

1123 Northeast Drive
Rapid City, SD 57701
October 17, 2010

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

FILED

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Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary
Environmental Quality Council

RE: Sand Creek

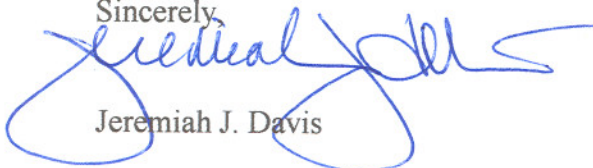
Dear Sir or Madam:

As a resident of the Black Hills of South Dakota, I write in support of the designation of the Sand Creek area of the Black Hills (Crook County, Wyoming) as Very Rare or Uncommon, pursuant to W.S. 35-11-112, Chapter VII of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality Rules of Practice and Procedure and W.S. 16-3-103.

I have hiked in the Sand Creek area many times over the years, and certainly appreciate its unspoiled beauty. It is one of the most pristine areas of the Black Hills. It is winter range for mule deer. It contains rare vegetation and a rare native fish, finescale dace. Sand Creek itself is a valuable trout fishery. The area still contains some American Elm trees. There are wetlands which may be threatened by coming climate change. The Cement Ridge fire lookout tower, now 69 years old, is an historic structure in its own right and should eventually be placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

I hope that Wyoming appreciates the fragile beauty and unique attributes of the Sand Creek area, as many South Dakotans do. Designation of this area as Very Rare or Uncommon is a good place to start.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah J. Davis