



## 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

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

May 19, 1980

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: Beaver Creek Coal Company  
 Castle Valley Spur  
ACT/007/022

Dear Mr. Feight:

The following are the Fish and Wildlife Service comments in response to your requested Pre-design Consultation on the nature and level of detail of fish and wildlife resource information to be provided by the Company for its permit application.

Except for endangered or threatened species, we do not recommend the Company pursue any additional baseline inventory studies. Available baseline inventory data presently available will adequately fill the requirements of the permit application.

However, the mine permit area is located in the range of the following endangered species.

1. Bald Eagle, Haliaeetus leucocephalus
2. Peregrine Falcon, Falco peregrinus anatum
3. Black-footed Ferret, Mustela nigripes ?

The Company should ascertain whether any of these species do occur in this permit area.

It is suggested that in the preparation of the Fish and Wildlife Plan or Reclamation Plan that the Company consider modifying their Reclamation Plan for the coal refuse disposal area to meet wildlife purposes. This area will be raised in elevation as a result of the deposition of coal refuse. It appears possible with a topsoil covering and selection of proper vegetation for revegetation, that this area could provide an enhancement of the existing habitat for wildlife.

We do suggest that a detailed vegetational map be prepared of this area. This will allow for a measuring point to determine the success of the reclamation.

This completes our comments in regard to the subject mining permit area. We will be happy to participate in any further consultation during the preparation of the Fish and Wildlife Plan and Reclamation Plan for the mine permit application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert H. Shields".

Robert H. Shields  
Area Manager