

August 25, 2008

Environmental Quality Council
c/o DEQ/Water Quality Division
ATTENT: David Waterstreet
122 West 25th Street
Herschler Building- 4W,
Cheyenne, WY 82002

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Jim Ruby, Executive Secretary
Environmental Quality Council

Dear Environmental Quality Council,

I am a landowner in Campbell County and for the last 2 ½ years I have attended many meetings and made comments regarding Section 20 (Ag Protection for Discharge water) of Chapter 1 of the Wyoming Water Quality Rules and Regulations.

The Barlow Ranch was established more than 90 years ago and my Grandchildren are the 4th generations on the land.

I will be succinct in my request to you.

1- The water quality limits for SAR and EC must be applied to ALL "Naturally Irrigated Lands" whether there is an established stream channel present or not. Bottomlands are critically important for our livestock grazing as well as wildlife use on our place. Limits on size should not be imposed.

2- Limits should be applied "year-round" to protect artificially and naturally irrigated lands.

3- The water quality discharge standards should be set at safe level for livestock and wildlife. The DEQ asked the University of the University of Wyoming to research the issues and the levels recommended by UW are:

Total Dissolved Solids < 500mg/ l
Sodium should be less than 1,000 mg/l (dissolved)
Fluoride should be less than 2,000 ug/l
Sulfur<1,000mg/l

4- Eliminate the implementation of "Tier 2 or Tier 3" studies proposed in Appendix H. As a Landowner in the Deadhorse Creek drainage I have seen first hand how the Tier 2 is being implemented and it is a total sham. The use of poor science and subjective soil sampling are being used to justify the discharge of higher levels of sodium and salt.

5-The DEQ Ag protection policy should unsure protection of agricultural uses for our livestock, soils and vegetations. The limits for discharges should not exceed an EC of 1330 or SAR of 5.

Thank you for taking into consideration my comments.

Bernadette Barlow
1625 Buffalo Cut Across Rd, Gillette WY 82718