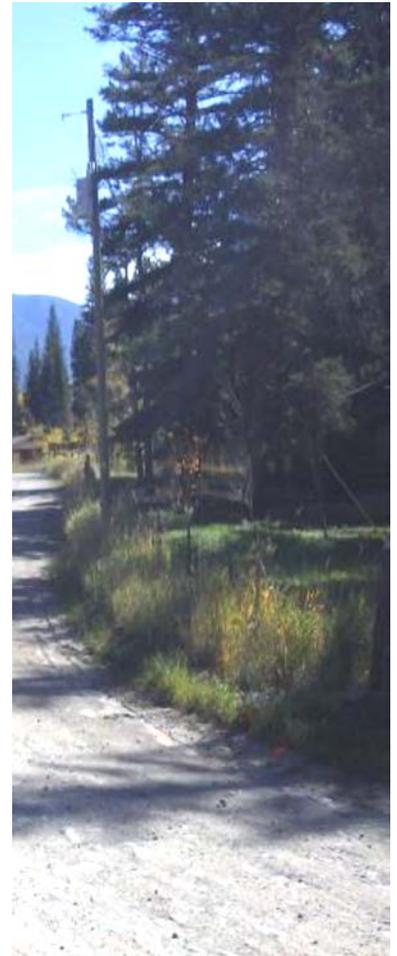


# SECTION 4(F)/6(F) ANALYSIS MEMORANDUM

*Main Boulder River Road Improvements  
MT SWEETGRASS 210(1)  
Task Order No. DTFH7014F16003*



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Highway  
Administration**

Prepared for:

**WESTERN FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY DIVISION**

*October 2015*



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Western Federal Lands Highway Division (WFLHD) of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS), and Park and Sweet Grass Counties, is proposing to improve the Main Boulder River Road. The proposed project is needed to improve safety and meet current road standards, which requires addressing substandard widths, poor roadside drainage, inadequate sight distance, and two deficient bridges. The primary construction activities would include clearing, excavation, rock blasting, grading, drainage installation, aggregate base and asphalt surface course, revegetation, and erosion control. The project is scheduled to begin construction in the spring of 2017.

The Main Boulder River Road is located in Park and Sweet Grass Counties, Montana, about 15 miles southwest of the town of Big Timber (see **Figure 1**). The road begins south of the community of McLeod at the junction of Highway 298 with Susie Creek Road. The proposed action extends 6.8 miles on Main Boulder River Road from milepost 30.88 to milepost 37.70. The proposed project consists of:

- Reconstructing the Main Boulder River Road between mileposts 30.88 and 37.70 to a two-lane aggregate-surfaced road with a 20-foot top width
- Improving drainage
- Realigning the roadway at the following locations:
  - Reducing the grade of the road near Chippy Park campground
  - Realigning the reverse curves located near Two Mile Creek Bridge
- Replacing the Two Mile Creek Bridge
- Replacing the Miller Creek Bridge

Proposed construction would consist of widening the road where possible to create two 10-foot lanes, for a total width of 20 feet. In areas where the 20-foot road width cannot be achieved, the road width would be reduced to a minimum width of 16 feet with turnouts constructed at each end of the narrow areas.

This Technical Memorandum has been prepared to support the environmental documentation for the *Main Boulder River Road Improvements* project. The purpose of this memorandum is to identify potential Section 4(f) properties and Section 6(f) resources in the project area and analyze whether the project has the potential to impact any such properties or resources.

The proposed project location is shown in **Figure 1**.

**Section 4(f):** Projects undertaken by the U.S. Department of Transportation—Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Western Federal Lands Highway Division in this case—or that may receive federal funding and/or discretionary approvals from the agency must demonstrate compliance with Section 4(f) of the *Department of Transportation Act of 1966* (23 U.S.C. § 138 and 49 U.S.C. § 303). Section 4(f) protects publicly-owned public parks, recreation areas, and wildlife/waterfowl refuges. Section 4(f) also protects historic sites of national, state, or local significance on public or private land that are potentially eligible for listing or are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and are protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA). The regulations require coordination with the official(s) with jurisdiction when making determinations about the significance of protected properties or resources.

If a project uses a Section 4(f) property and a finding of *de minimis* impact is not made, FHWA can approve the use of that property only if the agency finds that (1) there is no feasible and prudent avoidance alternative to the use of the Section 4(f) property, and (2) all possible planning to minimize harm to the Section 4(f) property has been incorporated into the alternative.

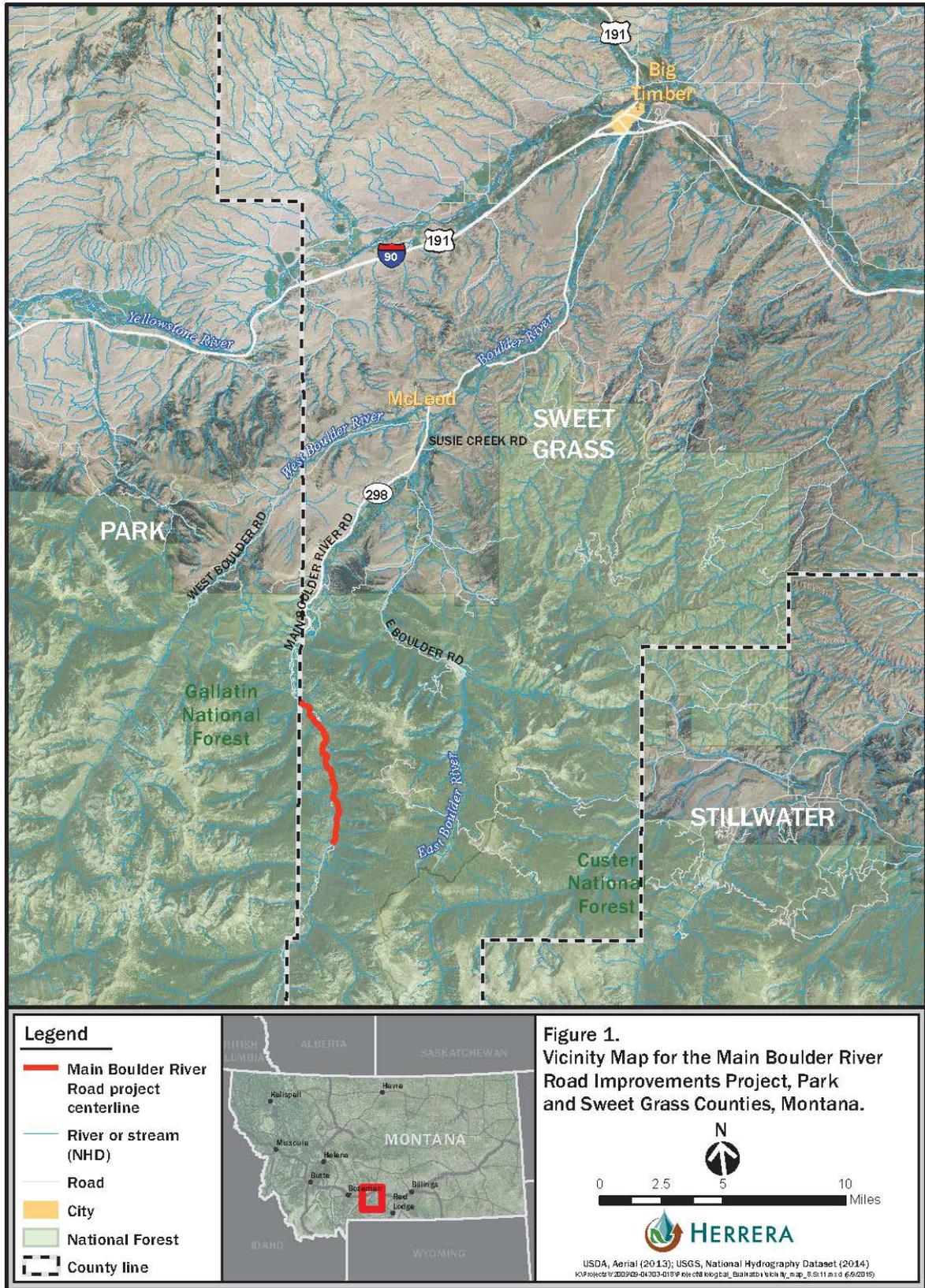


Figure 1: Proposed Project Vicinity Map

The FHWA's Section 4(f) regulations, entitled *Parks, Recreation Areas, Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges, and Historic Sites*, are codified at 23 CFR Part 774. The agency's *Section 4(f) Policy Paper* (July 2012) supplements the FHWA regulations governing the use of land from protected properties for Federal highway projects.

**Section 6(f):** The purpose of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act is to assist in preserving, developing, and ensuring accessibility to outdoor recreation resources and as to strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States by providing funds, planning, acquisition, and development of facilities. Recreation facilities awarded such funds are subject to the provisions of this Act.

State and local governments often obtain grants through the LWCF Act to acquire or make improvements to parks and recreation areas. Section 6(f)(3) of the LWCF Act requires that no property acquired or developed with LWCF assistance will be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses without the approval of U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI's) National Park Service. Section 6(f) directs DOI to ensure that replacement lands of comparable value and function, or monetary compensation (used to enhance the remaining land), location, and usefulness are provided as conditions to such conversions.

For projects that propose the use of land from a Section 4(f) property purchased or improved with Federal grant-in-aid funds under the LWCF Act, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act (Dingell-Johnson Act), the Federal Aid in Wildlife Act (Pittman-Robertson Act), or other similar law, or the lands are otherwise encumbered with a Federal interest, coordination with the appropriate Federal agency is required to determine the agency's position on the land conversion or transfer.

## 2.0 AREA CONSIDERED IN THE ANALYSIS

The proposed *Main Boulder River Road Improvements* project would generally improve the existing roadway along its current alignment. For the purposes of this analysis, parks, recreational lands, public multiple-use land holdings, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges located within 1,000 feet of the centerline of the existing roadway were considered as potential 4(f) properties. The area of consideration for historic and archaeological properties corresponds with the Area of Potential Effects (APE) used for the cultural resources inventory conducted for this project.

