



**In Reply  
Refer To:**

3120 (NM92100-lbo)

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
New Mexico State Office  
301 Dinosaur Trail  
P.O. Box 27115  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115  
<http://www.blm.gov/nm>**



January 17, 2012

**NOTICE**

Attached is Stipulation F-45 CSU Wildlife Special Designated Area which applies to Parcels NM-201201-026 and NM-201201-027. The wording on the final stipulation varies from the stipulation posted with the sale notice dated October 19, 2011. These parcels will be offered at the Oil and Gas Auction to be held on January 18, 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (505) 954-2146.

*/s/ Lourdes B. Ortiz*

Lourdes B. Ortiz  
Land Law Examiner  
Fluids Adjudication Team

**CONTROLLED SURFACE USE**  
**WILDLIFE SPECIAL DESIGNATED AREA**

Controlled surface use is required on the lands described below:

Cereza Canyon Wildlife Area  
Crow Mesa Wildlife Area  
East La Plata Wildlife Area  
Ensenada Mesa Wildlife Area  
Gonzales Mesa Wildlife Area  
Laguna Seca Mesa Wildlife Area  
Middle Mesa Wildlife Area  
Rattlesnake Canyon Wildlife Area  
Rosa Mesa Wildlife Area  
Carracas Mesa Recreation/Wildlife Area  
Thomas Canyon Recreation/Wildlife Area

The above Wildlife Special Designated Areas (SDAs) possess quality habitat for mule deer, antelope, black bear, elk, Merriam's turkey, and peregrine falcons. Considerable effort has been expended to improve this habitat. As a consequence, the unique habitat contained within these areas is subject to, but may not be limited to the following controlled surface use provisions (see Farmington RMP, December 2003):

- Utilization of existing oil and gas related surface disturbance will be required for all new well, road and related infrastructure proposals. Proposals in previously undisturbed areas or areas where two track roads have been retired will only be considered if mitigation, such as directional or horizontal drilling, gated enclosures, and water or forage development, as evaluated by the BLM through the NEPA analysis, can adequately offset disturbance.
- Directional or horizontal drilling will be considered as a method of development, and analyzed in the environmental assessment as the proposed action or an alternative to the proposed action. Proposals utilizing vertical drilling will only be approved if mitigation, such as gated enclosures and water or forage development, as evaluated by the BLM through the NEPA analysis, can adequately offset disturbance.
- Operators are encouraged to incorporate Best Management Practices, such as directional or horizontal drilling, erosion control, reclamation practices, into the design features of the Surface Use Plan of Operations to minimize impacts to the wildlife habitat. However, additional mitigation, based on the environmental analysis, will most likely be required and attached to the proposed action as Conditions of Approval.

If circumstances or relative resource values change or if it can be demonstrated that oil and gas operations can be conducted without causing unacceptable impacts, this stipulation may be waived, excepted, or modified by the BLM Authorized Officer. A waiver, exception, or modification of this stipulation will require NEPA analysis. If the BLM Authorized Officer determines that the waiver, exception, or modification involves an issue of major public concern, the waiver, exception, or modification shall be subject to a 30-day public review period.

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