



27366

Fax Cover Sheet

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT WYOMING STATE OFFICE

ATTENTION: DON SIMPSON
5353 YELLOWSTONE ROAD,
CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82009

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 2

RECEIVED
NOV 13 2008
DN 775-0303

11/13/2008

Don Simpson, Acting State Director
Bureau of Land Management Wyoming State Office
5353 Yellowstone Road
Cheyenne, WY 82009

Re: Protest of Dec. 2, 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Sale

Protest of 14 parcels. Specific parcels protested include: Parcels WY-0812-177, WY 0812-178, WY-0812-179, WY-0812-180, WY-0812-181, WY-0812-182, WY-0812-183, WY-0812-186, WY-0812-187, WY-0812-188, WY-0812-189, WY-0812-190, WY-0812-191 and WY-0812-192.

Dear Director Simpson:

I hereby protest the inclusion of the above referenced parcels in the lease sale advertised by the Bureau of Land Management on October 17, 2008. I request the above parcels be withdrawn from sale because they are in fact crucial big game habitat and critical to ensuring the survival of the Colorado River Cutthroat Trout (CRCT) in Sweetwater County.

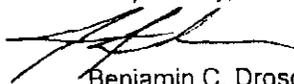
I believe these parcels of land mentioned above, many of which I have personally hiked, hunted, and enjoyed should not be subjected to oil and gas exploration. Furthermore I have already personally seen the affects of oil and gas exploration in adjacent areas. The proposed sale of these mentioned parcels would adversely affect big game movements and causing undue stress to the Elk, Deer, and Antelope in those areas. In example I had the opportunity to hunt deer in an adjacent parcel to WY-0812-187 three years ago where the Deer showed no signs of stress. This fall I also had the opportunity to hunt the same area which was a shocking experience, due to oil and gas exploration. In the area adjacent to the parcel listed above (WY-0812-187) I found a natural gas/oil rig. After hunting that specific area for Deer, Elk, and Antelope I am very disappointed I did not see a single animal. I will tell you this area is pristine Deer and Elk country, but it is not uncommon to see Antelope there. The grass is plentiful and water resources are nearby and pure.

I feel that the gas/oil rig mentioned in the prior paragraph has consumed more Animal Unit months (AUM) of good forage than one hundred wintering Elk could survive on for one month. Also this is in crucial winter range. Exploration would just be causing undue stress to the animals which reside there.

The parcels listed above are on many different drainages including: Spring Creek, West Spring Creek, Trout Creek, Gooseberry Creek, Camp Creek, Currant Creek, Spitz Creek, Sugarloaf Creek, Marsh Creek, Coyote Springs, and Dry Hollow a tributary into Currant Creek. Currant Creek has a self sustainable population of CRCT, as well as any tributary to the Flaming George Reservoir mentioned above.

I have personally worked in the oil and gas industry and know not all chemicals are properly contained. Workers are sometimes careless in work ethics due to long hours and very little sleep. I shudder to think of the disasters and destruction to this pristine wildlife heaven by letting Oil and Gas exploration continue in the area.

Respectfully,



Benjamin C. Droscher
307-389-8420
620 Gobel Street
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82901