

Date: September 28, 2006

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

Name and address of applicant: Jeff Chiate – Big Hole Meadows, LLC
2 Blue Horizon
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit in the past?

No. It is a new construction in 2006.

Location: County Silver Bow **Township** 1N **Range** 12W **Section** 10

Name of drainage where the pond would be located: Big Hole River

Name(s) of fish species proposed for introduction: Rainbow Trout

Is this species of fish legally present in the drainage? It was introduced legally.

List species of special concern present in the drainage: Arctic Grayling, Westslope Cutthroat trout, and Lake trout.

RISKS:

Inlets to or outlets from the pond? No. Pond is a groundwater excavation with pump mechanism set to provide <35gpm inflow and send excess to drain field.

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations?

None Minor Major

Comments: Proximity of pond to river and recent property flood event should mandate additional license restrictions in Decision Record to protect pond from future flood events.

Impacts to any life stage of existing fish population due to competition and/or predation? None Minor Major

Comments: See above

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

None Minor Major

Comments: See above

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

None Minor Major

Comments: Pond has no surface inflow or outflow and is bottomed with commercial liner.

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

Yes, via age based mortality in lieu of stocking or use of a piscicide.

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).

No action.

Describe and evaluate mitigation, stipulations, or other control measures enforceable by the agency, if any. License Restrictions to include:

- 1) No surface inflow or outflow
- 2) Maintenance of berms elevated over 100 year flood
- 3) Maintenance of rational flood swales around pond.
- 4) No impedance, obstruction or elevation of surrounding floodplain.

List any other agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction: Butte-Silver Bow Floodplain administration.

List all agencies and individuals outside of FWP who have been notified of this proposed introduction: DNRC, DEQ, Butte Silver Bow Departments (Planner, Sanitarian, Floodplain) and Senator Steve Gallus.

Based on this evaluation, is an EIS required? No. EA should be posted for public review and comment.

EA prepared by: Richard Oswald
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