

Dear Bozeman Chronicle Editor:

Although the Montana constitution still requires the state to log State Trust Lands each year for the monetary benefit of schools, I have great concern for the CHOICE the DNRC has made this time to log part of the Triple Tree Trail and the old-growth forest to the east, which they call "Limestone West" (Google it for more information). Furthermore, DNRC plans to carve out 12 miles of new logging roads in this extremely steep terrain to proceed with logging. Some of the many reasons DNRC's choice to log this area, which is a stone's throw from Bozeman, must not proceed are:

- Triple Tree Trail is one of the most highly used trails in Bozeman.
- Limestone Creek, which Triple Tree Trail crosses, has its headwaters in the only roadless old-growth Douglas Fir and Lodge pole forest left near Bozeman.
- Limestone Creek canyon is a wildlife corridor for Bozeman's local herd of 150 elk, whose calving grounds spread out north from the edge of this old-growth forest.
- This targeted old-growth forest borders on State Forest that has a critical habitat designation due to the endangered Canada Lynx.
- The Geology of the designated logging area is fragile and the terrain is steep: Several large slides of earth have already sloughed off.
- The beauty of Bozeman and the viewshed of thousands of Bozeman residents and visitors will be seriously marred by the clear cutting planned.

A rapidly growing contingency of Bozeman residents and recreationists are opposed to the logging of "Limestone West." See more information at our website: savelimestonewest.org. If you are also concerned, we need your help. Please attend the DNRC meeting on June 23rd, 7-9pm, 2273 Boothill Ct, #110 to show your support for stopping this logging and road-building project, which is wrong for Bozeman.

Sincerely, Kate Cremer-Vogel