

STATE OF MONTANA
GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY - TIMBER SALE CONTRACT
FOR STUMPPAGE SOLD BY THE TON

VERSION 18 – DECEMBER 2024

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & CONSERVATION 2705 Spurgin Road Missoula, MT 59804	NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER OF PURCHASER:	
	Tax I.D. Number	
LAND OFFICE NWLO	SALE NAME Tally Road Salvage Letter Permit	SALE NUMBER GNA8029
UNIT OFFICE Kalispell	AWARD DATE February 18, 2026	TERMINATION DATE February 18, 2027

THIS TIMBER SALE CONTRACT (hereinafter called Contract or agreement) IS MADE AND ENTERED INTO by and between the State of Montana, acting through its Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, Forestry Division (hereinafter called the State) and (_____, a sole proprietorship; or _____, a partnership; or _____, Inc. a corporation) (hereinafter called Purchaser) having an office and principal place of business at the address shown above. Purchaser's bid for all timber and timber products described in this Contract has been accepted by the State after having been estimated, appraised and advertised for sale as required by law. Therefore, in consideration of the mutual promises contained in this agreement, the State agrees to sell and the Purchaser agrees to purchase the designated timber located on the areas described in this Contract at the specified rates of payment and in strict conformity with the requirements, standards, specifications and conditions set forth in this Contract.

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-ATTACHMENTS-			
The following attachments are hereby made a part of this contract:			
ATTACHMENT A: Timber Sale Maps		3 Pages	
ATTACHMENT B: Tally Lake Campground Water System Map		1 Page	
ATTACHMENT C: Forest Fire Regulations		2 Pages	
ATTACHMENT D: Working in Bear Habitat Brochure		1 Page	
ATTACHMENT E: Food Storage Order		5 Pages	

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TABLE 1 - LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE GROSS SALE AREA			
The timber designated for sale under this Contract is within the following sale area			
Subdivisions	Section	Twn	Rge
SE1/4	25	31N	24W
SW1/4NE1/4	25	31N	24W
S1/2	30	31N	23W
N1/2	31	31N	23W
NE1/4SE1/4	31	31N	23W
W1/2SW1/4	32	31N	23W
Total approximate acres in gross sale area:	960		
Number of harvest units (Including Right-of-Way): 1	3		
Total acres in harvest units (Including Right-of-Way):	91		
N/A			

TABLE 1 (continued) - ESTIMATED SALE VOLUME	
The state does not guarantee the product weight, by species or in total, to equal the estimated advertised weight in quantity or product designation.	
Product	Estimated Quantity (Tons)
Sawlogs	527
Total Estimated Volume	527

TABLE 1 (continued) - PAYMENT RATES			
Payment	Amount		Requirements
Performance Bond Amount:	20% of bid value		See Section II.A.1-3.
	Product	Amount	
Stumpage Rate per ton:	Sawlogs	Bid Rate	
	Other Material	\$1.00	See Section II.B.1-3.
Required Deposits (slash, etc.)	N/A		

TABLE 1 – (continued) – ROAD USE AND MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS		
Road Name or Number	Rate	Requirements
N/A		

I. GENERAL TERMS

A. DEFINITION OF CONTRACT LANGUAGE: The following definitions apply to terms used in this Contract:

1. Administrator – The Good Neighbor Authority Bureau Chief, Forestry Division, Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
2. Draw – A swale or drainageway that may not have perceptible or definite beds or banks.
3. Environmental Law – Includes, but is not limited to, the following laws and any regulations promulgated under these laws: the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (“CERCLA”) (42 U.S.C. § 9601 *et seq.*), as amended; the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (“RCRA”) (42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 – 6987), as amended; the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401, *et seq.*), as amended; the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. § 300f *et seq.*), as amended; the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1401 *et seq.*), as amended; the Clean Air Act of Montana (Mont. Code Ann. § 75-2-101 *et seq.*), as amended; the Montana Water Quality Act (Mont. Code Ann. § 75-5-101 *et seq.*), as amended; the Montana Solid Waste Management Act (Mont. Code Ann. § 75-10-201 *et seq.*), as amended; the Montana Hazardous Waste Act (Mont. Code Ann. § 75-10-401 *et seq.*), as amended; the Montana Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (Mont. Code Ann. § 75-10-701 *et seq.*) as amended; and the Montana Underground Storage Tank Act (Mont. Code Ann. § 75-11-501 *et seq.*) as amended.
4. Forest Officer – The State field representative assigned the job of contract administration for this timber sale Contract. Except as otherwise expressly stated in the Contract, the Forest Officer is not authorized to modify the contract on behalf of the State.
5. Hazardous or deleterious substance – Means a substance that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics, may pose an imminent and substantial threat to public health, safety, or welfare or the environment, and is:
 - a. A substance that is defined as a hazardous substance by section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), as amended.
 - b. A substance identified by the administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a hazardous substance pursuant to section 102 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9602, as amended.
 - c. A substance that is defined as a hazardous waste pursuant to section 1004(5) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(5), as amended, including a substance listed or identified in 40 CFR 261.
 - d. Any petroleum product.
6. Operating period – The annual time period during which field activities (logging, hauling, construction, etc.) may be conducted.
7. Paid or payment – Except as otherwise expressly stated in the Contract, full remuneration by either cash, money order or certified check.
8. Purchaser – The signatory party to this Contract other than the Administrator. Purchaser is also defined to include employees and agents of the Purchaser authorized to conduct activities as required for execution of the timber sale Contract. As an independent contractor, neither the Purchaser, its employees or agents shall be considered employees of the State of Montana or the United States Forest Service pursuant to work performed under this Contract.
9. Sawlog – A green or dead log as further defined under Section VII.C.

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10. State – The State of Montana and its agents and employees, including but not limited to the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation.
11. USFS - The United States Forest Service and its agents and employees.
12. Stream – A stream is a natural watercourse of perceptible extent that has a sandy or rocky bottom or definite banks and confines and conducts continuously or intermittently flowing water.
13. Stumpage – The rate paid in dollars per ton as specified in Table 1 for Sawlogs and/or Other Material.
14. Supervisor – A person designated by the Purchaser in charge of operations on site at the sale area at all times when construction or harvesting operations are in progress. The Supervisor shall have authorization to receive notices from the Forest Officer and take appropriate action with regard to breach and/or violations of the terms of the contract.

B. REMOVAL OF TIMBER AND TITLE TRANSFER:

1. Provided the Purchaser has paid for timber as required in Section II.B.1, ADVANCE STUMPAGE PAYMENT, the Purchaser has the right to cut and remove timber from the sale area provided all Contract requirements related to the commencement of operations have been met.
2. Title to all timber included in this contract shall be retained by the USFS until:
 - a. The timber has been paid for.
 - b. The timber has been measured, as described in Section III.A. MEASUREMENT AND LOG ACCOUNTABILITY.
 - c. The timber has been properly marked, branded and ticketed as described in Section III.C & E. MEASUREMENT AND LOG ACCOUNTABILITY and Attachment E, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, and removed from the gross sale area.
3. Title to timber remaining on the gross sale area at termination of the contract shall remain with the USFS.
4. As documented in this contract, or otherwise agreed to, all roads and other improvements become the property of the USFS as they are constructed.

C. TERM OF CONTRACT: This Contract is effective upon approval and execution by the Administrator and shall terminate on the Termination Date shown on page 1 unless terminated sooner for successful completion or for gross or persistent breach and/or failure to promptly and properly remedy contract violations of the Contract terms pursuant to Section IV. B, TERMINATION.

D. PRE-OPERATIONS MEETING: No activity may occur on the sale area until a pre-operations meeting is conducted between the Purchaser and the State. The Purchaser shall notify the Forest Officer at least seven (7) days prior to the start of operations to schedule the pre-operations meeting. The Forest Officer will specify to the Purchaser what information the Purchaser must provide to the State at the pre-operations meeting.

E. ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN: Purchaser may be required to submit a written annual operating plan, as specified by, and at the request of the Forest Officer.

F. CONTRACT TERM EXTENSION:

1. In the event that Purchaser's operations are delayed and Purchaser is not able to complete the requirements of this Contract prior to the harvest completion date or the termination date, the State may grant an extension of the term of this Contract. An extension will be considered by the State under only the following circumstances:

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- a. The State determines an extension is in the USFS and State's best interests;
- b. Purchaser applies for the extension in writing at least 30 days prior to the termination date.
- c. The State notifies the Purchaser that an extension is required.
- d. Purchaser has provided the State with written notice from the surety that the performance bond on this contract has been extended for a period commensurate with the requested contract extension.
- e. Purchaser has made a good faith effort to complete the sale.
- f. The extension request is not based on poor log and/or market conditions.

2. If the contract term extension is granted, Purchaser shall conduct continuous operations through the operating periods and/or resume operations at the start of the next operating period until the requirements of this Contract are completed. No extension shall be granted for a period longer than eighteen (18) months after the termination date as provided herein unless a longer extension is determined to be in the State's and USFS's best interest.
3. If the extension is requested and granted because of delays resulting from matters within Purchaser's control, the following will apply:
 - a. Purchaser shall pay an extension fee of \$ 500.00.
 - b. Stumpage rates for any volume cut, skidded or hauled during the extension period will be escalated a minimum of 10%.
 - c. No de-escalation will occur from the time the extension is granted by the Administrator, as documented in a signed modification, through the remainder of the Contract.
4. An extension may be granted to the Purchaser without penalty if the State prohibits logging activity for more than 2 weeks during the operating period described in this Contract.
5. All conditions of this contract shall remain in force during any period of extension, unless those conditions are amended by the terms of the extension.
6. In the event the Contract terminates pursuant to Section I.C, TERM OF CONTRACT due to expiration of the time period within which its performance shall have been completed, and the State has not granted an extension, the Purchaser shall immediately cease all operations within the Gross Sale Area as shown in Table 1. Operations beyond the contract termination date for which the State has not granted an extension will be treated as trespass.

G. LIABILITY FOR LOSS: The Purchaser is responsible for loss, degradation, or damage to timber while the timber is in his, her or its custody, including but not limited to, timber which has been felled, skidded or decked and/or timber which has been lost, damaged or stolen after removal from the sale area but before scaling or weight is recorded.

H. SUPERVISION: When construction or harvesting operations are in progress, the Purchaser shall have exclusive control over the manner in which the Contract is executed if, as determined by the State, the Purchaser has and is complying with all terms and conditions provided herein. Purchaser is required to have a supervisor(s) in charge of operations on the sale area at all times. Such supervisor(s) shall have authorization to receive notices from the Forest Officer and take appropriate action with regard to breach and/or violations of the terms and conditions of the Contract.

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I. COMPLAINTS:

1. Complaints by the Purchaser concerning any action or decision of a Forest Officer, including suspension orders, must be made in writing to the Administrator postmarked within 30 days of the disputed action or decision. In the interim, Purchaser must comply with the directions of the Forest Officer.
2. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Administrator, or a designated representative, shall promptly hold an informal conference with the Purchaser and the Forest Officer to review the disputed action. The Purchaser shall be given adequate notice of the conference and shall be given the opportunity to present evidence and an argument to rebut the reasons given by the Forest Officer for the disputed action. After review, the Administrator shall notify the Purchaser in writing of his decision. The decision of the Administrator is final on behalf of the State, except regarding termination of the contract.

J. ASSIGNMENT: This contract shall not be assigned in whole or in part unless approved in writing by the Administrator. Any person or entity that is currently suspended or debarred from bidding on or operating government contracts is also suspended or debarred from bidding or operating (including as a sub-contractor) on this contract.

K. MODIFICATIONS:

1. This Contract, together with the attachments listed herein, contains the entire agreement of the parties and no statements, promises or inducements made by either party, or agents of either party, that are not contained in such written Contract shall be valid or binding. This Contract, except as described in Section I.K.2 below, cannot be enlarged, modified or altered except upon written agreement signed by all parties to this contract. Only the Administrator, his successor, or his designated representative is authorized to enter into such modification on behalf of the State.
2. To protect cultural or natural resources the State may modify provisions of the Contract without prior agreement by the Purchaser.

L. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Pursuant to Section 49-3-207, MCA, any hiring by the Purchaser under this agreement must be on the basis of merit and qualifications and there must be no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religious creed, political ideas, sex, marital status, physical or mental handicap, national origin or ancestry by any person performing this Contract.

