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# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
AREA OFFICE COLORADO-UTAH  
1311 FEDERAL BUILDING  
125 SOUTH STATE STREET  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84138

November 6, 1980

IN REPLY REFER TO

RECORDED

NOV - 6 1980

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. Cleon B. Feight, Director  
Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining  
1588 West North Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Attention: Mary Ann Wright

RE: Predesign Wildlife Consultation  
Price River Coal Company  
Braztah No. 3, UT-0008  
Braztah No. 4, UT-0028  
Braztah No. 5, UT-0007  
Braztah No. 6, UT-0024  
Braztah No. 7, UT-0031

Dear Mr. Feight:

The majority of the Price River Coal Company operations are ongoing; disturbance of wildlife and resources have occurred for many years. We suggest that the mine plan include a vegetational map of the mine plan areas showing vegetational communities, species composition of those communities, and occurrences of natural water sources. The Service does not see a need for conducting any additional baseline surveys for those areas presently involved in coal mining operations.

The planned development in Crandall Canyon would need survey work conducted to determine the presence, use, and possible disturbance of raptors and other migratory bird species of high federal interest. This includes the portal area and also the access road to the portal area. We hope that the road design would include features minimizing impacts on the riparian habitat.

To the best of our knowledge, no endangered or threatened plant species occur in the area of the Crandall Canyon.

Should further activities in the Willow Creek area of the mining operation be initiated, it would be necessary to conduct similar surveys, as recommended, for Crandall Canyon on all areas proposed for disturbance in this segment of the mine plan areas.

We believe that there is an excellent opportunity during the development of a fish and wildlife plan to formulate programs, mitigate and/or enhance wildlife resources. We would be very pleased to work with the Company, as they develop the required fish and wildlife plan to provide advice or proposals that would enhance the wildlife resources in the area.

Sincerely yours,

  
Robert H. Shields  
Area Manager