U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Little Snake Field Office 455 Emerson St. Craig, Colorado 81625

DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2013-0032-DNA

PROJECT NAME: August 2013 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Please see Attachments A, B, and C and Map 1 Below.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

- Human Environment
- Reduction of Property Value
- Ground Water
- Traffic
- Visual Impacts
- Wildlife & Vegetation

<u>DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION</u>: The proposed action is to lease, for potential oil and gas exploration and production, approximately 2125.44 acres of federal mineral estate within the Little Snake Field Office area. The US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and private landowners manage the surface estate. The mineral estate in the proposed project area is administered by the BLM. Three (3) parcels of varying sizes are proposed to be included in the upcoming August 2013 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. All of the acreage in the proposed project area is in Moffat County, Colorado. The legal descriptions and applicable land use stipulations are identified in <u>Attachment A</u>.

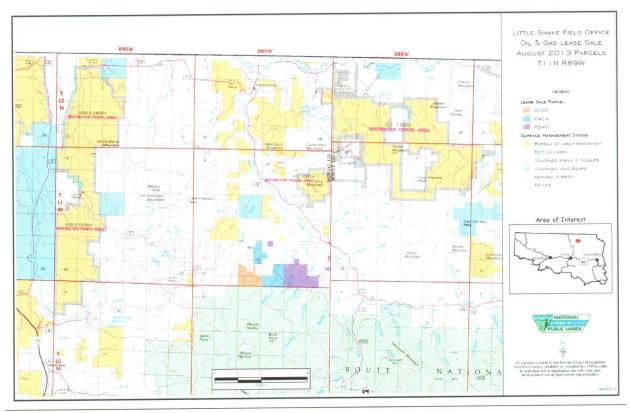
<u>Attachment A</u> of this document lists all previous parcels proposed for lease. <u>Attachment B</u> parcels are those deferred or with deferred portions and <u>Attachment C</u> are those parcels included in this analysis to be proposed for lease with applied stipulations. Definitions of applied stipulations can be found in <u>Attachment D</u> and maps of the parcels are found in <u>Attachment E</u>.

There are three parcels included in the proposed action. Fifty-six (56) others were included in the February 2013 environmental assessment ((EA) DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2012-0049 EA). Prior to the release of the decision record (DR), these three parcels were deferred from leasing pending further review and analysis. As part of the Little Snake Field Office (LSFO) review, the parcels were reviewed to make sure the appropriate stipulations would be attached at the time of the lease sale.

If the parcels are not leased at the upcoming August 2013 sale they would remain available to be leased for a period of up to two years to any qualified lessee at the minimum bid cost. Parcels obtained in this way may be re-parceled by combining or deleting other previously offered lands.

Mineral estate that does not get leased after an initial offering, and is not leased within a two year period, must go through a competitive lease sale process again prior to being leased.

The act of leasing does not authorize any development or use of the surface of lease lands without further application and approval by the BLM. After a parcel is successfully leased, the BLM may receive an Application for Permit to Drill (APD). If and when APDs are received, additional site-specific NEPA analysis would be completed.



Map 1

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was reviewed for conformance (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) with the following plan:

Name of Plan: Little Snake Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (LSFO ROD/RMP [October 2011]).

Date Approved: October 2011

<u>Decision Language</u>: The Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP goals, objectives, and management decisions:

Goal A (Oil and Gas) - Allow for the availability of the federal oil and gas estate (including coalbed natural gas) for exploration and development. Objectives for achieving these goals include:

- Identify and make available the federal oil and gas estate (including coalbed natural gas) for exploration and development.
- Facilitate reasonable, economical, and environmentally sound exploration and development of oil and gas resources (including coalbed natural gas).
- Promote the use of BMPs, including implementation of sound reclamation standards.

Section/Page: Section 2.13 Energy and Minerals/ page RMP-36

Other related documents that cover the proposed action:

Name of Plan: Colorado Oil and Gas Leasing & Development Final EIS Plan Amendment

Date Approved: October 1991

Section/Page: Record of Decision for the Oil and Gas Plan Amendment to the Little Snake Resource Management Plan/EIS, Chapter 2/ page 11

REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

Name of Document: February 2013 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2012-0049-EA

Date Approved: 02/13/13

NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA:

1. Is the new Proposed Action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Yes, the proposed lease parcels are within the area analyzed by the RMP. That action was to make federal oil and gas resources available for leasing with standard stipulations or, where necessary add special stipulations including no surface occupancy, avoidance, or timing restrictions.

