**NEPA HOTSHEET**  
August 2018  
BLM Wyoming Land Use Plans and Proposed Projects

**Resource Management Plans (RMP)**  
*RMP planning areas include all lands, regardless of jurisdiction; however, the BLM will only make decisions on lands that fall under the BLM’s jurisdiction.*

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the Rocky Mountain Region, signed Sept. 21, 2015, finalized RMPs for the Buffalo, Cody, and Worland field offices, respectively, and approved the Wyoming Greater Sage-Grouse RMP Amendments. The Lander Field Office RMP was signed on June 26, 2014. Implementation efforts for these RMPs and RMP amendments are currently underway. For more information, please see the project websites below, or visit BLM Wyoming’s Planning and NEPA website at: [https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/plans-in-development/wyoming](https://www.blm.gov/programs/planning-and-nepa/plans-in-development/wyoming).

- **Buffalo RMP:** [http://go.usa.gov/x9PT8](http://go.usa.gov/x9PT8)  
- **Cody and Worland RMPs:** [https://go.usa.gov/xQw4u](https://go.usa.gov/xQw4u)  
- **Wyoming GRSG RMP Amendments:** [https://go.usa.gov/xQvFR](https://go.usa.gov/xQvFR)  
- **Lander RMP:** [https://go.usa.gov/xQvyq](https://go.usa.gov/xQvyq)

1. **Wyoming Greater Sage-Grouse RMP Amendment EIS:** The Wyoming State Office is preparing an RMP Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to consider amendments to ten BLM RMPs in Wyoming regarding Greater Sage-Grouse management. The EIS analyzes two alternatives for managing sage grouse habitat on approximately 18 million acres of BLM-administered surface estate and 40 million acres of federal mineral estate. The No Action Alternative would continue management under the current RMPs, as amended or revised in 2014 and 2015. The Management Plan Alignment Alternative was derived through coordination with the State and cooperating agencies to align with the State of Wyoming’s Core Area Strategy. Major planning issues addressed include Sagebrush Focal Area designations, habitat boundary designations, habitat objectives, compensatory mitigation standards, livestock grazing, and adaptive management process.
   - **NOI Issued:** Oct. 11, 2017  
   - **DEIS Published:** May 4, 2018  
   - **Estimated Publication of the Proposed RMPA/FEIS:** October 2018  
   - **Estimated Publication of the ROD:** December 2018  
   - **Contact:** Jennifer Fleuret, NEPA Coordinator, Wyoming State Office, (307) 775-6329, [https://goo.gl/22jKE2](https://goo.gl/22jKE2)

2. **Rock Springs RMP Revision EIS:** The planning area includes lands within the Rock Springs Field Office administrative boundary in Sweetwater, Lincoln, Uinta, Sublette, and Fremont counties in southwestern Wyoming. The decision area consists of 3.5 million acres of BLM-administered surface and 3.6 million acres of federal mineral estate. The revised RMP will replace the 1997 Green River RMP. Main issues include energy and mineral development, rangeland health, vegetation and habitat management, wild horse and burro management, cultural resources management, lands and realty management, and management of recreational uses of the BLM-administered surface. A Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Plan for the entire field office, as well as an additional socioeconomic modeling effort coordinated with cooperating agencies are being incorporated into the RMP Revision. In April 2013, the Department of the Interior, the BLM and the Rock Springs Grazing Association signed a consent decree requiring the BLM to initiate NEPA analysis to consider the environmental effects of modifying management levels of wild horses in specified herd management areas. An NOI was issued, initiating public scoping to amend the 2008 Rawlins RMP in conjunction with the Rock Springs
RMP revision. Work on the RMP resumed in February 2015 following a twelve month hold to allow the Wyoming Sage-Grouse RMP Amendments to get ahead of the revision effort.

**NOI Issued:** Feb. 1, 2011

**Estimated Publication of Draft RMP/Draft EIS:** Fourth Quarter 2018

**Estimated Publication of Proposed RMP/Final EIS:** Second Quarter 2019

**Estimated Publication of ROD:** Third Quarter 2019

**Contact:** Terri Denali, RMP Project Manager, Rock Springs Field Office, (307) 352-0399

https://go.usa.gov/xQw2Z

3. **Rawlins Visual Resource Management (VRM) Targeted RMP Amendment EA:** The VRM Class decisions in the Rawlins RMP were remanded following protest resolution on the 2008 Rawlins Proposed RMP/Final EIS. BLM is amending the Rawlins RMP to incorporate new VRM class decisions based on a new visual resource quality inventory completed in 2010. The Rawlins planning area includes approximately 3.5 million acres of public land surface and 4.5 million acres of federal mineral estate in Laramie, Albany, Carbon and eastern Sweetwater counties. The decision area for the Chokecherry Sierra Madre Wind Energy Development Project VRM planning review (742,000 acres) is excluded from the Rawlins RMP planning review as it was previously analyzed.

