

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF FISH INTRODUCTIONS
PRIVATE POND APPLICATION**

Name and address of applicant James Sievers
2292 East River Road
Livingston, MT 59047

Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit? No, one-time stocking letter
Location:

County Park Township 5S Range 11E Section 27

Name of the drainage where the pond would be located Fourmile Creek (Boulder River)

Name(s) of fish species proposed for introduction Yellowstone cutthroat trout

Is this species legally present in the drainage? Yes

Species of special concern present in the drainage Yellowstone cutthroat trout

RISKS:

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations?
None Minor Major
Comments: Yellowstone cutthroat trout are already present in the drainage.

Impacts to any life stage of existing fish populations due to competition and/or predation?
None Minor Major
Comments: The lake is currently fishless.

Impacts to other forms of aquatic life that may be caused by this introduction?
None Minor Major
Comments: Lake invertebrates would become prey. No detailed survey has been done, but if amphibians are present they could also become prey. The lake is relatively sterile, and no amphibians were observed during a preliminary survey.

Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location?
None Minor Major
Comments: The lower 50 feet of inlet stream appeared to have limited spawning potential.

If necessary, would it be feasible to remove this species after it has been stocked?

The lake is small enough (6.6 acres) that the Yellowstone cutthroat could be removed, if necessary, by extensive gill netting or chemical treatment.

Would this introduction result in impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?

No

Describe reasonable and prudent alternatives to this action, if any (including no action).
The permit will allow only Yellowstone cutthroat trout to be planted.

Describe and evaluate mitigation, stipulations, or other control measures enforceable by the agency, if any.

Screens on outlet. (The stream flows into Silver Lake which contains primarily rainbow trout with some cutthroat trout.)

List any other agencies or individuals that may be affected by the proposed introduction:
Those who oppose planting fish into fishless lakes. Because this lake is on private land, wilderness stipulations do not apply.

List all agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction:

Scot Shuler and Debbie Johnson, USFS

Mike Poore, Fisheries Biologist

Dennis Hagenston, Warden Captain

Dick Ellis, Regional Supervisor

Based on this evaluation, is an EIS required? No. If no, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for the proposed action.

No significant impacts.

EA prepared by: J. Darling

Comments will be accepted until August 25, 1999

Comments should be sent to: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Attn: Fisheries Manager
2300 Lake Elmo Drive
Billings, MT 59105