M. LIABILITY INSURANCE:

1. Prior to the commencement of any work to be performed under this Contract, the Purchaser or their agents shall obtain, carry and keep in good standing for the remainder of the Contract period, with any extensions:
 - a. Comprehensive general liability insurance coverage to the limit of \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence and \$2,000,000.00 per aggregate. Each such policy shall include endorsements, which shall name the State, US Forest Service, its elected and appointed officials, agents and employees as additional insured and shall provide that the State shall be given 30 days written notice, at the address stated above, prior to cancellation or any material change in such policy.
 - b. Automobile Liability Insurance: The Purchaser shall purchase and maintain coverage with split limits of \$500,000 per person (personal injury), \$1,000,000 per accident occurrence (personal injury), and \$100,000 per accident occurrence (property damage), OR combined single limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence to cover such claims as may be caused by any act, omission, or negligence of the contractor or its officers, agents, representatives, assigns, or subcontractors.

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2. In lieu of such coverage, the Purchaser may provide proof of self-insurance in at least an amount equal to that provided above.
3. Prior to the commencement of any work to be performed under this Contract, Purchaser shall deliver to the State a certificate of insurance from the insurer(s) of the Purchaser or their agents certifying that coverage in at least the amounts stated above is in force. Such certificate shall be submitted to the State for approval of the insurer(s), the amount, and the form. The State reserves the right to require a certified copy of any such policy or to examine the policy itself.
4. A self-insured Purchaser shall provide an equivalent certificate of insurance subject to the approval of the State.
5. It is further understood and agreed that this Contract shall terminate immediately in the event that the mandatory liability insurance coverage required under this part is for any reason not obtained or is discontinued.

N. WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE:

1. Prior to the commencement of any work under this Contract, Purchaser shall provide written verification to the Administrator that any and all individuals who are to be engaged in work under this Contract, including but not limited to employees, agents or independent contractors of the Purchaser or of its subcontractors, are either insured for workers' compensation coverage or are exempted from such coverage as certified independent contractors pursuant to § 39-71-401 MCA.
2. It is expressly understood and agreed that no such individual may engage in work in furtherance of this Contract at any time during its period unless either insured for workers' compensation coverage or exempted from such coverage as indicated above.
3. It is understood and agreed that this Contract shall terminate immediately in the event that workers' compensation coverage or exemptions required under this part is discontinued for any individuals engaged in work under this Contract.

O. SAFETY: The Purchaser, employees, subcontractors and their employees shall conduct their activities in a safe and workmanlike manner, shall cooperate in making it possible for the Forest Officer to safely, efficiently, and economically perform his, her or its administrative duties, and shall comply with federal and State safety standards for logging operations as established by the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA; 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910 and any other such applicable regulations promulgated by OSHA) and as required by Title 50, Chapter 71 of the Montana Code Annotated, and any regulations promulgated to implement the statutes found in that Title and Chapter of the Montana Code Annotated. The Purchaser, and not the State, is responsible for instituting and maintaining all precautions, procedures and programs for the safety of all persons on the project site, and the State hereby disclaims any and all responsibility for injuries or accidents occurring at the site.

P. SAWMILLS PROHIBITED: No sawmills shall be allowed to operate on the gross sale area.

Q. LOG CHIPPERS OR GRINDERS: No log chippers or grinders shall be allowed to operate on the gross sale area unless written approval to do so is granted by the Forest Officer. In order for approval to be granted, the Purchaser shall identify a method acceptable to the State for the measurement of all wood to be ground or chipped. If the Purchaser intends to operate a log chipper outside of the gross sale area, provisions must be made for obtaining certified weights of either the material removed from the sale or of the resultant products.

R. SALE DELAYED OR PRECLUDED BY JUDICIAL ACTION OR GOVERNMENT REGULATORY ACTION:

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1. In the event judicial action, change in applicable law, or implementation of government regulatory action renders proceeding with this Contract unlawful, the State will suspend or terminate the Contract in whole or in part. Upon notice of such suspension or termination, Purchaser shall immediately cease all or any portion of such operations under the Contract as directed by the State. If a court of competent jurisdiction has entered a final judgment rendering further proceeding with this Contract unlawful, or government regulatory action takes effect, the State may terminate the Contract or, at the State's option, suspend the Contract in whole or in part, pending appeal of the court's final judgment. If the Contract is suspended, the State shall not be liable to the Purchaser for damages or losses resulting from the delay. In the event the Contract is terminated due to judicial action, a change in law, or government regulations, the State shall be liable to Purchaser only as follows:

- a. The State shall refund any portion of advance stumpage payments or down payments not needed to compensate the State for timber removed.
- b. The State shall release any portion of the performance bond not needed to compensate the State for timber removed or other losses suffered by the State due to breach of contract by the Purchaser.

S. VENUE AND CHOICE OF LAW: In the event of litigation concerning this agreement, venue shall be in the First Judicial District, Lewis and Clark County, Montana, and this agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Montana both as to interpretation and performance.

T. AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER: The Purchaser is authorized to enter the sale area only for purposes related to the performance of this Contract. Any person or entity that is currently suspended or debarred from bidding on or operating government contracts is also suspended or debarred from bidding or operating (including as a sub-contractor) on this Contract.

U. OTHER OPERATIONS BY THE STATE: The State or USFS reserves the right to at any time conduct within the gross sale area forest management operations including, but not limited to, slash piling, burning, handwork, broadcast burning, mop-up, patrolling, thinning and tree planting during the term of this Contract.

V. INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY:

1. The Purchaser agrees to indemnify the State and the USFS, its officials, agents, and employees, while acting within the scope of their duties and hold the State harmless from and against all claims, demands, and causes of action of any kind or character, including the cost of defense, arising in favor of the Purchaser's employees or third parties on account of bodily or personal injuries, death or damage to property arising out of services performed, goods or rights to intellectual property provided or omissions of services or in any way resulting from the acts or omission of the Purchaser and/or its agents, employees, subcontractors or its representatives while engaged in work under this Contract, all to the extent of the Purchaser's negligence.
2. The Purchaser shall be responsible for, indemnify, defend and hold the State and the USFS harmless from and against any loss, cost (including, without limitation, reasonable legal, accounting, consulting, engineering and similar expenses), damage, claim, fine or liability, including the necessity for tests, inspections or other work, and any damage, claim, fine or liability arising as a result of such tests, inspections or other work, the State must perform:
 - a. Based upon an actual or alleged violation by the Purchaser of, or failure by the Purchaser to comply with, any Environmental Law during the term of this Contract;
 - b. Arising from the discharge, release, threatened release, handling, storage, treatment, deposit or disposal of any Hazardous or Deleterious Substances caused or exacerbated by the activities of the Purchaser on or in the gross sale area during the term of this Contract; or

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- c. Otherwise arising out of or in connection with any environmental condition or action caused or created by the Purchaser.

W. OTHER LAWS AND REGULATIONS: This Contract is subject to all applicable federal, state, county, and municipal laws, ordinances, and regulations in effect at the date of this Contract or which may, from time to time, be adopted, and which do not impair the obligations of this Contract and which do not deprive the Purchaser of an existing property right recognized by law. A violation by the Purchaser of any federal, state, county, and/or municipal laws, ordinances and/or regulations while conducting operations under the terms of this Contract, shall, in the discretion of the State, constitute sufficient reason for the suspension or termination of this Contract. If any part of the lands or premises under this Contract are used or allowed or permitted to be used for any purpose contrary to the laws of this state or the United States, such unlawful use shall, in the discretion of the State, constitute sufficient reason for the suspension or termination of this Contract.

X. FORCE MAJEURE: Neither party shall be responsible for failure to fulfill its obligations due to causes beyond its reasonable control, including without limitation, acts or omissions of government or military authority, acts of God, materials shortages, transportation delays, fires, floods, labor disturbances, riots, wars, terrorist acts, or any other causes, directly or indirectly beyond the reasonable control of the nonperforming party, so long as such party is using its best efforts to remedy such failure or delays. Force majeure will not relieve the Purchaser from liability for damage or otherwise excuse performance of this Contract should the Purchaser cause a fire for which they would be liable under § 50-63-103, MCA.

Y. CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION: The Purchaser must complete and deliver to the State form AD-1047, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters – Primary covered transactions and form AD-1048 Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – Lower tier Covered Transactions.

II. CHARGES AND PAYMENTS

A. PERFORMANCE BOND:

1. As a guarantee of the faithful performance of this Contract, Purchaser shall furnish a bond, with sufficient sureties, to the State in an amount equal to the potential loss to the State in the event of Purchaser's breach or default under the terms of this Contract as determined by the Administrator. The performance bond may be in cash, bond, irrevocable letter of credit, or certificate of deposit with sufficient sureties. A letter of credit must be automatically renewable without amendment for the term of the Contract. The bond shall not be less than five percent (5%) of the estimated value of the timber sold. The performance bond the Purchaser must submit for this Contract is shown in Table 1.
2. Upon full performance of the terms of the Contract, the State shall release the performance bond.
3. Upon substantial performance of the terms of the Contract, the Administrator may release a portion of the performance bond not needed to compensate the State for any remaining timber to be removed or any other losses that may be suffered by the State due to breach of Contract by the Purchaser. The bond shall not be reduced to less than five percent (5%) of the estimated value of the total Contract volume.

B. PAYMENTS:

The Purchaser agrees to make payments to the Treasurer of the State of Montana as follows:

1. **ADVANCE STUMPAGE PAYMENTS:** The Purchaser is required to pay for all timber in advance of cutting at the rates shown in Table 1. Advance stumpage payments will be held by the State to cover the Purchaser's estimated timber cutting for at least six (6) weeks of operations. Advance

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stumpage payments may be reduced just before completion of the sale or when cutting requirements are to be suspended for at least 3 months. Advance stumpage payments may be in cash, bond, irrevocable letter of credit, or certificate of deposit with sufficient sureties.

2. **INITIAL ADVANCE STUMPAGE PAYMENT:** The initial advance payment will be made by the Purchaser prior to the start of timber cutting operations.
3. **PAYMENT SCHEDULE:** Payments in full for individual invoices will be made by the Purchaser as called for by the Administrator; in no event will payments be made by the Purchaser more than 14 days from the date of billing.

C. ROAD USE AND MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS:

1. **PAYMENTS:** The Purchaser is required to make payments for road use and maintenance at the rates listed in Table 1 or as amended by revisions to road use permits. Payments will be made as called for by the Administrator or as otherwise directed in this Contract.
2. **ALTERNATE HAUL ROUTES:** The Purchaser is authorized by the State to use the haul route described in this Contract and attachments. If the Purchaser chooses to use an alternate haul route, that haul route must be approved by the State. Road use charges, maintenance requirements and payments may be adjusted to reflect the haul route used by the Purchaser. The Purchaser is responsible for obtaining any right-of-way required for an alternate haul route and for meeting all requirements of any agreements associated with that right-of-way. Proof of any such agreement must be provided to the State prior to use. Stumpage fees are not subject to a downward adjustment under this clause.

III. MEASUREMENT AND LOG ACCOUNTABILITY

A. PRODUCT MEASUREMENT:

1. The State will determine the value of products removed from the sale based on the total gross weight of material hauled. Weight tickets will be used to obtain the total value.
2. When mixed products with different payment rates per ton are hauled on one load, the entire load will be charged at the rate of the product with the highest value contained in the load.
3. Upon request by the State, the most recent load delivered to a receiving mill must be made available for inspection by the State or their representatives. The weight ticket identifying the load must remain affixed to the load.

B. WEIGHT TICKETS:

The Purchaser is required to furnish weight tickets to the State as agreed to by the Forest Officer and the Purchaser.

1. All weight tickets shall be mailed or delivered with corresponding load tickets, as outlined below, directly to the DNRC Unit or Land Office administering this Contract. In this case, send truck tickets to (Carl Peterson, 655 Timberwolf Parkway, Kalispell MT, 59901) This requirement may be waived or changed by the Forest Officer.
2. Weight tickets shall show gross, tare and net weights and the corresponding load ticket number of each product load. Weight tickets must be from State of Montana certified scales, and all weight tickets must have mechanically stamped weights for the gross and tare weights unless otherwise permitted in writing by the Forest Officer. Weight tickets will be mailed or delivered to the State on a bi-weekly basis or as otherwise agreed to by the Forest Officer. A weight ticket will be considered as missing if not furnished within 4 weeks of the load delivery date. Failure to comply with this provision may be treated by the State as a contract violation.