**NOI Issued:** April 11, 2012

**NOA Issued for Draft Amendment/EA:** August 2013

**Publication of EA and unsigned FONSI:** December 12, 2017

**Estimated Publication of Decision Record (DR):** Fall 2018

**Contact:** Jennifer Fleuret, NEPA Coordinator, Wyoming State Office, (307) 775-6329

https://go.usa.gov/xQw22

4. **Rawlins RMP Amendment EA:** The Rawlins Field Office has issued an NOI for an amendment to the Rawlins RMP. The EA amendment would remove an estimated 12,425 acres from future oil and gas leasing. These acres are located on federal mineral estate adjacent to the water sources for the municipalities of Rawlins, Saratoga, and Laramie, Wyoming.

**NOI Issued:** July 21, 2014

**Contact:** Annette Treat, IDT Lead, Rawlins Field Office, (307) 328-4314

https://go.usa.gov/xQw2v

**Oil and Gas Development Projects**

1. **Normally-Pressured Lance (NPL) Natural Gas Development Project EIS:** The NPL project is located immediately south and west of the existing Jonah Gas Field within the BLM Pinedale and Rock Springs field offices in Sublette County, Wyoming, about 68 miles northwest of Rock Springs. The project encompasses 141,080 acres, 93 percent of which is BLM-administered land. Jonah Energy LLC is proposing up to 3,500 directionally-drilled wells over a period of 10 years. Most wells would be co-located on a single pad with up to 64 wells on a single pad and no more than 4 well pads being constructed per 640 acres. On average, each well pad would be 18 acres in size. Associated access roads, pipelines, compressor stations and other facilities would be co-located where possible to further minimize surface disturbance. Jonah Energy would use no more than 10 natural gas drilling rigs on average to develop its interest.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI published on April 12, 2011. The DEIS published on July 7, 2017, with the public comment period closing August 21. The FEIS was published on June 22, 2018, for a 30-day public availability period. A ROD is expected in August 2018.

**Contacts:** Kellie Roadifer, Project Manager, Pinedale Field Office, (307) 367-5309

Mark Snyder, Point of Contact, Rock Springs Field Office, (307) 352-0329

http://tinyurl.com/houlms
2. Converse County Oil and Gas Project EIS: The Casper Field Office received a proposal from a group of companies to develop up to 5,000 new oil or gas wells on 1,500 well pads in northern Converse County, Wyoming. The project area encompasses roughly 1.5 million acres of split estate mixed surface ownership lands. The operators propose to develop the wells over 10 years, with the life of the project anticipated to be 20 to 30 years. The project includes all or parts of three different Sage-Grouse Core Areas.


**Contact:** Mike Robinson, Project Manager, Casper Field Office, (307) 261-7520
https://go.usa.gov/xnRAN

3. Moneta Divide Natural Gas and Oil Development Project EIS: Aethon Energy and Burlington Resources Oil and Gas Company LP have proposed to develop up to 4,250 natural gas and oil wells and associated infrastructure within the proposed Moneta Divide Project area. The project area is located in Fremont and Natrona counties and encompasses approximately 265,000 acres of land. The life of the proposed project is estimated to be 40 years. Additional potential development, which would require additional NEPA analysis, include pipelines to transport treated, produced water from the production areas west to Boysen Reservoir and a pipeline transporting natural gas from the production areas to Wamsutter, Wyoming, in the Rawlins Field Office. The untreated and/or by-product brine from treated produced water may be transported via pipelines to two underground disposal areas. The EIS also analyzes amendments to the Casper RMP.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI published on Jan. 17, 2013. The DEIS is scheduled for release in mid-2018.

**Contact:** Kristin Yannone, Project Manager, Lander Field Office, (307) 332-8448
https://go.usa.gov/xQwT3

4. Riley Ridge to Natrona (RRNP) EIS: The project consists of a 243-mile pipeline through Fremont, Sublette, Sweetwater and Natrona counties. The project was applied for under two separate ROW applications: the Riley Ridge Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Pipeline and the Bairoil-to-Natrona CO2 Pipeline. The Riley Ridge segment would include 31 miles of 16-inch pipeline transporting non-gaseous hydrogen sulfide (H2S) and CO2 from the existing Riley Ridge Treating Plant 18 miles southwest of Big Piney to a proposed sweetening plant 12 miles northeast of LaBarge. At the proposed sweetening plant, H2S would be separated from the H2S and CO2 stream and injected into a deep geological formation via two proposed H2S injection wells. From the sweetening plant, a 24-inch pipeline would transport the remaining CO2 129 miles through Sublette and Sweetwater counties to the Bairoil (Exxon) Interconnect 50 miles northwest of Rawlins. The Bairoil-to-Natrona segment would include 83 miles of 24-inch pipeline transporting CO2 from the Bairoil Interconnect through Fremont and Natrona counties to the existing Greencore Pipeline where the project ends at the Natrona Hub 30 miles west of Casper. The CO2 would eventually be used for enhanced oil recovery in the Bell Creek Unit oil field in southeastern Montana.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI was published on June 9, 2014. The DEIS published March 23, 2018, with the public comment period closing on May 7.

