



# Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region One  
490 North Meridian Rd.  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 752-5501  
FAX: 406-257-0349  
Ref: JS027-05  
April 19, 2005

**RECEIVED**

APR 26 2005

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE

TO:

\*Dean Vaughan, National Bison Range, Moiese, MT 59824  
USFWS Bison Range, Steve Kallin, 132 Bison Range Road, Moiese, MT 59824  
Ralph Goode, Chairman, Flathead Reservation Fish & Wildlife Board, 4717 Hillside Rd., Charlo, 59824  
CSKT Fish & Wildlife Program, PO Box 278, Pablo, 59855  
Sid Rundell, PO Box 162, Big Arm, 59910  
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Helena, 59620-1704  
\*Dept. of Environmental Quality, Planning, Prevention & Assistance, PO Box 200901, Helena, 59620-0901  
\*Dept. of Environmental Quality, Permitting Compliance, PO Box 200901, Helena, 59620-0901  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks: Director's Office, Legal Unit, Lands, & Wildlife  
\*Mt Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 225 North Roberts, Veteran's Memorial Bldg., Helena 59620  
\*Montana State Library, 1515 East Sixth Ave., Helena, 59620-1800  
DNRC, PO Box 201601, Helena, 59620-1601  
\*DNRC, Bob Sandman  
Jim Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, PO Box 1184, Helena, 59624  
George Ochenski, PO Box 689, Helena, 59624  
Joe Gutkoski, Montana River Action Network, 304 N 18<sup>th</sup>, Bozeman, 59715  
Polson City Library, PO Box 820, Polson, 59860  
Lake County Commissioners, 106 Fourth Ave. E, Polson, 59860  
Sen. John Brueggeman, 321 Lakeview Drive, Polson, 59860-9317  
Rep. Jean Windham, 894 Finley Point Road, Polson, 59860

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Region One, has completed an environmental assessment (EA) for the Keyser Preservation Trust Wetland Restoration project. The purpose of the project is the restoration of a drained wetland basin that is partially on the Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area and partially on the Keyser Preservation Trust, a property encumbered with a USFWS conservation easement, in Lake County.

There were no changes to the draft EA; therefore, the draft becomes the final EA. A copy of the record of decision is attached. Please direct your questions or comments to Wildlife Area Manager John Grant, FWP Ninepipe WMA, 5791 Ninepipe Road, Charlo, MT 59824, (406) 644-2510 or e-mail to [jgrant@mt.gov](mailto:jgrant@mt.gov).

Sincerely,

Jim Satterfield  
Regional Supervisor

/ni

Enclosure

c: Big Sky Upland Bird Association, PO Box 9005, Missoula, 59807-9005  
Ducks Unlimited, Great Plains Region, 2525 River Road, Bismarck, ND 58503-9011  
Denver Holt, Owl Research Institute, PO Box 39, Charlo, 59824

\*E-mailed

Keyser Restoration Project

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Joe Ball, University of Montana Wildlife Coop Unit, 909 S Ave W, Missoula, 59801

Polson Outdoors, Inc., Matt Bishop, PO Box 1432, Polson, 59860-1432

Bill Matthews, Flathead Wildlife, PO Box 4, Kalispell, 59903

Flathead Audubon, PO Box 9173, Kalispell, 59904

Mountain Audubon, #1 Second Ave E, Suite C-179, Polson, 59860

Five Valleys Audubon, PO Box 8425, Missoula, 59807

Lower Flathead Valley Community Foundation, Inc., William H. Edelman, 1050 Spring Creek Road, Ronan, 59864

Rob Shrider, CAC, 204 Hwy 93 S, Ronan, 59864

Greg Schafter, President, Mission Valley Pheasants Forever, 4220 West Post Creek Rd., Charlo, 59824

Daniel Casey, American Bird Conservancy, 33 Second St. East, Kalispell, 59901

Mission Valley Ducks Unlimited



# Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Record of Decision  
and  
Finding of No Significant Impact  
for  
Keyser Preservation Trust Wetland Restoration  
Environmental Assessment

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Region 1  
490 N. Meridian Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901

April 18, 2005

## Description of the Proposed Action:

A low, earthen dike will be constructed under supervision of Dean Vaughan to plug the outlet of a drained wetland basin that is partially on Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area and partially on the Keyser Preservation Trust, a property encumbered with a USFWS conservation easement. The existing property boundary fence (where proposed wetland will be constructed) will be removed prior to construction, and new "dead end" braces will be installed to secure the fence outside of the basin following wetland restoration activities.

With the no-action alternative, the wetland would not be restored and the area would continue to function as dryland wildlife habitat.

## Public Comment:

Two comments in favor of the project were received.

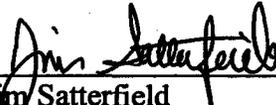
## Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI):

Based on the analysis in the environmental assessment (EA), I find the wetland restoration described above to be the preferred alternative. I have evaluated the EA and applicable laws, regulations, and policies, and have determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

The final environmental assessment and/or the record of decision (ROD) and FONSI may be viewed at or obtained from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area, 5791 Ninepipe Road, Charlo, MT 59824. Please direct requests and questions to:

John Grant, Wildlife Area Manager  
Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area  
5791 Ninepipe Road  
Charlo, MT 59824  
(406) 644-2510  
jgrant@mt.gov

In accordance with FWP policy, an appeal may be made by any person who has either commented in writing to the department on the proposed project, or who has registered or commented orally at a public meeting held by the department on the proposed project, or who can provide new evidence that would otherwise change the proposed plan. An appeal must be submitted to the Director of FWP in writing and must be postmarked or received within 30 days of this ROD. The appeal must describe the basis for the appeal, how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and how the department can provide relief. The appeal should be mailed to: Director, Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1420 East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Helena, MT 59620.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Satterfield  
Regional Supervisor

4/20/05  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date