

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

Name and address of applicant Robert E. Lee Ranch Co.  
Robert Lee  
HC 60 Box 350  
Judith Gap MT 59453  
473-2380

Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit? Yes

Location:

County Wheatland Township 11N Range 17E Section 27, NW1/4

Name of the drainage where the pond would be located Blake Creek (Musselshell Drainage)

Name(s) of fish species proposed for introduction Rainbow trout, Westslope cutthroat trout

Is this species legally present in the drainage? Yes

Species of special concern present in the drainage Unknown, Westslope cutthroat trout are in the area.

**RISKS:**

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations?

None x Minor \_\_\_ Major

Comments:

Impacts to any life stage of existing fish populations due to competition and/or predation?

None x Minor \_\_\_ Major

Comments:

Impacts to other forms of aquatic life that may be caused by this introduction?

None \_\_\_ Minor x Major

Comments: Pond invertebrates become prey. This is an instream pond, but is strictly spring-fed. The spring originates on the Lee property.

Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location?

None \_\_\_ Minor x Major

Comments: If either species escapes, it could reproduce within the drainage.

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

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

Describe reasonable and prudent alternatives to this action, if any (including no action).  
Require different fish species or deny permit.

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

List any other agencies or individuals that may be affected by the proposed introduction:  
N/A

List all agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction:  
Kerry Wahl, Warden  
Dennis Hagenston, Warden Captain  
Harvey Nyberg, Regional Supervisor  
DNRC, Billings

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 31, 2000

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