DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PART 1. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

Project Title Nolen Aultman Game Bird Farm (Radersburg)

Division/Bureau Wildlife and Enforcement Divisions

Program _____

Description of Project A game bird farm is proposed 1.5 miles northeast of Radersburg (400 Aultman Dr.; N1/2, NE1/4, Sec. 5, T5N, R1E). The game farm would be used for breeding, raising, and selling live ring-necked pheasants.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction
Montana Department of Livestock

PART 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

	MAJOR	MODERATE	MINOR	NONE	UNKNOWN	COMMENTS ON ATTACHED PAGES
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats			X			1.1
2. Water quality, quantity & distribution				X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability & moisture				X		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity & quality			X			1.4
5. Aesthetics				X		
6. Air quality					X	1.6
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical & archaeological sites				X		1.9

Broadwater

Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment.

	MAJOR	MODERATE	MINOR	NONE	UNKNOWN	COMMENTS ON ATTACHED PAGES
1. Social structures & mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness & diversity				X		
3. Local & state tax base & tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural or industrial production			X			2.4
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income			X			2.6
7. Access to & quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity & distribution of employment				X		
9. Distribution & density of population & housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			2.10
11. Industrial & commercial activity			X			2.11
12. Demands for energy				X		
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows				X		

Comments:

1.1 There is some potential for disease transmission from domestic pheasants to wild pheasants which occur in the area. There is also the potential for domestic pheasants escaping and breeding with resident wild pheasants, altering the gene pool. Pen construction, mowing, and other possible changes to existing habitats is limited to 40 acres or less.

1.4 Pen construction, mowing, and other possible changes to existing vegetation is limited to 40 acres or less.

1.6 The game bird farm may result in isolated manure smells which could affect adjacent human residences. The potential of this occurring depends on how the farm is operated, wind direction, etc.

There may also be some low-level noises (i.e. crowing roosters) associated with the game-bird farm which may be heard from adjacent residences.

Existing riparian forest and future plans for additional shelterbelts (designed to isolate pens and provide visual security) may reduce the likelihood of smells and/or noises affecting adjacent residences.

1.9 There are no plans for ground disturbance associated with this action. If historical or archaeological values exist, they will remain unaffected.

2.4. The game bird farm will produce an annual crop of live pheasants intended to be sold.

2.6 Some profits may be generated through selling live pheasants.

2.10 The game bird farm application process requires an initial inspection and environmental analysis by FWP employees. Periodic follow-up inspections will be required of the local FWP game warden.

2.11 See comments 2.4 and 2.6.

Individuals or groups contributing to this EA: Rick Northrup, John Ramsey, Tom Carlsen

EA prepared by : Rick Northrup, Tom Carlsen

Date: November 20, 1995

PART 3. DECISION

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS not required

Game bird farm license approved by Stephen L. Lewis 11/27/95

Regional Supervisor Date
Region 3