These parcels were analyzed in DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2012-0049-EA for the February 2013 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. The parcels were deferred pending further review, but were later identified as suitable for leasing.

According to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, site-specific NEPA analysis is not possible absent concrete proposals. Filing of an Application for Permit to Drill is the first useful point at which a site-specific environmental appraisal can be undertaken (Park County Resource Council, Inc. v. U.S. Department of Agriculture, 10th Cir., April 17, 1987). In addition, the Interior Board of Land Appeals has decided that, the BLM is not required to undertake a site-specific environmental review before issuing an oil and gas lease when it previously analyzed the environmental consequences of leasing the land (Colorado Environmental Coalition Et AL., IBLA 96-243, decided June 10, 1999).

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document appropriate with respect to the new Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Three alternatives were analyzed in EA # DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2012-0049-EA. No issues were identified that would trigger analysis of additional alternatives and these alternatives are considered to be adequate and valid for the Proposed Action. The alternatives analyzed in the EA included leasing of all nominated parcels (Alternative 1), leasing portions of parcels with attached stipulations and deferral of parcels (Alternative 2), and the No Action alternative (Alternative 3) lease none of the nominated mineral estate. They provided a broad range of alternatives, which in our judgment adequately address current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new Proposed Action?

The areas included in the Proposed Action were analyzed for lands with wilderness characteristics per the guidance found in WO-IM 2011-154, Requirement to Conduct and Maintain Inventory Information for Wilderness Characteristics and to Consider Lands with Wilderness Characteristics in Land Use Plans. Based on this analysis, no areas included in the Proposed Action are subject to WO-IM 2011-154. All areas included in the Proposed Action are on split estate in which the BLM does not control the surface. GIS analysis for the areas where the BLM controls the surface demonstrates that no leases are in areas that meet the minimum size requirements for an inventory finding of the presence of characteristics. Size requirements are based on whether parcels are within roadless areas greater than 5,000 acres or are directly adjacent to designated wilderness or WSAs.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new Proposed Action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Yes, the cumulative impacts are well within the parameters addressed in the LSFO ROD/RMP (October 2011) on page 4-224 to 4-248. To date, the amount of surface disturbance on public land has been less than predicted and when added to past present and reasonably foreseeable actions of the BLM and others, the impact analysis remains accurate. In addition, the cumulative impacts to these 3 parcels were addressed in DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2012-0049-EA

Implementing the proposed action would not substantially change the cumulative impact analysis from either document.

5. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents adequate for the current Proposed Action?

Yes. Full public review occurred during the RMP/EIS process. Additionally, the parcels being offered in the August Lease Sale were analyzed in DOI-BLM-CO-N010-2012-0049EA for the February 2013 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. There was a two week public scoping period of nominated lease parcels including preliminary recommendations and stipulations from June 13 to June 27, 2012. Stipulation summaries, GIS shapefiles, and maps were posted on the BLM Colorado State Office website:

http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Programs/oilandgas/oil_and_gas_lease/2013/february_2013_lease_sale.html.

This allowed the public an opportunity to provide comments, which were then analyzed and incorporated into the environmental analysis as appropriate. Letters were also mailed to affected private land surface owners whose land overlies federal minerals proposed for leasing.

In addition, a notice of the competitive lease sale is posted in the public room approximately ninety (90) days prior to the sale or on the BLM web site, www.co.blm.gov/oilandgas/leasinfo.html. It is also available through the mail for a fee to those that request it and make arrangements to pay the fee.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the Little Snake Field Office interdisciplinary team on 04/08/13. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the Little Snake Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Title	Resource Represented	Date	
Ecologist	Air Quality, Floodplains, Prime/Unique	04/08/13	
Leologist	Farmlands, Surface Water Quality		
Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American	04/10/13	
5	Concerns		
Land Law Examiner	Legal Verification	04/18/13	
Outdoor Recreation	WSA, W&S Rivers, ACECs, Lands with	04/16/13	
Specialist	Wilderness Characteristics		
Rangeland	Sensitive Plants, T&E Plant	04/15/13	
Management Specialist			
Wildlife Biologist	T&E Animal	04/10/13	

