

LETTER 81



Judith Powers
<JPowers@uwyo.edu>

06/26/03 09:04 AM

To: DesFlats_WYMail@blm.gov
cc:
Subject: FW: Comments on draft plan for Desolation Flats

Bureau of Land Management
Rawlins Field Office
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
PO Box 2407
Rawlins WY 82301

Dear Mr. Spehar:

I must speak against the BLM's draft plan for the industrialization of the "Desolation Flats Project Area." This spectacular, almost untouched, 230,000-acre portion of the Red Desert is a state and national treasure that should not be destroyed by indiscriminate development. Its value as essential wildlife habitat as well as its scenic and recreational potential would all be tragically lost if irresponsible energy interests were allowed to drill as many as 385 conventional gas wells and construct up to 500 miles of roads. It's truly painful for me to think of this magnificent natural area turned into an industrial wasteland.

This area overlaps a portion of the citizen-proposed expansions to the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area. I believe the interests of the American public and the welfare of our environment would be much better served by incorporating Desolation Flats into larger, existing Wilderness Study Areas.

At the very least, the BLM should conduct detailed impact studies of the results that drilling 385 wells and constructing 500 miles of new roads would have on the wildlife, recreational potential, and visual quality of the area and be prepared to provide protection for the area's special values. Part of the protection should involve mandating the least environmentally damaging types of drilling (i.e., directional drilling), if drilling cannot be avoided.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the plan for the "Desolation Flats Project Area." I urge you to consider preserving and protecting this magnificent landscape and ecosystem for future generations, rather than letting it fall prey to transient needs.

Sincerely,

Judith K. Powers
150 Butte Loop
Laramie WY 82070

LETTER 82

766 N. Pine St.
Laramie, WY 82072

June 26, 2003

Bureau of Land Management
Rawlins Field Office
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
P.O. Box 2407
Rawlins, WY 82301

Dear Mr. Spehar,

This letter is in regards to gas drilling in Desolation Flats Project Area. I am strongly opposed to irresponsible drilling in this area of the Red Desert.

I am asking the BLM to prohibit drilling in environmentally sensitive wilderness lands, roadless lands, and important wildlife habitats. I am also asking the BLM to protect all lands within the Adobe Town citizens' proposed Wilderness Study Area. I further ask the BLM to provide sufficient analysis of the impacts of the proposed Desolation Flats Project. This analysis to contain locations of the proposed gas wells and roads. I also ask the BLM to adopt a Conservation Alternative in the FEIS. Finally, I ask the BLM to mandate the least environmentally damaging types of drilling such as directional drilling.

Wyoming is running out of protected areas. I am asking the Bureau of Land Management to protect this area.

Sincerely,


Megan Plant



LETTER 83



"Barb Parsons"
<barbp@trib.com>
06/27/03 12:43 PM

To: <DesFlats_WYMail@blm.gov>
cc:
Subject: Adobe Town Protection

Thank you for this opportunity to comment:

Though my comments will be brief, as I have just a little time to reply, I hope they will be seriously weighed.

It seems like the BLM is allowing many projects, like the Desolation Flats Project to occur or to encroach into areas that should be protected.

Areas, like Adobe Town, should have been under protection long ago. Unfortunately, it seems that the only way treasures can be protected is to lock them up, as the will or conservation ethic is generally lacking to treat them with respect and care.

Any and all projects, including this one that threatened sensitive, roadless, wildlife habitat, or wilderness quality areas, should be very limited and heavily restricted to protect those values.

Any new roads around Adobe Town lead to the real danger or destruction of the resource by recreational vehicles and should be limited. Methods such as directional drilling and limited pad sites should be required to limit impact to the area.

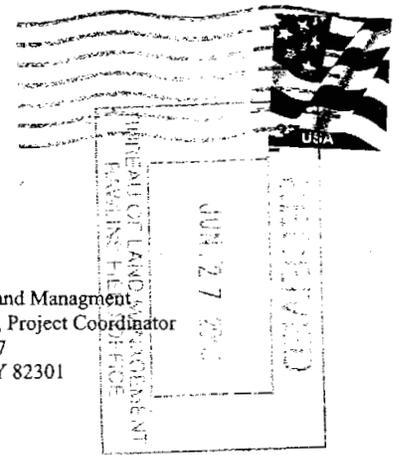
Barbara Parsons
Rawlins, Wyoming

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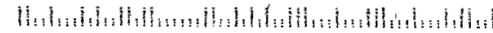
LETTER 84

Larry Baesler
615 Montclair Dr
Cheyenne WY 82009
Please include full name and address



Bureau of Land Management
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
PO Box 2407
Rawlins, WY 82301

22



Dear Mr. Spehar,

The Desolation Flats project area contains spectacular public lands. In order to ensure adequate protection for the magnificent scenic and recreational value of the area as well as its outstanding wildlife habitat, I ask the Bureau of Land Management to:

- **Avoid drilling in environmentally sensitive areas such as wilderness quality lands, roadless lands, and important wildlife habitats.** The BLM should withdraw from leasing or require "No Surface Occupancy" for oil and gas drilling on floodplains, roadless lands, wilderness quality lands, crucial elk and deer winter ranges, prairie dog colonies, mountain plover habitat, and within three miles of sage grouse leks and one mile of raptor nests.
- **Protect all lands within the Adobe Town citizens' proposed WSA.** In the project area there are almost 50,000 acres of wilderness-quality lands adjacent to the existing Adobe Town WSA. These lands should be protected by incorporating them into the larger, existing Wilderness Study Area.
- **Adopt a Conservation Alternative in the FEIS.** The FEIS must not only have a conservation (or true no action) alternative, but also adequate mitigation and monitoring measures to ensure proper protection for the area's special values.
- **Mandate the least environmentally damaging types of drilling.** Directional drilling should be required in the Desolation Flats Final EIS to minimize impacts to wildlife, recreation, and landscapes.

