National Forest Foundation

Building 27, Suite 3, Fort Missoula Road
Missoula, Montana 59804
TEL 406.542.2805
nationalforests.org

Request for Proposals

Flathead National Forest 2027 Fuels

Flathead National Forest, Montana

NFF Background:

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is a congressionally chartered nonprofit organization with the simple mission of bringing people together to restore and enhance National Forests and Grasslands. The NFF is the leading organization inspiring personal and meaningful connections to our National Forests, the centerpiece of America's public lands. Working on behalf of the American public, the NFF leads forest conservation efforts and promotes responsible recreation. We believe these lands, and all they provide, are an American treasure and are vital to the health of our communities.

Project Background:

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is soliciting bids for multiple Fuels Projects located on the Tally Lake, Swan and Hungry Horse/Glacier View Ranger Districts of the Flathead National Forest. The purpose of the project is to reduce the tree density and, by the deliberate selection of leave trees, improve the overall health and condition of the stand based on the prescribed objectives.

There are eight (8) projects offered for bid in this Request for Proposal (RFP). Each Project will be treated as a separate bid item, and bids shall be submitted unit-by-unit with a total project price for each one. Bidders interested in one or more of the projects described in this RFP may submit a bid for each project they wish to bid on. Bids will be evaluated on the criteria described below in Section III - Submission, Evaluation and Contacts.

Statement of Work: Worked advertised in this solicitation will include but is not limited to: Hand Pre-Commercial Thinning (PCT), understory removal (USR), hand chainsaw thinning, hand piling, lop and scatter, machine-based understory removal or mastication, and excavator or machine piling. Tree selection and undesirable or excess trees will provide space for the leave trees to grow and develop, reduce the incidence of insects and diseases that affect growth, and undesirable tree qualities. Tree thinning and associated slash treatment work is also to reduce hazardous fuels and uncharacteristic fire behavior on National Forest Lands.

Timeline:

This Request for Proposals will close and all proposals will be due by 5:00 PM MST November 20, 2026. The NFF anticipates being able to enter a contract with any

selected bidder(s) by Close of Business (COB) December 11, 2026 with a projected contract start date of January 26, 2027. Work is most favorable during the summer months. Changes in the closing date for this Request for Proposals will be updated on the NFF website at https://www.nationalforests.org/rfp under the link for this project's Request for Proposals. All contract-related dates are estimates and subject to change at the NFF's sole discretion.

I. PROJECT OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

General Specifications

(a) Description of Work – This Request for Proposals is for restoration services related to forest thinning and slash management on eight project areas in the Swan Lake, Tally Lake and Glacier View Ranger Districts of the Flathead National Forest near Kalispell, MT. **Reference unit specific wildlife timing restrictions in Appendix A**. NFF may award 1 or up to 8 separate contracts to one or more contractors for this solicitation. Funding limitations or litigation may exclude some or all bid items. Contractors may bid on one or all items listed below:

1. Bug Creek 4 Machine and Handwork (337 acres)
2. Red Owl Fuels (93 acres)
3. Frozen Moose 2 (484 acres)
4. Hungry Lion Hand/Mech (6 acres)
5. Crystal Cedar Handwork (60 acres)
6. Beaver Lake Hand PCT (117 acres)
7. Stovepipe Machine Fuels (43 acres)
8. Cyclone Bill Hand Fuels (97 acres)

(b) Specifications – Project work shall be accomplished in accordance with the following:

Appendix A: Cutting Guide and Slash Treatment Specifications

Appendix B: Quality Control Plan

Appendix C: Deliveries

Appendix D: Special Contract Requirements

Appendix E: Definitions

Appendix F: Maps

Appendix G: Federal Flowdowns

Bidders shall identify in their proposals what they can supply in terms of materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work as described. Proposals shall be sufficient to guarantee that the selected contractor shall be able to perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner and in accordance with all industry standards.

(c) Project Location – FNF Fuels 2027 projects are located in Flathead County on the Flathead National Forest within the Tally Lake, Swan Lake and Glacier View/Hungry Horse Ranger Districts. Projects are generally located less than 30 miles from Kalispell, MT. Access and unit maps are available in Appendix F. Contract unit boundaries are generally marked with orange stripe or blue flagging, some **Red Owl units 234, 236, 237, 239, 241 and 242 are virtual boundaries so are not flagged**. In some places boundaries are defined by roads. Roads, as used here, shall mean the well-travelled portion of the road. Cut banks and fill slopes may be within the contract units.

(d) Work Schedule – Period of Performance: The period of performance will be from February 1, 2026, to September 30, 2028. Weather and seasonal closures may affect the period of performance, especially in the winter and spring months. Work typically can begin around June 1st with earlier start dates dictated by elevation, weather and snowpack. Timing restrictions apply to some projects and specific units within a project, reference pricing schedule below and Appendix A. Bid item 8 Cyclone Bill implementation may or may not be delayed due to pending litigation, if delayed it could be for one year or more.

Other Project Requirements

Utilities/Work Site Conditions – In many locations there will be no or limited sanitation, water, electrical or housing services available. Bidders shall consider all relevant factors when submitting proposals for this work. Proposals should account for the need of the selected contractor to make its own arrangements for temporary facilities if required. The work location and conditions for this project are as follows: The selected contractor shall prepare a Camping and/or Worksite Plan and operate in a manner that will protect the environmental resources and the public facilities. The conditions will be consistent with the requirements of Appendix D: SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS, and supplementary attachments.

Minimum Insurance. In accordance with the terms of the Services Agreement, prior to the start of any work, the successful Bidder (the "Contractor") will be required to maintain, and ensure that its subcontractors performing work described in the proposal (Subcontractors) maintain, the minimum coverages and comply with the insurance requirements indicated below.

a. **Coverage Requirements**

i. Commercial General Liability Insurance ("CGL"). Commercial general liability insurance, including bodily injury, property damage, personal injury, advertising injury, products and completed operations and contractual liability in the amount no less than:

- $1,000,000 each occurrence;
- $1,000,000 products/completed operations limit;
- $1,000,000 advertising injury and personal injury limit; and

- $2,000,000 general aggregate.

ii. Business Automobile Liability Insurance. If using motor vehicles (owned, hired, or borrowed) to deliver or perform the work described in the proposal, business automobile liability insurance with a minimum limit of $1,000,000 combined single limit each accident for bodily injury and property damage for all owned, rented leased or hired vehicles used in conjunction with the performance of the services.

iii. Workers' Compensation Insurance. Statutory workers' compensation insurance in accordance with all state and local requirements of the state(s) in which services will be performed.

1. Waiver of Subrogation. All insurance policies shall include a waiver of any and all rights of subrogation or recovery of the insurers thereunder against, inter alia, the NFF, and its assigns, successors, undertakings and their subsidiaries, affiliates, employees, insurers and underwriters, and of any right of the insurers to any set-off or counterclaim or any other deduction, whether by attachment or otherwise, in respect of any liability of any such person insured under any such policy or in any way connected with any loss, liability or obligation covered by such policies of insurance.

2. Primary and non-contributory. With the exception of Workers' Compensation and Professional Liability insurance (if applicable), all insurance required to be maintained by Contractor shall be primary with respect to all claims arising out of Contractor's performance and/or activities under this Agreement, and any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the NFF shall be excess only and not be required to contribute with it.

3. "Claims Made" Coverage. Any liability insurance purchased on a "claims made" basis must be continuously maintained for a period equal to the applicable statute of repose, but in any case, not less than 3 years, following final performance or termination of Services, either through the continued purchase of insurance or the purchase of an extended reporting period. The retroactive date applicable to such "claims made" insurance, if any, must precede the first date on which Services are to be performed.

4. Verification of Coverage. Contractor will have furnished to the NFF original certificates of insurance and amendatory endorsements or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required herein prior to or at the time of execution of the Agreement, and shall further provide evidence that the foregoing is in place and will not be cancelled or reduced during the term of the agreement. Contractor's and any Subcontractors' certificates of insurance will list "The National Forest Foundation" as an Additional Insured on its or their commercial general liability policy and business automobile liability policy (as applicable).

Contractor will submit updated certificates of insurance upon expiration of the required policies.

b. **Additional Insurance Requirements.** In addition to the minimum insurances set-forth above, the NFF reserves the right to request additional coverage as reasonably necessary based on the scope, nature, and risks associated with the services to be performed, including, but not limited to:

    a. Commercial/Contractor's Pollution Liability Insurance covering clean-up costs, legal fees, and third-party damages from environmental contamination.

    b. Loggers Broad Form Endorsement restoring liability protection for specific property damage and operational risk inherent to forestry operations to Contractor's CGL policy.

Payment/Performance Security. If selected, Bidder(s) shall be required to provide security in the form of cash, a letter of credit, bond, or other financial security that is easily convertible into cash in a form acceptable to the NFF, in its sole determination. The security will be used to ensure completion of the work required under any subsequent agreement and payment of all amounts lawfully due to all persons. All persons shall include, but not be limited to, those supplying or furnishing to the Bidder or Bidder's Subcontractors with labor, laborers, materials, rental machinery, tools or equipment used or to perform the work. Bidders may incorporate required associated costs into mobilization costs or other approved expenses. Payment or Performance Security will be required in the following amounts, as applicable:

a. For work that is classified as construction in accordance with the Miller Act or Little Miller Act or if required per conditions of the funding source, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of the Agreement. For the purposes of this Request for Proposal, construction is defined as "any contract greater than $100,000 for the construction, alteration, or repair of any public building or public work where the federal government is the owner."

b. If Contractor is subcontracting 15% or more of the total contract value, or if the cost of materials is in excess of the larger of $100,000 or 50% of the contract total, payment and performance bonding will be required in the full amount of the Agreement.

c. If the value of the agreement is in excess of $250,000, Contractor will be required to post financial security in a form acceptable to the NFF in the amount of 5% of the total agreement value up to $250,000 in total financial security.

The NFF will not provide blanket waivers of payment/performance security requirements, though reserves the right to negotiate payment and performance security terms and conditions with a selected Bidder based upon legal requirements and organizational needs and policies.

Prohibited Telecommunications Services and Equipment

NFF contractors are responsible for compliance with the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment identified in 2 CFR 200.216.

Federal Exclusion Verification

The selected Contractor will be required to affirm that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

Flowdown Provisions

NFF funding for projects may vary but will frequently include public funds. As such, any Agreement associated with this RFP may be subject to flowdown requirements under associated federal or state funding agreements, which are included and made part of by this reference. Flowdown requirements are not negotiable and will not be removed or edited. While flowdown provisions may change depending on funding, the NFF has identified the following flowdown provisions as currently being required for any Work performed under this RFP and any resulting contract:

Appendix G: Federal Flowdowns

II. REQUIRED COMPONENTS

Technical Proposal

Bidders shall submit a technical proposal for the work described in this RFP. Bidders shall consider all relevant factors when submitting proposals for this work. Bidders shall identify in their proposals what they can supply in terms of materials, labor, equipment, supplies, supervision, quality control, and incidentals required to complete the work as described. Proposals should account for the need of the selected contractor to make its own arrangements for temporary utilities and facilities, if required. Proposals shall be sufficient to guarantee that the selected contractor shall be able to perform all work in a safe and conscientious manner and in accordance with all industry standards. At a minimum, each proposal must include the following: :

a. An overview and description of the services provided by the Bidder that align with the requests in this RFP.
b. A description of the project management or administration approach that will be followed by the Bidder to ensure that the identified work is completed on time and within budget.
c. A project work plan and schedule that lists in detail the stages of work expected to be completed in this project, all identifiable deliverables, and the dates on which the Bidder would anticipate being able to complete delivery of the work.
d. A project personnel overview identifying key personnel to be utilized if selected to perform the work described in this RFP and any relevant or required credentials or certifications held by the key personnel.

Bidders may also include the following items in proposals as applicable:

a. Any change or risk management approaches utilized by the Bidder when completing projects of the type described in this RFP.

Bidder Qualifications

Bidders shall submit a statement of their qualifications for the work described in this RFP. The statement should include the following items in narrative format:

a. Experience –
    i. Please provide a brief explanation of previous work experience with land management agencies, noting specifically any work performed on National Forests or Grasslands.
    ii. Please provide a listing of relevant projects of similar size, scope, and total value performed by the Bidder within the past 5 years.
b. References –
    i. Please provide three professional references, identifying as applicable any government or conservation nonprofit references.
    ii. Provide the name, email address, and telephone number for each

reference, as well as the dates of the projects during which the Bidder worked with each reference.

Failed Projects or Legal Actions

Bidders shall identify any past failed projects and the reasoning behind the failure or incompletion. Bidders shall also identify any and all current or pending legal matters in which the Bidder or any of its principals is involved.

UEI

Successful bidders will be required to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). If you have a UEI, please provide it in your proposal or quote.

Federal Exclusion Verification

Bidder(s) will be required to affirm that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

Prebid Tour and Access on Private Lands

Frozen Moose Sagebrush in Polebridge Gate Code: Contact Brad French bfrench@nationalforests.org for code prior to leaving cell service in town. **Optional Prebid Tour November 9 at 12:00 pm** meet at locked gate on map Kintla Ranch Rd Polebridge, MT (no cell service).

Red Owl Fuels in Bigfork crosses private property for access. Park in designated parking areas shown on map. Contact Brad French bfrench@nationalforests.org a prior to needing access for bidding visits and or working so he can notify the landowner prior to work beginning. **Optional Prebid Tour November 10 at 12:00 pm** at Red Owl Road/Hwy 83 Ferndale, MT.

Pricing Schedule

Bidders shall price work according to the schedule below. If Bidders believe that an alternative method of pricing is more applicable, they may also provide an alternative pricing schedule in addition to the format requested below.

The NFF, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to utilize any alternative pricing schedule proposed by any Bidders. One or more tasks (contracts) may be broken out and awarded depending on bids and contractor availability on the items below.

Due to the dynamic and changing nature of NFF funding, the NFF reserves the right to negotiate an increased cost with the selected Bidder in the event that prevailing wages become required for the work described in this RFP.

If the opportunity to add additional funding to the work described in this RFP arises, the NFF may increase the quantities of work to be performed as part of this project, as agreed upon by the NFF and the selected Bidder.

