

YELLOW SURNAME

	1 st Initial, Last Name	Date
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ARD – ECOLOGICAL SERVICES <i>Dr. King</i>	<i>MAH</i>	9/23/19
DARD-ECOLOGICAL SERVICES		
ARD – EXTERNAL AFFAIRS		
ARD – FISHERIES	<i>STW/Julich</i>	11/8/19
ARD – HUMAN RESOURCES		
ARD – LAW ENFORCEMENT		
ARD – MIGRATORY BIRDS		
ARD – NATL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM		
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United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Mountain-Prairie Region



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NOV 21 2019

Mr. Kelly Hepler, Secretary
South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Department
Foss Building, 523 East Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182

Dear Mr. Hepler:

On September 10, 2019, we received your letter concerning the Whitewood Creek Restoration Plan and Homestake Mining Company Natural Resource Restoration Fund. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) appreciates the time and resources that the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks Department staff have allocated to work with the Service's South Dakota Ecological Services Field Office on the Whitewood Creek Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) case. The NRDAR case settlement allows the opportunity to fund The Booth Society, Incorporated to purchase the Evon Breeding Parcel. This purchase aligns with the Final Conceptual Restoration and Compensation Plan for Whitewood Creek and the Belle Fourche and Cheyenne River watersheds.

I, as the Federal Authorized Official, concur with the expenditure of the Whitewood Creek NRDAR Case settlement funds to acquire the Evon Breeding parcel as part of the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery Watershed Protection and Open Space Project.

Please contact Scott Larson, South Dakota Ecological Services Field Office Field Supervisor or Matt Schwarz, Whitewood Creek NRDAR Case Manager at (605) 224-8693 if you have questions or need further information from the Service.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We look forward to your continued commitment to conservation and our collaborative efforts on NRDAR cases in South Dakota.

Sincerely,

Regional Director