Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

1420 East 6th Avenue
P O Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
June 27, 2009

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please find enclosed an Environmental Assessment prepared by the FWP Fisheries Division. As part of our continuing work to remediate polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) at the Upper Unit of Big Springs Trout Hatchery, FWP proposes to collect samples for analysis of PCBs from a buried aquarium and surrounding soils to characterize the level of contamination of these materials and thus determine the proper disposal site for these contaminated materials. The buried aquarium is located on a peninsula in the Big Springs at the Upper Unit of Big Springs Trout Hatchery. Although an Environmental Assessment is usually not required for prior to initiation of a project of this nature, FWP is sensitive to the public's possible concerns about the potential impacts to the aesthetics of the area around the proposed sampling site and to the nearby water supply of the City of Lewistown.

To address public concerns and questions, there will be an open house meeting at 6 pm on July 15, 2009 at the proposed project site at the Upper Unit of the Big Springs Trout Hatchery, Lewistown, Montana. During the meeting the public will visit the site of the project. FWP staff and a representative of the contracted engineering firm will describe the proposed project and answer any questions the public may have regarding the project. Public comments on the EA will not be recorded at this meeting.

Please submit any written comments that you have by 5 P.M., July 19, 2009 to the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks in Helena at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

Bob Snyder
Hatchery Bureau Chief
Fisheries Division

DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS
1420 East 6th Avenue
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
(406) 444–2535

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Title:	Conduct Sampling at Big Springs Fish Hatchery Project # 7073105 – Buried Aquarium
Division/Bureau:	Fisheries/Hatcheries
Program:	Hatcheries
Description of Project:	See Chapter 3.0

Environmental Assessment (EA) Prepared by:

Tetra Tech EMI Inc. (Tetra Tech)
7 West Sixth Ave., Suite 612
Helena, Montana 59601

Date: June 26, 2009

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CHAPTER 1.0: PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

1.1 Introduction and Proposed Action

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to collect samples for analysis of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) from a buried aquarium and surrounding soils to characterize the level of contamination of these materials and thus determine the proper disposal site for these contaminated materials. While an Environmental Assessment (EA) is usually not required for a project of this nature, FWP is sensitive to possible concerns about the potential impacts to the aesthetics of the area around the proposed sampling site and to the nearby water supply of the City of Lewistown. Through this EA, FWP intends to address theses concerns.

The Big Spring Trout Hatchery, consisting of upper and lower hatchery complexes, is about 6.5 miles southeast of Lewistown in Fergus County, Montana (Figure 1). The hatchery is on approximately 25 acres of leased and state-owned land in Section 5, Township 14 North, Range 19 East. The upper hatchery is on land leased from the City of Lewistown, and the lower hatchery is on state land.

The proposed sampling would be at the site of a buried concrete aquarium at the upper station on the peninsula within the Big Spring (Figure 1). Olympus (Olympus 2006) determined that this buried aquarium may contain PCB contaminated paint. This proposed action is to delineate the level and extent of PCB contamination at the site of the buried aquarium at the Upper Hatchery Station, and use this information to determine the proper disposal of this material. Samples would be collected to delineate the vertical and horizontal extent of PCB contamination in the soil, specifically in the soil beneath the aquarium, as well as soil samples from the walls of the excavation after the buried aquarium is removed. This sampling would include collection and analysis of soil and concrete samples. The site characterization report (Olympus 2006) estimated that 20 to 40 cubic yards of concrete may be buried on the peninsula and that an additional 50 to 100 cubic yards of contaminated soil could be associated with the concrete. Upon completion of the sampling and removal of the buried aquarium and contaminated soils, disturbed areas would be restored to their original grade and appearance.

1.2 Need for the Action

The hatchery is the largest coldwater production facility in the state, capable of producing 130,000 pounds of fish annually. More than 30 years ago, PCB-contaminated paint was used to paint numerous items at the hatchery, including the raceways, concrete near and around buildings, wood, and a large outside aquarium. The contaminated paint is blue-green, red, and gray.

PCBs are mixtures of up to 209 individual chlorinated compounds (known as congeners). They are a family of man-made chemicals that were manufactured in the United States from 1929 to 1977 and are still found in the environment. The manufacture of PCBs was stopped in the U.S. in 1977 because of evidence that PCBs build up in the environment and could cause harmful health effects.

