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First name: Amanda
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Organization: South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Title: Natural Resources Planner
Comments: Dear Mr. Svingen,

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) has reviewed the US Highway 83 Snow Fence project. We support the installation of the living snow fence. Living snow fences improve snow control due to greater snow storage capacity. They often have a longer life span than artificial fences, aid in soil erosion control, and are more aesthetically pleasing than artificial fences.

DANR also supports the use of pollinator plots in conjunction with the living snow fence. The combination of flowering pollinator species with the proposed tree and shrub species will work together to provide habitat and food for pollinators. Using plants that support pollinators within and near the living snow fence will not only increase pollinators but also increase aesthetics.

Furthermore, this project area falls within the SD Forest Action Plan's identified priority landscape. Use of the living snow fence and the pollinator plot will support several goals and objectives of the Forest Action Plan and SD Coordinated Plan for Natural Resources Conservation. Installation of the living snow fence and pollinator plots will work to aid our ability to address a resource need and enhance public benefits from trees and forests.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this project.

Sincerely,
Amanda Morrison
Natural Resource Planner