



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

2300 Lake Elmo Drive  
Billings, MT 59105

**RECEIVED**

MAY 25 2005

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE

## NOTICE OF DECISION

May 23, 2005

TO: Environmental Quality Council  
Director's Office, Dept. of Environmental Quality  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks\*

Director's Office  
Parks Division  
Fisheries Division  
Wildlife Division

Lands Section  
Design & Construction  
Legal Unit  
Regional Supervisors

Mike Volesky, Governor's Office  
Sarah Elliott, Press Agent, Governor's Office\*  
Montana Historical Society, State Preservation Office  
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council  
Montana Wildlife Federation  
Montana State Library\*  
George Ochenski  
Montana Environmental Information Center  
Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation  
Commissioner Shane Colton\*  
Bob Raney  
Sharon Moore, DNRC Area Manager, Southern Land Office  
Other Local Interested People or Groups

\* (sent electronically)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared for Bridger Fishing Access near Bridger, Montana. The draft EA was circulated for 30 days and legal notices were published on Montana's electronic bulletin board, the Billings Gazette and the Helena Independent Record. We received one comment regarding weed management as well as letters of support from the Town of Bridger and Carbon County. The department has decided to proceed with the project as described in the Environmental Assessment.

This project is subject to appeal, which must be submitted to the FWP Director in writing, and postmarked within 30 days of the date on this decision notice. The appeal must specifically describe the basis for the appeal, explain how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and lay out how FWP might address the concerns in the appeal. If you have questions regarding this decision notice, please send e-mails to [hnyberg@mt.gov](mailto:hnyberg@mt.gov) or call me at 247-2951.

Sincerely,

  
Harvey E. Nyberg  
Regional Supervisor

## **BRIDGER FISHING ACCESS EA COMMENT SUMMARY**

One comment was received regarding noxious weed control at the site and the presence of "exotics". The commenter felt strongly that noxious weeds should be eradicated prior to development.

This site was Carbon County property prior to being donated to FWP. The county has done weed control on the site in the past and continues to do it under agreement with FWP. Prior development of the site (this site was the old highway and bridge approach) was in place when FWP acquired the property and the public has used the site throughout this time period.

The exotics referred to in the EA include mostly Russian Olive. Although an aggressive spreader, Russian Olive is not currently considered a noxious weed.

FWP will continue to work with the County to control weeds on the site. Communication with the County weed supervisor and the State Noxious Weed Coordinator support our approach to this important management concern.