PCBs were used in the greatest quantities in electrical transformers, capacitors, heat transfer systems, and hydraulic systems because of their stability, resistance to fire, and electrical insulating properties. Lesser quantities were used in voltage regulators, adhesives, caulking compounds, inks, lubricants, paints, sealants, carbonless copy paper, coatings, electrical switches, plasticizers, circuit breakers, dust control agents, and older fluorescent lighting fixtures. Unlike PCBs in liquids, such as transformer oil, PCBs in paint are solid and are part of the dried paint (Yankee).

PCBs do not readily break down in the environment and thus may remain there for long periods of time. Although water can become contaminated, many PCBs dissolve, stick to the bottom sediments, or attach themselves to organic particles. Similarly, PCBs also bind to soil. Small organisms and fish take up PCBs; they are then concentrated in other animals that eat them. PCBs accumulate in fish and marine mammals, reaching levels that may be many thousands of times higher than in water.

People can be exposed to PCBs by eating contaminated food. The main dietary sources of PCBs are fish (especially sport fish caught in contaminated lakes or rivers), meat, and dairy products. Another way to become exposed to PCBs is through contaminated well water or air near a waste site. In the workplace, employees may be exposed to PCBs during repair and maintenance of PCB-containing devices, fires or spills, and disposal of PCB-containing materials.

Health effects associated with exposure to PCBs include acne-like skin conditions in adults and neurobehavioral and immunological changes in children. PCBs are known to cause cancer in animals, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer have concluded that PCBs are probably carcinogenic to humans (Articles).

The buried aquarium likely contains PCB contaminated paint and could be a source of PCBs to Big Springs Creek. Prior to any action to remove PCBs from Big Springs Creek, it is necessary to remove this potential source. The level and extent of PCB contamination of the buried aquarium and surrounding soil must be fully characterized.

1.3 Objectives of the Action (desired outcomes and conditions)

The desired outcome would be the continued remediation of the site by delineating the extent and level of the PCB contamination, removing the contaminated material, and disposing of the contaminated material in an appropriate landfill. The action level for soil at the Big Spring Creek Fish Hatchery is 0.5 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) and the EPA soil cleanup level is 1.0 mg/kg.

If the analysis of the concrete and soil shows concentrations less than 50 mg/kg PCBs, all concrete and soil would be disposed of in a municipal landfill such as the Class II landfill located near Great Falls, Montana. If the PCB concentrations are greater than 50 mg/kg, the waste would have to be disposed of in a Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)-approved landfill. The closest TSCA-approved landfills are located in Mountain Home, Idaho, Grantsville, Utah, or Arlington, Oregon.

1.4 Relevant Plans, EISs, EAs, Regulations, and Other Documents

An EA titled "Secure Water Supply Big Springs Trout Hatchery A/E #97-35-01

Fergus County, Montana", prepared by Robert Peccia & Associates, Inc. (Peccia 1998) provided site information for this EA.

Olympus Technical Services, Inc. (Olympus) completed a site characterization study for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks 2005 (Olympus 2005) as described in the "Sampling and Analytical Plan for Site Characterization of the Big Springs Fish Hatchery". Olympus prepared a report on the study titled "Site Characterization Report, Big Springs Trout Hatchery (Olympus 2006).

1.5 Decision That Must Be Made

FWP must remove the likely source of PCB contamination and delineate the vertical and horizontal extent of PCB soil contamination. The decision to be made is whether these two objectives will be completed in one or two steps.

1.6 Scope of This Environmental Analysis

This EA considers the effects of the proposed action on the physical and human environment.

1.7 Applicable Permits, Licenses, and Other Consultation Requirements

If the work is done at the site, the only permit likely to be needed is a

Floodplain Development Permit from the Fergus County Floodplain Manager for any construction proposed within the 100-year floodplain of Big Spring Creek.

CHAPTER 2.0: ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 Introduction

The proposed action was developed though a preliminary engineering and design process that preceded development of this EA. The proposed action is described in the draft Aquarium Big Springs Field Sampling Plan (FSP) (Tetra Tech 2009a). This FSP identifies and establishes priorities for the proposed project based on the site assessment and previous investigations.