## 3.0 IDENTIFICATION OF SECTION 4(F) PROPERTIES

Section 4(f) requires consideration of:

- Parks and recreational areas of national, state, or local significance that are both publicly owned and open to the public;
- Publicly owned wildlife and waterfowl refuges of national, state, or local significance that are open to the public to the extent that public access does not interfere with the primary purpose of the refuge; and
- Historic sites of national, state, or local significance in public or private ownership regardless of whether they are open to the public.

A publicly owned park, recreational area or wildlife or waterfowl refuge must be a significant resource for Section 4(f) to apply.

The following paragraphs identify properties in the *Main Boulder River Road Improvements* project area that may merit protection as Section 4(f) resources. Descriptions of each property are provided.

## 3.1 PARKS, RECREATION AREAS AND WILDLIFE AND WATERFOWL REFUGES

### 3.1.1 Public Parks and Recreation Areas

Three public campgrounds within the Custer Gallatin National Forest—Big Beaver Campground, Aspen Campground, and Chippy Park Campground—are located adjacent to or near the Main Boulder River Road within the project area. All three campgrounds are accessed via roads intersecting the Main Boulder River Road and are operated on a first come-first served basis by the USFS. Five campsites exist at Big Beaver Campground (near project Station 1760+00), eight campsites exist at Aspen Campground (near project Station 1794+00), and seven campsites are available at Chippy Park Campground (near project Station 1874+00). The Graham Creek Trail (USFS Trail #117) is accessed from Main Boulder River Road via a roadway located near the northern terminus of the project. Shipping Corrals Picnic Area, a USFS-administered area with two picnic sites and a toilet, is located near project Station 1890+00.

The *Gallatin National Forest Plan 1987 as Amended through November 2014 (11/18/2014)*, designates all developed campgrounds, picnic areas, boat ramps and visitor information sites as Management Area 1. **Figure 2** shows the location of public recreation sites along the Main Boulder River Road project area and provides approximate project stationing along the roadway.

### 3.1.2 Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges

There are no wildlife or waterfowl refuges within the project area.

## 3.2 PUBLIC MULTIPLE USE LANDHOLDINGS

### 3.2.1 Custer Gallatin National Forest Lands

Lands within the Yellowstone District of the Custer Gallatin National Forest lands adjoin Main Boulder River Road over the length of the project. In addition to the three campgrounds mentioned, USFS lands in the area provide wildlife habitat and dispersed recreational opportunities like hiking, hunting, and fishing. According to the *Gallatin National Forest Plan*, USFS lands adjacent to the road in the project area are designated as Management Areas 5 or 11. Management Area 5 lands are travel corridors that receive heavy recreational use. Management Area 11 lands include areas of forested big game habitat. They include lands that are available for timber harvest, provided that big game habitat objectives are met. Dispersed recreation opportunities also exist on Management Area 11 lands.

## 3.3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

Historical Research Associates (HRA) conducted a pedestrian survey of the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) in April 2015. HRA identified two historic era bridges (Two Mile Creek Bridge and a timber crib bridge over Miller Creek), the historic alignment of the Boulder River Road itself, a prehistoric camp with lithic material and fire-cracked rock at a site identified as Field Site 2312-1. These sites are discussed in detail in HRA's cultural resources inventory and summarized below. **Figure 3** shows the locations of the historical properties identified in the project area.

### 3.3.1 Two Mile Creek Bridge (Site 24SW0757)

The Two Mile Creek Bridge is a one-lane Warren pony truss bridge that was built in 1931, likely as part of work relief programs during the Great Depression. The bridge has 10 timber stringers, is 108 feet long with a 12.8 foot deck width, and was manufactured by the Illinois Steel Bridge Company, as indicated by

the embossed stamp present on the truss structure. The original double course guard rails are present within the truss structure and the bridge appears to have changed little since its construction.

Given the bridge's association with work relief projects related to the Great Depression and the fact that the bridge seems to retain all aspects of integrity, HRA recommended 24SW0757 as eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A and C.

### 3.3.2 Site 24SW0754

Site 24SW0754 (previously listed as Field Site 2312-1 by HRA) is an archaeological site identified as a result of pedestrian inventory of the APE. The site consists of several stone artifacts consistent with their use as boiling stones. The site was identified at the edge of the road bed with materials on the surface of/eroding from the cut face and on what appear to be intact soils. HRA recommended this site be considered potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D.

### 3.3.3 Field Site 2312-2

Field Site 2312-2 is a historic-era trough of unknown function. The trough appears to span two beaver ponds and could be functional in channeling potential overflow from one into the other. The spillway is 15 feet long, 3.9 feet wide, and stands approximately 3 feet tall. The trough is cross braced at 5-foot intervals and is manufactured from standard milled 2 by 4 inch, 1 by 6 inch, and 2 by 12 inch lumber with modern machine cut nails. Partial top decking of 2 by 6 inch milled lumber is also present. HRA recorded the feature as an isolate rather than a site.

### 3.3.4 Miller Creek Timber Bridge (Site 24SW0756)

The Miller Creek Bridge is a timber crib bridge manufactured in 1953. The bridge is 30 feet long and 12 feet wide with seven timber stringers spanning Miller Creek at a height of approximately 25 feet. The original guardrails are in place. The bridge ends rest on fortified earthen abutments with wood back walls braced by wood pilings.

While this bridge was constructed during the post–World War II to the Interstate Highway Era period (1942–1960) of significance, its importance can be attributed to expansion of recreation within the National Forest system. HRA recommended 24AW0756 as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C and potentially under Criterion A.

### 3.3.5 Main Boulder River Road Alignment (Site 24SW0755)

Main Boulder River Road alignment was identified by HRA as an important historic resource. Given the topography of the Boulder River canyon, it is likely that this road has not altered course from its original mapping related to the Homestead Entry Surveys circa 1911–1916 where its presence is shown. Research at the Sweet Grass County courthouse, clerk's office, and road division failed to show any major changes over time with the exception of routine maintenance. Though there would have been a time during which modifications of the route from a wagon road to a route that would accommodate vehicles would have been made, such a modification was not identified in county records. The road is 20 feet wide with occasional turn outs to accommodate river access and driveways for residents of the valley, as well as access to a number of Custer Gallatin National Forest campgrounds.

The road alignment retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, workmanship, and association and is recommended eligible for inclusion in the NHRP under Criterion A for its contribution to settlement and continued use of the Boulder River corridor.

