

*File copy
Plateau Mining
Star Pt. #1421
Rt a copy for
info.*

Manti-LaSal National Forest
350 East Main Street
Price, Utah 84501

2800

March 18, 1980

Mr. Dan Crane
Office of Surface Mining, Region V
1020 - 15th Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Dear Mr. Crane:

We have discovered two unauthorized breakouts in Mud Water Canyon on land leased to Plateau Mining Company for an emergency underground coal right-of-way. This unauthorized activity is located in Section 7, T15S, R8E. The ROW is identified as U-43034.

Stipulation in the Environmental Assessment approved May 7, 1979, and in the stipulations formulated by the BLM in the lease document clearly state that no surface breakouts would be constructed from the right-of-way. They further state that a barrier of solid coal not less than 75 feet in depth shall be maintained between the ROW entries and the coal outcrop and escarpment. The breakouts clearly violate these conditions.

In light of the fact that the breakouts have been constructed, we recommend that appropriate action be taken with Plateau Mining Co. to require that these entries be sealed and rehabilitation measures be instigated. We would be available to meet with your representatives to establish appropriate criteria for these actions.

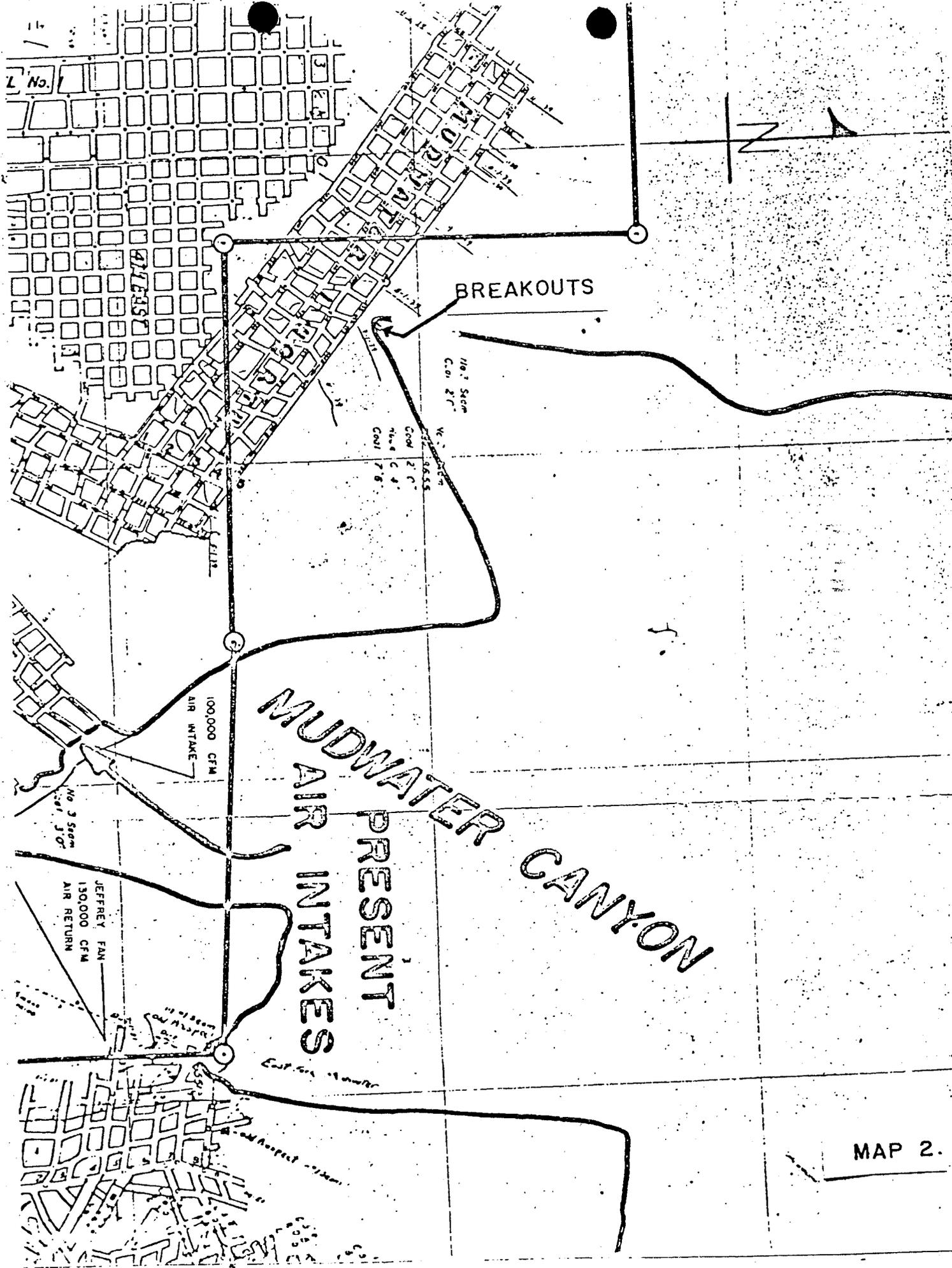
Sincerely,

William H. Boley

for
REED C. CHRISTENSEN
Forest Supervisor
Enclosures

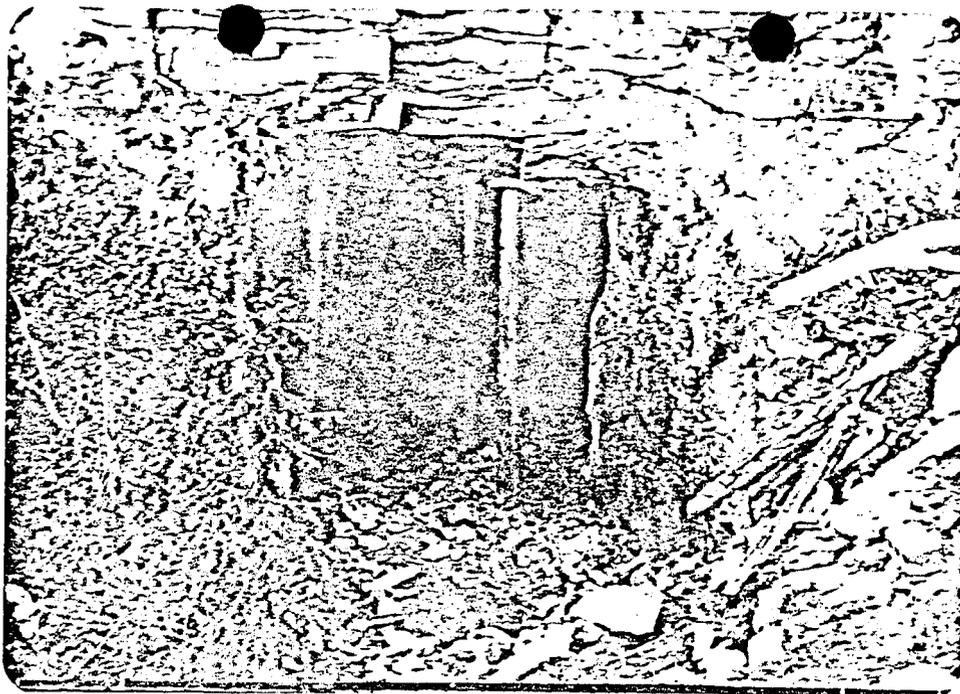
cc: BLM
USGS

0-3
BBoley:jmc



MAP 2.

PHOTO 1



Breakout on southeast side of Mud Water Canyon
Opening approximately 8 feet by 8 feet by 5 feet in depth.

PHOTO 2



Breakout in the center of the bottom of Mud Water Canyon,
about ten feet from the breakout in Photo 1. The sluff in
front of the breakout conceals its true dimensions of 8
feet high, 6 feet wide and 5 feet in depth.