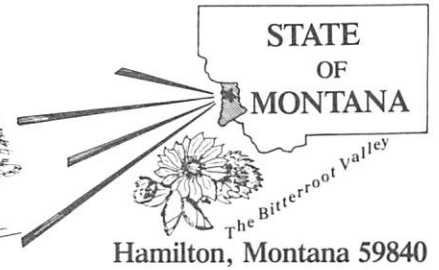
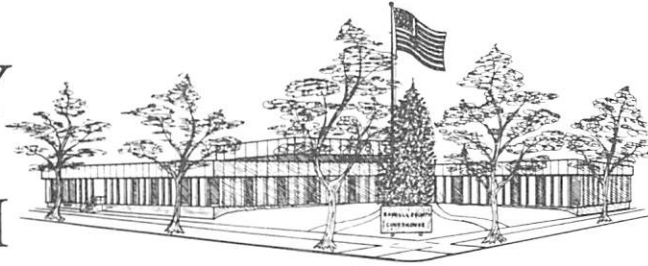


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



RAVALLI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
215 S. 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT. 59840
406-375-6500
commissioners@rc.mt.gov

July 26, 2021

Steve Brown
Stevensville Ranger District
88 Main St
Stevensville, MT 59870

RE: Ravalli County Comments on the Eastside Forest Habitat and Improvement Project

Dear Steve,

The Board of Ravalli County Commissioners (BCC) thanks you and Forest Supervisor Matt Anderson for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Eastside Project. We look forward to working with you to mitigate concerns/impacts addressed in this letter.

The Ravalli County Commissioners support the purpose and need for the Eastside Project and while we feel there are project improvements that should be considered, overall the proposed actions achieve the purpose and need.


We support the prescribed burning and non-commercial thinning proposed for this project. We support and encourage the use of commercial harvest to treat areas of the project that support the use of commercial treatment and harvest to improve forest conditions and to offset the cost associated with the project. We also support the use of the appropriate Categorical Exclusion to analyze this project.

Conclusion

Please consider these comments as part of the official record for the Eastside Forest Habitat and Improvement Project. We look forward to being actively involved with this project's development and analysis. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ravalli County Board of Commissioners



Jeff Burrows, Chairman



Dan Huls, Member



Greg Chilcott, Member