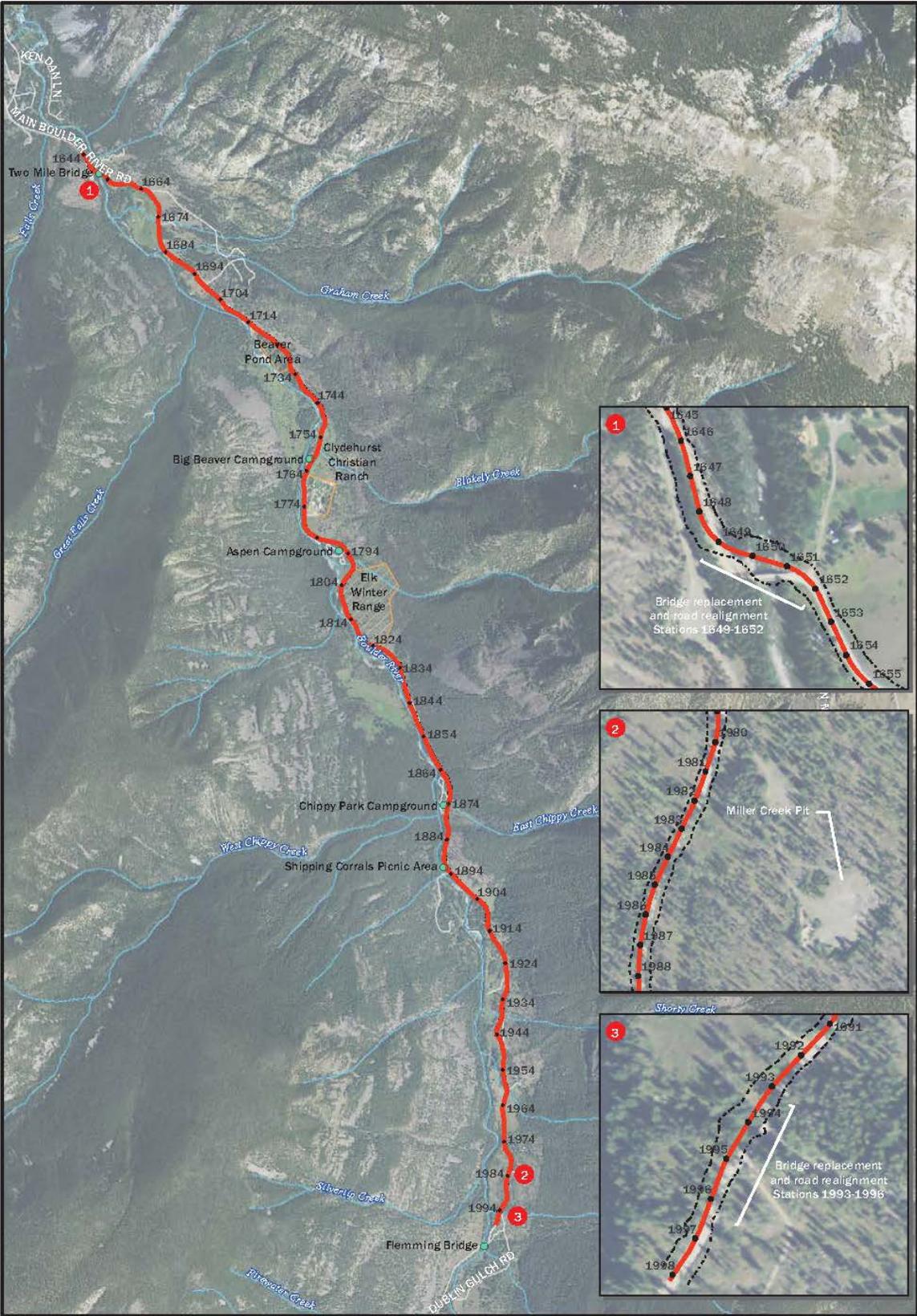


Figure 2: Locations of Public Recreation Sites in the Project Area

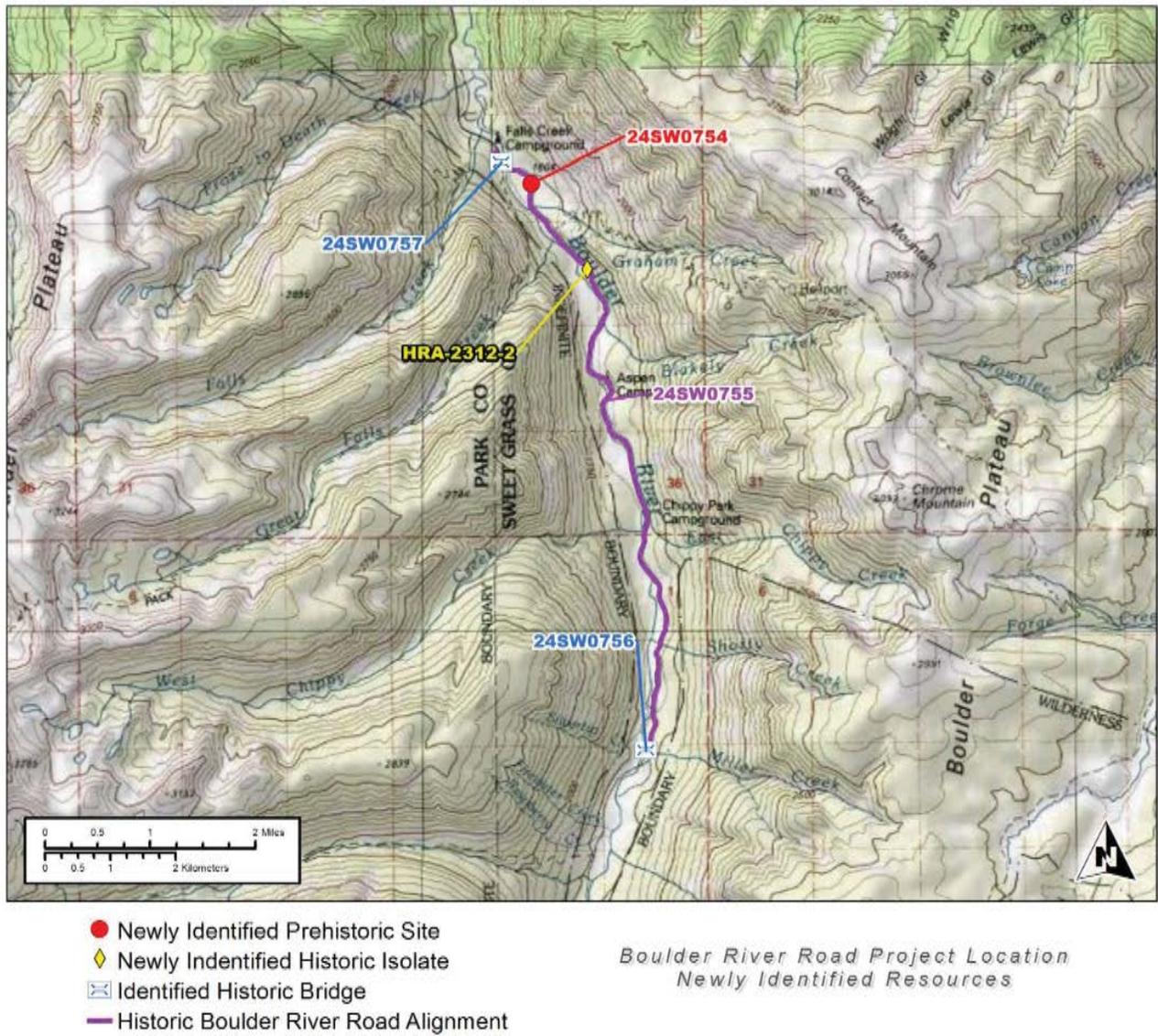


Figure 3: Locations of Historic Properties in the Project Area

## 4.0 SECTION 4(F) APPLICABILITY ANALYSIS

The properties identified in the previous section are analyzed below to determine if consideration under Section 4(f) is warranted. The FHWA's *Section 4(f) Policy Paper* and other relevant guidance were reviewed to help determine if Section 4(f) applies to the identified properties along the Main Boulder River Road.

### 4.1 PUBLIC RECREATION SITES – CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

Big Beaver Campground, Aspen Campground, and Chippy Park Campground are located adjacent to or near the Main Boulder River Road within the project area. Section 4(f) applies only to those portions of the Custer Gallatin National Forest that are designated by statute or identified in an official management plan of the administering agency as being primarily for public park, recreation, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge purposes, and are determined to be significant for such purposes. Campgrounds and picnic areas are recreational sites within National Forests that typically qualify as Section 4(f) resources.

The three campgrounds within the project area and the Shipping Corrals Picnic Area are managed for developed public recreation purposes according to the *Gallatin National Forest Plan*. These facilities are considered significant recreational sites and are subject to consideration under Section 4(f).

### 4.2 USFS LANDS – CUSTER GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST

The multiple-use public lands in the Gallatin National Forest lands in the vicinity of the proposed project are not subject to Section 4(f) because they are not managed specifically for public recreation purposes. Management Area 5 areas are designated travel corridors that receive use by visitors recreating within the National Forest but the overall management objectives for such lands is not specifically focused on recreation. Management Area 11 lands provide dispersed recreational opportunities but the primary management goals are to maintain elk habitat and accommodate some level of timber harvest.

## 4.3 SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROPERTIES

### 4.3.1 Two Mile Creek Bridge (24SW0757)

HRA recommended the Two Mile Creek Bridge as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criteria A and C. For purposes of Section 4(f), a historic site is significant only if it is on or eligible for the NRHP. Section 4(f) is applicable to the Two Mile Bridge unless the Montana SHPO chooses not to concur with an NRHP-eligible recommendation through consultation with FHWA.

### 4.3.2 Site 24SW0754

Site 24SW0754 is an archaeological site discovered during the pedestrian inventory of the APE for the project. FHWA's *Section 4(f) Policy Paper* notes that Section 4(f) applies to archeological sites that are on or eligible for the NRHP and that warrant preservation in place. Section 4(f) does not apply if FHWA determines, after consultation with the SHPO/THPO, federally recognized Indian tribes (as appropriate), and the ACHP (if participating) that the archeological resource is important chiefly because of what can be learned by data recovery (even if it is agreed not to recover the resource) and has minimal value for preservation in place, and the SHPO/THPO and ACHP (if participating) does not object to this determination.

The cultural resource specialists recommended this site be considered potentially eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. This recommendation suggests further work or interpretation of the stone artifacts discovered

at the site may be needed to clearly determine the site's eligibility for the NRHP and whether the site has the potential to yield additional information through data recovery.

Therefore, further investigation of the archaeological site may be required and coordination with the Montana SHPO and archeologists from the Custer Gallatin National Forest before a clear determination can be made about the Section 4(f) applicability of this site.

### 4.3.3 Field Site 2312-2

Field Site 2312-2 was recorded as an isolate rather than a site. Cultural resource isolates are considered to be not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, as they do not meet the necessary criteria for inclusion. Section 4(f) only applies to sites that are on or eligible for the NRHP.

### 4.3.4 Miller Creek Timber Bridge (Site 24SW0756)

HRA recommended the Miller Creek Bridge as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, meaning the structure is a significant historic site for purposes of Section 4(f). Section 4(f) is applicable to the Miller Creek Bridge unless the Montana SHPO chooses not to concur with an NRHP-eligible recommendation through consultation with FHWA.

### 4.3.5 Main Boulder River Road Alignment (Site 24SW0755)

HRA recommended the alignment of the existing Boulder River Road as eligible for inclusion in the NHRP under Criterion A. FHWA's *Section 4(f) Policy Paper* notes the Section 4(f) statute imposes conditions on the use of land from historic sites for highway projects but makes no mention of highways which may be historic and are already serving as transportation facilities. The FHWA's interpretation is that the Congress clearly did not intend to restrict the rehabilitation or repair of historic transportation facilities. The FHWA therefore established a regulatory provision that Section 4(f) approval is required only when a historic bridge, highway, railroad, or other transportation facility is adversely affected by the proposed project.

In the case of a historic roadway alignment for the Main Boulder River Road, determining whether Section 4(f) applies first requires that the Montana SHPO to concur with an NRHP-eligibility recommendation for the historic roadway. If SHPO concurs, then a Determination of Effect under Section 106 (Adverse Effect, No Adverse Effect) must be made to establish the potential impacts to the historic roadway. Section 4(f) approval would be required only if the historic integrity of the Main Boulder River Road (i.e., the reasons for which the facility was determined eligible for the NRHP) is adversely affected by the proposed improvement project.

## 5.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO SECTION 4(F) PROPERTIES

### 5.1 USE OF SECTION 4(F) PROPERTIES

Once Section 4(f) properties have been identified in the project area, it is necessary to determine if any of them would be used by an alternative or alternatives being carried forward for detailed study. **Use** in the Section 4(f) context is discussed below. A use of Section 4(f) property is defined in 23 CFR 774.17 and occurs when:

- Land is permanently incorporated into a transportation facility;
- There is a temporary occupancy of land that is adverse in terms of the Section 4(f) statute's preservationist purposes; or
- There is a constructive use of a Section 4(f) property.

**Permanent Incorporation:** Land is considered permanently incorporated into a transportation project when it has been purchased as right-of-way or sufficient property interests have otherwise been acquired for the purpose of project implementation.

**Temporary Occupancy:** Examples of temporary occupancy of Section 4(f) land include right-of-entry, project construction, a temporary easement, or other short-term arrangement involving a Section 4(f) property. A temporary occupancy will not constitute a Section 4(f) use when all of the conditions listed below are satisfied:

- Duration must be temporary, i.e., less than the time needed for construction of the project, and there should be no change in ownership of the land;
- Scope of the work must be minor, i.e., both the nature and the magnitude of the changes to the Section 4(f) property are minimal;
- There are no anticipated permanent adverse physical impacts, nor will there be interference with the protected activities, features, or attributes of the property, on either a temporary or permanent basis;
- The land being used must be fully restored, i.e., the property must be returned to a condition which is at least as good as that which existed prior to the project; and
- There must be documented agreement of the official(s) with jurisdiction over the Section 4(f) resource regarding the above conditions.

