



COLORADO PARKS AND WILDLIFE
NW Regional Service Center, 711 Independent Ave.
Grand Junction, CO 81505
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wildlife.state.co.us • parks.state.co.us



October 12, 2011

Krista Anderson, Environmental Specialist
Norwest Corporation
743 Horizon Court, Suite 372
Grand Junction CO 81506

Re: Schlumberger's Elk Winter Concentration Habitat Variance Request

Dear: Ms. Anderson

CPW has considered Schlumberger's request for an elk winter concentration habitat variance. The following summarizes our position on the request.

Schlumberger is asking for a one time (fall 2011 to spring 2012) variance exception for an elk winter concentration habitat timing restriction (construction and drilling activities) related to a stratigraphic test well for CO2 sequestration in Moffat County, Colorado, Sec 34, T6N, R91W. Norwest Corporation and Schlumberger indicate that they are in need of this variance because of unanticipated equipment delivery delays and changing timelines.

CPW formally consulted on the project on September 23, 2011 and a subsequent site visit on September 30, 2011. Our review and consultation resulted in comments made to COGCC and Norwest Corporation to protect elk winter concentration habitat; protection being accomplished by completing construction and drilling activities outside of winter concentration period.

CPW is willing to support (with the upmost caution), this request for a one time exception to winter-time drilling. Based on CPWs historical knowledge of elk use in the area and the likely impacts that drilling and associated activities will have – causing animals to move to adjacent property, CPW anticipates game damage claims from neighboring landowners. CPW is open to Schlumberger's suggestion of a partnership to offset the likely damage caused to landowners surrounding the site. We are willing to formalize the details of partnership through further discussion and a letter agreement.

This exception will automatically expire on April 15, 2011. CPW will not extend or grant another exemption to this project at this drilling location.

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Mike King, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources
Rick D. Cables, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Parks and Wildlife Commission: David R. Brougham • Gary Butterworth, Vice-Chair • Chris Castilian
Dorothea Farris • Tim Glenn, Chair • Allan Jones • Bill Kane • Gaspar Perricone • Jim Pribyl • John Singletary
Mark Smith, Secretary • Robert Streeter • Lenna Watson • Dean Wingfield
Ex Officio Members: Mike King and John Salazar

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (970) 878-6061.

Sincerely,



Bill de Vergie
Area Wildlife Manager
Meeker

Cc: Mike Swaro, District Wildlife Manager
Darby Finley, Terrestrial Biologist
Bill deVergie, Area Wildlife Manager
Dean Riggs, Assistant Regional Manager Northwest Region, CPW

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