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3. Truck ticket information may be provided to DNRC electronically if all required ticket information is provided. The information must be provided to the State on a bi-weekly basis prior to the tenth (10th) and twenty-fourth (24th) of each month. The paper copy of the weight tickets must also continue to be provided to the State. The requirement to supply the paper copy of the weight tickets may be waived by the Administrator.

C. LOAD TICKETS: The Purchaser will be issued load ticket books with consecutively numbered tickets for uniquely identifying truckloads of logs. A load ticket shall be attached to the driver's side bunk log of each product load prior to hauling, with the Scaler's copy given to the State from the delivery point. The Purchaser shall complete each ticket with the sale information required by the State. The Purchaser shall provide to the Forest Officer a complete list of destinations to which loads will be delivered. The State, at its discretion, may require a separate ticket book for each destination. Failure to comply with this provision may be treated by the State as a contract violation.

D. SORTING OF PRODUCTS: The State may require separate ticket books for any loads sorted by the Purchaser by size or species or by specific products intended for different delivery points. Load tickets designated for a specific product must only be used for that specific product. When a load ticket is used with an incorrect product the State may treat such misuse as a contract violation.

E. LOAD MARKING: The Purchaser is required to mark all loads of logs before removal from the loading area to assist in identification while in transit or at the point of delivery. Marking shall be accomplished by painting "GNA" in blue paint and the last three digits of the truck load ticket number on log ends of at least three logs on each load, both front and back. The driver's side bunk log shall be one of the marked logs. Failure to comply with this provision may be treated by the State as a contract violation.

F. PROMPT DELIVERY: The Purchaser will deliver loads from the timber sale area to a receiving log yard directly without diversion. "Over-nighting" loads during transit are expressly forbidden unless approved by Forest Officer prior to hauling. Failure to comply with this provision may be treated by the State as a contract violation.

G. SCALE RULE:

1. Any sawlogs scaled by the State shall be scaled using the Scribner Decimal "C" log rule. Log scaling will follow the procedures listed in the National Forest Log Scaling Handbook (FSH 2409.11) excluding Region 1 supplements.
2. In cases where conversion is required, a conversion factor of 6.2 tons per thousand board feet will be used for sawlogs.

H. LOG BRANDING: This contract is subject to the Forest Resources Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, as amended (16 USC 620, et seq.). The Purchaser must comply with log branding and accounting rules in Attachment E.

IV. CONTRACT VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES

A. SUSPENSION:

1. **FAILURE TO PAY ADVANCE STUMPPAGE:** If Purchaser fails to submit advance stumpage payments as directed by the Administrator pursuant to the terms of this Contract within 30 days of the request for such payments, all operations covered by this Contract shall immediately cease upon written or oral order from the State until all required advance stumpage payments, or guarantee of payment satisfactory to the State, have been made. The cutting and removal of timber may resume only upon receipt of written notice to the Purchaser from the State that acknowledges adequate payment or guarantee.

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2. LOSS OF BOND: If the surety bond or other bond securing performance of this Contract is canceled or otherwise becomes ineffective, operations covered by this Contract shall immediately cease upon written or oral order from the State to the Purchaser. Cutting and removal of timber may resume only upon receipt of written notice from the State that acknowledges adequate bond.
3. OTHER CONTRACT VIOLATIONS:
 - a. Should the Forest Officer observe a condition that violates the terms of this Contract, the Forest Officer may verbally notify the Purchaser or its employees or subcontractors of such condition and immediately suspend all or part of the operations in the sale area to prevent harm to the interests of the State or the public. Should the Purchaser or its employees or subcontractors fail to comply with any verbal suspension order, the Administrator may terminate the Contract pursuant to Section IV. B. Termination. The Forest Officer may rescind his/her verbal suspension order upon satisfactory cure of the Purchaser's violation and operations may resume.
 - b. Suspension orders may be given in writing or verbally to the Purchaser, or to his, her or its employees or subcontractors. Once given, the Purchaser, and his, her or its employees or subcontractors shall immediately comply with such order of suspension and failure to do so shall constitute grounds for termination of this Contract. Suspension orders are reviewable under the provisions described in Section I.I. COMPLAINTS.
 - c. The Administrator may issue a written notice of suspension depending upon the severity of the violation and Purchaser's ability to cure. Such notice shall contain information regarding: 1. The breach observed and harm anticipated; 2. The Contract provisions violated; 3. If possible, the measures required to cure the violation and allow operations to resume; and 4. The deadline within which the Purchaser must cure the violation. Should the Purchaser fail to cure the violation as required, or to obtain a written variance from the Administrator, the Administrator may charge the Purchaser a \$250 per day penalty for every day that the violation persists. Operations may resume only upon written notice from the Administrator. If satisfactory measures or remedies cannot be found to cure the violation, the Administrator may immediately terminate the Contract pursuant to Section IV.B. TERMINATION.

B. TERMINATION:

1. Gross or persistent Contract violations and/or failure to promptly and properly remedy Contract violations by the Purchaser pursuant to the terms of this Contract shall be grounds for termination of the Contract by the State.
2. If this Contract is terminated by the State, the Administrator shall immediately notify the Purchaser of the termination and the reasons for it by certified mail. Such notice shall describe in what respects the Contract has been breached, the means, if any, by which the breach can be remedied and the consequences of such termination. The Contract shall be terminated 18 days from the date the notice is mailed to the Purchaser at the address stated in this Contract.
3. Upon receipt of the notice of termination the Purchaser shall immediately cease all operations pursuant to and permitted by the Contract until the termination is resolved as provided pursuant to this Section of the Contract, Section IV.B. TERMINATION.
4. If the Contract is reinstated the Purchaser will not be penalized for any delays that resulted from the appeal.
5. If the Contract is terminated for breach, it is understood that the State may refuse to accept bids or proposals submitted under 77-5-212 MCA from the Purchaser on future State timber sales and permits for a minimum period of 2 years.

C. LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES:

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1. The Purchaser shall be liable for any damages sustained by the State arising from Purchaser's breach of the terms of this Contract and the State may cause all or part of the performance bond to be forfeited to recover such damages.
2. In the event that a portion of the timber sale under this Contract is resold as a result of the Purchaser's forfeiture and the stumpage rate pursuant to the resold contract is lower than the stumpage rate provided herein, the difference between the original rate and the new rate shall be considered damages and the Purchaser shall be liable to the State for those damages. The State may cause all or part of the Purchaser's performance bond to be forfeited to recover such damages.

D. STATE'S OPTION TO COMPLETE CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS: If the Purchaser fails to complete the requirements described in this Contract in a timely manner or if the Contract is terminated pursuant to Section IV.B. TERMINATION, the State reserves the right to complete the work itself or through a contractor. The Purchaser will be billed for any additional costs incurred by the State due to the Purchaser's failure to perform the requirements of this Contract. These additional costs may include State employee time and expenses that were extraordinary to the normal administration of the Contract, such as time and expenses incurred to hire a replacement contractor. Purchaser's failure to make payment within 14 days from the date of billing may cause all or part of the performance bond to be forfeited to recover such costs.

E. WAIVER OF PENALTIES: The penalties specified in this section shall be regarded as liquidated damages and may be waived or reduced at the discretion of the Administrator in exceptional cases.

F. FOREST PRACTICES LAWS: The Purchaser shall conduct logging operations in compliance with all applicable state and federal rules and laws relating to forest practices in the State of Montana. The Purchaser shall be responsible for all reclamation and penalties that result from violations of applicable forest practices rules and laws.

G. LOGGING REQUIREMENT VIOLATIONS:

1. **HIGH STUMPS:** The Purchaser may be charged \$25.00 for each tree stump cut higher than 12 inches on the side adjacent to the highest ground except in unusual cases when this height is not considered practical.
2. **LONG BUTTS:** The Purchaser may be required to pay \$25.00 per long butt for cutting long butts that contain useable material in excess of the minimum net scale in percentage of gross shown in Table 2.
3. **LARGE TOPS:** The Purchaser may be required to pay for cutting tops larger than the Top Diameter Inside Bark (DIB) shown in Table 2. This charge will be at the current contract rate for the net volume by species, or \$25.00 per large top, whichever is greater.
4. **UNDESIGNATED TREES:**
 - a. Undesignated or reserve trees that are cut or damaged as a result of Purchaser's operations shall be considered cut in trespass and the Purchaser may be charged three times the highest Contract stumpage rate (minimum \$10.00/ton) for the Contract product class(es) the tree contains.
 - b. If the Forest Officer determines that a suitable replacement for a reserve tree as described above is not available, Purchaser agrees to pay the State \$500.00 per tree, in addition to the rates charged in Section IV.G.4.a. UNDESIGNATED TREES.
5. **FAILURE TO REMOVE:** The State may charge the Purchaser for trees that are designated for cutting under the terms of this Contract and/or logs that meet the Manufacturing and Recovery Standards shown in Table 2 that are not removed from the sale area or presented for

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measurement. This charge may be up to triple the Contract stumpage rate plus the Forest Improvement rate for the class of material contained in those trees fixed in accordance with the terms of this Contract. If the State removes such material from the sale area, the Purchaser will be required to reimburse the State for all applicable cutting, yarding, processing, loading and hauling costs.

6. **LOSS IN WEIGHT DUE TO PURCHASER DELAY:** A 15% increase in net weight of logs may be added by the State for loss in weight due to delay by the Purchaser in delivering cut logs to the manufacturing point. A delay is defined as in excess of 30 days after felling.

H. MEASUREMENT AND LOG ACCOUNTABILITY VIOLATIONS:

1. **MISSING LOAD TICKETS:** The Purchaser will be charged up to \$500.00 for each unused load ticket that the Purchaser has lost or misplaced while in his, her or its possession. An unused ticket is defined as a ticket that is not turned into the State with an associated truckload weight.
2. **FAILURE TO ATTACH OR COMPLETE LOAD TICKET:** The Purchaser may be charged \$500.00 per load for failure to attach a load ticket to each product load prior to hauling, or for failure to complete the load ticket with all required information.
3. **MISSING WEIGHT TICKETS:**
 - a. The Purchaser may be charged triple the Contract stumpage rate [stumpage x 3 = penalty] for each truck weight ticket not furnished to the State.
 - b. The Forest Officer will notify the Purchaser of each missing weight ticket.
 - c. The load weight will be determined by averaging weights from other loads hauled by the Purchaser to the same mill within the same billing period, or 30 tons for single loads and 38 tons for loads with a pup trailer attached.
 - d. For Other Material, as defined by this Contract, the minimum stumpage for purposes of penalty shall be \$10.00 per ton or the Contract stumpage rate multiplied by 3, whichever is higher.
4. **IMPROPERLY LABELED PRODUCT:** The Purchaser may be charged up to \$1,500.00 per load for loads with an incorrect load ticket for the product (Sawlog or Other Material) in the load. In addition, the stumpage paid for an improperly ticketed load shall be at the highest Contract stumpage rate for products hauled pursuant to this Contract.
5. **IMPROPERLY MARKED LOADS:** The Purchaser may be charged forty dollars (\$40.00) per load for each load not marked in accordance with Section III.E. LOAD MARKING.

I. FAILURE TO MEET COMPLETION DATES: The Purchaser may be charged \$100.00 for each complete calendar day the Purchaser fails to meet the deadlines shown in Table 3 and Table B1.

J. LATE PAYMENTS: The Purchaser may be charged \$100.00 per day beginning the 15th day after the billing date for failure to pay for forest products, pursuant to Section II.B PAYMENTS.

V. FIRE PROTECTION

A. FIRE REGULATIONS: The Purchaser is required to conduct all operations in accordance with the Montana Forest Fire Regulations, Attachment C, which by this reference is made a part of this Contract.

