Appendix F

Best Management Practices and Recommendations

Restoration Management Guidelines for Storm Water Management and Pollution Prevention

Noise Mitigation Best Management Practices

Noxious Weed Management

Best Management Practices for Working in Black and Grizzly Bear Habitat

Restoration Management Guidelines for Storm Water Management and Pollution Prevention

A storm water management and pollution prevention management plan for the proposed WLCP will be prepared by SST in compliance with the State NPDES permit requirements. This document shows examples of regulations that may be required during the construction and installation of the WLCP, actual requirements may vary. This list is not intended to be comprehensive and may include regulations that may not be required. Best Management Practices Prescriptions (BMPPs) are those features which the Best Management Practices (BMPs) direct to be installed such as, silt fencing, wattles, straw bales, erosion and sediment control features, etc.

Construction operators are required to comply with federal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) which controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge in waters of the US. In most cases the NPDES permit program is administered by authorized state agencies[1]. These regulations include developing stormwater pollution prevention plans and implementing erosion and sediment control and housekeeping best management practice (BMPs). Federal construction site stormwater regulations typically apply to sites that are 1 acre or larger. Additionally, construction operators may be subject to local erosion and sediment control requirements stipulated by the appropriate land management agencies. Adequate BMP performance requires not only proper installation, but also regular maintenance. Maintenance needs are best determined by a self-inspection program. The purpose is to reduce pollutants in stormwater to the maximum extent practicable to protect water quality and to restore vegetative cover to return affected sites to their normal appearance as rapidly as reasonably possible. The letters from the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued for the WLCP (Appendix E) also have some specific requirements, terms, and conditions associated with water quality, storm water management, wetland protection, and sedimentation/erosion control that must be followed.

Goals

The primary goal for site restoration and erosion control is to avoid all erosion from the site and allow only de minimis discharge into water systems or wetlands as permitted under the terms and conditions of a Nationwide #12 Permit as directed by the ACOE. Erosion control would focused on avoidance and be directed at bore sites, hand hole and hut installations, and any areas where surface disturbance exceeds 1 foot in width. The major treatments for these areas would include:

- Dust Control
- Soil Roughening
- Re-contouring
- Seeding

If it is determined that there is a need for additional erosion control around bore, hand hole, and hut installation sites, additional controls likely to be used would include.

- Sediment Basins
- Sediment Traps

[1] Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 2011. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDAE) [Online] URL: http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/ Last Accessed February 1, 2011.

- Silt Fences
- Vegetated Buffers

Stormwater Management BMP Descriptions
The effectiveness of post-construction stormwater control depends upon regular inspections of the control measures. Generally, BMPP inspection and maintenance falls into two categories: 1) expected routine maintenance and 2) non-routine (repair) maintenance. Routine maintenance is performed regularly to maintain both the aesthetics of the BMPPs and their good working order. Routine inspection and maintenance helps prevent potential nuisances (odors, mosquitoes, weeds, etc.), reduces the need for repair maintenance, and reduces the chance of polluting stormwater runoff by finding and fixing problems before the next rain.

Inspections
Procedures and features required by the Stormwater control BMPs need regular inspections to ensure their effectiveness, and permitting authorities may require self-inspection for construction projects. Three types of inspections are performed: routine inspections, inspections performed before rain events, and inspections performed after rain events.

Routine Inspections
Routine inspections are an integral part of regularly performed maintenance activities (cleaning, repair, and replacement, etc.) and are necessary to ensure the integrity and effectiveness of the BMPPs. Routine inspection and maintenance of the BMPPs minimizes the work required to prepare a site before a rain event and the amount of repairs during and after rain events and protects a site from unanticipated rain events.

Inspections before Rain Events
It is critically important that construction site operators pay attention to weather forecasts. To prepare for impending rains, operators should walk the construction site and ensure that necessary BMPPs are cleaned out and operating properly. They should verify that dumpsters are covered, paint and other chemicals are covered, and no oil spills are present. Such housekeeping practices are routinely performed in all good inspection and maintenance programs. Operators should also visually inspect all BMPPs when the site will be inactive for several days, such as weekends or holidays. This will help to prepare for rains that might occur when workers are off-site. Planning and preparation minimize the risk of on- or off-site property damage occurring because of inoperative or malfunctioning BMPPs.

