



**Western
Watersheds
Project**

Wyoming Office

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Working to protect and restore Western Watersheds

Charles Walter Sylvester, Jr.

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Charles Walter Sylvester, Jr.
PO Box 155
LaSalle CO 80645

September 13, 2011

Dear Mr. Sylvester,

I am in receipt of your September 8th letter but after a number of readings of it, have found it unintelligible.

In order to have an intelligent conversation on the Granite Mountain Common allotment a few basic facts must be clearly stated:

- 1) The Granite Mountain Common allotment is almost entirely BLM (public lands)
- 2) Private lands within the Granite Mountain Common allotment make up less than 4% of the total allotment area
- 3) You do not own the Granite Mountain Open Allotment as stated in your letter. In fact, you are only one of a number of permittees on this allotment.
- 4) A permit to graze private livestock on public lands carries with it no right or title to the public land and has been confirmed by the Supreme Court to be merely a revocable privilege and not a right
- 5) Western Watersheds Project is fully aware and respectful of private property rights and neither works on private lands issues, refers to private lands issues or takes part in private lands management
- 6) Western Watersheds Project has been an Interested Public on the Granite Mountain Common allotment under 43 CFR 4100.0-5 for many years and regularly requests under FOIA documents regarding the management of this and hundreds of other BLM and Forest Service allotments throughout the west
- 7) Western Watersheds Project exercises and will continue to exercise the rights granted by the BLM regulations to take part as an Interested Public in the management of the Granite Mountain Common allotment

WWP will take part in the various opportunities provided to it by the BLM regulations to take part in monitoring, assessments, permit renewals and the NEPA process for the management of the public lands within the Granite Mountain Common allotment.

As you well know, I assume, BLM's grazing permit terms and conditions and AMP (Allotment Management Plans) apply only to BLM lands within any particular allotment.

To reiterate, WWP only works on public lands management issues and has no interest in involving itself in private lands matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan B Ratner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jonathan" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ratner".

Jonathan B Ratner
Director – Wyoming Office