Bug Creek 4 *Bigfork, MT*				
Task/Item	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
1a) 37C	Hand/Machine USR pile	8	$	$
1b) 211	Hand/Machine USR pile	33	$	$
1c) 212	Hand/Machine USR pile	98	$	$
1d) 216	Hand/Machine USR pile	4	$	$
1e) 217	Hand/Machine USR pile	13	$	$
1f) 218	Hand/Machine USR pile	74	$	$
1g) 219	Hand/Machine USR pile	10	$	$
1h) 221	Hand/Machine USR pile	10	$	$
1i) 222	Hand/Machine USR pile	18	$	$
1j) WS 55	Machine Piling logging slash	69	$	$
		337	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Red Owl Fuels *Ferndale, MT*				
Task/Item	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
2a) 234	Hand slash pile	10	$	$
2b) 235	Hand slash pile or masticate	34	$	$
2c) 236	Hand slash pile	4	$	$
2d) 237	Hand slash pile	10	$	$
2e) 239	Hand slash pile	5	$	$
2f) 241	Hand slash pile	6	$	$
2g) 242	Hand slash pile	24	$	$
		93	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Frozen Moose 2.0 Hand *Polebridge, MT (email for gate access)*				
Task/Item	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
3a) 271	PCT Lop & Scatter	55	$	$
3b) 272	PCT Lop & Scatter	9	$	$
3c) 273	PCT Lop & Scatter	261	$	$
3d) 275	PCT Lop & Scatter	24	$	$
3e) 287	Sage Restoration Hand pile	22	$	$
3f) 288	Sage Restoration Hand pile	28	$	$
3g) 308	USR Hand pile	67	$	$
3h) 310	USR Hand pile	18	$	$
		484	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Hungry Lion Hand/Mech *Coram, MT*				
Task/Item	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
4) 9	Mech or Hand slash & pile	6	$	$
		6	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Crystal Cedar Hand *Columbia Falls, MT*				
Task/Item	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
5a) 28	Hand/Shrub Only	15	$	$
5b) 55	Hand/Shrub Only	37	$	$
5c) 55A	Hand/Shrub Only	2	$	$
5d) 56	Hand/Shrub Only	4	$	$
5e) 56A	Hand/Shrub Only	2	$	$
		60	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Beaver Lake Hand PCT *Whitefish, MT*				
Item/Task	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
6) 104	PCT Lop/Scatter	39	$	$
		39	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Stovepipe Machine Fuels *Whitefish, MT*				
Item/Task	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
7) 807	Mech Masticate or Pile	43	$	$
		43	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Cyclone Bill Hand Fuels *Whitefish, MT*				
Item/Task	**Type**	**Units (Acres)**	**Unit Cost**	**Extended Cost**
8a) 313	Hand Slash Pile	6	$	$
8b) 314	Hand Slash Pile	91	$	$
		97	**TOTAL BID:**	$

Payment Schedule

Bidders shall submit a proposed payment schedule consistent with their proposed pricing structure. Lump sum proposals should identify invoicing milestones tied to deliverables or project phases, while time-and-materials proposals should identify the anticipated invoicing frequency, cost of materials/supplies, and the applicable rates for invoicing. Proposed payment schedules are for evaluation purposes only. The final payment structure and invoicing terms will be negotiated with the selected Bidder and incorporated into the executed agreement.

Insurance Information.

Bidders must identify the insurance coverage currently in place. If available, please attach sample certificates of insurance.

III. SUBMISSION, EVALUATION, AND CONTACTS

Bidder Selection Process:

Bid Submission

Bidders shall submit proposals containing all of the required information described above via email at the address specified below by the stated deadline:

Submission Address: bfrench@nationalforests.org
Submission Deadline: 5:00 PM on November 20, 2026.

Proposals submitted after this RFP closes will not be considered unless approved by the NFF. The NFF will review all proposals determined to be responsive using the evaluation factors listed below. Proposals may be deemed non-responsive for failure to submit any required information or for failure to comply with any terms of this RFP. Non-responsive proposals may be disqualified from evaluation in the sole discretion of the NFF.

Notification

If a proposal is selected by the NFF to advance to the contracting stage, the NFF will notify the successful Bidder via email by COB December 11. Once the selected Bidder has been notified, the NFF project representative will coordinate the drafting and negotiation of an NFF agreement outlining the terms and conditions of the work to be performed.

Unsuccessful Bidders will be notified via email as soon as possible after the closing date of this RFP. Please Note: The NFF **will not** share any information about the organizations submitting proposals nor any information regarding the proposals submitted by other organizations. If a Bidder has questions about its proposal, the Bidder may ask the NFF Point of Contact identified below. If an answer can be provided, the NFF will respond via email as soon as it is able to do so.

Request for Proposals Only

This is a request for proposals only and bids furnished do not bind the NFF in any way. Selection of a bid will result in the opportunity to contract with the NFF but will not guarantee a resulting contract or any amount of work. The NFF reserves the right to disqualify any incomplete or improper proposal submitted as non-responsive. The NFF may also decide not to select any proposals submitted to this RFP for advancement to contract negotiations. This request does not commit the National Forest Foundation to pay any costs incurred in the preparation or submission of the proposal or to contract for supplies or services.

Evaluation Factors and Scoring

The following factors will be used to evaluate any responsive submitted proposals. The factors, as listed, are ordered from highest priority (Level 3) to lowest priority (Level 1). Each factor can receive a score from 1 point to 3 points. The number of points awarded will be multiplied by the priority level to determine the total score for each factor.

(Example: If Price/Cost (level 3) is awarded 2 points, the total score for price would be 6 points.)

Level 3 Criteria
- Price / cost
- Equipment and contractor capability
- Past performance, references, and USFS feedback

Level 2 Criteria
- Technical proposal / proposed approach to project
- Overall strategic benefits to meeting NFF goals and grant needs, requirements, and timelines

Level 1 Criteria
- Benefits to the local community

Point of Contact

Any questions about this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing to the NFF contact identified below. Questions determined to be of importance to all potential Bidders will be posted as an attachment to an updated version of this RFP at https://www.nationalforests.org/rfp.

Brad French
National Forest Foundation , Flathead Coordinator
bfrench@nationalforests.org

Bid Submission

Submit bids via email to bfrench@nationalforests.org by 5:00 PM MST Friday November 20, 2026.

Equal Opportunity Provider

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, the National Forest Foundation is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

Request for Proposals
Flathead National Forest 2027 Fuels
Flathead National Forest- Kalispell, Montana

Appendix A: Cutting and Slash Treatment Specifications

BUG CREEK 4 SPECIFICATIONS ITEMS 1A-1J

Item: 1A

Unit Name: Bug Creek USR 37C
Location: – Approximately 7 miles SE of Bigfork, MT
Approximate Elevation: 3800 feet

Fuels reduction work shall include mechanical or hand slashing of standing trees, bucking exisiting dead and down, and excavator piling or masticating the existing slash that was created through both slashing activities and accumulations of natural fuels.

In the event that piling or masticating is not feasible, and average DBH of trees slashed does not exceed 4 inches, lop and scatter is an acceptable means of handling slash provided unit is not adjacent to private property. For lop and scatter, limbs will be removed from two sides, less than 2 feet high, and bucked into lengths of 8 feet or less.

SLASHING/MASTICATION SPECIFICATIONS

Conifer trees less than 6" to be slashed. No trees greater than 6" at DBH to be slashed. If there are no trees above 6" DBH within 30' of leave trees, small clumps of trees can be left for wildlife cover.

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:
Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 15 to 25 feet to select for those species where possible. Western White Pine will not be included in the spacing requirements.

Species Preference: WL, PP, DF. Leave all Western White Pine.

Minimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 6" DBH

Maximum Stump Height: **6 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: Buck thinning slash and all previously downed wood that is less than 12" diameter into 8-10 foot lengths to facilitate excavator piling operations.

Masticated Material: Will be within the following specification: 75% of chips from masticating must be <3' in length, 25% of chips from masticating may be >3' in length, however, must be no more than 1' in height/depth.

Down Wood and Wildlife Trees:
Masticate down wood <8" diameter that is suspended >12" off the ground into pieces 3' or less in length. Leave all existing down wood and dead trees >8" diameter intact to the extent practical and in the unit unless they create a hazard.

Items: 1B & 1C

Unit Name: Bug Creek PCT 211, 212
Location: – Approximately 7 miles SE of Bigfork, MT
Approximate Elevation: 3800 - 4700 feet

Fuels reduction work shall include mechanical or hand slashing of standing trees, bucking exisiting dead and down, and excavator piling or masticating the existing slash that was created through both slashing activities and accumulations of natural fuels.

In the event that piling or masticating is not feasible, and average DBH of trees slashed does not exceed 4 inches, lop and scatter is an acceptable means of handling slash provided unit is not adjacent to private property For lop and scatter, limbs will be removed from two sides, less than 2 feet high, and bucked into lengths of 8 feet or less.

SLASHING/MASTICATION SPECIFICATIONS

All conifer trees less than 5" to be slashed. No trees greater than 5" at DBH to be slashed or masticated. If there are no trees above 5" DBH within 30' of leave trees, small clumps of trees can be left for wildlife cover.

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:
Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 15 to 25 feet to select for those species where possible. Western White Pine will not be included in the spacing requirements.

Species Preference: WL, PP, DF**.** Leave all Western White Pine.

Mimimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 5" DBH

Maximum Stump Height: **6 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: Buck thinning slash and all previously downed wood that is less than 12" diameter into 8-10 foot lengths to facilitate excavator piling operations.

Masticated Material: Will be within the following specification: 75% of chips from masticating must be <3' in length, 25% of chips from masticating may be >3' in length, however, must be no more than 1' in height/depth.

Down Wood and Wildlife Trees:
Masticate down wood <8" diameter that is suspended >12" off the ground into pieces 3' or less in length. Leave all existing down wood and dead trees >8" diameter intact to the extent practical and in the unit unless they create a hazard.

Items : 1D & 1E

Unit Name: Bug Creek PCT 216/217
Location: – Approximately 7 miles SE of Bigfork, MT
Approximate Elevation: 3800 feet

Fuels reduction work shall include mechanical or hand slashing of standing trees, bucking exisiting dead and down, and excavator piling or masticating the existing slash that was created through both slashing activities and accumulations of natural fuels.

In the event that piling or masticating is not feasible, and average DBH of trees slashed does not exceed 4 inches, lop and scatter is an acceptable means of handling slash provided unit is not adjacent to private property. For lop and scatter, limbs will be removed from two sides, less than 2 feet high, and bucked into lengths of 8 feet or less.

SLASHING/MASTICATION SPECIFICATIONS

All conifer trees less than 5" to be slashed. No trees greater than 5" at DBH to be slashed or masticated. If there are no trees above 5" DBH within 30' of leave trees, small clumps of trees can be left for wildlife cover.

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:
Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 15 to 25 feet to select for those species where possible. Western White Pine will not be included in the trees per acre & spacing requirements. Leave trees will be free of or have limited presence of insect/disease symptoms/damage.

Species Preference: WL, PP, DF**.** Leave all Western White Pine.

Minimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 5” DBH

Maximum Stump Height: **6 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: Buck thinning slash and all previously downed wood that is less than 12” diameter into 8-10 foot lengths to facilitate excavator piling operations.

Masticated Material: Will be within the following specification: 75% of chips from masticating must be <3’ in length, 25% of chips from masticating may be >3’ in length, however, must be no more than 1’ in height/depth.

Down Wood and Wildlife Trees: Masticate down wood <8” diameter that is suspended >12” off the ground into pieces 3’ or less in length. Leave all existing down wood and dead trees >8” diameter intact to the extent practical and in the unit unless they create a hazard.

Items: 1F & 1H

Unit Name: Bug Creek 218/221
Location: – Approximately 7 miles SE of Bigfork, MT
Approximate Elevation: 4300 feet

Fuels reduction work shall include mechanical or hand slashing of standing trees, bucking exisiting dead and down, and excavator piling or masticating the existing slash that was created through both slashing activities and accumulations of natural fuels.

In the event that piling or masticating is not feasible, and average DBH of trees slashed does not exceed 4 inches, lop and scatter is an acceptable means of handling slash provided unit is not adjacent to private property.

SLASHING/MASTICATION SPECIFICATIONS

All conifer trees less than 5” to be slashed. No trees greater than 5” at DBH to be slashed or masticated. If there are no trees above 5” DBH within 30’ of leave trees, small clumps of trees can be left for wildlife cover.

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:
Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 15 to 25 feet to select for those species where possible. Western white pine will not be included in the trees per acre & spacing requirements. Leave trees will be free of or have limited presence of insect/disease symptoms/damage.

Species Preference: WL, PP, DF**.** Leave all Western White Pine.

Mimimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 5” DBH

Maximum Stump Height: **6 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: Buck thinning slash and all previously downed wood that is less than 12” diameter into 8-10 foot lengths to facilitate excavator piling operations.

Masticated Material: Will be within the following specification: 75% of chips from masticating must be <3’ in length, 25% of chips from masticating may be >3’ in length, however, must be no more than 1’ in height/depth.

Down Wood and Wildlife Trees:
Masticate down wood <8” diameter that is suspended >12” off the ground into pieces 3’ or less in length. Leave all existing down wood and dead trees >8” diameter intact to the extent practical and in the unit unless they create a hazard.

Items: 1G & 1I

Unit Name: Bug Creek 219/222
Location: – Approximately 7 miles SE of Bigfork, MT
Approximate Elevation: 4300 feet

Fuels reduction work shall include mechanical or hand slashing of standing trees, bucking exisiting dead and down, and excavator piling or masticating the existing slash that was created through both slashing activities and accumulations of natural fuels.

In the event that piling or masticating is not feasible, and average DBH of trees slashed does not exceed 4 inches, lop and scatter is an acceptable means of handling slash provided unit is not adjacent to private property. For lop and scatter, limbs will be removed from two sides, less than 2 feet high, and bucked into lengths of 8 feet or less.

THINNING/SLASHING SPECIFICATIONS

All conifer that is 5 inches or less in diameter at breast height to be thinned/slashed. No trees greater than 5” at DBH to be cut. If no trees greater than 5” are present to meet the spacing specification, see desired leave tree composition below.

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:
Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 10 to 20 feet to select for those species where possible. Western White Pine will not be included in the trees per acre & spacing requirements. Leave trees will be free of or have limited presence of insect/disease symptoms/damage.

Species Preference: WL, PP, DF**.** Leave all Western White Pine.

Mimimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 5” DBH

Maximum Stump Height: **4 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: All slashed material will be lopped to less than 2 ft high and placed on or near the ground surface. Cut material shall not lean against an uncut tree, stump, log or any obstacle. Material will be bucked to lengths of 4-8 feet.

Item: 1J

Unit Name: Wyman Stones 55
Location: – Approximately 7 miles SE of Bigfork, MT
Approximate Elevation: 4300 feet

Fuels reduction work consists of excavator piling the existing slash that was created through harvest activities.

EXCAVATOR PILE SPECIFICATIONS

Acceptable equipment for slash piling is an excavator equipped with a bucket and a thumb or other equipment approved by the Contracting Officer. All slashed and existing woody material greater than 3” in diameter and longer than 3’.

EXCAVATOR PILE SPECIFICATIONS

Acceptable equipment for slash piling is an excavator equipped with a bucket and a thumb or other equipment approved by the Contracting Officer. All slashed and existing woody material greater than 3” in diameter and longer than 3’.

- Piles shall be as compact as possible and free from large gaps and air spaces.

