

Bureau of Land Management
Pinedale Field Office
1625 Pine St.
Pinedale, WY 82941

Electronic Delivery: <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2021551/595/8003274/comment>

RE: Parcel 26 – 2920 Lease Temp Housing

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today to express my opposition to the application for the land use permit submitted by the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) to use the west side of BLM Parcel 26 for temporary housing.

Please adhere to the 1999 Snake River Resource Management Plan (RMP) and the BLM's 2004 Record of Decision (ROD) which formally adopted those RMP recommendations. Nowhere in that RMP is there language that suggests Parcel 26 is an appropriate place for a labor camp. In fact, the RMP explicitly suggests that this parcel be available for recreation, public access, open space, and wildlife habitat with a direct emphasis on the development of a public park.

This parcel of public land is a sensitive and valuable asset to our community, sitting directly adjacent to the Snake River and only a few hundred yards upstream of an Eligible Wild and Scenic River segment. During the ongoing staging for the Highway 89 construction, WYDOT has demonstrated a concerning lack of responsible management of Parcel 26. I am deeply concerned that issues including riverside trash, poor groundwater contaminant isolation, noxious weed proliferation, and disregard for adequate public access to the parcel will be exacerbated by a labor camp. Furthermore, there is no infrastructure in place to accommodate the sewage, potable water, and power needs of a labor camp. The mishandling of sewage during storage or transportation at this site would have dire consequences for the land and adjacent riparian system.

For over 20 years, our community has been promised a public space from this parcel. We have patiently endured the current eyesore and poor stewardship of Parcel 26 for far too long. Please honor the RMP and ROD and promote the appropriate uses of this site that the BLM has identified – public use, wildlife habitat, recreation, and open space.

Thank you for your consideration,