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JUN 20 2008

Terri A. Lorenzon, Director  
Environmental Quality Council

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June 17, 2008

Mr. Dennis M. Boal  
Chair, Environmental Quality Council  
122 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Herschler Bldg., Rm. 1714  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Dear Mr. Boal,

On behalf of the members of the Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition (see attached list of members) in Wyoming and South Dakota, I request that you not accept the petition from The Friends of Sand Creek to designate 11,000 acres of the Sand Creek Watershed as Very Rare and Uncommon at your June 24, 2008 meeting.

We all agree that the Sand Creek watershed is very special. However, our fear is that a decision to grant the Very Rare and Uncommon designation for Sand Creek would unnecessarily and inappropriately 1) limit multiple use management of the Black Hills National Forest, as outlined in the Land and Resource Management Plan, 2) stop mining exploration and implementation, 3) adversely affect agricultural uses on private lands, and 4) reduce economic benefits of natural resource management to northeast Wyoming.

Granting the Petitioners' request to designate a large portion of the Sand Creek Watershed as Very Rare and Uncommon is not necessary to maintain the values associated with Sand Creek. The national forest lands and the private agricultural lands have been carefully managed for years without the necessity of Rare and Uncommon Designation by the State of Wyoming.

Again, we do not support designating the Sand Creek watershed as Very Rare and Uncommon, and we urge you to stop this process now by not accepting the petition for consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Troxel  
Executive Secretary

## Black Hills Regional Multiple Use Coalition Members

Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences  
Association of National Grasslands  
Black Hills Area Conservation Districts  
Black Hills, Badlands and Lakes Association of South Dakota  
Black Hills Community Economic Development, Inc  
Black Hills FlyFishers  
Black Hills Forest Resource Association  
Black Hills 4 Wheelers - Rapid City Chapter  
Black Hills 4 Wheelers - Sturgis Chapter  
Black Hills Home Builders Association  
Black Hills Resource Conservation and Development Association  
Black Hills Snowmobile Club  
Black Hills Women In Timber  
Cottonwood Grazing Association  
Dakota Territory Cruisers  
Fall River County Commissioners  
Lawrence County Commissioners  
Off-Road Riders Association  
Pioneer Co-op Grazing District  
Rapid City Economic Development Partnership  
South Dakota Farm Bureau  
South Dakota Grasslands Coalition  
South Dakota Off Highway Vehicle Coalition  
South Dakota Public Lands Council  
South Dakota Snowmobile Association  
South Dakota Stockgrowers  
South Dakota Tree Farm Committee  
South Dakota Trail Riders  
Spearfish Livestock Association  
Spearfish Pistol and Gun Club  
West Dakota Water Development District  
Western Dakota Gem and Mineral Society  
Western South Dakota Fur Harvesters  
Wyoming Farm Bureau  
Wyoming Stockgrowers Association