

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
AND
DECISION RECORD**

*East Fork Blacktail Deer Creek Footbridge
Environmental Assessment MT- DOI-BLM-MT-B050-2016-0010-EA*

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
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Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the referenced environmental assessment, and considering the significance criteria in 40 CFR 1508.27, I have determined that the action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

Decision:

It is my decision to authorize the proposed action of constructing a footbridge across East Fork Blacktail Deer Creek as described in the Environmental Assessment MT- DOI- BLM-MT-B050-2016-0010-EA.

Summary of the Selected Alternative:

The proposed project would enhance public safety and extend the season of use for recreational users in the East Fork Blacktail area and beyond onto the National Forest. The bridge would be constructed using a small crew, the minimum necessary tools, and almost entirely native materials available near the site.

Rationale for the Decision:

The proposed project would replace a bridge that once provided this important creek crossing opportunity, which will allow recreational users to use many miles of National Forest system trails both during the hunting season and throughout the summer. Early summer use has been very limited for many years due to the difficulty and hazard associated with crossing the creek during high water events. The bridge will enable the public to safely use the public lands in this area for an extended period without compromising the wilderness characteristics of the area.

Two public comments were received regarding this proposal, and both were supportive of the project.

Authorizing Official: ___/s/ Cornie Hudson_____ Date: __6/1/16_____