COMPLAINT

BUIRT OF DEFENCE COURT

Jon L. Heberling
McGARVEY, HEBERLING, SULLIVAN
& McGARVEY
745 South Main
Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 752-5566

BY DEPUTY

MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, FLATHEAD COUNTY

FRIENDS OF THE WILD SWAN, a Montana non-profit corporation,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS,

Defendant.

Cause No. DV- &9-073B

COMPLAINT

MICHAEL H. KEEDY

Plaintiff alleges:

- 1. Friends of the Wild Swan is a Montana non-profit corporation with its business address at Swan Lake, Montana.
- 2. The Department of State Lands is a political subdivision of the State of Montana. The Department of State Lands, Forestry and Field Operations Divisions, have the management responsibility for the school trust forest lands, under the general direction of the Board of Land Commissioners. For administrative purposes, the Department has divided the State geographically into six administrative areas. Each area is administered by a separate State Land Office organized and staffed to provide the needed support to the Department's programs. The Northwest Region office is located at Kalispell, Montana. The Northwest Region is directly responsible for supervision of the management of a number of forest units, including the Swan River State Forest Unit, located in the vicinity of the community of Swan Lake, Montana.
 - 3. Friends of the Wild Swan is a corporation dedicated

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Page 1

COMPLAINT

to conservation of the natural environment, including fisheries, wildlife, water quality, aesthetics, and recreational values, and promotes the local economy of the Swan Valley.

- 4. On April 23, 1987, the Swan River State Forest issued its preliminary environmental review on the Swan River Timber Sale, and thereafter the Board of Land Commissioners approved the sale.
- 5. On May 21, 1987, the Swan River State Forest first published notice of its decision to offer the Swan River Timber Sale.
- 6. On June 23, 1987, the Swan River State Forest entered a Timber Sale Agreement with Stoltz Lumber Company on the Swan River Timber Sale.
- Members of Friends of the Wild Swan reside in the Swan Valley and hunt, fish, hike, horseback ride, recreate in areas directly affected by activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale. Managers of the Swan River State Forest have taken the position that the State Forest is open to public access. Members of Friends of the Wild Swan use the Swan River for recreation adjacent to the area of the Swan River Timber Sale. Members of the Friends of the Wild Swan are engaged in occupations dependent on recreation and tourism, which are directly affected by activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale. Members of Friends of the Wild Swan own real property adjacent to the Swan River Timber Sale and their property values are directly affected by activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale. The Friends of the Wild Swan and its individual members are adversely affected by activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale complained of herein.

FIRST CLAIM -- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

1. All paragraphs above are incorporated by this reference.

COMPLAINT Page 2

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2. The Swan River Timber Sale is a connected action with all other Swan River State Forest management actions. The Swan River Timber Sale does not have a current or valid EIS to tier to, and accordingly in order to provide proper consideration of cumulative impacts under ARM 26.2.603(d), an EIS is required on the Swan River Timber Sale.

State Lands has recognized that the Swan Highway Corridor has a significant effect on the environment, in the interagency agreement dated _____.

3. The Swan River Timber Sale design violates the interagency agreement to protect the Swan Highway Corridor. As a result, the Swan River Timber Sale has a significant effect upon the environment, and an EIS is required under 8

SECOND CLAIM -- INADEQUATE PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- 1. All paragraphs above are incorporated by this reference.
- 2. The Preliminary Environmental Review on the Swan River Timber Sale is inadequate in its evaluation of effects on riparian wildlife areas, including habitat for the blue heron, bald eagle, pileated woodpecker and osprey, effects on grizzly bear habitat, old growth, water quality, the Swan Highway, recreation and economics. The Preliminary Environmental Review was issued and the Timber Sale Agreement was signed before a biological evaluation was ever done.
- 3. Areas including the site of the Swan River Timber Sale are currently under consideration by the Department of State Lands as a research natural area. The Preliminary Environmental Review omitted to consider the effects of clearcuts on research natural area status.

THIRD CLAIM -- ALTERNATIVE COURSES OF ACTION

1. All paragraphs above are incorporated by this reference.

Page 3

- 2. Pursuant to §75-1-201(1)(b)(iv), MCA, the State has a duty to study, develop and describe appropriate alternatives to recommend courses of action in any proposal which involves unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. The State has this duty whether or not an EIS is prepared.
- 3. In State Lands' decision to offer the Swan River Timber Sale, no alternatives were considered concerning old growth protection, grizzly bear and eagle habitat protection, fish and wildlife protection, protection of recreation revenues and the Research Natural Area, and harvest method alternatives. The no action alternative was not considered.
- 4. The Department of State Lands has violated clear legal duties. Mandamus should issue directing the Department of State Lands to study alternatives before taking further action.

