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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION CHECKLIST

DS-252
File 016.3

ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY COUNCIL

PROPOSED ACTION Stillwater River - Highway 93 Bridge Crossing
County Flathead Township 29N Range 22W Section 25

*(Yes) (No) (NA)

- 1. Significant use of area by important wildlife & fish species.
- 2. Important vegetation communities present which may influence or be influenced by proposed project.
- 3. Significant historical, archaeological, or paleontological resource present.
- 4. Significant topographic features, terrain or aesthetic values are present.
- 5. Reconstruction of existing roads or trails, or new road are proposed. (Highway 93)
- 6. Important surface or groundwater resources present.
- 7. Fragile, compactible, or unstable soils present.
- 8. Buildings, structures, pipelines, powerlines or other utilities located nearby.
- 9. Land has been included as a part of a baseline study or other type of report, for any purpose. (E.G., Natural Area Program, Resource Development Bureau projects, rights-of-way, easements, or other leasing actions).
- 10. Previously permitted or leased activities on this tract resulted in special protective stipulations.
- 11. Present tract management is influenced significantly by adjacent state, federal or private land management practices.
- 12. Tract is near designated Class I air area, or non-attainment area.
- 13. Tract contains areas with unique or special reclamation considerations (past mining, erosion, saline seep, etc.)
- 14. Public Interest.

* Explain all "yes" answers in narrative form and attach to checklist.

X 15. Additional comments (If so, explain in attached narrative).

Prepared by: WILLIAM F. WRIGHT Title KALISPELL UNIT MANAGER

Based on my review of the above action I have concluded that an EA is not required because the Department of Transportation is responsible for obtaining all permits relating to water quality in regard to the construction of the new bridge over the Stillwater River. Refer to Item 15 for detailed statement concerning permits and stipulations.

Area Manager/Bureau Chief *Samuel H. Gregg* Date 3/19/92
Route copies to: File 016.3

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

1. The replacement crosses the Stillwater River. New piers will replace the old bridge piers. During construction, coffer dams and other construction techniques will be used to protect the water quality and fisheries of the river.

5. This is a reconstruction and enlargement of an existing bridge across the Stillwater River on Highway 93 North, approximately 2.5 miles north of Kalispell.

6,7. The bridge crosses the Stillwater River. Current construction methods with coffer dams, filter cloths, mulching and revegetation of disturbed soils will be required to protect the river and adjacent soils.

8. The project passes through private property with private homes within a quarter mile or closer. There are overhead powerlines and buried telephone cables within the right-of-way of the highway. Care must be exercised not to damage such facilities.

9. The present Highway 93 and utilities rights-of-ways are located within the reconstruction area.

12. There are special Air Quality restrictions within Flathead County. All operations will conform to State and County Air Quality regulations.

14. There is public interest about the improvement of the highway, but it has no impact on the replacement of the bridge.

15. This action is by the Montana Department of Transportation. Through a cooperative agreement between the Department of Transportation and the Department of State Lands, the Department of Transportation does all environmental assessments on their highway construction projects. That

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (continued):

document would cover this bridge project. The environmental assessment has not been seen by this office.

The Department of Transportation shall have secured all permits and approvals as may be required by law before beginning any construction within the riverbed. These permits include, but are not limited to, the 404 Permit issued by the Army Corps of Engineers, the 401 Certification issued from the State of Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, the 310 Permit issued from the local County Soil Conservation District in conjunction with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, and where applicable, the 3A Authorization from the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Services.

All terms, conditions, project specifications and time-frames contained in all of the required permits, authorizations and construction specification plans become a part of the terms and conditions of this easement.