

## NOTICE OF SALE

### Department of Natural Resources & Conservation Timber Sale

The GNA Bear Creek timber sale is located within sections PB39 – PB42 of T27N – R18W on the Flathead National Forest. Approximately 14,813 tons, consisting of mixed conifer sawlogs, are offered for sale.

Sealed bids will be opened at the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, 2705 Spurgin Road, Missoula, Montana on **Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 2:00 pm**. Bids may be hand delivered or mailed and will be accepted any time prior to the bid opening. **DNRC recommends that bidders contact the Forestry 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 **\$12,389.00** 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, Forestry Division, in Missoula (406-542-4300).

Visit our website for upcoming sales and bid results.

<https://dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Forest-Products/timber-sales>

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

<b>Timber Sale Name: GNA Bear Creek</b>			
<b>For specific sale information, contact:</b>			
Phone	406-751-2267	Forester Rachel Cutler	Kalispell Unit
<b>For copies of the Timber Sale Contract and bid forms, contact:</b>			
Phone	406-542-4300	Missoula DNRC Main Office	GNA Bureau
Phone	406-751-2240		Northwestern Land Office

**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 Good Neighbor Authority Bureau, Forestry 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 advanced 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. 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.
8. 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 underrun of the estimated tonnage. The State strongly recommends that bidders evaluate these effects before bidding.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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:**

1. This timber sale is a State of Montana Timber Sale on Forest Service Land and is being performed under the Good Neighbor Authority. Potential Purchasers should be aware that this is a partnership, between the Montana DNRC and the US Forest Service, to increase the pace and Scale of forest restoration on National Forest System Lands. Considering Good Neighbor Authority is a high priority of both agencies, and it has a high degree of public interest, the purchaser should expect increased DNRC, Forest Service, and public attention on this timber sale. The DNRC and Forest Service may wish to have public or media tours of this timber sale and we will encourage active involvement by the timber sale purchaser and their contractors.
2. Under the Good Neighbor Authority all NEPA mitigations and Forest Plan requirements must be adhered to. Specific mitigations to do so are written into the contract. The DNRC encourages potential purchasers to familiarize themselves with these mitigations prior to bidding.
3. Unlike DNRC Trust Lands Timber Sales, no Forest Improvement Fees will be charged.
4. Unlike Forest Service Timber Sales, all deposits such as KV, BD, and road deposits are included in the stumpage value and accounted for between the DNRC and Forest Service.
5. Log Branding: This contract is subject to the Forest Resource Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, as amended (12 USC 620, et seq.) The purchaser must comply with log branding and accounting rules in Attachment E.
6. The GNA Bear Creek Timber Sale is located northeast of Ferndale, MT. Please see Attachment A pages 1-3 for further information on sale location.
7. The Bear Creek Road (FS 5398) is seasonally open from July 1 to November 30. Access to all other roads in the sale area is on foot if the purchaser wishes to view the sale prior to bidding.
8. The **Purchaser is required to cut, skid, and deck or dispose of** (placed in landing pile at a minimum) **other material** that does not meet the Sawlog Manufacturing and Recovery Standards in Table 2 of the GNA Bear Creek Contract. Hauling of other material is not required. The purchaser may elect to remove other material which will be billed at the rate for 'Other Material' shown in Table 1 of the GNA Bear Creek Timber Sale contract. In units with slashing and excavator piling, the purchaser may dispose of other materials in the in-unit piles with approval from the Forest Officer.
9. The GNA Bear Creek Timber Sale has two optional harvest units that the purchaser may elect to cut. Both units require cable or alternative yarding. If the purchaser elects to harvest these units, they must harvest both units and are required to do additional roadwork as specified in Attachment B of the contract.
10. **TIMING RESTRICTIONS FOR HARVESTING AND HAULING:** all harvest units have timing restrictions that apply to harvesting and hauling. In units 31A, 31B, 31C, 31D (optional unit), 33, 35A, 35B, 35D, 35E, 35F, and 39 (optional unit) harvesting and hauling is allowed between December 1 to March 31. In units 34B and 35C harvesting and hauling is allowed between July 1 to March 31.
11. **OTHER TIMING RESTRICTIONS:** No project activities (i.e. road work, post-harvest activities, harvesting, hauling, etc.) are allowed during the spring period to avoid disturbance of Grizzly Bears. The spring period is **April 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>**.
12. **30-day window:** The purchaser has one 30-day unlimited use period per calendar year to complete road work or post-harvest activities on roads FS 10319, FS 10320 and FS 10321. This 30-day window may fall between July 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>. A 30-day window is not needed for Bear Creek Road (FS 5398) since the gate is open during this time.
13. **Slashing Required:** Slashing is required in units 33, 34B, 35A, 35B, and 39 (optional unit) Section VII. G.1 in the contract. Approximately 83 acres of slashing, plus additional if optional units are harvested.
14. **Excavator Piling Required:** Excavator piling is required in units 33 and 34B. Section VII. G. 2 in the contract. Approximately 14 acres of piling.
15. **PRIVATE WATER LINES:** The purchaser shall avoid damage to private water distribution infrastructure (surface water lines) that are located in units 31A, 31B, and 33. Surface water lines have been clearly identified and flagged with PINK FLAGGING and are also located on the map (Attachment A-3). The purchaser must work with the Forest Officer in order to identify potential crossing spots and develop a plan to minimize damage to surface water lines. Directional felling away from the private water lines is required. The purchaser must also notify the Forest Officer of planned operations within units 31A, 31B, and 33, 10 days prior to starting so that the Forest Officer can notify affected residents. If and when damage does occur, the purchaser is responsible for repairing damage when it is discovered in a timely manner.

