

EXHIBIT H – WILDLIFE INFORMATION

Meeker Sand & Gravel: M-1976-038

There has been little or no change in the wildlife in this area since the original permit was issued. There are large areas of similar agricultural land on three sides of the current and proposed operation. The manner in which mining and reclamation moves allows the wildlife to move from one area to the other in the mining operation. The local Division of Wildlife office has been contacted regarding the proposed expansion and they have issued the attached statement (H-1).

EXHIBIT H-1: DIVISION OF WILDLIFE STATEMENT

Meeker Sand & Gravel: M-1976-038



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Meeker (Area 6) Service Center
73485 Hwy 64
Meeker, CO 81641
P 970.878.6090 | F 970.878.6077

Meeker Sand & Gravel
3251 County Road 4
Meeker, CO 81641

May 16th 2023

Re: Meeker Sand & Gravel Expansion

Dear Ms. Conrado

Thank you for consulting Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) early in your consideration for purchasing and expanding the Meeker Pit so that we can explore and prepare approaches that avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse impacts on wildlife.

The Meeker Sand & Gravel location is approximately 2 miles southeast of the Town of Meeker on County Road 4, according to the .kml file attached. The original mining permit was 78 acres and will be expanded to include an additional 47 acres. The area is a predominantly rural residential development with irrigated hay pastures on the Highland Ditch and Miller Creek Ditch.

CPW utilizes High Priority Habitats (HPH), for which CPW has sound spatial data and scientifically-backed recommendations when conducting reviews of land use proposals. CPW has identified the following HPHs that the proposed action could impact and CPW recommendations associated with those HPHs.

- Elk Severe Winter Range
- Greater Sage Grouse General Habitat Management Area

Due to the existing operations, CPW recognizes that the Wildlife species in this area are likely already acclimated to activities such as truck traffic and machinery operation. Therefore, Meeker Sand & Gravel's proposed action is unlikely to impact those HPHs significantly and aligns with the historical use of this property. Considering these factors and our need to afford GRSG ample protection measures, we recommend the following strategies to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse impacts on GRSG.

- Limit traffic and operations from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm to avoid the hours when wildlife is most active.

Jeff Davis, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Parks and Wildlife Commission: Carrie Besnette Hauser, Chair • Dallas May, Vice-Chair • Marie Haskett, Secretary • Taishya Adams
Karen Bailey • Betsy Blecha • Gabriel Otero • Duke Phillips, IV • Richard Reading • James Jay Tutchton • Eden Vardy



- Surface water, groundwater, or stormwater discharged from operations within the permitted area to neighboring properties or the Highland Ditch should first be treated by the site's sediment and erosion controls and ensure it is within natural water standards.
- A reclamation plan should include a CPW-approved seed mix and vegetation plan that supports GSRG and other wildlife species that utilize the area.
- During construction and operations, the contractor should prioritize control erosion measures identified within the NPDES Permit to minimize off-site sediment transport.
- Dust suppression should utilize fresh water only.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife appreciates the opportunity to comment on this project. If there are any questions or need additional information, don't hesitate to contact District Wildlife Manager Bailey Franklin, 970-878-6090, bailey.franklin@state.co.us

Sincerely,

Dorothy Finley for Bailey Franklin
Bailey Franklin