THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

GOVERNOR GREG GIANFORTE



DNRC DIRECTOR AMANDA KASTER

Initial Proposal Banana Fire Salvage July 29, 2025

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

Section 4 & 5 T20N R25W

Banana Fire Salvage is located approximately 6 air miles northeast of Plains, MT in Sanders County.

The primary objectives of the proposed actions are:

- Generate revenue for Common Schools Trust.
- Salvage timber killed from the Banana Lake Fire.
- Improve stand health and vigor by thinning overstory.

Banana Fire Salvage would harvest approximately 1.2 MMBF from 500 acres. The project would use a combination of salvage and individual tree selection prescriptions. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222.

The sale would require approximately 0.5 miles new road construction and 3.5 miles of road maintenance which would include some minor improvements on existing roads.

Noxious weed management, pile burning and planting may also occur under the proposed action.

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 September 1, 2025 to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Attn: Ty Colombo
Plains Unit
PO Box 219, Plains, MT 59859
tcolombo@mt.gov
406-826-4723



