

COLORADO Parks and Wildlife Department of Natural Resources

Steamboat Springs Area Office PO Box 775777 Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

October 3, 2017

Jason Musick Environmental Protection Specialist Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215 Denver, CO 80203

RE: Hayden Gulch Loadout Permit Renewal Application No. 5 (RN-5)

Dear Mr. Musick,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) has received notice of an application to renew an existing permit to conduct coal mining operations at the Hayden Gulch Loadout. The permit renewal application is for the next five-year term. There will not be any revisions to the approved mining and reclamation plan, and no surface disturbance outside of the currently approved disturbance area.

As you may be are aware, CPW has a statutory responsibility to manage all wildlife species in Colorado; this responsibility is embraced and fulfilled through CPW's mission to protect, preserve, enhance, and manage the wildlife of Colorado for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the people of the State and its visitors. One way CPW fulfills this mission is to review local land use projects such as this and provide recommendations to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to wildlife.

Due to this permit being a renewal of previously approved and permitted operations, there should be no additional impacts to wildlife or wildlife habitats. CPW does encourage the applicant to report any wildlife related incidents to the local district wildlife manager.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife appreciates the opportunity to review this application and submit comments. If there are any questions or needs for additional information don't hesitate to contact Land Use Specialist, Taylor Elm at (970) 947-2971 or Area Wildlife Manager, Kris Middledorf at (970) 871-2842.

Sincerely,

K Middledorf

Kris Middledorf, Area Wildlife Manager

Cc. Justin Pollock, District Wildlife Manager Taylor Elm, Land Use Specialist File

