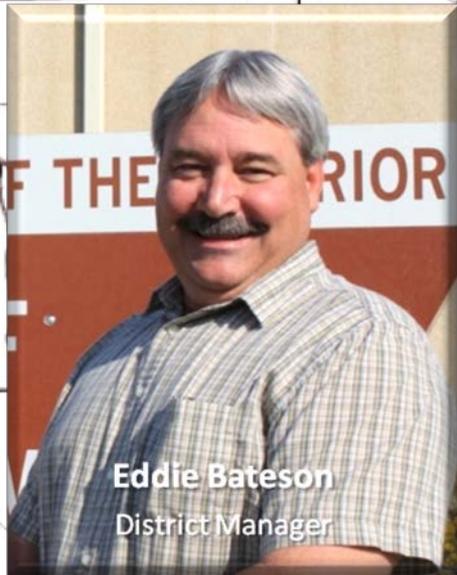


W Y O M I N G



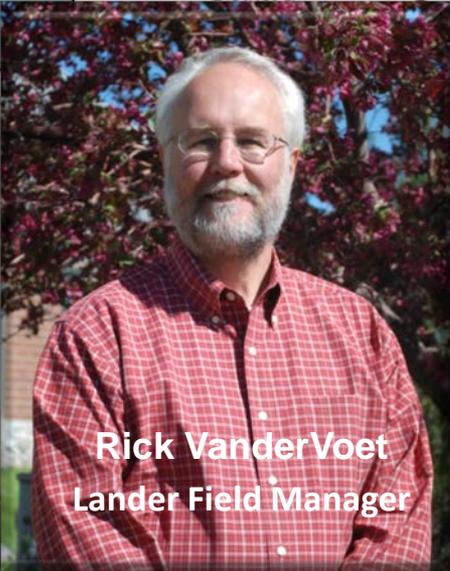
Eddie Bateson
District Manager



Mike Stewart
Cody Field Manager



Karla Bird
Worland Field Manager



Rick VanderVoet
Lander Field Manager

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Wind River/Bighorn Basin District

Gateway to Yellowstone

- Provides support to three field offices: Cody, Lander and Worland. District office co-located in Worland with Worland Field Office.
- 12.5 million acres of intermixed public, state and private lands positioned throughout portions of Bighorn, Carbon, Fremont, Hot Springs, Natrona, Park, Sweetwater and Washakie counties
- 5.8 million acres of public land surface and 7 million acres of Federal mineral estate

Bentonite

- Wyoming's bentonite resources comprise 70% of the world's supply.
- Five companies actively mining bentonite; plans emerging for even larger mines in the coming years.
- Bentonite used for absorbents, animal feed, drilling fluids, foundry, iron ore pelletizing and sealants.



- Increasingly used for cat litter – may become largest single market for Wyoming bentonite.
- Bighorn Basin bentonite companies provide employment and community support while minimizing adverse effects of mining through implementation of approved mine and reclamation plans.

Wild Horses

- Nine Herd Management Areas (HMAs) throughout District.
- 2009 gathers throughout District brought all HMAs within the appropriate management levels.
- Controversy surrounding gathers continues to grow.
- Cody Field Office field darting mares with fertility control in McCullough Peaks HMA for first time in Wyoming. Goal to reduce need for helicopter gathers and to realize long-term savings to taxpayer by reducing number of horses going to long-term holding facilities.
- Wild horse adoptions held several times each year, including at Wyoming Honor Farm, where inmates “gentle” wild horses as part of their rehabilitation.



Uranium

- **Gas Hills *in situ recovery*** uranium mine EIS underway in Lander Field Office, 60 miles east of Riverton.
 - encompasses approximately 8,538 acres—mostly public lands administered by both the Lander and Casper field offices
 - not in Sage-Grouse Core Area
 - regarded by public as area already dedicated to uranium mining
 - Issues include transportation alternatives and ground water issues which stem from ISR operations.
- **Sheep Mountain** conventional uranium mine EIS about to begin in Lander Field Office, seven miles south of Jeffrey City.
 - develop conventional uranium resources using heap leach extraction method in Crooks Gap mining district
 - includes the Congo Pit, an open pit development, and re-opening of existing Sheep underground mine
 - total permitted acreage approximately 3,606 acres; current plans will re-affect some 367 surface acres, 210 acres of which have previously been intensely disturbed by past mining.
 - expected to begin in 2013; will employ 200 people.
 - 5th EIS level effort in Lander Field Office



Sage-Grouse

- BLM steward of over half of remaining sagebrush habitat in U.S., more than 57 million acres
- Wyoming home to 54% of world population; 50% of those are in Lander Field Office
- BLM Wyoming Instruction Memorandum provides guidance to Wyoming field offices on Greater Sage-Grouse habitat management for surface-disturbing and disruptive activities and resource management planning.



National Historic Trails

- **1,400 miles statewide**
- Lander Field Office contains the most miles of historic trails in Wyoming and includes the Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, California and Pony Express Trails.
- Approximately 500,000 pioneers traveled west across South Pass during the great overland wagon train migrations.
- All development proposals must consider visual resource protection along the historic trails.



Resource Management Plans

- District currently revising RMPs in all three field offices
- Bighorn Basin RMP
 - combined effort revising RMPs for both the Cody and Worland field offices
 - planning area: 3.2 million surface acres and 4.2 million acres of Federal mineral estate
 - major issues: lands with wilderness characteristics, energy and minerals management, reliance on public land by local counties, wild horse herd management areas
 - Draft RMP currently available for public review
- Lander RMP
 - planning area: 2.5 million surface acres and 2.7 million acres of Federal mineral estate
 - major issues: energy and minerals management, protection of sage-grouse habitat, management of cultural resources including National Historic Trails
 - Draft RMP for public review in 2011