Inspections after Rain Events
After a rain event, prepare the site for the next rain event. Typically within 48 hours after rain, inspect, clean, and repair the site's BMPPs. This will keep the site "clean" and minimize complaints. To prevent health and safety hazards, remove mud in traffic areas and remove mosquito-breeding standing water. Clean mud and debris from silt fences and other BMPPs. Clogged BMPPs will not prevent pollutant releases during subsequent rain events, so clean, repair, or replace them as quickly as possible.

A construction site operator has several options to ensure that regular inspections are occurring. Regardless of who performs the inspections, it is critical to maintain proper documentation. Use an inspection form or checklist for each inspection. Log books are often used, but they need to include more information than merely the date of the inspections. When made a priority, inspections and maintenance ensure that BMPPs function properly and help prevent pollution discharges.

Maintenance Considerations
It is important that routine maintenance and non-routine repair of stormwater BMPPs be done according to a schedule or as soon as a problem is discovered. Because many BMPPs are rendered ineffective for runoff control if not installed and maintained properly, it is essential that maintenance schedules are maintained and repairs made promptly.

Effectiveness
The effectiveness of BMPPs inspection will be a function of the inspector's familiarity with each BMPP's location, design specifications, maintenance procedures, and performance expectations. Documentation should be kept of the dates of inspection, findings, and maintenance and repairs that result from the findings of an inspector. Such records help maintain an efficient inspection and maintenance schedule and provide evidence of ongoing inspection and maintenance.

Hazardous Materials Management
Spill Prevention and Control

The following addresses the procedures for dealing with fuel spills and hydraulic fluid spills that might happen as a result of operating the various pieces of equipment on site during cable installation. The Plan should be comprehensive in that it addresses actions used to prevent spills in addition to specifying actions that will be taken should any spills occur, including emergency notification procedures. The project's on-site Environmental Inspectors (EIs) are responsible for ensuring that Contractors implement and maintain spill control measures.

Training
The Contractor will instruct personnel on the operation and maintenance of equipment to prevent the accidental discharge or spill of fuel, oil, and lubricants. Personnel will also be made aware of the pollution control laws, rules, and regulations applicable to their work. Spill prevention briefings with the construction crew will be scheduled and conducted by the EI to insure adequate understanding of spill prevention measures. These briefings will highlight:

- Precautionary measures to prevent spills;
- Sources of spills, such as equipment failure or malfunction;
- Standard operating procedures in case of a spill;
- Equipment, materials, and supplies available for clean-up of a spill; and
- A list of known spill events.

Equipment Inspection/Maintenance
The Contractor will inspect and maintain equipment that must be fueled and/or lubricated according to a strict schedule. The Contractor will submit to Silver Star for approval written documentation of the methods used and work performed. All containers, valves, pipelines, and hoses will be examined regularly to assess their general condition. The examination will identify any signs of deterioration that could cause a spill and signs of leaks, such as accumulated fluids. All leaks will be promptly corrected and/or repaired.

Refueling Operations
State BMPs require staging areas—areas where fuels are stored and where servicing and refueling takes place-- to be at least 150 feet from riparian areas.

Storage
Equipment and supplies staging areas will not have drains, unless such drains lead to a containment area or vessel where a spill can be recovered. Small quantities of hazardous substances may only be stored in staging areas located at least 150 feet from streams and other surface waters or wetlands.

Pollution Prevention
In the following areas, auxiliary fuel tanks may be used to reduce the frequency of refueling operations but in no case will refueling take place within 150 feet of any known potable water wells, streams, riparian areas, or wetlands.

- areas such as rugged terrain or steep slopes where movement of equipment to refueling stations would cause excessive disturbance to the ROW;

- sites where moving equipment to refueling stations from pre-fabricated equipment pads is impracticable or where there is a barrier from the waterbody/wetland (i.e., road or railroad); locations where the waterbody or wetland is located adjacent to a road crossing (from which the equipment can be serviced).

The Contractor will assure that all refueling is done pursuant to the following conditions:

- Impact minimization measures and equipment will be sufficient to prevent discharged fluids from leaving the ROW or reaching wetlands or waterbodies, and be readily available for use. These will include some combination of the following:

    a. dikes, berms or retaining walls sufficiently impervious to contain spilled oil;
    b. sorbent and barrier materials in quantities determined by the Contractor to be sufficient to capture the largest reasonably foreseeable spill;
    c. drums or containers suitable for holding and transporting contaminated materials;
    d. curbing;
    e. culverts, gutters, or other drainage systems;
    f. weirs, booms, or other barriers;
    g. spill diversion or retention ponds; and
    h. sumps and collection systems.
    i. staging areas—areas where fuels are stored and where servicing and refueling takes place--must be at least 150 feet from riparian areas and wetlands.

