

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CONSERVATION



GREG GIANFORTE, GOVERNOR

HAMILTON UNIT OFFICE

STATE OF MONTANA

Telephone: (406) 363-1585 or (406) 375 -0412

1801 N. First Street  
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Hamilton, Montana 59840

**Initial Proposal  
Sula State Forest**

June 28, 2023

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Hamilton Unit Office is proposing to harvest commercial timber and thin non-commercial regeneration on the following state owned parcels:

- Section 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 36 T2N R19W**
- Section 25, 36 T3N R19W**
- Section 5 T1N R19W**
- Common School Trust**
- Capitol Buildings**
- Montana Tech**

The proposed project is located in the Sula State Forest northeast of Sula, Montana. The proposed action could begin as early as 2024 and could continue through 2034.

Trees would be individually selected for harvest to improve tree health, increase forest productivity, improve resistance to future insect/disease attack, and reduce ladder fuels. The project would also generate revenue for the Common School Trust, Capitol Buildings Trust, and Montana Tech Trust

The proposal would harvest approximately 5 - 6 million board feet from approximately 3,600 acres. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by state statute 77-5-222. Approximately 3,500 acres of pre-commercial thinning would also occur.

Existing roads would be improved to access proposed treatment units. Up to 2 miles of temporary road may also be needed. Noxious weed management, and tree planting would also occur under the proposed action.

The DNRC is in the scoping phase of the project environmental assessment, so all volumes and acreages are preliminary estimates. In preparation for this project, specialists such as wildlife biologists, hydrologists, soil scientists, and archeologists will be consulted.

The Montana DNRC invites written comments and suggestions concerning this proposal from all interested parties. Responses can be made by letter or email but must be received by August 3, 2023.

**Mail to:** Department of Natural Resources and Conservation  
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 Hamilton Unit Office  
 P.O. Box 713 Hamilton, MT 59840

**Email:** [tjacques@mt.gov](mailto:tjacques@mt.gov)

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JUN 29 2023

Ravalli County Commissioners

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Illinois State Board of Education

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