

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

FISHERIES DIVISION
JOB PROGRESS REPORT

STATE: MONTANA

PROJECT NUMBER: F-46-R-1

JOB NUMBER: VI-a

PROJECT TITLE: STATEWIDE FISHERIES INVESTIGATIONS

STATE TITLE: STATEWIDE SURVEY AND INVENTORIES

JOB TITLE: STREAM PROTECTION COORDINATOR

PERIOD COVERED: JULY 1, 1987 TO JUNE 30, 1988

ABSTRACT

During the report period, 172 Notices of Construction were received and reviewed. Measures were requested to reduce or mitigate damage to streams and fish habitat.

Fish and wildlife information for environmental assessments was provided to the State Department of Highways on request. Environmental impact assessments submitted for all state highway projects were reviewed and commented on as required.

Engineering consultation services have been contracted and have helped with hydraulic questions.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this job is to administer the Montana Stream Protection Act to ensure the preservation of Montana Streams in their natural, existing state. This was done on 172 projects proposed by agencies covered under the Act.

An additional objective is to provide recommendations as provided by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to avoid wetlands contiguous to streams or in project corridors. This objective was accomplished with state funding.

PROCEDURES

The Montana Stream Protection Act states that the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks will review detailed construction plans for state, county, and municipal projects that encroach upon the banks or within the channels off streams. If a project is judged detrimental to the stream, alternative plans or recommendations are submitted to eliminate or diminish adverse effects.

Forms are provided by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks for notification of projects. As Notices of Construction for projects are received, they are reviewed and the necessary information regarding the projects is compiled. The review is coordinated with department regional personnel who supply much of the biological information which has been obtained from previous survey work. Fish population statistics are collected from streams when information is lacking or more complete information is needed.

Many projects do not affect significant streams or do not affect streams in any significant way. Several projects each year have very significant effects and require detailed and individual investigation and subsequent consultation with construction agency personnel.

The national and Montana environmental policy acts provide that a determination be made regarding the environmental impact of highway projects. These assessments are reviewed as they are received for each project and appropriate action is taken.

Applications for Corps of Engineers Section 404 and Section 10 permits are now being handled administratively in Helena under this project. Permit applications frequently involve wetland areas adjacent to streams and are being reviewed for their effects on streams.

In addition, this project provides a review process on applications for other agency permits involving streams. These include Executive Orders 11990 and 11988 involving wetlands, and Section 3(a) (authorization to exceed turbidity standards) of the Montana Water Quality Standards.

A contract with a consulting firm with special qualifications in stream hydraulics, has been continued. The firm provides consultation on request, at this department's expense, to department personnel in their review of projects, or to other individuals or counties who require professional advice. This approach to solving engineering questions for minimizing damage to stream fisheries has been a very satisfactory solution to the problem.

FINDINGS

A total of 172 Notices of Construction were reviewed and processed during this report period. Of these notices, 63 were for state highway projects (Table 1), 52 for county road and bridge projects (Table 2), and 57 for miscellaneous projects (Table 3). Miscellaneous projects included projects by federal agencies, municipalities, and state agencies other than the Department of Highways.

Recommendations to protect streams and wetlands were generally well received and, in addition to reducing adverse effects on

streams, continue to create an awareness in construction agencies and general contractors of the importance of stream preservation and water quality. Most projects are of a nature that they can be handled in a routine manner. Other projects require several meetings for coordination and detailed investigation to resolve issues.

Some problems continue to exist from non-compliance or after-the-fact applications by County road and bridge projects. In an attempt to avoid these problems, the Montana Association of Counties and Road Supervisors were contacted and briefing discussions are planned at their four annual area meetings to be held in November of 1988. Also, plans are being formulated to sponsor a stream hydrology seminar at the Road Supervisors annual statewide meeting in April. Other state agency personnel will be encouraged to attend this seminar.

Environmental impact assessments were received for all state highway projects and reviewed, and commented on as required.

A manual supplement to the Memorandum of Understanding with the United States Forest Service was adopted in March, 1987. The supplement places SPA administration of Forest Service projects with Regional Fisheries Managers. Although this procedure has been in effect for a few years, the supplement serves to clarify the responsibilities of personnel involved.

