



Gooseberry Creek
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These comments are submitted by Rori Renner, representing PAR Ranch, Gooseberry Creek, WY.

We are agricultural producers who are recipients of discharged produced water from traditional oil and gas operations in Park County, WY. Our operation has depended on and benefited from produced water for decades. Produced water is essential to our watershed as it increases the volume of water in the creek and replenishes springs throughout the stream bed allowing more water to be made available. This is especially important during the exceptional drought conditions we are currently experiencing in the State of Wyoming. In some instances, produced water is the sole source of water between springs within the stream bed.

Produced water discharged down Gooseberry Creek provides habitat for a diverse population of wildlife including fish, birds, beaver, deer, elk, and moose. Produced water has enhanced native vegetation along the stream bed and throughout the riparian area, allowing for less crowding of livestock and wildlife.

Most importantly though, produced water has increased the overall volume of water in Gooseberry Creek allowing for longer crop irrigation periods and increased water available for livestock use and watering. Historically the produced water is of good quality and has caused no adverse reactions in livestock or wildlife populations.

I would like to request upcoming hearings pertaining to discharged produced water be held in the Big Horn Basin.