Signature: Larry Baesler

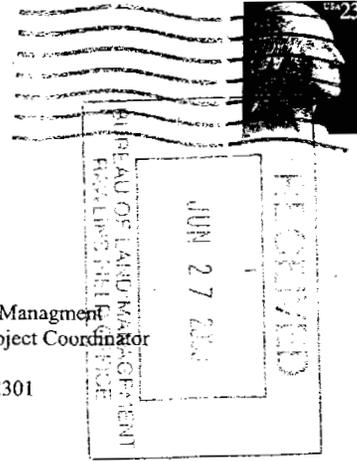
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LETTER 85

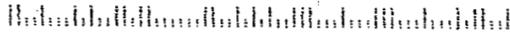
Mr. and Mrs. Pat Loper
 401 W. 4th Avenue
 Cheyenne, WY 82001-1222

USA 1c
 JUN 27 2003
 PM
 820

PLEASE INCLUDE FULL NAME AND ADDRESS



Bureau of Land Management
 John Spehar, Project Coordinator
 PO Box 2407
 Rawlins, WY 82301



4-46

Dear Mr. Spehar,

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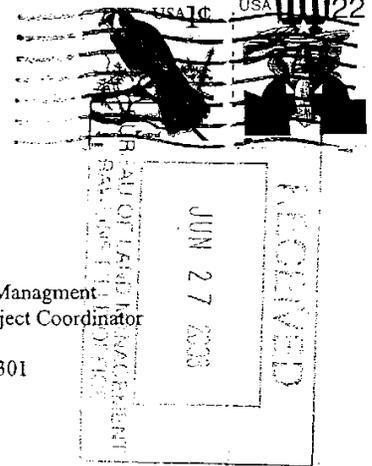
Signature: R. Patrick Loper

LETTER 86

Robert C. Thurston
 P.O. Box 4077
 Laramie, WY 82071

USA 1c
 JUN 27 2003
 PM
 820

PLEASE INCLUDE FULL NAME AND ADDRESS



Bureau of Land Management
 John Spehar, Project Coordinator
 PO Box 2407
 Rawlins, WY 82301

22



Dear Mr. Spehar,

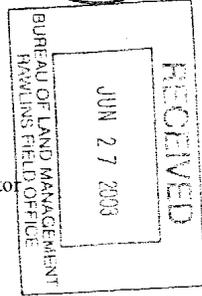
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Signature: Robert C. Thurston

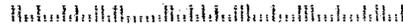
LETTER 87

WILLIP BOLTON
P. BOX 235
WYOMING WY 82055
: include full name and address



Bureau of Land Management
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
PO Box 2407
Rawlins, WY 82301

82301+2407 22



4-47

Dear Mr. Spehar,

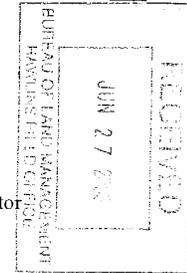
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Signature: Phillip Bolton

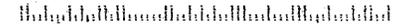
LETTER 88

Stoess Family
1415 Steels
Laramie, WY 82070
Please include full name and address



Bureau of Land Management
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
PO Box 2407
Rawlins, WY 82301

82301+2407 22



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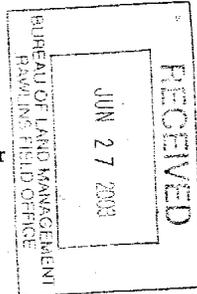
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Signature: Michael R. Stoess Michael R. Stoess Erin A. Stoess
Janifer B. Stoess

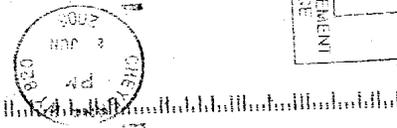
LETTER 89

Nelsons
1215 South 5TH St.
Laramie, WY 82070

Please include full name and address



Bureau of Land Management
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
PO Box 2407
Rawlins, WY 82301



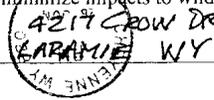
4-48

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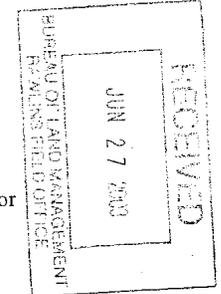
Signature: Stanley R Hoff



LETTER 90

STANLEY R HOFF
4217 CROW DR
LARAMIE WY 82072

Please include full name and address



Bureau of Land Management
John Spehar, Project Coordinator
PO Box 2407
Rawlins, WY 82301



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Signature: Stanley R Hoff