- The Contractor will prepare for approval by Silver Star a list of the type, quantity, and the storage location of containment and clean up equipment to be used during construction.

- All spills will be cleaned up and reported to the EI immediately. Containment equipment will not be used for storing contaminated material.

Equipment List
The Contractor will prepare a list of the type, quantity, and location of storage or containment and clean up equipment to be used on the construction site. The list will include the procedures and impact minimization measures to be used in response to a spill. The Contractor's choice of impact minimization measures and equipment will be tailored to meet the characteristics of the affected terrain as well as the types and amounts of material that could potentially be spilled. The types of equipment that Silver Star expects to use to control spills on terrestrial areas includes:

- sorbents (pillows, socks, and wipe sheets) for containment and pick up of spilled liquids;
- prepackaged, self-contained spill kits containing a variety of sorbents for small to large spills;
- structures such as gutters, culverts, and dikes for immediate spill containment;
- shovels, backhoes, etc, for excavating contaminated materials;
- sumps and collection systems; and
- drums, barrels, and temporary storage bags to clean up and transport contaminated materials.

Impact Minimization Measures

Containment is the immediate priority in the case of a spill. A spill will be contained on Silver Star's project or ROW, if possible. Clean up procedures will begin immediately after a spill is contained. In no case will containment equipment be used to store contaminated material. In case of a spill, the Contractor will notify the EI, construction supervisors, and the appropriate federal agency contacts immediately.

If the EI determines that a spill is small enough such that the construction crew can safely handle it, the crew will use construction equipment to containerize all spilled material, contaminated soil, and sorbent material in a manner consistent with the spilled materials' characterization. If the EI determines that a spill cannot be adequately excavated and disposed of by the construction crew alone, the Contractor will contact waste containment specialists. The EI will ensure that all excavated wastes are transported to a disposal facility licensed to accept such wastes.

The Contractor will prepare a Construction Site Spill Report to be given to the EI that includes:

a. the date, time and location of the occurrence;
b. a description of the material spilled;
c. the quantity spilled;
d. the circumstances that caused the spill;
e. a list of waterbodies affected or potentially affected by the spill;
f. a statement verifying whether a sheen is present;
g. the size of the affected area;
h. an estimate of the depth that the material has reached in water or on soil;
i. a determination of whether the spill will migrate off of the ROW or a regeneration station site;
j. a determination of whether the spill is under control;
k. a statement verifying that clean-up has begun and a description of the methods being used to clean up the spill; and
l. the names of the people observing the spill (with their affiliations).

The EI shall ensure that the Contractor's spill report is complete and shall submit it to the Silver Star project manager and the appropriate federal agency as necessary. The EI will assure that the Contractor notifies the appropriate agencies if it is determined that a spill exceeds reportable quantity thresholds.

Fuels and Lubricating Oil Storage

The Contractor will implement special measures to prevent spills in areas where trucks carrying refueling fuel and oil are staged for use. Containment equipment will be kept close to parked fuel trucks and oils to minimize spill response time, and will include absorbent pads or mats. The quantity and capabilities of the mats will be sufficient to capture the largest foreseeable spill, given ROW characteristics and crankcase and other fuel vessel capacities.

Routine Refueling and Maintenance

Absorbent pads and mats will be placed on the ground beneath equipment before refueling and maintenance. Equipment that will be stored on site for routine refueling and maintenance includes small sorbent kits (or their functional equivalent). Kits with the capacity of absorbing up to five gallons of liquid can fit beneath the operator's seat on construction equipment for use in an equipment failure. Since all vehicles must be maintained periodically or repaired as necessary, there are opportunities for litter and debris to accumulate. The proponent will ensure that litter and debris do not accumulate on the sites and that cleanup is provided for immediately.

The storage, handling, and disposal of all hazardous material and waste will comply with applicable federal and state regulations. Provisions will be made for storage, containment, and disposal of hazardous materials used on site. Construction equipment will be checked frequently to identify and repair any leaks and will be staged in designed areas suitable to contain leaking materials. Trained personnel will clean-up and dispose of any leakage or spill from construction equipment such as hydraulic fluid, oil, or fuel. Fueling will be permitted only by complying with agency re-fueling guidelines. No fuel or oils will be stored in bulk tanks on site or in materials staging areas. All fuel and lubricants will be delivered as needed using mobile in-field fueling, fuel-lube trucks for on-site fueling and preventative maintenance services.

