

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

Name and address of applicant: Matt Wickens & Lester Morgan
PO Box 92
Winifred, MT 59489

Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit? Yes.

Does the pond have water rights? This pond has a statement of claim water right # 41T 146652-00 for a stock water use with a priority date of December 31, 1915. 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. The dam water depth was estimated at 8.0 feet, the surface acres at 2.0 and the volume at 6.40 acre-feet by DNRC's staff.

Location of pond:

County: Fergus

Legal description: T21NR18ES8, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$

Lat/Long: N 47.61048, W -109.43780

Name of the drainage where the pond is located: Pond is located on an unnamed coulee in the Dog Creek drainage, approximately 1.3 miles from Dog Creek. The prairie fish community in Dog Creek in the vicinity of the pond includes lake chubs, brassy minnow, longnose dace, common carp, white sucker, fathead minnow, plains minnow, flathead chub and brook stickleback.

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 Dog Creek. .

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 could escape during overflow from this reservoir, but only during exceptional weather events and would likely not reach perennial surface water.

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 Missouri River. Rainbow and brown trout are present in the Missouri River drainage downstream, but uncommon in this reach. Trout that would escape from this pond

should have little potential to negatively impact the genetics of non-salmonid fish populations.

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

Comments: No other fish exist in this 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. Minor impacts expected.

EA prepared by: George Liknes

DATE: 3/7/12

**DECISION RECORD
FISH POND LICENSE**

DECISION: Issue

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

EA Name: Matt Wickens/Lester M. Morgan Private Pond EA

APPROVED SPECIES: Rainbow trout and brown trout

LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:

DECISION REASONING:

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

George Liknes

George Liknes
Regional Fisheries Manager

3/7/2012

Date