NAME OF PREPARER: Shawn Wiser

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Kathy McKinstry

CONCLUSION

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the Proposed Action and constitute the BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Conny & aslee

Division of Energy, Lands, and Minerals

august 7, 2013

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A, B, C, D and E

Note: The signed Conclusion in this DNA Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulation

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LITTLE SNAKE FIELD OFFICE

Parcels Proposed for Lease August 2013 Oil and Gas Lease Sale DOI-BLM-CON010-2013-0032-DNA Attachment A

Attachment A DNA Parcels Proposed for Lease August 2013 - Colorado Competitive Oil & Gas Lease Sale

The Colorado State Office is offering competitively **3 parcels** containing **2125.44 acres** of Federal mineral estate in the State of Colorado for oil and gas leasing.

THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS ARE SUBJECT TO FILINGS IN THE MANNER SPECIFIED IN THE APPLICABLE PORTIONS OF THE REGULATIONS IN 43 CFR, SUBPART 3120.

PARCEL ID: 6386 SERIAL #:

PM: 6 T: 0110N R: 0890W Section 33: Lot 2,5,7-9,12,14-21;

Moffat County Colorado 476.220 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-28 to protect riparian/wetland vegetation

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-39 to protect cultural resources

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-103: Raptor nesting and fledgling habitat (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 33: Lot 14,15,20,21;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-104: Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Crucial Winter Habitat Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 33: Lot 2,5,7-9,12;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-106: Raptor Nest Sites (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) NSO:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 33: Lot 14,15,20,21;

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-111: Slopes Greater than 35 percent.

PVT/BLM; CON: LSFO

PARCEL ID: 6424 SERIAL #:

PM: 6 T: 0110N R: 0890W

Section 27: Lot 16;

Section 28: Lot 1,10,11,13-15,28,29;

Section 34: Lot 1,2,7-16;

Moffat County

Colorado 741.350 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-28 to protect riparian/wetland vegetation

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-39 to protect cultural resources

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-105: Perennial Water Sources NSO.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-106: Raptor Nest Sites (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) NSO:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 34: Lot 11,12,13,14;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-103: Raptor nesting and fledgling habitat (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 34: Lot 11,12,13,14;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-104: Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Crucial Winter Habitat Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM

Sec. 27: Lot 16;

Sec. 28: Lot 1,10,11,13-15,28,29;

Sec. 34: Lot 1,2,7,8;

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-117: Greater Sandhill Crane Nesting and Staging Habitat Timing Limitation.

PVT/BLM; CON: LSFO

PARCEL ID: 6548 SERIAL #:

PM: 6 T: 0110N R: 0890W

Section 25: Lot 1,17,32;

Section 26: Lot 19,21,27,28;

Section 27: Lot 5:

Section 35: Lot 1-16;

Section 36: Lot 2,15-18;

Moffat County

Colorado 907.870 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-26 to protect fragile soils

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-28 to protect riparian/wetland vegetation

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-39 to protect cultural resources

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-104: Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Crucial Winter Habitat Timing Limitation.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-105: Perennial Water Sources NSO:

All lands are subject Exhibit LS-110: Fragile Soils.

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-111: Slopes Greater than 35 percent.

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-117: Greater Sandhill Crane Nesting and Staging Habitat Timing Limitation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LITTLE SNAKE FIELD OFFICE

Parcels Proposed for Deferral August 2013 Oil and Gas Lease Sale DOI-BLM-CON010-2013-0032-DNA Attachment B

Attachment B DNA Parcels Proposed for Deferral August 2013 - Colorado Competitive Oil & Gas Lease Sale

No parcels were recommended for deferral.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LITTLE SNAKE FIELD OFFICE

Parcels Available for Lease with Applied Stipulations August 2013 Oil and Gas Lease Sale DOI-BLM-CON010-2013-0032-DNA Attachment C

Attachment C

Parcels Available for Lease with Applied Stipulations August 2013 - Colorado Competitive Oil & Gas Lease Sale

The Colorado State Office is offering competitively **3 parcels** containing **2,125.44 acres** of Federal mineral estate in the State of Colorado for oil and gas leasing.

THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC DOMAIN LANDS ARE SUBJECT TO FILINGS IN THE MANNER SPECIFIED IN THE APPLICABLE PORTIONS OF THE REGULATIONS IN 43 CFR, SUBPART 3120.

PARCEL ID: 6386 SERIAL #:

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Moffat County Colorado 476.220 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-28 to protect riparian/wetland vegetation

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-39 to protect cultural resources

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-103: Raptor nesting and fledgling habitat (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 33: Lot 14,15,20,21;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-104: Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Crucial Winter Habitat Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 33: Lot 2,5,7-9,12;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-106: Raptor Nest Sites (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) NSO:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 33: Lot 14,15,20,21;

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-111: Slopes Greater than 35 percent.

PVT/BLM; CON: LSFO

PARCEL ID: 6424 SERIAL #:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM

Section 27: Lot 16;

Section 28: Lot 1,10,11,13-15,28,29;

Section 34: Lot 1,2,7-16;

Moffat County

Colorado 741.350 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-28 to protect riparian/wetland vegetation

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-39 to protect cultural resources

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-105: Perennial Water Sources NSO.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-106: Raptor Nest Sites (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) NSO:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 34: Lot 11.12.13.14;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-103: Raptor nesting and fledgling habitat (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons [except the kestrel], buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Sec. 34: Lot 11,12,13,14;

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-104: Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Crucial Winter Habitat Timing Limitation:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM

Sec. 27: Lot 16:

Sec. 28: Lot 1,10,11,13-15,28,29;

Sec. 34: Lot 1,2,7,8;

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-117: Greater Sandhill Crane Nesting and Staging Habitat Timing Limitation.

PVT/BLM; CON: LSFO

PARCEL ID: 6548 SERIAL #:

T. 0110N., R 0890W., 6TH PM Section 25: Lot 1,17,32;

Section 26: Lot 19,21,27,28;

Section 27: Lot 5:

Section 35: Lot 1-16;

Section 36: Lot 2,15-18;

Moffat County

Colorado 907.870 Acres

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-28 to protect riparian/wetland vegetation

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-34 to alert lessee of potential habitat for a threatened, endangered, candidate, or other special status plant or animal

All lands are subject to Exhibit CO-39 to protect cultural resources

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-104: Columbian Sharp-Tailed Grouse Crucial Winter Habitat Timing Limitation.

The following lands are subject to Exhibit LS-105: Perennial Water Sources NSO:

All lands are subject Exhibit LS-110: Fragile Soils.

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-111: Slopes Greater than 35 percent.

All lands are subject to Exhibit LS-117: Greater Sandhill Crane Nesting and Staging Habitat Timing Limitation.

PVT/BLM; CON: LSFO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LITTLE SNAKE FIELD OFFICE

Exhibits
August 2013 Oil and Gas Lease Sale
DOI-BLM-CON010-2013-0032-DNA
Attachment D

Lease Number:

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION

No surface occupancy or use is allowed on the lands described below (legal description or other description):

For the purpose of:

Protection of surface and longwall coal mines where oil and gas development is incompatible with planned coal extraction.

Changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

Exception Criteria:

This stipulation may be waived if the lessee agrees that any well approved for drilling will be plugged below the coal when the crest of the highwall or longwall approaches within 500 feet of the well. A suspension of operations and production will be considered for the lease only when a well is drilled and then plugged, and a new well or reentry is planned when the mine moves through the location.

Lease Number:

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE STIPULATION

Surface Occupancy or use is subject to the following special operating constraints:

Operations proposed within the area of an approved surface or underground coal mine will be relocated outside the area to be mined or to accommodate room and pillar mining operations.

On the lands described below:

For the purpose of:

To protect surface or underground coal mines

Exception Criteria:

This stipulation may be waived without a plan amendment if the lessee agrees that the drilling of a well will be subject to the following conditions: (1)(a) well must be plugged when the mine approaches within 500 feet of the well and reentered or redrilled upon completion of the mining operation; (b) well must be plugged in accordance with Mine Safety and Health Administration (formerly Mine Enforcement and Safety Administration) Informational Report 1052; (c) operator will provide accurate location of where the casing intercepts the coal by providing a directional and deviation survey of the well to the coal operator; or (2) relocate well into a permanent pillar or outside the area to be mined. A suspension of operations and production will be considered when the well is plugged, and a new well is to be drilled after mining operations move through the location.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820).

