

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TEXT TO ACCOMPANY:

COAL RESOURCE OCCURRENCE

AND

COAL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

MAPS

OF THE

SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF TURNERCREST 15' QUADRANGLE,

CAMPBELL COUNTY, WYOMING

BY

INTRASEARCH INC.

DENVER, COLORADO

OPEN FILE REPORT 79-309

1979

This report is preliminary, and has not been edited or reviewed for conformity with United States Geological Survey standards or stratigraphic nomenclature.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. GEOLOGY	3
III. DATA SOURCES	8
IV. COAL BED OCCURRENCE	9
V. GEOLOGICAL AND ENGINEERING MAPPING PARAMETERS	12
VI. COAL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL	15
Table 1.--Strippable Coal Reserve Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons) for Federal Coal Lands in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.	18
Table 2.--Coal Resource Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons) for Underground Mining Methods for Federal Coal Lands in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.	19
Table 3.--Coal Resource Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons) for In-Situ Gasification for Federal Coal Lands in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.	20
SELECTED REFERENCES	21

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

<u>MAPS</u>	<u>PLATES</u>
1. Coal Data Map	1
2. Boundary and Coal Data Map	2
3. Coal Data Sheet	3
4. Isopach and Mining Ratio Map of Felix Coal Bed	4
5. Structure Contour Map of Felix Coal Bed	5
6. Isopach Map of Overburden of Felix Coal Bed	6
7. Areal Distribution of Identified Resources of Felix Coal Bed	7
8. Identified Resources of Felix Coal Bed	8
9. Isopach and Mining Ratio Map of Smith Coal Bed	9
10. Structure Contour Map of Smith Coal Bed	10
11. Isopach Map of Overburden of Smith Coal Bed	11
12. Areal Distribution of Identified Resources of Smith Coal Bed	12
13. Identified and Hypothetical Resources of Smith Coal Bed	13
14. Isopach and Mining Ratio Map of Wyodak Coal Bed	14
15. Structure Contour Map of Wyodak Coal Bed	15
16. Isopach Map of Overburden of Wyodak Coal Bed	16
17. Areal Distribution of Identified Resources of Wyodak Coal Bed	17
18. Identified and Hypothetical Resources of Wyodak Coal Bed	18
19. Isopach and Mining Ratio Map of Wildcat Coal Zone	19
20. Structure Contour Map of Wildcat Coal Zone	20
21. Isopach Map of Overburden of Wildcat Coal Zone	21
22. Areal Distribution of Identified Resources of Wildcat Coal Zone	22
23. Identified and Hypothetical Resources of Wildcat Coal Zone	23
24. Coal Development Potential for Surface Mining Methods	24

CONVERSION TABLE

<u>TO CONVERT</u>	<u>MULTIPLY BY</u>	<u>TO OBTAIN</u>
inches	2.54	centimeters (cm)
feet	0.3048	meters (m)
miles	1.609	kilometers (km)
acres	0.40469	hectares (ha)
tons (short)	0.9072	metric tons (t)
cubic yards/ton	0.8428	cubic meters per metric tons
acre feet	0.12335	hectare-meters
Btu/lb	2.326	kilojoules/kilogram (kJ/kg)
Btu/lb	0.55556	kilocalories/kilogram (kcal/kg)
Fahrenheit	5/9 (F-32)	Celsius

I. Introduction

This report and accompanying maps set forth the Coal Resource Occurrence (CRO) and Coal Development Potential (CDP) of coal beds within the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming. This CRO and CDP map series (U. S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-309) includes 24 plates. The project is compiled by IntraSearch Inc., 1600 Ogden Street, Denver, Colorado, under KRCRA Northeastern Powder River Basin, Wyoming Contract Number 14-08-0001-17180. This contract is a part of a program to provide an inventory of unleased federal coal in Known Recoverable Coal Areas (KRCRAs) in the western United States.

The Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle is located in Campbell County, in northeastern Wyoming. It encompasses all or parts of Townships 41 and 42 North, Ranges 73 and 74 West, and covers the area: 43° 30' to 43°37'30" north latitude; 105°37'30" to 105° 45' west longitude.

