

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION FOR DNRC FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Project Name: Monkey Balls Salvage Timber Permit

Proposed Implementation Date: August 2011

Proponent: Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation

Type and Purpose of Action: Commercial salvage harvest of an estimated 500 MBF of Douglas-fir and lodgepole pine sawtimber from approximately 65 acres. The proposed project would primarily address timber that has been affected by insect and disease infestations, focusing on removing dead, dying, susceptible and overstocked trees. The project would incorporate group selection/ selection/ regeneration harvest methods utilizing conventional/tractor harvest systems. The project would utilize existing roads and construct approximately 1700 feet of temporary skid trail to access the harvest areas. The constructed trail would be physically closed at the completion of the project. Approximately 0.7 miles of existing road would be physically closed at the completion of the project. The purpose of action is to generate revenue for the Common School Trust; remove overstocked and suppressed timber before its value is lost to insect and disease or wildfire; promote restoration of aspen and improve the health, vigor and productivity of the forest in the proposed project area.

Location: N2 Section 16, Township 5 South, Range 3 West

County: Madison

Category (refer to ARM 36.11.447 for additional detail):

- 1) Temporary Uses of Land with Negligible Effects
- 2) Plans and Policies
- 3) Leases and Licenses
- 4) Acquisition of Land or Interest in Land
- 5) Road Maintenance and Repair
- 6) Bridges and Culverts
- 7) Crossing Class 3 Streams
- 8) Temporary Road Use Permits
- 9) Road Closure
- 10) Material Stockpiles
- 11) Backfilling
- 12) Gathering Forest Products for Personal Use
- 13) Regeneration
- 14) Nursery Operations
- 15) Water Wells
- 16) Herbicides and Pesticides
- 17) Other Hazardous Materials
- 18) Fences
- 19) Waterlines
- 20) Removal of Small Trees
- 21) Removal of Hazardous Trees
- 22) Cone Collection
- 23) Timber Harvest (<100 MBF green or 500 MBF salvage)

By process of the adoption of the Administrative Rules for Forest Management on February 27, 2003, pursuant to ARM 36.2.523(5)(a), the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Trust Land Management Division, has adopted the above categorical exclusions for activities conducted on state forest lands. "Categorical Exclusion" refers to a type of action that does not individually, collectively, or cumulatively require an EA or EIS unless extraordinary circumstances occur (ARM 36.2.522(5)).

Extraordinary Circumstances:

Will the proposed action affect one or more of the following resources or situations in the project area? If the resource or situation is present, but project design avoids potential adverse effects on the resource, the answer is "no". One "Yes" answer indicates that Categorical Exclusion is not appropriate for the project, and an EA or EIS must be conducted.

- | YES | NO | |
|-------|--------------|--|
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 1) Sites with high erosion risk. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 2) Federally listed threatened and endangered species or critical habitat for threatened and endangered species as designated by the USFWS. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 3) Municipal watersheds. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 4) The SMZ of fish bearing streams or lakes, except for modification or replacement of bridges, culverts and other crossing structures. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 5) State natural area. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 6) Native American religious and cultural sites. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 7) Archaeological sites. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 8) Historic properties and areas. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 9) Several related projects that individually may be subject to categorical exclusion but that may occur at the same time or in the same geographic area. Such related actions may be subject to environmental review even if they are not individually subject to review. |
| _____ | <u> X </u> | 10) Violations of any applicable state or federal laws or regulations. |