Noise Mitigation Best Management Practices

A noise mitigation plan may be required by the appropriate land management agency. This document shows examples of regulations that may be required during the construction and installation of the WLCP, actual BMPs may vary. This list is not intended to be comprehensive and may include regulations that may not be required.

In an effort to minimize the potential impacts from noise generated by implementation of the Preferred Alternative for the WLCP the following BMPs may be implemented.

- Do not exceed noise levels of 55 decibels at a distance of one-quarter mile from installation activity.
- As directed by the local, state, and federal agencies involved, apply timing restrictions to reduce the impacts of construction, operations, noise, and human presence on raptor nest sites.
- Where technically and economically feasible, mitigate noise impacts by using muffling/suppression devices.
- All vehicles and construction equipment will be properly maintained to minimize exhaust emissions and will be properly muffled to minimize noise.
- Obtain and install muffling equipment on all engines in order to reduce sound levels to reasonable minimums.
- Minimize construction traffic, road use, and travel patterns to keep construction traffic on site to a minimum and reduce noise impacts.
- Impose and enforce speed limits and provide driving guidelines for vehicle operators.
- Do not use horns, bells, or other noise-making devices on vehicles except where required for safety.
- Where noise impacts to existing sensitive receptors are an issue, noise levels will be required to be no greater than 55 decibels measured at a distance of one-quarter mile from the installation.
- When background noise exceeds 55dBA, noise levels from installation activities will be no greater than 5dBA above the background noise.

Noxious Weed Management

A noxious weed management plan for the proposed WLCP may be written by the appropriate land management agency. This document shows examples of regulations that may be required during the construction and installation of the WLCP, actual BMPs may vary. This list is not intended to be comprehensive and may include regulations that may not be appropriate or required for portions of the routes for the WLCP . It is anticipated that the land management agency on which the WLCP is being implemented will provide or agree to noxious weed control efforts for that land.

Regulatory agencies along the Project have varying weed management requirements. Appropriate BMPs would be implemented before, during, and after installation to provide long-term protection of the natural resources affected. The following are examples of possible BMPs often used in dealing with management of noxious weeds within a construction ROW.

- Occurrence of weed infestations within the Project ROW's would be reported to the appropriate agency office closest to where the weeds occur. The appropriate weed control procedures, including target species, timing of control, and method of control, would be determined in coordination with agency personnel. Silver Star would maintain responsibility for providing necessary personnel/contractors to implement required weed control within the project corridor as directed by the appropriate agencies. All herbicide use would be taken care of by the responsible federal agencies for their areas of responsibility according to their own procedures and Silver Star would fund those treatments necessary as a direct result of their disturbance or installation activities within the affected corridor as needed. However, Silver Star would not be responsible for treatment of previously existing infestations.

- Prior to construction, noxious weed infestation areas of concern would be identified and flagged in the field by Silver Star or contractor biologist staff. Areas of concern would include species for which relevant agencies have requested treatment or pre-treatment. The flagging would alert construction personnel to the infestation and prevent significant ground disturbance until noxious weed preventive measures (outlined below) have been implemented. These areas would be treated prior to.

- Prior to construction, Silver Star would provide its contractors with information and training regarding noxious weed management, weed identification, and the impacts of such weeds on agriculture, livestock, and wildlife. The contractors would be informed of the importance of preventing the spread of noxious weeds in areas not infested and of controlling the proliferation of weeds already present.

- Silver Star would implement an employee environmental awareness program (EEAP) before surface disturbance to educate all Project personnel regarding environmental concerns and requirements, including weed identification, prevention, and control methods. No personnel would be allowed to enter the Project ROW before taking part in the EEAP, at any point during the Project. Qualified biological monitors or environmental inspectors approved by the responsible agencies (NPS and USFS) would be used to conduct the EEAP program and on-site biological monitoring before and during construction and during installation.

- Silver Star recognizes that prevention is the most cost-effective approach to noxious weed management. Silver Star would assist federal, state, and local agency noxious weed control efforts; comply with preventative requirements; and implement weed control measures on areas of the Project identified to be of special concern.

- All contractor vehicles and equipment would be cleaned, per land management agency requirements, prior to arrival on the Project ROW.

- The project would develop a 'sticker' program to identify all vehicles and equipment that have successfully been cleared of noxious weeds. Vehicles and equipment without the proper area-specific stickers would be barred from entering new areas until cleaned of noxious weeds.

