CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name:	Pipe Line Installation
Proposed Implementation Date:	May 2012
Proponent:	Yellowstone Pipe Line Company
Location:	Township 2N Range 4E Section 30
County:	Gallatin
Trust:	Common Schools, Public Land Trust-Navig Rivers, University of Montana

I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

Installation of a new HDD (Horizontal Direction Drill) crossing and check valve for the Yellowstone Pipe Line Company's 10" refined petroleum products pipe line at the East Gallatin River.

The current pipe line is exposed at the south edge of the main channel and along the south bank. The exposure was stabilized in the mid-1990's by constructing a rock weir immediately downstream of the exposure. Stream action has moved several of the weir rocks, and bank erosion at the point of the meander immediately upstream has exposed more of the pipeline along the bank. On February 22, 2012 grout bags were installed as a temporary precaution to protect the exposed pipe line. The new pipeline would utilize Horizontal Direction Drill (HDD) technology. After completion, the exposed pipe line will be removed from the stream channel along with the rock weir, any loose riprap, and the temporary grout bags.

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.

April 10, 2012 – Went to an onsite visit with the adjoining landowner and state lands lessee, and representatives from Terracon (Yellowstone Pipe Line Company), Montana FWP, Gallatin County Conservation District, US Army Corps of Engineers, and Gallatin County Floodplain Administrator.

2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

Gallatin County Conservation District, 310 Permit – Approved 4/20/12
US Army Corps of Engineers, 404 Permit – Approved 5/9/2012
Gallatin County Floodplain Administrator, Floodplain Permit – Approved 5/2/2012

3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Action: Grant the Land Use License followed by an easement to install a new HDD crossing for the Yellowstone Pipe Line Company's 10" petroleum products pipe line at the East Gallatin River, and remove the old structures.

No Action: Do not grant the Land Use License followed by an easement to install a new HDD crossing for the Yellowstone Pipe Line Company's 10" petroleum products pipe line at the East Gallatin River, and remove the old structures.

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:
Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.

HDD technology will not disturb the bed or banks of the river. Disturbed upland areas will be reclaimed and stabilized following construction. Short-term turbidity may occur in the vicinity while the work is being completed, and old structures are being removed. No long-term/permanent impacts are expected.

5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:
Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.

HDD technology will not disturb the bed or banks of the river, therefore not disturbing stream flow or water quality. It is not foreseen that there will be any permanent change to erosion, sedimentation, or turbidity (temporary turbidity may be localized due to the removal of the old structures.)

6. AIR QUALITY:
What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.

No effect.

7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:
What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.

Disturbed areas will be reseeded with an approved seed mix. Revegetation success will be monitored and reseeded if required. The reclaimed areas will be monitored/controlled for weeds.

8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:
Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.

There may be a temporary impact to aquatic habitat while the old structures are being removed, however no long-term/permanent impacts are expected due to the limited scope of the project.

9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:
Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.

No direct or cumulative impact to threatened, endangered or unique wildlife is anticipated as a result of the proposal due to its limited scope.

10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:
Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.

There are no known historical or archaeological sites in the area of construction.

11. AESTHETICS:

Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.

The area will look like a more natural stream channel with the removal of the old pipe line, rock weir, any loose riprap, and the temporary grout bags.

12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:

Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.

None

13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:

List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.

None

IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.

If no work/stabilization/reconstruction is done on the exposed pipe line, there may be a risk of damage to the pipeline. A damaged pipeline could pose a risk for human health and safety if water and/or soils become contaminated.

15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:

Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.

No effect.

16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:

Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.

No effect.

17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:

Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.

No effect.

18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services

No effect.

19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:
List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.

No effect.

20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:
Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.

No effect.

21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:
Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing.

No effect.

22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:
Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.

There are no native, unique or traditional lifestyles or communities in the vicinity that would be impacted by the proposal.

23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:
How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?

No affect.

24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:
Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

If granted, this would generate $150.00 in revenue from a Land Use License.

EA Checklist Prepared By:	**Name:** Katie Svoboda /s/	**Date:** 4/12/2012
	Title: Bozeman Unit Office Manager	

V. FINDING

25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED: Action, Grant the Land Use License followed by an easement to install a new HDD crossing for the Yellowstone Pipe Line Company's 10" petroleum products pipe line at the East Gallatin River, and remove the old structures.

26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS: Considering the approvals of the agencies having jurisdiction on disturbance to streams and waterways, Gallatin County Conservation District 310 permit and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit, and the analysis provided I find no significant impact from these activities.

27. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

[ ] EIS	[ ] More Detailed EA	[X] No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Approved By:	**Name:**	Craig Campbell
	Title:	Bozeman Unit Manager
Signature: Craig Campbell /s/		**Date**: 5/10/12