The main access to the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle is provided by Clarkelen Road, a maintained gravel road which extends southward from the center of the northern boundary of the area. Clarkelen Road intersects Wyoming State Highway 387 approximately 1 mile (1.6 km) north of the northern boundary of the study area. Minor roads and trails provide access to the more remote regions of the quadrangle. The closest railroad is the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy trackage 44 miles (71 km) to the north at Gillette, Wyoming. Proposed trackage of the Burlington Northern Railroad lies approximately 6 miles (10 km) to the east of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle.

The drainage system of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle forms a part of the Cheyenne River system. Little Bates Creek drains the northwestern quadrant of the study area. North Bates Creek, which flows southeastward across the northwestern quadrant, is tributary to Bates Creek, which flows east-southeastward across the central portion of the quadrangle. The topographic relief of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle exceeds 400 feet (122 m). Minimum elevations of approximately 4900 feet (1494 m) occur along the eastern quadrangle boundary in the valley of Bates Creek, and maximum elevations of over 5300 feet (1615 m) occur in the southwestern corner and in the northwestern quadrant along the northern quadrangle boundary.

The thirteen to fourteen inches (33 to 36 cm) of annual precipitation that falls in this semi-arid region accrues principally in the springtime. Summer and fall precipitation usually originates from thunderstorms, and infrequent snowfalls of six inches (15 cm) or less generally characterize winter precipitation. Although temperatures ranging from less than -25°F (-32°C) to more than 100°F (38°C) have been recorded near Gillette, Wyoming, average wintertime minimums and summertime maximums approach +5° to +15°F (-15° and -9°C) and 75° to 90°F (24° to 32°C), respectively.

Surface ownership is divided among fee, state, and federal categories. State and federal lands are generally leased to ranchers for grazing purposes. Details of surface ownership are available at the Campbell County Courthouse in Gillette, Wyoming. Details of mineral ownership on federal lands are available from the U. S. Bureau of Land Management in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Federal coal ownership is shown on Plate 2 of the Coal Resource Occurrence maps. The non-federal coal belongs to both fee and state owners.

The Coal Resource Occurrence and Coal Development Potential program is restricted to unleased federal coal and focuses upon: 1) the delineation of lignite, subbituminous coal, bituminous coal, and anthracite at the surface and in the subsurface on federal land; 2) subdivision of deposits into measured, indicated, and inferred reserve resource categories, and hypothetical resources; 3) the measurement of coal resources in place as well as recoverable reserves; and 4) the determination of the potential for surface or underground mining, and in-situ gasification of the coal beds. This report contains an evaluation of the coal resources of all unleased federal coal beds in the quadrangle, which are 5 feet (1.5 m) or greater in thickness and occur at depths down to 3000 feet (914 m). No resources or reserves are computed for leased federal coal, state coal, fee coal, or lands encompassed by coal prospecting permits and preference right lease applications.

Surface and subsurface geological and engineering extrapolations drawn from the current data base suggest the occurrence of approximately 4.4 billion tons (4.0 billion metric tons) of unleased federal coal resources in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle.

The suite of maps that accompany this report portray the coal resource and reserve occurrence in detail. For the most part, this report supplements the cartographic information, with minimum duplication of the map data.

II. Geology

Regional. The thick, economic coal deposits of the Powder River Basin in northeastern Wyoming occur mostly in the Tongue River Member of the Fort Union Formation, and in the lower part of the Wasatch Formation. Approximately 3000 feet (914 m) of the Fort Union Formation,

that includes the Tongue River, Lebo, and Tullock Members of Paleocene age, are unconformably overlain by approximately 700 feet (213 m) of the Wasatch Formation of Eocene age. These Tertiary formations lie in a structural basin flanked on the east by the Black Hills uplift, on the south by the Hartville and Casper Mountain uplifts, and on the west by the Casper Arch and the Big Horn Mountain uplift. The structural configuration of the Powder River Basin originated in Late Cretaceous time, with episodic uplift thereafter. The Cretaceous Cordillera was the dominant positive land form throughout the Rocky Mountain area at the close of Mesozoic time.