- Cleaning sites would be recorded using GPS equipment, and would be reported to the local contact person or agency. Wash stations would be located on the ROW or in off-ROW areas selected by the appropriate agency, such as contractor equipment or storage yards. While a number of cleaning stations would be located off-ROW, Silver Star, at the direction of the appropriate agency, may be required to place additional stations near high-infestation areas on the ROW, if necessary.

- Off-ROW areas related to the Project, such as equipment and materials storage yards, would be kept weed-free with regular site assessments and suitable herbicide application. Where the eradication of weeds in these areas may not be achievable, qualified biological monitors or environmental inspectors would ensure that prescribed vehicle cleaning measures are undertaken to prevent the transportation of noxious and invasive weed propagates from these areas onto the ROW.

- Cleaning would be carried out using power or high-pressure equipment to remove seeds, roots, and rhizomes from the equipment before transport off site. Cleaning would concentrate on tracks or tires and on the undercarriage, with special emphasis on axles, frames, cross members, motor mounts, the underside of running boards, and front bumper/brush guard assemblies. If the weather conditions and ROW conditions are dry, compressed air would be used to clean vehicles and equipment. If muddy conditions exist, a mat platform with containment would be set up and the vehicles and equipment would be cleaned with high pressure water

- Vehicle cabs would be swept out and refuse disposed of in waste receptacles. The contractor, with oversight from an environmental inspector, would ensure that vehicles and equipment are free of soil and debris capable of transporting noxious weed seeds, roots, or rhizomes before the vehicles and equipment are allowed use of access roads.

- In areas where infestations were identified in the field, the contractor would stockpile cleared vegetation and salvaged topsoil adjacent to the area from which they were stripped to eliminate the transport of soil-borne noxious weed seeds, roots, or rhizomes. Weed-infested stockpiles would be marked with clearly visible signage until reclamation, when the contractor would return topsoil and vegetative material from infestation sites to the areas from which they were stripped. In addition, the contractor would not be permitted to move soil and vegetative matter outside of the identified and marked noxious weed infestation areas.

- The contractor would ensure that any approved straw bales used for sediment barrier installations or mulch distribution were weed-free and meet agency specifications. If weed free bales were unavailable, alternative weed free sediment barrier installations would be utilized as

long as they meet agency specifications. The contractor would implement the reclamation of disturbed lands immediately following construction. Continuing revegetation efforts would ensure adequate vegetative cover to prevent the invasion of noxious weeds.

- Silver Star would implement noxious weed control measures in accordance with existing regulations of the jurisdictional land management agency or landowner agreements. Silver Star would focus noxious weed management efforts only on areas containing species specifically of concern, per agency discussions.

- Silver Star will work cooperatively with relevant federal, state and local weed control districts to develop the site-specific mitigation. It should be noted that the occurrence of many noxious and/or invasive weed species already exist within the vicinity of the Project and eradication would not be possible unless performed on a scale well beyond the scope of this Project. With this in mind, preventative measures outlined in this document would be implemented for such species, however Silver Star proposes to support no herbicide treatment for broad areas outside of the construction corridor..

- Any herbicide which is needed for use within affected federal lands would be applied at the direction of the agency involved according to their specifications and funded by Silver Star.

- Silver Star would consult with the NPS and Forest Service, and state Department of Agriculture Noxious Weed Control Programs or local County Weed Programs for additional support regarding noxious weed control issues that may occur during the fiber optic installations.

- Silt fencing fabric will be inspected weekly or after every major storm. Accumulated sediments will be removed when the fabric is estimated to be approximately 75% full. Silt removal will be accomplished in such a way as to avoid introduction into any wetlands or flowing water bodies.

- Construction activities will be limited to designated areas when soils are excessively wet to prevent rutting caused by wheeled vehicles. Any rutting will be mitigated by grading and reseeding. Construction will take advantage of previously disturbed areas wherever possible.

- All disturbed slopes will be revegetated with native species. Revegetation efforts will be to reconstruct the natural spacing, abundance, and diversity of native plant species. All disturbed areas will be restored as nearly as possible to pre-construction conditions shortly after installation activities are completed.

- When construction is ended prior to a winter season, all disturbed areas will be protected from snowmelt impacts by using erosion control best management practices and covering dirt piles with impermeable materials.

- Noxious weed control measures will be implemented and a management plan for continual maintenance will be drafted to monitor and mitigate impacts during the first three years following installation.

- The contractors will control dust during construction by minimizing soil exposure and watering or use of other dust prevention methods.

