

NOTICE OF SALE

Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Timber Sale

The Loose Horse Timber Sale is located within Sections 19 & 30, T15N-R14W on the State's Clearwater Unit. Approximately 9,470 tons, consisting of Douglas-fir, Ponderosa pine, & Western larch sawlogs, are offered for sale.

Sealed bids will be opened at the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana on **December 2, 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 \$7,015.00**, 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 <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/trust/forest-management/timber-sale-information> for upcoming sales and bid results.

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

Timber Sale Name: Loose Horse			
Timber Sale Location: 10.5 miles south-southeast of Seeley Lake			
For specific sale information, contact: Travis M. Serdar			
Phone	406-244-2387	travis.serdar@mt.gov	Clearwater Unit Office
For copies of the Timber Sale Contract and bid forms, contact:			
Phone	406-542-4300	Forest Management Bureau	Missoula
Phone	406-542-4200	Southwestern Land Office	Missoula

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:

- Gates have a temporary combination lock (**Combo: 4-9-9-9**) until bid close.
- OPERATING PERIOD (ALL UNITS): **June 16 – October 31** *and when soil conditions allow.*
- No new road construction or reconstruction required. Necessary maintenance will be performed prior to hauling operations, as necessary during operations as directed by the Forest Officer, and prior to termination of the Timber Sale Contract.
- Leave tree marking: Two different prescriptions are employed across the four units.
 - a. Unit 1 – **Leave trees are not marked.** Leave **10-15 trees per acre** (54 to 66 feet approximate spacing) of well-formed trees of the largest size class and best form available. This is an average spacing target and is expected to be variable throughout the unit.

Leave tree species preference: 1) ponderosa pine 2) western larch 3) Douglas-fir 4) lodgepole pine*
**Lodgepole may be cut but will not be considered for target spacing*

Maintain a **maximum spacing of 100 feet** between leave trees greater than 8" DBH within open areas. If present, retain 2 snags per acre.

- b. Units 2, 3, and 4: **BLUE** marked to **LEAVE**.
- Special operating requirements include whole tree skidding, and return-skidding of landing slash and piling..
 - The Purchaser would be responsible for 1 (one) application of herbicide **prior to July 15 FOR EACH OPERATING SEASON** on Walden Road and Docc Road (approximately 1.8 miles). The herbicide shall include 1.25 pts/acre Tordon with 1 qt/acre 2-4-D and surfactant. In addition, for areas with houndstongue add 1 oz/acre Escort. Road spray width shall be 25 feet.

An additional application of the same mix will be required **after harvest and prior to the contract termination date** on Walden Road, Docc Road, and Lost Horse Road (approximately 2.4 miles). Road spray width shall be 25 feet.

Timber Sale Information Sheet
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Loose Horse												
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												\$14.81
Pounds per cubic foot	51.0	50.0	48.0								40.0	
Estimated CF	113725.2	204021.9	97693.4								0.0	415,440 CF
Estimated CF of non-sawlog material	395.4	1102.9	1484.6								0.0	2,983 CF
Estimated tons of sawlogs	2737	4648	2085								0	9,470 tons
Estimated tons of non-sawlog material	10	25	32								0	67 tons
Gross MBF	614	947	464								0	2,025 MBF
% Cull and Breakage	5.8	8.9	11.1								0.0	8.4%
Net MBF	579	863	412								0	1,854 MBF
Average logs per MBF	10.6	16.4	21.9								0.0	15.8 logs/MBF
Average DBH	17.9	15.9	12.4								0.0	15.2 in.
Average tons to cut per acre												33 tons/ac
Average MBF to cut per acre												6.4 MBF/ac
Total Average TPA Cut												39
Calculated Sampling Error: Total cruised volume will fall between			1,612 and 2,095 Net MBF in 9 out of 10 cruises									13.0%
Tons Per Thousand Board Feet												
Conversion Factor - Estimated tons hauled per thousand Scribner board feet	9,470 estimated tons / 1,854 Net MBF											5.11 tons/MBF

Timber Sale Information Sheet
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Contract Information		
Contract Termination Date:	11/30/2029	
Operating Period:	June 16 - October 31	