**Contact:** Mark Mackiewicz, National Project Manager, Washington Office, (435) 636-3616
https://go.usa.gov/xQwTg

5. Greater Crossbow Oil and Gas Project EIS: The Buffalo Field Office received a proposal from EOG Resources to develop up to 1,500 new oil and gas wells in Campbell and Converse counties in eastern Wyoming. The project area encompasses roughly 120,000 acres of split estate mixed surface ownership lands within the Buffalo and Casper field offices and the USFS Douglas Ranger District. There are no BLM-administered lands within the project area; however, approximately 64 percent of the mineral estate is managed by the BLM. Surface lands managed by the Forest Service and the State of Wyoming make up
roughly 13,000 acres of the area. EOG proposes developing the wells over 10 years, with the life of the project anticipated to be 20 to 30 years. The project is not within sage grouse core priority habitat.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI was published on Oct. 26, 2015. Cooperating agency and public scoping meetings were held in December 2015. Alternatives were developed with the cooperating agencies in May 2016. BLM finalized the alternatives following a public meeting in September 2016. The EIS was formally suspended in March 2018 at EOG’s request.

**Contact:** Tom Bills, Project Manager, Buffalo Field Office, (307) 684-1133
[https://go.usa.gov/xQwW2](https://go.usa.gov/xQwW2)

6. **Bird Canyon Field Infill Project EIS:** Koch Exploration and Memorial Resource Development propose to drill additional oil and gas wells in the Bird Canyon Field to facilitate product extraction and to maximize the economic recovery of the resource. The Bird Canyon Field encompasses 17,612 acres of BLM-administered surface lands in Sublette and Lincoln counties in southwestern Wyoming. The operators have proposed to drill 348 new gas wells in the project area over 10-20 years. The proposal is entirely within the marginal non-attainment area for ozone.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI to prepare an EIS was published on May 9, 2014. Public scoping meetings were held in Rock Springs and Marbleton, Wyoming, on May 29-30, 2014, and the scoping period ended on June 16, 2014. Eleven individuals and organizations commented on the project. The project is currently on hold due to current commodity market prices.

**Contact:** Brandon Teppo, IDT Lead, Rock Springs Field Office, (307) 352-0318

7. **Blacks Fork EIS (Formerly Moxa Arch Area Infill):** The Blacks Fork project area is located within the Moxa Arch gas field in southwestern Wyoming and is comprised of 633,532 acres of mixed federal, state, and private lands in Sweetwater, Uinta, and Lincoln counties. The Kemmerer Field Office received a proposal submitted by the operators in the Moxa Arch gas field to infill drill additional natural gas wells that would facilitate gas extraction, maximize the economic recovery of the resource, and extend the production life of the field. The operators estimate that approximately 7,500 hydrocarbon wells on 1,000 well pads would be drilled over 20 years.

**NEPA Status:** The original NOI was published on Oct. 7, 2005. In December 2013, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation acquired the project from the previous operator. In June 2014, Anadarko provided preliminary information for changes to the Moxa Arch Area Infill Project, including changing the project name to the Blacks Fork Hydrocarbon Development Project, increasing the total acreage, and revising the number of proposed wells. A new plan of development was submitted to BLM on Oct. 10, 2014. The project is currently on hold by the proponent due to commodity market prices.

**Contact:** Travis Chewning, IDT Lead, Kemmerer Field Office, (307) 828-4518

8. **Hiawatha Field Project EIS:** HRM Resources, along with Dominion Energy, propose to drill up to 279 exploratory and developmental wells in southern Sweetwater County, Wyoming. The proponents plan to drill new vertical, directional and horizontal natural gas wells, many of which would be within the boundaries of the existing Hiawatha, Canyon Creek, and Trail units. The project area is located roughly 55 miles south of Rock Springs.

**NEPA Status:** An NOI was published on Sept. 6, 2006. The project is currently being re-evaluated due to substantial changes proposed by the operators.

