

**Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720**

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Project: Rural Fire Protection Project

Location: Property directly adjacent (west of) 8760 Highway 2, Brookston, Minnesota 55711, on the Fond du Lac Reservation in St. Louis County, Minnesota.

Based upon the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Rural Fire Protection Project involving the rehabilitation of existing access roads, construction of a 10,000 gallon below ground water storage tank, fire equipment turn-around pad, redevelopment of an existing water well, installation of water lines, pump, electrical controls, and other associated infrastructure as described in the EA, all on the above described property on the Fond du Lac Reservation, I have determined that by implementation of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa proposed action and environmental mitigation measures as specified in the EA, the proposed Rural Fire Protection Project will have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment. In accordance with Section 705(a) of the Fond du Lac Tribal Environmental Policy Ordinance (TEPO) (Ordinance #05/10, adopted by Resolution #1343/10 of the Fond du Lac Reservation Business Committee on September 21, 2010), an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required for this proposed project.

This determination is supported by the following findings:

1. Agency and FdL staff consultation and coordination was conducted and environmental issues related to development of the Rural Fire Protection Project were identified. Alternative courses of action and mitigation measures were developed in response to environmental concerns and issues.
2. Section 4 of the Environmental Assessment discloses the environmental consequences of the proposed action and two potentially viable alternatives were considered, including the “no action” alternative.
3. The proposed action is planned to not jeopardize any federally or state listed threatened or endangered species. A Key to the Northern Long-Eared Bat 4(d) Rule for Non-Federal Activities was prepared, which determined an “Incidental Take” finding for the selected alternative. No notification to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is necessary.

4. Invasive plant species present on the project site will be evaluated by the Fond du Lac Invasive Species Coordinator for possible control efforts to prevent the spread of these species to other parts of the Reservation.

5. Section 4 and Appendix describe that there are no adverse effects on cultural properties.



Reginald DeFoe, Director
Resource Management Division
Fond du Lac Reservation

Date