**Constructive Use:** Constructive use of Section 4(f) property is only possible in the absence of a permanent incorporation of land or a temporary occupancy of the type that constitutes a Section 4(f) use. Constructive use occurs when the proximity impacts of a project on an adjacent or near-by Section 4(f) property, after incorporation of impact mitigation, are so severe that the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the property for protection under Section 4(f) are substantially impaired. Substantial impairment occurs when the protected activities, features, or attributes of the Section 4(f) property are substantially diminished. A project's proximity to a Section 4(f) property is not in itself an impact that results in constructive use.

**De Minimis Impact:** A *de minimis* impact is one that, after taking into account any measures to minimize harm (such as avoidance, minimization, mitigation or enhancement measures), results in either:

1. A Section 106 finding of no adverse effect or no historic properties affected on a historic property;  
or
2. A determination that the project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes qualifying a park, recreation area, or refuge for protection under Section 4(f).

A *de minimis* impact determination is made for the net impact on the Section 4(f) property. The final project NEPA decision document must include sufficient supporting documentation for any measures to minimize harm that were applied to the project by FHWA in order to make the *de minimis* impact determination (See 23 CFR 774.7(b)). A use of Section 4(f) property having a *de minimis* impact can be approved by FHWA without the need to develop and evaluate alternatives that would avoid using the Section 4(f) property. A *de minimis* impact determination may be made for a permanent incorporation or temporary occupancy of Section 4(f) property.

## 5.2 POTENTIAL IMPACTS TO SECTION 4(F) PROPERTIES

### 5.2.1 Public Recreation Sites – Custer Gallatin National Forest

The proposed improvements to the Main Boulder River Road would not result in the permanent loss of campsite facilities or campground area at the three public campgrounds within the project limits. The proposed work may include revisions to campground approach roadways at their intersections with Main Boulder River Road due to minor road widening, alignment modifications, approach culvert replacements, or drainage modifications along roadside ditches. Similar impacts would be expected in the vicinity of the Shipping Corrals Picnic Area.

Temporary impacts at the campgrounds or the picnic could occur during construction of the proposed roadway improvements and may include short-term ground disturbances in the vicinity of campgrounds, temporary traffic disruption at campground accesses, and the noise and dust generated by construction equipment.

The use of land at or adjacent to the campgrounds would likely qualify as a *de minimis* impact or may be approved using the *Final Nationwide Section 4(f) Evaluation and Approval for Federally-Aided Highway Projects with Minor Involvements with Public Parks, Recreation Lands, Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges*.

### 5.2.2 Two Mile Creek Bridge (24SW0757)

The proposed improvements to the Main Boulder River Road would replace the existing Two Mile Creek Bridge. The bridge is well beyond its design life and needs to be replaced due to size and functional deficiencies. The horizontal alignment of the road in the vicinity of the Two Mile Creek Bridge would be modified to eliminate the reverse curves on the approaches to the structure. The bridge approaches are not currently optimally aligned with the river, and larger vehicles have difficulty making the turns onto the bridge. Prior to bridge replacement, the road approaches would be reconstructed to improve vehicle access issues.

If the Section 106 process results in an adverse effect determination reached in coordination with the Montana SHPO, then FHWA may document the “use” of the structure with a *Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation and Approval for FHWA Projects that Necessitate the Use of Historic Bridges* form. For the purpose of this programmatic Section 4(f) evaluation, a proposed action will “use” a bridge that is on or eligible for inclusion on the NRHP when the action will impair the historic integrity of the bridge either by rehabilitation or demolition.

### 5.2.3 Site 24SW0754

The site was identified at the edge of the road bed with materials on the surface of/eroding from the cut face and on what appear to be intact soils. The landscape on the eastern side of the road is minimally modified to accommodate the road, while the western side of the road has been significantly altered by the construction of a berm possibly related to agricultural activities or hay production in the fields to the west. The proposed improvements to the Main Boulder River Road would likely involve grading and the placement of fill material to accommodate roadway widening in the vicinity of the site.

HRA recommends that the site be further investigated in order to determine if a subsurface component is present, to determine if fire-cracked rock (FCR) features related to resource processing are present, and to determine accurate site boundaries. As noted earlier, more work may be needed to determine whether the site qualifies for 4(f) consideration.

### 5.2.4 Miller Creek Timber Bridge (Site 24SW0756)

The proposed improvements to the Main Boulder River Road would replace the existing Miller Creek Bridge and modify the horizontal alignment of the road approaches to the bridge. The bridge is well beyond its design life and needs to be replaced due to size and functional deficiencies.

As with the Two Mile Creek Bridge, a Section 4(f) use occurs when the proposed project impairs the historic integrity of a bridge that is on or eligible for inclusion on the NRHP by rehabilitation or demolition. If the Section 106 process results in an adverse effect determination reached in coordination with the Montana SHPO, then FHWA may document the “use” of the structure with a *Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation and Approval for FHWA Projects that Necessitate the Use of Historic Bridges* form.

### 5.2.5 Main Boulder River Road Alignment (Site 24SW0755)

The proposed improvements would include minor widening to the road surface and minor changes to the horizontal and vertical alignments of the Main Boulder River Road. The character of the roadway and its overall function would not significantly change and it does not appear likely that the road’s historic integrity would be substantially impaired by the proposed improvements.

Should the Section 106 process result in a “no adverse effect” determination, then it may be appropriate for FHWA to document the use as a *de minimis* impact or with a *Final Nationwide Section 4(f) Evaluation and Approval for Federally-Aided Highway Projects with Minor Involvements with Historic Sites* form.

## 6.0 SECTION 6(F) INVOLVEMENT

The National Park Service’s on-line list of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants within Sweet Grass County (available at <http://waso-lwcf.ncrc.nps.gov/public/index.cfm>) was reviewed to determine if any parks or recreation areas may have received such funds. The list shows the State of Montana and Sweet Grass County have received several LWCF grants for fishing access site and park development. However, none of the grants were for USFS recreation sites in the vicinity of the Main Boulder River Road project.

## 7.0 FHWA TECHNICAL RESOURCES CONSULTED

The following FHWA resources were consulted during the preparation of this memorandum:

- [Section 4\(f\) Final Rule](#) (March 12, 2008)
- [Section 4\(f\) Policy Paper](#) (Revised July 20, 2012)
- [Section 4\(f\) \*\*De Minimis\*\* Guidance](#)
- [FHWA Technical Advisory – Guidance for Preparing and Processing Environmental and Section 4\(f\) documents](#)



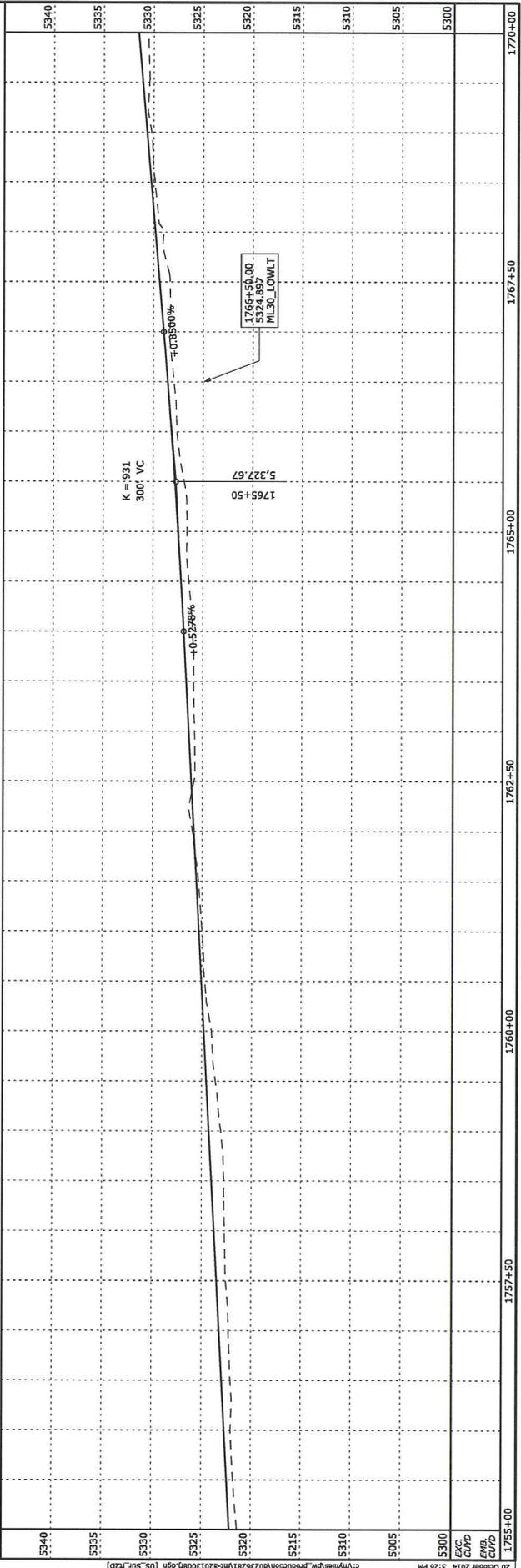
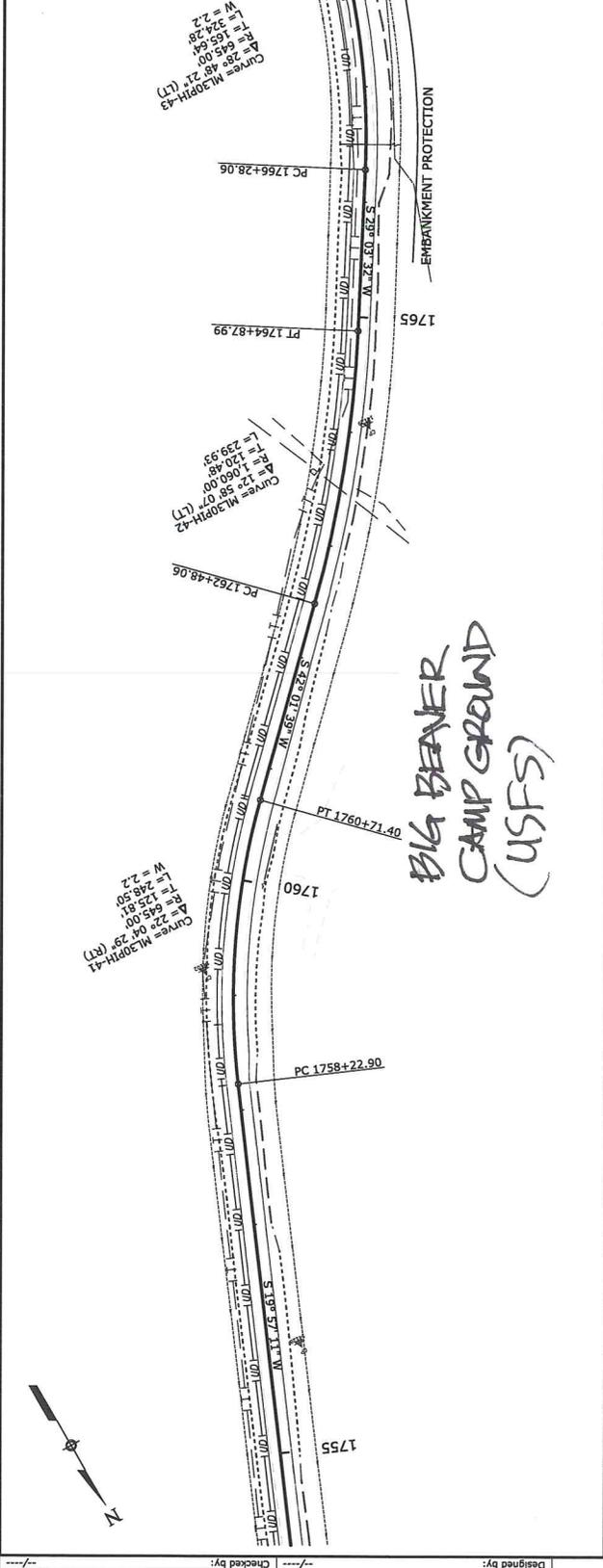
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## APPENDIX A: 4(F) AND 6(F) SUPPORTING MATERIALS

