

STIPULATIONS

LEASE NOTICE
BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

A biological survey may be required prior to any surface disturbing activity on BLM managed lands. Proposed activities may be subject to seasonal closures within sensitive species habitat.

SPECIAL CULTURAL RESOURCE
LEASE NOTICE

All development activities proposed under the authority of this lease are subject to compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and Executive Order 13007. The lease area may contain historic properties, traditional cultural properties (TCP's), and/or sacred sites currently unknown to the BLM that were not identified in the Resource Management Plan or during the lease parcel review process. Depending on the nature of the lease developments being proposed and the cultural resources potentially affected, compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Executive Order 13007 could require intensive cultural resource inventories, Native American consultation, and mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects—the costs for which will be borne by the lessee. The BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activities that are likely to adversely affect TCP's or sacred sites for which no mitigation measures are possible. This could result in extended time frames for processing authorizations for development activities, as well as changes in the ways in which developments are implemented.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
FLOODPLAIN PROTECTION STIPULATION

All or portions of the lands under this lease lie in and/or adjacent to a major watercourse and are subject to periodic flooding. Surface occupancy of these areas will not be allowed without specific approval, in writing, of the Bureau of Land Management.

For the following described land(s):

Any changes in this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
WETLAND/RIPARIAN STIPULATION

All or portions of the lands under this lease contain wetland and/or riparian areas. Surface occupancy of these areas will not be allowed without the specific approval, in writing, of the Bureau of Land Management. Impacts or disturbance to wetlands and riparian habitats which occur on this lease must be avoided, or mitigated. The mitigation shall be developed during the application for permit to drill process.

For the following described land(s)

Any changes in this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.

SEASON OF USE STIPULATION

Surface occupancy of this lease will not be allowed from February 15 to May 15, as well as all applicable hunting seasons without the specific approval, in writing, from the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities.

On the land(s) described below:

For the Purpose of: Wildlife seasonal use requirements or recreation use conflicts with drilling activities.

Any changes in this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or the regulatory provisions for such changes.

LEASE NOTICE
PROTECTION OF THE SAND DUNE LIZARD

This lease may encompass suitable and occupied habitat of the sand dune lizard (SDL) (Sceloporus arenicolous). The lizard can be found in active or semi-active sand dunes with shinnery oak vegetation. All or portions of the lease may contain suitable or occupied habitat of this special status species.

The Bureau of Land Management through its NEPA process, is responsible for assuring that the leased lands are examined prior to any surface disturbing activities on the lands covered by this lease to determine potential impacts to the lizard and it's habitat.

In accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, the lessee may be required to conduct an examination of the lands to determine the occurrence of the lizard (peak activity is May – August). Protocol for these surveys can be found in the 2008 Pecos District Special Status Species Resource Management Plan Amendment. The survey would be conducted by a qualified biologist or herpetologist approved by the Bureau of Land Management. A report of the findings would be submitted to the authorized officer.

Exploration and lease development activities may be limited to areas outside of suitable or occupied habitat within the lease. If the surface management agency determines that lease development activities may adversely impact suitable or occupied habitat, restrictions to the lessee's proposal or denial of any beneficial use of the lease may result.

Conditions of Approval for Applications for Permit to Drill or Sundry Notices may be developed to protect habitat for the dunes sagebrush lizard. The lessee will take such measures as may be required by the authorized officer to protect the lizard and it's habitat.

POTASH STIPULATION

Stipulations to be made part of any oil and gas lease involving lands described in Secretarial Order, 51 Federal Register 39425 (October 28, 1986).

The lessee further agrees that:

- (1) Drilling for oil and gas shall be permitted only in the event that the lessee establishes to the satisfaction of the Authorized Officer, Bureau of Land Management, that such drilling will not interfere with the mining and recovery of potash deposits, or the interest of the United States will best be served by permitting such drilling.
- (2) No wells shall be drilled for oil or gas at a location which, in the opinion of the Authorized Officer, would result in undue waste of potash deposits or constitute a hazard to or unduly interfere with mining operations being conducted for the extraction of potash deposits.
- (3) When it is determined by the Authorized Officer, that unitization is necessary for orderly oil and gas development and proper protection of potash deposits, no well shall be drilled for oil or gas except pursuant to a unit plan approved by the Authorized Officer.
- (4) The drilling or the abandonment of any well on said lease shall be done in accordance with applicable oil and gas operating regulations (43 CFR 3160), including such requirements as the Authorized Officer may prescribe as necessary to prevent the infiltration of oil, gas or water into formations containing potash deposits or into mines or workings being utilized in the extraction of such deposits.

On the land(s) described below:

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION
LAGUNA PLATA ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISTRICT

No surface occupancy or use is allowed on the lands described below:

For the purpose of: Protecting significant cultural resource values within Laguna Plata Archaeological District (SMA No. 10) as discussed in the Carlsbad Resource Management Plan.

If circumstances or relative resource values change or if the lessee demonstrates that operations can be conducted without causing unacceptable impacts, this stipulation may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if such action is consistent with the provisions of the applicable land use plan, or if not consistent, through a planning amendment. If the authorized officer determines that the waiver, exception, or modification is substantial, the waiver, exception, or modification will be subject to a 30-day public review period.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
RAPTOR NESTS AND HERONRIES

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

Surface disturbance will not be allowed within up to 200 meters of active heronries or by delaying activity for up to 120 days, or a combination of both. Raptor nests on special, natural habitat features, such as trees, large brush, cliff faces and escarpments, will be protected by not allowing surface disturbance within up to 200 meters of nests or by delaying activity for up to 90 days, or a combination of both. Exceptions to this requirement for raptor nests will be considered if the nests expected to be disturbed are inactive, the proposed activity is of short duration (e.g. habitat enhancement projects, fences, pipelines), and will not result in continuing activity in proximity to the nest.

