



FACT SHEET: Grand Junction Field Office RMP Oil and Gas Decisions

Through decisions in this RMP, the Grand Junction Field Office will provide opportunities for environmentally responsible exploration and development of oil and gas resources under the appropriate BLM policies, laws, and regulations.

Key oil and gas decision descriptions are found on pages 2-171 to 2-177, as well as appendices B, H, and P.

Oil and Gas Acreage by Alternative in the Draft Grand Junction RMP

	Alt A Current Mgt	Alt B Preferred	Alt C	Alt D
Closed to leasing (acres)	96,500	202,400	623,600	100,500
Open to leasing	1,134,600	1,028,800	607,600	1,130,700
Open with No surface occupancy	433,000	429,100	302,900	400,900
Open with Controlled Surface Use	74,100	563,500	326,800	445,800
Open with Wildlife Timing Limitations	233,000	401,600	241,600	438,700

What differs among the alternatives?

The Draft RMP analyzes a wide-range of alternatives, including the level of stipulations needed to protect sensitive resources.

Under Alternative A, the current situation, four Wilderness Study Areas and one Area of Critical Environmental Concern are closed to oil and gas leasing.

Under Alternative B, the preferred alternative, four Wilderness Study Areas, seven Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Gunnison Sage-grouse Habitat, three areas with wilderness characteristics, two special recreation management areas and the Grand Junction and Palisade municipal watersheds are closed to oil and gas leasing. Stipulations such as no surface occupancy and timing limitations protect sensitive areas such as Wildlife Emphasis Areas.

Under Alternative C, four Wilderness Study Areas, 15 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Gunnison Sage-grouse and Greater Sage-grouse habitat, 12 Lands with Wilderness Characteristics, 10 Wildlife Emphasis Areas, all or a portion of two SRMAs, the Grand Junction, Palisade, Collbran, Jerry Creek, Mesa/Powderhorn, watershed areas, and the Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range are closed to oil and gas leasing.

Alternative D maintains the current level of closed areas (Alternative A) but increases the areas with protective stipulations from the current management.