September 15, 1981

Memo to Coal File:

RE: Eureka Energy Company
Sage Point-Dugout Mine
ACT/007/009
Carbon County, Utah

On August 31, 1981, Susan Linner of DOGM met with Chris Slaboszewicz and Nick Temnikov of Eureka Energy and drove to the Sage Point-Dugout minesite. After arriving on site, we drove up Soldier Creek Canyon to look for the golden eagle nest along the road. The nest was loacted approximately 12 miles up the canyon from the junction of Highway 6. The nest is on a southeast facing cliff and has a clear view of the road and all traffic that passes by. The nest was active this year and fledged at least one young.

On September 1, the same three persons along with Bob Goudge of Eureka drove up Dugout Canyon and Fish Creek Canyon to observe raptor nests in those areas. Bob pointed out what he believed to be a Cooper's hawk nest right beside the Dugout Canyon road. The nest looks a little large to be a Cooper's hawk nest and appears to be old as it is fallling out of the tree. Further up the canyon, a search was made for a prairie falcon scrape. There is a discrepancy between the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management as to the exact location of the scrape. Several areas on the west side of the road looked like good falcon habitat. The cliffs east of the road were surveyed with binoculars and on foot, but no evidence of falcon utilization was found. Bob will contact Charlie Greenwood of DWR for an exact location of the nest.

There are three golden eagle nests in Fish Creek Canyon. The one that was classified as occupied/tended during 1981 (nest #2) by the USFWS looks down on an area proposed to be used for a parking lot, portal system and eventually a loadout or conveyor system. The other two nests are on the opposite facing cliff at about the same height. One looks like it is in very good condition; the other appears to be falling off the cliff face.

SCL

SUSAN C. LINNER
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

cc: OSM

SCL/btm

Statistics:

No State Vehicle used
Per Diem: One person X one day, 12 hours @ $37.50/day = $44.47