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- B. FIRE PREVENTION:** During the time that this Contract remains in force, the Purchaser shall, to the greatest extent practicable, prevent forest fires on the area described in this Contract and in its vicinity, and shall require all employees, contractors and employees of contractors to do likewise.
- C. OPEN BURNING REQUIREMENTS:** The Purchaser is required to conduct any burning of slash or other debris in accordance with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality open burning restrictions. The Forest Officer must be notified prior to the start of any burning operations.
- D. FIRE SUPPRESSION:** Unless prevented by circumstances over which he, she or it has no control, the Purchaser shall place qualified employees, contractors and employees of contractors and all equipment at the disposal of any authorized State, County, or Federal Forest Officer for the purpose of fighting forest fires. Payment for such services shall be made at rates to be determined by the Forest Officer, which shall be within a range of payment rates shown in the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, NWCG Handbook 2. Any employees or equipment furnished by the Purchaser, contractors or employees of contractors, shall be relieved from fire fighting as soon as it is practicable for the Forest Officer to obtain other adequate labor or equipment.
- E. FIRE COSTS:** The costs borne by the Protecting Agency for suppressing fires that are intentionally lit by the Purchaser or that are caused by negligence or fault in the Purchaser's operations shall be paid by the Purchaser to the Protecting Agency. The Purchaser shall also be liable for property and resource damage resulting from these fires.
- F. FIRE REPORTING:** Any wildfires, which the Purchaser detects or suppresses, must be reported as soon as possible to the responsible fire protection agency and the State.
- G. SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS:** When fire danger reaches extreme levels that cause operations to be curtailed through Stage II, Hoot Owl requirements or other measures, the State may suspend operations until fire conditions in and/or around the sale area improve. The State will grant a contract extension to compensate for the time suspended.
- H. CONTACT INFORMATION:** The Purchaser will provide the Forest Officer with phone numbers of the Purchaser and their employees and contractors when logging operations are in progress (including nights and weekends), in order to establish contact if a wildfire occurs within the sale area or on other lands accessed by road systems associated with the sale.

VI. RESOURCE PROTECTION

- A. DAMAGE PREVENTION:** The Purchaser shall use reasonable skill and care in all operations to prevent damage to soils, trails, meadows, stream banks, stream channels, wetlands, lakeshores or other natural features of the sale area.
- B. STREAM PROTECTION:**
 1. Construction and logging equipment will not be operated in Streamside Management Zones. An exception may be provided for, under this Contract, through the procurement of an Alternative Practice (with approval of the Forest Officer). Additional protection measures may be required in Section VII.G, SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS and in Contract Attachments.
 2. The Purchaser shall notify the Forest Officer immediately if debris from logging or construction enters a stream or stream channel.
 3. Under the direction of the Forest Officer, the Purchaser shall remove any debris in a stream resulting from logging or construction operations. This work will be completed in a manner that causes the least disturbance to the streams.

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4. Logs shall not be hauled, skidded or yarded across streams unless the logs are fully suspended, or otherwise yarded as specified in this Contract. An approved Alternative Practice must be in place. The Forest Officer must approve all logging and construction plans, including changes, before implementation.
5. All operations shall be conducted in a manner to comply with Montana Water Quality Standards, the Streamside Management Zone Law, and all applicable permits.

C. CULTURAL RESOURCES: If a cultural resource is discovered, the Purchaser shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural resource and notify the Forest Officer. Operations may only resume if authorized by the Forest Officer. Cultural resources identified and protected elsewhere in this Contract are exempted from this clause. Cultural resources, once discovered or identified, are not to be disturbed by the Purchaser, or his, her or its employees and/or sub-contractors.

D. DISCOVERY OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES:

1. If a specific habitat feature for a federally listed threatened or endangered species is encountered, the Purchaser shall suspend all operations in the vicinity of the observation or discovery and immediately notify the Forest Officer. Operations may resume only if authorized by the Forest Officer. Habitat features identified and protected elsewhere in this Contract are exempted from this clause.
2. If a federally listed threatened or endangered species is encountered, the Purchaser shall immediately notify the Forest Officer. The Purchaser may be required to suspend operations in the vicinity of the observation or discovery. If suspended, operations may resume only if authorized by the Forest Officer.

E. SANITATION: The Purchaser's operations, as described by this Contract, shall comply with all applicable State laws, rules and regulations concerning sanitation in operations. Refuse resulting from the Purchaser's activities, including the use, servicing, repair, or abandonment of equipment, shall be removed, buried or otherwise disposed of in a manner that complies with all State laws and meets the approval of the Forest Officer. The Purchaser shall not service tractors, trucks and similar pieces of equipment on lands that directly drain into or are within 100 feet of lakes, streams or recreational facilities. No logging camp will be located on the gross sale area without prior approval by the Forest Officer.

F. HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES: In addition to the indemnification provided in Section I.W.2. INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY, with respect to Hazardous Substances, the following duties shall apply:

1. The Purchaser shall know and comply with regulations governing the storage, handling, application, disposal, and reporting of pesticides, herbicides, containers, biological waste, petroleum products, dust abatement compounds, and other hazardous substances. The Purchaser shall obtain the approval of the Forest Officer to store, handle, apply or dispose of these substances on the gross sale area.
2. The Purchaser shall not transport, handle, store, load, apply, or dispose of any hazardous substance in such a manner as to pollute water supplies or waterways, or cause damage or injury to people, land, desirable plants, and animals.
3. **Contractors will have spill prevention and containment materials on site to minimize the risk of an accidental spill of petroleum products.**
4. **The Purchaser and/or Contractor shall notify the Forest Officer immediately of Hazardous Material Spills.**

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G. PROTECTION OF IMPROVEMENTS: The Purchaser shall to the greatest extent practicable protect from damage all gates, signs, telephone lines, power lines, fences, irrigation ditches, cattle guards, drainage structures, road improvements, and any other improvements or infrastructure within the gross sale area and/or along haul routes. Damages caused by the Purchaser, his, her or its employees or subcontractors, and expenses associated with the repair or replacement of damaged structures and improvements are the sole responsibility of the Purchaser.

H. PROPERTY CORNER RESTORATION: The Purchaser is required to replace any General Land Office township, section, quarter or meander corners, monuments or witness trees on or adjacent to the timber sale area which may have been moved, disturbed or lost, as a result of the Purchaser's logging or construction operations. Any necessary replacements must be carried out by a licensed surveyor at the Purchaser's expense.

I. PASSABLE ROADS: The Purchaser will leave all roads and trails free from obstruction by logs, brush or debris following the completion of logging operations. Temporary or permanent obstructions may be acceptable if approved by the Forest Officer.

J. NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT: All equipment used in road construction and off-road logging activity must be pressure-washed by the Purchaser and inspected by the Forest Officer prior to entering the sale area. This cleaning will remove all dirt, plant parts, and material that may carry noxious weed seeds into the sale area. Other equipment and vehicles entering and leaving the sale area shall be cleaned prior to start up and kept reasonably clean during the course of operations. All subsequent move-ins of logging and construction equipment shall be treated the same as the initial move-in.

K. AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT: All equipment operated in or adjacent to streams, lakes, or other bodies of water must be pressure by the purchaser and inspected by the forest officer prior to entering the sale area. This cleaning will remove all dirt, plant parts, and other material that may carry aquatic invasive species. Drafting from water sources with known aquatic invasive species is prohibited. When drafting, intake hoses must be fitted with a screen mesh equal to or smaller than 3/32 inches. If drafting from streams occurs place intake hoses in low velocity portions of the stream channel.

L. WILDLIFE PROTECTION:

1. The Purchaser is authorized to enter areas closed by gates, barricades or berms with motorized vehicles only for the purposes related to the performance of this Contract. Motorized vehicle entry for purposes other than contract performance, such as hunting or transporting game animals will be considered trespass and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law (Montana Code Annotated § 45-6-203).
2. The Purchaser is prohibited from carrying firearms while conducting contract operations [ARM 36.11.432(1)(m); 36.11.433(1)(d); 36.11.443(2)].
3. The Purchaser will store human or pet food, livestock food, garbage, and other attractants in a bear-resistant manner.
4. The Purchaser will not bury or discard attractants in the sale area, or burn attractants (such as food leftovers) in an open campfire.
5. The Purchaser will provide each employee with a copy of Attachment D "Working in Bear Habitat" Brochure.
6. The Purchaser will comply with Attachment E, the Flathead National Forest Food Storage Order.

M. PROTECTION OF SENSITIVE PLANTS: If previously undocumented populations of sensitive plants listed on the Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List are encountered, the Purchaser shall immediately notify the Forest Officer. The Purchaser may be required to suspend operations in the vicinity of the observation or discovery. If suspended, operations may resume only if authorized by the Forest Officer.

VII. LOGGING

A. TREES DESIGNATED FOR CUTTING: All trees meeting the following requirements must be cut by the Purchaser.

1. **TREES IN UNITS:** Trees that meet the Minimum Log Size of Trees Designated for Cutting in Table 2 are to be cut in each unit according to the Marking specifications shown in Section VII.F. UNIT DESIGNATIONS.
2. **RIGHT-OF-WAY TREES:** All trees within road right-of-way boundaries must be cut.
3. **DAMAGED TREES:** Reserved trees, which are root-cut, damaged by felling or skidding, uprooted or broken off by the Purchaser's operations may be designated for cutting by the Forest Officer. The Forest Officer may mark additional reserve trees to replace those that have been cut or damaged.
4. **FIRE KILL, INSECT INFESTATIONS AND WIND THROWN:** The Purchaser may be required to cut and remove at current contract rates, fire-killed, high hazard, disease infected, insect-infested or wind thrown (defined as blown down or wind-damaged to the extent that the tree is expected to fall or is dying) trees that occur in any part of the gross sale area while this Contract is in effect, if the Forest Officer determines that the stumpage value per ton of the additional timber is approximately equal to the value of the timber being harvested under this Contract .

B. TREES RESERVED FROM CUTTING:

1. **LEAVE TREES:** Trees, both live and dead, marked to leave or otherwise described to leave are reserved from cutting. Any trees not specifically required to be cut are reserved from cutting.
2. **BOUNDARY AND BEARING TREES:** Trees marking the boundaries of ownership, logging units, equipment restriction zones, streamside management zones, road rights-of-way, and bearing trees, are reserved from cutting unless otherwise designated by this Contract or by the Forest Officer.
3. **VALID CLAIMS:** Timber to which there exists a claim under valid contracts with the State of Montana is exempted from this sale.

C. LOG MANUFACTURING AND RECOVERY STANDARDS:

1. **SAWLOG STANDARDS:** Trees cut by the Purchaser shall be manufactured to secure the maximum utilization of forest products according to III.G.1. All logs that meet or exceed the Manufacturing and Recovery Standards in Table 2 and this section shall be skidded to landings and hauled by the Purchaser.
 - a. Logs shall be bucked to utilize the entire length of the tree to the top diameter specified under Manufacturing and Recovery Standards in Table 2.
 - b. Logs meeting utilization specifications in Table 2 shall be manufactured in such a manner as to minimize waste during bucking operations.

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c. A tree or log larger than 5.6" top DIB is considered to be a sawlog if it contains Scribner Decimal C Net Scale \geq 33% of Gross.

2. OTHER MATERIAL:

The Purchaser may elect to remove other material that does not meet Sawlog Manufacturing and Recovery Standards in Table 2, only if approved by the Forest Officer. Such products shall be billed at the rate for other material shown in Table 1.

- a. All contract provisions apply to the removal of Other Material.
- b. Other Material that has been manufactured by the Purchaser shall be decked and hauled separately from sawlogs. All decked non-sawlog material must be hauled, or disposed of by the Purchaser in accordance with instructions of the Forest Officer. All hauled loads will have a truck ticket assigned and will meet the specifications in Section III, MEASUREMENT AND LOG ACCOUNTABILITY.
- c. Butt cut logs (the first log cut above the stump) that meet LOG MANUFACTURING AND RECOVERY STANDARDS in Table 2, but do not meet TREES DESIGNATED FOR CUTTING minimum top DIB and length, may be considered as Other Material, not sawlogs.

3. DOWN WOODY MATERIAL: N/A- **N/A** to **N/A** tons per acre of downed woody material larger than 3 inches in diameter shall be left scattered throughout the sale units. The Forest Officer will determine the appropriate amount of material and may designate pieces to be left for this purpose that would otherwise be skidded and hauled under Sections VII.C.1 or VII.C.2, LOG MANUFACTURING AND RECOVERY STANDARDS.