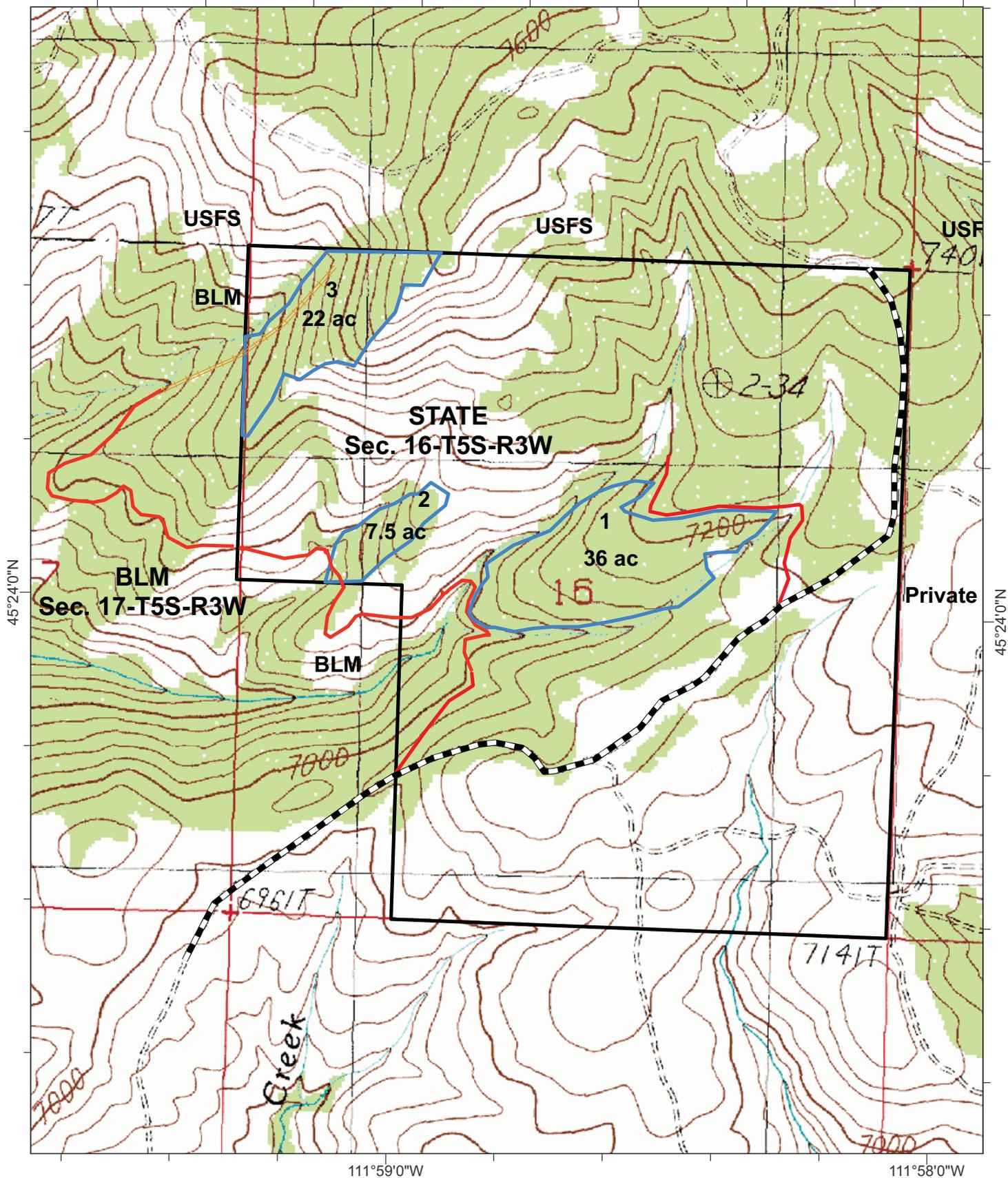
The project listed above meets the definition of the indicated categorical exclusion, including specified conditions and extraordinary circumstances, as provided in the Administrative Rules for Forest Management (ARM 36.11.447).

Prepared by:	<u>Chuck Barone</u> (Name)	<u>1/12/11</u> (Date)
Decision by:	<u>Tim Egan</u> (Name)	<u>Dillon Unit Manager</u> (Title)
	<u>/S/ Tim Egan</u> (Signature)	<u>1/19/11</u> (Date)

ATTACHMENT A
Monkey Balls Salvage Timber Permit
Section 16-T5S-R3W, Madison County

