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**Terri A. Lorenzon, Director
Environmental Quality Council**

I am adding my voice to those who advocate full protection for the current Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area well as the expanded Adobe Town Wilderness Boundary Area proposed by the Biodiversity Conservation Alliance.

Over the past summer I spent several days in and around the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area to see for myself as to whether this area is truly the "Crown Jewel of Wyoming's Red Desert." I can only say that I am sorry that I have overlooked such an exceptional area for so many years. The area is certainly deserving of full wilderness protection due to its "very rare or uncommon" attributes! I am already planning future trips to the area as there is so much remaining to see and experience.

During my stays in the Adobe Town area I saw many herds of wild horses and antelope. I experienced the stunning serene beauty of the Adobe Town monoliths close up hiking in Monument Valley while constantly serenaded by meadow larks, the whinnies of wild mustangs and of course the ever incessant Wyoming wind. I enjoyed the tranquility of the Manuel Gap area and the dramatic vistas from atop Powder Rim and I was able capture many of those experiences photographically.

One can see the future of Adobe Town if it isn't protected by visiting Fort La Clede. The ruins are surrounded with a barbed wire fence to keep out grazing cattle. Encircling the site are older oil well pads and access roads, the sum of which is degrading both to the physical environment and historical experience.

Having seen first hand, while antelope hunting, the environmental havoc brought on by the energy development companies in the upper Green River Basin, the Cow Creek area north of Baggs and the upper Red Desert area east of Farson, I would hope that this unique pristine area could be permanently preserved as wilderness.

If all-weather roads and well pads are permitted and built, the Adobe Town area will be ruined physically and aesthetically for all eternity. I feel strongly that future generations should have access to the same inspiring visions and vistas that I have experienced unencumbered by the byproducts of short term and short sighted energy exploration and development.

Sincerely,

Ronald K. Hansen
Laramie, Wyoming