

February 6, 2006

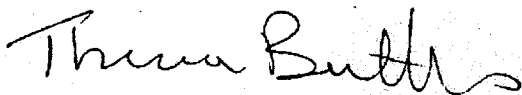
Gene Terland
Acting Director
Utah State BLM
PO Box 45155
Salt Lake City, UT 94145-0155

Dear Director:

I hereby protest the offering for lease for oil and gas development three parcels in your February, 2006 Utah auction: Parcels UT-197; UT-201; UT-204. These three parcels are located along the Green River, immediately downstream from the Ruby Ranch, where I have permits to operate canoe trips as The Red River Canoe Company, L.C.

I strongly disagree with the leasing of these three parcels for oil and gas development. We use the canyon corridor in the course of our regular business, for canoeing, camping and hiking. The wilderness qualities of the corridor and the side canyons are essential to our business. Oil and gas development in these parcels would be in direct conflict with our business. We pride ourselves on our leave no trace ethic. If oil and gas development occurs in these parcels, the net effect will be to decrease the length of the wilderness experience for our clients. We will have to float for half a day to a full day to get past the side effects of oil and gas development.

I have a number of clients who come back each year to do this same stretch of river primarily because it is so peaceful. They come for the solitude. These leases directly threaten the interests of these clients and this aspect of my business.



Theresa Butler
Co-owner
Red River Canoe Company, L.C.
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