111°59'0"W

111°58'0"W



45°24'0"N

45°24'0"N

111°59'0"W

111°58'0"W



County Road Access Road

Designated Skid Trail Harvest Unit

1:12,500



ATTACHMENT B

Vegetative Analysis/Stand Prescription Monkey Balls Salvage Timber Permit

The State parcel is located in the southwest Tobacco Root Mountains along the forest/grassland interface. Slopes range from 10-45% with an elevation range of 7000-7600 feet. The State parcel has ~255 forested acres and was harvested 20 years ago, removing 853 MBF from 86 acres and 3 years ago, salvaging 197 MBF from 34 acres. Additional logging occurred ~50 - 70 years ago removing some larger Douglas-fir scattered throughout the stands. Forested acres are dominated by Douglas-fir found primarily on south slopes, and lodgepole pine found primarily on north slopes and in drainage bottoms, where productivity is significantly better. The cover type is Douglas-fir and the habitat type is Douglas-fir/Pine Grass (Psmc/Caru) with Subalpine fir/Grouse Whortleberry (Abla/Vasc) found in sites that are predominately lodgepole pine. Forested stands are included in fire group six with Douglas-fir the climax species and a vigorous seral along with lodgepole pine on the more northerly slopes. The fire disturbance regime was typically low to moderate severity fires converting stands to fairly open conditions with stand replacing fires occurring in more dense, overstocked areas. The absence of fire, in combination with encroachment, has resulted in overstocked and suppressed stands. These conditions along with prolonged draught have made the stands more susceptible to attack from insects and disease and fire.

Overall health and growth of all the Douglas-fir stands are poor to fair and are generally suppressed due to overstocking with moderate to heavy spruce budworm present in all Douglas-fir stands and moderate to heavy Mountain Pine Beetle present in all lodgepole pine stands. All lodgepole pine stands are presently under attack from Mountain Pine Beetle and the majority of the mature trees, >80 years old, are expected to yield to beetle attack within the next two years. Douglas-fir stands are exhibiting heavy crown defoliation and mortality due to repeated, heavy infestations of Spruce Budworm. These stands are also under light to moderate attack from Douglas-fir Bark Beetle.

Years of regional drought and warm winters combined with high stand densities of mature and over-mature timber have compounded and aggravated the risk of more serious insect and disease outbreak. Younger, more open stands where tree growth and vigor is encouraged are more resistant to insect and disease infestations.

Scattered individuals and small clumps (<5 acres) of old relic Douglas-fir trees do occur within the proposed units. Historically, these remnants were typically naturally fragmented, open-park like communities maintained by frequent low intensity fires. The present percentage of old growth cover types on State lands is nearly twice the estimated percentage that is likely to have historically occurred on State lands in Madison County. There is currently more total forest cover in Madison County than in prior historical conditions.

Stand Prescription:

Treatments for Douglas-fir cover types would target dead, dying and at-risk trees for removal. The majority of the unhealthy trees are in the older age classes and would be targeted for harvest while the younger age classes would be favored for the residual stand. Trees of all age classes exhibiting signs of insect/disease, poor health and/or poor tree form characteristics would be designated for harvest. Additionally, within healthier the overall stand density would be reduced by 55-65% of the merchantable volume, targeting shade tolerant species and trees exhibiting overstocked/suppressed conditions, utilizing group selection/selection harvests. This stand density reduction would be concentrated in areas of the stands containing younger-aged/small to medium sized trees while retaining some of the healthy older trees, if available and applicable. In certain areas, due to the lack of good, healthy seed stock and excessive crown damage from the spruce budworm infestation, a modified selection/seed tree harvest would be used. Desirable dominate/co-dominate trees would be left for seed source where available. Submerchantable trees and shrubs would be protected and retained for visual screening. Large live

trees, live cull trees, snags, cull snags, and coarse woody debris and fine materials would be protected and retained in sufficient quantities where applicable. Old DF relic trees would be protected where available and applicable.

Treatments for lodgepole pine cover types would target all dead, dying and at-risk lodgepole pine and other shade intolerant species exhibiting signs of insect/disease, poor health and/or poor tree form characteristics for removal and overall stand density reduction, utilizing regeneration harvests. Submerchantable trees and shrubs would be protected and retained for visual screening. Older, large shade tolerant trees would be harvested to cull out defective or damaged trees, where applicable.

