

**UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION STATEMENT**

Within the spirit and intent of the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and other statutes, orders, and policies that protect fish and wildlife resources, I have established the following administrative record and determined that the action of constructing a pipeline from Shambow Pond to Upper Red Rock Lake in Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge for the conservation of Arctic grayling:

Check One:

is a categorical exclusion as provided by 43 CFR §46.210 and/or 516 DM 8.5 and 43 CFR §46.215. No further NEPA documentation will therefore be made. The proposed action falls under categorical exclusion: _____.

is found not to have significant environmental effects as determined by the attached environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

is found to have significant effects and, therefore, further consideration of this action will require a notice of intent to be published in the Federal Register announcing the decision to prepare an environmental impact statement.

is not approved because of unacceptable environmental damage, or violation of Fish and Wildlife Service mandates, policy, regulations, or procedures.

is an emergency action within the context of 40 CFR §1506.11. Only those actions necessary to control the immediate impacts of the emergency will be taken. Other related actions remain subject to NEPA review.

Other supporting documents: Final Environmental Assessment for Arctic Grayling Conservation at Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (May 2023).

Signature Approval:

Signature Title: Project Leader Date

Signature Title: Assistant Regional Director Date

Signature Title: Regional Director Date

Signature Title Date