Outcrops of the Wasatch Formation and the Tongue River Member of the Fort Union Formation cover most of the areas of major coal resource occurrence in the Powder River Basin. The Tongue River Member is composed of very fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, claystones, shales, carbonaceous shales, and numerous coal beds. The Lebo Shale Member of the Fort Union Formation consists of light-to dark-gray very fine-grained to conglomeratic sandstone with interbedded siltstone, claystone, carbonaceous shale and thin coal beds. Thin bedded calcareous ironstone concretions interbedded with massive white sandstone and slightly bentonitic shale occur throughout the unit.

The Lebo Member is mapped at the surface northeast of Recluse, Wyoming, east of the principal coal outcrops and associated clinkers (McKay, 1974), and presumably projects into the subsurface beneath much of the basin. One of the principal characteristics for separating the Lebo and Tullock Members (collectively referred to as the Ludlow Member east of Miles City, Montana) from the overlying Tongue River Member is the color differential between the lighter-colored upper portion and the somewhat darker lower portion (Brown, 1958). Although geologists work-

ing with subsurface data, principally geophysical logs, in the basin are trying to develop criteria for subsurface recognition of the Lebo-Tullock and Tongue River-Lebo contacts, no definitive guidelines are known to have been published. Hence, for subsurface mapping purposes, the Fort Union Formation is not divided into its members for this study.

During the Paleocene epoch, the Powder River Basin tropic to subtropic depositional environment included broad, inland flood basins with extensive swamps, marshes, freshwater lakes, and a sluggish but active northeastward discharging drainage system, superimposed on an emerging sea floor, near base level. Much of the vast area where organic debris collected was within a reducing depositional environment. Localized uplifts began to disturb the near sea level terrain of northeastern Wyoming following retreat of the Cretaceous seas. However, the extremely fine-grained characteristics of the Tongue River Member clastics suggest that areas of recurring uplift peripheral to the Powder River Basin were subdued during major coal deposit formation.

The uplift of areas surrounding the Powder River Basin created a structural basin of asymmetric characteristic, with the steep west flank located on the eastern edge of the Big Horn Mountains. The axis of the Powder River Basin is difficult to specifically define, but is thought to be located in the western part of the Basin, and to display a north-south configuration some 15 to 20 miles (24 to 32 km) east of Sheridan, Wyoming. Thus, the sedimentary section described in this report lies on the east flank of the Powder River Basin, with gentle dips of two degrees or less disrupted by surface structure thought to relate to tectonic adjustment and differential compaction.

Some coal beds in the Powder River Basin exceed 200 feet (61 m) in thickness. Deposition of these thick, in-situ coal beds requires a discrete balance between subsidence of the earth's crust and in-filling by tremendous volumes of organic debris. These conditions in concert with a favorable ground water table, non-oxidizing clear water, and a climate amenable to the luxuriant growth of vegetation produce a stabilized swamp critical to the deposition of coal beds.

Deposition of the unusually thick coal beds of the Powder River Basin may be partially attributable to short-distance water transportation of organic detritus into areas of crustal subsidence. Variations in coal bed thickness throughout the basin relate to changes in the depositional environment. Drill hole data that indicate either the complete absence or extreme attenuation of a thick coal bed probably relate to location of the drill holes within the ancient stream channel system draining this low land area in Early Cenozoic time. Where thick coal beds thin rapidly from the depocenter of a favorable depositional environment, it is not unusual to encounter a synclinal structure over the maximum coal thickness due to the differential compaction between organic debris in the coal depocenter and fine-grained clastics in the adjacent areas.

The Wasatch Formation of Eocene age crops out over most of the central part of the Powder River Basin and exhibits a disconformable contact with the underlying Fort Union Formation. The contact has been placed at various horizons by different workers; however, for the purpose of this report, the contact is positioned near the top of the Roland coal bed as mapped by Olive (1957) in northwestern Campbell County, Wyoming, and is considered to disconformably descend in the stratigraphic column to the top of the Wyodak-Anderson coal bed (Roland

coal bed of Taff, 1909) along the eastern boundary of the coal measures. No attempt is made to differentiate the Wasatch and Fort Union Formations on geophysical logs or in the subsurface mapping program that is a part of this CRO-CDP project.

