

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
COVER LETTER	
SUMMARY	
CHAPTER 1 PURPOSE AND NEED	1-1
Introduction.....	1-1
Project Area	1-5
Regulatory Direction	1-5
Purpose and Need for Action.....	1-7
Proposed Action.....	1-8
CHAPTER 2 ALTERNATIVES.....	2-1
Introduction.....	2-1
Public Involvement Process.....	2-1
Significant Issues.....	2-1
Concerns.....	2-2
Issues and Alternatives Not Studied in Detail.....	2-2
Alternatives Considered in Detail	2-4
CHAPTER 3 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	3-24
Introduction.....	3-24
Soil Resources.....	3-24
Water Resources	3-26
Wildlife	3-33
Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.....	3-43
Vegetation.....	3-46
Wilderness and Inventoried Roadless Areas	3-51
Wild and Scenic Rivers.....	3-53
Recreation	3-56
Research Natural Areas.....	3-59
Cultural Resources	3-60
Socio-Economics and Environmental Justice.....	3-61
Human Health and Safety	3-63
CHAPTER 4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES	4-1
Introduction.....	4-1
Soil Resources.....	4-3
Water Resources	4-7
Wildlife	4-17
Fisheries And Aquatic Resources.....	4-41
Vegetation.....	4-49
Wilderness and Inventoried Roadless Areas	4-62
Wild and Scenic Rivers.....	4-68
Recreation	4-69
Research Natural Areas.....	4-70
Cultural Resources	4-71
Socioeconomics and Environmental justice	4-73
Human Health and Safety	4-75
CHAPTER 5 CONSULTATION, COORDINATION AND PREPARATION.....	5-1
DEIS Mailing List.....	5-3

CHAPTER 6 REFERENCES	6-1
Index	6-16

APPENDICES

- APPENDIX A - Proposed Treatment Acreage By Watershed.
 APPENDIX B - Scientific Names Of Plant, Fish, And Wildlife Species Used In The Document.
 APPENDIX C - Spill Plan And Procedures.
 APPENDIX D - FSM 2080 RI Supplement – Noxious Weed Management.
 APPENDIX E - RAVE/Site Evaluation Form.
 APPENDIX F - Procedures For Mixing, Loading, And Disposal Of Pesticides.

LIST OF TABLES

PAGE

TABLE 1-1 Comparison of Weed Management Methods	1-5
TABLE 1-2 Alternative A Weed Treatment by Landscape Area	1-9
TABLE 1-3 Alternative A Weed Treatment by Landscape Area	1-10
TABLE 2-1 Alternative A Weed Treatment by Landscape Area*	2-5
TABLE 2-2 Alternative B Weed Treatment by Landscape Area*	2-7
TABLE 2-3 Alternative C - Weed Treatment by Landscape Area	2-8
TABLE 2-4 Environmental Protection Measures	2-12
TABLE 2-5 Picloram Treatment Acre Thresholds* in Sensitive Watersheds – Fall Treatments	2-15
TABLE 2-6 Herbicide Application Rates and Timing	2-16
TABLE 2-7 Herbicide and Target Weed Species	2-17
TABLE 2-8 Biological Control Agents	2-18
TABLE 2-9 Meeting the Purpose and Need	2-22
TABLE 2-10 Addressing Significant Issues	2-22
TABLE 2-11 Addressing Public Concerns	2-23
TABLE 3-1 Montana’s Water Quality Standards for Herbicides	3-28
TABLE 3-2 Physical Setting of Representative Watersheds	3-29
TABLE 3-3 Areas for Representative Watersheds	3-30
TABLE 3-4 Stream Distance for Representative Watersheds	3-31
TABLE 3-5 Impaired Water Bodies for Representative Watersheds	3-32
TABLE 3-6 Helena National Forest Special Status Wildlife Species	3-37
TABLE 3-7 Fish Species Distribution on Helena NF	3-45
TABLE 3-8 Percent of Landscapes by Vegetation Cover Types	3-48
TABLE 3-9 Predominant Weed* Infestations Acres in Landscape Areas	3-50
TABLE 3-10 Habitat of Sensitive Plants Documented or Potentially Present	3-51
TABLE 3-11 Sensitive Plants Documented for the Helena National Forest	3-51
TABLE 3-12 Recommended Wilderness Areas and Weed Infestation	3-53
TABLE 3-13 IRAs and Weed Infestation by Landscape Area	3-54
TABLE 3-14 Current Weed Infestation In WSR Corridor	3-56
TABLE 3-15 Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within Weed Infestation Areas	3-61
TABLE 3-16 Population by County, 2000	3-62
TABLE 3-17 Industry Employees – Lewis and Clark, Jefferson and Broadwater Counties, 2000	3-62
TABLE 3-18 Industry Employees – Meagher and Powell Counties, 2000	3-63
TABLE 3-19 Household Income (1999) and Unemployment (2002)	3-63
TABLE 3-20 Weed Control Methods and Costs	3-63

