

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
WATER RESOURCES DIVISION
WATER RIGHTS BUREAU

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. **Type of action:** 43D-107169-00
2. **Applicant/Contact name and address:** FRANCIS HENNING
RT 1 BOX 107
SILESIA, MT, 59041
3. **Water source name:** UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF THE CLARKS FORK OF THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER
4. **Location affected by action:** SWSENW SECTION 25, TWP 3 SOUTH, RGE 23 EAST, CARBON COUNTY
5. **Narrative summary of the proposed project and action to be taken:** THIS APPLICATION IS FOR WATER TO BE PUMPED AT A RATE OF 3 CFS FROM A SMALL HOLDING POND ON THIS UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF THE CLARKS FORK OF THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER ONTO 21 ACRES OF ALFALFA AND GRASS HAY AND PASTURE. THE APPLICATION WAS PUBLIC NOTICED AND ONE OBJECTION WAS RECEIVED. THE OBJECTION WAS RESOLVED WITH CONDITIONS PLACED ON THE PERMIT. THE PERMIT IS TO BE ISSUED.
6. **Agencies consulted during preparation of the environmental assessment:**
MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM
MONTANA HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

1. Environmental Impact Checklist:

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Soils/Geologic Features:

Degradation of soil quality or alteration of soil stability, moisture content, geologic substructure, unique geologic features, archeological sites? THERE SHOULD BE NO IMPACT. THE MONTANA HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE IDENTIFIED NO PREVIOUSLY RECORDED HISTORIC OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES WITHIN THIS AREA.

Erosion:

Alteration of erosion or siltation patterns which modify stream beds or lake shores?
EROSION SHOULD BE MINIMAL, FROM THIS USE.

Vegetation/Noxious weeds:

Change in or adverse affect on diversity and production of local plant species including any unique or endangered species (including trees, shrubs, grass, and aquatic plants)? Establishment or spread of noxious weeds? THE MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM DID NOT IDENTIFY ANY SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN IN THIS AREA. THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE SPREAD OF NOXIOUS WEEDS.

Air:

Deterioration of air quality, or adverse effects on vegetation due to increased air pollutants.
NO SIGNIFICANT AFFECT

Water:

Alteration of surface water or groundwater quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity or quantity or distribution?

THE RETURN FLOWS FROM THIS USE MAY CAUSE SOME SEDIMENT TO BE RELESSED IN THE STREAM. THIS AFFECT IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE SIGNIFICANT.

Floodplain:

Changes in drainage patterns, course or magnitude of flood flows, or exposure of people/property to hazards (flood)? NO

Wildlife Habitat/Migration:

Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat? Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of fish or wildlife? THIS USE SHOULD HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT AFFECT ON FISH OR WILDLIFE HABITAT OR MOVEMENT.

Endangered Species:

Adverse effects on any unique or endangered species?

THE MONTANA NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM DID NOT IDENTIFY ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES OR SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN IN THIS AREA.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Existing Land Use:

Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?
NO, THE LAND IS PRESENTLY AGRICULTURAL.

Historical Significance:

Destruction or alteration of a natural area of scientific or educational value or prehistoric or paleontological importance? THE MONTANA HISTORICAL PRESERVATION OFFICE DID NOT IDENTIFY ANY PEVIOUSLY RECORDED SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL SITES IN THIS AREA.

Populace:

Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area? Alteration of social structure of community? THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD HAVE NO AFFECT ON THE POPULACE OF THIS AREA.

Transportation:

Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods? THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD HAVE NO AFFECT ON THE TRANSPORTATION IN THIS AREA.

Safety:

Creation of any health hazard or affect on existing emergency response or evacuation plans? THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD HAVE NO AFFECT ON THE SAFETY IN THIS AREA.

Public Services:

Have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? Have an effect upon local or state tax base? THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD HAVE NO AFFECT ON PUBLIC SERVICES IN THIS AREA.

Utilities:

Creates need for new or altered facilities for any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications? THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD NOT INCREASE THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL UTILITIES IN THIS AREA.

Aesthetics:

Alteration of any scenic vista or recreation opportunity or creation of an aesthetically offensive site to the public? THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD NOT CAUSE AND ADVERSE AFFECT ON THE AESTHETICS IN THIS AREA.

Other:

NONE

2. Secondary and cumulative impacts: NONE

3. Reasonable alternatives to the proposed action, including the no action alternative:
NO ACTION. THE WATER WOULD NOT BE PUT TO BENEFICIAL USE.

PART III. CONCLUSION

Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? NO

If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action:

THIS USE OF WATER SHOULD HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT IN THE AREA.

PREPARED BY:

NAME: MARTY VAN CLEAVE

TITLE: WATER RESOURCES SPECIALIST

DATE: [Automatic date code removed]