

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

**Name and address of applicant:** Doug Anderson  
960 US Highway 408  
Fairfield, MT 59436

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

**Location of pond:**

**County:** Teton

**Legal description:** T21N R4W Sec 17, NW¼

**Lat/Long:** 47.57597°, 112.14658°

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

Pond is located on an unnamed drainage wasteway that is part of the Greenfield Irrigation Project. Water source is irrigation seepage/waste from the Sun River Slope Canal. The wasteway drains to Elbow Coulee, School Section Coulee and eventually to the Sun River. The pond is located approximately 7.9 miles SW of Fairfield and south of the Sun River Slope Canal.

**Fish species proposed for introduction:**

Rainbow trout.

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

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

Arctic grayling occur in the Sun River Slope Canal in this vicinity. The grayling are lost to the canal population after water is turned off. Some are also lost in irrigated fields. It would be nearly impossible for any grayling to access this particular 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: Seep water from the irrigation canal above the pond was electrofished on June 12, 2000 and no fish of any species were found. re already present in drainage. Largemouth bass have been planted in nearby Rainbow, brown, and brook trout are present in Elbow Coulee, School Section Coulee and the Sun River.

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

Comments: This was a pond constructed in 2000 and invertebrates are anticipated to be present in high densities. Fish will consume some invertebrates in this artificial pond and may affect the size structure.

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

Comments: Trout unlikely to spawn successfully.

**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.

**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:**

No notification of other agencies and individuals was made after completion of the E.A. due to very low probability of impacts from this action and an anticipated lack of public interest in this non-controversial project.

**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 expected to be minor.

**EA prepared by:** George Liknes **DATE:** February 12, 2010

**Comments will be accepted until:** No formal public comment period provided for this action, but any public input will be accepted at any time.

**Comments should be sent to:**

MDFW&P, 4600 Giant Springs Rd, Great Falls, MT 59405

**DECISION RECORD  
FISH POND LICENSE**

**DECISION: Issue**

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

**EA# Title: Doug Anderson Private Pond**

**APPROVED SPECIES: Rainbow Trout**

**LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:**

**DECISION REASONING:**

- Pond meets all other requirements for Private Pond License.**
- Other (specify)**

*George Liknes*

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George Liknes  
Regional Fisheries Manager

2/12/2010

Date