MANDAMUS

- 1. By delivery of a draft complaint dated 6-1-88, Plaintiff demanded that the aprpoval of the Swan River Timber Sale be withdrawn. State Lands declined to do so.
- 2. Plaintiff has incurred legal fees and other expenses in bringing this action.

WHEREFORE plaintiff Friends of the Wild Swan prays relief against the defendant Department of State Lands as follows:

- 1. For an order setting aside the decision to offer the Swan River Timber Sale as void for reasons that an EIS was required, the PER was inadequate, and that alternative courses of action must be considered.
- 2. For a writ of mandate directing the Swan River State Forest to prepare a proper PER and EIS on the Swan River Timber Sale.
 - 3. For costs of suit, and

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1	4	For such further relief as the Court may deem just.
2	4.	
3		DATED this 14 day of February, 1989.
4		McGARVEY, HEBERLING, SULLIVAN
5		MCGARVEY, REBERTING, SUBLIVAN
6		In X. Helieling
7		Jon L. Heberling Counsel for Plaintiffs
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ORDER

1	MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL	CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT			
2	DISTRICT COURT,	1989 MAR 16 AM 8: 34			
3	FLATHEAD COUNTY	BY MILED DEPUTY			
5	FRIENDS OF THE WILD SWAN, a Montana non-profit)			
6	corporation,) No. DV-89-073 (B)			
7	Plaintiff,	ORDER			
8	Vs.)			
9	DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS,))			
10	Defendant.)			
11					
12	to intervene, together with a	per Company having filed a motion brief in support of the motion; dvised by counsel that the other			
13 14	and this Court having been advised by counsel that the other parties have no objection to said motion; and good cause appearing for said motion;				
15 16	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the motion of F. H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company to intervene in this action be, and is hereby, granted. F. H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company shall hereafter appear as a Defendant in this matter. F. H. Stoltze Land &				
17 18	Lumber Company is hereby granted permission to file that answer and counterclaim and demand for trial by jury, a copy of which was attached to its motion to intervene, with the Clerk of the				
19	above-entitled Court.	1000			
20	DATED this day of Mar	:Cn, 1989.			
21		Michael to telly			
22		District Judge			
23		V			
24	I hereby certify that I have mailed a true gopy of this document to:				
25	Richard Thurst Todd				
26	by depositing same in the U.S. Mail this				
27	byrday of Caraly,				
28	JOHN VAN Clerk of the District Court By Deputy Clerk				
	11				

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AMENDED COMPLAINT

Jon L. Heberling
McGARVEY, HEBERLING, SULLIVAN
& McGARVEY
745 South Main
Kalispell, Montana 59901

FILED 9-26-89

JOHN VAN

Clerk of the District Court

By Deputy Clerk

MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, FLATHEAD COUNTY

FRIENDS OF THE WILD SWAN, a Montana non-profit corporation,

Plaintiff,

Cause No. DV-89-073(B)

AMENDED COMPLAINT

-vs-

(406) 752-5566

DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS,

Defendant.

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Plaintiff alleges:

- 1. Friends of the Wild Swan is a Montana non-profit corporation with its business address at Bigfork, Montana.
- The Department of State Lands is a political subdivision of the State of Montana. The Department of State Lands, Forestry and Field Operations Divisions, have the management responsibility for the school trust forest lands, under the general direction of the Board of Land Commissioners. For administrative purposes, the Department has divided the State geographically into six administrative Each area is administered by a separate State Land Office organized and staffed to provide the needed support to the Department's programs. The Northwest Region office is located at Kalispell, Montana. The Northwest Region is directly responsible for supervision of the management of a number of forest units, including the Swan River State Forest Unit, located in the vicinity of the community of Swan Lake, Montana.
 - 3. Friends of the Wild Swan is a corporation dedicated AMENDED COMPLAINT 1

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- 5. On May 21, 1987, the Swan River State Forest first published notice of its decision to offer the Swan River Timber Sale.
- 6. On June 23, 1987, the Swan River State Forest entered a Timber Sale Agreement with Stoltz Lumber Company on the Swan River Timber Sale.
- Officers and Directors of Friends of the Wild Swan reside in the Swan Valley and hunt, fish, hike, observe wildlife, and recreate in areas directly affected activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale. Managers of the Swan River State Forest have taken the position that the State Forest is open to public access. Officers and Directors of Friends of the Wild Swan use the Swan River for recreation adjacent to the area of the Swan River Timber Sale. A Director of Friends of the Wild Swan owns interests in real property adjacent to the Swan River Timber Sale and her property values are directly affected by activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale. Friends of the Wild Swan and its individual officers and directors are adversely affected by activities permitted under the Swan River Timber Sale complained of herein, and particularly by damage to old growth habitat, wildlife habitat, aesthetic and recreational values, all in violation of their constitutional rights to a clean and healthful environment, 1972 Montana Constitution, Article II §3.