Although Wasatch and Fort Union lithologies are too similar to allow differentiation in some areas, most of the thicker coal beds occur in the Fort Union section on the east flank of the Powder River Basin. Furthermore, orogenic movements peripheral to the basin apparently increased in magnitude during Wasatch time causing the deposition of friable, coarse-grained to gritty arkosic sandstones, fine- to very fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, claystones, brown-to-black carbonaceous shales and coal beds. These sediments are noticeably to imperceptibly coarser than the underlying Fort Union clastics.

The Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle is located in an area where surface rocks are classified into the Wasatch Formation.

Olive (1957) correlated coal beds in the Spotted Horse coal field with coal beds in the Sheridan coal field (Baker, 1929) and Gillette coal field (Dobbin and Barnett, 1927), Wyoming, and with coal beds in the Ashland coal field (Bass, 1932) in southeastern Montana. This report utilizes, where possible, the coal bed nomenclature used in previous reports. The Felix coal bed was named by Stone and Lupton (1910), and the Smith coal bed was named by Taff (1909). Baker (1929) assigned names to the Anderson, Canyon, and Wall coal beds. The Cook coal bed was named by Bass (1932).

IntraSearch's correlation of thick coal beds from the Spotted Horse coal field to Gillette points out that the Wyodak coal bed, named the "D" coal bed by Dobbin and Barnett (1927), is equivalent to the Anderson, Canyon and all or part of the Cook coal beds to the north and west of Gillette, Wyoming. Correlation of this suite of coal beds with the Wyodak

coal bed south and southwest of Gillette suggests that the Anderson and Canyon coal beds equate with the upper ten to twenty-five percent of the thick Wyodak coal bed, and the Cook and Wall or Upper Wall coal beds are equivalent to the major part of the Wyodak coal bed. Due to problematic correlations outside of the Gillette area, the name Wyodak has been informally used by many previous authors to represent the coal beds in the area surrounding the Wyodak coal mine. The Wildcat coal bed was informally named by IntraSearch (1978).

Local. The Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle lies on the eastern flank of the Powder River Basin, where the strata dip gently westward. The Wasatch Formation crops out over the entire quadrangle, and is comprised of friable, coarse-grained to gritty arkosic sandstones, fine- to very fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, claystones, brown-to-black carbonaceous shales, and coal beds.

III. Data Sources

Areal geology of the coal outcrops and associated clinker is derived from the Gillette coal field report (Dobbin and Parnett, 1928). The coal bed outcrops are adjusted to the current topographic map in the area.

The source of subsurface control is the geophysical logs from oil and gas test bores and producing wells. Some geophysical logs are not applicable to this study, for the logs relate only to the deep potentially productive oil and gas zones. More than eighty percent of the logs include resistivity, conductivity, and self-potential curves. Occasionally the logs include gamma, density, and sonic curves. These logs are available from several commercial sources.

All geophysical logs available in the quadrangle are scanned to select those with data applicable to Coal Resource Occurrence mapping. Paper copies of the logs are obtained, interpreted, and coal

intervals annotated. Maximum accuracy of coal bed identification is accomplished where gamma, density, and resistivity curves are available. Coal bed tops and bottoms are picked on the logs at the midpoint between the minimum and maximum curve deflections. The correlation of coal beds within and between quadrangles is achieved utilizing a fence diagram to associate local correlations with regional coal occurrences.

The reliability of correlations, set forth by IntraSearch in this report, vary depending on: the density and quality of lithologic and geophysical logs; the detail, thoroughness, and accuracy of published and unpublished surface geological maps, and interpretative proficiency. There is no intent on the part of IntraSearch to refute nomenclature established in the literature or used locally by workers in the area. IntraSearch's nomenclature focuses upon the suggestion of regional coal bed names applicable throughout the eastern Powder River Basin. It is expected and entirely reasonable that some differences of opinion regarding correlations, as suggested by IntraSearch, exist. Additional drilling for coal, oil, gas, water, and uranium, coupled with expanded mapping of coal bed outcrops and associated clinkers will broaden the data base for coal bed correlations and allow continued improvement in the understanding of coal bed occurrences in the eastern Powder River Basin.