4. NUTRIENT RETENTION: Removal from the site of fine branches and leafy material shall be minimized unless whole tree yarding is specified in VII.F Unit Designations.

5. SNAGS: - N/A - The purchaser will retain a minimum of **N/A** snags per acre and **N/A** recruitment trees per acre that are >21 inches dbh within each harvest unit unless superseded by Section VII.F, UNIT DESIGNATIONS. If snags and recruitment trees of this size class are not available, the next largest available size class shall be retained. If snags present human safety concerns, the purchaser may substitute snag recruits for snags upon approval of the Forest Officer. Snags cut for safety purposes shall remain in the unit, unless removal is approved in writing by the Forest Officer.

TABLE 2.

PRODUCT	TREES DESIGNATED FOR CUTTING		SAWLOG MANUFACTURING AND RECOVERY STANDARDS		
	The Purchaser must fell all trees marked or designated for cutting that contain a log of this minimum size.		The Purchaser must skid and haul all sawlogs that meet this minimum specification.		Sawlogs meeting standards in Section VII.C.1.b through c
Sawlogs	5.6"	16.5'	5.6"- 8.5"	10.5'	
			8.6"+	8.5'	

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D. TREE AND BOUNDARY MARKING: N/A

1. TREES MARKED TO CUT: N/A - Marked with a N/A (**N/A paint color**) paint mark at Diameter Breast Height (DBH) and a mark below stump height.
2. TREES MARKED TO LEAVE: N/A - Marked with at least two N/A (**N/A paint color**) paint marks extending from below stump height to DBH.
3. HARVEST UNIT BOUNDARIES: N/A - Marked with three N/A (**N/A paint color**) paint stripes facing into the unit and (**N/A ribbon Color**) flagging
4. ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUNDARIES: N/A Marked with (**N/A paint color**) paint spots facing toward the road centerline.
5. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES: Marked with (**paint color**) blazes and (**ribbon color**) flagging.
6. STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT ZONE BOUNDARIES: The State has marked with fluorescent (**ribbon color**) flagging stenciled with "STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT ZONE".
7. EQUIPMENT RESTRICTION ZONE BOUNDARIES: Marked with (**ribbon color**) striped flagging.

E. HARVEST SCHEDULE: The purchaser must cut and remove trees from the sale or portions of the sale, such as units, by the dates shown on the HARVEST COMPLETION SCHEDULE, Table 3:

TABLE 3. HARVEST COMPLETION SCHEDULE

Priority	Unit or Portion of Sale	Completion Date
N/A	Entire Sale	One Year From Date Awarded

F. UNIT DESIGNATIONS: The following requirements are to be performed by the Purchaser in the harvest units listed below and as shown on the sale map, Attachment A. Paragraph headings refer to paragraphs listed in Section VII.G, SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS.

HARVEST UNIT NUMBER(S)	ACRES	ESTIMATED VOLUME (Tons)
1, 2, and 3	93	620
YARDING METHOD: TRACTOR		
MARKING: CUT TREE AND WIND THROWN		
OPERATING PERIOD: ALL LOGGING OPERATIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 1 ST . THIS INCLUDES CUTTING, SKIDDING, AND PROCESSING. LOGS MAY BE DECKED TO HAUL AFTER APRIL 1 ST IF NECESSARY		
SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS: 1. STATE DESIGNATED SKID TRAILS REQUIRED 2. BLOWDOWN SALVAGE		

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G. SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS: The following requirements are to be performed by the Purchaser in specific sale units as shown in Section VII.F, UNIT DESIGNATIONS.

1. **STATE DESIGNATED SKID TRAILS REQUIRED:** The Forest Officer shall designate skid trail locations in this unit.
2. **BLOWDOWN SALVAGE:** Trees that meet the minimum log size for "Trees Designated for Cutting" in Paragraph VII. LOGGING, C. LOG MANUFACTURING AND RECOVERY STANDARDS, Table 2 are to be cut in each unit according to the following specifications.
 - a. Trees that are blown-down, broken topped, or uprooted and leaning excessively as a result of wind.
 - b. Other standing trees that are individually designated for cutting by the Forest Officer.
 - c. Broken-topped trees will be retained in harvest units as needed to achieve at least 2 snags per acre.
 - d. Blowdown will be retained where large, downed logs >15" in diameter and >20' long are needed to achieve downed wood requirements at 2 logs per acre.

H. LOGGING OPERATIONS PLAN: The Forest Officer shall approve a plan for felling, yarding, and landing logs (both Sawlogs and Other Material) in each harvest unit prior to the start of operations in that unit.

I. SKID TRAIL LAYOUT AND YARDING PLAN: The Purchaser must follow these requirements along with those shown under VII.G. SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS when developing a yarding plan for each unit. The Forest Officer may approve exceptions to these requirements in writing.

1. The Purchaser shall lay out skid trails and have locations approved by the Forest Officer prior to felling trees.
2. All skid trails will be located within the harvest unit boundaries.
3. Any constructed skid trails shall be completed and approved by the Forest Officer prior to felling timber.
4. Skid trails will not be located in draws, and may only cross draws at locations flagged and approved by the Forest Officer.

J. LANDINGS AND LOG DECKS:

1. The Purchaser shall construct landings at locations approved by the Forest Officer prior to felling timber.
2. Landings shall be kept to the minimum size necessary to allow the safe handling of logs. The Forest Officer must approve landing size.
3. All deck locations shall be approved by the Forest Officer prior to clearing or use. Decks shall be located so as to minimize the number of trees cut for construction of the deck area.

K. FELLING:

1. In each harvest unit, a felling pattern shall be used which conforms to the logging operations plan and causes the least damage to reserve trees and other resources.
2. Felling shall be systematic and continuous to avoid lost logs and minimize the number of skidding trips.

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3. Trees shall be directionally felled away from features requiring protection within or adjacent to harvest units. Features requiring protection include streams, meadows, wet areas, and areas specified under Section VII.F. UNIT DESIGNATIONS. Wedges, jacks, winches, or other special equipment may be required to direct trees when felling. Trees falling into protection areas shall be winch-line skidded out of protected features. All necessary mitigation for damage caused by improper and/or non-approved felling into a protected zone is the responsibility of the Purchaser. The Forest Officer must approve all mitigation work.
4. Traffic Control Required For Felling along Roads: If felling operations occur along public roads, traffic guards with "STOP" signs shall be posted 500 feet in both directions from the units on open roads, providing a safety zone to warn oncoming traffic that logging operations are in progress. All traffic shall be stopped when tree felling is in progress. Traffic stops should not exceed 15 minutes at any one time. All saws will be shut off when traffic is moving through the safety zone. Wedges and/or jacks shall be used to ensure trees do not fall onto the roadway. In the event a tree falls across the roadway, all debris shall be removed immediately from the roadway and right-of-way. The Forest Officer must approve any extended road closures for logging operations.

L. YARDING AND MECHANICAL FELLING: The Purchaser must follow these requirements during logging operations, along with those shown under Section VII.G. SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS. The Forest Officer will determine when restrictive conditions apply, and may approve exceptions to these requirements in writing.

1. Soil Compaction Restrictions: In order to prevent soil resource impacts, ground-based mechanical felling and yarding are restricted to periods when one or more of the following conditions occur:
 - a. Soil moisture content at 4-inch depth less than 20% oven-dry weight.
 - b. Minimum frost depth of 4 inches.
 - c. Minimum snow depth of 18 inches, loose, or 12 inches, packed.
2. Suspended Operations for Soil Compaction and Displacement: The Purchaser will be required to restrict or suspend logging operations when soils are subject to compaction or displacement by heavy equipment.
3. Equipment Restrictions:
 - a. Equipment shall not be operated in areas designated as EQUIPMENT RESTRICTION ZONES, WETLAND MANAGEMENT ZONES or STREAMSIDE MANAGEMENT ZONES as shown in Section VII.D.6 and 7, unless authorized by this Contract or the Forest Officer.
 - b. Equipment shall not be operated in soft soils, boggy areas or areas where skidding would cause excessive compaction and displacement.
 - c. Any trees designated for harvest within such zones shall be winchline skidded to skid trails outside the zone.
 - d. Slash will not be piled in or pushed into these zones.
 - e. The Forest Officer must approve any designated crossings of restricted areas.
4. Protection of Reserved Trees: The Purchaser shall exercise reasonable care to prevent damage to trees reserved from cutting during logging operations.

M. CLEAN-UP AND COMPLETION: The Purchaser must follow these requirements and those shown under Section VII.G. SPECIAL OPERATING REQUIREMENTS during logging operations. The Forest Officer will determine when restrictive conditions apply, specifications and dates to meet these

TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

requirements and may approve exceptions in writing. The Forest Officer must approve all designated work prior to the removal of Purchaser's equipment.

1. **Slashing:** N/A
2. **Logging Debris Confined To Units:** All debris from logging shall be confined within the harvest unit boundaries. Any logging debris outside a harvest unit must be returned to within the unit boundary.
2. **Skidding Debris on Roads:** The Purchaser shall remove logging slash remaining on any portion of a road cutbank or traveled way. Cut and fill slopes, ditches, or road surfaces damaged by skidding operations shall be restored to original conditions. Reseeding is required if vegetation is damaged by skidding.
3. **Repair of Improvements:** Damage caused by the Purchaser's operations to culverts, waterlines, fences, roads, bridges, gates, cattleguards, signs, and all other improvements must be adequately repaired or replaced.
4. **Erosion Control:**
 - a. The Purchaser shall construct slash and debris erosion barriers, dips, water bars or ditches in skid trails and landings as directed by the Forest Officer.
 - b. The kinds and frequency of erosion control structures shall be adjusted to soil types, topography and climatic conditions as directed by the Forest Officer.
 - c. The Purchaser is required to recontour any excavated skid trails, and provide for effective erosion control in the trail location as directed by the Forest Officer.
 - d. Erosion control work shall commence as soon as skidding is completed on each skid trail or landing, and must be kept current with unit operations.
 - e. Erosion control work shall be completed and approved by the Forest Officer in unfinished units before operations cease for inactive periods including heavy winter snowfall, spring breakup and restricted dates.
 - f. All erosion control work in each unit shall be completed prior to notification pursuant to Section VII.M.7. **Acceptance of Completed Harvest Units:**
 - g. The Purchaser shall maintain erosion control structures in active sale areas throughout the contract period or extensions thereof.
5. **Landing and Decking Area Cleanup:** The Purchaser is required to pile logging residues on landings and log-decking areas. Proper equipment (e.g. brush blade, log loader) shall be used to ensure that no dirt is incorporated into the piles. Mechanical scarification of landing and decking areas may be required. Where logs have been decked on the downhill or fill side of a road, the Purchaser may be required to pile residue with a log loader or by hand. Residue piles shall be a minimum of 15 feet away from any live trees. Piles shall be located and constructed as directed by the Forest Officer.
6. **Systematic Harvest Unit Operations:** When harvest operations are begun on a designated harvest unit, the harvest operations on that unit shall be fully completed before cutting may begin on other harvest units.
7. **Acceptance of Completed Harvest Units:** The Forest Officer shall notify the Purchaser in writing when all contract requirements for each specified harvest unit or area have been met. After notice has been received, the Purchaser is not required to do additional work on the specified area

TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

except as provided in Section VII.A.4. FIRE KILL, INSECT INFESTATION, AND WIND THROWN.

