



Wyoming
DEPARTMENT OF *Agriculture*

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The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.

November 15, 2010

Mr. William Staten, Natural Resource Manager
Wyoming Army National Guard
Construction & Facilities Management Office
5500 Bishop Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82009-3320

Dear Mr. Staten:

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture's (WDA) scoping comments pertaining to the Wyoming Army National Guard (WYARNG) proposal to update and implement the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) for the Lander Local Training Area in Fremont County, Wyoming.

Our comments are specific to our mission: dedication to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources, and quality of life. As this proposed INRMP affects our agriculture industry, our natural resources, and the welfare of our citizens, it's important you continue to inform us of proposed actions and decisions and continue to provide the opportunity to express pertinent issues and concerns.

The WDA appreciates efforts made to monitor and sustain natural resources in the 1,360-acre area. Rangeland management is an important focus of the INRMP. We recommend the WYARNG include the following in the INRMP in relation to rangeland management:

- 1) Flexibility to make case-by-case decisions in the management of rangeland resources. This includes the ability to apply vegetation treatments as necessary, develop range improvements and continue to enhance reclamation.
- 2) Continuance of livestock grazing leases. The INRMP should allow WYARNG officials and grazing lessees the opportunity to work cooperatively and the flexibility to make case-by-case decisions that are in the best interests of affected natural resources.

In conclusion, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the INRMP. We encourage continued attention to our concerns and look forward to hearing about and being involved in proposed actions and decisions.

Sincerely,

Jason Fearneyhough
Director

JF/jc

CC: Governor's Planning Office
WY Association of Conservation Districts
Wyoming Board of Agriculture

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Wyoming Stock Growers Association

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