Voluntary compliance with the intent of the act by federal agencies has been generally excellent during this period. A lack of full record keeping on voluntary compliance causes inconsistent records, which in turn, does not give us an accurate account of projects throughout the state. Greater coordination with Department field biologists and federal agencies will hopefully improve this situation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this project be continued. Review and comment concerning projects where environmental evaluation is required by various state and federal statutes should continue. Evaluations of existing aquatic values and possible mitigative measures should be continued where appropriate. Cooperation with other agencies to streamline permit review requirements should continue.

Prepared by: Al Wipperman

Date: September, 1988

Table 1. Contents of File. Notices of Construction (Hydraulic Projects Affecting Fishing Waters) submitted by the Department of Highways (DOH).

<u>No.</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Stream</u>
985	Yellowstone River Core Drill East of Mossmain BR 9056(8)	Helena	7/10/87	Yellowstone River
986	Bridge Repair Projects on Red Lodge Creek & Rock Creek	Helena	7/17/87	Red Lodge Creek & Rock Creek
987	Milk River Bridge BR 9053(8) Core Drill	Helena	7/29/87	Milk River
988	Divide Creek Streambank Stabilization - clearing & riprap	Helena	7/29/87	Divide Creek
989	Hilger-Winifred Highway Improvement Culvert Cleaning and Lengthening RS 236-1()0	Helena	8/4/87	Dog Creek
990	Musselshell River Bridge East of Harlowton BR 9054(3)	Helena	8/5/87	Musselshell River
991	Scobey South Bridge F-BRF-HES 32-2(6)39	Helena	8/5/87	Poplar River
992	Elk Hill-Lyons Spring Highway Improvement F1-1()65	Helena	8/6/87	Fisher River, Crystal Creek
993	Porcupine Creek Bridge Replacement	Helena	8/12/87	Porcupine Creek
994	Melrose North Overlay and Slope Flattening	Helena	8/28/87	Moose and Soap creeks
995	Greycliff Bridge BR 9049(4) Core Drill	Helena	9/18/87	Yellowstone River
996	Big Hole River Bridge Maintenance	Helena	9/21/87	Big Hole River
997	Wolf Creek Bridge Maintenance & Repair	Helena	9/25/87	Wolf Creek
998	Creston N & S Highway Reconstruction F 52-2(3)34	Helena	9/28/87	Mill Creek
999	Scobey - West of Bridge Repair BRS 248-6(1)43	Helena	9/28/87	Poplar River, Butte Creek & Unnamed drainages

1	Dixon - North Highway Reconstruction RS 212-2(1)0	Helena	9/30/87	Jocko River
2	Deep Creek Bridge Northe RS 540-1()27	Helena	9/30/87	Deep Creek
3	Lavina West Highway Reconstruction F 14-4()137	Helena	9/30/87	Nine Mile Creek
4	Busby E & W F 37-1(10)9	Helena	9/30/87	Rosebud Creek
5	Shotgun Creek (East Fork) Bridge Replacement BR 9043(8)	Helena	10/1/87	East Fork Shotgun Creek
6	Teton Rest Area Rehab & Waterline Install	Helena	10/9/87	Teton River
7	N. Fork Willow Creek Bridge Replacement	Helena	10/23/87	Willow Creek near Galata
8	Cabin Creek Bridge Replace	Helena	10/19/87	Cabin Creek
9	Fairfield Power	Helena	10/22/87	Greenfield Main Canal
10	Ovando East	Helena	10/21/87	Unnamed spring creek
11	Swamp Gulch	Helena	10/26/87	Swamp Gulch
12	Deadman Creek	GtFalls	10/26/87	Deadman Creek
13	Ten Mile Creek	Helena	10/30/87	Ten Mile Creek
14	Sims West	Helena	11/19/87	Dry Run Creek
15	Sand Creek Culvert Repair	Helena	11/30/87	Sand Creek
16	No project			
17	Careless Creek	Helena	12/7/87	Careless Creek
18	Belt Creek Riprap	GtFalls	12/8/87	Belt Creek
19	Overflow Ditch SW Hardin	Helena	12/14/87	Ditch
20	Two Medicine Bridge Painting CANCELLED 3/9	Helena	12/15/87	Two Medicine River
21	15 mi.N of Wisdom NE	Helena	12/15/87	Tucker Creek Gooseberry Creek
22	Greenough Hill North	Helena	12/17/87	Elk Creek

