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File PRO/043/002 #2
Copy to Lynn & Tom T.

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

DOUGLAS F. DAY
Director

1596 West North Temple/Salt Lake City, Utah 84116/801-533-9333

Reply To NORTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE
515 East 5300 South / Ogden, Utah 84403

March 7, 1983

Mr. Lynn M. Kunzler
Reclamation Biologist
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Kunzler:

We have reviewed the Summit County coal mine site (T.2N, R.6E, portions of sections 25,36) proposed by Mr. Bill Bloomquist, Coalville, Utah and provide the following concerns and considerations to incorporate into the mining and mitigation plan.

The proposal presented will have an impact on resident wildlife; however, the magnitude and nature of impact will be minimal for many species. Since the project site is primarily big game winter range, the direct loss of browse and grass species from road construction, excavation and associated disturbance from mining activities will reduce available forage for big game. Although moose and elk occur within the general area, project impacts will affect primarily deer. This loss could be minimized and partially mitigated by (1) reclaiming disturbed sites with browse seedlings; (2) removing fall livestock grazing within a 20-30 acre fenced portion of the site to increase browse forage available; or (3) planting additional browse on other south or south-westerly slopes adjacent to the project.

We do not anticipate impacts to wintering bald eagles along Chalk Creek. No other threatened or endangered plant or animal species are known to occur within or adjacent to the project site.

Erosion control and on-site detention of run-off and mining wastes are needed to avoid discharge to Chalk Creek. Chalk Creek is a Class III fishery and tributary to Echo Reservoir (municipal-industrial water source).

The intermittant drainage east of the mining portal should be used to divert run-off away from the haul road and portal area. Sediment detention basins are needed to detain sediment before discharge to Chalk Creek.

Overall, the impacts of the proposal, as presented (size, extent of excavation, etc) will not significantly affect resident wildlife species or existing management activities or goals; however, a significant change in the magnitude of the project would require a re-evaluation of our position.

If I can provide additional information or suggestions, please contact George Wilson, Regional Resource Analyst, (801-479-5143).

Sincerely,

Jack A. Rensel

Jack A. Rensel
Regional Supervisor

JAR/GWW/jm