



Local Western
Wyoming Mule Deer
Foundation

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Greater Little Mountain Coalition Holds “Huddle”

ROCK SPRINGS, Wyo. – The Greater Little Mountain Coalition, a group of sportsmen and local residents, will update its members and the general public on their efforts to maintain the popular hunting, fishing and recreation area from planned development at a meeting Dec. 9. The meeting will be held at the Sweetwater Events Complex Exhibit Hall.

“Our goal is to seek stronger protection measures for specific parts of the Greater Little Mountain Area, work for best management practices, and to be active participants in the BLM’s upcoming resource management plan revision for this region,” states Steve Martin, President of Bowhunters of Wyoming.

“The idea for this huddle is to continue our work by keeping the communication line open between our coalition members and the general public. We want to share where the coalition is today, what are thoughts are for the coming months, get your feedback, and discuss how you can help,” says Monte Morlock, President of the United Steelworkers Local 13214.

The coalition began in response to threats to recreational opportunities, wildlife and sensitive habitat in the Greater Little Mountain Area. Initially, those threats were primarily oil and gas leases. Now the area is also being considered for wind and oil shale projects, in addition to the Million Pipeline water project. Coalition members are not opposed to energy development or water development, but stress that these projects need to be balanced with wildlife needs and recreational opportunities.

Josh Coursey, chairman of the Muley Fanatic Chapter of the Mule Deer Foundation, states “We need to discuss the level of accountability, how exploration occurs on public lands, and the impacts it holds for future generations. This issue is very emotional. It revolves around an area that many of us hold very dear to our hearts. I want my kids to enjoy this place as much as I have.”

Over the past two years, the coalition and the public have halted the sale of over 15,000 acres from oil and gas leasing in the Greater Little Mountain Area, have expressed concern to the BLM about seismic exploration projects, and held meetings with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, BLM and the Governor’s office to keep updated on their work and their ideas for the area. Through the coalition’s efforts, the area has been selected by Sportsmen for Responsible Energy Development as one of the top ten most important fish and wildlife habitats in the U.S.

Steve Martin continues, “We hope you will join us for the huddle on Wednesday, December 9 at the Events Complex!”

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