- Best Management Practices will be used during construction to mitigate impacts to resources.

- Treatment methods other than herbicide application, such as mechanical, biological, and enhancement measures, would be considered during the reclamation process to facilitate noxious weed control. Treatment methods would be based on species-specific and area-specific conditions (e.g., proximity to water, riparian areas, or agricultural areas, and time of year) and would be coordinated with the affected agency. Silver Star will continue to coordinate with resource agencies following construction to ensure that appropriate and adequate treatment is implemented. Seeding would be conducted as soon as possible following soil disturbance to re-establish and stabilizing vegetation cover and slow the potential reinvasion of noxious weeds.

- Seed selection would be based on site-specific conditions and the appropriate seed mix identified for those conditions and approved in advance by the respective land management agencies involved. Seed mixtures will be compiled based on the ecotones being crossed by the ROW and on the success of similar projects in similar habitats, along with recommendations provided by relevant agencies (primarily NPS, NRCS and USFS). Silver Star would obtain approval for all seed mixes and sources from the appropriate agencies before use.

- Reclamation work, performed in advance of dormant seeding, would follow the progress of construction. Of significant importance to weed control is the need to re-seed areas as soon as possible following site disturbance. Planting would be done at the appropriate time of year, considering weather conditions and construction timing. Planting methods would be developed based on site-specific factors such as slope, erosion potential, and size of the area in need of revegetation.

- Re-seeding, including mulching or hydro-seeding would be conducted on disturbed sites where installation is complete or that will remain un-worked for 30 days. Final seedbed preparation, as required, and seeding and planting would be completed by September or October of the construction period to coincide with the optimal periods for dormant seeding for the identified seed mixtures. Seed mixes would be planned according to standards and specifications provided by the NPS, NRCS, or the Forest Service for each respective area and are based on the existing vegetation makeup of the range and successful seeding along similar projects.

Best Management Practices for Working in Black and Grizzly Bear Habitat

The following list of Best Management Practices (BMPs) is to be supplemented by instructional services conducted for the benefit of those working on the WLCP prior to beginning work on the installation of the conduit and fiber optic lines. These BMPs are not intended to take the place of any of the regulations, laws and recommendations of the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service or the Wyoming Department of Game and Fish. The objective of these BMPs are to avoid human/bear contact which could lead to injury or death (human or bear).

Black and Grizzly Bear BMPs for the WLCP Project include:

- Ensure that all administrative and supervisory personnel are thoroughly briefed on regulations, rules, and laws regarding wildlife policies in GTNP and National Forest System lands and those advocated by the Wyoming Department of Game and Fish.
- No pets are allowed at any time at any of the job sites, including staging areas. Pets can lead or attract bears to humans which increase the chances for adverse and lethal situations for both bears and humans.
- No food will be stored at any of the job sites, including staging areas, unless it is secured in a bear–proof canister, inside of a secure metal building, or totally without question unavailable to bears.
- No cooking at staging areas or on any other portion of either segment will be allowed. This includes BBQ grills, propane burners and other cooking devices.
- All leftovers from meals or foods consumed at the job sites will be either taken away from the sites at the end of each day (preferred) or disposed of only in bear-proof, approved garbage canisters, bins, or cans. This is absolutely mandatory so that bears cannot have any access to human food.
- All personnel working on the WLCP in the field will be instructed in the proper use of bear spray and be required to carry it whenever they are working in the field in areas considered bear habitat. Realizing that bear spray is an effective deterrent under some conditions but is not a repellent. This does not include working in the urban settings such as the Town of Jackson but nearly all other portions of either segment in rural settings are considered bear habitat particularly the areas from Wilson over Teton Pass to the Wyoming/Idaho and from Airport Road/US 89 junction to Togwotee Pass.
- An approved bear-proof garbage bin will be placed at each staging area during the duration of construction for the WLCP. Use of this bin for the disposal of all edible material will be mandatory for all personnel associated with the WLCP unless the edible garbage is transported out of the project area and properly disposed of elsewhere.
- If a bear is encountered during the course of working on the fiber optic line, personnel will not approach the bear and will maintain a distance of at least 300 feet, allowing the bear to sense the presence of people and to withdraw from the work site.
- If a bear, particularly a grizzly bear, does not withdraw or approaches the equipment or personnel working on the WLCP; personnel are required to withdraw to their vehicles and allow the bear to leave. In no case will WLCP personnel approach bears encountered along the routes. If the bear persists, the supervisor will contact the appropriate enforcement personnel.