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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

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January 8, 2001

Mr. Robert Morgan, State Engineer
Utah Division of Water Rights
1594 West North Temple, Suite 220
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Subject: RDCC Action Item (agenda not currently available), Division of Water Rights/Carbon County (00-91-24SA): Whiskey Creek - coal mining alteration

Attention: Shawn Zinszer

Dear Shawn:

In regards to the subject action, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has the following comments:

We request that the Stream Channel Alteration Application Permit 00-91-24SA not be issued until representatives from the Division of Water Rights, DWR, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and the US Fish & Wildlife Service have the opportunity to meet with representatives of Lodestar White Oak Mine regarding this project.

Whiskey Creek is a relatively small stream, however, the proposed project is fairly large and invasive. There are few details given about the project in the application form. DWR is concerned that the action may impact downstream fisheries in Clear Creek, an important trout stream. We believe there may be other methods, than the proposed rip rap, which would be more capable of filtration/sediment control on this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposed action and provide comment. If you have any questions or if requested meeting is scheduled, please call Chris Colt, Habitat Biologist at (435)636-0279 in our Price Regional Office.

Sincerely,

John Kimball
John Kimball
Director