The topographic map of the Turnercrest^{15'} Quadrangle is published by the U. S. Geological Survey, compilation date, 1960. Land network and mineral ownership data are compiled from land plats available from the U. S. Bureau of Land Management in Cheyenne, Wyoming. This information is current to October 13, 1977.

IV. Coal Bed Occurrence

Wasatch and Fort Union Formation coal beds that are present in all or part of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle include

in descending stratigraphic order, the Felix, Smith, Wyodak, an unnamed local, and Wildcat coal beds. A complete suite of maps (structure, isopach, mining ratio, overburden, identified and hypothetical resources and areal distribution of identified resources) is prepared for each of these coal beds. The presence of several Wildcat coal beds dictates the mapping of a Wildcat coal zone. This zone includes an unnamed local coal bed.

No physical and chemical analyses are known to have been published regarding the coal beds in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle. However, the general "as received" basis proximate analyses for central and southern Campbell County coal beds are as follows:

COAL BED NAME		ASH %	FIXED CARBON %	MOISTURE %	VOLATILES %	SULFUR %	BTU/LB
Felix	(U) Hole 7324	6.993	35.200	25.010	32.798	0.629	8544
Smith	(U) Hole 7312C	6.167	33.340	29.610	30.883	1.068	8215
Wyodak	(U) Hole 757	6.024	32.831	26.907	34.237	0.336	8366

(U) - U. S. Geological Survey & Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology - 1974 and 1976.

The Coal Data Sheet, Plate 3, shows the downhole identification of coal beds within the quadrangle as interpreted from geophysical logs of oil and gas test bores and producing sites. A datum coal bed is utilized to position columnar sections on Plate 3. This portrayal is schematic by design; hence, no structural or coal thickness implications are suggested by the dashed correlation lines projected through no record (NR) intervals. Inasmuch as the Middle Wildcat coal bed underlies the entire quadrangle, it is designated as datum for the correlation diagram. The Wyodak coal bed shows the thickest single coal bed occurrence throughout the quadrangle. The Felix, Smith and individual Wildcat coal beds, are relatively thin throughout most of the area.

Eroded from approximately seventy-five percent of the study area, the Felix coal bed is present only in the northern half of the Southwest

Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle. Because no subsurface control is available for the Felix coal bed within the quadrangle, the outcrop configuration is based upon published material (Dobbin and Barnett, 1928), and the structure and isopach maps rely heavily on projections from adjacent quadrangles. The projected thickness of the Felix coal bed averages under 10 feet (3 m). The Felix coal bed dips less than two degrees to the north and lies less than 250 feet (76 m) below the surface throughout the study area.

The Smith coal bed lies approximately 350 to 700 feet (107 to 213 m) below the Felix coal bed. Sparse data, supplemented by projections from adjacent quadrangles, suggest that the Smith coal bed is less than 5 feet (1.5 m) thick in regions along the western quadrangle boundary and in the southeastern corner. These areas comprise approximately twenty-five percent of the total study area. The indicated average thickness of the Smith coal bed is less than 10 feet (3 m). The structure contour map suggests a broad anticline plunging to the west-northwest from the southeastern corner of the quadrangle. The overburden above the Smith coal bed varies in thickness from less than 100 feet (30 m) to more than 500 feet (152 m). The Smith coal bed occurs less than 500 feet (152 m) below the surface throughout approximately seventy-five percent of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle.

A non-coal interval of approximately 313 to 343 feet (95 to 105 m) separates the Wyodak coal bed from the overlying Smith coal bed. Pinched out along the southern boundary of the quadrangle, the Wyodak coal bed attains a maximum thickness of over 80 feet (24 m) in the northeastern quadrant. East and northeast of the study area, the Wyodak coal bed splits and the upper coal bed is named the Anderson coal bed and the lower coal zone is named the Canyon-Cook-Wall coal zone. The Wyodak coal bed dips one to two degrees to the northwest. The Wyodak coal bed occurs from less than 300 feet (91 m) to greater than 1000 feet (305 m) beneath the surface. The Wyodak

coal bed lies at depths less than 500 feet (152 m) in the southeastern quadrant.

