



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Southeast Region, Area 14
4255 Sinton Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
P 719.227.5200 | F 719.227.5223

April 18, 2017

Timothy Cazier
Environmental Protection Specialist
Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety
1313 Sherman St. Room 215
Denver, CO. 80203

Re: Wildlife Fencing Recommendations

Dear Mr. Cazier,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) is familiar with the site located at or near Section 20, Township 15S, Range 69W, 6th Principal Meridian in Teller County. CPW staff offers the following comments for your consideration.

The mission of CPW is to perpetuate the wildlife resource of the state, to provide a quality state park system, and to provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources. Our goal in responding to land use proposals such as this is to provide complete, consistent, and timely information to all entities who request comments on matters within our statutory authority.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife recommends preventative measures to minimize harmful impacts to wildlife throughout the site. One preventative measure is an eight foot tall woven wire wildlife fence installed where there is a potential for wildlife to fall into a high wall pit or come into contact with harmful chemicals. The fence could be installed around the perimeter of the site instead of around each individual hazard. CPW also recommends that the fence have one way wildlife escape structures where appropriate to prevent wildlife from getting trapped in between a fence and a hazard.

CPW also recommends that when mining operations result in exposed water that is harmful and could be accessed by any wildlife, those pits/ponds should be constructed with additional protection for wildlife. Where necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare, or to prevent significant adverse environmental impacts resulting from access to a hazard by wildlife and migratory birds, operators should install appropriate netting and/or fencing.



Additionally, CPW recommends that roads leading into areas containing harmful chemicals have a gate or two cattle guards back to back to prevent wildlife from entering. Two cattle guards are necessary to prevent wildlife from entering as they can generally jump across one cattle guard.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the project. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact District Wildlife Manager Tim Kroening at 719-227-5281 or via e-mail Tim.Kroening@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank McGee". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Frank" and last name "McGee" clearly distinguishable.

Frank McGee
Area Wildlife Manager

Cc: Tim Kroening DWM
SE Regional File
Area 14 File