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AUG 26 2004

DS-252

DNRC - Trust Lands Management Division
D.N.R.C.

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name: Reservoir for cattle water.	Proposed Implementation Date: Oct. 1, 2004.
Proponent: Hank & Willis Olson, Lessees of State Lease #4268.	
Type and Purpose of Action: To build a small water reservoir in the NE1/4 for stock water.	
Location: NE1/4, Sec. 36, T15N, R23E.	County: Fergus.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED: Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.	Mt. DNRC, Hank & Willis Olson. RECEIVED
2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:	None. SEP 10 2004 LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE
3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:	The "No Action" alternative. The alternative to build the reservoir.

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE: Are fragile, compactible or unstable soils present? Are there unusual geological features? Are there special reclamation considerations?	[N] The location is in a wooded ponderosa pine drainage. There are no unusual geologic features present. There are no special reclamation considerations to consider.
5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION: Are important surface or groundwater resources present? Is there potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality?	[Y] There is runoff water in the drainage area. The proposed dam would capture this runoff and make it available for wildlife and livestock.

IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

6.	AIR QUALITY: Will pollutants or particulate be produced? Is the project influenced by air quality regulations or zones (Class I airshed)?	[N] Pollutants and particulates will not be produced.
7.	VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY: Will vegetative communities be permanently altered? Are any rare plants or cover types present?	[Y] Pine trees and grasses in the area of the proposed dam will be removed. There are no rare plants or cover types present.
8.	TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS: Is there substantial use of the area by important wildlife, birds or fish?	[Y] There is substantial use of this area by elk, mule deer, antelope and upland game. This project will enhance their survival.
9.	UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: Are any federally listed threatened or endangered species or identified habitat present? Any wetlands? Sensitive Species or Species of special concern?	[N] There are no species of special concern that I am aware of.
10.	HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: Are any historical, archeological, or paleontological resources present?	[N] There are no historical, paleontological or archaeological resources present.
11.	AESTHETICS: Is the project on a prominent topographical feature? Will it be visible from populated or scenic areas? Will there be excessive noise or light?	[N] This project will not be visible, or create excessive noise or light.
12.	DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY: Will the project use resources that are limited in the area? Are there other activities nearby that will affect the project?	[Y] Water is a limited resource.
13.	OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA: Are there other studies, plans or projects on this tract?	[N] None.

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

14.	HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY: Will this	[N] This project will not affect human health or
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III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

<p>project add to health and safety risk in the area?</p>	<p>safety.</p>
<p>15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION: Will the project add to or alter these activities?</p>	<p>[Y] Livestock production will benefit from this proposed project.</p>
<p>16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT: Will the project create, move or eliminate jobs? If so, estimated number.</p>	<p>[N] New jobs will not be created.</p>
<p>17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES: Will the project create or eliminate tax revenue?</p>	<p>[N] Taxes will not be affected.</p>
<p>18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES: Will substantial traffic be added to existing roads? Will other services (fire protection, police, schools, etc.) be needed?</p>	<p>[N] Other services will not be required.</p>
<p>19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS: Are there State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, etc., zoning or management plans in effect?</p>	<p>[N] None.</p>
<p>20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES: Are wilderness or recreational areas nearby or accessed through this tract? Is there recreational potential within the tract?</p>	<p>[Y] This tract holds recreational potential within it for upland and big game hunting.</p>
<p>21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING: Will the project add to the population and require additional housing?</p>	<p>[N] Additional housing will not be a requirement.</p>
<p>22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES: Is some disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities possible?</p>	<p>[N] Disruption is not likely.</p>
<p>23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY: Will the action cause a shift in some unique quality of the area?</p>	<p>[N] There should be no shift.</p>
<p>24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND</p>	<p>[N] None.</p>

III. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

ECONOMICAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

EA Checklist Prepared By:

BARNY D. SMITH, Lewistown Unit Manager, Northeastern Land Office


Signature

Date: August 23, 2004

IV. FINDING

25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:

The alternative to build the reservoir.

26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

Minimal negative impacts are expected with this project. It will be relatively small, and provide wildlife with water as well as livestock. More positive impacts are expected than negative.

27. Need for Further Environmental Analysis:

EIS More Detailed EA No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Approved by:

CLIVE ROONEY, Area Manager, Northeastern Land Office

 8/23/04
Signature

Date: