



Wyoming
 DEPARTMENT OF *Agriculture*
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~~February 23, 2011~~ Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.

Secretary Ken Salazar
 United States Department of the Interior
 1849 C Street, NW
 Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Secretarial Order 3310

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture's (WDA) comments pertaining to the Secretarial Order 3310 – Protecting Wilderness Characteristics on Lands Managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Our comments are specific to our mission: dedication to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources, and quality of life. Secretarial Order 3310 has the potential to significantly affect Wyoming's agriculture industry, natural resources, and the welfare of its citizens by managing public lands with wilderness characteristics as 'Wild Lands' therefore limiting the 'multiple-use' directive provided by the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). FLPMA states, "...that management be on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield unless otherwise specified by law (FLPMA: Section 102)." Secretarial Order 3310 grossly circumvents FLPMA and the law providing only Congress has the authority to designate lands as wilderness.

In addition, Secretarial Order 3310 ignores the public involvement process identified in FLPMA (Section 202(f)), "The Secretary shall allow an opportunity for public involvement and by regulation shall establish procedures, including public hearings where appropriate, to give Federal, State, and local governments and the public, adequate notice and opportunity to comment upon and participate in the formulation of plans and programs relating to the management of the public lands." The State and local governments should be fully involved as cooperators in the process to identify and designate lands with wilderness characteristics. In addition, a public input process should be provided.

The WDA respectfully requests the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and the BLM rescind Secretarial Order 3310. We will continue to address our concerns and submit additional comments regarding the proposed Draft BLM Manuals 6300-1 (Wilderness Inventory) and 6300-2 (Consideration of Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in the Land Use Planning Process) to both the DOI and the Wyoming BLM State Office.

Sincerely,

Jason Fearneyhough
 Director

JF/cw

- CC: Governor's Planning Office
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 Wyoming Wool Growers Association
 Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts
 Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
 Wyoming Stock Growers Association
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