The Wildcat coal zone occurs more than 1000 feet (305 m) below the Wyodak coal bed. The Wildcat coal zone consists of a local coal bed and the Upper Wildcat, Middle Wildcat, and Lower Wildcat coal beds. The total non-coal interburden within the Wildcat coal zone ranges in thickness from 3 to 149 feet (0.9 to 45 m). The maximum combined thickness of the Wildcat coal zone, more than 35 feet (11 m), is located in the southeastern corner, and the minimum thickness, less than 10 feet (3 m), is located in the northwestern corner. The structure contour map is drawn on top of the Middle Wildcat coal bed in the northwestern quadrant where the Upper Wildcat coal bed is absent, and on top of the Upper Wildcat coal bed throughout the remainder of the study area. The structure contours are drawn on the top of a local coal bed in the vicinity of Township 41 North, Range 74 West, Section 3, due to the absence of the Upper Wildcat coal bed. The structure contour map indicates a northwestward dip of one to two degrees and minor local folding. The overburden above the Wildcat coal zone exceeds 500 feet (152 m) throughout the entire Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle.

V. Geological and Engineering Mapping Parameters

The correct horizontal location and elevation of drill holes utilized in subsurface mapping are critical to map accuracy. Intra-Search Inc., plots the horizontal location of the drill hole as described on the geophysical log heading. Occasionally this location is superimposed or near to a drillsite shown on the topographic map, and the topographic map horizontal location is utilized. If the ground elevation on the geophysical log does not agree with the topographic elevation of the drillsite, the geophysical log ground elevation is adjusted to conformance. If there is no indication of a drillsite on

the topographic map, the "quarter, quarter, quarter" heading location is shifted within a small area until the ground elevation on the heading agrees with the topographic map elevation. If no elevation agreement can be reached, the well heading or data sheet is rechecked for footage measurements and ground elevation accuracy. Inquiries to the companies who provided the oil and gas geophysical logs frequently reveal that corrections have been made in the original survey. If all horizontal location data sources have been checked and the information accepted as the best available data, the drillsite elevation on the geophysical log is modified to agree with the topographic map elevation. IntraSearch Inc., considers this agreement mandatory for the proper construction of most subsurface maps, but in particular, the overburden isopach, the mining ratio, and Coal Development Potential maps.

Subsurface mapping is based on geologic data within and adjacent to the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle area. Data from geophysical logs are used to correlate coal beds and control contour lines for the coal thickness, structure, and overburden maps. Isopach lines are also drawn to honor selected surface measured sections where there is sparse subsurface control. Where isopach contours do not honor surface measured sections, the surface thicknesses are thought to be attenuated by oxidation and/or erosion, hence not reflective of total coal thickness. Isopach lines extend to the coal bed outcrops, the projections of coal bed outcrops, and the contact between porcellanite (clinker) and unoxidized coal in place. Attenuation of total coal bed thickness is known to take place near these lines of definition; however, the overestimation of coal bed tonnages that results from this projection of total coal thickness is insignificant to the Coal Development Potential maps. Structure contour maps are constructed on the tops

of the main coal beds. Where subsurface data are scarce, supplemental structural control points are selected from the topographic map along coal outcrops.

In preparing overburden isopach maps, no attempt is made to identify coal beds that occur in the overburden to a particular coal bed under study. Mining ratio maps for this quadrangle are constructed utilizing a ninety-five percent recovery factor. Contours of these maps identify the ratio of cubic yards of overburden to tons of recoverable coal. Where ratio control points are sparse, interpolated points are computed at the intersections of coal bed and overburden isopach contours using coal structure, coal isopach, and topographic control. On the Areal Distribution of Identified Resources Map (ADIR), coal bed reserves are not calculated where the coal is less than 5 feet (1.5 m) thick, where the coal occurs at a depth greater than 500 feet (152 m), where non-federal coal exists, or where federal coal leases, preference right lease applications, and coal prospecting permits exist.