2.2 Description of Alternatives

FWP considered two alternatives for this project:

- Alternative A, The No Action Alternative, and
- Alternative B, The Proposed Action

2.2.1 Alternative A: No Action – Additional Sampling

Alternative A would involve collecting additional samples without the immediate removal of the aquarium. Under this alternative, the extent of PCB contamination would be investigated further, however the buried historical aquarium likely contaminated with PCB paint, and the associated soil, also potentially contaminated, would remain in place for an unspecified time.

2.2.2 Alternative B: The Proposed Action – Remove the Aquarium and Contaminated Soil

Under this alternative, a contractor would be hired to uncover and remove the aquarium so that samples could be collected from and beneath the aquarium. A temporary bridge would be built to allow equipment access to the site. FWP would provide timbers for the bridge, and the excavation contractor would use a non-permeable bridge decking such as steel plates. The peninsula and surrounding area would be closed to public access while the field sampling plan is implemented.

While the bridge is being constructed, three test pits approximately one foot deep and five feet apart would be dug by hand, and a concrete sample approximately three inches thick would be collected from each test pit. These samples would be analyzed for PCBs to determine the disposal options available for the soil and concrete. If the analysis of the concrete shows concentrations less than 50 mg/kg PCBs, all concrete and soil removed would be disposed of in a municipal landfill. If the PCB concentrations are greater than 50 mg/kg, the waste would be disposed of in a TSCA-approved landfill. Once the disposal location has been identified, the aquarium and associated soil would be excavated. Using a small excavator or backhoe, the material would be transferred to a loader located off the peninsula at the end of the bridge. The loader would carry the soil and concrete to a roll-off bin or end-dump trailer temporarily located at an accessible area nearby. After the receiving unit is filled, it would be transported to the approved disposal location. The bins or trailers could be temporarily stored at the old hatchery-building parking lot. All bins or trailers would be covered when not in use. The excavation would not be backfilled until the analytical results are known, unless the excavation began to be compromised by seeping groundwater. The excavation is not expected to reach groundwater,

based on the existing level of the stream surrounding the peninsula and the anticipated depth of the aquarium concrete. However, if groundwater began to seep into the excavation before the analytical data are received, a groundwater grab sample would be collected and analyzed. The excavation would be backfilled immediately, if EPA and Tetra Tech oversight personnel deemed it necessary. The excavation would be backfilled with approximately 12 inches of pit run gravel, compacted, and then topped with 6 to 12 inches of topsoil to bring the excavated area up to the existing surface level.

In the process of collecting soil samples under the aquarium, the field team would generate various types of contaminated and potentially contaminated investigation-derived waste (IDW) including:

- Used personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Disposable sampling equipment
- Decontamination fluids
- Soil with concrete rubble from around and above the buried aquarium.

Disposable equipment intended for one-time use and PPE would be disposed of as solid waste in the local landfill. Any decontamination fluids would be containerized in U.S. Department of Transportation-approved containers. Once on-site sampling was completed, the fluid would be sampled and analyzed for PCBs. Based on the results, the fluid would be disposed of as required by TSCA.

Based on data previously collected in the area of the buried aquarium, it is anticipated that all IDW would likely show PCBs at concentrations below 50 mg/kg. This concentration would allow disposal of this solid IDW at a non-TSCA facility, a much less expensive alternative than Alternative A.

Once removal of the contaminated material has been accomplished, the disturbed areas would be returned to their original appearance. This would include placement of suitable soils, grading to original contours, placement of sod and shrubs as needed, and reconstruction of gravel pathways.

2.3 History and Development Process for the Alternatives

A previous investigation (Olympus 2006) and recently obtained photographs, indicate that the buried aquarium is likely covered with PCB contaminated paint. In addition, soil sampling conducted during this investigation indicated that at least some soil is contaminated with PCB above the action levels. As a result, the EPA and FWP determined that the site must be characterized further. Alternative B was developed because, based on past investigations, it is likely that additional sampling would merely verify that the concrete is contaminated with PCB paint. The soil under the buried aquarium would not likely be completely characterized, and the source of potential contamination would remain. Under Alternative B, the extent of PCB contamination in the concrete and the soil under the buried aquarium would be verified and the contaminated material would be disposed of in the appropriate and most cost-effective manner. In addition, the likely source of potential PCB contamination would be removed.

