



Wyoming  
DEPARTMENT OF Agriculture

Matthew H. Mead, *Governor*  
Jason Fearneyhough, *Director*  
2219 Carey Ave. • Cheyenne, WY 82002  
Phone: (307) 777-7321 • Fax: (307) 777-6593  
Web: agriculture.wy.gov • Email: wda1@state.wy.us

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

July 6, 2011

Mr. Michael P. Stewart, Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management, Cody Field Office  
PO Box 518  
Cody, WY 82414-0518

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) comments pertaining to Environmental Assessment (EA) Number WY-020-EA08-033 and the associated permit renewal for the Lakeshore Allotment (003036) Proposed Decision by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Cody Field Office (FO).

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 EA and Decision 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 the effort the Cody FO has devoted to authorizing livestock grazing in a timely and efficient manner. As BLM allotments are an integral part of agriculture in the Cody area, it is important that permittees continue livestock grazing to assist in maintaining economic viability for both producers and communities. In addition to its economic value, livestock grazing represents irreplaceable environmental and social values, contributing to the preservation of open spaces, scenic vistas, and the traditional image of the historic rural landscapes of Wyoming. Maintaining open spaces also provide habitat and less restrictive movement for wildlife than some alternative land uses.

In addition, the WDA appreciates the efforts of the Cody FO staff in working with permittees and strongly urge you to continue this practice.

In conclusion, we support the continuation of livestock grazing on the Lakeshore Allotment and look forward to continued cooperation on proposed actions and decisions.

Sincerely,

Jason Fearneyhough  
Director

JF/jc

CC: Governor's Policy Office  
Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts  
Wyoming Board of Agriculture  
Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wyoming State Grazing Board  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association  
Wyoming Wool Growers Association

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