

APPENDIX D-9

WILDLIFE

In 2007 Intermountain Resources conducted initial wildlife surveys for Black Hills Bentonite (BHB) for a project in the Mayoworth area of Johnson County. Additional wildlife surveys were completed in 2010, 2011 and 2012 to update existing information. This project encompassed approximately five hundred twenty (520) acres on a combination of private, state and federal (Bureau of Land Management-BLM) lands and was originally referred to as Permit 339C - Amendment No. 4.

In the time since the initial survey was completed BHB decided to separate the study area into two individual amendment applications, the Cash Amendment and the North Fork Amendment. The Cash Amendment, which includes three hundred twenty (320) acres of state and privately owned land in the original 2007 wildlife study area, was submitted to WDEQ/LQD on September 23, 2011. The North Fork Amendment to Permit to Mine No. 339C consists of the remaining two hundred (200) acres of BLM, state and privately owned lands that were included in the 2007 wildlife survey. Map D9-1 shows the amendment area boundaries while Map D9-2 also illustrates the amendment area boundaries as well as a one-mile perimeter around the amendment areas. The following wildlife report encompasses the entire project area surveyed in 2007 as well as wildlife survey data recorded in 2010, 2011 and during the winter of 2012. Data is also included from surveys completed on this area in conjunction with permitting adjacent mine areas.