Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region 4

4600 Giant Spring Road
Great Falls, MT, 59405-0901

Environmental Assessment Decision Notice:
Little Muddy Creek Site Development Decision Notice

December 18, 2013

Proposal
The purpose of this project is to improve the fishing access site with a variety of projects. One area will be a designed parking area with eight parking spaces. One of those parking spaces will be ADA-Van accessible. There will also be a new concrete walk from the latrine to the parking area to provide a safe and clear walkway. Another project in this development will include new fencing to help direct traffic and establish boundaries for the site.

Montana Environmental Policy Act Process (MEPA)
In May of 2012, FWP released a draft EA for the site development project at Little Muddy Creek. The EA evaluated the potential impacts of the following alternatives:

Alternative A: No Action
If no action is taken the site will continue to stay open to the public. The area now functions as a very rustic fishing access site, but with little or no designated parking spots and unclear boundary lines for users.

Preferred Alternative B: Proposed Action
With the FWP site development plan the fishing access site will be more established and clearly developed to make it more user friendly. The plan will also provide safe parking and walking areas and outline property boundaries so uses know the state property and private property. The addition of fencing will also help with any livestock/trespass issues.

Decision
Based on the Environmental Assessment and FWP evaluation, it is my decision to move forward with Alternative B, the proposed action of proceeding with the site development plans to improve parking, walking paths and fencing the perimeter.
I find there to be no significant impacts on human and physical environments associated with this project. Therefore, I conclude that the Environmental Assessment is the appropriate level of analysis, and that the Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Gary Bertellotti
FWP Region 4 Supervisor