2.4 Past Relevant Actions

During a previous investigation (Olympus 2006), three surface soil samples (0 to 2 inches below ground surface [bgs]) and three subsurface soil samples (2 to 6 inches bgs) were collected near the buried aquarium (Figure 2). One sample contained PCB concentrations above the soil action level of 0.5 mg/kg. In addition, painted concrete was discovered in test pits at depths of approximately 6 inches below ground surface. Both red and blue-green paint, similar in appearance to the paint used at the lower raceways, were present on the buried concrete. Photographs of the historical aquarium are provided in Figures 3 and 4 (Tetra Tech 2009a). Figure 3 shows red and blue-green paint on portions of the inside and top of the historical aquarium. Figure 4 shows the outside concrete walls of the aquarium were painted red. Based on the depth of the aquarium and the height of the walls and center pillar, it is likely that a portion of the aquarium was hauled away before it was covered or filled with soil.

2.5 Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Study

EPA is likely to require the removal of all contaminated concrete and soil associated with the buried aquarium. Unless an Alternative addressed this requirement, it was not studied further.

2.6 Summary of Comparison of Predicted Achievement of Project Objectives

The No Action Alternative, Alternative A, would not remove the likely source of contamination or fully characterize the extent of PCB contamination. If future evidence indicated that groundwater is impacted by the PCB contaminated aquarium, another site investigation and subsequent removal of the contaminated aquarium and associated soil would likely occur. This would result in a higher cost than the one step process described in Alternative B.

Alternative B would remove the likely source of contamination and delineate the extent of the PCB contamination in the soil surrounding the aquarium. The one-step process, Alternative B, would likely be more cost effective than Alternative A. In addition, Alternative B would more quickly eliminate a potential source of contamination which would ensure protection of human health and the environment.

2.7 Identification of the Preferred Alternative

The agency preferred alternative is Alternative B. This alternative would remove the likely source of contamination (concrete aquarium and associated soil). In addition, the extent of PCB contamination would be determined.

CHAPTER 3.0: AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

3.1 Affected Environment

The Big Spring Trout Hatchery is located in central Montana in the southeastern portion of Fergus County. The hatchery lies in the relatively narrow northwest-southeast trending valley Big Spring Creek flows through as it proceeds toward its confluence with the Judith River. The hatchery is situated adjacent to Big Spring Creek, a 3½-mile-long spring creek, formed by the joining of flows from Hansen Creek and the Big Spring. Castle Creek joins Big Spring Creek near the hatchery. Surface elevations in the hatchery area range from about 4,140 feet at the Lower Hatchery Station to about 4,170 feet at the Upper Hatchery Station. Upland areas in the vicinity of the hatchery exceed 4,500 feet in elevation. Cattle and hay production are the major land uses within the Big Spring Creek drainage. Upper Big Spring and Middle Big Spring are located east of the Upper Hatchery Station. Lehman's Spring discharges approximately midway between the Upper and Lower Stations. These artesian springs, coupled with Big Spring near the Upper Hatchery Station, represent most of the flow in Big Spring Creek. The springs originate from percolation of water into the bedrock of the Big Snowy Mountains. In addition to the state-owned hatchery, two other private fish hatcheries are nearby. One of them uses water from Big Spring Creek, and the other uses its own spring source to raise trout for commercial purposes.

An aquarium is buried on a peninsula located at the Upper Hatchery Station. According to a previous investigation (Olympus 2006), there is PCB-contaminated red, gray, and blue-green paint on portions of the buried concrete aquarium. In addition, the surrounding soil (up to a depth of 6 inches bgs) contains concentrations of PCBs above the soil action level of 0.5 mg/kg, but below the EPA soil cleanup level of 1.0 mg/kg.

3.2 Environmental Consequences

The probable environmental effects of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative are discussed in this section. The No Action Alternative is being analyzed to provide a contrast or comparison with the impacts of the Proposed Action. Only environmental effects with a reasonable possibility for individual or cumulative impacts are assessed in this part.

There are no expected direct impacts from the proposed sampling action. All impacts are expected to be indirect. Cumulative impacts are expected to be the same as the indirect impacts.

Neither the Proposed Action nor the No Action Alternative would directly affect any of the physical and human environmental resources to any great extent.

If samples are collected and contamination found at levels that dictate material removal and disposal, there would be indirect effects to some resources. Any impacts from the proposed action are expected to be negligible, because of the short duration of the sampling project (several days) and the small amount of material likely to be removed (70 to 140 cubic yards).