8. **RESEEDING: N/A**
- N. **HAULING RESTRICTIONS:** The Purchaser will be required to restrict or suspend hauling during periods when the compacted road surface would be damaged, as directed by the Forest Officer. Restrictions are required when hauling would cause rutting into the subgrade, or surfacing materials would be displaced, such as during heavy rainfall or spring breakup freezing and thawing cycles
- O. **LOGGING OPERATIONS SAFETY SIGNS:** Road signs warning of logging and road construction operations shall be posted 500 feet from the operations. When log hauling is in progress, warning signs shall be posted at major road junctions as directed by the Forest Officer. Warning signs must comply with specifications in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SAMPLE

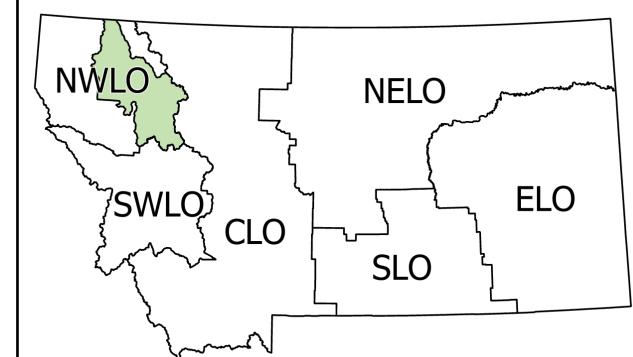


Tally Road Salvage Vicinity Map

Attachment A-1: Vicinity Map



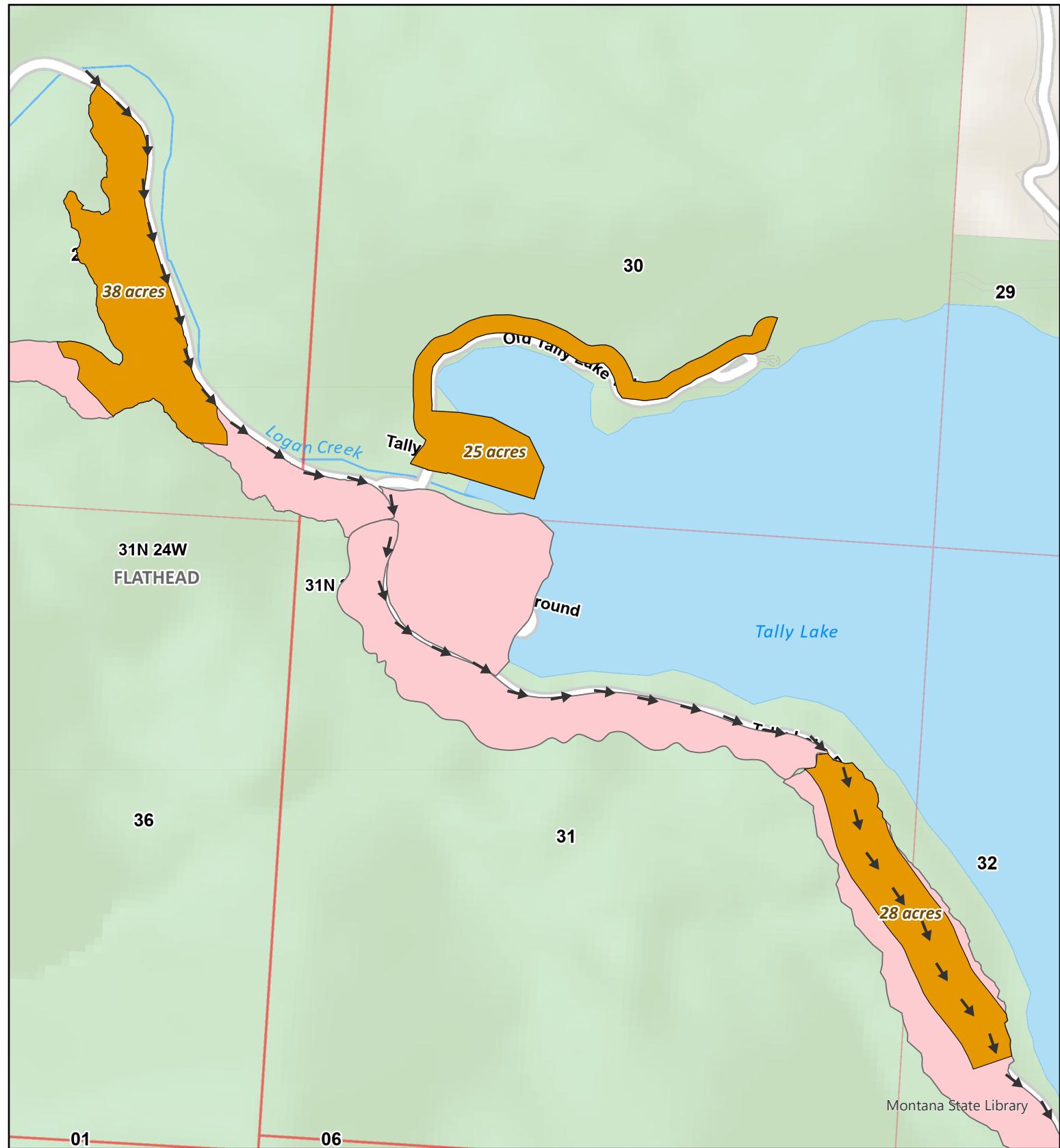
- NWLO
- Major Roads
- County Lines
- Water Bodies
- Flathead National Forest
- Towns





Tally Road Salvage Permit

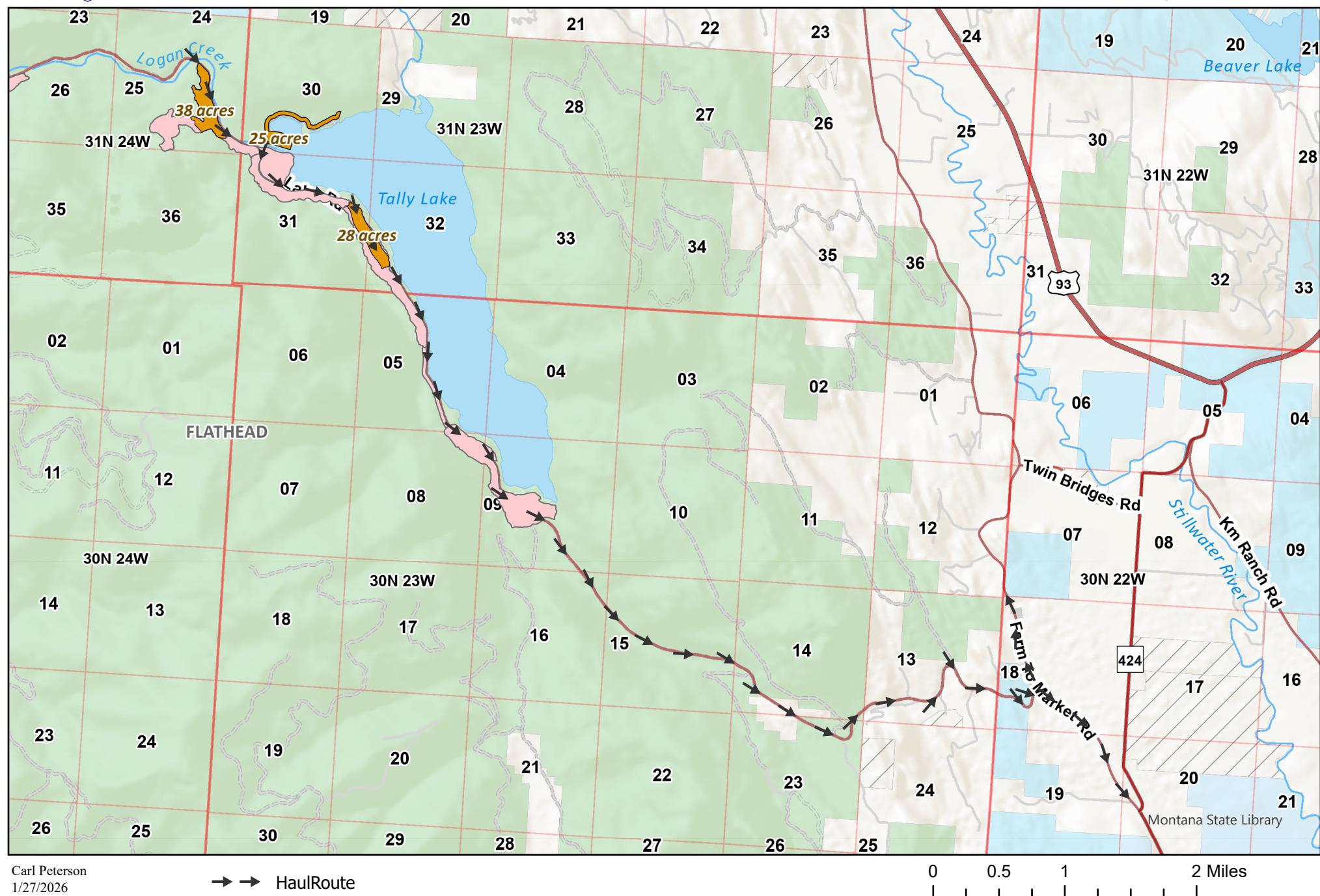
Attachment A-2



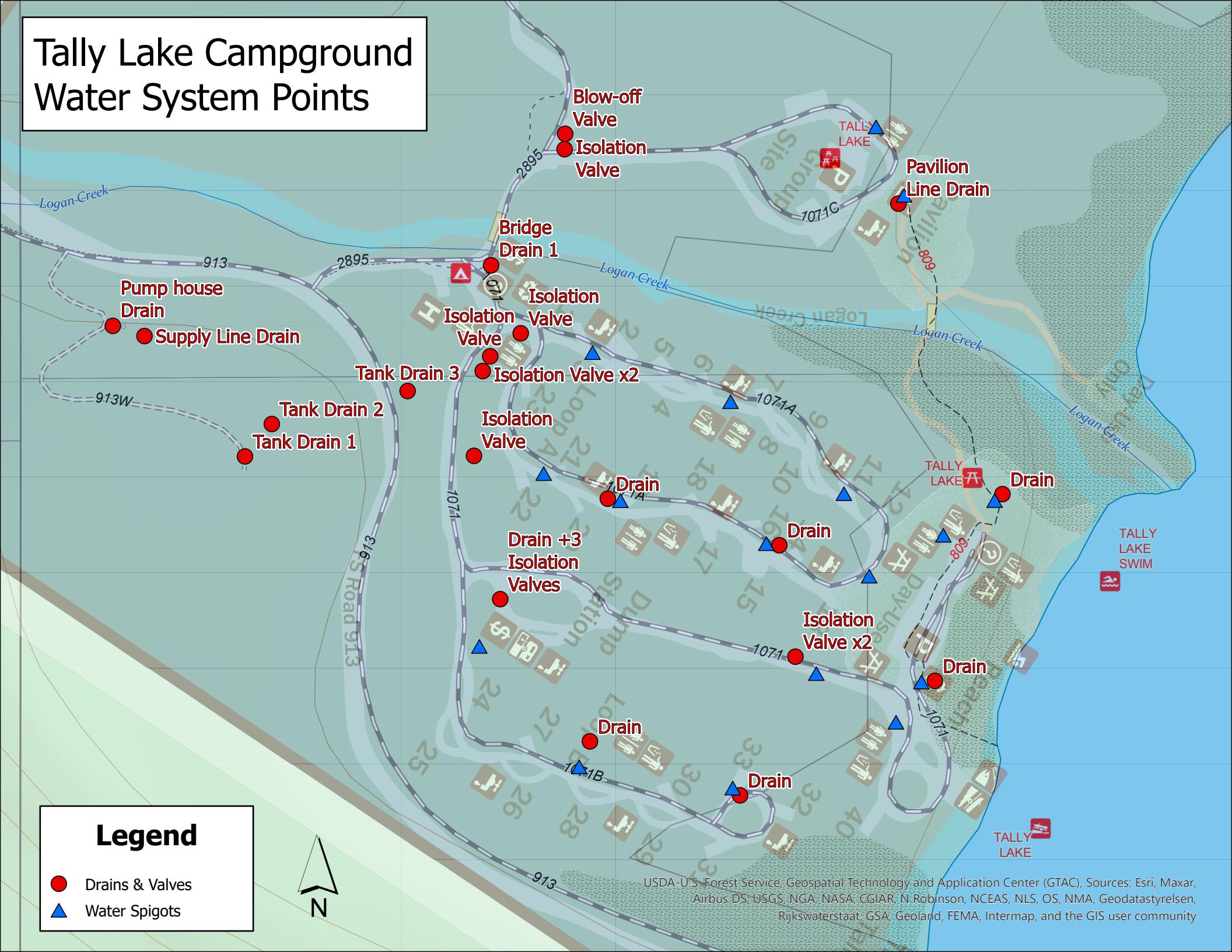


Tally Road Salvage Haul Map

Attachment A-3



Tally Lake Campground Water System Points



Legend

- Drains & Valves
- ▲ Water Spigots

USDA-U.S. Forest Service, Geospatial Technology and Application Center (GTAC), Sources: Esri, Maxar, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatasyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap, and the GIS user community

FOREST FIRE RULES & REGULATIONS

These rules apply to all activities on all classified forest lands within Montana during the legal Forest Fire Season, including any extension thereof (see 77-5-103(3), 76-11-101, 76-13-102(7), and 76-13-109 MCA). Reference also ARM 36.10.119 through 132.

