



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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October 18, 2006

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WER 2419.02
Bureau of Land Management
Casper Field Office
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
Casper Resource Management Plan Revision

James K. Murkin
Field Manager
BLM Casper Field Office
2987 Prospector Drive
Casper, WY 82604-2968

Dear **Mr.** Murkin:

The staff of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department has reviewed the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern for the Bureau of Land Management Casper Resource Management Plan Revision. We offer the following comments for your consideration.

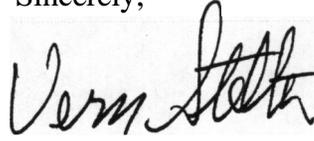
We support recognizing the North Platte River for special management considerations, and recommend the designation be extended to the Dave Johnson Power Plant. The reach contains Blue Ribbon waters of national importance to anglers, from Gray Reef Dam to the Dave Johnson Power Plant. In your August 8, 2006 letter (1610/Casper RMP), the proposal for an ACEC on the North Platte River Corridor met the relevance and importance criteria, and the nomination was carried forward **as** a potential ACEC in the RMP revision. We support the Trapper's Route Special Recreation Area Management Plan, but suggest the corridor deserves additional protection to insure the resource value is protected, thus allowing the resource to provide and support recreation. BLM land parcels CO0380 and CO0381 are important for public recreational opportunities that include, but are not limited to, fishing, waterfowl hunting, and boating (float trips), and would be valuable to be included in the ACEC.

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Mr. James K. Murkin
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Thank you for the **opportunity** to comment.

Sincerely,



JOHNEMMERICH
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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cc: **USFWS**

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