



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Montrose Service Center
2300 S. Townsend Avenue
Montrose, CO 81401
P 970.252.6000 | F 970.252.6053

RECEIVED
10/22/20

Mail: Chad Stewart
Attn. OSMI Fringe Lease EA
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests
2250 South Main Street
Delta, CO 81416
October 19, 2020

Dear Mr. Stewart,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife received a request for a wildlife impact statement for the proposed lease of 152 acres of locatable minerals under National Forest System acquired lands by Ouray Silver Mines, Inc. These lands are located near the Camp Bird Road to the west of Ouray, Colorado. As stated on the application, the lease "areas would connect OSMI's patented claims to OSMI's Revenue Tunnel, providing access to silver, gold, copper, lead, and zinc mineral deposits in OSMI's patented claims".

The lands in the proposal lie within bighorn sheep overall and summer range, elk summer range and mule deer summer range. There are trout present in Canyon Creek; however, we are aware that the water quality is already less than optimal due to past mining operations.

Our understanding of the proposal is that all mining activities will take place underground and that the only surface disturbance will be on private land. All discharge water and mud generated will be sent to existing facilities at the Revenue Mine for treatment. Due to these facts, we do not have any wildlife concerns regarding the proposed lease. However, if the proposed activities change in the future please let us know and we will review the changes for wildlife impacts.

Thank you for providing us an opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, you can contact me at 970-209-2369 or Rachel Sralla at 970-252-6010.

Sincerely,

Kelly Crane
District Wildlife Manager - Ridgway