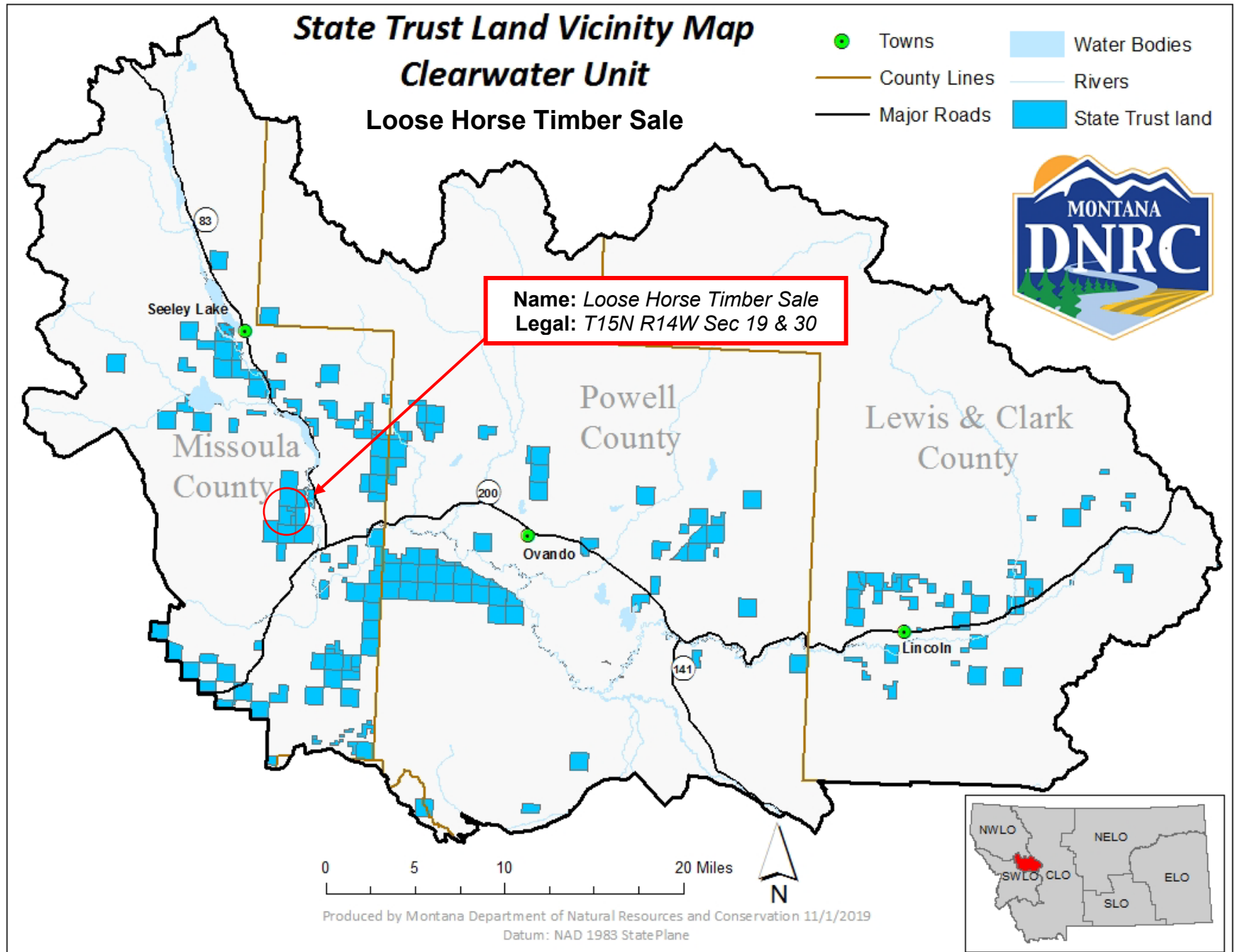
Logging Information	
% of volume logged by clearcut or seed tree cut	69%
% of volume logged with tractors	100%
% of volume logged by skyline	00%
% of volume logged by other system (specify)	00%
Yarding distance tractor (average)	600 ft.
Yarding distance skyline (average)	0 ft.
Yarding distance other system (specify)	0 ft.
Estimated haul distance (paved)	83.0 miles
Estimated haul distance (unpaved)	2.8 miles

