

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

Trust Lands Management Division • Southwestern Land Office • Anaconda Unit  
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GREG GIANFORTE, GOVERNOR

1539 ELEVENTH AVENUE

## STATE OF MONTANA

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### **Initial Proposal Elk Trail Limited Access Timber Sale 2/26/2025**

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

#### **Section 16 Township 2N Range 8W**

This project area is located 3 miles southwest of Butte in Silver Bow County.

The primary objective of the proposed project is:

- Generate revenue for the Common Schools Trust
- Improve stand health and vigor by reducing basal area, promoting natural regeneration, increasing uneven-aged stand dynamics, and favoring both bark beetle and spruce budworm infested Douglas-fir for removal.
- Reduce fuel loading and the likelihood of a stand replacing fire.

The proposed project would harvest 1.3 to 1.6 million board feet (MMBF) from approximately 377 acres. The silvicultural prescription for the treatment area will be a selection cut (individual tree selection). The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222.

Approximately 1.5 miles of new road construction would be needed. Road maintenance and improvement may be needed on existing access roads to improve function and drainage of the haul route.

Noxious weed management, site preparation, and tree 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 foresters, wildlife biologists, hydrologists, fish biologists, soil scientists, and archeologists will be consulted.

The Montana DNRC invites written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal. Please respond by March 26th, to:

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Attn: **Craig Hansen,**

**Anaconda Unit Manager**

**1300 Maguire Road, Anaconda, MT 59711**

**[CHansen@mt.gov](mailto:CHansen@mt.gov)**

**406-691-7311**

# State Trust Land Vicinity Map Anaconda Unit

## Elk Trail VICINITY MAP

Elk Trail Timber Sale  
Section: 16  
Township: 2N Range: 8W  
County: Silver Bow

