

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

**Name and address of applicant:** Monte Giese  
750 Giese Lane  
Carter, MT 59420

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

**Does the pond have water rights?** This pond has a statement of claim water right # 410 129759-00 for a stock water use and a priority date of December 31, 1913. This water right includes the amount of water consumptively used for stock watering purposes at the rate of 30 gallons per day per animal unit. Animal units shall be based on reasonable carrying capacity and historical use of the area serviced by this water source.

**Location of pond:**

**County:**Chouteau

**Legal description:** T24NR6ES10NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

**LAT/LONG:** N 47.85080, W-110.94580

**Name of the drainage where the pond would be located:** Pond is located on Weatherwax Coulee approximately 1.25 miles upstream of the Teton River.

**Fish species proposed for introduction:** Rainbow trout and brown trout.

**Is this species legally present in the drainage?** Yes.

**Species of Special Concern present in the drainage:** None known in the vicinity of the pond. Blue sucker, sauger and sturgeon chub have been sampled in the Teton River downstream of Weatherwax coulee. Westslope cutthroat trout are present in the headwaters of the Teton River.

**RISKS:**

**Inlets to or outlets from the pond?** Yes  No  **Explain:**

Water enters the pond from runoff of melting snow or major rain events in the drainage. Outflow is via an overland spillway. Trout can easily escape from this reservoir.

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

Comments: Adverse genetic impacts are considered unlikely. The proposed species are not native to the Teton River. Rainbow and brown trout are present in the upper Teton River drainage. Trout that would escape from this pond should have little negative impact on the genetics of non-native trout populations.

**Impacts to any life stage of existing fish populations due to competition and/or predation?**  None  Minor  Major

Comments: May eat minnows or other fish if present in pond.

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

None  Minor  Major

Comments: Trout will consume some invertebrates in pond.

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

Comments: No inlet stream or available spawning habitat exists.

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

Yes. This pond could be chemically treated or species removed through attrition.

**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.

**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. Only minor impacts are expected.

**EA prepared by:** Paul Hamlin

**DATE:** 4/29/2010



**Giese Private Pond in Weatherwax Coulee looking upstream towards washed out dam.**



**Giese Private Pond in Weatherwax Coulee looking upstream from dam towards washed out dam.**

**DECISION RECORD  
FISH POND LICENSE**

**DECISION: Issue**

- Private Pond License**
- Commercial Pond License**
- One Time Permission to Plant Letter**
- Denial**

**APPROVED SPECIES: Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Westslope cutthroat trout**

**LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:**

**DECISION REASONING:**

- Pond meets all other requirements for Private Pond License.**



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George Liknes  
Regional Fisheries Manager

5/27/2010

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Date