TABLE 4-1	Reasonably Foreseeable Activities Considered in Cumulative Effects	4-2
TABLE 4-2	Ongoing Activities Considered in Cumulative Effects	4-3
TABLE 4-3	General Characteristics of Herbicides to be Used	4-5
TABLE 4-4	Calculated Surface Water Flow and Sensitivity Issues by Watershed	4-10
TABLE 4-5	Effects of Each of the 12 Herbicides and Phase Surfactant.....	4-28
TABLE 4-6	Level of Concern for Chemical Use Using the Risk Quotient Method	4-43
TABLE 4-7	6 th Code HUCs Exceeding the Picloram Modeling Safety Factor	4-46
TABLE 4-8	Non-Target Plant Susceptibility to Picloram, Dicamba, 2,4-D, and Clopyralid	4-50
TABLE 4-9	Alternative A Herbicide Treatments by IRA.....	4-62
TABLE 4-10	Alternative B Herbicide Treatments by IRA	4-64
TABLE 4-11	Alternative C Herbicide Treatments by IRA	4-65
TABLE 4-12	Summary of Herbicide Treatments in IRAs by Alternative.....	4-66
TABLE 4-13	Previously Recorded Cultural Resources Within Treatment Areas	4-71
TABLE 4-14	Weed Control Methods and Costs	4-72
TABLE 4-15	Alternative A Costs.....	4-73
TABLE 4-16	Alternative B Costs	4-74
TABLE 4-17	Alternative C Costs	4-74
TABLE 4-18	Comparison of Herbicide Toxicity	4-78

LIST OF FIGURES

CHAPTER 1 – FIGURES AT THE END OF CHAPTER

- FIGURE 1-1 Project Area
- FIGURE 1-2 Belts/Dry Range Landscape Area
- FIGURE 1-3 Elkhorn Landscape Area
- FIGURE 1-4 Blackfoot Landscape Area
- FIGURE 1-5 Continental Divide Landscape Area

CHAPTER 2 – FIGURES – FIGURES AT THE END OF CHAPTER

- FIGURE 2-1 Alternative A – Belts/Dry Range Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-1a Alternative A – Aerial Treatments, Belts/Dry Range Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-2 Alternative A – Elkhorn
- FIGURE 2-2a Alternative A – Aerial Treatments, Elkhorn Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-3 Alternative A – Blackfoot Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-3a Alternative A – Aerial Treatments, Blackfoot Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-4 Alternative A – Continental Divide
- FIGURE 2-4a Alternative A – Aerial Treatments, Continental Divide Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-5 Alternative B – Belts/Dry Range
- FIGURE 2-6 Alternative B – Elkhorn
- FIGURE 2-7 Alternative B – Blackfoot Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-8 Alternative B – Continental Divide
- FIGURE 2-9 Alternative C – Belts/Dry Range
- FIGURE 2-10 Alternative C – Elkhorn
- FIGURE 2-11 Alternative C – Blackfoot Landscape Area
- FIGURE 2-12 Alternative C – Continental Divide

LIST OF FIGURES (continued)**CHAPTER 3 – FIGURES AT THE END OF CHAPTER**

- FIGURE 3-1 6TH HUC Boundaries – Belts/Dry Range
- FIGURE 3-2 6th HUC Boundaries – Elkhorn Landscape Area
- FIGURE 3-3 6th HUC Boundaries – Blackfoot Landscape Area
- FIGURE 3-4 6th HUC Boundaries – Continental Divide landscape Area
- FIGURE 3-5 Bull Trout and Cutthroat Trout Fish Distribution - Belts/Dry Range
- FIGURE 3-6 Bull Trout and Cutthroat - Elkhorn
- FIGURE 3-7 Bull Trout and Cutthroat Trout Fish Distribution – Blackfoot
- FIGURE 3-8 Bull Trout and Cutthroat Trout Fish Distribution – Continental Divide
- FIGURE 3-9 Special Management Areas – Belts/Dry Range
- FIGURE 3-10 Special Management Areas – Blackfoot
- FIGURE 3-11 Special Management Areas – Continental Divide