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SCOTT M. MATHESON
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Executive Director,
NATURAL RESOURCES

CLEON B. FEIGHT
Director

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS, AND MINING
1588 West North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
(801) 533-5771

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February 20, 1980

Mr. Steve Dole
Manager
Western Environmental Activities
Consolidation Coal Company
2 Inverness Drive East
Englewood, Colorado 80112

RE: Wildlife Resources Information
Consultation Pursuant to
UMC 783.20 and SMC 779.20
ACT/015/003 and ACT/015/015

Dear Mr. Dole:

Enclosed are the guidelines which were compiled by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining as a result of the consultation with the agencies having jurisdiction over fish and wildlife and habitat in the mine plan area. Please be reminded of the requirements of UMC 771.23(c) and SMC 771.23(c) when writing your permit application.

Should questions arise concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

MARY ANN WRIGHT
RECLAMATION BIOLOGIST

MAW/te

Enclosure: Guidelines

cc: Office of Surface Mining
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Utah Div. of Wildlife Resources

GUIDELINES FOR CONSOLIDATION COAL COMPANY
EMERY DEEP & EMERY SURFACE MINES
For Fish & Wildlife and Their Habitats

Pursuant to UMC 783.20 & SMC 779.20

Aquatic Studies

1. Habitat Study

Area: Water bodies in both mine plan areas which will be impacted by mining activities (i.e., culverted or diverted) to provide for their restoration.

Time: March or April and September or October.

Purpose: Determine the following physical characteristics of existing aquatic habitat:

- the area of aquatic habitat
- stream velocity, gradient, sinuosity, depth, width, pool-riffle ratio, substrate types, aquatic vegetation, riparian vegetation, seasonal temperature and dissolved O_2 . A longitudinal stream channel profile should be done of the streams to be impacted by a surface operation.

2. Fish Survey

Area: Water bodies in both mine plan areas which will be impacted.

Time: Any.

Purpose: Provide data from low levels of study for fishes inhabiting the area. This data should include occurrence, relative abundance, status, population trend and preferred habitat. This data has already been collected and is available from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources Southeastern Regional Office.

Terrestrial

1. Prairie Dog Colony Survey

Area: All areas to be disturbed plus one Km. buffer.

Time: April/May.

Purpose: Assess occurrence. If found, determine viability of colonies and map. Consolidation Coal Company must notify the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining if colonies are found, in order to secure a mandatory endangered species consultation for black-footed ferrets with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2. Raptor Survey

Area: Areas to be disturbed plus a zone of 1 Km. radius surrounding the sites.

Time: March through June.

Purpose: Assess occurrence and location of raptor breeding sites.

3. Migratory Birds of High Federal Interest

Area: All areas to be disturbed plus 1 Km. radius.

Time: March through June.

Purpose: Assess the presence, status and habitat quality of the Western blue-bird (Sialia mexicana) and Scott's Oriole (Icterus parisorum). Western Bluebirds occupy open woodlands and pasture and farmlands having old trees for nest sites. Scott's Orioles are found in pinyon-juniper woodlands of desert areas and cottonwood trees in canyons or draws.

4. Amphibians, Reptiles, Other Birds and Mammals

Area: Entire Mine Plan area.

Time: Any.

Purpose: Assess presence, status, relative abundance, population trend, and preferred habitat type for all species inhabiting the mine plan area. Habitat preference should be done in conjunction with data collected from habitat (vegetation) studies. Studies of this type have already been completed and data is available from the Division of Wildlife Resources Southeastern Regional Office in Price, Utah.

5. Habitat Survey

Area: Mine Plan Area with more detail for areas to be disturbed as set forth in the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining Vegetation Guidelines of September 5, 1979.

GUIDELINES
CONSOLIDATION COAL CO.
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Time: Spring/Summer/Fall.

Purpose: To assess the condition, trend and types of habitat within the mine plan area. In the course of other field studies, areas of special use for wildlife, such as large mammal dens, heavily used riparian areas and snake dens, should be noted and mapped.

*Guidelines Compiled February 20, 1980
by Mary Ann Wright, Reclamation Biologist,
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining