

**Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks**  
1420 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, P.O. Box 200701 Helena, MT 59620-0701  
(406)444-2452

## **Environmental Assessment Checklist**

### Part 1. Proposed Action Description

Project Title: Sanford Park bank stabilization

Application Date: 3/30/15

Name, Address and Phone Number:

Anne Tews  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks  
POB 938  
Lewistown, Mt. 59457

Project Location: Marias River at Sanford Park

Description of Project: Stabilize a 300 foot section of bank using willow lifts, conifer fascines and grass

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction:

The applicant indicates that the BOR is a neighbor and has been notified of the project.

## Part 2 Environmental Review

Table 1. Potential impact on physical environment.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially significant	Minor	None	Can Be mitigated	Comments provided
1. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				x		
2. Terrestrial or aquatic life and /or habitats			x			2.
3. Introduction of new species into an area				x		
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality.				x		
5. Water quality, quantity and distribution (surface or groundwater)				x		
6. Existing water right or reservation.				x		
7. Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture				x		
8. Air quality or objectionable odors			x			8.
9. Historic and archaeological sites	x					
10. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air and energy				x		
11. Aesthetics			x			11.

### Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided.)

2. There may be a short term and minor impact to resident and migratory birds and small mammals. Fish would not likely be impacts. Impacts would be limited to displacement during construction. Conducting the project in a short time period will lessen any impacts. These impacts would be likely limited to causing fish to travel to an adjacent area, upstream or downstream, during the project. Fish would redisperse after the project was completed. No impacts are expected to terrestrial organisms beyond disturbance and disbursement from the site. These impacts would be short term and minor.

8. The project involves using 2-cycle engines (chainsaws) and diesel powered equipment which emit exhaust and can be loud. It is unlikely that neighbors would be disturbed in any significant level from the noise generated from this project. Any disturbance would be short term and minor.

Impacts from exhaust would be short term and minor as exhaust fumes would dissipate rapidly.

11. There will be some impact to the aesthetics at this site. The site will have aspects characteristic of a construction site. The project will result in a 'manicured' appearance at this site. It is likely that other trees will be added to the river during natural processes.

Will the proposed action result in potential impacts to:	Unknown	Potentially significant	Minor	None	Can Be mitigated	Comments provided
1. Social structures and cultural diversity				x		
2. Changes in existing public benefits provided by wildlife populations and/or habitat				x		
3. Local and state tax base and tax revenue				x		
4. Agricultural production	x					4.
5. Human health				x		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income	x					
7. Access to and quality of recreational activities			x			7.
8. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals (ordinances)	x					
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				x		
10. Demands for government services	x					
11. Industrial and/or commercial activity				x.		

### Comments

(A description of potentially significant, or unknown, impacts and potential alternatives for mitigation must be provided as comments.)

4. The neighboring lands are used for livestock, farming and recreation. It is not know if this project would have a significant impact on those activities.

7. The project is expected to result in a positive impact to recreationists.

**Does the proposed action involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely harmful if they were to occur?**

There is little risk of major impacts to humans, the environment or fish and wildlife.

**Does the proposed action have impacts that are individually minor, but cumulatively significant or potentially significant?**

No. The proposed action is localized.

**Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action when alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider. Include a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:**

The applicant listed the No Action alternative, but this alternative would not fulfill the objectives of the project.

**Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:**

The project is designed to mitigate the impacts of high water flows and bank erosion.

**Individuals or groups contributing to, or commenting on, this EA:**

EA prepared by:

Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Grisak \_\_\_\_\_

Email address for comments: \_\_\_\_\_ ggrisak@mt.gov \_\_\_\_\_

Comments due by: \_\_\_\_\_ Due to the localized nature of the project, a formal public comment period is not recommended.