23	Fortine North	Helena	12/22/87	Grave Creek Pherriault Creek
24	Wolf Point East	Helena	1/4/88	Little Wolf Creek
25	Lindsay S. E.	Helena	1/4/88	Seven Mile Creek
26				
27	Ashland East	Helena	1/12/88	Wilbur Creek
28	Wise River East	Helena	1/12/88	sm drainages
29	Flathead County Line S.	Helena	1/12/88	Forrey Creek
30	Wolf Point/Malta Bridge	Helena	12/17/88	misc.
31	Little Missouri River Bridge, NE Albion	Helena	2/8/88	Ltl Missouri Riv
32	McGregor Lake E & W.	Helena	2/8/88	Twin Creek
33	Warm Springs Cr. Br. West Valley	Helena	2/25/88	Warm Spring Cr.
34	Rock Creek Bridge (Skalkaho Road)	Helena	2/25/88	Rock Creek
35	Roger's Pass East	Helena	3/7/88	Mid Fk Dearborn River
36	Savoy North & South	Helena	3/7/88	Savoy Creek
37	Rock Creek Maintenance	Helena	3/10/88	Rock Creek
38	Hysham Rest Area Rehab.	Helena	3/23/88	Sand Creek
39	Greenough Hill North	Helena	3/28/88	Blackfoot River
40	Busby West	Helena	3/28/88	Dipping Vat Crk Blue Creek Tullock Creek
41	Yellowstone River Bridge East of Mossmain	Helena	4/29/88	Yellowstone River
42	Warbonnet Inn Reclamation	Helena	5/3/88	Blacktail Deer Creek
43	Bridger Creek Maint. Riprap	Helena	5/20/88	Bridger Creek
44	Upper Deer Creek Maint. Riprap	Helena	5/20/88	Upr Deer Creek

45	East Bridge-Blngs	Helena	5/26/88	Yellowstone River
46	Yellowstone River Bridge-Laurel	Helena	5/16/88	Yellowstone River
47	Dickey Lake North & South	Helena	6/3/88	Summit, Dickey Murphy, Deep Crks

Tab 2. Contents of File. Notices of Construction (Hydraulic Projects Affecting Fishing Waters) submitted by County Agencies.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>County Agency</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Stream Involved</u>
768	Soap Creek Culvert	Big Horn County		Soap Creek
769	K i l n B r i d g e Replacement #156	Flathead County	7/6/87	Ashley Creek
770	Blackleaf Creek Bridge Replacement	Teton County	7/8/87	Blackleaf Creek
771	Otness Culvert Reset DSR # 51933	Pondera County	7/23/87	South Pondera Coulee
772	Fallon Bridge Detour Culvert	Custer County	7/27/87	Fallon Creek
773	Barnhart Waterline Relocation	Park County	7/28/87	Fleshman Creek
774	County Cemetery/Air Force Base Diversion P u m p C h a n n e l Clearance	Rosebud County	8/3/87	Y e l l o w s t o n e River
775	Elk Creek Bridge #4	Sanders County	8/4/87	E l k C r e e k Bridge
776	M o u n t a i n V i e w Footbridge	Missoula County	8/10/87	Rattlesnake Creek
777	P e o p l e ' s C r e e k Bridge Removal & Replacement	Blaine County	8/18/87	People's Creek
778	Godfrey Creek-Canal R o a d B r i d g e Replacement	Gallatin County	8/21/87	Godfrey Creek
779	Twelve Mile Creek Bridge Replacement- Old Chicago Road #36-B-27	Yellowstone County	8/26/87	T w e l v e M i l e Creek
780	Elk Creek Bridge Replacement	Missoula County	9/15/87	Elk Creek

Table 2 continued.

781	Finley & Zurich Bridges Bank Stabilization MT 2SB OXT 2 010173-010174	Blaine County	9/16/87	Milk River
782	Battle Creek Bank Stabilization MT 2SB OXT 2010172	Blaine County	9/16/87	Battle Creek
783	Mud Creek Crossing Bridge Replacement	Lake County	9/17/87	Mud Creek
784	Hyalite Creek Bridge #5-1987	Gallatin County	9/18/87	Hyalite Creek
785	Thomson River Culvert #4	Sanders County	9/25/87	Thompson River
786	Ronan Creek Bridge	Lake County	9/29/87	Ronan Creek
787	Bull Run Creek	Gallatin County	9/13/87	Bull Run Creek
788	Bennie Peer Creek Cut-off Channel	Richland County	10/26/87	Bennie Peer Creek
789	Drop Structure	Beaverhead County	11/04/87	Blacktail Creek
790	Radnor Bridge Replacement	Flathead County	11/09/87	U p p e r S t i l l w a t e r River
791	Warm Springs Creek Bridge Installation	Jefferson County	11/17/87	Warm Springs Creek
792	Tongue River Dam Road	Rosebud County	11/20/87	Tongue River Dam
793	Clancy Creek Bridge Replacement	Jefferson County	11/17/87	Clancy Creek
794	Bear Creek Slide Area	Carbon County	11/27/87	Bear Creek
795	Big Prairie Bridge Replacement	Sanders County	12/2/87	Big Prairie
796	Vincent Road Project 7-1987	Gallatin County	12/23/87	Camp Creek

