



Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
Trust Land Management Division
Forest Management Program



Montana DNRC Forested State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan

January 11th, 2017
Incorporating Environmental Strategy into State Land Portfolios
Rogers, AR

- 1783 End of Revolutionary War
- 1785 General Land Ordinance
- 1787 Northwest Ordinance



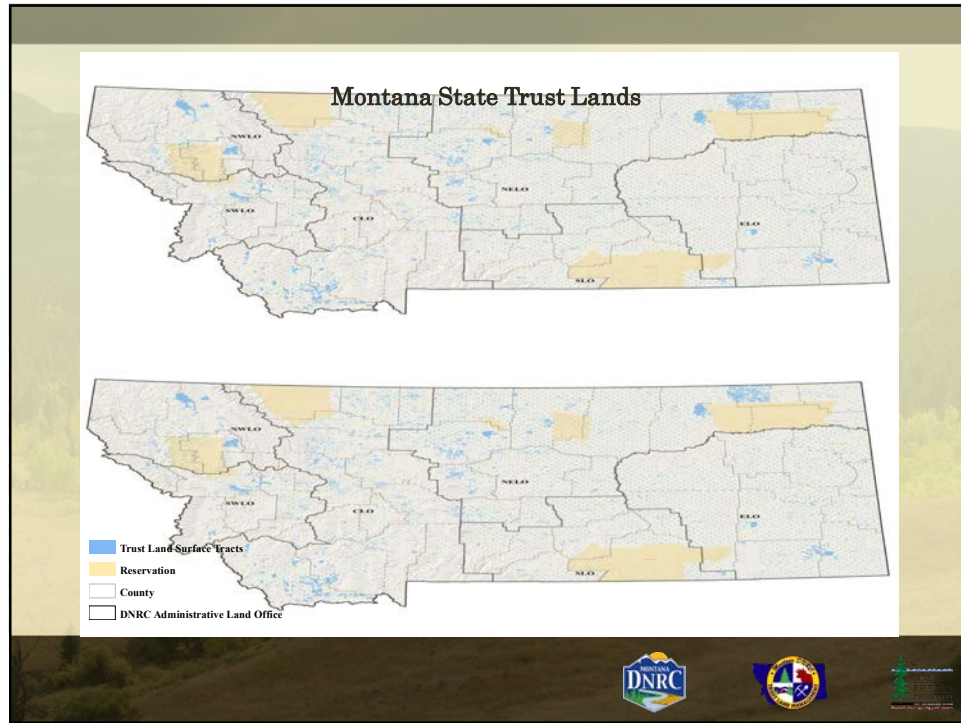
Credit: Montana Genealogy



Credit: Derek Baker

- 1889 Montana Statehood Enabling Act









Montana DNRC Forested State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan



Credit: USFWS

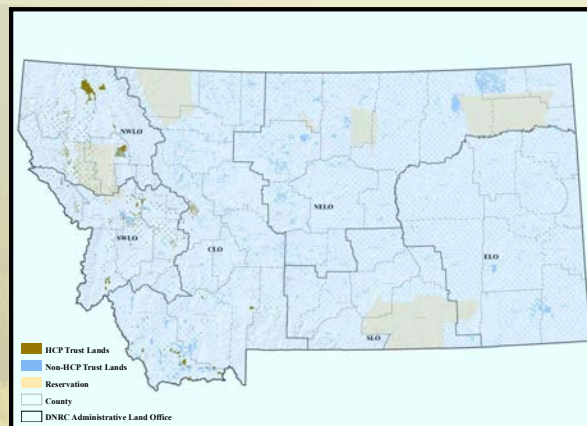




What did we do?

ESA Section 10

- Habitat Conservation Plan and Incidental Take Permit
- Forest Management Activities
- Grizzly Bear, Canada Lynx, Bull Trout, Westlope Cutthroat Trout, and Columbia Redband Trout
- 50-Year Term





Why did we do it?