Aspen Areas - A regeneration harvest would be utilized within 50-100' of aspen clones to reduce conifer encroachment and promote restoration of the aspen stands. Submerchantable conifer and aspen would not be protected during harvest operations to further reduce conifer encroachment and induce suckering of aspen. Post harvest treatment to fall and lop any remaining submerchantable conifer trees.

Due to areas of un-operable ground and sub-merchantable timber, islands of unharvested timber would be scattered throughout the stands. Excess slash would be consolidated at landings and burned. Natural regeneration would be expected. No rare plants or cover types have been noted by the Montana Natural Heritage Program or observed within the proposed project area.

Severity of stand conditions would dictate harvest method used, emulating moderately severe ground fire to stand replacing fire. Harvest prescription would recover value from defective and insect/disease damaged resources before it is lost; reduce overstocking, fire hazard, and susceptibility to additional insect and disease while promoting forest health, vigor and productivity. Additionally, harvest would open the stands to encourage natural regeneration of shade intolerant species; maintain a Douglas-fir cover type (and lodgepole pine cover type where applicable) while maintaining a semblance of historic stand conditions; and promote restoration of existing aspen stands.

Unit 1 (36 ac) and Unit 3 (22 ac) - Stands are composed of DF and lodgepole pine as a minor seral component, small to medium sawtimber. A handful of old relic trees are scattered through the stand. The stands are overstocked and suppressed and have moderate spruce budworm damage in the DF and heavy MPB in the lodgepole pine. Dominate trees are 60-65' and co-dominates are 45-55' with an average age of 100 -120 years. Yield capacity is 45-55 cu. ft/acre/yr. One large snag or snag recruit (≥ 21 " dbh or next largest available) per acre would be left where available. Regeneration and understory vegetation is sparse with very little coarse woody debris.

Retain all fine litter and 5-10 tons/acre of large woody debris >3 " diameter as feasible. Consolidate remaining slash at landings for burning. Conduct regeneration survey in 7-9 years and a thinning survey in 15-20 years.

Unit 2 (7.5 ac) - Stand is composed of DF and is overstocked and suppressed, with moderate spruce budworm infestation in the upper crowns. Dominate trees are 50-55' and co-dominates are 40-45' with an age of 95 -115 years. Yield capacity is 40-50 cu. ft/acre/yr. One large snag or snag recruit (≥ 21 " dbh or next largest available) per acre would be left where available. Regeneration and understory vegetation is moderate with moderate coarse woody debris consisting predominately of aspen.

Retain all fine litter and 5-10 tons/acre of large woody debris >3 " diameter as feasible. Consolidate remaining slash at landings for burning. Conduct regeneration survey in 7-9 years and a thinning survey in 20-25 years.