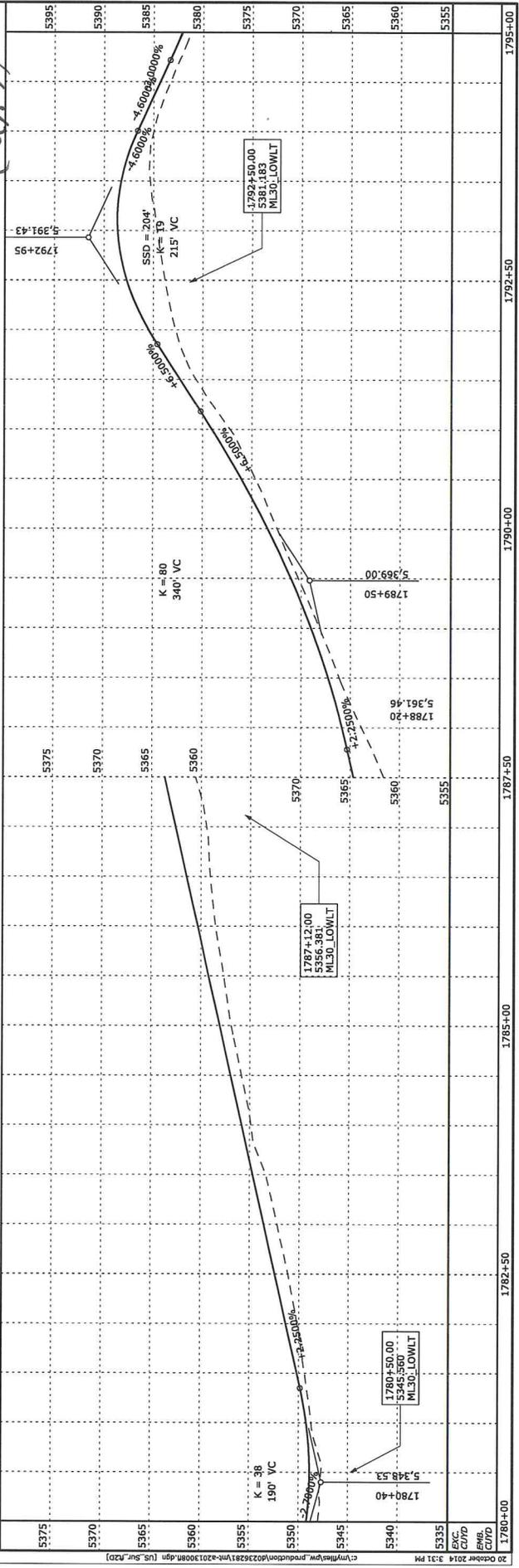
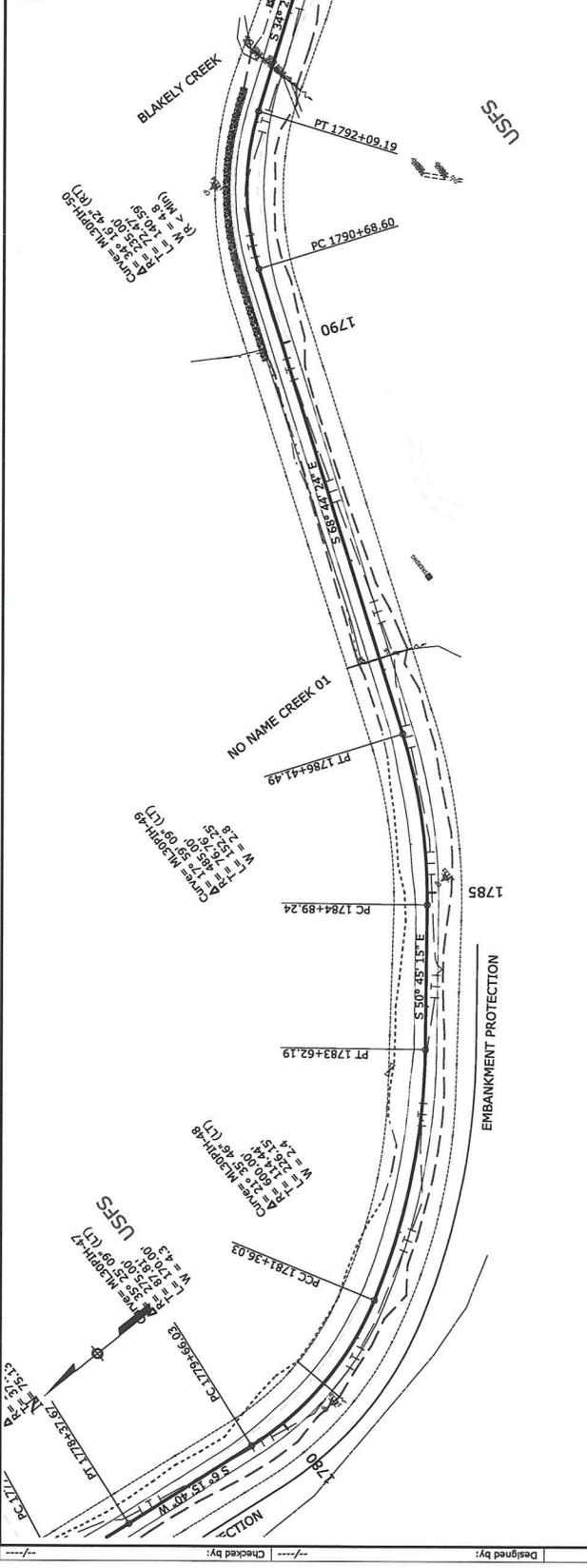
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SHEET NUMBER	D.10
PROJECT	SHEET GRASS 210(1)
STATE	MT

