



File Code: 1950/2720

Date: April 11, 2006

Interested Party

The Forest Service is proposing to authorize Thunder Basin Coal Company to construct two hydrologic structures on Little Thunder Creek. The first structure hereby called the Little Thunder Blocking Dike (Sec 22, T43N, R71W) would intercept Little Thunder Creek flows immediately below the Little Thunder Reservoir and divert the flows to the north to tie in with the existing Thundercloud diversion within Management Area 6.1-Rangeland with Broad Resource Emphasis. The second structure, hereby called the East Diversion (Portions of Sec 23, 26, & 27, T43N, R70W) would bring diverted flows of Little Thunder Creek back to an existing sediment control structure on the east side of the Black Thunder Mine so that the flows can be routed through the sedimentation reservoir to ensure that the water quality of Little Thunder Creek is maintained. within Management Area 8.4-Minerals Production and Development. Discharge from the sediment reservoir will flow back into the natural Little Thunder Creek channel. The project area is approximately 15 miles southeast of Wright, Campbell County, Wyoming.

For a complete description of the Proposed Action, Purpose and Need, and Decision to be made, please refer to the scoping document and map enclosed.

Please take time to review the external scoping document. Written comments about the proposal are requested identifying any site-specific issues or concerns that you may have. Please submit comments to the Douglas Ranger District at the office listed at the top of this page, by 11:59 p.m. on the 30th calendar day following the publication of the Legal Notice of the proposed action in the Laramie Boomerang in order to be fully considered.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this proposal, contact Misty Hays, Douglas Ranger District, 2250 East Richards Street, Douglas, Wyoming, 82633, or phone, (307)358-4690.

Sincerely,

/s/ Misty A. Hays
MISTY A. HAYS
Deputy District Ranger

Enclosure