- Leave an average of 10 tons per acre of down coarse woody debris when available. The most desirable coarse woody debris shall consist of logs >12” diameter and greater than 10’ in length where they exist. In areas where larger diameter logs are not present, acceptable coarse woody debris will be material greater than 4 inches diameter on the small end and longer than 3 feet in length. In all areas, the larger diameter pieces are more desirable than smaller diameter pieces needed to meet this requirement.

- Piles shall be located outside of live residual/leave tree driplines, in openings or areas of low tree densities. Piles shall be kept as far away from designated leave trees as feasible--a minimum of 15 feet where possible, or as mutually agreed to by the Contractor and the Government, to minimize damage to residual trees when the piles are burned. Piles shall be located at least 10 feet from unit boundaries.

- Where feasible, piles shall be placed along skid trails or previously disturbed areas to minimize additional soil disturbance.

- Piles shall be constructed no more than 12 feet in diameter, and no less than 8 feet in height (tall and compact, not sprawling is desired), shall be constructed compact and free of dirt and duff, shall have a good base to prevent the pile from toppling and shall not be made on down logs, rotten stumps or rocks. Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, similar to pencils in a box. Once a pile meets the maximum diameter and minimum height; slash may be added vertically on the edge of a pile to prevent the pile from toppling. All objects which extend more than 2 feet in any direction from the pile profile shall be cut off and returned to the pile. No stumps shall be placed in piles.

- All excavator piling shall be conducted in such a manner as to allow operations without damaging residual live trees. All standing trees shall be retained in an undamaged condition. At the discretion of the Contracting Officer, concentrations of fuels may be left un-piled if it is deemed that piling operations will damage the remaining live trees. Placement of piles shall be in such a manner to not damage road surfaces or road drainage structures. No slash shall be left within 5 feet of culverts, nor on trails, roads or fill-slope after piling. Do not cut or damage any live trees regardless of size.

****All units adjacent to private land will have a 25' pullback spec. No piles will be built within 25' of private land****

RED OWL FUELS SPECIFICATIONS ITEMS 2A-2G

ACCESS: access is through private land. Please contact Brad French for arranging Access permission.

UNIT BOUNDARY

Portions of the Red Owl units are not flagged. Contractor is responsible for following map boundaries on the georeferenced map in Appendix F. Private property lines are monumented with red marks on trees and/or aluminum USFS property line stakes. Any work performed outside of the geofenced boundary will not be paid for in this contract. Shapefiles will be provided via email if requested to the selected contractor.

SLASHING & PILING SPECIFICATIONS:

All conifer that is 5 inches or less in diameter at breast height to be thinned/slashed. This includes dead and down trees. No trees greater than 5" at DBH to be cut. If no trees greater than 5" are present to meet the spacing specification, see desired leave tree composition below.

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:
Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 10 to 20 feet to select for those species where possible. Western White Pine will not be included in the trees per acre & spacing requirements. Leave trees will be free of or have limited presence of insect/disease symptoms/damage.

Species Preference: WL, PP, DF**.** Leave all Western White Pine.

Mimimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 5" DBH

Maximum Stump Height: **4 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: All slashed material will be lopped to less than 2 ft high and placed on or near the ground surface. Cut material shall not lean against an uncut tree, stump, log or any obstacle. Material will be bucked to lengths of 4-8 feet.

TREE AND SHRUB SLASHING SPECIFICATIONS

Conifer trees that are 6" or less in diameter at breast height and 2' or greater in height will be slashed. Shrubs greater than 2 feet in height will be slashed. **Retain all Ponderosa Pine, Western White Pine and Western Larch of any height or DBH.**

Desired Leave Tree Stand Composition:

Alter the spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics. Always select for WL and PP if present and vary spacing between 15 to 25 feet to select for those species where possible. Western White Pine will not be included in the spacing requirements.

Species Preference: PP, WL. Leave all Western White Pine.

Minimum Tree Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Tree Diameter at DBH to Cut: 6" DBH

Minimum Shrub Height to Cut: 2 feet.

Maximum Stump Height: **6 inches. Sever all live limbs and no lazy straps.**

Slashed Material: Buck thinning slash and all previously downed wood that is 12" or less in diameter into 6-8 foot lengths to facilitate piling operations. Material that is larger than 12" in diameter and is suspended greater than 12" off the ground should be bucked into lengths that allow the material to be in contact with the ground to facilitate breakdown.

HAND PILE & PILE COVERING

Material to pile: **All contractor generated slash and existing material 12" diameter or less.**

All Slash: **Shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.**

Minimum pile height: **6 feet**

Maximum distance to gather for piling: **40 feet**

Pile orientation: **Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box**

Pile covering: **Waterproof paper Required**

When constructing hand piles, piles should be located outside the canopies of overstory trees of any size to reduce crown scorch when burning piles. The appropriate size of piles should be constructed to minimize and disperse heat produced. Piles will not be located within 25' of private property boundary. Piles will be built in locations where the existing trail or infrastructure will not be impacted.

Pull all contractor generated slash 25' back from private land boundaries.

FROZEN MOOSE 2 HANDWORK SPECIFICATIONS ITEMS 3A-3H

ITEMS: 3A, 3B & 3C

UNITS 271, 272, and 273 FROZEN MOOSE PCT

Current Stand Condition

Stands are currently comprised of a patchy, open to dense cohort of primarily LP, WL, DF, and ES present throughout. AF and GF are also present in unit 273. Most trees are less than 3" in diameter. Average stand density is around 3,000 trees per acre. Stand level competition is currently reducing overall vigor, growth, and health of all tree species. Light western gall rust and blister rust are present on branches and boles of LP.

Desired Stand Condition

A less dense single-storied stand that is more resilient to stand-replacing fires lessening intense fire behavior within the wildland-urban interface. Selecting for more long-live, early seral and fire-tolerant WL, decreasing stand vulnerability to insect infestations as well as increasing overall health and growth potential.

Thinning Specifications:

LEAVE TREES PER ACRE: Average: 225, acceptable range 200-250.

AVERAGE SPACING: **14'** average spacing including overstory trees, with a 50% variance to select the best tree of the preferred species.

LEAVE TREE ORDER PREFERENCE BY SPECIES: PP, WL, DF, LP, ES, AF, GF. **Leave all healthy WP that are relatively free of blister rust and other pathogens. Do not cut birch, aspen, hemlock, western redcedar, whitebark pine, or white pine as previously noted.**

MINIMUM TREE HEIGHT TO THIN: **2 feet.**

MAXIMUM TREE DIAMETER (AT D.B.H.) TO THIN: **7 inches.** Trees over 7-inch DBH will be counted in leave tree per acre calculations.

MAXIMUM STUMP HEIGHT: **4 inches** and no lower live limbs left on the stumps.

DESIRED LEAVE TREE STAND COMPOSITION:

All birch, aspen, hemlock, western redcedar, whitebark pine, and **WP that are relatively free of blister rust and other pathogens** are not to be cut and will not be counted in the TPA calculations. Thin remaining species in accordance with species preference and tree health. Favor fire-resistant, early seral species such as ponderosa pine and western larch, followed by DF, LP, ES, AF, GF.

Utilize 50% spacing variance to select leave trees farther from healthy WL or DF overstory >14" DBH when present.

D-minus rule: Contractor shall utilize the D-minus rule within the Frozen Moose project area. Apply a 2" DBH deduction to LP when favoring WL and DF (D-minus 2" rule).

DAMAGE:

Western gall rust: If the gall rust is only in the branches of LP, the tree may be selected as a leave tree. If gall rust is found within the bole of the tree, species lower on the preference criteria should be selected in the order specified. Utilize 50% spacing variance to cull trees with gall rust in the bole.

SLASH TREATMENT**:** All thinning slash shall be lopped to less than 2 feet high and placed on or near the ground surface. Bucking is required to lengths of 8 feet or less, regardless of slash height.

HAND PILING:

Material to pile: All contractor generated slash & natural fuels <8-inch diameter **100 feet along private property. Piles will not be within 40 feet of private property.**

All Slash: Shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.

Minimum pile height: 6 feet

Pile orientation: Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box.

Pile covering: Required

Combustible material may not extend beyond the footprint of the pile including existing large diameter dead and down material. If necessary, cut a break in the existing large diameter fuels or relocate the pile to an acceptable location.

STANDARD SLASH PULLBACK:

The standard slash pullback width is 40 feet

All slash shall be scattered within the unit to a height of less than 2 feet and not windrowed or otherwise concentrated adjacent to the slash pullback area unless otherwise specified in the silvicultural prescription.

Item: 3D

UNIT 275 FROZEN MOOSE PCT

Current Stand Condition

Stands are currently comprised of a patchy, open to dense cohort of primarily LP, WL, DF, and ES present throughout. Most trees are less than 3" in diameter. Average stand density is around 3,000 trees per acre. Stand level competition is currently reducing overall vigor, growth, and health of all tree species. Light western gall rust and blister rust are present on branches and boles of LP.

Desired Stand Condition

A less dense single-storied stand that is more resilient to stand-replacing fires lessening intense fire behavior within the wildland-urban interface. Selecting for more long-live, early seral and fire-tolerant WL, decreasing stand vulnerability to insect infestations as well as increasing overall health and growth potential.

Thinning Specifications:

LEAVE TREES PER ACRE: Average: 300, acceptable range 275-325.

AVERAGE SPACING: **12'** average spacing including overstory trees, with a 50% variance to select the best tree of the preferred species.

LEAVE TREE ORDER PREFERENCE BY SPECIES: PP, WL, DF, LP, ES, AF, GF. **Leave all healthy WP that are relatively free of blister rust and other pathogens. Do not cut birch, aspen, hemlock, western redcedar, whitebark pine, or white pine as previously noted.**

MINIMUM TREE HEIGHT TO THIN: **2 feet.**

MAXIMUM TREE DIAMETER (AT D.B.H.) TO THIN: **7 inches.** Trees over 7-inch DBH will be counted in leave tree per acre calculations.

MAXIMUM STUMP HEIGHT: **4 inches** and no lower live limbs left on the stumps.

DESIRED LEAVE TREE STAND COMPOSITION:

All birch, aspen, hemlock, western redcedar, whitebark pine, and **WP that are relatively free of blister rust and other pathogens** are not to be cut and will not be counted in the TPA calculations. Thin remaining species in accordance with species preference and tree health. Favor fire-resistant, early seral species such as ponderosa pine and western larch, followed by DF, LP, ES, AF, GF.

Utilize 50% spacing variance to select leave trees farther from healthy WL or DF overstory >14" DBH when present.

D-minus rule: Contractor shall utilize the D-minus rule within the Frozen Moose project area. Apply a 2" DBH deduction to LP when favoring WL and DF (D-minus 2" rule).

DAMAGE:

Western gall rust: If the gall rust is only in the branches of LP, the tree may be selected as a leave tree. If gall rust is found within the bole of the tree, species lower on the preference criteria should be selected in the order specified. Utilize 50% spacing variance to cull trees with gall rust in the bole.

SLASH TREATMENT**:** All thinning slash shall be lopped to less than 2 feet high and placed on or near the ground surface. Bucking is required to lengths of 8 feet or less, regardless of slash height.

HAND PILING:

Material to pile: All contractor generated slash & natural fuels <8-inch diameter **100 feet along private property. Piles will not be within 40 feet of private property.**
All Slash: Shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.
Minimum pile height: 6 feet
Pile orientation: Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box.
Pile covering: Required
Combustible material may not extend beyond the footprint of the pile including existing large diameter dead and down material. If necessary, cut a break in the existing large diameter fuels or relocate the pile to an acceptable location.
STANDARD SLASH PULLBACK:
The standard slash pullback width is 40 feet
All slash shall be scattered within the unit to a height of less than 2 feet and not windrowed or otherwise concentrated adjacent to the slash pullback area unless otherwise specified in the silvicultural prescription.

Items: 3E & 3F

UNITS 287 & 288 SAGEBRUSH RESTORATION SPECIFICATIONS:

- *Contact bfrench@nationalforests.org for* ***Gate Code prior to site visit***

Work consists of hand falling, cutting, slashing, and piling of conifer encroachment within natural sagebrush openings.

Timing limitations: Work can only be conducted between July 1st and November 30th.

Slashing Specifications:

- Retain all PP, WP, Aspen, and Juniper (if present). Cut all other conifers.
- Maximum DBH to cut: DF 12", all others 14"
- Minimum height to cut: 12"
- Maximum stump height: 4". Sever all limbs and do not leave "lazy straps".

Slash Treatment and Piling:

- All contractor generated slash & natural fuels <8" diameter is to be piled. Material greater than 8" can be lopped and scattered on site and bucked to lengths of 8'.
- Slash shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.
- Minimum pile height: 6'
- Pile orientation: Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box.
- Pile covering required with waterproof paper.
- Pile locations: Piles shall be built outside of identified sagebrush openings. Keyholes may be cut to allow space for pile building if adequate natural openings are not present.

Items: 3G & 3H

UNIT 308 & 310 UNDERSTORY REMOVAL SPECIFICATIONS

Work consists of hand understory removal and piling of conifers as well as dead/down material. Understory density is not uniform across the unit with some areas having very few trees to cut (gaps).

Timing limitations: Work can only be conducted between July 1st and November 30th.

Slashing Specifications:

- Do not cut western white pine or western larch (leave all)
- Do not cut hardwoods.
- Leave tree preference: WL>DF>LP>all other species
- Alter spacing to select the most desirable tree using desirable leave tree characteristics.
- *Unit 308 only - within gaps thin to approximately 200 TPA (average 15' spacing) ranging from 12 to 20' to select for desired species.
- In remainder of unit slash all other conifer trees <5" DBH.
- Minimum tree height to cut: 24"
- Maximum stump height: 4". Sever all live limbs and do not leave "lazy straps".

Piling Specifications:

- All contractor generated slash & natural fuels <8" diameter is to be piled.
- Buck pieces into manageable lengths of 8 feet or less prior to piling.
- Slash is to be limbed flush to the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides.
- Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box. Piles shall be compact, clean, and constructed away from leave trees to avoid unnecessary mortality during burning, with no pieces extending more than 24" from a pile.
- Minimum pile height: 6'
- Pile covering required with waterproof paper.

HUNGRY LION HAND/MECH SPECIFICATIONS ITEM 4

OPERATING PERIOD: July 1 - Oct 14
Work consists of a combination of hand felling and hand/mechanical piling to reduce overstory stand density, ground fuel loading, and ladder fuels.

Timing limitations: Work can only be conducted between July 1st to October 14th

Slashing Specifications:

- Retain all WL, PP, and WP (if present).
- Slash all remaining conifers <7" that are poorly formed with crown ratios under 25% that can be removed without damage to residuals.
- Minimum tree height to cut: 24"
- Maximum stump height: 4". Sever all live limbs and do not leave "lazy straps".

