

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

**Name and address of applicant:** Richard Wickum  
P.O. Box 328  
Chester, MT 59522

**Is approval of private pond permit application recommended?** Yes.

**Location of pond:**

**County:** Liberty  
**Legal description:** T35N R04E Sec21 SENESW(1/4)

**Name of the drainage where the pond would be located:**

Wickum's Reservoir is located approximately 10 miles south of Whitlash, MT, on Eagle Creek, an intermittent drainage. From the reservoir, Eagle Creek flows southerly for approximately 30 miles before entering Tiber Reservoir

**Does pond have legal water rights? (describe)** Yes. The pond has a stockwater right with a December 31, 1943 priority date.

**Fish species proposed for introduction:** Rainbow, brook, and brown trout

**Is this species legally present in the drainage?** Yes, rainbow, brook, and brown trout are all present in the Marias drainage.

**Species of Special Concern present in the drainage:**

There are no known Species of Special Concern present in the Eagle Creek drainage.

**RISKS:**

**Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations:** \_\_\_ None  X  Minor \_\_\_ Major

Comments: No significant impacts are expected.

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

\_\_\_ None  X  Minor \_\_\_ Major

Comments: Currently, there are no fish in Wickum's Reservoir. Escapement of stocked fish into Eagle Creek could occur in a major run-off event. It is unlikely these fish would make it into Tiber Reservoir, as there are at least four other instream impoundments downstream of Wickum's Reservoir.

**Impacts to other forms of aquatic life that may be caused by this introduction?** \_\_\_ None  X  Minor \_\_\_ Major

Comments: Fish will consume some invertebrates in pond.

**Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location:** \_\_\_ None  X  Minor \_\_\_ Major

Comments: Introduced brook trout may successfully spawn in the reservoir if areas of upwelling are present. It is unlikely rainbow and brown trout could successfully spawn in Eagle Creek upstream of the reservoir because of intermittent flows and lack of adequate habitat.

**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?** No.

**Describe reasonable and prudent alternatives to this action, if any (including no action).** Do not stock.

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

Species restrictions can be identified in the permitting process.

**List any other agencies or individuals that may be affected by the proposed introduction:** None.

**List all agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction:** None

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

No. Impacts are expected to be very minor.

**EA prepared by:** Dave Yerk

**Date:** June 23, 2006