Table 2 continued.

797	Silt Clear	Musselshell County	12/17/87	Musselshell Riv.
798	Sims Road Project	Teton County	1/7/87	Duck Creek
799	9th St. Island Bridge	Park County	1/15/88	Yellowstone River
800	East Gallatin State Recreation Area	Gallatin County	1/19/88	Glen Lake
801	Camas Creek Bridge	Sanders County	2/10/88	Camas Creek
802	Foys Bend Ln Br #2	Flathead County	2/19/88	Ashley Creek
803	Sunnyside Dr.	Flathead County	2/19/88	Ashley Creek
804	East Reserve Br.	Flathead County	2/19/88	Spring Creek
805	Crow Agency River Road Protection	Big Horn County	3/8/88	Little Big Horn
806	Penwell Bridge	Gallatin County	3/8/88	East Gallatin
807	Cameran Bridge West	Gallatin County	3/15/88	West Gallatin
808	Trout Creek Bridge	Sanders County	3/16/88	Trout Creek
809	Bridge 4 mi North of Caldwell	Jefferson County	4/6/88	Boulder River
810	Ingersoll Bridge	Stillwater County	4/6/88	West Rosebud Creek
811	Flat Cr. Bridge	Lewis & Clark	4/7/88	Flat Creek
812	14 Mile	Sanders County	4/13/88	Clark Fork
813	Blackjack	Sanders County	4/13/88	Clark Fork
814	Rocky Point	Sanders County	4/13/88	Clark Fork
815	Orchards	Sanders County	4/13/88	Clark Fork
816	VanDerhoff	Sanders County	4/13/88	Clark Fork
817	Low Water Crossing	Teton County	4/16/88	No Name
818	Fairgrounds Banks Stabilization	Sanders County	4/19/88	Clark Fork

Table 2 continued.

819	West Corbin Culvert	Jefferson County	4/29/88	Unnamed Spring Creek
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Table 3. Contents on File. Notice of Construction (Hydraulic Projects Affecting Fishing Waters) submitted by Miscellaneous Agencies. (MISC)

<u>No.</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Stream</u>
889	Broadwater Power Project Hydro Development	DNRC	7/7/87	Missouri River
890	Poindexter Slough FAS Stream Crossing Improvement	MDFWP	7/12/87	P o i n d e x t e r Slough
891	Sand Coulee Creek Acid Drainage Treatment	State Lands	7/13/87	Sand Coulee Creek
892	Bertha Mill Site Reclamation & Culvert	State Lands	7/17/87	U n n a m e d Tributaries to Spring Creek
893	Wastewater System Improvements EPA # C-300233-94 MT-CDBG-S85P-01775	Town of Bearcreek	7/26/87	Bear Creek
894	High Water Channel Modifications	Town of Columbus	7/10/87	Yellowstone River
895	Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project to Remove Tailings	State Lands	7/28/87	Upper Blackfoot River
896	Frenchman River Crossing Repair	USGS	8/11/87	Frenchman River
897	Gurnett Creek Pond Development	MDFWP	8/12/87	Gurnett Creek
898	Gilman-Wimberly Flood Protection	Deer Lodge Valley Con Dist.	8/14/87	C l a r k F o r k River
899	Little Blackfoot River Riparian Management Project	Deer Lodge Valley Con Dist.	8/14/87	L i t t l e Blackfoot River
900	Cilly Creek Bridge Replacement	State Lands	8/6/87	Cilly Creek
901	Jerry Creek Bridge Access Site	BLM	9/3/87	Jerry Creek
902	Yellowstone River Bridge Boat Ramp A/E 87-35-01	MDFWP	9/3/87	Yellowstone River
903	Laurel Riverside Park Boat Ramp A/E 87-35-01	MDFWP	9/3/87	Yellowstone River

