

Date: July 24, 2006

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

**Name and address of applicant:** Valley West Homeowner's Association  
25 A Cliffden Ave.  
Bozeman, MT 59718

**Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit in the past?** No

**Location:** County Gallatin Township 2S Range 5E Section 10

**Name of drainage where the pond would be located:** East Gallatin River

**Name(s) of fish species proposed for introduction:** Rainbow Trout

**Is this species of fish native to or legally present in the drainage?** Not native, was legally introduced.

**RISKS:**

**Inlets to or outlets from the pond?** Yes. Has screened inlet from Border Ditch, and agridrain structure drains pond back to Border Ditch.

**Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations?**

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

**Comments:**

**Impacts to any life stage of existing fish population 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 X Minor \_\_\_ Major \_\_\_

**Comments:**

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

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

**Comments:**

**If necessary, would it be feasible to remove this species after it has been stocked?**  
Yes, via drainage of pond, or by age related mortality in the absence of stocking.

**Would this introduction result in impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?** Yes, private fish ponds do pose threats to wild fisheries.

**Describe reasonable and prudent alternatives to this action, if any (including no action).** No action, however, this pond contains fathead minnows, which, although likely introduced to this site via state waters, is an unauthorized species. An alternative would be to not issue a private pond license to this individual until the unauthorized species is removed.

**Describe and evaluate mitigation, stipulations, or other control measures enforceable by the agency, if any.**  
None

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

**Based on this evaluation, is an EIS required?**  
No. An introduction of this scope does not warrant an EIS.

**EA prepared by:** Tim Weiss  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bozeman, MT 59718

**Comments will be accepted until** N/A