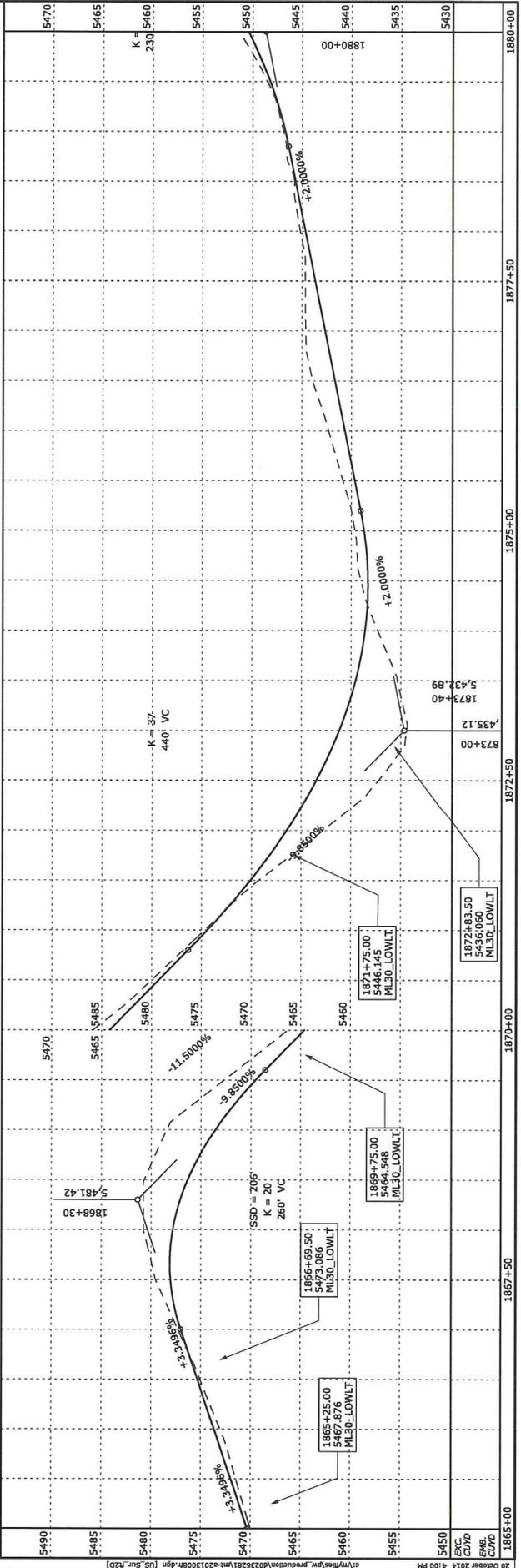
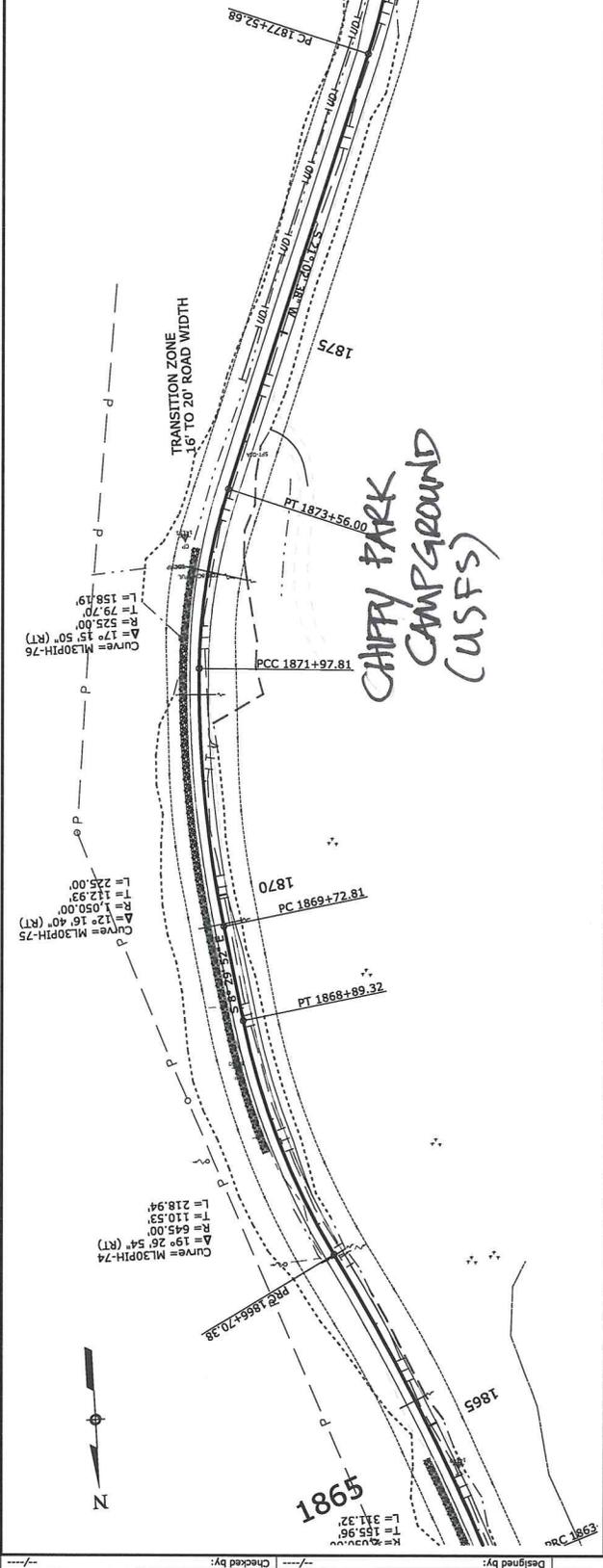


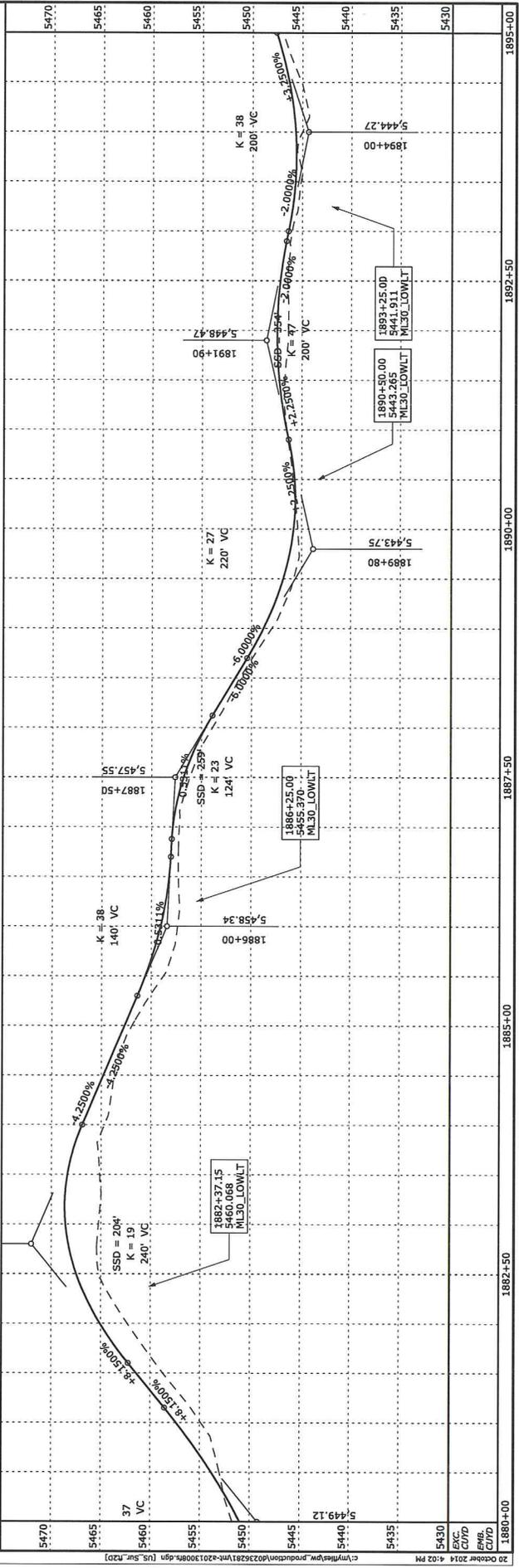
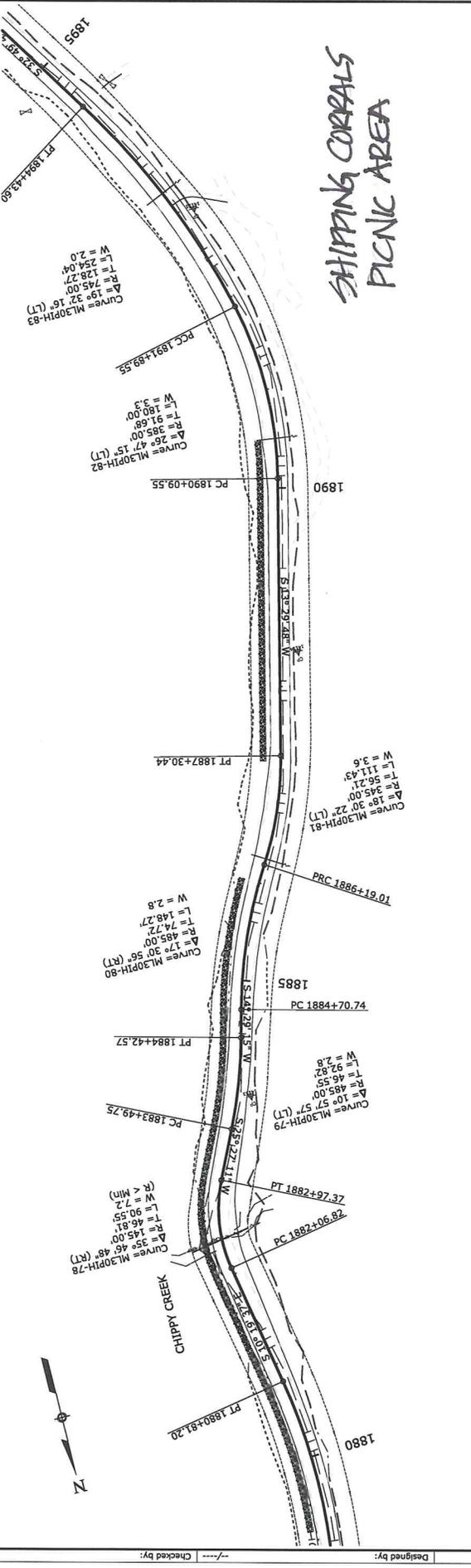
STATE	PROJECT	SHEET NUMBER
MT	SWEETGRASS 210(1)	D.12



