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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
BOARD OF LAND APPEALS**

State of Wyoming,

Appellant,

v.

Bureau of Land Management,

Respondent.

IBLA No.:

Appeal of the Decision Record
for the Marton Ranch LWCF
Land Acquisition, DOI-BLM-
WY-P060-2022-0057-EA,
Natrona and Carbon Counties,
Wyoming

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Pursuant to 43 C.F.R. § 4, the State of Wyoming hereby files its Notice of Appeal on the following adverse decision:

Decision Record for the Marton Ranch LWCF Land Acquisition, DOI-BLM-WY-P060-2022-0057-EA on May 18, 2022, by William Beck, Casper Field Manager and John Elliott, Rawlins Field Manager.

The State of Wyoming holds State Lands intermingled within the recently acquired Marton Ranch property, and yet, the Bureau of Land Management (Bureau) did not solicit comments on this massive land acquisition from the Governor of Wyoming, the Wyoming Office of State Lands and Investments, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, any affected local and county officials or, most importantly, the public. This cavalier disregard for public notice and participation violates the spirit if not the letter of the law.

Moreover, the cursory environmental assessment prepared by the Bureau did not cover, in any meaningful way, the potential impacts that the Marton Ranch acquisition will have on tax revenues, grazing, mineral development, and other natural resources. Rather, the Bureau simply speculated about uncertain future payments in lieu of taxes, ignored a wide range of socioeconomic and environmental impacts, and categorially failed to explain its decision.

The State of Wyoming enthusiastically supports and often serves as a partner in the Bureau's efforts to improve access to our public lands but there is a right way and a wrong way to make landscape-scale decisions that directly impact the people of Wyoming. Shutting the State of Wyoming and the public out of that process was the wrong way.

The State of Wyoming's statement of reasons will follow in accordance with 43 C.F.R. § 4.412.

DATED: June 16, 2022

/s/ Travis Jordan

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I mailed a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Appeal to the persons named below by overnight express mail, return receipt requested, in accordance with 43 C.F.R. §§ 4.401(c), 4.413, and DOI-BLM-WY-P060-2022-0057-EA as of the date of this signature.

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