

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

**Name and address of applicant:** Timothy Berg  
3421 Grinde Road  
Lewistown, MT 59457

**Has the pond been approved for a private pond permit?** Yes

**Does the pond have water rights?** Yes. This pond has a statement of claim water right #41S 6387-00 for a stock water use with a priority date of December 31, 1967. This water right includes the amount of water consumptively used for stock watering purposes at the rate of 30 gallons per day per animal unit. Animal units shall be based on reasonable carrying capacity and historical use of the area serviced by this water source.

**Location of pond:**

**County:** Fergus

**Legal description:** T16N, R18E, S13, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

**Latitude/Longitude:** N 47.156237°, W -109.39697°

**Name of the drainage where the pond would be located:** The pond is located on an unnamed coulee of Burnette Creek which is a tributary to Big Spring Creek.

**Fish species proposed for introduction:** Rainbow trout

**Is this species legally present in the drainage?** Yes

**Species of Special Concern present in the drainage:** None known in Burnette Creek or Big Spring Creek.

RISKS:

**Inlets to or outlets from the pond?** Yes  No  **Explain:**

Water enters the pond from springs just above the pond. Some water enters the pond from rain and snow melt. Outflow is via 12 inch vertical culvert located in the central area near the dam structure. Trout could escape if overflow from the pond exceeded the 12 inch culvert capacity.

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

Comments: Adverse genetic impacts are considered very unlikely. The proposed species are not native to Burnette Creek or Big Spring Creek. Rainbow trout are present in Upper Carter Pond and in Big Spring Creek. Rainbow trout that would escape from this pond should have little negative impact on the genetics of non-native trout populations.

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

Comments: No other fish exist in this pond.

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

None  Minor  Major

Comments: Trout will consume some invertebrates in the pond.

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

Comments: No inlet stream or available spawning habitat exists.

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

Yes. This pond could be chemically treated or the species removed through attrition.

**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. Minor impacts expected.

**EA prepared by:** Paul D. Hamlin

**DATE:** 3/29/2012



**Figure 1. Photos of Timothy Berg Private Pond.**

**DECISION RECORD  
FISH POND LICENSE**

**DECISION: Issue**

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

**EA Title:** Timothy Berg Private Pond

**APPROVED SPECIES:** Rainbow trout

**LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:**

**DECISION REASONING:**

- Pond meets all other requirements for Private Pond License.



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George Liknes  
Regional Fisheries Manager

4/18/2012  
Date