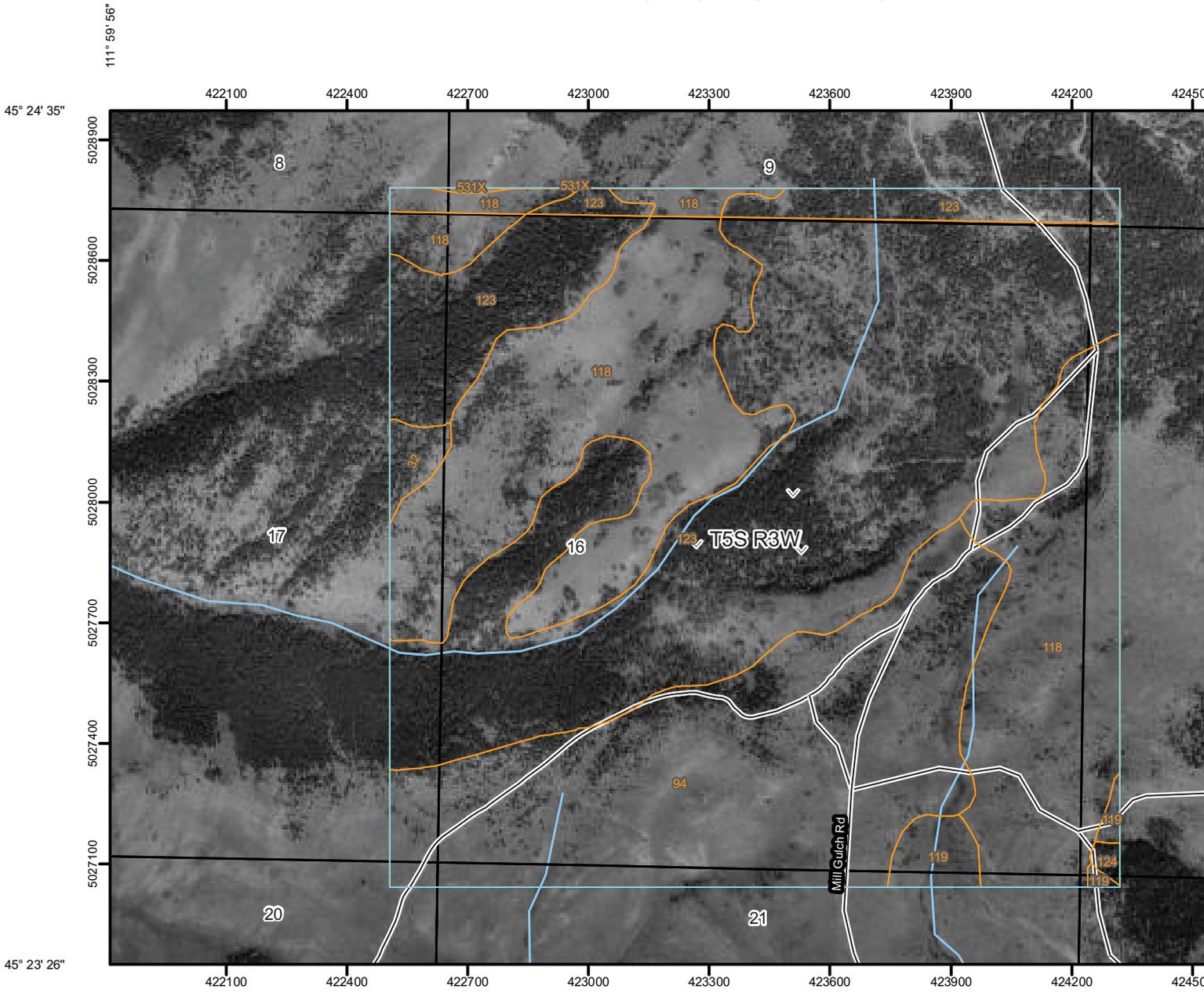
The proposed harvest represents 25.7% of the total forested acres within the State parcel and 8.4% of the forested acres within the Monkey Gulch watershed. Harvesting an estimated 500 MBF of timber would alter the forest cover on approximately 65.5 acres. The proposed levels of harvest and subsequent reduction in forest canopy would be similar to what would be expected to occur under the present natural conditions. Harvest design is intended to maintain a semblance of historic conditions while promoting

forest health, vigor and productivity, by removing insect damaged timber and reducing overstocking, through the emulation of mixed severity fires.

MEASURES RECOMMENDED TO MITIGATE POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