Piling Specifications:

- All contractor generated slash shall be piled.
- Pile existing natural fuels <12" (including tops of trees)
- Piling may be accomplished mechanically, by hand, or both.
- Buck pieces into manageable lengths of 8 feet or less prior to piling.
- Slash is to be limbed flush to the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides.
- Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box. Piles shall be compact, clean, and constructed away from leave trees to avoid unnecessary mortality during burning, with no pieces extending more than 24" from a pile.
- Minimum pile height: 6'
- Pile covering required with waterproof paper.

CRYSTAL CEDAR POST HARVEST HANDWORK SPECIFICATIONS ITEMS 5A – 5E

Work consists of hand slashing of decadent shrubs to improve forage conditions for forest ungulates.

Item 5A Unit 28 is the only unit being hand piled and conifer slashed. All other items are shrub slashing only see below for shrub slashing specs.

ITEM 5A

UNIT 28: HAND SLASH PILING & PILE COVERING SPECIFICATIONS:

Timing Restriction: No activities will occur between April 1st to June 30th.

Work consists of hand slashing and piling of small conifers and decadent shrubs.

Slashing Specifications:

- Retain all WL, WRC, and WP (if present).
- Slash all other conifers <7”
- Minimum tree height to cut: 24”
- Maximum stump height: 6”. Sever all live limbs and do not leave “lazy straps”.

Piling Specifications:

- All contractor generated slash & natural fuels <8” diameter is to be piled.
- Buck pieces into manageable lengths of 8 feet or less prior to piling.
- Slash is to be limbed flush to the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides.
- Material shall be piled in a parallel configuration, like pencils in a box. Piles shall be compact, clean, and constructed away from leave trees to avoid unnecessary mortality during burning, with no pieces extending more than 24” from a pile.
- Minimum pile height: 6’
- Pile covering required with waterproof paper.

Items: 5B, 5C, 5D & 5E

CRYSTAL CEDAR UNITS 55, 55A, 56, 56A

SLASHING SPECIFICATIONS:

- Slash 75% of decadent shrubs (primarily maple and willow)
- Maximum slash depth: 24”
- Maximum stump height: 6”

BEAVER LAKE PCT SPECIFICATIONS ITEM 6

TIMING RESTRICTIONS:

No work can happen during wildlife closure Dec 1-April 15

WILDLIFE DESIGN FEATURE:

Retain approximately 20% of the area with dense untreated clumps. Retention should favor full crowned species, such as ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and white pine dispersed throughout the unit in white-tailed deer winter range.

PCT THINNING SPECIFICATIONS:

AVERAGE SPACING: including overstory trees average 15' allowing variance +/- half spacing to select the best tree.

LEAVE TREE ORDER PREFERENCE BY SPECIES: 1. PP 2. WL 3. DF 4. LP 5.ES 6.AF. Do not cut/thin western white pine, hemlock, birch, aspen, cedar, cottonwood

BROWSE RELEASE SPACING: Shrubs greater than 3 feet in height will be slashed based on 100' spacing.

MINIMUM TREE HEIGHT TO THIN: 2 feet.

MAXIMUM TREE DIAMETER (AT D.B.H.) TO THIN: 6 inches

MINIMUM SPACING: N/A

MAXIMUM STUMP HEIGHT: 6 inches and no lower live limbs left on the stumps

LOP AND SCATTER: limbs removed from two sides, less than 2 feet high, and bucked into lengths of 8 feet or less.

STOVEPIPE SLASH & MACHINE PILE SPECIFICATIONS
ITEM 7

AVERAGE SPACING: 15’ average spacing and 20’ from overstory trees, with a 50% variance to select the best tree of the preferred species.

LEAVE TREE ORDER PREFERENCE BY SPECIES: PP, WL, DF, LP, ES, AF, GF. Do not cut birch, aspen, hemlock, and white pine.

MINIMUM TREE HEIGHT TO THIN: 2 feet.

MAXIMUM TREE DIAMETER (AT D.B.H.) TO THIN: 8 inches. Trees over 7-inch DBH will be counted in leave tree per acre calculations.

MAXIMUM STUMP HEIGHT: 6 inches and no lower live limbs left on the stumps.

SLASH TREATMENT: All thinning slash shall be lopped to less than 2 feet high and placed on or near the ground surface. Bucking is required to lengths of 8 feet or less, regardless of slash height.

MACHINE PILING SPECIFICATIONS:

Material to pile: All contractor generated slash & natural fuels greater than 3” in diameter less than 8” diameter and longer than 3’ are required to be piled. Including resent blown down trees limbing and piling up to 8 inches on tops.

All Slash: Shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.

Minimum pile height: 8 feet

Pile orientation: Piles shall be located outside of live residual/leave tree driplines, in openings or areas of low tree densities and places to minimize additional soil disturbance. Piles shall be kept as far away from leave trees as feasible- 10 feet where possible Piles shall be located at least 10 feet from unit boundaries and 50 feet from private land boundaries.

Pile covering: Not required for Machine Piling.

CYCLONE BILL FUELS SPECIFICATIONS ITEMS 8A and 8B

SLASHING & PILING SPECIFICATIONS:

- Hand thin and slash all conifer trees (live, standing dead and down dead) <8" Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) and buck into 8 foot or less lengths prior to piling. Trees >8" DBH may be cut as needed for machine access. Ignore WWP, Hemlock, aspen, birch, and cottonwood. Maximum stump height 6" with no lower live limbs. Ignore trees <2' in height. Hand or machine slash all shrubs >3' in height. Excavator pile >8' in height and includes all contractor generated slash and natural fuel <8" diameter. Piles free of dirt and reasonably compact to facilitate full consumption when burned.

Material to pile: Pile all contractor generated slash as well as any existing natural fuels <8" DBH (this includes the tops of trees) AND natural fuels that are not decayed or in the ground greater than 3" in diameter less than 8" diameter and longer than 3' are required to be piled. This includes recent blown down trees and older dead trees, limbing and piling up to 8 inches of tops.

All Slash: Shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1 inch on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.

All Slash: Shall be limbed flush with the bole to a minimum diameter of 1" on two opposing sides and bucked into pieces 8 feet or less in length prior to piling.
Minimum pile height: 6 feet.
Maximum distance to gather for piling: 40 feet. If not enough slash can be gathered to meet minimum pile specifications, material may be lopped and scattered with limbs removed from two sides, less than 2 feet high, and bucked into lengths of 8 feet or less.

Pile orientation: Material shall be piled in parallel configuration, like pencils in a box. Piles shall be compact, clean, and constructed away from leave trees to avoid unnecessary mortality during burning, with no pieces extending more than 24" from a pile. Piles shall be kept as far
away from designated leave trees as feasible--a minimum of 10 feet where possible Piles shall be located at least 10 feet from unit boundaries and 20 feet from private land boundaries.
Pile covering: Required. Consisting of wax paper at least 864 square inches with holding sticks placed on top.

Appendix B: Quality Control Plan
Flathead National Forest
2027 Fuels

Quality Control Plan-

The Contractor shall provide a Quality Control Plan (QCP) with the technical proposal. The Contractor shall supplement the QCP at start of work based on items awarded to the Contractor and Inspector's comments.

The general Quality Control plan must demonstrate how the Contractor will assure quality meets the requirements and specifications of the contract. It shall specify how quality will be monitored to assure the performance standards are met; the supervision of crew and work; and the personnel that will be performing the quality control. Quality control includes the monitoring of quality while work is in progress and an unbiased sample of thinning and other work to determine actual quality percentage.

Inspection - Inspection of every unit in the project area will be completed by the Inspectors or Technical Monitors to ensure contract specifications are met. An area that is not meeting full contract specifications and needs rework to be in adherence to the contract will be brought to the attention of the Contractor. Location and description of rework will be communicated to the contractor as soon as possible in order to remedy any reoccurrence of issues.

Rework - If any rework within a unit is necessary, then once the rework is complete, that area will be reinspected by Inspectors after being notified by the Contractor that work has been completed.

Quality Control for PCT UNITS (Frozen Moose PCT and Beaver Lake PCT)

METHOD OF CALCULATING PAYMENT

PLOT INSPECTION FORMS
A plot inspection form SUMMARY SHEET will be used to calculate Tree Per Acre numbers. Sheets may be required to be filled out by the contractor representative using a 1/20 acre plot.

Unit:_____

PCT **SUMMARY SHEET** (TLRD)

Spp.		Size Class (DBH or height)							Total	÷	# of Plots	X	Inverse Plot Size	=	TPA
		< 2'	2 - 4.5'	0 - 1"	1 - 3"	3 - 5"	5 - 7"	> 7"							
	Crop:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Excess:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Height:									÷		x		=	TPA < 2'
		< 2'	2 - 4.5'	0 - 1"	1 - 3"	3 - 5"	5 - 7"	> 7"	Total	÷	Plots	x	Size	=	TPA
	Crop:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Excess:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Height:									÷		x		=	TPA < 2'
		< 2'	2 - 4.5'	0 - 1"	1 - 3"	3 - 5"	5 - 7"	> 7"	Total	÷	Plots	x	Size	=	TPA
	Crop:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Excess:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Height:									÷		x		=	TPA < 2'
		< 2'	2 - 4.5'	0 - 1"	1 - 3"	3 - 5"	5 - 7"	> 7"	Total	÷	Plots	x	Size	=	TPA
	Crop:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Excess:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Height:									÷		x		=	TPA < 2'
		< 2'	2 - 4.5'	0 - 1"	1 - 3"	3 - 5"	5 - 7"	> 7"	Total	÷	Plots	x	Size	=	TPA
	Crop:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Excess:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Height:									÷		x		=	TPA < 2'
		< 2'	2 - 4.5'	0 - 1"	1 - 3"	3 - 5"	5 - 7"	> 7"	Total	÷	Plots	x	Size	=	TPA
	Crop:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Excess:									÷		X		=	TPA
	Height:									÷		x		=	TPA < 2'
GRAND TOTAL		**< 2'**	**2 - 4.5'**	**0 - 1"**	**1 - 3"**	**3 - 5"**	**5 - 7"**	**> 7"**	**Grand Total**	**÷**	**Plots**	**x**	**Size**	**=**	**TPA**
	Crop:									÷		X		=	**TPA**
	TPA:														
	Excess:									÷		X		=	**TPA**
	TPA:														

The Contractor's Quality Control

For each completed unit, the Contractor's quality control inspection percentage for tree thinning will be compared to the NFF and Forest Service's assessment results. If the results differ by 5 percent or less, the Contractor's inspection will be considered acceptable, and the quality percentage will be used as the basis for payment. When the results differ by more than 5 percent, the NFF and Forest Service inspection percentage will be used as the basis for payment.

Payment Calculation

Payment less damages will be based on the following methods.

Quality at fully acceptable performance- meets or exceeds 90 percent. Whenever the quality of work meets or exceeds 90 percent, based on the results of the Contractor's quality control inspection and verified by the NFF and Forest Service monitoring, the work will be acceptable, a payment will be made that provides payment at the unit price for the sub-item.

> **Payment Example:** With a unit price of $100 and a unit size of 40 acres, the bid price would be $4,000. If the Contractor's work quality were 95 percent, payment would be $4,000.

Quality at less than fully acceptable performance- less than 90 percent. Whenever the quality of work is below 90 percent (full pay) based on the results of the Contractor's quality control inspection and verified by NFF and Forest Service monitoring, the work is unacceptable and the value of services provided significantly reduced. Therefore, a deduction will be made for less than fully acceptable performance in accordance with the following: Graduated deductions will be made that increase as the quality decreases. For each 1-percent that quality decreases between 90 and 70 percent, a 2-percent deduction in the unit price will be made. No payment will be made for units where quality of work is below 70 percent.

> **Payment Example:** With a thinning quality of 85 percent, the deduction would be 10 percent for quality between 85 to 90 percent (5 x 2%). Therefore, the full deduction would be 10 percent, resulting in the Contractor receiving 90 percent of the bid price.
>
> With a unit price of $100 per acre and a unit size of 40 acres, the bid price would be $4,000. At 85 percent thinning quality, payment would be:
> $100 x 90% x 40 acres = $3,600.
>
> **Payment Example:** With a thinning quality of 70 percent, the deduction would be 40 percent for quality 70 to 90 percent (20 x 2%). Therefore, the full deduction would be 40 percent, resulting in the Contractor receiving 60 percent of bid price.
>
> With a unit price of $100 per acre and a unit size of 40 acres, the bid price would be $4,000. At 70 percent thinning quality, payment would be:
> $100 x 60% x 40 acres = $2,400.

Unacceptable Work

Any unit, with quality less than 90 percent, is considered unacceptable and may be rejected. For these areas the NFF may: (i) accept the work at a reduced price (ii) require the area to be re-

worked at no additional expense to the NFF, or (iii) reject the work in its entirety. If the quality is unacceptable, the Contractor's right to proceed is subject to immediate termination for default.

When work quality falls below 90 percent in areas of 1/4 acre or larger and the quality of work can be corrected, the NFF may require the area to be reworked. If the NFF does not require the area to be reworked or the quality remains below 80 percent, the area may be separated from the sub-item and payment made.

Any unit slash treatment and sanitation treatment quality must reflect full compliance with requirements. Noncompliance with any of the specifications will classify the treatment as unsatisfactory and rework will be required before a payment is made.

Any work quality that the NFF determines to be unacceptable and is not corrected will be so noted in the performance evaluation.

Appendix C: Deliveries
Flathead National Forest
2027 Fuels

DELIVERIES

Contact Performance Time and Required Rate of Progress

The Contractor shall maintain progress at a rate that will assure completion within the performance period. The minimum acceptable rate of progress will be calculated by dividing the total units of work for each item by performance time specified.

Contract Time- (See Period of Performance definition). The Contractor shall start work promptly after receipt of a Notice to Proceed. Each Item will run concurrently. The Contractor shall maintain progress at a rate that will assure completion within the stated contract time. The contract time will generally not exceed a required rate of progress exceeding that determined from the accepted work plan. All base work will be completed by November 30, 2027.

Item	Begin By Date	Completion Date
1-8	July 15 , 2027	November 30, 2027

A notice to proceed will be issued to the contractor as soon as weather and ground conditions are favorable for work on one or more of the areas. Contract time will start (1) on the date specified on the notice to proceed, if the notice is hand-delivered; or (2) Contract Time will start on the third-day after the post office has issued a Notice of Certified Mail to the Contractor; or (3) Contract Time will start when thinning and/or other work commences, whichever is sooner. Failure of the Contractor to pick-up Certified Mail will not be considered excusable.

Unfavorable Conditions- It is estimated that adverse weather and/or road conditions may prevent access to the work sites or performance to specification during the period November 1 to May 15.

SUPERINTENDENCE BY THE CONTRACTOR- At all times during performance of this contract and until the work is completed and accepted, the Contractor shall directly superintend the work or assign and have on the worksite a competent superintendent who is satisfactory to the Inspector and has authority to act for the Contractor.

