



Representative Mark A. Semlek  
Wyoming House of Representatives

1307 D Road

Moorcroft, WY 82721

October 18, 2010

Mr. Tim Flintner, Chairman  
Wyoming Environmental Quality Council  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Herschler Bldg, Room 1714  
Cheyenne, WY 82701

**FILED**

OCT 20 2010

Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary  
Environmental Quality Council

Re: Docket No. 09-1103

Dear Mr. Flintner and Members of the Wyoming EQC.

It has again come to my attention that the hearing for the petition to designate approximately 17,000 acres of the Sand Creek area of the Black Hills National Forest as Very Rare and Uncommon will be held October 26-28 in Sundance.

I have written you previously objecting to this designation and consider it an abuse of the Very Rare and Uncommon statute. This area is presently managed under the precepts of the Forest Management Plan for the Black Hills National Forest and this proposed designation will do little to nothing to assure the members of the Sand Creek Country Club or Biodiversity Conservation Alliance that this stream will be protected from perceived degradation by any potential non-coal surface mining in this area. The best protection this stream could have is professional watershed management to decrease the possibility of catastrophic fire and/or mountain pine beetle epidemic.

The majority of the citizens I represent in Crook county are opposed to this designation as simply unnecessary stacking of state restrictions over those of the Forest Service. This area is beautiful in most aspects but is no more so than most of the entire wonderful State of Wyoming and I sincerely urge you to disapprove this petition on the Sand Creek area.

Sincerely,

Mark Semlek, State Representative.

Committees:

*Agriculture, State and  
Public Lands and  
Water Resources,  
Chairman*

*Revenue*