Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region 4, Great Falls
August 2, 2013

Rotenone Treatment of Ostle Reservoir for Removal of an Expanding White Sucker Population

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND DECISION NOTICE

Proposed Action

The proposed action is to treat Ostle Reservoir and a short reach of a tributary stream with rotenone to remove an expanding white sucker population and restock the reservoir with hatchery rainbow trout. This action will provide a better growing environment for rainbow trout which will provide an improved recreational angling opportunity for the public.

Montana Environmental Policy Act

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) is required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) to assess significant potential impacts of a proposed action to the human and physical environment. In compliance with MEPA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed for the proposed project by FWP and released for public comment on June 25, 2013. Public comments on the proposed project were taken for 30 days, which extended through July 25, 2013. The EA was posted on the FWP webpage.

No public comments were received on the EA.

Final Environmental Assessment

There are no modifications necessary to the EA. The Draft EA, together with this Decision Notice, will serve as the final document for this proposal.

Decision

Based on the EA and the potential benefits of this proposed project, FWP has decided to proceed with the effort to remove an expanding white sucker population from Ostle Reservoir to improve the recreational fishery. I have reviewed the EA and applicable laws, regulations, and policies and have determined that this action will have no significant impacts on the human and physical environment. Therefore, an Environmental Assessment is the appropriate level of analysis, and an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

Gary Bertellotti
Region 4 Supervisor
Great Falls, MT

8/6/2013
Date