3.3 Potential Impact on the Physical Environment

(comments included when minor impacts are checked or when additional information is provided)

TABLE 1
POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats			X		
2. Water quality, quantity & distribution			X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability & moisture			X		
4. Vegetative cover, quantity & quality			X		
5. Aesthetics				X	
6. Air quality			X		
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X	
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air, & energy			X		
9. Historical & archaeological sites				X	

Comments

1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats

Removal of contaminated material would likely have a long term benefit to aquatic life and habitats by removing a potential contaminant.

2. Water quality, quantity & distribution

Removal of contaminated material would likely reduce the chance of PCBs reaching groundwater or surface water. No surface water is expected to be impacted in the area.

3. Geology & soil quality, stability & moisture

The soil and geology on the peninsula would not change from existing conditions, because the site has already been excavated and the aquarium installed. In addition, the site was disturbed again when the aquarium was partially removed and partially buried. There is a possibility that groundwater could seep into the excavation and jeopardize the stability of the sidewalls. As described in the work plan, if water were to seep in, and the on-site personnel determine that there is a chance for the sidewalls to become unstable, the excavation would be backfilled immediately to prevent sloughing of the side walls.

4. Vegetative Cover, quantity and quality

There is a large tree on the peninsula that could be affected by the excavation. The roots would likely be disturbed when the aquarium is removed. The area around the tree would be avoided as much as possible.

6. Air quality

Excavation and hauling would produce fugitive dust and there would be emissions from the equipment engines.

8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air, & energy

Some additional fuel would be used in the excavation and hauling of any material removed from the site.

9. Historical and archaeological sites

Previous reports show a rock walled spring area, including the peninsula, which was constructed by the Civil Works Administration, Federal Economic Recovery Administration and Works Progress crews between 1922 and 1937. Portions of the wall have been repaired on an annual basis and it is estimated that 25 to 50 percent of the original sandstone rocks have been replaced. Because of this work, the feature has lost the primary element of the original context. However the remnants of the wall would be protected and avoided as much as possible during the excavation and remediation of the peninsula.

3.4 Potential Impacts on the Human Environment

(comments included when minor impacts are checked)

TABLE 2
POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown
1. Social structures & mores				X	
2. Cultural uniqueness & diversity				X	
3. Local & state tax base & tax revenue			X		
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X	
5. Human health			X		
6. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income			X		
7. Access to & quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X	
8. Quantity & distribution of employment			X		
9. Distribution & density of population & housing				X	
10. Demands for government services			X		
11. Industrial & commercial activity			X		
12. Demands for energy			X		

TABLE 2 (Cont.)
POTENTIAL IMPACT ON THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals			X		
14. Traffic networks & traffic flows			X		

Comments

3. Local & state tax base & tax revenue

There could be a slight increase in income taxes from the wages earned by workers associated with the removal of material.

5. Human health

Removal of contaminated material would reduce the long-term risk of PCB impacts to human health. During the removal of the contaminated material, access to the site would be limited to properly protected workers which would reduce short-term risks to human health.

6. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income

There could be a slight increase in area wages for workers involved in removal of material.

8. Quantity & distribution of employment

There could be a small number of additional short-term jobs created for the removal of material.

10. Demands for government services

There would be a need for FWP personnel to administer the contract for the sampling and removal of material.

11. Industrial & commercial activity

The removal of material would cause a slight increase in the industrial activity in the area.

12. Demands for energy

Additional fuel would be used in the removal of contaminated material.

13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals

Removal of contaminated material would be in accordance with FWP and EPA work plans for remediation in the hatchery area.

14. Traffic networks & traffic flows

Removal of material would cause a slight increase in area traffic.

CHAPTER 4.0: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COLLABORATORS

The following agencies, groups, and individuals are being sent a copy of this EA:

Governor's Office
Room 204, State Capitol
P.O. Box 20080 1
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Environmental Quality Council
Capitol Building. Room 106
P.O. Box 201704
Helena, MT 59620-1704

Montana Department of
Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, Montana 59620-0901

Montana Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 201202
Helena, MT 59620-1202

Montana Department of Natural
Resources and Conservation
P.O. Box 201601
Helena, MT 59620-1601

Fergus County Commissioners
Fergus County Courthouse
Lewistown, MT 59457

Montana Department of Natural
Resources and Conservation
Water Resources Division
6 13 NE Main, Suite E
Lewistown, MT 59457

State Library
Collection Management Librarian
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P.O. Box 201800
Helena, MT 59620-1800

