



DOUGLAS F. DAY
Director

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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Reply To SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
455 West Railroad Avenue, Box 840, Price, Utah 84501
(801) 637-3310

July 18, 1984

JIM

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AUG 11 1984

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DIVISION OF OIL
GAS & MINING

Walt Whitman, General Manager
Valley Camp Coal Company
P. O. Box 507
Clear Creek, Utah 84517

ATTN: Trevor Whiteside
Steve Tanner

Dear Walt:

I want to take this opportunity to express the Division's appreciation for Valley Camp's cooperation and particularly the diligent efforts on the part of Steve Tanner, in the construction of the 460 feet of new channel within Eccles Creek. As you are aware, this new channel was necessitated by the slope failure associated with the company's Belina Mine access road. The landslide caused considerable concern as it related to impacts on the fishery in Eccles Creek. The decision by Trev Whiteside to immediately begin remedial action, coupled with the persistence of the crew that worked on the project, resulted in an excellent quality stream channel.

On June 26, 1984 our Resource Analyst, Larry Dalton, made inspection of the Eccles Creek channel that you recently constructed. At that time a natural spawning trout blockage (beaver dam) downstream from the new channel was removed. Within 6 hours of its removal, numerous spawning cutthroat trout migrating upstream in Eccles Creek had passed through the 460 foot long new channel. This observation represents the "proof of the pudding" for suitability of the channel for fish migration. As you know, an earlier communication between the Division and your company indicated some concern on our part for one section of the channel where two more hydraulic jumps were suspected as being needed. The fish have demonstrated that this is not so, thus that concern has now been alleviated.

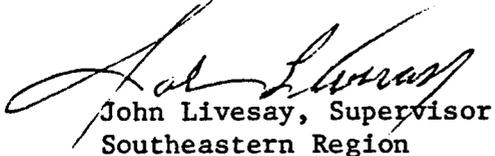
The Division is still concerned that the area be stabilized as soon as practicable and that revegetation be initiated at your earliest convenience. Stabilization will preclude movement of sediments during summer precipitation events and will minimize negative impacts from such on the spawning activities.

Walt Whitman
July 18, 1984
Page 2

Walt, again I want to express my appreciation for the diligent efforts by your employees regarding construction of the channel. The cooperative attitude and foresight demonstrated by Steve Tanner during the construction of the 460 foot long channel was certainly appreciated.

Good luck with your efforts at stabilizing the slippage area.

Sincerely,



John Livesay, Supervisor
Southeastern Region

JL:LBD:db

cc: Darrell Nish
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
SERO Fisheries