Related State statute numbers are provided as a reference.

RULE I - DEBRIS BURNING

1. The person conducting the burn shall obtain written authorization from the recognized fire protection agency before igniting any open fire during the legal forest fire season (required by 76-13-121 MCA). The recognized fire protection agency may deny, restrict, or rescind any authorization by notifying the person conducting the burn.
2. All burning must comply with the Department of Environmental Quality or State/county/local open burning regulations.
3. Written authorization is not required for campfires.

RULE II - CAMPFIRES

1. Campfires cannot be left unattended and must be completely extinguished (see 76-13-123 MCA).
2. All campfires must be constructed in cleared or bare areas, and not allowed to spread beyond the established ring, pit, grate, or container.
3. Anyone igniting a campfire is required to have fire tools listed in Rule VIII (4).

RULE III - RAILROADS AND POWERLINES

Railroad and powerline companies are required to prepare and annually update working agreements with recognized fire protection agencies. These agreements must stress safety and fire response procedures; and identify, remove, prevent, modify, abate, or correct forest fire hazards and risks associated with railroad and powerline company operations (see 69-14-721 MCA).

RULE IV - EQUIPMENT

1. All internal combustion engines must be equipped with an approved and effective spark-arresting system, as established in the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Spark Arrestor Guides. Spark-arresting devices must be marked, properly installed, and maintained in accordance with the Guides. The following vehicles are exempt:
 - a. automobiles and light trucks of less than 23,000 GVW when all exhaust gases pass through a properly installed and maintained exhaust system, baffle-type muffler, and tailpipe. Vehicles with glass-pack mufflers do not qualify for the exemption.
 - b. heavy-duty trucks of 23,000 GVW or greater, with a muffler and vertical stack exhaust system extending

- above the cab.
- c. vehicles with other spark-arresting systems providing equal or increased effectiveness. Such vehicles must be inspected and have written authorization from the recognized fire protection agency.
- 2. Equipment used for commercial, ranching, or industrial activities must meet the fire extinguisher and tool requirements listed in Rule VIII (5).

RULE V - FLAMING AND GLOWING SUBSTANCES

1. All flaming and glowing substances, including but not limited to, lighted cigarettes, cigars, ashes, and matches, must be extinguished before being discarded (see 76-13-124 MCA).
2. Smoking is allowed only at areas free of flammable or combustible material. Examples of these areas include a graveled road or an enclosed vehicle.

RULE VI - FIREWORKS

Use of fireworks is prohibited on all classified forest lands unless written authorization is obtained from the recognized fire protection agency. Authorization will only be considered between June 24 and July 5, inclusive, to coincide with the legal dates for the sale of fireworks in Montana (see 50-37-106 MCA).

RULE VII - WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE

1. County governments without subdivision wild-fire protection standards are encouraged to establish standards for all new subdivisions by January 1, 2000.
2. The Fire Protection Guidelines for Wildland/Residential Interface Development (DSL/DOJ, 1993) is available for use to assist counties in the development of standards.

RULE VIII - FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND FIREFIGHTING TOOLS

1. Chainsaw operators shall carry a fully charged and operable fire extinguisher, minimum-capacity 8-ounce liquid or 1-pound dry chemical, with a 4BC or higher rating.
2. Vehicles and equipment, mobile or stationary, with a combustion engine/motor used for commercial, ranching, or industrial activities must have one operable, dry-chemical fire

extinguisher with a minimum 2-1/2 -pound capacity and 4BC or higher rating.

3. Chainsaw operators shall maintain one usable shovel at chainsaw-fueling sites.
4. All persons or parties igniting a campfire shall have one usable shovel and bucket. Persons igniting a barbecue need not have a shovel or bucket if the ashes are not removed from the container and the ashes or container are not placed on or near combustible material.
5. All commercial, ranching, or industrial activities must have:
 - a. one usable shovel or pulaski with each vehicle and equipment with an internal combustion engine/motor, mobile or stationary.
 - b. one backpack pump with each vehicle and with any equipment, used off road, mobile or stationary, with an internal combustion engine/motor, that cannot be used to build fireline and is being operated on combustible material.
6. Other types of firefighting tools that provide increased efficiency or effectiveness may be substituted by written authorization from the recognized fire-protection agency. For example, a [combi] firefighting tool may be substituted for a shovel or pulaski.

RULE IX - FOREST ACTIVITY RESTRICTIONS

In areas designated by public proclamation by the administrator, division of forestry, as areas of high fire hazard, the administrator may request all persons, firms, or corporations present or engaged in any activity in the areas to voluntarily cease operations or to adjust working hours to less critical periods of the day. In the event such a request is refused, the administrator may issue a written order directing compliance.

RULE X - FOREST CLOSURE

1. During periods of dangerous fire conditions, no person may enter or be upon those forest lands designated by public proclamation by the governor of the state of Montana as areas of dangerous fire hazard except under written permit issued by a recognized agency.
2. Permits to enter upon such areas during the closure may be issued by the recognized agency upon a showing of real need by the applicant. Permits may be issued to those persons having actual residence as a permanent or principal place of abode in the forest lands designated or to persons engaged in non-fire hazardous employment.
3. However, no permit may be required of persons engaged in either firefighting, fire prevention, or law enforcement who are engaged in official business.

RULE XI - CORRECTION OF HAZARD AND UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES OR EVENTS

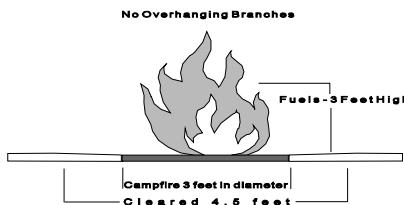
The recognized fire-protection agency may require identified wildland-fire hazards and/or risks be halted, prevented, abated, removed, disposed of, mitigated, or patrolled. This applies to public, private, nonprofit, commercial, and/or residential circumstances or events.

RULE XII - REQUEST FOR REVIEW

If any operator believes that in his case any requirement of a recognized agency is excessive, the operator may request the administrator, division of forestry, to review the requirements. If in the opinion of the administrator any or all are not necessary in the interest of public safety, he may make such changes as he considers advisable.

RULE XIII - DEFINITIONS

Backpack Pump: 5-gallon minimum; standard galvanized metal, fiberglass, or rubberized backpack water container with attached handpump; full of water at all times.



Bucket: Metal, plastic, canvas, or fiberglass container capable of holding at least one gallon of water. Motorcycle helmets qualify. **[Campfire]** means a fire set for cooking, warming, or ceremonial purposes; not more than 3 feet in diameter or height; void of overhanging branches; with all combustible material cleared at least 1-1/2 times the diameter of the fire; or a barbecue in a noncombustible container.

Combi Tool: A tool combining a shovel and pick.

Fireworks: As defined in 50-37-101 MCA.

Forested Land: As defined in 76-13-102 MCA and 36.10.101 ARM.

Hazard: Condition that promotes the ignition and/or spread of a wildland fire.

Open Fire: The burning of a bonfire, rubbish fire, or other fire in an outdoor location where fuel being burned is not contained in a closed incinerator, or outdoor fireplace. Barbecue pits and burn barrels are considered open fires and therefore require a burning permit (Rule I).

Pulaski: An ax with a medium size sharp grub hoe opposite the ax blade.

Recognized Fire-Protection Authority: An agency organized for the purpose of providing fire protection and recognized by the board as giving adequate fire protection to forest lands in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

Risk: Action or device that could cause a wildland fire to ignite.

Shovel: Vehicle, equipment, and chainsaw operator shovels will have a minimum overall length of 36 inches with a round pointed shovel head with a minimum width of 6 inches. Shovels required for campfires must be at least 24-inches in length with a pointed shovel head. Folding handles qualify.

RULE XIV - APPLICABILITY

The forest fire rules, Rule I through Rule XIII, (ARM 36.10.119 through 30.10.132) are in effect each year on classified forest land during the forest fire season May 1st to September 30th inclusive, or any legal extension thereof. Requirements pertaining to motor vehicles do not apply to those being operated solely on roads that are a part of federal or State maintained highway systems or on any paved public road.



WORKING IN BEAR HABITAT

12/03/12

Grizzly bear distribution is expanding in Montana and human/bear encounters are becoming more common. Working in bear habitat increases the likelihood of interactions with bears. It is important for contractors and their employees to be aware of steps that can be taken to minimize conflicts and how to react if an interaction occurs. This pamphlet provides information about bear behavior, preventive measures, and what to do in the event an encounter occurs. *This pamphlet is intended to provide information about possible ways of avoiding encounters with bears. It should not, however, be relied on as the sole means of doing so. In addition to adhering to the guidelines outlined in this document, you should always rely on your experience, training, education and judgment about the best, safest manner to avoid encounters with bears.*

ENCOUNTERS

- ▲ Stay calm and keep the animal in view, but avoid direct eye contact. Bears may interpret eye contact as a sign of aggression. Back away slowly. Never run from a bear unless you know you can reach safety. Determine whether the animal is a black bear or a grizzly bear.
- ▲ If the bear charges, stand your ground. Bears commonly “bluff charge,” stopping within a few feet of a person, before fleeing in a different direction.
- ▲ Keep bear spray handy. Always have a canister of bear spray (at least eight ounces) on your belt. Make sure it is an EPA registered bear spray with 1 to 2% capsaicin and related capsaicinoids, has a spray duration of at least six seconds, and a range of 25 feet. Familiarize yourself with the directions for using the spray. Use it only if confronted by a charging bear. Spray toward the bear, aiming slightly downward.
- ▲ In the event that you have no bear spray, or it was ineffective and the charge is not a bluff, or the bear is exhibiting predatory behavior, you must change your approach. Signs of predatory behavior include: following, showing interest, coming into a tent, and unprovoked attacks. How you respond will depend on the species of bear attacking you. **Black bear and young grizzly attacks:** Always fight back. Jump up and down, wave your arms and yell. Try to look as large as possible. Never play dead – it makes you easier prey. Remember that black bears and small grizzlies can climb trees, so stay on the ground. **Mature grizzly attacks [particularly females with young]:** If a surprise encounter occurs or if bear spray is ineffective, drop to the ground and play dead. Lie on your stomach, clasp your hands behind your neck, and use your elbows and toes to avoid being rolled over. If the bear rolls you over, keep rolling until you land back on your stomach. Remain still and don't struggle or scream. A defensive bear will stop attacking once it feels the threat is gone. Don't move until you are sure the bear has left the area. **If the grizzly is exhibiting predatory behavior or comes into a tent at night, do all you can to escape or fight back.**
- ▲ If an encounter occurs, contact the DNRC forest officer immediately and notify Montana FWP.

JOB SITE PREVENTION

- ▲ Watch for bear signs. Signs include: tracks; droppings; recently overturned rocks or logs; logs torn apart; clawed, bitten or rubbed trees; bear trails; hair on tree bark; fresh diggings; and crushed vegetation. If you observe any of these signs, be aware that a bear may be frequenting the area. If camping, or stopping to eat your lunch, select a different area.
- ▲ When working or walking alone, make noise and carry bear spray. Bears don't like surprises, but will move on if they hear people approaching. Make noise, especially when approaching blind corners, dense shrubs and streams, and when walking into the wind. Maintain regular communication with co-workers.
- ▲ If camping on site, leave coolers, food and beverages inside campers or secured vehicles. If cooking over an open fire, do not discard food or grease in fire pits.
- ▲ Don't leave trash, groceries or animal feed in your vehicle for extended periods. Bears can, and do, pry open car and truck doors and break windows to get at food and other items they associate with food.
- ▲ Bears are attracted to petroleum based products. Keep all fuel and oil canisters in bear resistant containers. Bears have been known to damage hoses, oil filters and foam seats on heavy equipment. Dispose of empty containers promptly.

United States Department of Agriculture
U.S. Forest Service

Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem Area

Food/Wildlife Attractant Storage Order

Flathead, Lolo, Kootenai, Helena-Lewis and Clark, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests
 USDA, Forest Service, Region One

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. §551 and Title 36 C.F.R. §261.50(a) the following acts are prohibited or restricted on the Flathead, Lolo, Kootenai, Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Helena – Lewis and Clark National Forests, Montana, within the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem area.