**Contact:** Ted Inman, SNRS, IDT Lead, Rock Springs Field Office, (307) 352-0388

9. **North Dutch John Unit #1 EA:** Azalea Oil Company proposes to drill a single exploratory well in the North Dutch John Unit in southwestern Wyoming. The proposed well pad is located on Iron Mountain, approximately 17 miles north of the town of Dutch John, Utah, and 6 miles east of the Flaming Gorge Reservoir. Total project disturbance is anticipated to be approximately 10.4 acres. The project is within a Class III visual resource management area and contains elk and mule deer crucial winter range.
10. Desolation Road EA: Mustang Resources proposes to drill up to 17 wells on up to five well pads in the Desolation Road Unit in southwestern Wyoming. The proposed well pads are located within 2 miles of the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area, with the closest well pad located about 0.25 miles from the WSA boundary. Total project disturbance area is anticipated to be approximately 117 acres. The project is within a Class II visual resource management area and contains pronghorn antelope crucial winter range as well as potential habitat for raptors and mountain plover.

NEPA Status: Scoping was reinitiated in October 2014 due to a significant change in the proposed project. Nineteen individuals/organizations provided comments on the proposed project. Alternatives for the project were developed in January 2015. In July 2015, Samson Resources sold the Desolation Road Unit to Mustang Resources. In November 2017, Mustang Resources sold the unit to Southland Royalties. The EA is currently on hold as the new operator determines the path forward for the project.

Contact: Brandon Teppo, IDT Lead, Rock Springs Field Office, (307) 352-0318

11. Upcoming Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sales (Online sales held at www.energynet.com)
Oil and Gas lease sales are dynamic; individual EA’s are listed on the website: https://go.usa.gov/xn9Cw

Solid Mineral Projects

1. Lost Creek Uranium In-Situ Recovery (ISR) Project Modifications EIS: Lost Creek ISR LLC, a subsidiary of Ur-Energy USA Inc., requested to modify their Lost Creek Uranium ISR Project Plan of Operations, which was approved Oct. 5, 2012. The proposed mining expansion consists of two submittals. The Lost Creek East modification would expand operations outward and would add a new project area totaling approximately 5,750 acres to the existing Lost Creek Project area of approximately 4,254 acres, resulting in approximately 241 acres of new surface disturbance. The KM Horizon modification (to expand operations deeper) would allow in-situ mining of uranium from the deeper KM Horizon while increasing the extent of mining in the existing HJ horizon within the approved project area, and add approximately 78 acres of additional surface disturbance. The BLM and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) are preparing a joint EIS, with the BLM being the lead agency.

NEPA Status: The NOI was published on Sept. 14, 2015. The DEIS is anticipated for release in late-summer 2018.

Contact: Annette Treat, Project Coordinator, Rawlins Field Office, (307) 328-4314
https://go.usa.gov/xQwbS

2. West Antelope 3 Coal Lease by Application EIS: Antelope Mine LLC submitted an application to lease a tract of federal coal on Aug. 24, 2015, for approximately 441 million tons of in-place federal coal.

NEPA Status: The NOI published on July 28, 2017, with the scoping period ending on September 26. Baseline Data Reports as per the Powder River Basin Data Adequacy Standards (DAS) are being generated and reviewed by resource specialists for use in preparing the EIS.

Contact: Teresa Johnson, Project Manager, High Plains District Office, (307) 261-7510
https://go.usa.gov/xQwjc

Water Development Projects

1. Alkali Creek Reservoir Project EIS: The Wyoming Water Development Commission (WWDC) proposes to construct a 294-acre reservoir on Alkali Creek and ancillary facilities across public and private land near Hyattville, Wyoming. The reservoir would impound approximately 7,994 acre-feet of water under normal conditions, and 9,872 acre-feet when under flood conditions. The reservoir would provide late-season irrigation water for portions of the Nowood River Watershed. The irrigation pool
(currently modeled at 5,996 acre-feet) would be available either directly or through exchange for irrigation water.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI published on Oct. 11, 2017, and the public comment period ended on November 13. A DEIS is expected in late-summer 2018.

**Contact:** Holly Elliot, Project Manager, Wind River/Bighorn Basin District, (307) 347-5193

[https://go.usa.gov/xUsam](https://go.usa.gov/xUsam)

2. **Leavitt Reservoir Expansion Project EIS:** The WWDC proposes to expand the existing Leavitt Reservoir near Shell, Wyoming, from a pool of 643 acre-feet to 6,404 acre-feet. As proposed, a new 1,800-foot earthen dam will result in a reservoir surface of 193 acres. The purpose of the project is to provide late season irrigation for agriculture in the Shell Valley.

**NEPA Status:** The NOI published Sept. 29, 2017. A DEIS is expected in late-summer 2018.

**Contact:** Holly Elliot, Project Manager, Wind River/Bighorn Basin District, (307) 347-5193

[https://go.usa.gov/xQwjg](https://go.usa.gov/xQwjg)