



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Great Basin National Park
Baker, Nevada 89311-9701

IN REPLY REFER TO:
N16(GRBA)

September 12, 2013

Dear Interested Party:

Thank you for submitting comments with regards to the Snake Creek Fish Barrier Environmental Assessment (EA). Your comments were used to prepare a *Finding of No Significant Impact* (FONSI), which was signed August 16, 2013 by Chris Lehnertz, Pacific West Region Director, National Park Service.

The Regional Director concluded that implementation of the preferred alternative for the Snake Creek fish barrier project does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and is not an action that normally requires preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS).

In March 2013 the National Park Service (NPS) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Snake Creek Fish Barrier Project. This EA, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, analyzed the impacts that will likely result from implementation of the project.

Actions under the preferred alternative include constructing a fish barrier on the lower portion of Snake Creek, near the park boundary. The fish barrier is intended to prevent the upstream invasion of non-native fishes and aquatic invasive species into Snake Creek within the park, including portions occupied by a species of management concern, Bonneville cutthroat trout (*Onchorynchus clarki utah*, BCT). This action would help the park meet the Nevada Conservation Agreement and Conservation Strategy goals for BCT populations.

A printed copy of the FONSI accompanies this letter. This document, in addition to the EA and Determination of No Impairment, complete the environmental compliance for this project. These are also available on the National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment website at (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/fishbarrier>). For questions and additional information about this project please contact Gorden Bell, Environmental Protection Specialist at (775) 234-7540.

Sincerely,


Steven Mietz
Superintendent