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CONTROLLED SURFACE USE STIPULATION

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following special operating constraints.

On the lands described below:

For the purpose of:

To protect perennial water impoundments and streams, and/or riparian/wetland vegetation by moving oil and gas exploration and development beyond the riparian vegetation zone.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820. See also Geothermal PEIS ROD section 2.3.3 at page 2-6.)

Exception Criteria:

Exceptions may be granted only if an on-site impact analysis shows no degradation of the resource values.

Lease Number:

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SECTION 7 CONSULTATION STIPULATION

The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

On the lands described below:

Lease Number:

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE

This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O.13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manual 1624 and 3101 or FS Manual 1950 and 2820.)

On the lands described below:

Exhibit LS-103 TIMING LIMITATION - RAPTOR NESTING AND FLEDGLING

Stipulation: No surface use is allowed within 0.25 miles of raptor nests (Golden eagle, Osprey, all accipiters, falcons (except the kestrel), buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors) from February 1 – August 15. Suggested dates are from CPW Statewide Recommendations (2010).

On the following lands:

<LEGAL DESCRIPTION>

This stipulation only applies to construction and drilling, and does not apply to operations and maintenance.

Purpose: To maintain the integrity of raptor nest sites and surrounding habitat.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception may be granted by the Authorized Officer during years when a nest site is unoccupied, or unoccupied by or after May 15. An exception may be granted by the Authorized Officer once the young have fledged and dispersed from the nest.

Modification:

A modification may be granted if the Authorized Officer determines that portions of the leasehold can be occupied without adversely affecting the nest site, based on topography, species, season of use, if the nests expected to be disturbed are inactive, and other pertinent factors.

Waiver:

A waiver may be granted if the Authorized Officer determines that (1) the leasehold can be occupied without adversely affecting the nest site (2) the nest is unoccupied for three consecutive years by the identified species and (3) there is no reasonable likelihood of future use.

Exhibit LS-104 TIMING LIMITATION - COLUMBIAN SHARP-TAILED GROUSE WINTER HABITAT

Stipulation: No surface use is allowed within Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse crucial winter habitat from December 16 - March 15. Suggested dates are from CPW Statewide Recommendations (2010).

On the following lands:

<LEGAL DESCRIPTION>

This stipulation only applies to construction and drilling, and does not apply to operations and maintenance.

Purpose: To prevent disruption of Columbian Sharp-tailed grouse during the winter period.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception may be granted by the Authorized Officer if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action can be adequately mitigated or it is determined the habitat is not being used during the period of concern for any given year.

Modification:

The Authorized Officer may modify the boundaries in the stipulation area if it is determined that the actual habitat suitability for wintering sage-grouse is greater or less than the identified boundary. Timeframes may be modified based on studies documenting local periods of actual use.

Waiver:

This stipulation may be waived, if it is determined that the site has been permanently abandoned or unoccupied for a minimum of 10 years (a lek must be "inactive" in at least four non-consecutive strutting seasons spanning the ten years); site conditions have changed such that there is no reasonable likelihood of site occupation for a subsequent minimum period of once every 10 years, or sage-grouse are no longer a BLM sensitive or special status species and are not listed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY - PERENNIAL WATER SOURCES

Stipulation: No surface occupancy is allowed within 0.25 miles of perennial water sources.

On the following lands:

<LEGAL_DESCRIPTION>

Purpose: To maintain the proper functioning condition, including the vegetative, hydrologic and geomorphic functionality of the perennial water body. Protect water quality, fish habitat, aquatic habitat, and provide a clean, reliable source of water for downstream users. Buffers are expected to indirectly benefit migratory birds, wildlife habitat, amphibians, and other species.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception to this restriction or stipulation may be granted by the Authorized Officer, if the operator submits a plan demonstrating that impacts from the proposed action are acceptable or can be adequately mitigated.

