



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.*

June 1, 2011

Mike Phillips, Assistant Field Manager-Resources  
Bureau of Land Management, Worland Field Office  
PO Box 119  
Worland, WY 82401

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) comments pertaining to the Environmental Assessment (EA) and associated livestock grazing permit renewal for the Little Lost Creek Allotment No. 00103 by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Worland 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 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 supports Alternative 1, which renews the grazing permit while maintaining Animal Unit Months, season-of-use and current management. WDA supports this proposal to maintain grazing preference and current livestock grazing management.

We do not support Alternative 2, which eliminates livestock grazing. As the EA clearly states, livestock grazing on the Little Lost Creek Allotment is an approved activity in the Washakie Resource Management Plan. In addition, recent monitoring data collected by the BLM shows vegetative conditions are optimal. Choosing Alternative 2 would have significant negative consequences on livestock grazing permittees, vegetative resources, wildlife habitat, and the local economy.

The WDA appreciates the efforts of the Worland FO staff in working with permittees to develop livestock management practices in this allotment and strongly urge them to continue this practice.

In conclusion, the WDA supports the continuance of commercial livestock grazing on the Little Lost Creek Allotment. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the scope of the proposed EA. We encourage continued attention to our concerns and we look forward to hearing about and being involved in proposed actions and decisions.

Sincerely,

Jason Fearneyhough  
Director

JF/jc

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

Wyoming Game and Fish Department  
Wyoming State Grazing Board  
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