For the purpose of: Protecting Raptor Nests and Heronries.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
SLOPES OR FRAGILE SOILS

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

Surface disturbance will not be allowed on slopes over 30 percent. Exceptions will be considered for authorized mineral material extraction sites and designated OHV areas, for the installation of projects designed to enhance or protect renewable natural resources, or if a plan of operating and development which provides for adequate mitigation of impacts was approved by the Authorized Officer. Occupancy or use of fragile soils will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

On the lands described below:

For the purpose of: Protecting Slopes or Fragile Soils

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
PLAYAS AND ALKALI LAKES

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

Surface disturbance will not be allowed within up to 200 meters of playas or alkali lakes. Waiver of this requirement will be considered on a case-by-case basis for projects designed to enhance or protect renewable natural resources. An exception for oil and gas development will be considered if playa or lake loss was mitigated by the protection and development of another playa exhibiting the potential for improvement.

Mitigation could include:

installing fencing; developing a supplemental water supply; planting trees and shrubs for shelter belts; conducting playa basin excavation; constructing erosion control structures or cross dikes; or by improving the habitat in another area.

On the lands described below:

For the purpose of: Protecting playas and alkali lakes

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKENS

No surface use is allowed during the following time periods; unless otherwise specified, this stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities.

Drilling for oil and gas, and 3-D geophysical exploration operations will not be allowed in lesser prairie-chicken habitat during the period of March 1 through June 15, each year. During that period, other activities that produce noise or involve human activity, such as the maintenance of oil and gas facilities, geophysical exploration other than 3-D operations, and pipeline, road, and well pad construction, will be allowed except between 3:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. The 3:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. restriction will not apply to normal, around-the-clock operations, such as venting, flaring, or pumping, which do not require a human presence during the period. Additionally, no new drilling will be allowed within up to 200 meters of leks known at the time of permitting. Normal vehicle use on existing roads will not be restricted. Exhaust noise from pump jack engines must be muffled or otherwise controlled so as not to exceed 75 db measured at 30 feet from the source of the noise. Exceptions to these requirements will be considered for areas of no or low lesser prairie-chicken booming activity, or unoccupied habitat, including leks, as determined at the time of permitting, or in emergency situations.

For the purpose of: Protecting Lesser Prairie-Chickens

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE
SAND DUNE LIZARD

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

Surface disturbance will not be allowed in documented occupied habitat areas, or within up to 200 meters of suitable habitat associated with occupied habitat areas identified through field review. An exception to this restriction will be considered when an on-site evaluation of habitat extent, available species occurrence data, the proposed surface use, and proposed mitigations indicate the proposal will not adversely affect the local population.

For the purpose of: Protecting Sand Dune Lizards

SHINNERY OAK SAND DUNE HABITAT COMPLEX

PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT

A plan of development (POD) for the entire lease must be submitted for review and approval, including NEPA analysis, by the BLM, prior to approval of development actions (APD, Sundry Notices). The POD must indicate planned access to well facilities (roads, pipelines, power lines), and the approximate location of well sites. Should it become necessary to amend the POD, the amendment must be approved prior to approval of subsequent development actions. Deviations from a current POD are not authorized until an amended POD has been approved by BLM.

For the purpose of:

Managing habitat suitable for the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC) and sand dune lizard (SDL). The lease contains isolated blocks of unfragmented habitat suitable for LPC or SDL. Habitat parameters within this area are needed for the life cycle of the species (e.g., edge) or, with habitat manipulation, the area could become suitable habitat. To the extent possible, buffer zones around active LPC leks will be utilized to provide resource protection.

SAND DUNE LIZARD SURVEY REQUIREMENTS
AND PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT

A survey for occupied and suitable sand dune lizard habitat for the entire lease is required. The surveys will occur according to BLM approved protocol by BLM approved surveyors. Survey results must be submitted and reviewed by BLM prior to approval of development actions (APD, Sundry Notices). Based on the results of the surveys, a Plan of Development (POD) may be required. The POD must indicate planned access to well facilities (roads, pipelines, power lines), and the approximate location of well sites. Should it become necessary to amend the POD, the amendment must be approved prior to approval of subsequent development actions. Deviations from a current POD are not authorized until an amended POD has been approved by BLM.

For the purpose of:

Managing habitat suitable for the sand dune lizard (SDL). The lease contains isolated blocks of habitat potentially suitable for SDL. Surveying the entire lease for occupied and suitable habitat will provide vital information for management of this special status species habitat.

RECLAMATION

The subject properties contain facilities (well, pad, road, powerline, pipeline, etc.) that were not plugged, removed and/or reclaimed to current standards. Unless the facilities are put to a beneficial and direct use under the new lease, the lessee shall plug, remediate and reclaim the facilities within two years of lease issuance. If an extension is requested, the lessee must submit a detailed plan (including dates) prior to the two year deadline. All plugging, remediation and reclamation shall be performed in accordance with Bureau of Land Management requirements and be approved in advance by the Authorized Officer.

The well(s) to be plugged and reclaimed are as follows:

The facilities to be reclaimed are as follows:

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.

CULTURAL RESOURCES AND TRIBAL CONSULTATION STIPULATION

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, Executive Order 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 (e.g., State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and tribal consultation) 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.

We're On-Line!!

BLM, New Mexico
Oklahoma
Kansas
Texas

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



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