



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Butte Field Office
106 North Parkmont
Butte, Montana 59701-9701
www.blm.gov/mt



In Reply Refer To:

September 2, 2025

Sale Date

Big Hole West Timber Sale

Name of Sale

BIG HOLE WEST TIMBER SALE PROSPECTUS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Bureau of Land Management will offer for sale timber as described below for SEALED BID pursuant to instructions to bidders on reverse side of DEPOSIT AND BID FOR VEGETATIVE RESOURCE (lump sum sale and suitable for use on **weighed/scaled sales**) form 5440-9, attached. SEALED BIDS will be received by the Field Office Manager or her representative until 4:30 p.m., on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at the Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701. Sealed bids will be opened on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at the Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, Montana. Information on bidding may be obtained after 2 p.m. The high bidder will be notified by phone and mail.

BIG HOLE WEST TIMBER SALE: IN SILVER BOW COUNTY: MONTANA: PUBLIC LAND:
SEALED BIDS: Minimum Bid deposit required is \$5,800, (representing approximately 10% of the appraised value). All timber designated for cutting within portions of Section 13-15, 21-25; T1N R11W, PMM. Sale estimate is 28,995 Tons (4,189 MBF) of Tonwood (All Products/All Species). All Tonwood will be weighed and paid for on a bi-monthly basis. The duration of this sale for removal of timber is 36 months.

Big Hole West Timber Sale

General Bid information:

The project area is located on Public Lands in Silver Bow County, approximately 3 miles north of Wise River, MT, (see enclosed Timber Sale Location Map).

The government has not done a formal economic appraisal to determine stumpage values. Prospective purchasers are urged to make their own appraisals.

The duration of this sale for removal of timber is 36 months.

All timber offered for sale hereunder is restricted from export from the United States in the form of unprocessed timber.

The following information pertains to all merchantable trees, both green and dead: Species composition ~94% Douglas-fir, 6% Lodgepole pine. The average Douglas-fir is 12.9" DBH, the average lodgepole pine is 8.7" DBH; both species have been cruised to a 6" top diameter. **This sale is being sold as a Single Product sale (Tonwood) with one bid price for all species. Below is an estimate of the products included as Tonwood to allow for more accurate bidding.**

Product	Approx. No. Merch. Trees	Estimated Total NET Volume		Appraised Price per TON	Minimum Purchase Price
		TONS	MBF		
Sawtimber (Green)	75,776	23,445	3,335	\$1.98	\$46,421
Rails (Green & Dead)	N/A	650	N/A	\$1.98	\$1,287
POL	N/A	4,900	N/A	\$1.98	\$9,702
Totals		28,995 Tons			\$57,410

The volume listed above is an estimate and is not guaranteed. Cruise information is on file and available for inspection at the BLM, Butte Field Office. Bidders are urged to examine the timber sale to make their own estimates. **A tour of the sale area is scheduled for: September 17, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.** Meet on the Jerry Creek Fishing Access (45.78477, -112.91483). **All prospective bidders are encouraged to attend the site tour to examine the sale area and discuss contract requirements in detail prior to submitting bids.** No sale shall be made for less than the total appraised price.

This sale is being sold based on the gross weight of all species/products. Minimum price and bid price are on a per ton basis. Unless specified, the price applies to all species/products, green and dead. **Bids should only include one line item for all products, referred to as TONWOOD.** Billing will be based on gross weight. A weight ticket from a certified scale is required for each load hauled, unless approved by the Authorized Officer's Representative.

Access to the sale area is via State Highway 43 and the United States Forest Service (USFS) Jerry Creek Road. The BLM does not guarantee access to the timber sale, the Purchase must abide by the USFS Road Use Permit, available for review at the BLM – Butte Field Office. The Purchaser will submit a "Plan of Operations" for approval prior to beginning operations. The plan shall include (but not be limited to) a logging plan and measures needed to assure protection of the environment, watershed, structures, and mitigation of safety hazards in the area.

Special Provisions:

The BLM contract contains many special provisions including, but not limited to the following:

1. Contract activity will be restricted to periods of dry, frozen or snow-covered ground. The contract area will be closed to commercial woods operations (including all harvesting, processing, and hauling operations) each year beginning May 1-June 30 and weekends (Saturday & Sunday) between September 6 – November 30 inclusive to minimize disturbance during elk calving and hunting season. Woods operations are also prohibited during wet periods that would result in 4” or greater ruts.
2. The sale will be implemented under a “Cut and Leave Tree Designation by Description” method (attached). At the discretion of the Authorized Officer’s Representative (AOR), the Purchaser may be required to “Leave Tree” mark and get written approval from the AOR prior to continuing with woods operations.
3. The sale will be implemented in a 2 Phase approach. The sale area is divided into 2 Phases by Jimmie New Creek (West – Phase 1, East – Phase 2). The Purchaser will only be allowed to harvest and process in one Phase at a time. This Phased approach is to reduce disturbance within the project area.
4. Timber Harvest and Encroachment Boundaries are digital boundaries. The Purchaser and their equipment operators will be required to use digital mapping for all operations. BLM will provide the data. Ownership boundaries (both USFS and DNRC) are marked.
5. The BLM does not guarantee access to the timber sale. The BLM has coordinated with the USFS for the use of the Jerry Creek Road. The Purchaser will be required to abide by the USFS Road Use Permit, and coordinate the use of the Jerry Creek Road with both BLM and USFS.
6. The Purchaser shall be required to follow all Utilization/Recovery Standards found in the attachment.
7. The Purchaser must follow the BHW Alternative Practice, a copy will be available to review during the scheduled site tour.
8. Skid trails and landing locations will be designated by the Authorized Officer prior to use.
9. All heavy equipment and any other off-road equipment except for log trucks and personal vehicles shall be power washed to reduce the potential for transporting noxious/invasive weeds. The Purchaser shall notify the AOR, who will inspect said equipment prior to entering the contract area. Power washing and inspection is required prior to returning for any equipment and other off-road equipment that has left the contract area.
10. The Purchaser is authorized construct up to 4 miles of temporary roads. All temporary road locations must be pre-approved by the AOR prior to felling timber and prior to construction/use. All temporary roads will be required to be fully recontoured after treatment, described below.

11. The Purchaser is authorized to use and improve existing woods roads (~13 miles), which are either closed or seasonally restricted, as Identified on the BLM – BFO travel management plan (available to review at BFO).
 - a. Prior to contract termination these existing roads will be maintained or rehabilitated to a condition similar to current conditions.
 - b. If jack-leg fence or signs are removed during operations, they will be reconstructed or replaced.
 - c. Maintenance/rehabilitation shall be done to the satisfaction of, and upon completion shall be approved in writing by the AOR.
 - d. All roads not included/shown on travel management plan “existing woods roads” which are utilized, will be treated as temporary roads and will be fully recontoured after treatment.
 - e. Additionally, ~0.6 miles of existing closed woods road will be required to be fully recontoured. And, if utilized, an additional 0.35 miles of existing closed woods road will be required to be fully recontoured.
12. All skid trails, landings, and temporary roads/trails will be reclaimed/rehabilitated after use to the standards described below:
 - i. Pull fill material including stumps and other woody debris back onto road prism and coarsely spread to meet the top of the cut;
 - ii. All berms removed;
 - iii. Travel way/landing ripped/scarified;
 - iv. Woody debris and other native vegetation mixed into the soil and spread within the original travel way;
 - v. Water diversions as designated by the AOR;
 - vi. Erosion control work must be kept current with unit operations and shall commence as soon as skidding is completed on each skid trail and when landings and temporary roads/trails are no longer in use;
 - vii. Temporary culverts removed;
 - viii. All reclamation/rehabilitation will be completed prior to contract termination and to the satisfaction of the AOR.
13. Final and Intermittent road maintenance on all Permanent reconstructed and existing roads authorized for use under the terms of this contract may be required to be done with a motor patrol grader.
14. Prior to log hauling (unless approved by the AOR), the Purchaser is required to perform road culvert maintenance and dust abatement described below:
 - a. All activities as described in the USFS Road Use Agreement, including, but not limited to:
 - i. Road reconditioning
 - ii. Dust abatement: calcium chloride
 - iii. Culvert removal and installation
 - iv. Maintenance as identified
 - b. Perform culvert maintenance on the Tie Creek Road, approximately 1-3 per mile.
 - i. Remove vegetation and soil buildup around inlets and outlets to provide free drainage.
 - ii. Catch basin clearances should have a 4' basin between inlet and back of catch basin.
 - iii. Slope of sidehill surrounding catch basin should be 1/1.

15. Prior to contract **approval** a performance bond in the amount of the 20 percent of the total purchase price (rounded up to the nearest \$100) along with a first installment of not less than 10% of the purchase price (rounded up to the nearest \$1,000) will be required. Prior to **cutting and removal** of any timber an additional installment of not less than 10% (rounded up to the nearest \$1,000) of the purchase price will be required.

Conclusion

This timber sale notice and prospectus is provided to furnish sufficient information, in addition to that contained in the published advertisement, to enable prospective bidders to decide whether further investigation of the sale is warranted. Descriptions, estimates, and other data in this prospectus are not part of the contract unless otherwise stated. If the prospectus and attachments are in error or contradicts the contract, the contract governs.

A copy of the timber sale contract form along with all exhibits and pertinent information is available for inspection at the Butte Field Office, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701. For additional information, please contact Michael O'Brien at 406-533-7643.

Attachments: Form 5440-9..... Deposit and Bid Form
 Form 5450-17..... Export Determination
 Form 5460-17..... Substitution Determination
 Timber Sale Location Map
 Timber Sale Unit Map
 Cut and Leave Tree Designation by Description
 Utilization and Recovery Standards