

# Wyoming Governor's Office Input Regarding Two Areas West of Meeteetse

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This documentation was prepared August 19<sup>th</sup> 2014, by Bryan Armel who was present at the February 8, 2013 meeting and exchanged the map information with the state referenced herein. This documentation provides an explanation of the discussion involving two small areas west of Meeteetse.

The Governor's Office provided comments to the DEIS on what areas of the Forest should **not** be suitable for oil and gas surface development. Those areas are cross-hatched on the map below (GIS files see plan record #01847). The blue area on the map are those areas shown as suitable for oil and gas surface development in the DEIS for Alternative B.

The Governor's Office called together a meeting of their staff, County Commissioners, and Conservation District Representatives to discuss the differences between the state's comments on oil and gas development and the commissioner's and district's comments on oil and gas development. The Forest Service was invited to participate in the meeting. The meeting took place February 8, 2013.

During the meeting the state listened to input from the commissioners and district representatives and decided whether to modify their comments submitted in response to the DEIS.

During the discussion on the two areas to the west of Meeteetse (see Map) the state decided they did not have strong feelings about the disposition of those areas and deferred the recommendation for those two areas to the Forest Service.

The Forest Service took information from that meeting and developed the suitability maps for Alt G in the FEIS. The Forest Service chose to make the two areas unsuitable for oil and gas surface development.

The Forest Service was aware that the Meeteetse Conservation District continued to discuss with the Governor's Office the State's recommendations for the areas to the west of Meeteetse. The Forest Service did not receive any communication from the state that they wanted to change their recommendation prior to the release of the FEIS.

The Forest Service understands that based upon their discussions with the Meeteetse Conservation District that the state decided to support Meeteetse's recommendation that oil and gas surface development be allowed in the two areas. The Governor's Office indicated this support in their objection letter to the FEIS and Draft ROD.

Note: Area 1 is 698 acres and Area 2 is 197 acres.

