



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

Draft Environmental Assessment

Ruby Dam FAS Lease Agreement

November 2022

Overview: Ruby Dam Fishing Access Site (FAS) is a day-use site at the mouth of Ruby Dam about 7 miles south of Alder on the Ruby Dam Road. FWP operates Ruby Dam FAS under a no-cost recreational lease from DNRC. The most recent lease expired in August 2022 and FWP wishes to enter a new lease on that site from February of 2023-December 2032. The major terms in the lease remain the same as before: FWP would be responsible for recreational management and maintenance of the site, including weed control, routine road maintenance, and upkeep of the latrine. Any additional improvements or change in infrastructure would be covered by a future Environmental Assessment (EA) and public involvement process.

Public Involvement Process & Results: Montana DNRC completed an EA for this project in July 2022 and no significant or cumulative impacts from the proposed project were identified. Beneficial impacts to the human environment from the proposed project in the form of enhanced recreation and sanitation were noted and DNRC selected the Action Alternative (proceeding with the lease with FWP). DNRC received no public comment during a 30-day public involvement period. As allowed under ARM 12.2.441, FWP is adopting DNRC's EA and completing an additional 15-day public comment period from November 23-December 6, 2022. The EA is appended below and can also be viewed on the FWP website at <https://fwp.mt.gov/public-notice> or by contacting the Region 3 office at (406) 577-7862.

Comments may be made online on the EA's webpage or emailed directly to Linnaea Schroeer at lschroeer@mt.gov. Comments must be received by FWP no later than 5:00pm December 7, 2022.