

# 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.*



Dave Freudenthal, Governor  
Jason Fearneyhough, Director

July 13, 2009

Shoshone National Forest, Clarks Fork Ranger District  
Attn: Marty Sharp, NEPA Coordinator  
203A Yellowstone Ave  
Cody, WY 82414

Dear Mr. Sharp:

Following are the Wyoming Department of Agriculture's (WDA) comments pertaining to the Predecisional Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Comprehensive River Management Plan for the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone Wild and Scenic River Amendment to the Shoshone National Forest (SNF) Land and Resource Management Plan.

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 project 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 provide us the opportunity to express pertinent issues and concerns.

The WDA supports the continuation of commercial livestock grazing as outlined under Alternatives 1 and 2 of the EA. We do not believe that elimination of livestock grazing is necessary to meet river management goals.

In addition, we strongly encourage SNF officials to continue to work with all livestock grazing permittees who may potentially be affected by this project. This includes coordinating with livestock grazing permittees and private landowners to allow access for maintenance of fences and other range improvements, checking livestock, and other allotment activities.

In conclusion, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the scope of the proposed management plan. 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 Planning 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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