

DRAFT

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
490 North Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901
(406) 752-5501

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Fur Farm, Game Bird Farm, Zoo/Menagerie, Shooting Preserve

PART 1. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

Project Title: Upland Wingmasters Game Bird Farm

Application Date: September 13, 2002

Name, Address, and Phone Number: Bruce Adkins
18 Meadowlark Lane
Plains, MT 59859
(406) 826-0057

Project Location: 18 Meadowlark Lane, Plains, MT 59859
NW ¼ SE ¼ S2 T20N R26W, Sanders County

Description of Project: The application is for Ring-necked Pheasant, Quail, Chukar Partridge, and Hungarian Partridge; the plan is to raise Ring-necked Pheasant initially. The area is about 200 feet by 400 feet and will be enclosed with netting. The brooding area will be a concrete pad that can be flushed with water. A septic system will collect any waste. It will include automatic feeding and watering systems. The birds will have very little human contact, thus trying to maintain their wildness. The farm is screened with three rows of trees and shrubs of different heights. Birds will be sold to hunting clubs and for dog training purposes.

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction: None

PART 2. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

| Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to: | Unknown | Potentially Significant | Minor | None | Can Be Mitigated | Comments Below or on Attached Pages |
|--|---------|-------------------------|-------|------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources. | | | | X | | |
| b. Terrestrial or aquatic life and/or habitats. | | | X | | | |
| c. Introduction of new species into an area. | | | | X | | |
| d. Vegetation cover, quantity, & quality. | | | X | | | |
| e. Water quality, quantity, & distribution (surface or groundwater). | | | | X | | |
| f. Existing water right or reservation. | | | | X | | |
| g. Geology & soil quality, stability, & moisture. | | | | X | | |
| h. Air quality or objectional odors. | | | X | | | |
| i. Historical & archaeological sites. | | | | X | | |
| j. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air, & energy. | | | | X | | |
| k. Aesthetics. | | | X | | | |

Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

Table 2. Potential impacts on human environment .

| Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to: | Unknown | Potentially Significant | Minor | None | Can Be Mitigated | Comments Below Or On Attached Pages |
|---|---------|-------------------------|-------|------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. Social structures and cultural diversity. | | | | X | | |
| b. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat. | | | | X | | |
| c. Local and state tax base and tax revenue. | | | X | | | |
| d. Agricultural production. | | | | X | | |
| e. Human health. | | | | X | | |
| f. Quantity & distribution of community & personal income. | | | X | | | |
| g. Access to & quality of recreational activities. | | | | X | | |
| h. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals (ordinances). | | | | X | | |
| i. Distribution & density of population and housing. | | | | X | | |
| j. Demands for government services. | | | X | | | |
| k. Industrial and/or commercial activity. | | | X | | | |

Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided as comments.)

Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects, which are uncertain but extremely harmful if they were to occur? No

Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant? No

Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no-action alternative) to the proposed action, when alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider. Include a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:

No Action Alternative - Land use would remain the same (Rural Residential). No additional profits would be generated and no additional demands would be placed on state government.

List proposed mitigative measures (stipulations) for license: None

Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on, this EA: Bruce Sterling, MFWP Wildlife Biologist, P. O. Box 35, Thompson Falls, MT 59873, (406) 827-4389.

Date draft EA completed: October 8, 2002

Duration of comment period: Two weeks, from October 8 through October 22, 2002. Please direct comments/questions to Game Warden Mark Soderlind or FWP Wildlife Biologist Bruce Sterling.

EA prepared by: Warden Mark Soderlind
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