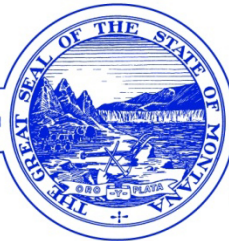


**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND CONSERVATION**
Central Land Office - Bozeman



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FINAL RECORD OF DECISION
Limestone West Timber Sale Project
March 6, 2019

INTRODUCTION

On January 7th, 2019, a draft Record of Decision was published notifying the public that the Proposed Decision in the Limestone West Timber Sale Final Environmental Impact Statement would be adopted without modification and offered to the Board of Land Commissioners for approval. The two selected action alternatives within the proposed decision included a Modified Action Alternative A; a timber harvest proposing 448 acres of treatment, and a Modified Action Alternative C; a conservation license option with a term length of 25 years. As outlined in Montana Code Annotated 77-5-208(c), upon approval by the Land Board, the department would solicit bids simultaneously for both alternatives to ensure that full, fair market value is secured for the trust beneficiaries. The complete rationale for the selection of these two action alternatives is displayed in the FEIS Proposed Decision (*FEIS, Chapter II, pages 73 through 79*).

On February 22, 2019, the Board of Land Commissioners unanimously approved the recommended alternatives selected by the department without modification. On January 31, 2019, the department advertised for sale, for a period of 30 days, both Modified Alternative A and the conservation license Modified Alternative C. On March 5th, 2019, two sealed bids were opened. The winning bid was secured by Save Our Gallatin Front for Modified Alternative C for \$18.15/ton equating to a total value of \$400,026 plus an additional \$11,901 in Forest Improvement fees.

FINAL DECISION

Based on the results of the bidding process, the selected alternative for the Limestone West Timber Sale Environmental Impact Statement will be the Modified Action Alternative C. This Final Record of Decision serves as public notice of the selected alternative for this FEIS, and as a result DNRC will be awarding a conservation license to Save Our Gallatin Front to defer commercial forest management within the harvest unit boundaries of Modified Action Alternative A (448 acres) for a period of 25 years. In the instance of conservation license default, the Modified Action Alternative A would be implemented.

Thank you for your interest and participation in the management of Montana's State Trust Lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Craig Campbell".

Craig Campbell
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