



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF FISH INTRODUCTION

Description of water body:

Name: Wold Reservoir

County: Dawson

Legal description: T22N, R52E, S25

Name of the drainage where the pond would be located:

The reservoir is located along the south fork of Lisk Creek within the Missouri River - Poplar drainage.

Fish species proposed for introduction:

Yellow Perch, Largemouth Bass

Is this species legally present in the drainage?

Yes

Species of Special Concern present in the drainage and associated risks:

Sauger, Paddlefish, Pallid Sturgeon, and Blue Sucker are known species of special concern present in the drainage. Presence of these species are limited to the mainstem Missouri River. There are no associated risks to species of special concern.

RISKS:

Potential for impacts on genetic structure of existing fish populations:

☒ None ☐ Minor ☐ Major

Comments: Northern Pike and Black Bullhead are the only species present in Wold Reservoir, therefore there will be no genetic impacts to fish populations present.

Impacts to any life stage of existing fish populations due to competition and/or predation?

☐ None ☒ Minor ☐ Major

Comments: The proposed species may compete with Black Bullhead for similar food sources (e.g. Zooplankton, *Gammarid* spp., Fathead Minnows) during similar life stages.

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

☐ None ☒ Minor ☐ Major

Comments: Aquatic invertebrates would be consumed if present, but no population level impact is expected.

Potential for the proposed new species to reproduce in this location:

☐ None ☐ Minor ☒ Major

Comments: Yellow Perch and Largemouth Bass are expected to reproduce in Wold Reservoir following introduction.

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

Yes, the proposed species could be removed via dewatering, netting, or chemical treatment.

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).

Alternative 1 – No Action: The No Action alternative would result in not stocking the proposed species and not providing additional recreational angling opportunity in Northeast Montana.

Describe and evaluate mitigation, stipulations, or other control measures enforceable by the agency, if any:

The reservoir and proposed species would be managed according to the general Eastern Fishing District regulations.

List any other agencies or individuals that may be affected by the proposed introduction:

The proposed waterbody is partially on Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) property.

List all agencies and individuals who have been notified of this proposed introduction:

Pertinent lessees and landowners have been notified.

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 EIS required. Action is expected to be minor.

Describe the level of public involvement and, given the complexity of the proposed action, is the level of public involvement appropriate?

This proposed action is not expected to be controversial therefore this EA will be posted on the FWP website. Adult Yellow Perch are available from donor sources elsewhere in region 6 and will be transferred during fall 2022. Largemouth Bass are available at state hatcheries and will be potentially introduced spring 2023. This EA will not be posted for a public comment period.

EA prepared by: Jared Krebs
Glasgow Fisheries Biologist
1 Airport Rd
Glasgow, MT 59230

Email: jared.krebs@mt.gov

Date: September 12th, 2022