

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-5005

November 16, 2007

Casper Boat Club
Board of Directors
PO Box 2123
Casper, WY 82602-2123

Dear Board Members,

Thank you for contacting me about the Bureau of Reclamation's proposed rule on the use of the agency's lands, facilities, and water bodies. It is good to hear from you.

As you know, the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) released its proposed revisions for the administration of private uses of its public lands. The federal government set a 90-day period ending October 16, 2007, to receive public comments. Like many Wyoming citizens I, along with Senator Enzi, submitted a letter to the BOR to express our concerns. I also recently visited the Alcova Reservoir with Wyoming Area Manager for the Bureau of Reclamation, John Lawson to further my understanding of the changes that could be imposed on these areas.

The proposed rule to 43 CFR 429 would have a dramatic and negative impact on Wyoming's recreation opportunities. This change would ignore and negate the vast improvements to BOR reservoirs that have resulted from the long-time investments of local communities. Each BOR reservoir is unique. For the BOR to impose a one-size-fits-all regulation for management of these areas is the wrong approach. As the BOR develops this rule, full and fair consideration should be given to local residents' views. It is important that communities throughout Wyoming have an ongoing say in how these recreational sites are managed now and into the future. I will continue to closely monitor this situation to ensure that Wyoming's interests are protected.

Thank you again for sharing your comments with me on this issue. I hope this finds you well.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John", with a stylized, cursive script.

John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator

JB: jb