HAZEL BONNER

PO Box 3712, Rapid City, SD 57709; Phone 605.342.5834 ext. 120; bonpidge@gwtc.net

Wyoming Environmental Quality Council 122 W. 25th, Herschler Bldg., Rm 1714 Cheyenne, WY 82001

EQC Council members:

OCT 27 2010

Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary

Environmental Quality Council

Please vote to declare the designated area around Sand Creek as Very Rare or Uncommon under W.S. §35-11-112 and W.S. §16-3-103.

There are many reasons it meets the requirements including, but not limited to:

- Over 4,000 acres of mule deer crucial winter range which are considered "vital" under the Wyoming Game and Fish commission mitigation policy;
- Seven rare vegetation types, including types in pristine condition for which pristine stands are unusual, plus 80 rare plant species;
- A population of the finescale dace, an extremely rare native fish. This fish is designated as vital by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department;
- It contains a blue ribbon, Class 1 nationally important trout fishery. In 2005 the downstream fishery contained 6,300 trout per mile with values as high as 8,800 fish per mile in 2002.

There are many other reasons it meets the wildlife, botanical, geological, historical and scenic requirements of Wyoming Law.

Sincerely: Banner

Hazel Bonner

Representing Prairie Hills Audubon Society