Montana Wildlife Federation
P.O. Box 1 175
Helena, MT 59624

City of Lewistown
Chairman of Commission
City Complex
305 Watson
Lewistown, MT 59457

Lewistown Fergus County Planning
Fergus County Courthouse
Lewistown, MT 59457

Francis Tran
US EPA
Region 8
1595 Wyncoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

Fergus County Conservation District
211 East McKinley, Suite 3
Lewistown, MT 59457

Lewistown Public Works
305 Watson
Lewistown, MT 59457

Senator John R. Hertel
RR I Box 30
Moore, MT 59464-9703

Representative Larry Hal Grinde
RR 3
Lewistown, MT 59457-9803

Representative William C. Thomas
HC 81 Box 7
Hobson, MT 59452-9701

Lewistown Trout Unlimited
Route 2, Box 2064
Lewistown, MT 59457
Attn: Jim Barnum

Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 8 18
Lewistown, MT 59457

Carnegie Public Library
701 W. Main
Lewistown, MT 59457

Montana Environmental Information Center
P.O. Box 1 184
Helena, MT 59624
Attn: James Jensen

Montana Audubon Council
P.O. Box 595
Helena, MT 59624
Attn: Janet Ellis

Montana State Parks Association
P.O. Box 699
Billings, MT 59103

George Ochenski
P.O. Box 689
Helena, MT 59624

Montana River Action Network
P.O. Box 383
Helena, MT 59624

Montana Council Trout Unlimited
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Lewistown, MT 59457

Kory & Candy Nielson
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Lewistown, MT 59457

Bruce & Candy Bowman
123 Laughing Water Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457

Lyle & Evelyn Gorman
153 Laughing Water Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457

Karl & Lynn Gies
131 13th Ave. South
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Dan & Chris Rice
1022 Fish Hatchery Road
Lewistown, MT 59457

Bill & Vickie Cowen
42 Cabin Creek Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457

Robert Dill
120 Dill Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457

Wendell & Carol Wade
40 Dakota Lane
Lewistown, MT 59457

Kirk & Robin Fleming
436 Fish Hatchery Road
Lewistown, MT 59457

Alex & Trudi Smith
384 Fish Hatchery Road
Lewistown, MT 59457

Cliff Foreman
1787 Fish Hatchery Road
Lewistown, MT 59457

4.1 Public Participation

Public review of this EA will be accomplished through distribution of the document and through publication of a news release or legal notice announcing its availability, summarizing its content, and soliciting public comment. The EA will also be posted on FWP's website.

4.1.1 Public Comment Period

Written comments on this EA will be accepted for 21 days after it is distributed. Unless the comments received identify significant deficiencies in the analysis or significant impacts that were not discussed, no additional analysis or public involvement is planned. Public and agency comments on this EA will be evaluated to determine whether significant impacts would occur from the proposed action. If further consideration of the impacts discussed here is needed, or if new issues have arisen that need to be addressed in the EA, the text of the document will be revised as appropriate. If no significant impacts are identified, FWP will revise the EA and issue a Decision Notice for the project containing substantive comments received and FWP responses. The Decision Notice will also identify subsequent actions taken to implement the proposed action. The notice will then be made available to federal, state, and local government agencies and others with interests in the project. If significant impacts are found, FWP is obligated to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement before the proposed action can proceed.

4.1.2 Public Meetings

A public meeting to explain the proposal to the public will be held at 6 pm on July 15, 2009, at the proposed project site at the upper unit of the Big Springs Trout Hatchery, Lewistown, Montana

4.2 People Associated with the Project

The following people are responsible for preparation and content of this document:

Bob Snyder, Hatchery Bureau Chief
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
1420 East Sixth Avenue
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Helena, MT 59620-070 1
(406) 444-2447

The Montana Department of Fish Wildlife & Parks was assisted in the writing, coordination, and the development of supporting information for this document by:

Tetra Tech EM Inc.
7 West Sixth Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 442-5588

CHAPTER 5.0: DETERMINATION IF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) IS REQUIRED

The agency has determined that the impacts of this proposed action are minor and do not warrant preparation of an EIS.

CHAPTER 6.0: REFERENCES

Articlesbase. PCB Contamination (Articles). http://www.articlesbase.com/law-articles/pcb-contamination-342016.html. Accessed 6/2/2009.