Coal tonnage calculations involve the planimetry of areas of measured, indicated, inferred reserves and resources, and hypothetical resources to determine their areal extent in acres. An Insufficient Data Line is drawn to delineate areas where surface and subsurface data are too sparse for CRO map construction. Various categories of resources are calculated in the unmapped areas by utilizing coal bed thicknesses mapped in the geologically controlled area adjacent to the insufficient data line. Acres are multiplied by the average coal bed thickness and 1750, or 1770 (the number of tons of lignite A or sub-bituminous C coal per acre-foot, respectively; 12,874 or 13,018 metric tons per hectare-meter, respectively), to determine total tons in place. Recoverable tonnage is calculated at ninety-five percent of the total

tons in place. Where tonnages are computed for the CRO-CDP map series, resources and reserves are expressed in millions of tons. Frequently the planimetering of coal resources on a sectionized basis involves complexly curvilinear lines (coal bed outcrop and 500-foot stripping limit designations) in relationship with linear section boundaries and circular resource category boundaries. Where these relationships occur, generalizations of complexly curvilinear lines are discretely utilized, and resources and/or reserves are calculated within an estimated two to three percent plus or minus accuracy.

VI. Coal Development Potential

Strippable Coal Development Potential. Areas where coal beds are 5 feet (1.5 m) or more in thickness and are overlain by 500 feet (152 m) or less of overburden are considered to have potential for surface mining and are assigned a high, moderate, or low development potential based on the mining ratio (cubic yards of overburden per ton of recoverable coal). The formula used to calculate mining ratios is as follows:

$$MR = \frac{to (0.911)*}{tc (rf)}$$

where MR = mining ratio
to = thickness of overburden
tc = thickness of coal
rf = recovery factor
0.911* = conversion factor (cu. yds./ton)

*A conversion factor of 0.922 is used for lignite.

A surface mining potential map (Plate 24) is prepared utilizing the following mining ratio criteria for coal beds 5 to 40 feet (1.5 to 12 m) thick:

1. Low development potential = 15:1 and greater ratio.
2. Moderate development potential = 10:1 to 15:1 ratio.
3. High development potential = 0 to 10:1 ratio.

The following mining ratio criteria is utilized for coal beds greater

than 40 feet (12 m) thick:

1. Low development potential = 7:1 and greater ratio.
2. Moderate development potential = 5:1 to 7:1 ratio.
3. High development potential = 0 to 5:1 ratio.

The surface mining potential is high for approximately twenty-five percent of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle. The high potential area is located along the northern edge of the quadrangle where mining ratios of less than 10:1 occur for the Felix coal bed along its outcrop.

Moderate surface mining potential covers approximately ten percent of the quadrangle. The moderate surface mining potential area occurs adjacent to the high potential area in the northern portion of the quadrangle, and in the southeastern quadrant along the eastern quadrangle boundary. The moderate potential in the northern region results from mining ratios of less than 15:1 for the Felix coal bed near its outcrop. In the southeastern quadrant the moderate surface mining potential is due to mining ratios of less than 15:1 for the Wyodak coal bed along Bates Creek.

Approximately fifty percent of the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle is considered to have low surface mining potential. The low surface mining potential area extends from the east-central to the south-central portion of the quadrangle. The Felix and the Wyodak coal beds are absent in this area, and mining ratios for the Smith coal bed exceed 15:1. The remaining fifteen percent of the quadrangle is non-federal coal land. Table 1 sets forth the estimated strippable reserve base and hypothetical resource tonnages per coal bed for the quadrangle.

Underground Mining Coal Development Potential. Subsurface coal mining potential throughout the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle is considered low. Inasmuch as recovery factors have not been established for the underground development of coal beds in this quadrangle,

reserves are not calculated for coal beds that occur more than 500 feet (152 m) beneath the surface. Table 2 sets forth the estimated coal resources in tons per coal bed.