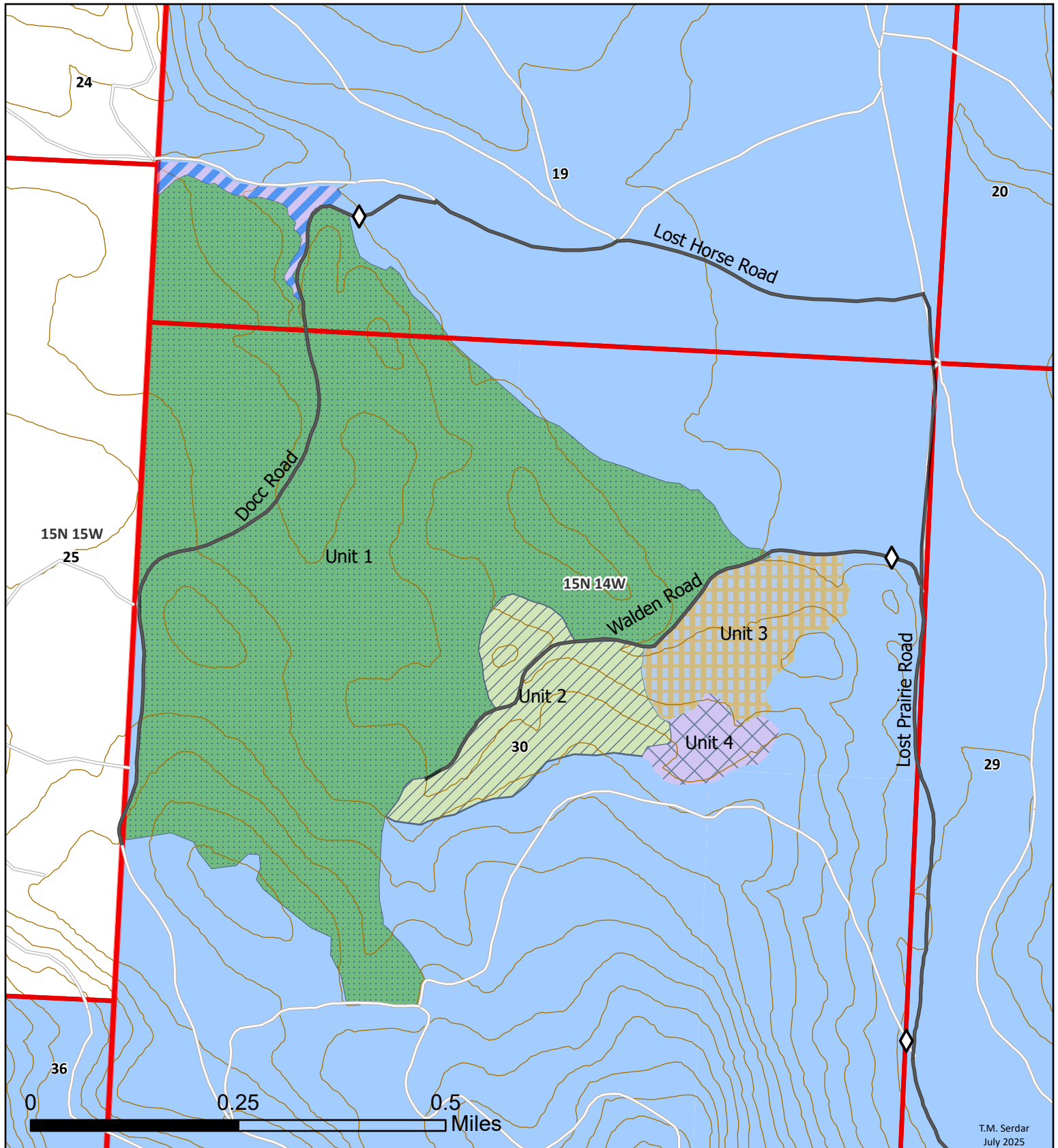
Purchaser fees and estimated costs	
Forest Improvement fee perMBF	\$21.75/MBF
Forest Improvement fee per ton	\$4.26/ton
Forest Improvement fee estimated total	\$40,342.20
Forest Improvement fee quarterly installment	\$6,723.70
Estimated Purchaser-do FI total \$	\$12,180
Estimated Purchaser-do FI per ton	\$1.29/ton
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work total	\$2,920.00
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work per ton	\$0.31/ton

Road development and maintenance fees and estimates	
Estimated road development cost total	\$0
Estimated road development cost per ton	\$0.00/ton
Estimated road development cost perMBF	\$0.00/MBF
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost total	\$14,065
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost per ton	\$1.49/ton
Private road maintenance charges per ton	\$0.00/ton
USFS road maintenance charges per ton	\$0.00/ton
Miles of road construction	0.0 miles
Miles of road reconstruction	0.0 miles
Miles of road with site improvements	0.0 miles
Miles of road reclamation or abandonment	0.0 miles
Miles of road maintenance and blading	5.2 miles

Unit harvest volume				
Unit #	Acres	Est Tons	Est MBF	Harvest Deadline
Cutting Unit 1	238.01	6559	1284	October 31, 2028
Cutting Unit 2	26.73	1272	249	October 31, 2028
Cutting Unit 3	19.82	1170	229	October 31, 2028
Cutting Unit 4	6.70	469	92	October 31, 2028
	291 Ac.	9,470 tons	1,854 MBF	

A-1: Vicinity Map





-  Unit 1
-  Unit 2
-  Unit 3
-  Unit 4
-  SMZ
-  40-foot Contours

-  Timber Sale Roads
-  Other Roads
-  Gates
-  DNRC Trust Lands
-  PLSS Township
-  PLSS First Division

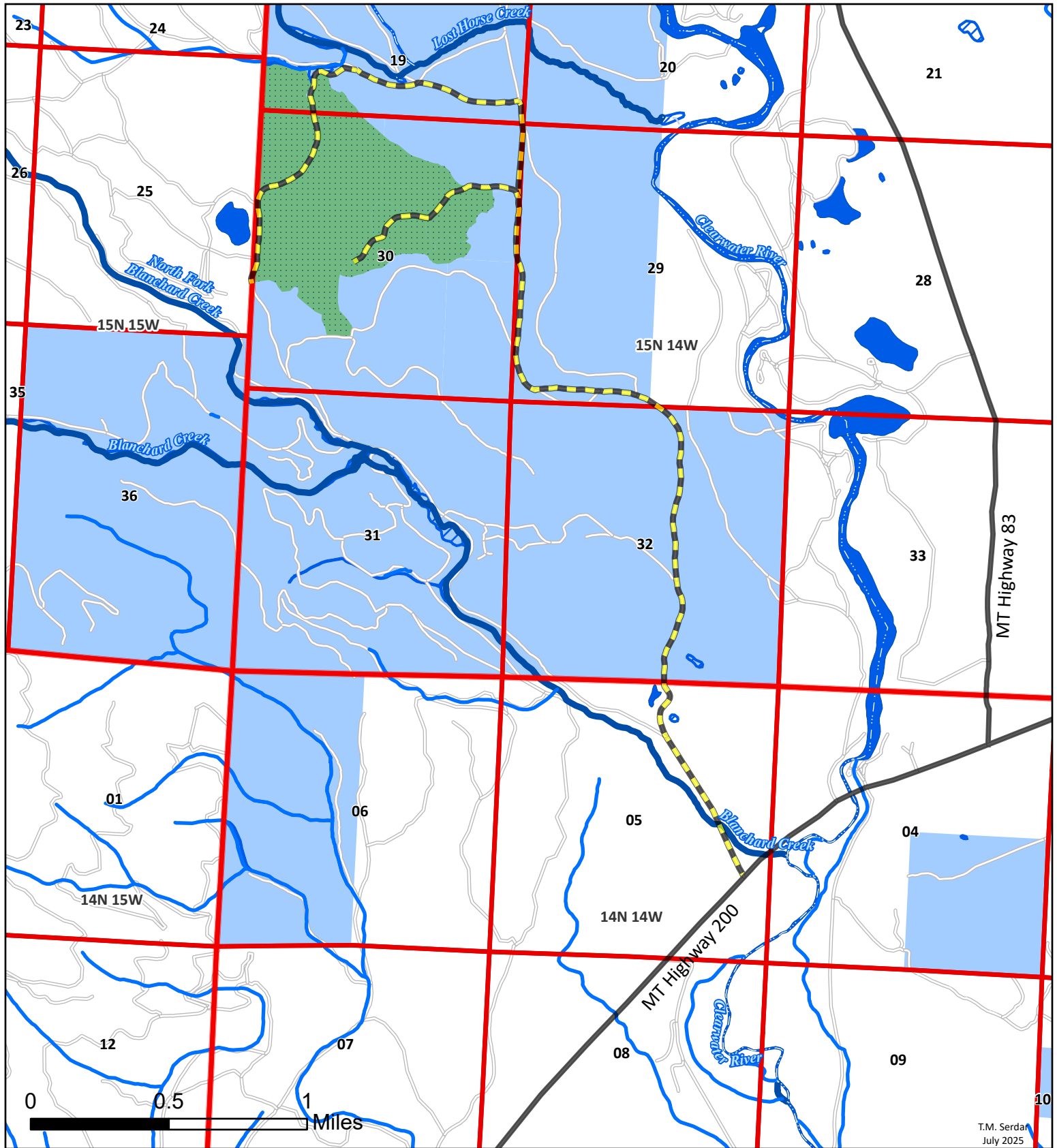


Loose Horse Timber Sale

Attachment A-2
Harvest Unit Map



T.M. Serdar
July 2025



- Harvest Units
- Haul Route
- Highways
- Other Roads

- DNRC Trust Lands
- PLSS Township
- PLSS First Division



Loose Horse Timber Sale Attachment A-3 **Haul Route Map**