Modification:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to modification only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

Waiver:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to waiver only if the Authorized Officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY - RAPTOR NESTS

Stipulation: No surface occupancy is allowed within 0.25 miles of raptor nest sites (Golden eagle, Osprey, all accipiters, falcons (except the kestrel), buteos, and owls, not including special status species raptors).

On the following lands:

<LEGAL DESCRIPTION>

Purpose: To maintain the integrity of raptor nest sites and surrounding habitat.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception may be granted by the Authorized Officer if the operator submits a plan which demonstrates that the proposed action will not affect the raptor nest site. If the Authorized Officer determines that the action may or will have an adverse effect on the species, the operator may submit a plan demonstrating that the impacts can be adequately mitigated. This plan must be approved by the BLM.

Modification:

A modification may be granted if the Authorized Officer determines that portions of the leasehold can be occupied without adversely affecting the nest site, based on topography, species, season of use, if the nests expected to be disturbed are inactive, and other pertinent factors.

Waiver:

A waiver may be granted if the Authorized Officer determines that (1) the leasehold can be occupied without adversely affecting the nest site (2) the nest is unoccupied for three consecutive years by the identified species and (3) there is no reasonable likelihood of future use.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE - FRAGILE SOILS

Stipulation: Surface occupancy on public land will be permitted only where adherence to performance objectives for surface disturbing activities within fragile-soil areas is assured. Special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required.

Performance objectives for fragile soils include:

- Maintain soil productivity both by reducing soil loss from erosion and through proper handling of the soil material.
- Reduce the impact to offsite areas by controlling erosion and/or overland flow from these
 areas.
- Protect water quality and quantity of adjacent surface and ground water sources.
- Reduce accelerated erosion caused by surface disturbing activities.
- Select the best possible site for development to reduce impacts on soil and water resources.

On the following lands:

<LEGAL_DESCRIPTION>

Purpose: To improve reclamation potential, maintain soil stability and productivity of sensitive areas, minimize contributions of salinity, selenium and sediments likely to affect downstream water quality, fisheries and other downstream aquatic habitats.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception to this restriction or stipulation may be granted by the Authorized Officer, if the operator submits a plan demonstrating that impacts from the proposed action are acceptable or can be adequately mitigated.

Modification:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to modification only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

Waiver:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to waiver only if the Authorized Officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE - STEEP SLOPES

Stipulation: Surface use may be restricted on slopes of 35 percent or greater. Prior to surface disturbing activity, an engineering or reclamation plan must be approved by the authorized officer. Special design, construction, and implementation measures, including relocation of operations by more than 200 meters (656 feet), may be required

On the following lands:

<LEGAL DESCRIPTION>

Purpose: To minimize the risk of mass wasting, sedimentation and reduced reclamation costs, protecting soil productivity, rare or sensitive biota, minimizing risk to water bodies, fisheries and aquatic species habitats and protection of human health and safety (from landslides, mass wasting, etc.).

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception to this restriction or stipulation may be granted by the Authorized Officer, if the operator submits a plan demonstrating that impacts from the proposed action are acceptable or can be adequately mitigated.

Modification:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to modification only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

Waiver:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to waiver only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

TIMING LIMITATION - GREATER SANDHILL CRANE NESTING AND STAGING HABITAT

Stipulation: No surface use is allowed within nesting and staging habitat areas from March 1 to October 16.

On the following lands:

<LEGAL DESCRIPTION>

This stipulation only applies to construction and drilling, and does not apply to operations and maintenance.

Purpose: To prevent disruption of bird behavior during key seasonal habitat use periods.

Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see Bureau of Land Management Manuals 1624 and 3101 of Forest Service Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Exception:

An exception may be granted by the Authorized Officer if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action can be adequately mitigated or it is determined the habitat is not being used during the period of concern for any given year.

Modification:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to modification only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

Waiver:

A stipulation included in an oil and gas lease shall be subject to waiver only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make the protection provided by the stipulation no longer justified or if the proposed operations would not cause unacceptable impacts.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT LITTLE SNAKE FIELD OFFICE

Map Book August 2013 Oil and Gas Lease Sale DOI-BLM-CON010-2013-0032-DNA Attachment E