ACCEPTANCE AND REWORK

Acceptance- Acceptance will be determined based on compliance with the contract specifications. Noncompliance will result in non-acceptance of the work.

If the initial work is unacceptable, the Contractor may re-work the area if deficiencies can be corrected. Inspectors will assess the re-work after receiving the Contractor's inspection records which reflect that all work meets specification standards.

Inspectors will conduct assessment inspection up to 2 times after the initial assessment for quality assessment after rework.

Inspectors will assess the Contractor the actual costs of conducting the additional quality assurance after rework. Items that may be included in the actual damages includes but is not limited to: wages of the inspector(s), costs of vehicles, meals and lodging that are incurred during the additional quality assurance.

Work completed after the performance period after a determination that there is no excusable delay. Whenever the Contractor fails to complete work within the performance period, and is allowed to work beyond that period, the Contractor will be assessed actual damages. Items to be included in the actual damage include but are not limited to: wages of the inspector(s) for quality assurance after the performance period, costs of vehicles, meals, and lodging that are incurred while administering the contract after the performance period.

Key Deliverables

Item No.	Deliverable	Objective	Due
1	**Work Plan**	**Prepare a work plan and schedule that demonstrates the work will be completed within the performance period described in "Deliveries of Performance."**	**No later than five (7) business days prior to contract prework meeting**
2	**Quality Control Plan**	**The Contractor shall prepare a Quality Control Plan as described in "Inspection and Acceptance." The Contractor shall inspect the work in accordance with the accepted Quality Control Plan.**	**No later than five (7) business days prior to contract prework meeting**
3	**Camping and Worksite Plan**	**The Contractor shall prepare a Camping and/or Worksite Plan and operate in a manner that will protect the environmental resources and the public facilities. The conditions will be consistent with the requirements of "Special Contract Requirements" and supplementary attachments.**	**No later than five (7) business days prior to contract prework meeting**

Appendix D: Special Contract Requirements
Flathead National Forest
2027 Fuels

KEY PERSONNEL

The Contractor shall assign to this contract the key personnel identified in their technical proposal and that list may include the following:

- CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE
- FOREMAN

The Contractor shall make no substitutions of key personnel without notifying the Contracting Officer within a reasonable timeframe in advance and shall submit justification (including proposed substitutions) in sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the impact on the contract. Proposed substitutes should have comparable qualifications to those of the persons being replaced.

The Contractor shall make no diversion of personnel without the written consent of the Contracting Officer.

The contract will be modified to reflect any approved changes of key personnel.

FIRE CONTROL

Contractor's Responsibility for Contractor-Caused Fires: The Contractor, whether or not directed by the Forest Service, shall immediately extinguish, without expense to the Government, all fires on or in the vicinity of the project which are caused by Contractor's employees, whether set directly or indirectly as a result of Contractor operations. The Contractor may be held liable for all damages and costs of additional labor, subsistence, equipment, supplies, and transportation resulting from fires set or caused by the Contractor's employees or resulting from contract operations.

Other Fires: For the purpose of fighting forest fires on or in the vicinity of the project which are not caused by the Contractor or his employees, the Contractor when requested by the Contracting Officer shall place his employees and equipment temporarily at the disposal of the Forest Service. Payment for such services will be made by the Government at not less than the current rate for fire-fighting services established by the Forest Service in the area concerned.

Any employees and equipment furnished will be relieved from fire fighting as soon as the Forest Service finds that it is practicable to employ other labor and equipment adequate for the protection of the area.

An equitable adjustment in contract time may be made for this period.

Fire Protection Requirements - Fire Plan: At all times during closed fire season period, as specified by State law, the Contractor shall comply with each of the following provisions to the extent applicable to his operation under the contract.

Fire Tools: The Contractor will provide for each employee in the contract area at least one approved handtool of a type appropriate in the contract area, such as shovel, pulaski, or ax. Tools required and furnished under H.2. below, shall count toward fulfillment of the above requirement. Where additional tools, beyond those required below, are to be provided, the Contractor shall seal such tools in one or more boxes painted red and marked "Tools for Fire Only." All tools required herein shall be kept sharp and in good serviceable condition and maintained at locations to be designated by the Forest Service.

Fire Extinguishers and Tools on Mobile or Stationary Equipment. Each unit of powered equipment used in connection with this contract, including automobiles, trucks, tractors, etc., shall be equipped with serviceable tools and fire extinguishers as follows:

a. One - fire extinguisher, dry chemical type of not less than 2-1/2 pound capacity with 4 BC or higher rating.

b. One - shovel, round point #0 lady or equal.

c. One - ax, 2 pounds or over, 26-inch minimum length, or one pulaski.

d. One - water container (at least 1-gallon capacity), not required with stationary equipment.

Spark Arresters: Each internal combustion engine shall be provided with a spark arrester or spark arresting device approved by the Forest Service. Exceptions where the Forest Service may approve mufflers, or other equipment in lieu of spark arresters qualified and rated under Forest Service Standard 5100-1a, are: (a) small multiposition engines, such as chain saws, shall meet Society of Automotive Engineers J335b standards; (b) passenger-carrying vehicles and light trucks may have baffle-type mufflers with tail pipe; (c) heavy-duty trucks may have a vertical stack exhaust system and muffler, provided the exhaust stack extends above the cab of the vehicle. An exhaust-driven turbocharger is considered to be a satisfactory spark arrester. Internal combustion engine exhaust systems, arresters, and other devices must be properly installed and maintained.

Powersaws: For each powersaw used in connection with this contract, the following will be provided:

a. One - shovel, round point #0 lady or equal. Shovel must be immediately available for use.

b. One - Fire extinguisher, containing not less than 8 ounces of extinguisher fluid, or a dry chemical powder-type of not less than 1-pound capacity. The extinguisher must be immediately accessible to the saw operator at all times.

Any fueling or refueling of a powersaw shall only be done in an area which has first been cleared or is free of all material capable of carrying fire; powersaw shall be moved at least 10 feet from place of fueling before starting.

Blasting: Fuse or prima cord shall not be used unless authorized in writing by the COR with special precautions stated.

Smoking: Smoking shall not be permitted within the contract area except on surfaced or dirt roads, at landings, within closed vehicles, in camps, or at other posted places, and shall never be allowed while working or traveling on foot.

Storage of Petroleum and Other Highly Flammable Products: Gasoline, oil, grease, or other highly flammable material will be stored either in a separate building used exclusively for such storage, or at a site where all combustible debris and vegetation is cleared away within a radius of 25 feet. Fire extinguishers and/or sand barrels may be required at such locations specified by the Forest Service when unusually hazardous conditions exist.

Debris Burning and Warming Fires: Burning permits will be required for all debris burning fires. Lunch and warming fires may be allowed in fireproofed areas during periods of low fire danger if and as specified in the fire plan. Such fires must not be left burning unattended.

Precautions for Stoves: Stovepipes on all temporary buildings, trailers, and tents using wood burning stoves, will be equipped with roof jacks and serviceable spark arresters of mesh with openings no larger than 5/8 inch.

All stovepipes, inside and out, will not be closer than 2 feet from any wood or other flammable material or 1 foot if the combustible material is protected by a metal or asbestos shield.

Welding: Welding or use of cutting torches will be permitted only in areas that have been cleared or are free of all material capable of carrying fire. Flammable debris and vegetation must be removed from within a minimum of 10 feet radius of all welding and cutting torch operations. A shovel and a 5-gallon standard backpack water container, (filled) with handpump attached, shall be immediately available for use in the event of a fire start.

Fire Plan: Prior to initiating work on the contract area, during the closed fire season period, a fire prevention and suppression plan will usually be prepared. The Contractor and the Forest Service will jointly prepare this plan. Such plan shall include a detailed list of men and equipment at the Contractor's disposal for implementing the plan. The fire plan shall also specify additional measures and/or special requirements, such as Hoot Owl restrictions, necessary during periods of critical fire weather conditions.

When restrictions are invoked, the Forest Service may curtail or shut down all or portions of a Contractor's operations. The following requirements may be imposed:

a. All high fire risk operations could be terminated at 1300 local time.
b. All burning could be stopped, including debris burning fires.
c. Patrolman may be required for a period of 2 hours after high fire risk operations and 1 hour after end of work shift. The Contractor shall provide the patrolman unless the contract is for equipment rental, in which case the Government will provide the patrolman.
d. Fire equipment including pump and trailer are required to be on site and functional when local fire danger thresholds are high or greater and/or to comply with local fire restrictions.

PREWORK CONFERENCE

Prior to commencement of work, the Contractor shall attend a meeting to discuss the contract terms, work performance requirements, and safety. Also at this meeting such items as work

progress schedule, slash treatment, camping/worksite plan, communications, and fire prevention plans shall be finalized in writing.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

1. The Contractor will train in the safe operation and use of equipment to all workers using such equipment.

2. Personal protective equipment, including personal protective equipment for eyes, face, head, and extremities shall be provided, used, and maintained in a sanitary and reliable condition wherever it is necessary by reason of hazards or processes encountered in a manner capable of causing injury or impairment in the function of any part of the body.

3. Defective or damaged personal protective equipment shall not be used.

4. The Contractor shall provide, at no cost to the employee, to each employee who operates a chain saw, chainsaw chaps and assure the chaps are worn during saw operations. These chaps must be approved by Underwriters Laboratory or meet Forest Service specification 6170-47. The chaps shall cover the full length of the thigh to the top of the boot on each leg.

5. The Contractor shall assure that each employee wears foot protection that provides adequate traction and ankle support. Employees operating chainsaws shall wear foot protection that is constructed with cut-resistant material which will protect the employee against contact with a running chainsaw.

6. The Contractor shall provide, at no cost to the employee, and assure that each employee who works in an area where there is potential for head injury from falling objects or flying objects wears a hard hat that meets the minimum requirements of American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard Z89.1-1997.

7. The Contractor shall provide, at no cost to the employee, eye protection where there is potential for eye injury due to flying objects. This eye protection must meet the minimum requirements of ANSI standard Z87.1-2003.

8. The Contractor shall provide, at no cost to the employee, hearing protection where there is a potential for hearing loss due to high intensity noise e.g., chain saw operation.

CAMPING AND WORK SITE CONDITIONS

The Contractor shall obtain a camping permit from the Mountain Home Ranger District prior to camping on Forest Service land. Final payment shall be withheld until the authorized camping area has been cleaned up to the requirements of the Camping Permit.

If the Contractor does not obtain a camping permit but requires his/her employees to obtain the camping permit, the Contractor remains responsible for campsite clean-up and his/her employees conduct while camping on National Forest land.

Contractor Information: The Contractor shall abide by the OSHA's Field Sanitation Standard Fact Sheet No. OSHA 92-25, which applies to agricultural establishments hiring 11 or more workers for hand labor.

CAMPING PROVISIONS FOR LABOR INTENSIVE CONTRACTS

The following provisions apply to all camping on National Forest lands during performance of this contract:

1. These provisions are in addition to those contained in, or provided for, in the clause titled "Use of Premises", in this contract.

2. Every structure used as shelter shall provide protection from the elements. Where heat adequate for weather conditions is not provided, other arrangements should be made to protect workers from the cold. Firewood may be cut only after obtaining a District Firewood Permit.

3. The campsite will not encroach beyond the boundaries designated by the Forest Service. The campsite shall be located so as to minimize impacts on streams, lakes, and other bodies of water. No camping shall be permitted within developed recreation sites or along primary recreation roads.

4. The campsite shall have a clean appearance at all times.

5. Upon abandonment of any campsite, or termination, revocation, or cancellation of camping privileges, the Contractor shall remove, within 10 calendar days, all structures and improvements except those owned by the United States, and shall restore the site, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing or in the camping permit. If the Contractor fails to remove all structures or improvements within the 10 calendar days, they shall become the property of the United States, but that will not relieve the Contractor of liability for the cost of their removal and restoration of the site.

6. Unless otherwise designated by the Contracting Officer, the use of this area is not exclusive, and may be granted to other Permittees, Contractors, or recreating public. Disorderly conduct is not permitted.

7. Damaging or removing any natural feature or other property of the Forest Service is prohibited.

8. Servicing of equipment in the campsite is not permitted, unless the campsite is within the project area.

9. Sanitary facilities shall be provided for storing food. Ice chests or coolers, with ice supply made from potable water and replenished as necessary, shall be provided and sufficient for the storage of perishable food items.

10. An adequate and convenient potable water supply shall be provided in each camp for drinking and cooking purposes.

11. Toilet facilities adequate for the capacity of the camp shall be provided and supplied with adequate toilet paper. Such facilities shall be serviced and maintained in a sanitary condition.

12. Garbage shall be collected, stored, and disposed of in such a manner as to prevent scattering by the wind, minimize attraction of flies, and discourage access by rodents.

13. Basic first aid supplies shall be maintained, available and under the charge of a person trained to administer first aid. The supplies shall include:

a. Gauze pads (at least 4x4 inches)
b. Two large gauze pads (at least 8x10 inches)
c. Box adhesive bandages (band-aids)
d. One package of gauze roller bandage at least 2 inches wide
e. Two triangular bandages
f. Scissors
g. At least one blanket
h. Tweezers
i. Adhesive tape
j. Latex gloves
k. Resuscitation device such as resuscitation bag, airway, or pocket mask

14. Any washing of laundry shall be done in such a way as to provide for washing and rinsing without polluting lakes, streams, or other flowing water.

15. Wastewater must be disposed of away from living and eating areas and in a fashion that minimizes pollution to lakes, streams, and other flowing water.

16. The contractor shall take all reasonable precautions to prevent and suppress forest fires. No material shall be disposed of by burning in open fires during the closed season established by law or regulation without the written permission from the Forest Service.

17. The Contractor shall comply with the following fire regulations during fire season:

a. A shovel, axe or pulaski, 10 quart pail which is full of water for immediate use and a fire extinguisher with an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) rating of at least 1:A 10:BC is required during the fire season.

b. All fire rings or outside fireplaces will be approved by the Forest Service representative. The area will be cleared down to mineral soil for a distance of 1 foot outside of the ring or fireplace and it will not have any overhanging material. Fire rings will be dismantled and material disposed prior to leaving the site.

c. All generators and other internal combustion engines will be equipped with USFS approved spark arrestors and/or factory designed muffler and exhaust system in good working order. They will be located in a cleared area with the same requirements as in (b).

d. All fuel will be stored in UL approved flammable storage containers and be located at least 50 feet from any open flame or other source of ignition.

18. Any violation of these conditions constitutes a breach of contract and may result in a revocation of camping approval.

19. The Forest Service reserves the right to terminate a camping permit at any time.

FOOD STORAGE ORDER (USFS R1-2023-02-NCDE FSO pages 1-7):

R1-2023-02

United States Department of Agriculture
U.S. Forest Service

Food/Wildlife Attractant Storage Order

Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem Area
Flathead, Lolo, Kootenai, Helena-Lewis and Clark, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forests
USDA, Forest Service, Region One

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.