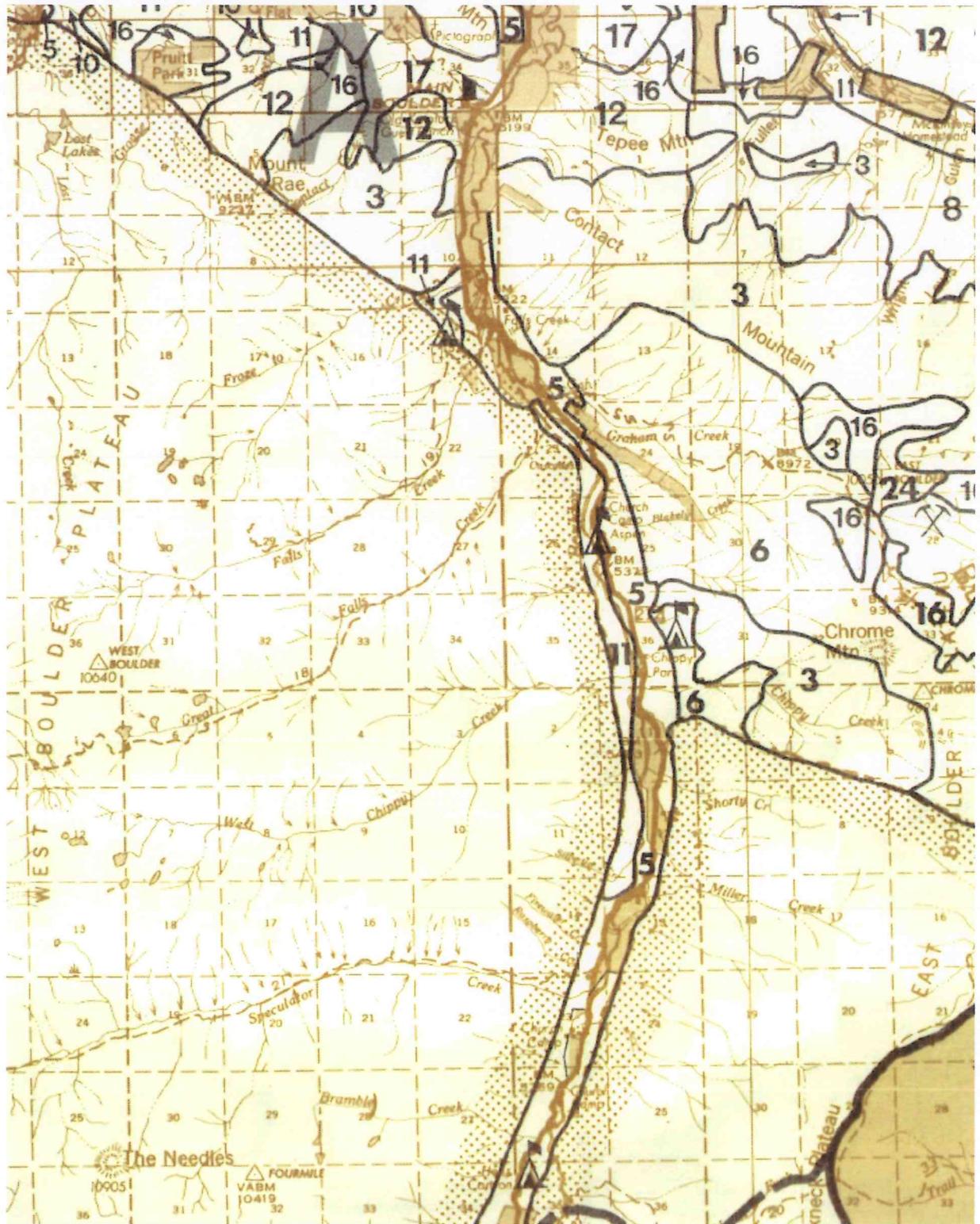


STATE	PROJECT	SHEET NUMBER
MT	SWEETGRASS FLD(1)	D.10





# Management Areas Custer Gallatin National Forest



**MANAGEMENT AREA 1** (1,483 acres)

These areas include all developed campgrounds, picnic areas, boat ramps, and visitor information sites plus potential developed sites.

**Forest Plan Amendment #29, OTO Ranch Amendment**

**Forest Plan, management area map, amended 1/27/06 via the Decision Notice for the Gallatin Forest Plan Amendment, Northern Yellowstone Winter Range Acquisition, OTO Tract.**

This amendment applies to 3,265 acres of National Forest System land acquired in 1991 as part of the Northern Yellowstone Winter Range acquisition project. The amendment includes the application of the forest-wide direction from Chapter 2 of the Forest Plan and allocating the lands to appropriate management area (MA) designations (Forest Plan, Chapter 3). The following Forest Plan management area (MA) designations were applied to the OTO acquired lands:

Management Area	Acres Allocated	Percent of Total Acres
MA 1 Developed Recreation Site - Trailhead	2	Trace
MA 14 Grizzly Habitat/Big Game Winter Range	3,232	99
MA 26 Administrative Site - OTO Ranch	28	1
MA 26 Administrative Site – Lower Residence	2	Trace
MA 26 Administrative Site - Caretaker Residence	1	Trace
MA 7 Riparian Areas	Unmapped	-

Management goals for MA 1 are:

1. Maintain these sites and facilities for the safety and enjoyment of users.
2. Provide additional facilities where analysis shows the need.

In addition to the Forest-wide Standards in Chapter II, the following standards apply to this management area:

Resource Elements	Standards
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RECREATION	<del>Maintain existing recreation opportunities consistent with the rural and urban recreation opportunity spectrum classes.</del> <b>This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)</b>
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	<p>Specific site plans will guide the modification or construction of developed sites.</p> <p>Recreation activity scheduling will identify where new construction, modification, or closure will take place.</p> <p>Maintain developed sites to prevent deterioration.</p> <p>Provide facilities for the handicapped at selected camping and picnicking areas.</p>
VISUAL QUALITY	<p>The visual quality objectives range from partial retention to modification.</p>
WILDLIFE AND FISH	<p>Habitat improvement projects that are compatible with developed recreation use may be scheduled.</p> <p>Manage developed sites in occupied grizzly bear habitat to minimize the potential for human/grizzly bear confrontation. Follow the standards set out in the grizzly bear guidelines (Appendix G).</p>
RANGE	<p>Restrict livestock grazing to meet management area goals.</p>
TIMBER	<p>Classified as unsuitable for timber production</p> <p>Permit vegetative management to provide diverse vegetative patterns.</p> <p>Inspect sites annually to identify and remove hazard trees.</p>
WATER AND SOILS	<p>Keep individual camping units away from shorelines.</p> <p>Meet all State and Federal potable water and sanitation standards.</p>
MINERALS	<p>Common variety minerals permits will not be issued.</p> <p>Evaluate withdrawal from mineral entry based on the criteria in Appendix D.</p>

Surface occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development will not be permitted within this management area or within 500 feet of the management area boundary.

FACILITIES

~~Design, construct, reconstruct, and maintain roads and trails consistent with management area goals.~~ This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)

FIRE

~~The wildfire suppression response will be control.~~ This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #49, the Fire Management Amendment (9/2011), and replaced with the following:

“One or more fire management strategies may be considered and implemented for any unplanned wildland fire to achieve a variety of resource management objectives, while minimizing negative effects to life, investments and valuable resources. Fire management strategies for unplanned wildland fire will be responsive to the goals and objectives described for each management area as specified in the Forest Plan.”

Avoid use of heavy equipment.

Prescribed fire may be used to meet management area goals.

Emphasize fire prevention contacts.

Schedule of Management Practices		<u>Average Annual</u>	
		1 <sup>st</sup> Decade	2 <sup>nd</sup> Decade
FACILITIES	Site Construction/ Reconstruction	10 Family Units	10 Family Units
WILDLIFE	Habitat Improvement	10 Structures	10 Structures

The monitoring requirements from Chapter IV that are applicable to the management area are as follows. The procedures outlined in Chapter IV will be followed to evaluate the data gathered during monitoring.

Monitoring Requirements - See Chapter IV, Table IV-1 for monitoring activities

3, 6, 9, 15

**MANAGEMENT (29,913 acres)**  
**AREA 5**

These areas are travel corridors that receive heavy recreation use. Areas included are portions of the Gallatin Canyon, Boulder River, Yankee Jim Canyon, highway U.S. 212 in the Cooke City vicinity, highways U.S. 191 and 287 in the West Yellowstone vicinity, and areas adjacent to Hebgen Lake and Hyalite Reservoir.

**Amendment #3, Hyalite MA Amendment**

**Forest Plan Management Area Map, amended 3/20/90**

This amendment changed 255 acres of Management Area (MA) 8, 644 acres of MA 11, 149 acres of MA 12, and 425 acres of MA 17 around Hodgeman Canyon and Leverich Cr. Along the east face of Hyalite Canyon, Bozeman Ranger District, to MA 5.

*Note: A map of other reference documentation for this amendment has not been located as of August 2012.*

Management goals for MA 5 are:

1. Maintain and improve the wildlife habitat values and the natural attractiveness of these areas to provide opportunities for public enjoyment and safety.
2. Allow a level of timber harvest consistent with goal 1.

In addition to the Forest-wide Standards in Chapter II, the following standards apply to this management area:

Resource Elements	Standards
RECREATION	<p><del>Manage these areas to provide roaded recreation opportunities in a natural appearing forest setting. The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classes are roaded natural appearing and roaded modified. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)</del></p> <p>Provide public access such as trails or boat landings to lakes and rivers.</p> <p>Provide interpretive signs and visitor information.</p>
VISUAL QUALITY	<p>The visual quality objectives will be retention or partial retention.</p>

## WILDLIFE AND FISH

Habitat improvement projects consistent with management area goals may be scheduled.

Manage developed sites in occupied grizzly bear habitat to minimize the potential for human/grizzly bear confrontation. Follow the standards set out in the grizzly bear guidelines (Appendix G).

Maintain and enhance osprey and bald eagle feeding, perching, and nesting trees (e.g., Quake/Hebgen Lake Complex).

Inventory and manage suitable nesting territories for peregrine falcon.

## RANGE

Continue livestock grazing in existing allotments.

Manage grazing to minimize conflicts with recreation uses.

Grazing use within occupied grizzly bear habitat will be guided by the directions in the grizzly bear guidelines (Appendix G).

## TIMBER

This area is classified as suitable for timber production.

Manage to provide a diverse vegetative pattern.

Include even-aged and uneven-aged harvest method systems. The standards for harvest methods are in Appendix A-1.

Shape and scale even-aged openings to replicate natural openings.

Permit commercial and precommercial thinning if it enhances the recreational values of the area.

A natural mix of species is desirable. Use species variety to improve visual quality.

Actively control tree damaging agents.

## WATER AND SOILS

Continue to manage Hebgen reservoir in accordance with its Federal Power Commission license.

Meet all State and Federal potable water and sanitation standards.

## MINERALS

Permits for the excavation of sand and gravel may be issued where compatible with management area goals.

	Evaluate withdrawal from mineral entry based on the criteria in Appendix D.
	Surface occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development will not be permitted in 100-year floodplains or within 500 feet of the high water mark.
	Require plans of operation for mining activity.
LANDOWNERSHIP	Areas identified in recreation composite plans will be given high priority for acquisition.
	Emphasize acquisition of access to rivers and lakes.
FACILITIES	<del>Design, construct, reconstruct, and maintain roads and trails consistent with management area goals and traffic demands. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)</del>
	<del>Coordinate with other agencies to improve roads under their jurisdiction to achieve the goals of this management area. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)</del>
FIRE	<del>The wildfire suppression response will be control or contain, utilizing procedures which minimize soil disturbance.</del>
	<del>The confine response may be used early and late in the fire season.</del>
	This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #49, the Fire Management Amendment (9/2011), and replaced with the following:
	“One or more fire management strategies may be considered and implemented for any unplanned wildland fire to achieve a variety of resource management objectives, while minimizing negative effects to life, investments and valuable resources. Fire management strategies for unplanned wildland fire will be responsive to the goals and objectives described for each management area as specified in the Forest Plan.”