FIRST CLAIM -- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

1. All paragraphs above are incorporated by this

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2. The Swan River Timber Sale is a connected action with all other Swan River State Forest management actions. The Swan River Timber Sale does not have a current or valid EIS to tier to, and accordingly in order to provide proper consideration of cumulative impacts under ARM 26.2.603(d), an EIS is required on the Swan River Timber Sale.

3. State Lands has recognized that the Swan Highway Corridor has a significant effect on the environment, in the interagency agreement dated 8-27-79. The Swan River Timber Sale design violates the interagency agreement to protect the Swan Highway Corridor. As a result, the Swan River Timber Sale has a significant effect upon the environment, and an EIS is required under §75-1-201(1)(b)(iii), MCA.

SECOND CLAIM -- INADEQUATE PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

- 1. All paragraphs above are incorporated by this reference.
- The Preliminary Environmental Review on the Swan 2. River Timber Sale is inadequate in its evaluation of effects on riparian wildlife areas, including habitat for the blue heron, bald eagle, pileated woodpecker and osprey, effects old growth, the Swan Highway on grizzly bear habitat, economics. Preliminary The Corridor, recreation and Timber issued and the Environmental Review was Agreement was signed before a biological evaluation was ever done.
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1. All paragraphs above are incorporated by this reference.

- 2. Pursuant to §75-1-201(1)(b)(iv), MCA, the State has a duty to study, develop and describe appropriate alternatives to recommended courses of action in any proposal which involves unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. The State has this duty whether or not an EIS is prepared.
- 3. In State Lands' decision to offer the Swan River Timber Sale, no alternatives were considered concerning old growth protection, grizzly bear and eagle habitat protection, wildlife protection, the protection of recreation revenues and the Research Natural Area, and harvest method alternatives. The no action alternative was not considered.
- 4. The Department of State Lands has violated clear legal duties. Mandamus should issue directing the Department of State Lands to study alternatives before taking further action.

MANDAMUS

- 1. By delivery of a draft complaint dated 6-1-88, Plaintiff demanded that the approval of the Swan River Timber Sale be withdrawn. State Lands declined to do so.
- 2. Plaintiff has incurred legal fees and other expenses in bringing this action.

WHEREFORE plaintiff Friends of the Wild Swan prays relief against the defendant Department of State Lands as follows:

- 1. For an order setting aside the decision to offer the Swan River Timber Sale as void for reasons that an EIS was required, the PER was inadequate, and that alternative courses of action must be considered.
- 2. For a writ of mandate directing the Swan River State Forest to study alternatives and to prepare a proper PER and EIS on the Swan River Timber Sale.
- 3. For attorney fees and litigation expenses as damages under mandamus, §27-26-402, MCA.

2	5. For such further relief as the Court may deem
	just.
3	DATED this 20th day of april, 1989.
4	McGARVEY, HEBERLING, SULLIVAN
5	& McGARVEY
6	Jan J. Heherling
7	Jon L. Heberling Counsel for Plaintiffs
8	
9	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
	THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING WAS DULY SERVED
10	BY MAIL UPON ATTORNEYS OF BURGUES WAS DULY SERVED
	BY MAIL UPON ATTORNEYS OF RECORD AT THEIR ADDRESS OR ADDRESSES, THIS JOE DAY OF LAND 19 89
11	McGARVEY HEREDI INC. SHILL HAVE 19 8 9
	McGARVEY, HEBERLING, SULLIVAN AND McGARVEY BY Jayne Martins
12	secretary secretary
, ,	745 S. MAIN
13	KALISPELL, MT 59901
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4. For costs of suit, and

ORDER OF DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT 91 SEP 17 PM 2: 55 Jon L. Heberling McGARVEY, HEBERLING, SULLIVAN 1 & McGARVEY 745 South Main Kalispell, Montana 59901 (406) 752-5566 3 4 5 MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, FLATHEAD COUNTY 6 7 FRIENDS OF THE WILD SWAN, a Montana non-profit corporation, Cause No. DV-89-073(B) 8 ORDER OF DISMISSAL Plaintiff, WITH PREJUDICE 9 -vs-10 DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS, and F.H. STOLTZ LAND & LUMBER COMPANY, 11 Defendants. 12 13 Pursuant to a written stipulation entered into between 14 the parties hereto, through their respective attorneys, that 15 above-entitled action has been fully 16 compromised and settled on the merits: IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above-entitled action in 17 including all claims and counterclaims, its entirety, 18 dismissed with prejudice, each party to bear its own costs. DATED this 11th day of September, 1991. 19 20 21 hereby certify that I have mailed a true copy of this document to: R. D. MCPHILLIPS 22. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE Jan L. Heboline Todd Harmmer 23

ORDER OF DISMISSAL WITH PREJUDICE

Deputy Clerk

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MAY MHOL

Clerk of the District Court