PROHIBITIONS

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, within the Elkhorn Mountain Range, as depicted on the map, Exhibit A, which is hereby made part of this Order.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order will be in effect annually from March 1st to December 31st, through calendar year 2028.
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. Dillion, MT (406) 683-3900.

Done this 28th day of February 2023.

By: Digitally signed by LEANNE MARTEN Date: 2023.02.28 11:51:37 -07'00'

Leanne Marten
Regional Forester
Northern Region, USDA Forest Service

Exhibit A
Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem Area, Food/Wildlife Attractant Storage Order
Order # R1-2023-02

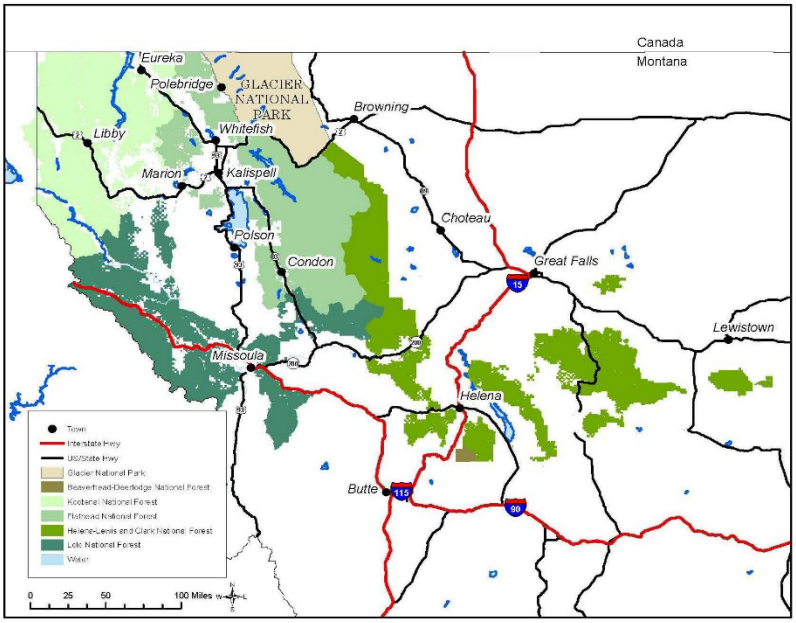


Exhibit B

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 (https://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 of0.11 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 10,0000-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.

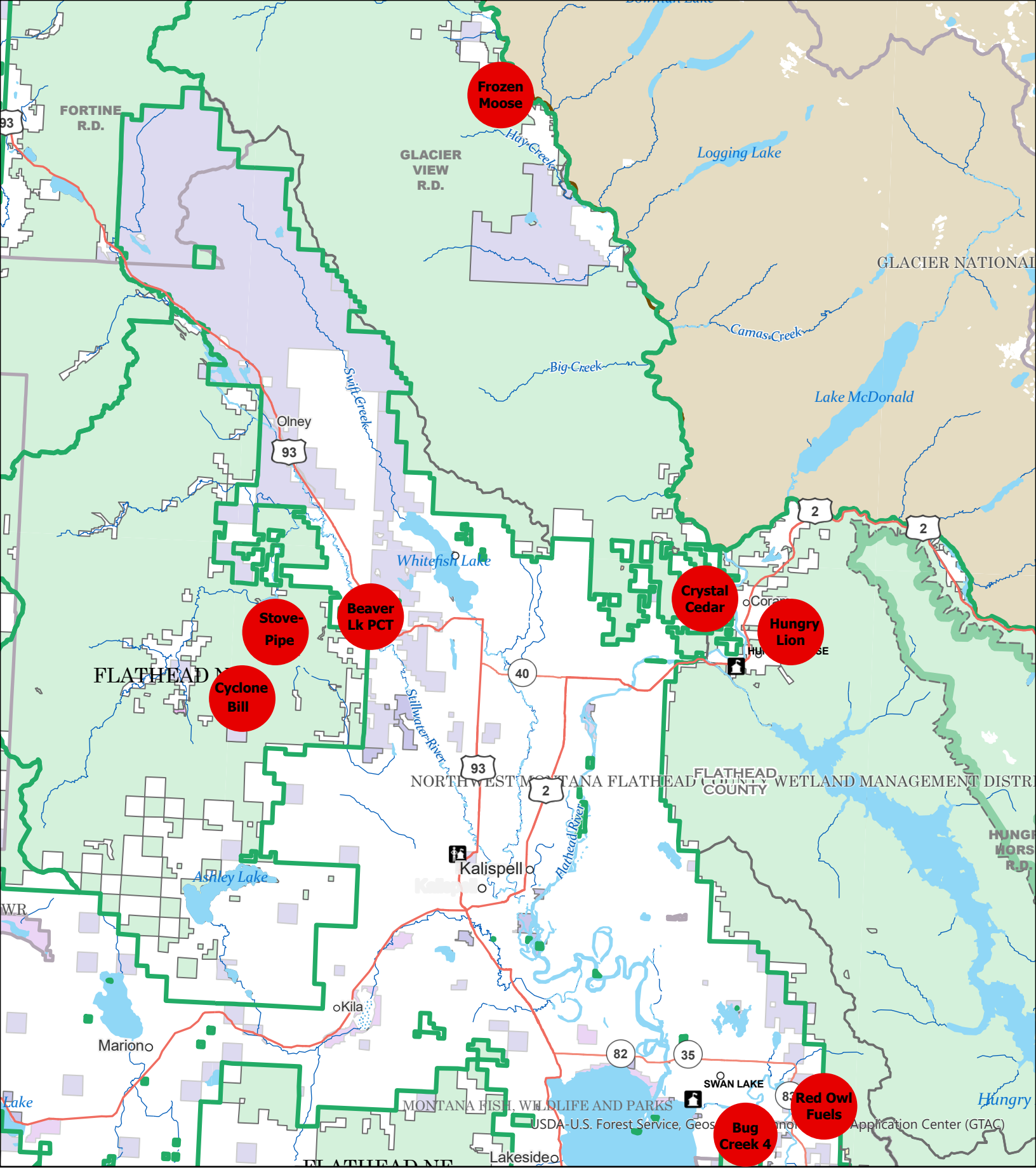
Appendix E: Definitions

Access point. The point identified for access to TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) areas.
Acceptable (Stocking) Density. The number of trees between the minimum and maximum specified in the Silvicultural Summary Prescription.
Aspen Clones. Areas where more than 10 individual aspen trees (> than 15 feet tall) are located adjacent to each other. Aspen trees not located within 15 feet of the rest of the group would not be considered "adjacent".
Calendar Days. Every day shown on the calendar, Sundays and holidays included.
Contract Time. See Period of Performance.
Cull Tree. Those trees defined as Damaged and/or defined as diseased or Damaged in the Silvicultural Summary Prescription.
Damage. Defect or deformity of a tree resulting from agents such as wind, snow, animals, insects, disease, and equipment, and evidenced by such things as dead or broken tops or trunks, crooks, and deep scars or damage to the bark on more than ¼ of the circumference of the tree.
Diameter breast height (DBH). The diameter of the trunk measure at a point 4-1/2 feet above the ground level on the uphill side of the tree.
Dominant tree. Tree whose crown extends above the general level of the main canopy; or in some cases, a tree whose canopy is above the main canopy of the tree's immediate neighbors, receiving full light from above.
Excess trees. Uncut trees that, according to specification, should have been cut. Trees not severed from the stump, hang-up trees, and stumps with live limbs. When girdling or pruning is required, excess trees also includes trees not girdled or trees not pruned that, according to specification, should have been girdled or pruned.
Girdle. A cut through the bark and cambium tissue completely encircling the tree trunk for the purpose of killing the tree.
Hang-up tree. Any cut tree suspended more than 3 feet off the ground.
Leave Trees. Any tree that is selected or required to be left standing according to requirements in Contractor Work Requirements and Standards
Leave Trees per acre. The number of leave trees within one acre.
Live limb. A limb of any size that has green needles attached.
Missing leave trees. Trees cut that should have been selected as a leave tree.
Period of Performance (also Performance Period or Contract Time). The number of calendar days allowed in the contract for completion of contract work.

Quality Assurance. The actions taken to assess the results to determine that they meet contract requirements. The methods for quality assurance are described in the Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP) (pages 43-47).
Quality Control. Those actions taken by a Contractor to control the production of outputs to ensure that they conform to the contract requirements. The methods for inspecting for quality control are described in the Contractor's Quality Control Plan (QCP).
Slash. Trunks of cut trees, and/or limbs created by the Contractor's operations.
Spacing. The horizontal distance from the trunk of one leave tree to the trunk of the next nearest leave tree. Average spacing is calculated from the leave trees per acre.
Sanitation. The felling, pruning, or girdling of disease infected or disease susceptible trees to protect residual trees from infection
Stream course. The area along a stream with riparian vegetation and other riparian characteristics. Stream courses are noted on the project maps. They typically require special treatment, which may include alteration to the tree cutting, slash treatment, vehicle travel or fueling of saws. The Silvicultural Summary Prescription will specify special treatments.

Special Protection Area. A zone that has special characteristics such as riparian vegetation, wildlife calving areas, etc. Special protection areas are noted on the project maps and they may require special treatment such as an alteration to the tree cutting, slash treatment, vehicle travel or fueling of saws. Refer to the Silvicultural Summary Prescription for required practices.
Thinning slash. Debris created from work under this contract, including all cut trees and existing slash from blow downs etc. including the tops, trunks, and branches.
Unsatisfactory Tree. Cutting of a tree that fails to meet contract standards; includes but is not limited to: cutting the wrong tree, failing to cut a correct tree, failure to completely sever a live limb, etc. Unsatisfactory trees are considered a deficiency or discrepancy in contract inspection.

Appendix F: Maps

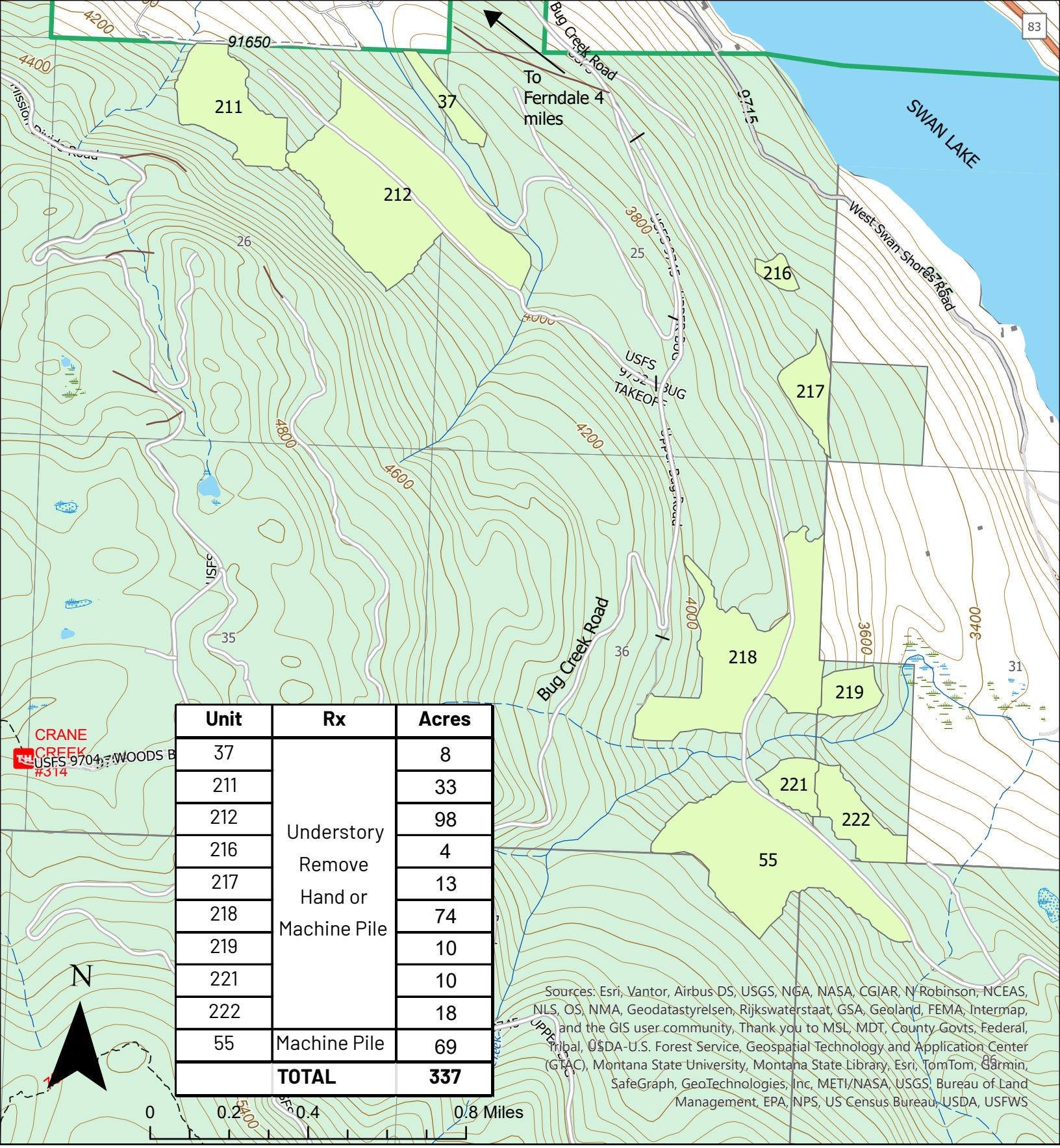


Overview Map National Forest Foundation
2026 Flathead National Forest NFF Fuels
Appendix F Maps

