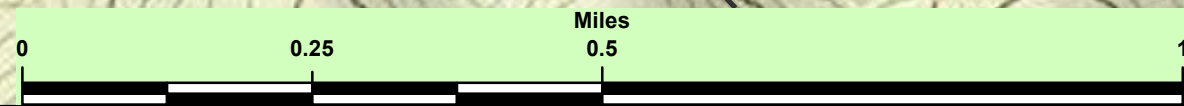
Legend

-  Unit 1401
-  1401 sample
-  Unit 1402
-  1402 sample



CVN

April 2, 2025




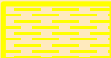


Balding Bear Sample

Attachment A-4b

T14N R13W

T14N R14W

Legend

-  Unit 1301
-  1301 sample mark
-  Unit 1303
-  1303 sample mark

CVN

April 2, 2025




Attachment A-5

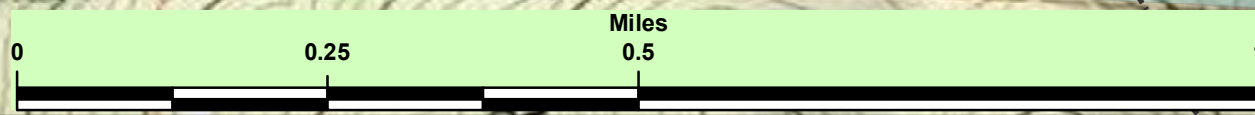
Balding Bear TS Brush Piling

T14N R14W

Legend

 Excavator piling

CVN



April 2, 2025

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