

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

Name and address of applicant: Roger Senef
10560 North Denton Rd
Coffee Creek, MT 59424

Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit?

Yes with a fisheries water right for the pond, it would be appropriate for a private pond permit. Water originates from springs upstream of the pond; very small drainage area, with ephemeral stream downstream of dam (Figure 1).

Does the pond have water rights? The pond has a stockwater permit with a priority date of February 11, 2009. The pond also has a notice of completion of groundwater development for a fisheries use accepted by DNRC on January 28, 2010 .

Location of pond:

County: Fergus

Legal description: North Pond T20N,R14E,S34 NENENE

LAT/Long: 47.46019; 109.91716

Name of the drainage where the pond would be located: Ponds are located in the Coffee Creek Drainage (Arrow).

Fish species proposed for introduction:

Rainbow trout

Is this species legally present in the drainage?

Yes, in the Arrow Creek drainage. Several ponds in this vicinity have been permitted for and/or are stocked with rainbow trout.

Species of Special Concern present in the drainage: None from this ephemeral drainage. None from Coffee Creek drainage during prairie fish sampling.

RISKS:

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

Pond does not have an outlet structure (Figure 2). Screens are not practical on the current outlet. During high flows stocked fish may go downstream via an ephemeral channel into Coffee Creek. Rainbow trout would not survive long in ephemeral drainage or in Coffee Creek.

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

Comments: Non-native Rainbow trout have access to Coffee Creek. Adverse genetic impacts are considered unlikely.

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

Comments: See above. May eat minnows or other fish if present in pond or Coffee Creek.

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: Pond spring fed with no inlet stream. Reproduction is unlikely for rainbow trout.

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

Yes. Pond does not have a drawdown structure. This small pond would likely need to be chemically treated and/or pumped.

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. Minor impacts expected.

EA prepared by: Anne Tews

DATE: 5/14/2009

**DECISION RECORD
FISH POND LICENSE**

DECISION: Issue

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

APPROVED SPECIES: Rainbow Trout

LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:

DECISION REASONING:

- Pond meets all other requirements for Private Pond License.**
- Other (specify) Pond does not meet criteria for private pond permit but impacts should be minimal.**



2/12/2010

George Liknes
Regional Fisheries Manager

Date



Figure 1. Headwater view of pond. Note springs in lower left.



Figure 2. Pond outlet