N

0 2.75 5.5 11 Miles

National Forest Foundation



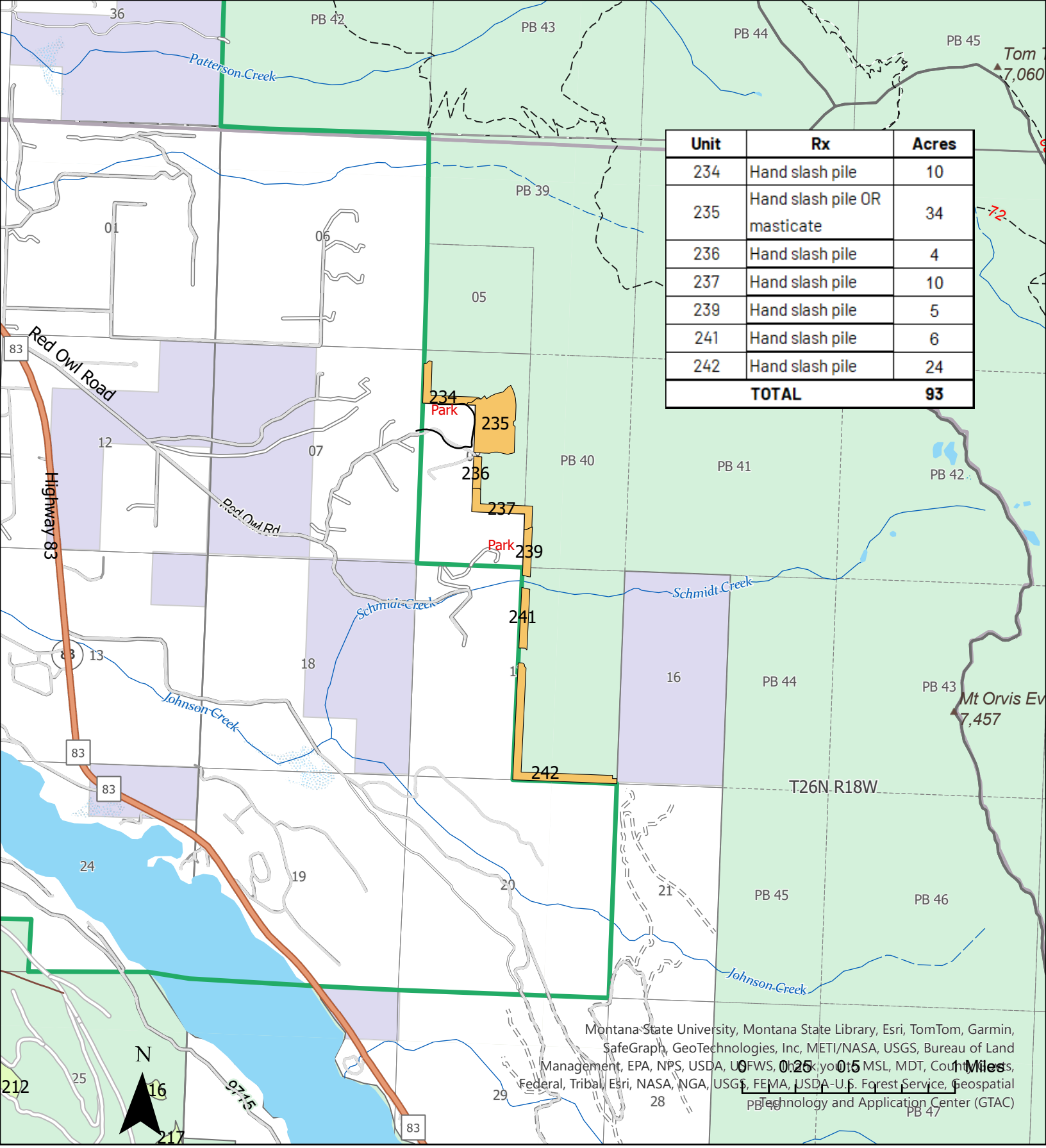
Unit	Rx	Acres
37	Understory Remove Hand or Machine Pile	8
211		33
212		98
216		4
217		13
218		74
219		10
221		10
222		18
55	Machine Pile	69
	TOTAL	**337**

Sources: Esri, Vantor, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap, and the GIS user community, Thank you to MSL, MDT, County Govts, Federal, Tribal, USDA-U.S. Forest Service, Geospatial Technology and Application Center (GTAC), Montana State University, Montana State Library, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS

FNF NFF 2026 Fuels
Attachment F Maps
Item 1 Bug Creek 4

Bigfork, MT

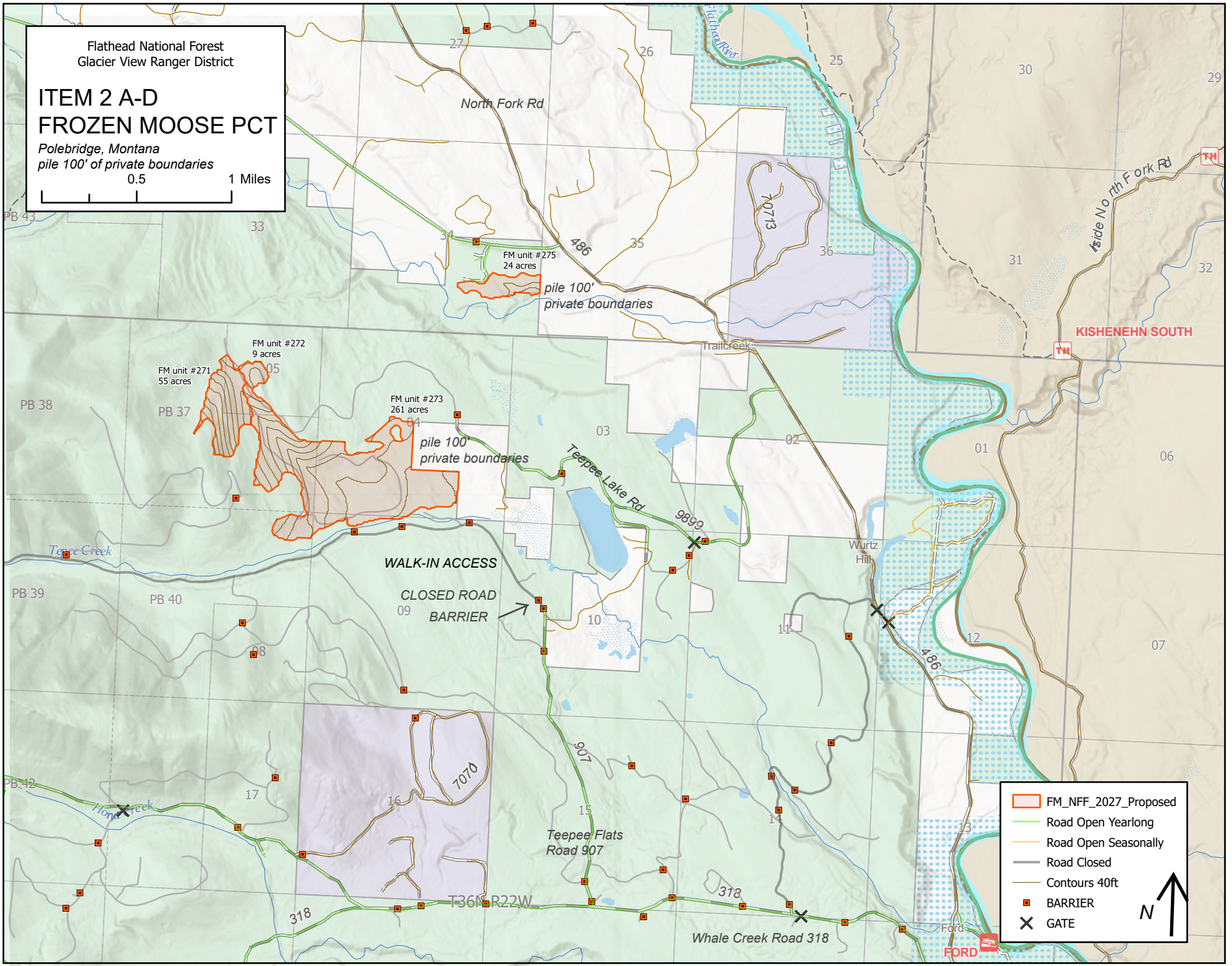
National Forest Foundation



FNF NFF 2026 Fuels
Attachment F Maps
Item 2 Red Owl Fuels

Polebridge, MT

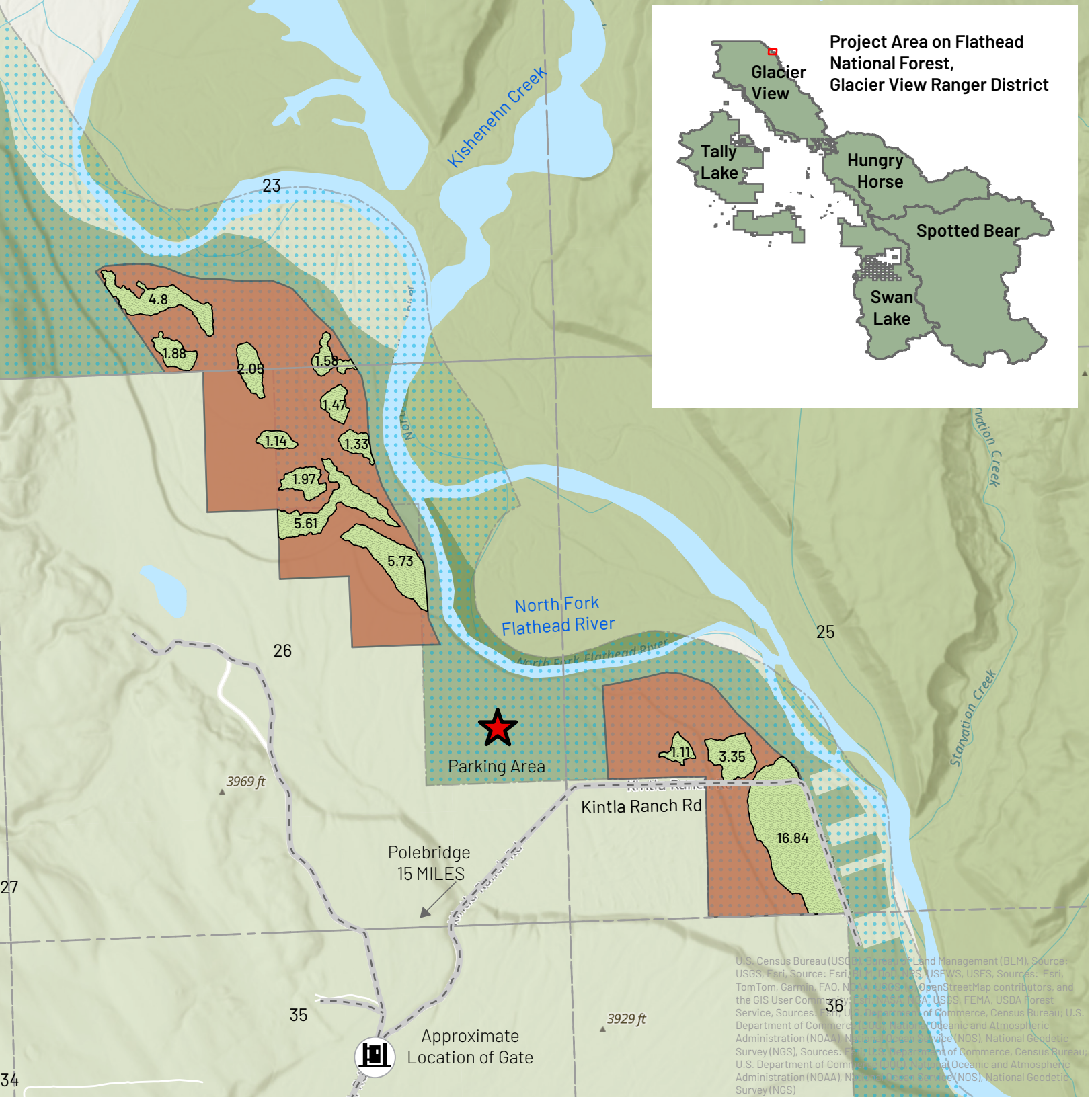
National Forest Foundation


Flathead National Forest
Glacier View Ranger District
ITEM 2 A-D
FROZEN MOOSE PCT
Polebridge, Montana
pile 100' of private boundaries
0.5
1 Miles
North Fork Rd
FM unit #275
24 acres
pile 100'
private boundaries
FM unit #272
9 acres
FM unit #271
55 acres
FM unit #273
261 acres
pile 100'
private boundaries
Teepee Lake Rd
9899
WALK-IN ACCESS
CLOSED ROAD
BARRIER
Tepee Creek
Trail Creek
Wurtz Hill
KISHENEHN SOUTH
Inside North Fork Rd
Flathead Riv
Hone Creek
907
Teepee Flats
Road 907
7070
7071
T36N R22W
318
Whale Creek Road 318
Ford
FORD
PB 37
PB 38
PB 39
PB 40
PB 42
PB 43
FM_NFF_2027_Proposed
Road Open Yearlong
Road Open Seasonally
Road Closed
Contours 40ft
BARRIER
GATE
N

Frozen Moose Sagebrush Units 287 and 288

(acreages shown on map)

Polebridge, MT



KINTLA RANCH PROJECT AREAS

FLATHEAD, MONTANA NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

US FOREST SERVICE LAND

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SAGEBRUSH RESTORATION BOUNDARY

