

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)**

**Bridge Replacements and Channel Improvements on Cottonwood Creek
Deer Lodge, Powell County, Montana
October 12, 2011**

Powell County, Montana and the City of Deer Lodge have applied for funding under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). In January of 2006, FEMA prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a **Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)** was issued February 9, 2006 for Bridge Replacements and Channel Improvements on Cottonwood Creek. A supplement to the original EA has been prepared to document and transmit revisions and additions made to the final design of the Cottonwood Creek Flood Mitigation Project. The Project will address the purpose and need as described in the original EA and approved in the original FONSI, both of which are incorporated here by reference.

The project goals, location, and approach all remain the same when comparing the information in the original EA to the final design and additional components discussed in this supplement. The original EA addressed four major project components (Clagett Street, Clark Street, 4th Street and Main Street bridges, and associated channel improvements). All have been completed except the Main Street Bridge, which was delayed due to funding constraints. This supplemental EA is to address revisions made to the final design of the Main Street Bridge, as well as the addition of a proposed connected action for the replacement of the downstream 2nd Street Bridge (also in Deer Lodge) and associated channel improvements.

Overall project impacts remain the same as those identified in the original EA, e.g. only minor temporary impacts to geology, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. Updated consultation with US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Montana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has been completed successfully. The public has been duly notified of the project through ongoing outreach efforts with no negative feedback.

Compliance with all applicable permits, mitigation measures and stipulations as noted in both the original and supplemental EAs, and summarized below is a condition of FEMA funding.

- Potential impacts to Waters of the US will require current permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Floodplain impacts will require current permits from the local floodplain administrator.
- Adverse effects to the historic Main Street Bridge will be addressed through compliance with stipulations in a Memorandum of Agreement between FEMA, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).
- Standard Best Management Practice (BMP) will be used to control minor, temporary construction-related air, water and noise impacts.

Based on the information contained in the Supplemental EA, completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, FEMA's regulations (44 CFR Part 10) for environmental considerations, and Executive Orders (EO) addressing Floodplains (EO 11988), Wetlands (EO 11990), the Endangered Species Act, and Environmental Justice (EO 12898), it is found that the Proposed Action with the prescribed mitigation measures and stipulations (as amended) will have no significant adverse impact on the human environment. As a result of this **Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared, and the Proposed Action with the associated mitigation measures and stipulations as described in the amended Environmental Assessment may proceed.

APPROVAL



Signed
Steven Hardegen
Regional Environmental Officer

10/11/2011

Date