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Comments: This looks like a reasonable project. Very similar to what Montana FWP performed on the Sun River Wildlife Management Area and the Bear Tooth Wildlife Management area. The difference is: at the BTWMA we also use grazing to control grasses that elk do not like if the grass grows to maturity, using a VERY intensive [electric poly wire] and short term grazing program [less than 2 weeks] the grass is controlled and when it regrows it is NOW a grass the elk will eat. ON the SRWMA we have used harvesting and fire. My comment is: leave the slash piles for the bunnies and other animals AND for sportsmen to hide behind when they are approaching game animals they want to harvest. 20' slash piles are ridiculous but 6-8' piles work great AND we don't have the big circles of scorched earth from a bond fire. Slash piles would also hold snow.

On the WMAs there was no harvestable timber AND like you we used photos from the 1950's to help us decide how far the time had encroached.

We need more projects like this. As they say, use it or loose it! randy