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Olympus. 2006. "Site Characterization Report, Big Springs Trout Hatchery". Prepared for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. April 25.

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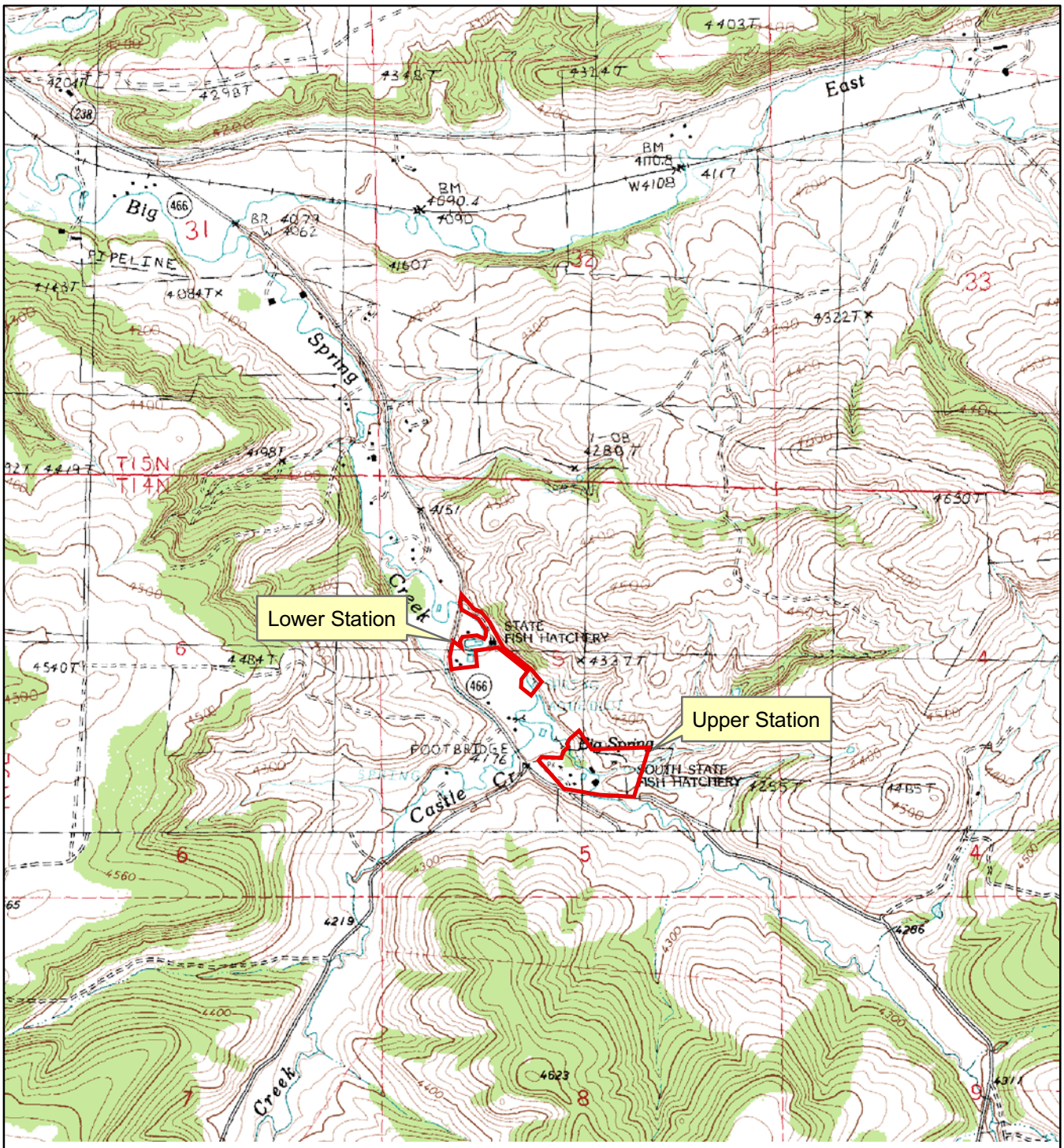


0 2,000 4,000 Feet

Map Sources:
USGS, 1985, Pike Creek Quadrangle
USGS, 1995, Heath Quadrangle

Source of Figure, Olympus Technical Services, Inc.