- 1) Compliance with Forestry Best Management Practices (BMP's), Streamside Management Zone (SMZ) laws, the Montana Stream Protection Act (124 Permit) and applicable DNRC Forest Management ARMS. Proceed with proposed project in accordance with DNRC Attachment 'B' - Road Construction, Improvement and Maintenance Specifications.
- 2) Limit equipment operations to periods when soils are dry (less than 20% soil moisture), frozen or snow covered (12 inches packed or 18 inches unconsolidated) to minimize soil compaction, rutting, vegetative disturbance and maintain drainage features. Control erosion by installing adequate drainage on roads and skid trails. A designated skid trail would be utilized through the northern portion of the harvest unit to protect riparian areas.
- 3) The Forest Officer shall approve a plan for felling, yarding and landing location in each harvest unit prior to the start of operations in the unit. The locations and spacing of skid trails and landings shall be designated and approved by the Forest Officer prior to operations and skid trails will not be spaced less than 60 feet. Retain all fine litter as feasible and 5-10 tons/acre of large woody debris >3" diameter. Minimize soil disturbance by general skid trail planning and limit sustained tractor skidding to slopes $\leq 45\%$. Sustained slopes $>45\%$ would be harvested utilizing a winch and cable line. Slash would be left in the harvest units where feasible, and distributed on skid trails upon completion of use, for nutrient cycling, to control erosion and to provide shade and protection for seedlings.
- 4) For slope stability on the road construction segments, construct cutslopes at 1:1 (run/rise) in common material and 1/4:1 for rock. Install adequate road drainage to control erosion concurrent with harvest activities and road opening and new construction. Provide effective sediment filtration along drainage features near crossing sites.
- 5) Existing road located from Units 1 to 3 and the constructed skid trail in Unit 3 would have adequate drainage provided and would be physically closed at the completion of the project. The two culverts located within the road segment would be removed and rehabilitated. Major skid trails would be closed with slash and debris and have adequate drainage provided.
- 6) All road construction and logging equipment would be power washed and inspected prior to being brought on site. Sale area would be monitored for weeds following harvest and a treatment plan would be developed should noxious weeds occur.
- 7) At sale closure, grass seed roads, skid trails (where needed) and landings with an appropriate seed mixture.
- 8) One snag and one snag recruit per acre, of the largest diameter class, would be retained where applicable. Cull live trees and cull snags would be retained where applicable.
- 9) Retain live, healthy older trees and stand attributes suitable for old growth development where available and applicable.
- 10) Contact DNRC wildlife biologist should any threatened or endangered species be encountered within the proposed project area.

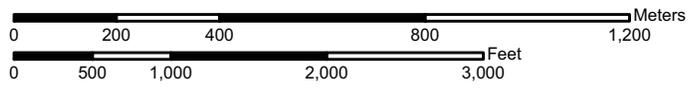
Soil Map—Beaverhead National Forest Area, Montana, and Madison County Area, Montana
(Monkey Salvage Timber Permit)



111° 59' 55"



Map Scale: 1:15,200 if printed on A size (8.5" x 11") sheet.



Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

Soils

 Soil Map Units

Special Point Features

-  Blowout
-  Borrow Pit
-  Clay Spot
-  Closed Depression
-  Gravel Pit
-  Gravelly Spot
-  Landfill
-  Lava Flow
-  Marsh or swamp
-  Mine or Quarry
-  Miscellaneous Water
-  Perennial Water
-  Rock Outcrop
-  Saline Spot
-  Sandy Spot
-  Severely Eroded Spot
-  Sinkhole
-  Slide or Slip
-  Sodic Spot
-  Spoil Area
-  Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other

Special Line Features



Gully



Short Steep Slope



Other

Political Features



Cities



PLSS Township and Range



PLSS Section

Water Features



Oceans



Streams and Canals

Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

MAP INFORMATION

Map Scale: 1:15,200 if printed on A size paper

The soil surveys that comprise your area of interest (AOI) are:

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for distance measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey URL: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov>

Coordinate System: UTM Zone 12N

This product is generated from the USDA National Cooperative Soil Survey, the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Beaverhead National Forest

Survey Area Data: Version 12, Aug 2000

Soil Survey Area: Madison County Area

Survey Area Data: Version 13, Feb 2001

Your area of interest (AOI) includes more detail than the soil survey maps. These survey areas may have been mapped for a different land use in mind, at different times, and with a different level of detail. This may result in map unit symbols and interpretations that do not completely agree with the soil survey boundaries.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: 1994-1995

The orthophoto or other base map on which these maps were compiled and digitized probably differs from the aerial imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some of the map unit boundaries may be evident.



Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Web Soil Survey
National Cooperative Soil Survey

Map Unit Legend

Beaverhead National Forest Area, Montana (MT605)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
118	Sebud-Hapgood complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	10.5	1.3%
123	Shadow complex, warm, 15 to 45 percent slopes	21.9	2.8%
531X	Bearmouth-Alta-Marcetta families, complex, moderately steep mountain slopes	0.4	0.1%
Subtotals for Soil Survey Area		32.8	4.2%
Totals for Area of Interest		779.9	100.0%

