

Scott and Leslie Lula
Stoll Ranch
47802 Hwy 278
Wisdom, MT 59761

Jamie Tripp and Molly Ryan
Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest
420 Barrett St.
Dillon, MT 59725

Re: SELWAY SAGINAW VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT

District Rangers Jamie Tripp and Molly Ryan,

Thank for the opportunity to comment on the Selway Saginaw Vegetation Management Project. Our property (Stoll Ranch) is located along Bloody Dick Road, in T09 R15 S10 & 15, and adjacent to the National Forest boundary. While not opposed to the proposed project or its objectives, we would like to express concerns regarding the use of Bloody Dick Road as one of the principal logging haul routes.

Bloody Dick Road bisects our property for approximately 1 mile and is approximately only 100 ft from the main residence located on the east side of the road. Our barn and outbuildings all occur on the west side of the road necessitating frequent crossing during the course of an average day. In recent years, the frequency and speed of traffic along Bloody Dick Road has become a major safety concern of ours, especially when pets, livestock and/or children are present. Additionally, the sediment in the roadbed is very fine, and a small vehicle traveling slowly produces enough dust to obscure visibility to a few yards. During the summer and fall, the dust produced from current levels of traffic is enough to coat our buildings, affect the air quality around our property, and severely limit a driver's ability recognize unexpected hazards in the road. Therefore, we are concerned that increased traffic produced through

proposed logging operations (including equipment transport, log haul trucks, and work site commute vehicles) will exacerbate the issues already occurring on Bloody Dick Road and create unsafe living and working conditions around our property. If Bloody Dick Road is to be used as a haul route for project operations, then we request that significant effort be undertaken to mitigate the effects of dust and increased traffic during the summer and fall months. This could likely be accomplished through a combination of dust abatement (e.g. magnesium chloride), restricting the timing/number of haul trucks during a week and/or enforced speed restrictions, or consideration of creating an alternate road that bypasses this property

The proposal indicates that winter hauling may also occur between December 15 and April 1. If winter hauling is to occur on Bloody Dick Road, we request that no snow be piled against our fence line or in such a way as to block property gates. During the past three winters, the county has maintained the road through our property to accommodate an unofficial snowmobile parking area at the National Forest boundary. This has on occasion resulted in damage to our fences, and blocked access to the northern end of our property. If Bloody Dick Road is to be maintained to support winter logging operations, we hope that consideration will be given to avoid such occurrences, and perhaps maintain the snowmobile parking area farther north.

We would like to thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this proposal and hope that you will give our concerns full consideration. If you, or your team, would like to discuss things further, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Sincerely,

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