

CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Name:	Andeavor Logistics Decommissioned Pipeline Removal
Proposed Implementation Date:	2019
Proponent:	Andeavor Logistics
Location:	T22N-R59E-Sec 1 NE4NW4 Yellowstone Riverbed
County:	Richland County

Definitions

DNRC- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

JA- Joint Application for proposed work in Montana’s streams, wetlands, floodplains and other water bodies

I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

Andeavor Logistics henceforth referred to as proponent has requested a temporary Land Use License from the DNRC Eastern Land Office for the removal of two co-located pipelines from the bed of the Yellowstone River. Both of these pipelines are decommissioned and out of service. The pipelines have become exposed in places due to ice jams, channel migration and normal river erosion. These exposed portions of the pipelines create an impediment to navigation and create instream obstructions which could cause ice jams in the future.

II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.

The proponent submitted their JA as well as an application for Land Use License in a navigable riverbed to the DNRC Eastern Land Office on September 10th, 2019. With these applications they also submitted a supporting information on the type of work to be conducted as well as mitigation plans to reduce impacts to the stream and exhibits detailing the pipelines to be removed.

The Proponent has consulted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Richland County Conservation District, Richland County Floodplain administrator, Montana Department of Environmental Quality and the DNRC Trust Land Management Division.

2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

Montana Department of Environmental Quality; Permitting and Compliance Division; Water Protection Bureau:
401 Permit, 318 Permit

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

United State Department of Defense; U.S. Army Corp of Engineers:
Nationwide Permit 12, 404 Permit

Richland County Conservation District:
Section 310 Permit

3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

Alternative A- Issue the proponent a temporary Navigable River LUL for workspace required to remove the decommissioned pipelines.

Alternative B- No Action

III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- *RESOURCES* potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.
- Explain **POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS** following each resource heading.
- Enter "NONE" if no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.

4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:

Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.

Alternative A- Soils removed from a stream channel are usually subject to water erosion loss when disturbed. The proponent plans to mitigate this impact by stockpiling material removed from the channel on the downstream side of the pipeline removal area. Once the pipe is removed from the channel that removed substrate would be swept back into the trench.

Alternative B- No Impact.

5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:

Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.

Alternative A- No significant impacts to water quality are expected, some temporarily increased sediments in the area of construction are expected. No effects to water quantity or distribution are expected

Alternative B- No Impact

6. AIR QUALITY:

What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.

Alternative A- Construction could be expected to temporarily impact local ambient air-quality. This impact would be produced through fugitive dust as well as emission from construction equipment. This temporary localized impact should only take place on this tract of trust land during the short term pipeline removal phase of the project.

Alternative B- No Impact

7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:

What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.

Alternative A- No significant impacts to vegetation are expected on the trust land portion of this project, as it is located in the Yellowstone River channel.

Alternative B- No Impact

8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:

Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.

Alternative A- This project may disrupt wildlife habitat for a number of species. Species which may have habitat in the area of the project may include various species of fish, amphibians, water fowl, aquatic mammals and reptiles. This disruption should be temporary during the pipeline removal which is only expected to last for less than one week

Alternative B- No Impact

9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:

Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.

Alternative A- A search of the Montana Natural Heritage Database shows the following species of concern that have been observed in the general project area

Mammals

- Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*)
- Little Brown Myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*)
- Townsend's Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*)

Birds

- American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)
- Interior Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*)
- Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*)
- Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)
- Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)
- Great Blue Heron (*Ardea Herodias*)
- Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)
- Whooping Crane (*Grus Americana*)

Reptiles

- Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*)
- Spiny Softshell (*Apalone spinifera*)

Amphibians

- Northern Leopard Frog (*Lithobates pipiens*)

Fish

- Paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*),
- Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*),
- Sauger (*Sander canadensis*),
- Sturgeon Chub (*Macrhybopsis gelida*),
- Blue Sucker (*Cycleptus elongatus*).
- Iowa Darter (*Etheostoma exile*)
- Shortnose Gar (*Lepisosteus platostomus*)
- Sicklefin Chub (*Macrhybopsis meeki*)

Due to the short-term disturbance proposed by this project any impacts to these species should be temporary in nature. Project mitigation plans should prevent any long-term effects to these species if present in the project area. The proposed project is not located within Greater Sage Grouse General, Core or Connectivity habitat.

Alternative B- No Impact

10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:

Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.

Alternative A- A search of the TLMS Database and field survey showed no historical, archeological or paleontological resources within the scope of the project. The ELO field staff consulted with the DNRC Archeologist and no impacts to historical, archeological or paleontological sites are expected given the nature of the project being in the river channel.

Alternative B- No Impact

11. AESTHETICS:

Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.

Alternative A- No impacts to aesthetics on this tract are anticipated due to the removal of these pipelines.

Alternative B- The pipelines would stay in place in the riverbed and continue to be exposed by the natural channel alteration.

12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:

Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.

Alternative A- No Impact

Alternative B- No Impact

13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:

List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.

None

IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.</i>• <i>Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.</i>• <i>Enter "NONE" if no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.</i> |
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14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.

Alternative A- There may be potential health and safety risks associated with this project. These risks can be mitigated with proper training and on-site safety protocols. The work would be conducted by people trained in the field of underwater pipeline removal.

Alternative B- No Impact

15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:

Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.

Alternative A- No impacts expected

Alternative B- No Impact

16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:

Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.

Alternative A- This project has the potential to create jobs with further development possibilities. The amount of jobs if any is unknown at this time

Alternative B- No Impact

17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:

Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.

Alternative A- No impact expected

Alternative B- No impact.

18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services

Alternative A- No impact expected

Alternative B- No Impact

19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:

List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.

Alternative A- There is no noted adopted environmental plans or goals within the boundary of the easement requested.

Alternative B- No Impact

20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:

Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.

Alternative A- No impacts expected

Alternative B- No Impact

21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:

Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing.

Alternative A- No significant impact expected.

Alternative B- No Impact

22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:

Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.

Alternative A- No impacts expected

Alternative B- No Impact

23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:

How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?

Alternative A- No Significant Impact

Alternative B- No Impact

24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:

Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.

Alternative A- This project has the potential to produce revenue for the school trust through the purchase of a navigable river land use license to permit the removal of the pipelines. The price of this license is set at \$150.00

Alternative B- No impact expected

EA Checklist Prepared By:	Name: Scott Aye	Date: 9-11-2019
	Title: Land Program Manager	

V. FINDING

25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:

Alternative A

26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:

The granting of the requested navigable river land use license across state owned trust lands for the proposed Andeavor pipeline removal project should not result in nor cause significant environmental impacts. The predicted environmental impacts have been identified and mitigation measures addressed in the environmental assessment checklist. The predicted impacts will be adequately mitigated through the construction and reclamation plans. The proposed action satisfies the trusts fiduciary mandate and ensures the long-term productivity of the land. An environmental assessment checklist is the appropriate level of analysis for the proposed action

27. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

EIS More Detailed EA No Further Analysis

EA Checklist Approved By:	Name: Chris Pileski
	Title: Eastern Land Office; Area Manager
Signature: /s/ Chris Pileski	Date: 9-11-2019