In-Situ Gasification Coal Development Potential. The evaluation of subsurface coal deposits for in-situ gasification potential relates to the occurrence of coal beds more than 5 feet (1.5 m) thick buried from 500 to 3000 feet (152 to 914 m) beneath the surface. This categorization is as follows:

1. Low development potential relates to: 1) a total coal section less than 100 feet (30 m) thick that lies 500 feet (152 m) to 3000 feet (914 m) beneath the surface, or 2) coal beds 5 feet (1.5 m) or more in thickness that lie 500 feet (152 m) to 1000 feet (305 m) beneath the surface.
2. Moderate development potential is assigned to a total coal section from 100 to 200 feet (30 to 61 m) thick, and buried from 1000 to 3000 feet (305 to 914 m) beneath the surface.
3. High development potential involves 200 feet (61 m) or more of total coal thickness buried from 1000 to 3000 feet (305 to 914 m).

The coal development potential for in-situ gasification within the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle is low, hence no CDP map is generated for this map series. The coal resource tonnage for in-situ gasification with low development potential totals approximately 3.8 billion tons (3.4 billion metric tons) (Table 3). None of the coal beds in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle qualify for a moderate or high development potential rating.

Table 1.--Strippable Coal Reserve Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons) for Federal Coal Lands in the Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.

Development potentials are based on mining ratios (cubic yards of overburden/ton of recoverable coal).

Coal Bed	High Development Potential (0-10:1 Mining Ratio)	Moderate Development Potential (10:1-15:1 Mining Ratio)	Low Development Potential ($> 15:1$ Mining Ratio)	Total
<u>RESERVE BASE</u>				
Felix	26,250,000	16,520,000	18,200,000	60,970,000
Smith	-----	7,520,000	214,270,000	221,790,000
Wyodak	-----	33,950,000	156,930,000	190,880,000
TOTAL	26,250,000	57,990,000	389,400,000	473,640,000
<u>HYPOTHETICAL RESOURCE</u>				
Felix	-----	-----	42,110,000	42,110,000
Smith	-----	-----	47,340,000	47,340,000
Wyodak	-----	-----	54,280,000	54,280,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	143,730,000	143,730,000
GRAND TOTAL	26,250,000	57,990,000	533,130,000	617,370,000

Table 2.--Coal Resource and Hypothetical Resource Base Data (in short tons)
for Underground Mining Methods for Federal Coal Lands in the
Southwest Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County,
Wyoming.

Coal Bed Name	High Development Potential	Moderate Development Potential	Low Development Potential	Total
<u>RESERVE BASE TONNAGE</u>				
Smith	-----	-----	104,160,000	104,160,000
Wyodak	-----	-----	2,300,740,000	2,300,740,000
Wildcat	-----	-----	1,102,780,000	1,102,780,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	3,507,680,000	3,507,680,000
<u>HYPOTHETICAL RESOURCE TONNAGE</u>				
Smith	-----	-----	1,470,000	1,470,000
Wyodak	-----	-----	271,030,000	271,030,000
Wildcat	-----	-----	1,050,000	1,050,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	273,550,000	273,550,000
GRAND TOTAL	-----	-----	3,781,230,000	3,781,230,000

Table 3.--Coal Resource Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons)
for In-Situ Gasification for Federal Coal Lands in the Southwest
Quarter of Turnercrest 15' Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.

Coal Bed Name	High Development Potential	Moderate Development Potential	Low Development Potential	Total
<u>RESERVE BASE TONNAGE</u>				
Smith	-----	-----	104,160,000	104,160,000
Wyodak	-----	-----	2,300,740,000	2,300,740,000
Wildcat	-----	-----	1,102,780,000	1,102,780,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	3,507,680,000	3,507,680,000
<u>HYPOTHETICAL RESOURCE TONNAGE</u>				
Smith	-----	-----	1,470,000	1,470,000
Wyodak	-----	-----	271,030,000	271,030,000
Wildcat	-----	-----	1,050,000	1,050,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	273,550,000	273,550,000
GRAND TOTAL	-----	-----	3,781,230,000	3,781,230,000

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