



State of Utah
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

*copy of original
 route to L. Blyden
 c/c D. Haddock*

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DIVISION OF
 OIL, GAS & MINING

May 14, 1990

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Dr. Dianne Nielson, Director
 Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
 355 West North Temple
 3 Triad Center, Suite 350
 Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203

Dear Dianne:

The Division has reviewed Utah Fuel Company's permit amendment for Skyline Mine's proposed coal stacking tube. As part of the proposal, the north coal storage area will be expanded back towards the existing Middle Fork culvert. To accommodate the expansion, the culvert will be relocated approximately 100 feet upstream.

At present, there is a debris sump above the culvert to control sedimentation due to runoff. However, this sump has also caused macroinvertebrates to become trapped. Eccles Creek supports a self-sustaining cutthroat trout population that relies on macroinvertebrate drift for forage. The Division thus recommends that a debris sump not be formed above the new culvert. The existing debris sump should be filled and seeded.

To help control sedimentation, bare slopes should be seeded and temporary sediment control structures used while the vegetation establishes itself. In addition, it is recommended that willow shoots be planted along 150 feet of each bank of Middle Fork above the culvert. This will mitigate for disturbance to the creek.

Construction should be timed to coincide with low flow periods and to begin no sooner than mid August after fish eggs have hatched. Wet cement from the construction site should be kept out of the water as it will raise pH levels and cause fish mortality.

Thank you for an opportunity to review and provide comment.

Sincerely,

Timothy H. Provan
 Acting Director
 Timothy H. Provan
 Director