

# PORTER MOUNT MANAGEMENT PROJECT

## Environmental Assessment

Flathead National Forest  
Swan Lake Ranger District  
Flathead County, Montana

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**Lead Agency:**

USDA Forest Service

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**Abstract:** This environmental assessment (EA) summarizes the analysis and potential effects of restoring forest health, reducing risk of wildfire near private property, and providing commercial and personal-use wood products for local communities. Activities addressing these needs would occur within the Porter Mount Management Project Area which is generally described as National Forest System lands located southwest of Kalispell, Montana, south of US Highway 2, east of Rogers Lake, northwest of Lake Mary Ronan, and west of Blacktail Ski Area. A proposed action was developed during the summer of 2007 to meet these needs described above. This proposed action (Alternative B) would remove at estimated 8.6 million board feet of forest products within 1421 acres, reforest harvest units by planting trees on 601 acres, reduce fuels on 1562 acres using a combination of commercial and non-commercial fuel treatments, construct 4.7 miles of temporary road to access commercial treatments units, and improve 61.5 miles of existing specified road through improvement activities. Alternative C was developed to address resource concerns with temporary road construction and harvest openings over 40 acres. Alternative C proposes timber harvest of an estimated 8.0 million board feet of forest products on 1339 acres, reforests harvest units by planting trees on 540 acres, reduces fuels on 1465 acres, constructs 0.9 miles of temporary roads, and improves 63.2 miles of existing specified road through improvement activities. In addition to these alternatives, a No Action Alternative (Alternative A) was also analyzed.

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