

May 1, 2006

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

Dear Director:

I hereby protest the offering of the following leases for oil and gas development in the May, 2006 Utah Action: Parcels UT-269-A, 269-B, 269-F, 269-G, and 269-H. Each of these offered leases are located along and adjacent to 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 parcels and the adverse impacts from their development. We utilize this unique canyon corridor in the course of our regular business, for canoeing, camping, hiking, and sightseeing. The wilderness qualities and values of this river corridor and its diverse side canyons are essential for our business. Most notable, this particular area and Three Canyon, with its tributaries and slick rock benches. Any development within these offered leases would have direct conflict with our business. We pride ourselves on our leave no trace ethic. If BLM continues with leasing of these parcels and if development of these parcels occurs, the length of the river's wild and wilderness experience would be significantly impacted in which our client's desire. Labyrinth Canyon, currently devoid of oil and gas development, would require a half a day of less than desirable float experience in order to get past the direct effects of oil and gas development within this area.

I have a number of clients who return each year to experience this same unique stretch of Green River, primarily because of its solitude, wild character and peacefulness. Other visitors and client will choose to utilize my business because of these qualities, and the leases directly threaten the interest of these clients and this aspect of my business.



Theresa Butler
Co-Owner
Red River Canoe Company, L.C.
1371 N. Hwy 191
Moab, Utah 84532
435-259-7722