Anticipated Benefits

- Clearly identify thresholds for avoiding take
- Acquire access to state lands across federal ownership
- Provide assurances for sustained forest management of state trust lands
- Access to lands currently unavailable for management





Development of the HCP

- Best available science
- Partnership with USFWS
- Long and costly development process
- Negotiations with the USFWS
- Impact on existing program



Implementation of the HCP

- Capable staff
- Complex yet clear and vetted conservation strategies
- Contribution to delisting
- Assurances
- Partnership with the USFWS
- Litigation
- Cumbersome processes

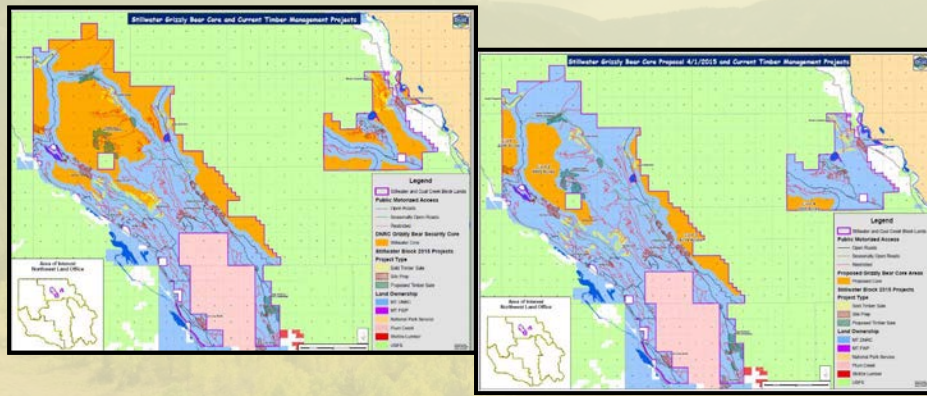


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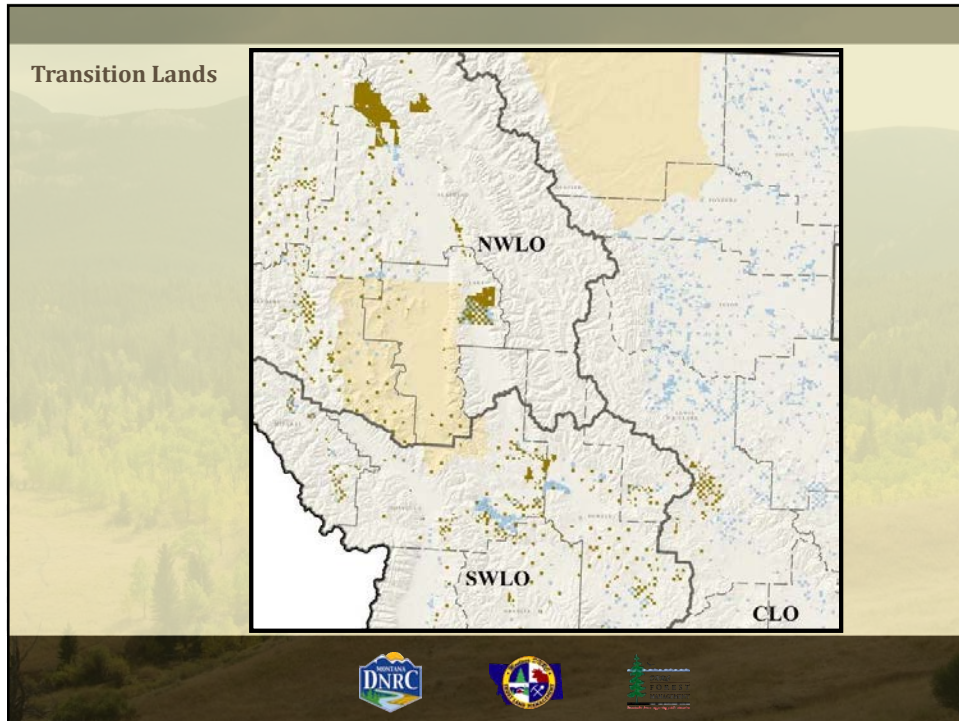
Friends of the Wild Swan et al. v. S.M.R Jewell 2016



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Effectiveness and Lessons Learned

- No influence on access situations
- Limited access to lands
- Certainty/Uncertainty
- Full implementation of the HCP
- Ongoing and future changes to the HCP
- Administrative Rules/Plans v. HCP
- Other conservation strategies
- Avoid listing



Effectiveness and Lessons Learned

- Identify clear need for HCP
- Right-size the project
- Dedicated staff for development
- Anticipate time, costs, and implementation
- Provide for processes to make changes into the future



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QUESTIONS?



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