

EA# 80-06

Date: October 5, 2006

### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF FISH INTRODUCTIONS PRIVATE POND APPLICATION

Name and address of applicant: Homestead Homeowners Assoc.  
Box 168  
Sheridan, MT 59749

Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit in the past? No

Location: County Madison Township 4S Range 5W Section 26

Name of drainage where the pond would be located: Mill Creek (Ruby River)

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

Is this species native to the drainage? If not, was it introduced legally? Yes, introduced by FWP.

List species of special concern present in the drainage? Westslope cutthroat trout

**RISKS:**

Inlets to or outlets from the pond? No. Underground outlet to drainfield or irrigation/recirculating pump.

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations?

None X Minor     Major    

Comments: Pond situated far from natural streams with no surface flow.

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

Comments: see above.

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

None X Minor     Major    

Comments: see above.

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

None  Minor  Major

**Comments:** No habitat present.

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

Yes, via pond draw down, use of piscicides and/or natural attrition (age related mortality) in the absence of stocking.

**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.**

Already in place:

- 1) No surface inlet or outlet groundwater pond.
- 2) located far from any natural surface water fisheries.

**List any other agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction:** None

**Based on this evaluation, is an EIS required?** No

**EA prepared by:** Richard Oswald  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Bozeman, MT 59718

**Comments will be accepted until:** N/A