Madison County Area, Montana (MT636)			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
32	Comad-Earcree complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	5.7	0.7%
94	Oro Fino-Poin complex, 15 to 45 percent slopes	180.6	23.2%
118	Sebud-Hapgood complex, 8 to 45 percent slopes	235.2	30.2%
119	Sebud-Hapgood-Rock outcrop complex, 25 to 60 percent slopes	10.6	1.4%
123	Shadow complex, warm, 15 to 45 percent slopes	313.5	40.2%
124	Shadow complex, warm, 45 to 70 percent slopes	1.4	0.2%
Subtotals for Soil Survey Area		747.1	95.8%
Totals for Area of Interest		779.9	100.0%

ATTACHMENT E
MONKEY BALLS SALVAGE TIMBER PERMIT

CHECKLIST FOR ENDANGERED, THREATENED AND SENSITIVE SPEICES
Pertains to Section II. 9. of the DS-252 DNRC Environmental Checklist
CENTRAL LAND OFFICE

Prepared by Chuck Barone

January 12, 2010

Threatened and Endangered Species	[Y/N] Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures N = Not Present or No Impact is Likely to Occur Y = Impacts May Occur (Explain Below)
<p>Gray Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) Habitat: ample big game pops., security from human activity</p>	<p>[N] The proposed project area falls within the Yellowstone Nonessential Experimental Area for gray wolves. The nearest wolf packs are the Cedar Creek and Jack Creek packs. Individuals from this pack or transients from other packs could occasionally use portions of the project area; however, due to the size, nature and location of the proposed project, activities associated with this proposal are not expected to affect wolves or recovery efforts. Should a new den be located within one mile of the project area, activities would cease and a DNRC Biologist would be contacted immediately. Mitigations would then be developed and implemented to minimize adverse impacts to wolves prior to initiating any activity.</p>
<p>Grizzly Bear (<i>Ursus arctos</i>) Habitat: recovery areas, security from human activity</p>	<p>[N] The proposed project area lies outside of any grizzly bear recovery area. The nearest recovery area is the Yellowstone Grizzly Bear Recovery Zone (USFWS 1993) situated 20 miles southeast of the project area. The project area is comprised of dry forest types not typically preferred by grizzly bears. Grizzly bear use of the Tobacco Root Mountains may occur, however, the project area is currently considered outside of occupied habitat (Interagency Occupied Habitat Map, September 2002). Riparian habitats preferred by bears may occur in the project area. Human access levels are presently moderate to high due to the public access. Approximately 1700 feet of constructed skid trail would be needed to access Unit 3. The skid trail would be physically closed after the completion of the BLM and State projects. The potential for any measurable increases in bear-human conflicts following project activities are expected to be low. Adverse direct, indirect and cumulative impacts to bears as a result of this project are expected to be minimal.</p>

<p>Lynx (<i>Felis lynx</i>) Habitat: mosaics--dense sapling and old forest >5,000 ft. elev.</p>	<p>[N] The proposed project area is located along the far outer fringes of preferred lynx habitat in rangeland and predominately non-forested foothills. Lynx habitat on the State parcel would be categorized as "other" habitat (344 acres). Additionally, there are ~74 acres of "temporary non" habitat with the remaining 142 acres being rangeland. Of the ~344 acres of potential lynx habitat on the State parcel, <1.0 acres would be affected by the proposed activities. Preferred lynx habitat is marginal within the proposed project area due to naturally induced fragmentation, and the high level of interspersions of native grassland habitat and dry forest types and lack of highly desirable habitat conditions for lynx and their primary prey, snowshoe hares. Adverse direct, indirect or cumulative impacts to lynx as a result of this project are expected to be negligible.</p>
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<p>DNRC Sensitive Species</p>	<p>[Y/N] Potential Impacts and Mitigation Measures N = Not Present or No Impact is Likely to Occur Y = Impacts May Occur (Explain Below)</p>
<p>Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>) Habitat: late-successional forest <1 mile from open water</p>	<p>[N] Bald Eagles have been documented within the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). No nesting habitat occurs on, or within one mile of the proposed project area, and the project area occurs outside of any bald eagle nesting home range. Thus, no direct, indirect or cumulative effects to bald eagles associated with this project are anticipated.</p>
<p>Black-Backed Woodpecker (<i>Picoides arcticus</i>) Habitat: mature to old burned or beetle-infested forest</p>	<p>[N] Black-backed woodpeckers have not been documented within the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). However, stands found within the proposed project area are presently experiencing insect activity and could attract birds. No recent burns (≤5 years old) have occurred within the State tracts or adjoining sections. Due to the small size, location and short duration of this proposed project only minor potential for direct, indirect or cumulative effects to black-backed woodpeckers would be expected to occur.</p>
<p>Black-tailed Prairie Dog (<i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>) Habitat: grasslands, short-grass prairie, sagebrush semi-desert</p>	<p>[N] Grassland habitats suitable for use by black-tailed prairie dogs do not occur within one mile of the proposed project area. Impacts to black-tailed prairie dogs are not anticipated.</p>
<p>Flammulated Owl (<i>Otus flammeolus</i>) Habitat: late-successional ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir forest</p>	<p>[N] Flammulated owls have documented within the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). The parcel involved in the proposed project maintains an elevation of 7000-7600 feet. Flammulated Owls have been found in</p>