Table 3 continued

904	Far West FAS Boat Ramp Rehabilitation	MDFWP	9/7/87	Yellowstone River
905	Pirogue Island FAS Ford Improvement	MDFWP	9/7/87	Yellowstone River
906	Ft. Peck Fisheries Habitat Evaluation & Improvement Study	MDFWP	9/11/87	Missouri River
907	Bozeman Municipal Water Supply Intake	City of Bozeman	9/23/87	Bozeman Creek
908	Whitehall Wastewater Treatment Facility #1012-02-04.2	Town of Whitehall	9/24/87	Pipestone Creek
909	Spring Creek Park Landscaping	Town of Ronan	9/8/87	Spring Creek
910	Middle Creek Dam Rehabilitation	DNRC	9/13/87	Middle Creek Dam
911	Yellowstone River Riprap Repair	City of Livingston	9/19/87	Yellowstone River
912	Meridan Road Storm Drain Manhole	City of Kalispell	10/13/87	Bowser Spring Creek
912A	Yellowstone River	City of Livingston	10/19/87	Yellowstone River
913	Loon Lake Timber Sale	City of Kalispell	10/23/87	Carney Creek
914	Sewage Lagoon Dike Repair	City of Deer Lodge	11/13/87	Clark Fork River
915	Fishing Access Install Boat Ramp	City of Livingston	11/23/87	Yellowstone River
916	Secret Gulch Timber Sale	State Lands	12/1/87	Secret Gulch
917	Stark Creek Bridge Support	State Lands	12/1/87	Ninemile Creek
918	Stark Creek Dry Bed Crossing	State Lands	12/1/87	Stark Creek
919	River Park Boat Ramp	Town of Hamilton	12/7/87	Bitterroot River

Table 3 continued

920	Erosion Control	C i t y o f Butte	11/27/87	Soap Gulch
921	Upper Whitefish Lake Bridge Project	C i t y o f Kalispell	12/31/87	East Fork Swift Creek
922	Manual Lisa Access Road	MDFWP	1/6/88	Big Horn River
923	Snowshoe Creek Streambank Reclamation Project	State Lands	1/7/88	Snowshoe Creek
924	Mayflower Bridge	MDFWP	1/19/88	Jefferson River
925	Browning Sewage Treatment Facility Improvement	C i t y o f Browning	1/22/88	Depot Creek
926	Arctic Grayling Diversion Structure	DNRC	1/26/88	West Fork of Hyalite Creek
927	Humbug Creek Timber Sale	State Lands	2/24/88	Unnamed trib. South Fork Humbug Creek
928	Yellowstone River Riprap Repair	C i t y o f Livingston	2/29/88	Yellowstone River
929	Site Rest. Marysville Geothermal Well #1	BLM	3/24/88	Little Prickley Pear & Deadman Creek
930	Miles City Hatchery Water Supply	MDFWP	3/30/88	Tongue River
931	Elk Island Improvements	MDFWP	4/4/88	Yellowstone River
932	Magpie Bay	MDFWP	4/4/88	Magpie Creek
933	Prison Road Improvement	S t a t e Prison	4/11/88	Tin Cup Joe Creek
934	Poker/Smoke Timber Sale	State Lands	4/18/88	Hoodoo Creek
935	Tenmile Creek Bridge	C i t y o f Helena	4/21/88	Ten Mile Creek
936	Baker Outfall Sewer & Lagoon Improvements	C i t y o f Baker	5/6/88	Sandstone Creek & Tributaries
937	Grade Stabilization	USGS	5/19/88	Milk River

Table 3 continued

938	East & West Rosebud S.R.A.	MDFWP	6/2/88	Yellowstone River
939	Snowmobile Groomer Trail	State Lands	5/23/88	Unnamed Tribs-Whitefish Lake
940	East Bank Fishing Access	BLM-Butte	6/8/88	Big Hole River
941	Stockett Water System	State Lands	6/8/88	Cottonwood Creek
942	Silver Bow Streamflow Gaging Station	USGS	6/9/99	Silver Bow Creek
943	Clark Fork Streamflow Gaging Station	USGS	6/9/88	Clark Fork
944	Gold Creek Fish Barrier	MDFWP	6/9/88	Gold Creek