

January 12, 2012

To: BLM Lander

Re: Regional Management Plan Revision Comments

I have heard that the Fremont County Commissioners are preparing comments to the BLM that oppose the favored alternative in favor of one that allows maximum logging and grazing and further development of roads. Individuals on the County Commission have made it very clear that they believe it is a good use of County funds to fight the Federal Government (Pat Hickerson - paraphrased in the Lander Journal), and they seem to have interests in the logging/timber industry (Pat Hickerson) in several areas and cattle ranching (Doug Thompson) around the Sweetwater near Jefferies City.

There is a rumor that they have hired a consultant for the sole purpose of reviewing the RMP draft and writing comments in support of alternatives that support grazing and timber harvest. Whether or not this is true - I think it is important to point out that although the Commissioners are elected officials, and they are supposed to represent their constituents, they certainly do not represent the interests of many of the citizens in the County regarding the use of federal land. BLM agency representatives in regional or federal offices who are not familiar with the Fremont County Commissioners and their agendas might think the Commissioner's opinion is the predominant opinion in the County and that is probably NOT the case.

I do not think fighting federal government agencies like the BLM and USFS is a good use of County money or time and I do not agree with the Commissioner's land use demands.

Please know that the assertions made by the County Commissioners are not necessarily those of the people of Fremont County.

Thank You,

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