**MANAGEMENT (57,491 acres)**  
**AREA 11**

These areas consist of forested big game habitat. They include productive forest lands that are available for timber harvest, provided that big game habitat objectives are met.

**Amendment #3, Hyalite MA Amendment**

**Forest Plan Management Area Map, amended 3/20/90**

This amendment changed 255 acres of Management Area (MA) 8, 644 acres of MA 11, 149 acres of MA 12, and 425 acres of MA 17 around Hodgman Canyon and Leverich Cr. along the east face of Hyalite Canyon, Bozeman Ranger District, to MA 5.

*Note: A map or other reference documentation for this amendment has not been located as of the date of this Amendment Summary.*

Management goals for MA 11 are:

1. Maintain elk habitat effectiveness following timber harvest.
2. Base vegetative management on vegetative characteristics needed for featured wildlife species.
3. Allow a level of timber harvest consistent with goals 1 and 2.
4. Meet State water quality standards and maintain stream stability.

In addition to the Forest-wide Standards in Chapter II, the following standards apply to this management area:

Resource Elements	Standards
RECREATION	<p><del>Recreation Opportunity Spectrum classes are roaded natural appearing and roaded modified. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)</del></p> <p><del>A variety of dispersed recreation activities are compatible with the management area goals. Winter recreation activities will not be allowed on important winter range when they disrupt big game use. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)</del></p>

Dispersed recreation opportunities will be provided with moderate levels of investment in trail and recreational road maintenance, trailhead facilities, and, in the event of disruption from timber harvest activities, trail relocation.

~~Trailhead facilities will be installed as necessary to disperse use throughout the area.~~ This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)

VISUAL QUALITY

The visual quality objectives range from partial retention to modification.

WILDLIFE AND FISH

Resource area analysis will identify vegetative characteristics and habitat effectiveness for featured species.

RANGE

On big game winter range, meet big game forage needs before making forage allocations to livestock.

Base allocation of big game summer range forage on range allotment analysis.

TIMBER

Classified as suitable for timber production.

Design timber harvest on big game winter ranges to enhance winter range capability.

Include even-aged and uneven-aged harvest method systems.

Design even-aged openings so no point is more than 600 feet from cover.

Use the following guidelines for scheduling timber sales, unless the vegetative characteristics established for elk indicate otherwise.

1. Duration of Activity

Restrict sale activities to no longer than five (5) consecutive years.

2. Re-entry

a. A minimum of two (2) years inactivity following 1-3 years of consecutive

activity - or - a minimum of five (5) years following 4-5 years of consecutive activity.

b. Re-entry should not occur unless 40 percent or more of the drainage can be maintained in cover (20% hiding, 10% thermal, +10% in either hiding or thermal cover) distributed throughout the drainage. Refer to the glossary in the final Forest Plan for the definition of thermal and hiding cover

### 3. . Security Areas

Provide security areas immediately adjacent to the influence zone of the project area on a site-by-site basis. Security areas typically should be 5,000 acres or larger, contain a similar complement of vegetative habitat components that existed in the influence zone, and be in areas that are roadless or where open road density is one mile per square mile or less. Roadless areas may be managed to meet this objective by imposing road use restrictions needed to meet elk hunter opportunity objectives.

No commercial thinning is planned.

A natural mix of species is desirable.

See Appendix A-1 for standards on "Duration of Opening" for wildlife management areas.

Precommercial thinning may be used to provide rapid growth of trees for wildlife thermal cover.

Leave tolerant tree species, which occur as an understory in sapling stands, during precommercial thinning to promote multi-storied stands.

Prescribe stocking densities to maintain hiding cover characteristics.

Actively control tree damaging agents.

WATER AND SOILS Evaluate the Equivalent Clearcut Area (ECA) procedure to evaluate hydrologic conditions. ~~This standard was removed through Forest Plan Amendment #17, 2/26/93~~

MINERALS See Forest-wide Standards in Chapter II.

FACILITIES ~~Locate roads and trails to avoid important wildlife areas such as wallows, licks, calving, and fawning areas. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)~~

~~Implement road use restrictions to achieve an elk habitat effectiveness level of at least 60 or a specified elk hunter opportunity objective. This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #45, The Gallatin National Travel Management Plan Record of Decision (10/30/2006)~~

FIRE ~~The wildfire suppression response will be control.~~

~~Contain or confine responses may be used before and after the fire season.~~

~~This standard was removed from the Forest Plan via Amendment #49, the Fire Management Amendment (9/2011), and replaced with the following:~~

~~“One or more fire management strategies may be considered and implemented for any unplanned wildland fire to achieve a variety of resource management objectives, while minimizing negative effects to life, investments and valuable resources. Fire management strategies for unplanned wildland fire will be responsive to the goals and objectives described for each management area as specified in the Forest Plan.”~~

Prescribed fire may be used to meet management area goals.

Schedule of Management Practices		1 <sup>st</sup> Decade	<u>Average Annual</u> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Decade
WILDLIFE	Habitat Improvement	175 Acres	175 Acres
TIMBER	Timber Harvest	470 Acres	470 Acres

	Reforestation	470 Acres	470 Acres
	Timber Stand Improvement	350 Acres	350 Acres
RANGE	Noxious Weeds	100 Acres	100 Acres
FACILITIES	Road Construction/ Reconstruction	10 Miles	10 Miles

The monitoring requirements from Chapter IV that are applicable to the management area as follows. The procedures outlined in Chapter IV will be followed to evaluate the data gathered during monitoring.

Monitoring Requirements – See Chapter IV, Table IV-1 for monitoring activities  
3, 6, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16

Main Report

- BEAVERHEAD
- Big Horn
- BLAINE
- BROADWATER
- CARBON
- CARTER
- CASCADE
- CHOUTEAU
- CLUSTER
- DANIELS
- DAWSON
- DEER LODGE
- FALLON
- FERGUS
- FLATHEAD
- GALLATIN
- GARFIELD
- GLACIER
- GOLDEN VALLEY
- GRANITE
- HILL
- JEFFERSON
- JUDITH BASIN
- LAKE
- LEWIS AND CLARK
- LIBERTY
- LINCOLN
- MADISON
- MCCONE
- MEAGHER
- MINERAL
- MISSOULA
- MULTI-COUNTY
- MUSSELSHELL
- Park
- PETROLEUM
- Phillips
- PLANNING
- PONDERA
- POWDER RIVER
- POWELL
- PRAIRIE
- RAVALLI
- RICHLAND
- ROOSEVELT
- ROSEBUD
- SANDERS
- SHERIDAN
- SILVER BOW
- STILLWATER
- SWEET GRASS
- TETON
- Toole
- TREASURE
- VALLEY
- WHEATLAND
- WIBAUX
- YELLOWSTONE

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Land & Water Conservation Fund  
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Detailed Listing of Grants Grouped by County  
---  
MONTANA - 30

Today's Date: 6/30/2015

Page: 49

Grant ID & Element	Type	Grant Element Title	Grant Sponsor	Amount	Status	Date Approved	Exp. Date	Cong. District
<b>SWEET GRASS</b>								
145 - XXX	A	HORSESHOE LAKE/FERNDAL E FAS	STATE OF MONTANA	\$36,457.68	C	10/20/1970	12/31/1972	1
212 - XXX	A	BOULDER RIVER FAS A/	STATE OF MONTANA	\$31,800.00	C	9/13/1972	12/31/1973	1
283 - XXX	C	GREYCLIFF - NATURAL AREA	STATE OF MONTANA	\$16,857.66	C	6/26/1974	12/31/1980	1
291 - XXX	D	BIG ROCK FAS /D	STATE OF MONTANA	\$7,052.73	C	6/17/1974	12/31/1978	1
298 - H	D	HORSESHOE LAKE/FERNDAL E FAS	STATE OF MONTANA	\$8,316.76	C	6/21/1974	12/31/1978	1
299 - Q	A	MASTER-STATEWIDE-FISHING ACCESS/A	STATE OF MONTANA	\$55,552.85	C	6/21/1974	12/31/1978	1
351 - XXX	C	SWEET GRASS CO. OVERLAND GOLF COURSE	SWEET GRASS COUNTY	\$176,349.51	C	4/7/1976	12/31/1980	1
386 - XXX	A	HORSESHOE LAKE/FERNDAL E FAS	STATE OF MONTANA	\$53,655.00	C	1/25/1977	12/31/1979	1
418 - XXX	D	NATURAL BRIDGE	STATE OF MONTANA	\$57,721.99	C	9/22/1977	12/31/1980	1
509 - XXX	D	BOULDER FORKS F.A.S. /D	STATE OF MONTANA	\$10,492.65	C	4/20/1979	12/31/1984	1
526 - XXX	D	HORSESHOE LAKE/FERNDAL E FAS	STATE OF MONTANA	\$13,525.20	C	7/25/1979	12/31/1984	1
590 - XXX	D	GREY BEAR BOAT ACCESS	STATE OF MONTANA	\$10,434.39	C	8/19/1981	12/31/1986	1
<b>SWEET GRASS County Total:</b>				<b>\$478,216.42</b>		<b>County Count:</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>TETON</b>								
33 - XXX	D	FAIRFIELD CITY PARK	CITY OF FAIRFIELD	\$1,734.34	C	9/9/1966	7/1/1971	1
43 - XXX	D	DUTTON CITY PARK	CITY OF DUTTON	\$40,464.83	C	6/30/1967	8/1/1968	1
430 - XXX	C	DUTTON CITY PARK II	CITY OF DUTTON	\$7,599.01	C	2/10/1978	12/31/1981	1
642 - XXX	R	CHOTEAU MINI PARK RECREATIONAL COMPLEX IMPROVEMENT	CITY OF CHOTEAU	\$9,203.75	C	9/15/2000	12/31/2005	0
<b>TETON County Total:</b>				<b>\$59,001.93</b>		<b>County Count:</b>		<b>4</b>