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(ES)

September 30, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Acting Deputy Administrator
Office of Surface Mining
Denver, Colorado
ATTN: Lou Hamm

FROM: Acting Field Supervisor
Ecological Services
Salt Lake City, Utah

SUBJECT: Completeness Review of Mining and Reclamation Plan -
Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine, Beaver Creek Coal Company,
Utah 0004

This response constitutes the results of our review of the Mining and Reclamation Plan (MRP) for the Huntington Canyon No. 4 Mine, Beaver Creek Coal Company.

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) was unable to survey the golden eagle nests that occur on the tract or immediately adjacent to the tract during the 1983 field season. We cannot predict with certainty when or if we will have the funding to complete breeding surveys in the future. In consideration of the above statements, the MRP should be changed at 10.3.2.4, 10.7 and 3.4.6.3 to reflect the survey data (attachment) and that the FWS will not be responsible for completing future raptor surveys unless funding for helicopter surveys is provided.

The MRP should show how these cliffs, specifically where golden eagle nests occur, are protected from subsidence.

The MRP should be modified at 10.5.1.2. The last sentence should be modified by adding, "as long as raptor mortality continues to not occur".

The Company should commit to replacement of springs and seeps interrupted due to mining of the tract at 10.5.1.1 and 7.2.5 and indicate at 3.4.8.3 (last paragraph, last sentence) that wildlife use is a beneficial use.

This completes our review of the MRP for completeness. Please don't hesitate to contact us if clarification is required or changes in the MRP require additional review. When the Company has appropriately addressed these issues, we would recommend issuance of the mining permit.

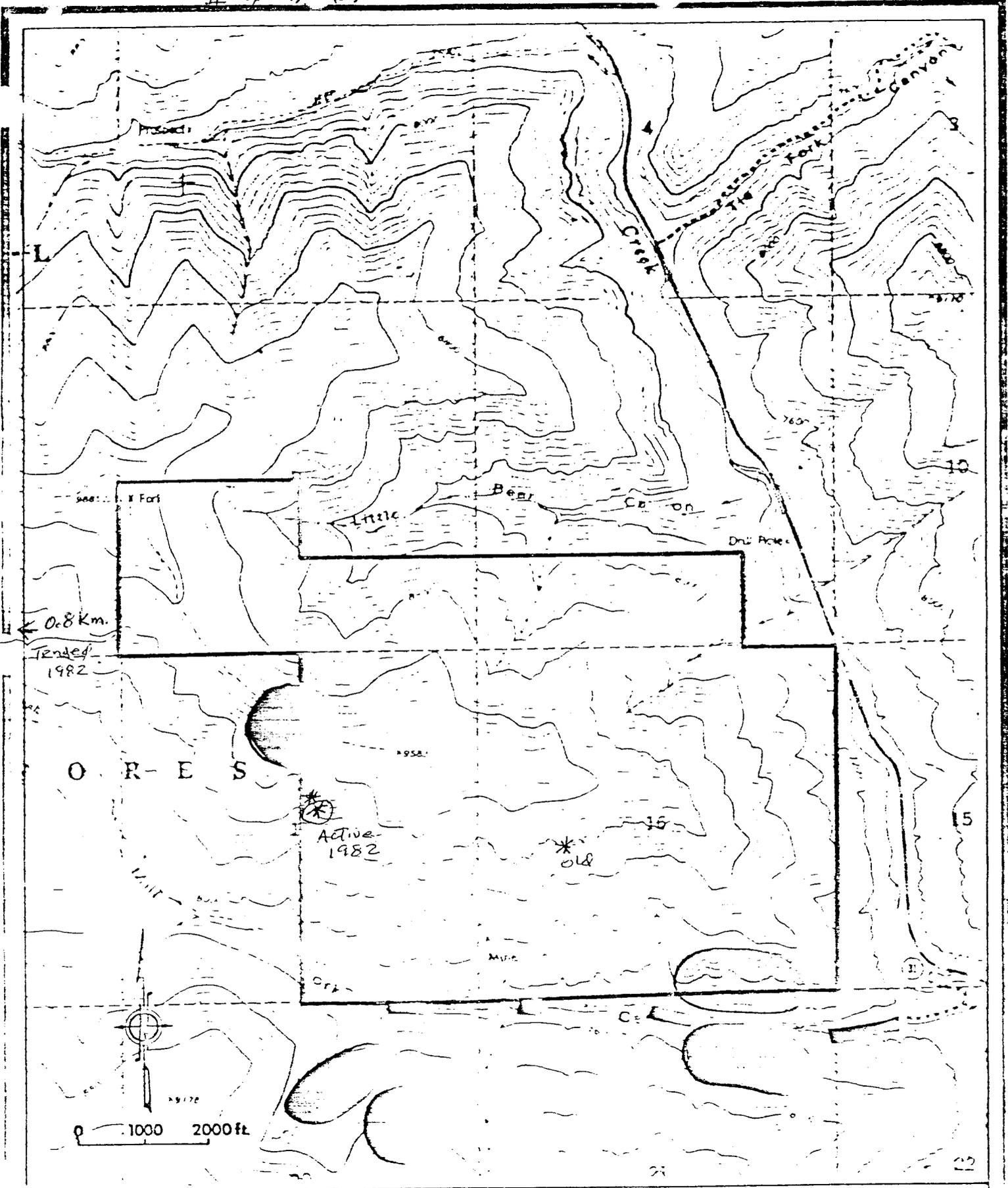
Attachment

cc: DWR, Price, Utah
DWR, Salt Lake City, Utah
RO (HR), Denver, Colorado
DOGM, Salt Lake City, Utah

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert D. Jacobson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the "Attachment" text.

Figure 10-8

Locations of 4 golden eagle nests on/near the Huntington Canyon # 4 11 S.



Areas of frequent occurrence, and hence possible breeding, by Red-tailed Hawks (red), Sharp-shinned Hawks (green), American Kestrels (blue), and Great Horned Owls (yellow) in the study area, 1981. Red strips along the Mill Fork road represent areas of frequent deer crossings.