Big Springs Fish Hatchery
Lewistown, Montana

Figure 1.
Site Location Map

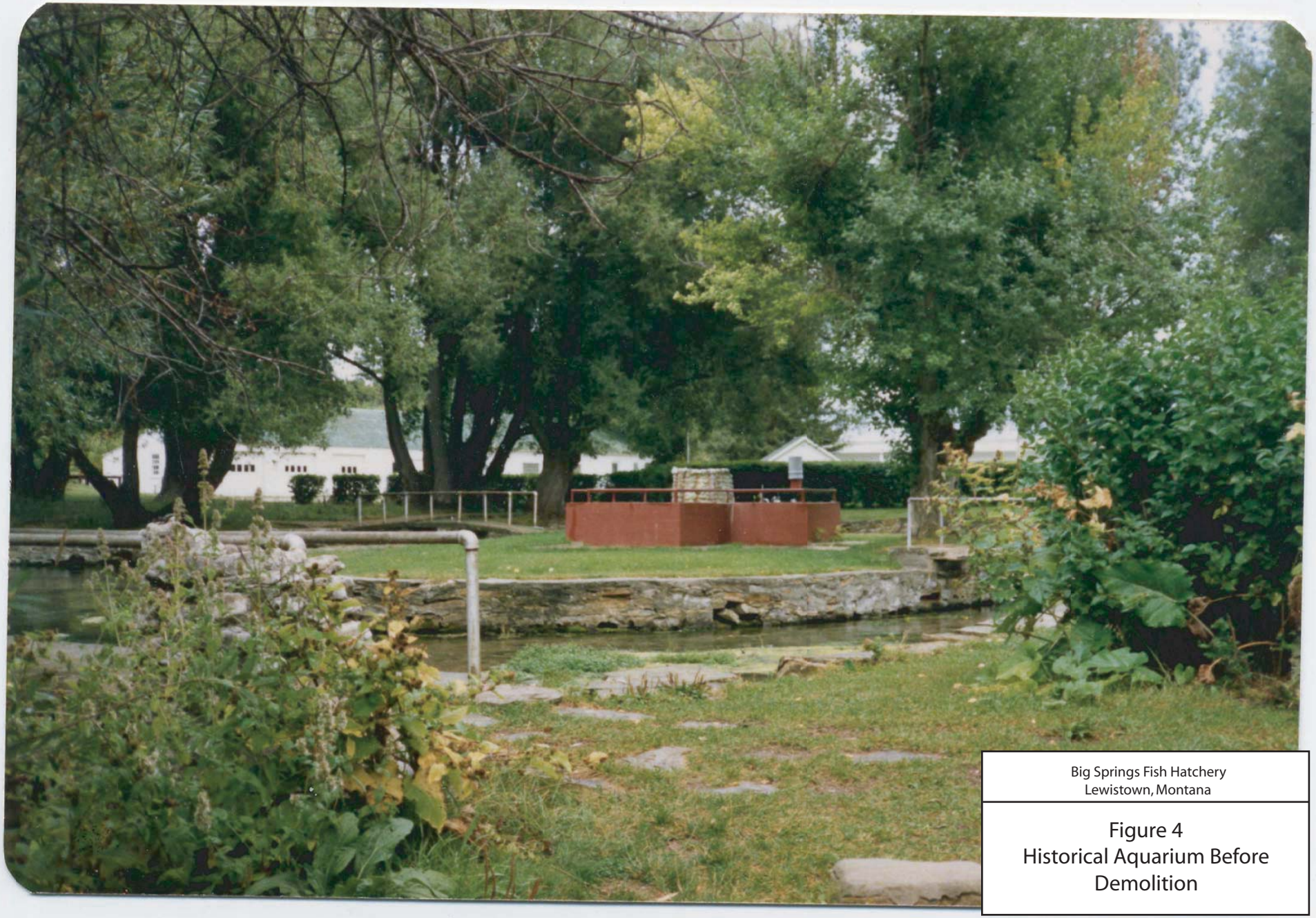
Aerial Photograph Source: NRIS 5/16/2004
Source of Figure: Olympus Technical Services, Inc.

Big Springs Fish Hatchery
Lewistown, Montana

Figure 2
Aerial Photograph Showing
Historical Features

Big Springs Fish Hatchery
Lewistown, Montana

Figure 3
Historical Aquarium Before Demolition, Close-up View



Big Springs Fish Hatchery
Lewistown, Montana

Figure 4
Historical Aquarium Before Demolition