N

0.25

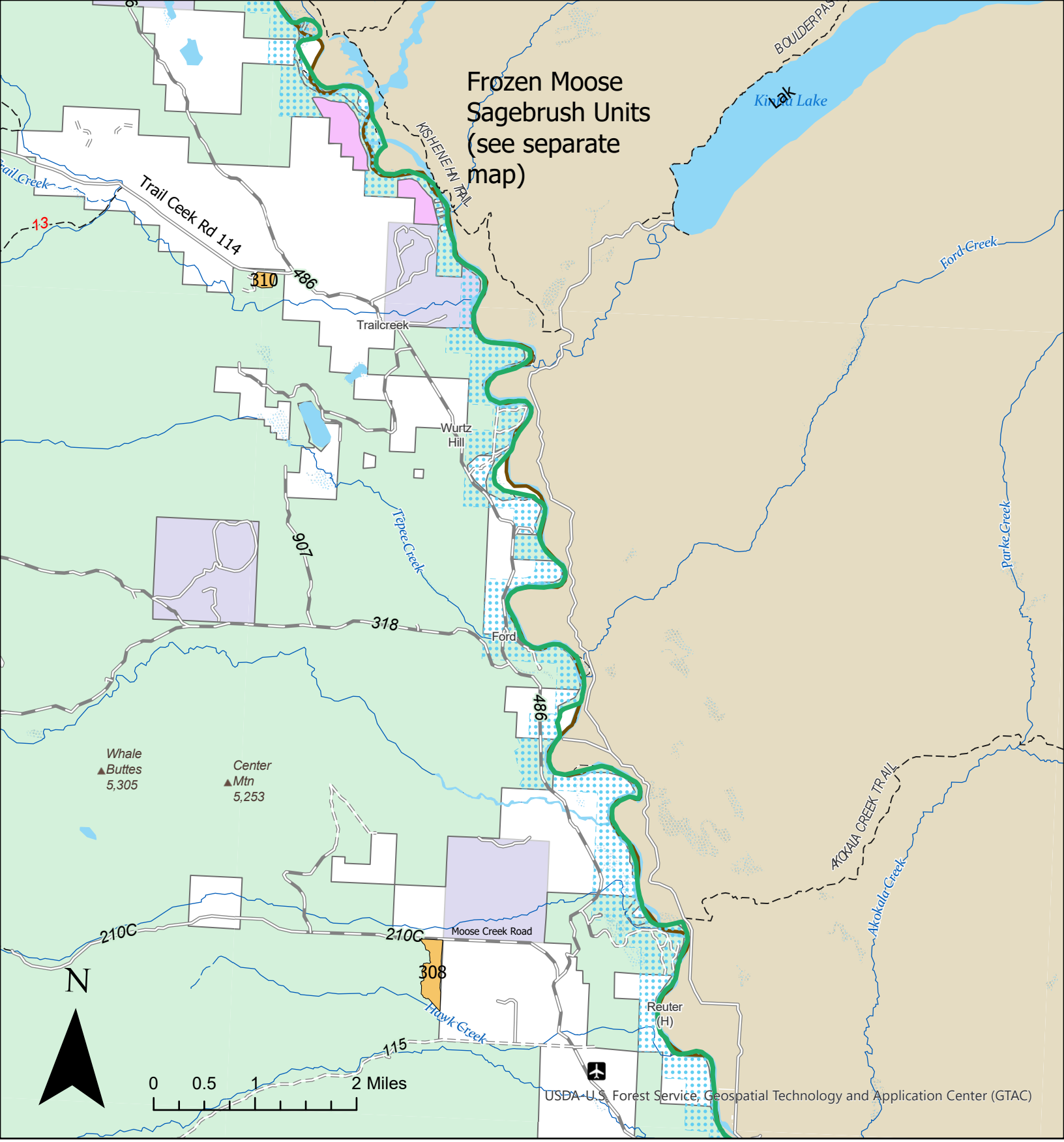
Miles

Center: 114°24'28"W 48°56'37"N



National Forest Foundation

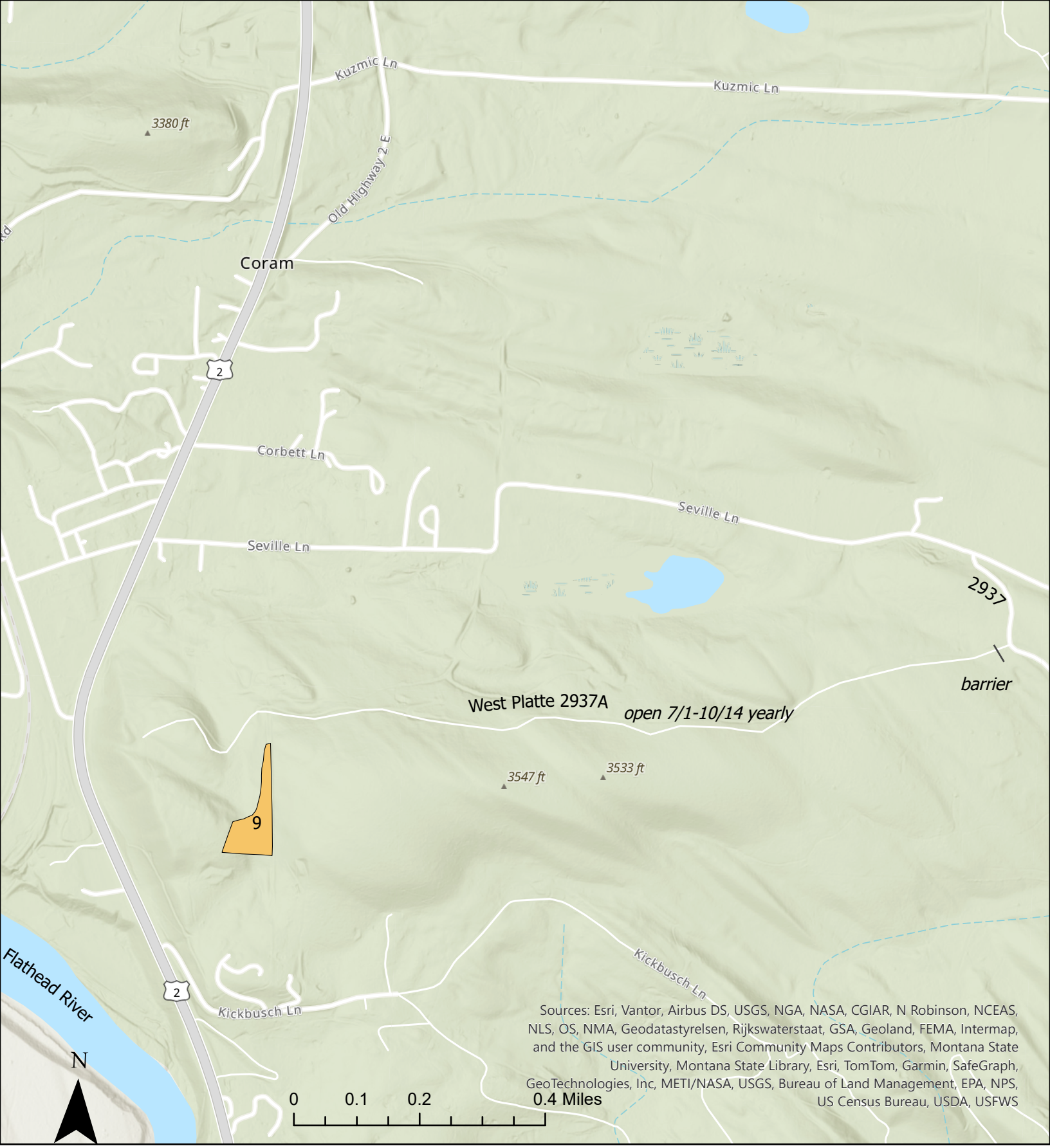
U.S. Census Bureau (USC... Land Management (BLM), Source: USGS, Esri, Source: Esri... USFWS, USFS, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, N... OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Comm... USGS, FEMA, USDA Forest Service, Sources: ... of Commerce, Census Bureau; U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), N... (NOS), National Geodetic Survey (NGS), Sources: Esri... of Commerce, Census Bureau; U.S. Department of Comm... Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), N... (NOS), National Geodetic Survey (NGS)



FNF NFF 2026 Fuels Attachment F Maps
Item 3G (67 ac) and 3H (18 ac)
Frozen Moose 2.0

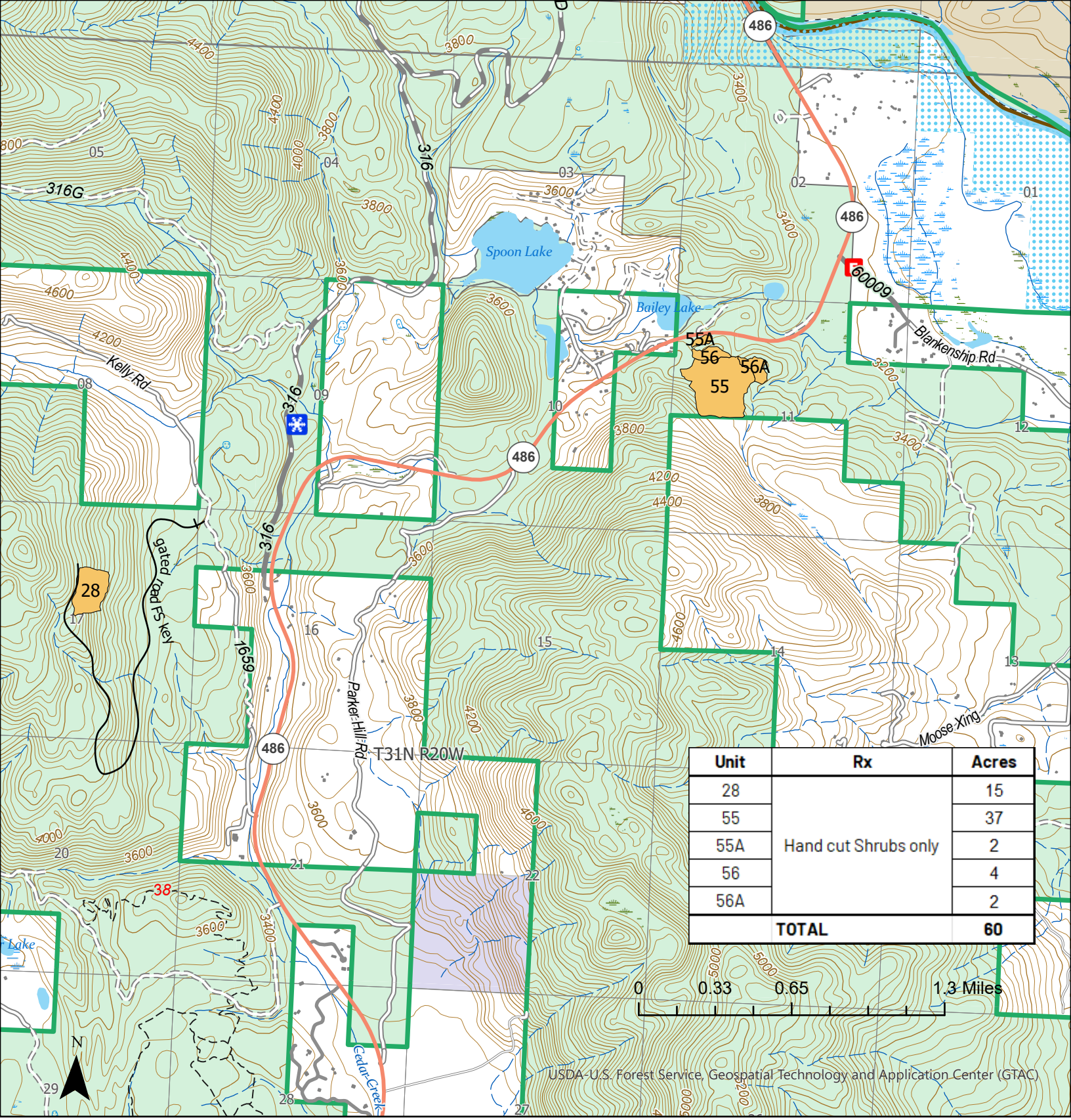
Polebridge, MT

National Forest Foundation



FNF NFF 2026 Fuels
Attachment F Maps
Item 4 Hungry Lion Unit 9 *(6 acres)*
Coram, MT

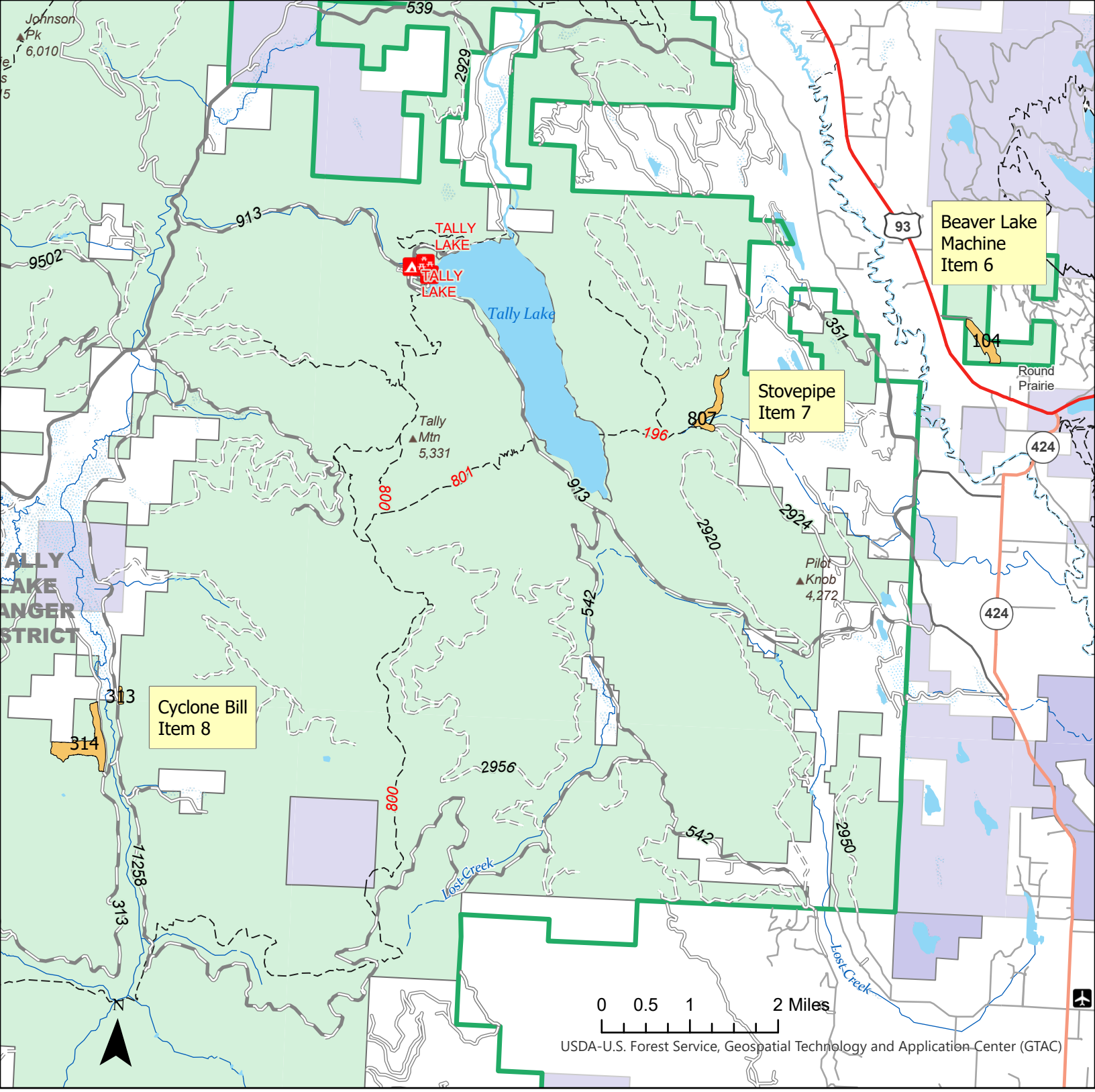
National Forest Foundation



Unit	Rx	Acres
28	Hand cut Shrubs only	15
55		37
55A		2
56		4
56A		2
	TOTAL	60

FNF NFF 2026 Fuels
Attachment F Maps
Item 5 Crystal Cedar Wildlife Slashing
Blankenship, MT

National Forest Foundation



FNF NFF 2026 Fuels
Attachment F Maps
Item 6 Beaver Lake Slash & Machine Pile *(117 acres)*
Item 7 Stovepipe Slash & Machine Pile *(43 acres)*
Item 8 Cyclone Bill Fuels (*6 and 91 acres)*

Whitefish, MT

National Forest Foundation

Appendix F
Flowdown Provisions

NFF Funding Code: 1596142
NFF Funding Name: PA SPA Frozen Moose RCB Fuel Reduction

Funder Agreement ID: 25-PA-11011000-015

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    b. May pursue other remedies available for the recipient's material failure to comply with award terms and conditions.

Flowdown Provisions

NFF Funding Code: 1596112
NFF Funding Name: SA Wildland Urban Interface Fire Resilient and HFs (Flathead NF)

Funder Agreement ID: 24-SA-11011000-006

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