16. Skyline yarding and shovel logging are required to harvest the optional units (31D & 39), but alternative yarding systems may be approved. Section VII. G. 4-6 in the contract.
17. A portion of the roadwork for this sale will be completed with a separate Bear Creek Road Improvement contract. This contract will include brushing, ditch pulling, road widening, drain dip installation, culvert cleaning, and culvert installation. This contract will significantly reduce the cost of initial road work for the GNA Bear Creek Timber Sale.

**Timber Sale Information Sheet**  
**Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation**

GNA Bear Creek REQUIRED Units												
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												
Pounds per cubic foot	55.8	55.5	52.5	50.4		54.0					40.0	
Estimated CF	7069.0	439372.7	50241.7	71781.8		34965.4					0.0	603,431 CF
Estimated CF of non-sawlog material	20.8	3670.5	1231.2	1950.4		556.0					0.0	7,429 CF
Estimated tons of sawlogs	195	11192	1098	1659		668					0	<b>14,813 tons</b>
Estimated tons of non-sawlog material	1	93	28	45		11					0	177 tons
Gross MBF	35	2066	218	304		155					0	2,778 MBF
% Cull and Breakage	0.9	8.2	17.2	8.2		29.3					0.0	10.0%
Net MBF	35	1897	180	279		110					0	2,501 MBF
Average logs per MBF	13.5	18.2	30.2	25.2		26.7					0.0	20.2 logs/MBF
Average DBH	16.6	14.2	10.9	10.7		12.5					0.0	13.1 in.
Average tons to cut per acre	=====											76 tons/ac
Average MBF to cut per acre	=====											12.9 MBF/ac
Total Average TPA Cut	=====											120
Calculated Sampling Error: Total cruised volume will fall between	2,226 and 2,775 Net MBF in 9 out of 10 cruises											11.0%
Tons Per Thousand Board Feet												
Conversion Factor - Estimated tons hauled per thousand Scribner board feet	14,813 estimated tons / 2,501 Net MBF											5.92 tons/MBF

Contract Information	
Contract Termination Date:	10/1/2030
Operating Period:	07/01/2026 - 03/31/2027; 12/01/2027 - 03/31/2028; 12/01/2028 - 03/31/2029; 12/01/2029 - 03/31/2030

**Timber Sale Information Sheet**  
**Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation**

Logging Information	
% of volume logged by clearcut or seed tree cut	08%
% of volume logged with tractors	100%
% of volume logged by skyline	N/A
% of volume logged by other system (specify)	N/A
Yarding distance tractor (average)	530 ft.
Yarding distance skyline (average)	N/A
Yarding distance other system (specify)	N/A
Estimated haul distance (paved)	22.0 miles
Estimated haul distance (unpaved)	2.0 miles

Purchaser fees and estimated costs	
Forest Improvement fee perMBF	N/A
Forest Improvement fee per ton	N/A
Forest Improvement fee estimated total	N/A
Forest Improvement fee quarterly installment	N/A
Estimated Purchaser-do FI total \$	N/A
Estimated Purchaser-do FI per ton	N/A
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work total	\$17,213.00
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work per ton	\$1.16/ton

Road development and maintenance fees and estimates	
Estimated road development cost total	\$1,565
Estimated road development cost per ton	\$0.11/ton
Estimated road development cost perMBF	\$1.60/MBF
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost total - ONLY IF UNIT 39 IS HARVESTED	\$2,832
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost per ton	\$0.19/ton
Private road maintenance charges per ton	N/A
USFS road maintenance charges per ton	N/A
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	1.3 miles

