1400 Independence Ave, SW Washington, DC 20250-1143

File Code: 6270-1 (L)

(05-2868 A)

Date:

JUN

1 2005

Mr. Darrell Geist P.O. Box 7941 Missoula, MT 59807

Mr. Dan Brister Buffalo Field Campaign P.O. Box 957 West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Dear Messrs. Geist and Brister:

This letter is a status report regarding your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) appeal dated April 12, 2005, filed on behalf of the Buffalo Field Campaign. You are appealing the Acting Northern Regional Forester's March 17, 2005, denial of 29 pages in response to Buffalo Field Campaign's FOIA request for records regarding the proposed Royal Teton Ranch and other information pertaining to livestock grazing and grazing allotments.

Pursuant to Executive Order 12,600 and the United States Department of Agriculture FOIA regulations at Title 7 Code of Federal Regulations, Subtitle A, Section 1.12, when a request is received for records obtained from a business source, we must contact the business submitter to afford them time in which to present any objections to the release of the information.

We have notified: (1) Ms. Rebecca L. Summerville of Datsopoulos, MacDonald & Lind, P.C., attorney for Church Universal & Triumphant; (2) Mr. Grant Parker, General Counsel for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; and (3) Mr. Murray L. Steinman of Strategicom, L.L.C. of our proposed release of records received from them, in response to your FOIA appeal. We are providing them the opportunity to identify portions of the records that could cause substantial competitive harm if released. We expect to receive a response from them by **June 20, 2005**.

Sincerely,

RITA M. MORGAN

Freedom of Information Act

and Privacy Act Officer

Office of Regulatory and Management Services

