

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name: BONNER BRIDGE REHABILITATION Proposed Implementation Date: ASAP

Proponent: Mont. Dept. of Highways

Type and Purpose of Action:

Rehabilitation of deck on I-90 bridge over the Blackfoot River.

Location: SWNW, SENW sec 21 T13N R18W County: Missoula

N = Not present or No Impact will occur

Y = Impacts may occur (explain under Potential Impacts)

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 ENVIRONMENTAL
 QUALITY COUNCIL

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
1. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geologic features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	[N]
2. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?	[Y] There is to be a temporary bridge placed over the Blackfoot River, which will allow access to the underside of the bridge.
3. AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?	[N]
4. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present?	[N]
5. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there significant use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?	[Y] There may be a temporary disturbance of fish and/or birds during the installation of the temporary bridge.
6. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Species of special concern?	[N]
7. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archaeological or paleontological resources present?	[N]
8. AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographic feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?	[N]
9. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	[N]
10. IMPACTS ON OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?	[N]

IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

RESOURCE	[Y/N] POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES
11. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this project add to health and safety risks in the area?	[N]
12. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?	[y] There will be a temporary increase of construction activity.
13. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so estimated number	[N]
14. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?	[N]
15. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will significant traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc) be needed?	[N]
16. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc. zoning or management plans in effect?	[N]
17. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?	[Y] There will be a temporary blockage to boating during installation of temporary bridge.
18. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?	[N]
19. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?	[N]
20. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?	[N]
21. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:	[NA]

22. Alternatives Considered:

- 1. **NO ACTION:** Will not allow access to the underside of the bridge, other things will remain as they are.
- 2. **ISSUE LAND USE LICENSE:** To allow the placing and use of a temporary bridge over the Blackfoot River. The use of this temporary bridge is to allow access to the underside of the I-90 bridge, and to rehabilitate this bridge.

23. Public Involvement, Agencies, Groups or Individuals contacted:

John Horton, Negotiation Supervisor, Highway Dept.
Mike Smith, Washington Construction

24. Other Governmental Agencies with Jurisdiction, List of Permits Needed.

MFWP, Missoula Conservation Dist.

25. Magnitude and Significance of Potential Impacts.

- 1. Safety of traveling public over this bridge is in question, if the bridge is not repaired.
- 2. Water quality (pollution) is possible, but will be minimized by keeping all solids removed from the bridge out of the water and removed to another location. No chemical use is anticipated.
- 3. There may be a temporary disturbance of birds and/or fish.
- 4. There will be a temporary blockage of the Blackfoot River to boaters, while the temporary bridge is being installed.
- 5. The temporary bridge will have an average low clearance of about 10 ft above water.

The following items should be incorporated into the License:

- 1. Signs to be placed above and below the bridge, and on the bridge warning boaters of the bridge and possible low clearance.
- 2. A tattletale device shall be installed that allows monitoring of the height of the temporary bridge over the water.

Recommendation for Further Environmental Analysis:

EIS More Detailed EA No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Prepared By: Raymond J. Erickson Re Title Missoula Unit Manager

Approved By:

Robert H. Storm
name

Forests & Lands Program Mgr - SWLD
title

Robert H Storm
signature

8/13/92