1. Possessing or storing any food or refuse, except as specified in this Order. Exhibit B, which is hereby made part of this Order. 36 C.F.R. § 261.58(cc)
2. Possessing, storing, or transporting any bird, fish, or other animal or parts thereof, except as specified in this Order. Exhibit B, which is hereby made part of this Order. 36 C.F.R. § 261.58(s)

PURPOSE

The purpose of these restrictions is to reduce the likelihood of a human-to-bear conflict, compromising the safety for both humans and bears.

AREA RESTRICTED

Appropriate food storage or attendance, as outlined in this Order, is required on all National Forest System (NFS) lands within the Flathead, Lolo, Kootenai, and Helena – Lewis and Clark, except the Crazy Mountain Range, on the Belt Creek–White Sulphur Springs Ranger District and on all NFS lands within that portion of the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Butte Ranger District as depicted on the attached map, Exhibit A, which is hereby made part of this Order.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order will be in effect from March 1st, 2022, to December 31st, 2022.
2. Food/Wildlife Attractant Storage Special Order Prohibitions, Information and Definitions are attached as Exhibit B, and hereby made a part of this Order.

EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §261.50(e), the following are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a special use authorization or other Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order. 36 C.F.R. §261.50(e)(1)
2. Any Federal or State officer placing baits to capture animals for research or management purposes as part of their official duties. 36 C.F.R. §261.50(e)(4)

PENALTY

Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both (16 U.S.C. § 551 and 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581).

INFORMATION

Further information regarding this order may be obtained at any of the following Supervisors Offices: Flathead National Forest, located at 650 Wolfpack Way, Kalispell, MT, (406)758-7502. Lolo National Forest, located at 24 Fort Missoula, Missoula, MT (406)329-3750, or Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest, located at 2880 Skyway Drive Helena, MT (406)449-520, Kootenai National Forest, located at 31374 US Highway 2, Libby, MT (406)293-6211, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, located at 420 Barrett St. Dillon, MT (406) 683-3900.

Done this ____ day of April 2022.

By: _____

Leanne Marten
 Regional Forester
 Northern Region, USDA Forest Service

Exhibit A
Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem Area, Food/Wildlife Attractant Storage Order
Order # R1-2022-02

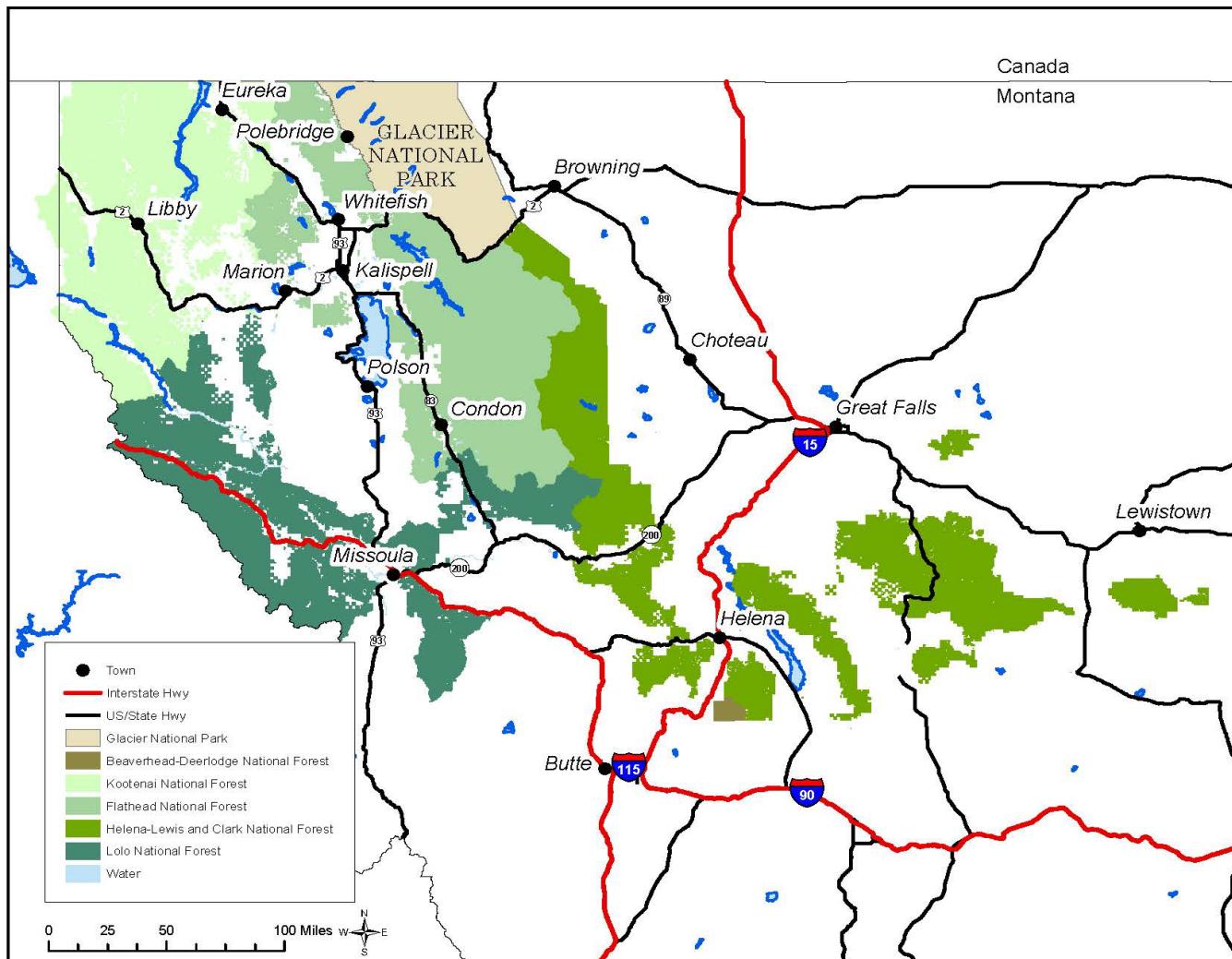


Exhibit B
Food/Wildlife Attractant Storage Special Order
Prohibition, Information and Definitions

It Is Required That:

1. During daytime hours, all attractants, including human, pet, and livestock food (except baled or cubed hay without additives) and garbage shall be stored in a bear resistant manner when not being attended.
2. During nighttime hours, all attractants, including human, pet, and livestock food (except baled or cubed hay without additives) and garbage shall be stored in a bear resistant manner unless it is in immediate control, being prepared for eating, being eaten, being transported, or being prepared for storage, as defined herein.
3. Any harvested animal carcasses (including big game, birds, fish or other animal parts) that are within 1/2-mile of any camp or sleeping area or within 200 yards of a National Forest System Trail shall be stored in a bear-resistant manner by the responsible party (unless the carcass is being field dressed, transported, being prepared for eating, or being prepared for storage, as defined herein). If a wildlife carcass is within an attended camp during daytime hours it may be on the ground.
4. Attractants shall not be buried, discarded, or burned in an open campfire.
 - a. Leftover food or food waste products may be placed in an appropriate, sealed container and packed out with garbage.
 - b. Leftover food or other attractants may be burned in a contained stove fire.
 - c. Attractants may be placed into a suitable container (i.e. tin can) to prevent leaching into the ground and burned over an open campfire. Any remaining attractants unconsumed by burning shall be placed with other garbage and packed out.
5. The responsible party shall report the death and location of any livestock to a Forest Service Official within 24 hours of discovery. In some very remote areas, it may not be possible to meet the 24-hour requirement. In these special cases, the responsible party shall report to a Forest Official the discovery of any dead livestock within 48 hours.
6. Approved bear-resistant containers meet the following criteria: A container included in the most current Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) Certified Bear-Resistant Products list. A container not on the list may also be certified by the local District Ranger or their designated representative(s) if it is inspected and approved based on IGBC criteria.

Definitions

1. Attended: At least one adult person (attendee) is physically present within 100 feet who is awake and alert and in immediate control of attractants.
2. Attractant: Food as defined below and garbage from human, livestock, or pet foods. Also includes items such as soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, personal hygiene products, and empty food and beverage containers.
3. Food: Any nourishing substance, which includes human food or drink (canned, solid, or liquid), livestock feed (except baled or cubed hay without additives) and pet food.
4. Attendee: An adult, 18 years of age or older, in control of attractants.
5. Bear-resistant container: A container included in the most current Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee (IGBC) Certified Bear-Resistant Products list (<http://igbconline.org/>).
6. Bear-resistant manner: Any attractants, including food and garbage, must be stored in one of the following ways if unattended:
 - a. secured in a hard-sided Recreational Vehicle, vehicle trunk, cab, or trailer cab.
 - b. secured in a hard-sided dwelling or storage building.
 - c. suspended at least 10 feet up (from the bottom of the suspended item) and 4 feet out from any upright support, i.e. tree or pole.
 - d. stored in an approved bear-resistant container.
 - e. stored within an approved and operating electric fence.
 - f. stored in any combination of these methods; or
 - g. stored by methods other than those described in Section #6, a-f, that shall be approved in writing by the Forest Supervisor.
7. Contained fire stove: A metal stove that completely encloses the fire.
8. Daytime: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
9. Nighttime: 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise.
10. Livestock: A domesticated animal, such as mule, horse, llama, or goat.
11. Wildlife carcass: The body, or any parts thereof, of any deceased wild animal, bird, or fish.
12. Approved electric fences will meet, as a minimum, the following specifications:
 - a. **7 Strand Fence** (refer to Forest Service publication 9923-2321-MTDC, “Electric Fence Systems: Requirements for Meeting the NCDE Food Storage Special Order, 1999”, for more description of fence specifications and set-up):
 - (1) The fence will be set up as a “tight wire” fence. The wire will be tight and under tension, not loose or sagging.
 - (2) Minimum fence height 4 feet.
 - (3) Minimum post height 5 feet.
 - (4) Maximum spacing between posts 8 feet.
 - (5) Conductors (wire): Minimum of 7 wires, with 6-10 inch spacing between wires. Bottom wire must be

within 2 inches of the ground. All wire must be smooth metal fence wire of at least 16 gauge or poly wire, except the top wire which may be poly tape of at least six strand stainless steel.

- (6) The system will be set up to operate both as a ground wire return and a grounded system. The 2 top wires will be hot, with all other wires alternating hot and ground. The minimum length ground rod is 2 feet.
- (7) Fence charger (minimum): (1) energizer output of 0.7 joules; (2) tested peak output of 5000 volts; (3) 40 shocks per minute. User must be able to test electrical output in the field.
- (8) The charger must be made inaccessible to disturbance from a bear. The charger may be stored within the interior of the fence or located a minimum of 10 feet above ground.
- (9) Minimum distance between fence and items enclosed by fence.....3 feet.

b. **Portable Electric Mesh Fence** (refer to Forest Service publication 0723- 2305-MTDC, "Specifications for Portable Electric Fence Systems as Potential Alternative Methods for Food Storage, 2007", for more description of fence specifications and set-up):

- (1) Portable electric mesh fence shall not be left in any location for more than 16 days.
- (2) Minimum fence height.....33 inches.
- (3) Minimum post length.....42 inches.
- (4) Post construction required to be polyethylene with metal spike on bottom.
- (5) Minimum of 3 strands of stainless-steel wire per horizontal wire.
- (6) Minimum number of horizontal wires.....8.
- (7) Horizontal opening in mesh required to be less than 12 inches.
- (8) Minimum length of ground rod required to be 1 foot and earth ground is mandatory.
- (9) Fence charger (minimum): (1) energizer output of 0.11 joules; (2) Minimum tested peak output voltage (on every hot conductor, with no load other than the fence) required to be 5,000 volts. (3) Minimum pulse duration (with a 10,000-ohm load applied) required to be 0.05 milliseconds; (4) Minimum shocks per minute....35. **User must be able to test electrical output in the field.**

- (10) Minimum distance between fence and items inside.....1½ feet.
- (11) Readable placard indicating fence is electrified is required.
- (12) Maximum fence length.....60 feet.
- (13) Minimum of 2 LED lights.

-END-