THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

GOVERNOR GREG GIANFORTE



DNRC DIRECTOR AMANDA KASTER

Project Notification Slocum Creek Timber Permit 9/25/2025

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

T 9N R 18W Sec. 30

The Slocum Creek Timber Permit is located 8.5 miles east of Stevensville, MT in Ravalli County.

The primary objective of this project is a sanitation harvest of trees infected with dwarf mistletoe and spruce budworm. The secondary objective is to thin a small area of western larch to increase growth and health.

The total number of treated acres would be 12.9. Estimated volume produced would be 250 tons. Primary prescription is to remove Douglas-fir and Engelmann spruce infected with dwarf mistletoe and spruce budworm. Residual basal area in these species is estimated at 20 – 30 basal area. The secondary prescription is to thin a 2 acre pocket of Western larch to increase growth and health. Residual basal area in Western larch would be 60 BA. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222.

The DNRC, Trust Land Management Division, adopted categorical exclusions for certain forest management activities conducted on state forested trust lands (ARM 36.11.447). "Categorical Exclusion" refers to a type of action that does not individually, collectively, or cumulatively require an EA or EIS, pursuant to MEPA (MCA 75-1-101 through 324) and DNRC Administrative Procedures for MEPA (ARM 36.2.521 through 543), unless extraordinary circumstances occur (ARM 36.2.522(5)).

No new road construction would occur as part of the project. Only existing roads will be used to haul timber. Project would include approximately 13 miles of road maintenance.

Haul routes would be treated for noxious weeds using herbicides following the harvest and final road maintenance.

In preparation for this project, specialists such as wildlife biologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, and archeologists will be consulted.

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