Unit harvest volume				
Unit #	Acres	Est Tons	Est MBF	Harvest Deadline
31A	30.0	3152	532	March 31, 2030
31B	12.1	1138	192	March 31, 2030
31C	32.6	2333	394	March 31, 2030
33	7.1	769	130	March 31, 2030
34B	6.6	406	69	March 31, 2030
35A	34.8	2847	481	March 31, 2030
35B	34.2	2345	396	March 31, 2030
35C	17.8	1049	177	March 31, 2030
35D	6.2	270	46	March 31, 2030
35E	5.4	164	28	March 31, 2030
35F	7.2	340	57	March 31, 2030
	194 Ac.	14,813 tons	2,501 MBF	

**Timber Sale Information Sheet**  
**Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation**

GNA Bear Creek OPTIONAL Units												
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												
Pounds per cubic foot		55.5	52.5								40.0	
Estimated CF		152335.8	11518.1								0.0	163,854 CF
Estimated CF of non-sawlog material		1319.7	88.9								0.0	1,409 CF
Estimated tons of sawlogs		3708	242								0	<b>3,949 tons</b>
Estimated tons of non-sawlog material		33	2								0	35 tons
Gross MBF		731	57								0	789 MBF
% Cull and Breakage		12.6	20.2								0.0	13.1%
Net MBF		639	46								0	685 MBF
Average logs per MBF		18.6	20.0								0.0	18.7 logs/MBF
Average DBH		14.4	14.2								0.0	14.4 in.
Average tons to cut per acre												91 tons/ac
Average MBF to cut per acre												15.9 MBF/ac
Total Average TPA Cut												114
Calculated Sampling Error: Total cruised volume will fall between	557 and 813 Net MBF in 9 out of 10 cruises											18.6%
Tons Per Thousand Board Feet												
Conversion Factor - Estimated tons hauled per thousand Scribner board feet	3,949 estimated tons / 685 Net MBF											5.76 tons/MBF

Contract Information	
Contract Termination Date:	10/1/2030
Operating Period:	12/01/2026 - 03/31/2027; 12/01/2027 - 03/31/2028; 12/01/2028 - 03/31/2029; 12/01/2029 - 03/31/2030

Logging Information	
% of volume logged by clearcut or seed tree cut	00%
% of volume logged with tractors	00%
% of volume logged by skyline	55%
% of volume logged by other system (shovel)	45%
Yarding distance tractor (average)	N/A

Road development and maintenance fees and estimates	
Estimated road development cost total	\$9,577
Estimated road development cost per ton	\$2.43/ton
Estimated road development cost perMBF	\$13.98/MBF
Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost total	\$2,405

**Timber Sale Information Sheet**  
**Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation**

Yarding distance skyline (average)	400 ft.
Yarding distance other system (shovel)	300 ft.
Estimated haul distance (paved)	2.0 miles
Estimated haul distance (unpaved)	22.0 miles

<b>Purchaser fees and estimated costs</b>	
Forest Improvement fee perMBF	N/A
Forest Improvement fee per ton	N/A
Forest Improvement fee estimated total	N/A
Forest Improvement fee quarterly installment	N/A
Estimated Purchaser-do FI total \$	N/A
Estimated Purchaser-do FI per ton	N/A
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work total	\$630.00
Estimated Purchaser-do slash disposal work per ton	\$0.16/ton

Estimated Purchaser-do road maintenance cost per ton	\$0.61/ton
Private road maintenance charges per ton	N/A
USFS road maintenance charges per ton	N/A
Miles of road construction	N/A
Miles of road reconstruction	N/A
Miles of road with site improvements	N/A
Miles of road reclamation or abandonment	N/A
Miles of road maintenance and blading	1.3 miles

<b>Unit harvest volume</b>				
Unit #	Acres	Est Tons	Est MBF	Harvest Deadline
39	25.29	2329	404	March 31, 2030
31D	17.89	1621	281	March 31, 2030
	43 Ac.	3,949 tons	685 MBF	



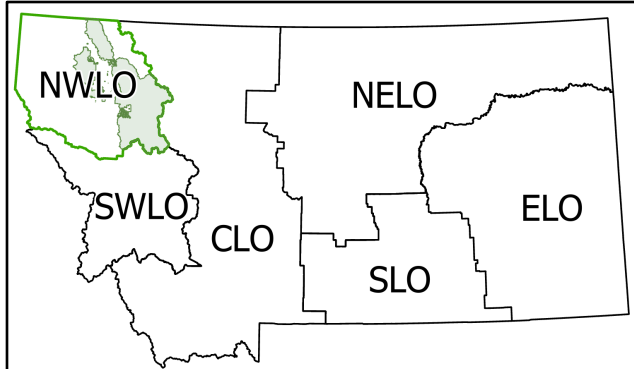
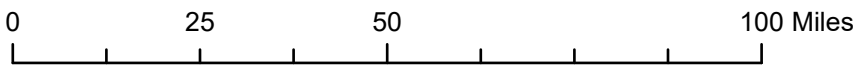
# GNA Bear Creek Attachment A-1: Vicinity Map



The sale is located approximately 23 miles South East of Kalispell. It is contained within T27N R18W and sections PB 40, PB 41, and PB 42.

