



WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

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November 2, 2015

WER 50232.00
Governor's Sage Grouse Executive Order 2015-4
Density Disturbance Calculation Tool
Bureau of Land Management
Pistol Draw
Remote Automated Weather Station
Washakie County

Yvonne Warren
Bureau of Land Management
101 S. 23rd Street
Worland, WY 82401

Dear Ms. Warren:

The staff of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) has reviewed the proposed project for compliance with the Governor's Sage Grouse Executive Order 2015-4 (SGEO). Please note this letter is for sage-grouse recommendations only, and additional wildlife concerns may need to be addressed within the project area. We offer the following comments for your consideration:

Project Description: This project consists of placement of a Remote Weather Station with a 16 X 16 buck and rail fence for protection from livestock.

Project Disturbance in acres: 0.12

Time Frame: Will be in place in perpetuity

COT Threat: infrastructure

Project Location: T45N, R92W, Section 20

Core Area: Washakie

County: Washakie

Surface/Mineral Ownership: BLM

Permitting Agencies: BLM

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Density/Disturbance Calculation Tool (DDCT): The DDCT process was conducted per Executive Order 2015-4 guidelines using the DDCT web application and reviewed by the WGFD. DDCT results for the project are as follows:

- Project Disturbance = 0.00%
- Total Disturbance=14.92%
- Density = 0.03/640 acres

Compliance: This project is compliant for density/disruptions within the DDCT area. The total disturbance for the project is 14.92% however, the proposed project will result in minimal disturbance and will not add additional disturbance to the overall total in the area.

Stipulations for Development:

In addition to meeting SGEO disturbance/density guidelines, all stipulations outlined in Attachment B of the SGEO should be required by the permitting agency or agencies, and included in the conditions of the associated permit(s). These include general stipulations on surface disturbance, surface occupancy, seasonal use, geophysical exploration, transportation, overhead power lines, noise, vegetation removal, sagebrush treatment, monitoring/adaptive response, and reclamation, and specific stipulations pertaining to oil and gas, mining, connectivity area, underground rights-of-way, and wind energy development. All projects in core area should be sited and designed to avoid and minimize impacts to sage-grouse and sagebrush habitat.

The submitted worksheet indicates the project will comply with the SGEO if implemented as described.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Linda Cope, Staff Terrestrial Biologist, at (307) 777-2533.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
Deputy Director

JK/mf/ns

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Enclosures

- 1) Sage-Grouse Executive Order 2015-4 Worksheet
- 2) DDCT Final Results

cc: USFWS
WGFD District Biologist
WGFD Wildlife Management Coordinator
Nicholas Graf, WyGIS
Chris Wichmann, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Cheyenne