	<p>warm, dry Douglas-fir cover types. The parcel involved in this project has similar vegetative conditions but the associated higher elevations are not their preferred habitat. Direct, indirect and cumulative effects to Flammulated Owls would not be expected to occur under the alternatives considered.</p>
<p>Sage Grouse (<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>) Habitat: sagebrush semi-desert</p>	<p>[N] Sage Grouse have been documented in the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). Sagebrush semi-desert habitats suitable for use by Sage Grouse do occur within one mile of the project area. The area surrounding the proposed project has been identified as a lek area. No leks have been identified within one mile of the project area or along the main access route. Should sage grouse be present in the vicinity of the project area, any effects to habitat or disturbance-related effects would be expected to be minimal, due to the late start-up date of activities (i.e., post June 15), and preferred sagebrush habitat would not be altered. Impacts to Sage Grouse are not anticipated.</p>
<p>Harlequin Duck (<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>) Habitat: white-water streams, boulder and cobble substrates</p>	<p>[N] Harlequin ducks have not been documented in the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). No high gradient streams suitable for use by harlequins occur within the project area or along proposed haul routes. No impacts to harlequin ducks would be expected to occur as a result of this project.</p>
<p>Mountain Plover (<i>Charadrius montanus</i>) Habitat: short-grass prairie, alkaline flats, prairie dog towns</p>	<p>[N] Mountain Plovers have not been documented in the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). No short-grass prairie or prairie dog towns occur on, or within one mile of the proposed project area. No impacts to mountain plovers are expected as a result of this project.</p>
<p>Northern Bog Lemming (<i>Synaptomys borealis</i>) Habitat: sphagnum meadows, bogs, fens with thick moss mats</p>	<p>[N] No sphagnum meadows or bogs occur in the proposed project area. Thus, no impacts to bog lemmings would be expected to occur as a result of this project.</p>
<p>Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) Habitat: cliff features near open foraging areas and/or wetlands</p>	<p>[N] Peregrine Falcons have been documented within the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). No cliff features suitable for use by nesting peregrine falcons are known to occur within 1 mile of the project area. No direct, indirect or cumulative effects associated with this project are anticipated.</p>

<p>Pileated Woodpecker (<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>) Habitat: late-successional ponderosa pine and larch-fir forest</p>	<p>[N] Pileated woodpeckers have been documented within the quarter latilong (L38C) that encompasses the proposed project area (Skaar 1996, MNHP 2010). The project area is poorly suited for use by pileated woodpeckers. Due to the small size, location and short duration of this proposed project and as suitable habitat is not present in the project area; no impacts to pileated woodpeckers would be expected to occur as a result of this project.</p>
<p>Townsend's Big-Eared Bat (<i>Plecotus townsendii</i>) Habitat: caves, caverns, old mines</p>	<p>[N] The DNRC is unaware of any mines or caves within the proposed project area or close vicinity that would be suitable for use by Townsend's big-eared bats. Impacts to Townsend's big-eared bats are not anticipated as a result of this project.</p>

*Skaar, P.D. 1996. Montana bird distribution, fifth edition. Montana National Heritage Program 2010. National Heritage Tracker.