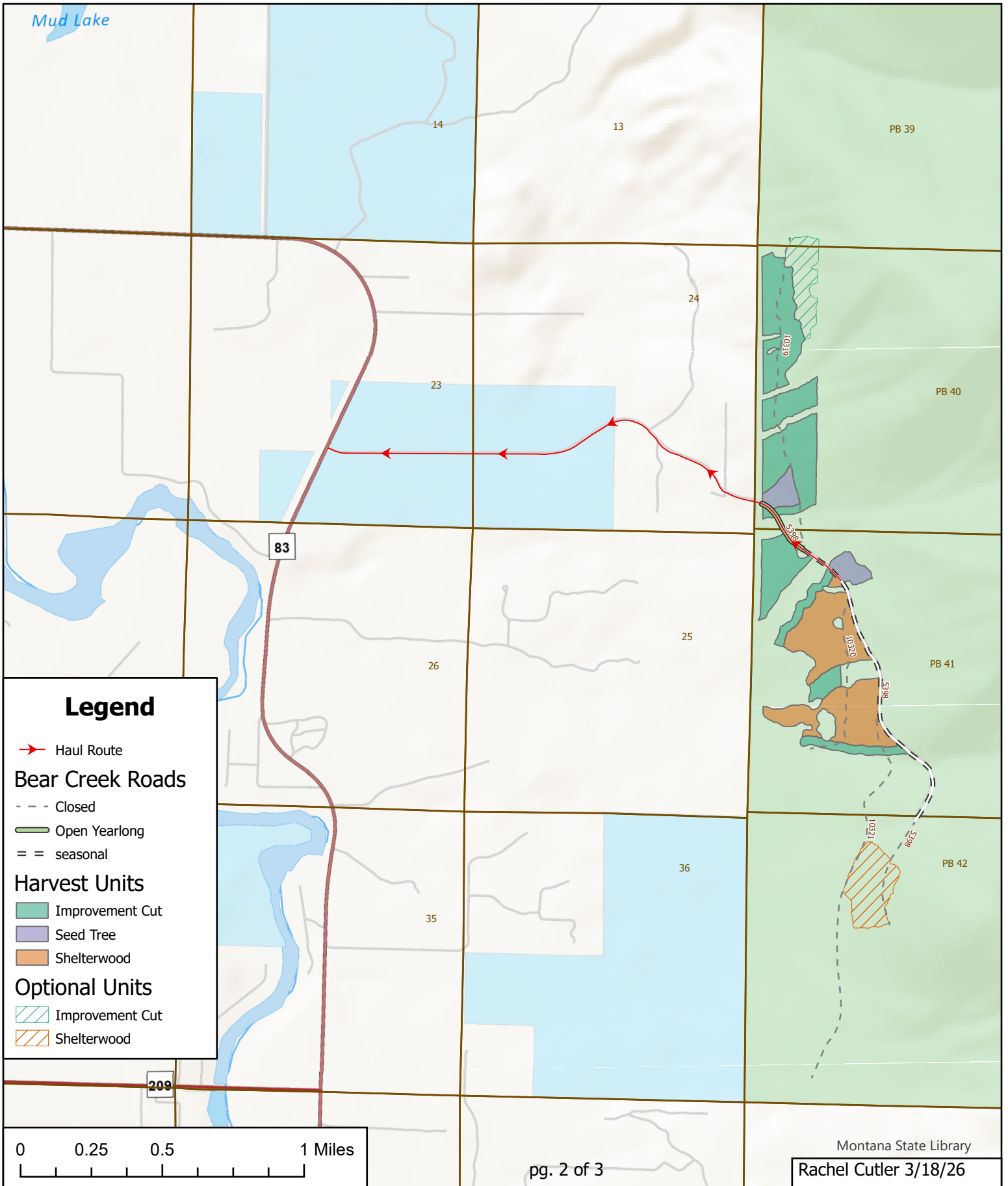


- Cities
- ▭ NW Land Office
- Highways & Roads
- ▭ Lakes
- ▭ Counties
- ▭ Flathead NF





# GNA Bear Creek Attachment A-2: Haul Route Map





# GNA Bear Creek Attachment A-3: Unit Map

