NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL LANDS AS VERY RARE OR UNCOMMON

Public Notice is hereby given that the Wyoming State Environmental Quality Council (EQC) has scheduled a public hearing to receive comment on the Proposed Designation of State and Federal Lands as Very Rare or Uncommon on Wednesday, October 24, 2007. The hearing will convene at 9:00 a.m. at the Bureau of Land Management Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs, Wyoming in the Pilot Butte Conference Room. If a second day is needed to hear the public comments, the hearing will continue on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

The proposed designation area consists of federal and state lands in the southern Red Desert stretching from The Haystacks to Powder Rim and from the Adobe Town Rim to the Willow Creek badlands, known as Adobe Town, as Very Rare or Uncommon, under the provisions of W.S. §35-11-112(a)(v) and W.S. §16-3-103. The legal description is provided below.

Biodiversity Conservation Alliance and 7 other conservation groups have petitioned the Environmental Quality Council to designate Adobe Town as rare or uncommon because of its scenery, geological and fossil values, archaeological and historical features, and sensitive wildlife habitats. The petition states that the unique and sensitive geological, scenic, archaeological/historical, and wildlife values in this area are very rare or uncommon.

Questions regarding this petition or hearing procedures can be forwarded to Terri Lorenzon or Joe Girardin at 307-777-7170, Fax 307-777-6134, e-mail jgirar@state.wy.us, or at the address below. A copy of the petition is available to review at the Bureau of Land Management Field Office, 280 Highway 191 North, Rock Springs or on the Council's web-site, http://deq.state.wy.us/eqc/index.asp.

Public comments will be accepted throughout the hearing. A time limit may be imposed on comments. Although oral statements will be accepted at the time of the hearing, for the record, written copies of the statements are required at the time of the hearing or prior thereto. Those persons who plan to submit lengthy, written comments, are encouraged to submit the comments by October 15, 2007, regardless of whether the person plans to make an oral statement. Written statements may be presented by submitting them to the following address: Wyoming Environmental Quality Council, Herschler Building, 122 W. 25th St., Rm. 1714, Cheyenne, WY 82002. Having comments in advance of the hearing helps the Council prepare for the hearing.

The record will close when all those present who wish to comment have been heard. The EQC will schedule a public meeting to deliberate and vote on the Proposed Designation at a later date. A notice of the meeting will be posted on the EQC web site.

The legal description for the proposed area is as follows:

Bounded by roads and pipelines, as follows. T17N R 97W: Sec. 36 S1/2. T17N R96W: Sec. 22 SE1/3, Sec. 24 SW1/3, Sec. 28 SE1/2, Sec. 30 S2/3, and Sec. 25, 26, 34, & 36. T17N R95W: Sec. 30 SW1/2, 32 SW1/2. T16N R97W: Sec. 8 SE1/2; Sec. 18 SE1/3; Sec. 25 S1/2; Sec. 23

SESE; Sec. 33 SE¹/₄; & Sec. 2, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 35, and 36. T16N R 95W: Sec. 29 S¹/₂, Sec. 27 SE 7/8; & Sec. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, & 36. T16N R95W: Sec. 8 W1/3; Sec. 20 W1/3; Section 19 SE5/8; Sec, 29 W1/3; Section 29 SE1/5, Section 28 SW1/3; Sec. 33 W2/3; & Sec. 6, 18, 30, 31, and 32. T15N R98W: Sec. 1 E5/8; Sec. 12 E1/2; Sec. 13 SE1/2; Section 24 NW, NE, SE; Sec. 25 E1/3; Sec. 36 E1/3. T15N R95W: Sec. 4 SW7/8, Sec. 3 S1/2, Sec. 2 SW1/8, Sec. 11 SW2/3, Sec. 13 SW1/4, Sec. 14 NW, SE; Sec. 15 NW7/8, Sec. 22 SW7/8, Sec. 23 SE2/3, Sec. 24 SW2/3, Sec. 25 all but NENE, and Sec. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36. T15N R94W: Sec. 30 SWSW and Section 31 W1/3. T14N R94W: Sec. 6 NW1/4. T14N R95W: Sec. 1 NW7/8, Sec. 10 NW2/3, Sec. 11 N1/3, Sec 12 NWNW, NWSW, NWNE, Sec. 16 NW1/3, Sec. 17 NW7/8, Sec. 19 NE³/4, Section 20 NW¹/2, & Sec. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 18. T14N R96W: Sec. 24 NW1/3, Sec. 25 NW1/3, Sec. 26 N1/3, Sec. 27 N1/3 & SW1/4, Sec. 34 W1/2, & Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33. T14N R97W: Sec. 18 NE¾, Sec. 19 NENE, Sec.20 NE2/3, Sec. 29 NE1/3, Sec. 31 S1/2, Sec. 32 SE³/₄, & Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36. T14N R98W: Sec. 1 E1/3, Sec. 12 E2/3, Sec. 13 NE1/3, Sec. 36 SE1/3. T13N R98W: Sec. 1 E3/8, Sec. 12 NENE. T13N R97W: Sec. 7 NE2/3, Sec. 18 E1/2, Sec. 19 NENE, Sec. 29 E3/4, Sec. 32 NE1/3, Sec. 33 N2/3, Sec. 34 all but SWSW, & Sec. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 35, 36. T13N R96W: Sec. 3 W3/4, Sec. 10 NW2/3, Sec.15 NW1/4, Sec. 16 N2/3, Sec. 17 all but SESE, Sec. 20 W1/2, Sec. 29 W1/3, Sec. 31 all but SWSW, Sec. 32 SW2/3, & Sec. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 18, 19, and 30. T12N R96W: Sec. 5 N1/4 Sec. 6 NE1/8. T12N R97W: Sec. 1 NWNW, Sec. 2 N1/3, Sec.3 NE1/6. All of T15N R97W; T15N R96W

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