

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

Name and address of applicant: Russell Bowman
816 Belt Creek Road
Belt, MT 59412

Is approval of private pond permit application recommended? Yes

Location of pond:

County: Cascade
Legal description: T20N, R6E, S24 (SE ¼, NW ¼, SE ¼)

Name of the drainage where the pond would be located:

Located on the West side of Belt Creek Road approximately 7.5 miles North of Belt, Montana, along the Belt Creek drainage.

Does pond have legal water rights? (describe)

Yes, please see attached water right documents.

Fish species proposed for introduction:

Rainbow Trout

Is this species legally present in the drainage?

Yes

Species of Special Concern present in the drainage:

Westslope Cutthroat Trout are present in Belt Creek headwater tributaries. Belt Creek in this area and upstream already contains rainbow trout. This private pond would not pose any greater risk to headwater westslope cutthroat trout populations than under existing conditions.

RISKS:

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations: None Minor Major

Comments: No connectivity with the Belt Creek other than during an extreme water event.

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

None Minor Major

Comments: Fish are not present in this pond.

Impacts to other forms of aquatic life that may be caused by this introduction? None Minor Major

Comments: Some aquatic invertebrates may be consumed.

Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location: None Minor Major

Comments: Appropriate spawning areas do not exist.

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

The pond is very small. Should be able to drain and/or chemically treat.

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:

None.

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 very minor.

EA prepared by: Adam Strainer

Date: 9/4/07

Comments will be accepted until: Comments will be accepted at any time.

Comments should be sent to: MDFW&P, 4600 Giant Springs Rd, Great Falls, MT 59405

**DECISION RECORD
FISH POND LICENSE**

DECISION: Issue

- Private Pond License**
- Commercial Pond License**
- One Time Permission to Plant Letter**
- Denial**

EA# Title Russell Bowman Private Pond

APPROVED SPECIES: Rainbow Trout

LICENSE RESTRICTIONS: Screen overflow outlet culvert to prevent fish escape.

DECISION REASONING:

- Pond meets all other requirements for Private Pond License.**
- Other (specify)**



George Liknes
Regional Fisheries Manager

10/04/2007
Date