



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 84138-1197

March 2, 1983

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Ran 3/8/83
Routed to Jim Smith
Copy to Lynn
Sharon & Joel
File
Summit Coal Co.
PRO/043/3001
JIM #2
MAR 11 1983

Ron Daniels, Acting Director
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

Dear Mr. Daniels:

Jim Munson, Energy Operations, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) attended a pre-design field inspection of a proposed mine in the Chalk Creek drainage near Coalville, Utah on February 23, 1983. Also in attendance were Lynn Kunzler, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining; George Wilson, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources; and Leonard Maki representing the mining company.

The proposed development (five to ten acres of surface disturbance) should have minimal effects to migratory avifauna or threatened or endangered wildlife species. Furthermore, no threatened or endangered plant species are believed to exist near the site.

The FWS recommends that the company bus employees to and from the mine site from Coalville. Highway 133 along Chalk Creek crosses through critical mule deer winter range, and deer/vehicle collisions are already a problem.

We approve of the proposal to divert upstream runoff around the disturbance area. The proposed sediment pond below the mine site should be designed to adequately protect against overflows that could degrade the water quality of Chalk Creek.

This concludes the FWS comments on the pre-design inspection. We appreciate the invitation to attend the field review and the opportunity to comment on the mine design.

Sincerely yours,

Clayton Johnson
Acting Field Supervisor

cc: OSM, Denver
DWR, SLC

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DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING