

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

Name and address of applicant: Eugene Smith
Lightning Ridge LLC
HC 40 Box 230
Olive, MT 59343

Is approval for a private pond permit application recommended? Yes with restriction on species requested (No northern pike allowed)

Location of pond:

County: Powder River

Legal description: Pond 1 T2S R49E Sec 27 , NW1/4
Pond 2 T3S R49E Sec4 NW1/4

Name of the drainage where the pond would be located:

Both ponds are located in the Pumpkin Creek drainage that eventually flows into the Tongue River.

Fish species proposed for introduction:

A request to stock largemouth bass, northern pike and rainbow trout was received for both ponds. Largemouth bass and rainbow trout will be permitted. Northern Pike will not be permitted in these ponds.

Is this species legally present in the drainage?

Both species are presently found in the drainage

Species of Special Concern present in the drainage:

None known in the Pumpkin Creek drainage.

RISKS:

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations:

None Minor Major

Comments: No significant impacts are expected.

Impacts to any life stage of existing fish populations due to competition and/or predation?

None Minor Major

Comments: These species are already present in drainage.

Impacts to other forms of aquatic life that may be caused by this introduction?

None Minor Major

Comments: Fish will consume some invertebrates in pond.

Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location:

None Minor Major

Comments: Largemouth bass will reproduce in the ponds but rainbow trout should not be able to.

If necessary, would it be feasible to remove this species after it has been stocked? Yes.

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:

Notification via State of Montana electronic bulletin board.

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. Impacts expected to be minor.

EA prepared by: June 9, 2006 **DATE:**

Comments will be accepted until: June 23, 2006

Comments should be sent to:

Brad Schmitz
PO Box 1630
Miles City, MT 59301

Email: Brschmitz@mt.gov

EA Name: Smith pondsEA.doc