



March 23, 2026

**Initial Proposal
Reservoir Creek Timber Permit and Conifer Removal Project**

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), Dillon Unit is proposing a timber harvest and conifer removal project on the following state-owned parcels:

Sections 13, 14, 15, 21, 23, and 24 Township 8 South, Range 13 West

The proposed Reservoir Creek Timber Permit and Conifer Removal project is located approximately 35 air miles west of Dillon, Montana in Beaverhead County.

The primary objectives of the proposed project are to:

- Contribute to the annual targets of timber harvest volumes of DNRC and the Central Land Office required by state law (77-5-221 through 223, MCA).
- Take advantage of logging operations on adjacent ownership to harvest low value timber.
- Reduce conifer encroachment in sage-steppe ecosystem.
- Generate revenue for the Common Schools Trust.

The project would harvest up to 100 thousand board feet (Mbf) of timber from approximately 10 acres and reduce conifer encroachment into sage brush habitat on approximately 935 acres. Silvicultural prescriptions may include a combination of primarily seed tree, thinning from above, and overstory removal harvest prescriptions, where appropriate, depending on stand species composition. Timber harvest methods will primarily involve ground-based methods. Conifer encroachment removal on the remaining 935 acres may include lop & scatter or cut & pile treatments, where appropriate, depending on species density. Timber harvest and reduction of conifer encroachment into sage brush habitat could begin as early as the spring of 2026 and extend up to five years.

Approximately 2.5 miles of existing road on state land would be improved and maintained to facilitate access to the project area. Roughly 0.5 miles of new temporary roads would be constructed for log hauling operations. All roads used for log hauling would be improved and constructed to meet Montana Forestry Best Management Practices.

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 DNRC – Dillon Unit invites written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal on State Trust Lands from interested parties. For further information on this proposed project, you may contact the Dillon Unit Fuels Forester, Michaela Kalinowski at michaela.kalinowski@mt.gov. We will be accepting comments until **April 23, 2026, at 5 pm**. Please respond to:

Montana DNRC
Attn: Michaela Kalinowski
840 North Montana
Dillon, MT 59725

Sincerely,

Michaela Kalinowski

Michaela Kalinowski
Fuels Forester
406-925-7076



State Trust Land Vicinity Map Dillon Unit

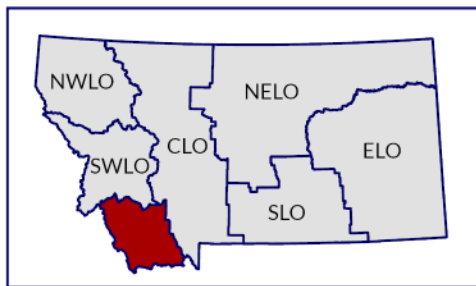
Bear Creek Riparian Restoration Project

Sections: 13, 14,
15, 21, 23, & 24
Township: 8S
Range: 13W

County:
Beaverhead

Acres: ≈945

- Towns
- County Lines
- Interstate
- Major Roads
- Rivers & Lakes
- State Trust Land



0 5 10 20 Miles

Produced by Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation – 2025
NAD 1983 State Plane