

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Colorado River Valley Field Office
2300 River Frontage Road
Silt, Colorado 81652**

**Section 390 Categorical Exclusions for
Oil and Gas Development, Exclusion No. 1**

NEPA LOG NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2013-0054-CX (390)

A. Background

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Office: Colorado River Valley Field Office

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: Federal Lease COC27825, BLM Right-of-Way Grants COC74892 and COC74894.

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: The existing Encana PE25 well pad, access road, and surface natural gas and water pipelines, analyzed in Environmental Assessment #DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0042, were constructed in 2011. After the well pad was constructed, it became apparent that additional visual mitigation work was needed to comply with BLM's Class II and Class III VRM objectives. This SCX would address the actions proposed and conducted by Encana to satisfy the visual objectives of the well pad.

The PE25 well pad is located on BLM land on the west-facing slope of High Mesa about 3 miles southwest of Parachute, Garfield County, Colorado. The eastern half of the pad, the eight surface holes and bottomholes, and the production facilities are located in Section 25 on Encana Lease (COC27285). The western portion of the pad and access road are located in Section 26 (off-lease). WPX holds the Federal lease (COC59137) in the E $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 26, in which Encana was issued the right-of-way grants COC74892 (PE25 well pad) and COC74894 (access road).

LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: Township 7 South (T7S), Range 96 West (R96W), Section 25, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and Section 26, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sixth Principal Meridian.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION: After reviewing the constructed PE25 well pad in the field, it became apparent that additional visual mitigation work was needed to comply with BLM's Class II and Class III VRM objectives and to address the visual sensitivity of the pad location being within the foreground (less than 3 miles) of highway I-70 (Figures 1, 2, and 3). A contrast rating assessment was conducted using key observation point (KOP) 2. The summary provided in the visual contrast rating provides the basis for the various project components outlined in this document.

The visual mitigation plan would be comprised of tree thinning that would involve cutting and removal of juniper trees in identified areas marked with flagging adjacent to the well pad (Figures 5 and 6). The tree removal, as well as the required seeding and shrub plantings identified in the original EA #DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0042, would be implemented to achieve the VRM Class II and Class III objectives. The tree removal would be done with a hydro-ax and/or hand crew operating chainsaws depending on the topography and terrain. Trees would be thinned within these areas to provide a visual feathered effect along the edge of the well pad and reduce the sharp contrasting line created by the exposed bare soil of the well pad and the existing vegetation adjacent to the well pad. Repeated visits during the tree thinning

work would be conducted by BLM to gauge the effectiveness of the visual mitigation work and refinements of the proposed plan would occur based on those determinations.

The PE25 well pad was constructed in August 2011. The eight proposed wells were spudded during the fall of 2011. The PE25 well pad reclamation was delayed because the wells were not completed until after the big game winter timing limitation (December 1 through April 30). Once the wells were completed, the Bradenheads had to be monitored and vented for 90 days, which pushed the timing of interim reclamation into the late summer/fall of 2012. Encana delayed interim reclaim plans for the PE25 well pad until the spring of 2013 so that Encana resources could be focused on new technically difficult well pad and road construction locations (PJ21 and PH21) and before the winter big game timing limitation started. Once these new well pad and access road locations were completed, Encana requested approval for an exception to the timing limitation to begin work on the PE25 interim reclamation during the spring of 2013. Encana received BLM approval on March 13, 2013, and interim reclamation operations are expected to take approximately 1 month. The proposed visual mitigation plan would be implemented once the well pad has been recontoured and seeded.

Resource surveys including wildlife and cultural resources were completed for the PE25 well pad, road, and natural gas and water pipelines. Raptor nest surveys were conducted April 7, 2010, for the initial pad construction. For the purposes of this project a new raptor survey was requested because the previous survey exceeded its 2-year life span. The new raptor survey was conducted on March 29, 2013, resulted in no observations of raptor nest structures within 0.25 mile of the PE25 well pad. There was no documented plant survey for the PE25 well pad, road, and natural gas and water pipelines. The BLM botanist was taken to the pad location on March 25, 2013, to assess presence of suitable habitat for special status plants, and potential reclamation issues. No suitable habitat for any special status plant species was found in the vicinity of the well pad. However, cheatgrass is widespread throughout the project area, and native grasses, forbs, and shrubs are sparse. Large scale thinning would likely increase cheatgrass densities, as well as the risk of establishment by other weed species. The site is also heavily utilized by deer and elk, and big game browsing pressure would make reclamation on this site more difficult. Because of the cheatgrass and reclamation concerns, the BLM botanist recommends that juniper removal be limited to the minimum necessary to achieve visual resource goals.

The amount of existing disturbance related to the pad construction is 5.5 acres based on GPS calculations along the disturbance perimeter. Once the pad is recontoured the long-term surface disturbance is approximately 1.5 acres. The estimated surface disturbance associated with the proposed tree removal is 4.8 acres but could be modified on site evaluations as the work develops. The surface disturbance associated with the tree removal would not exceed 5 acres.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: The current land use plan is the *Glenwood Springs Resource Management Plan* (RMP) (BLM 1984, revised 1988). Relevant amendments include the *Oil and Gas Plan Amendment to the Glenwood Springs Resource Management Plan* (BLM 1991) and the *Oil & Gas Leasing & Development Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan Amendment* (BLM 1999).

Date Approved/Amended: *Oil and Gas Plan Amendment to the Glenwood Springs Resource Management Plan* (BLM 1991) – approved November 27, 1991; *Oil & Gas Leasing & Development Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan Amendment* (BLM 1999) – approved March 24, 1999.

Determination of Conformance: The 1991 plan amendment for oil and gas (BLM 1991) included the following at page 3: “697,720 acres of BLM-administered mineral estate within the Glenwood Springs

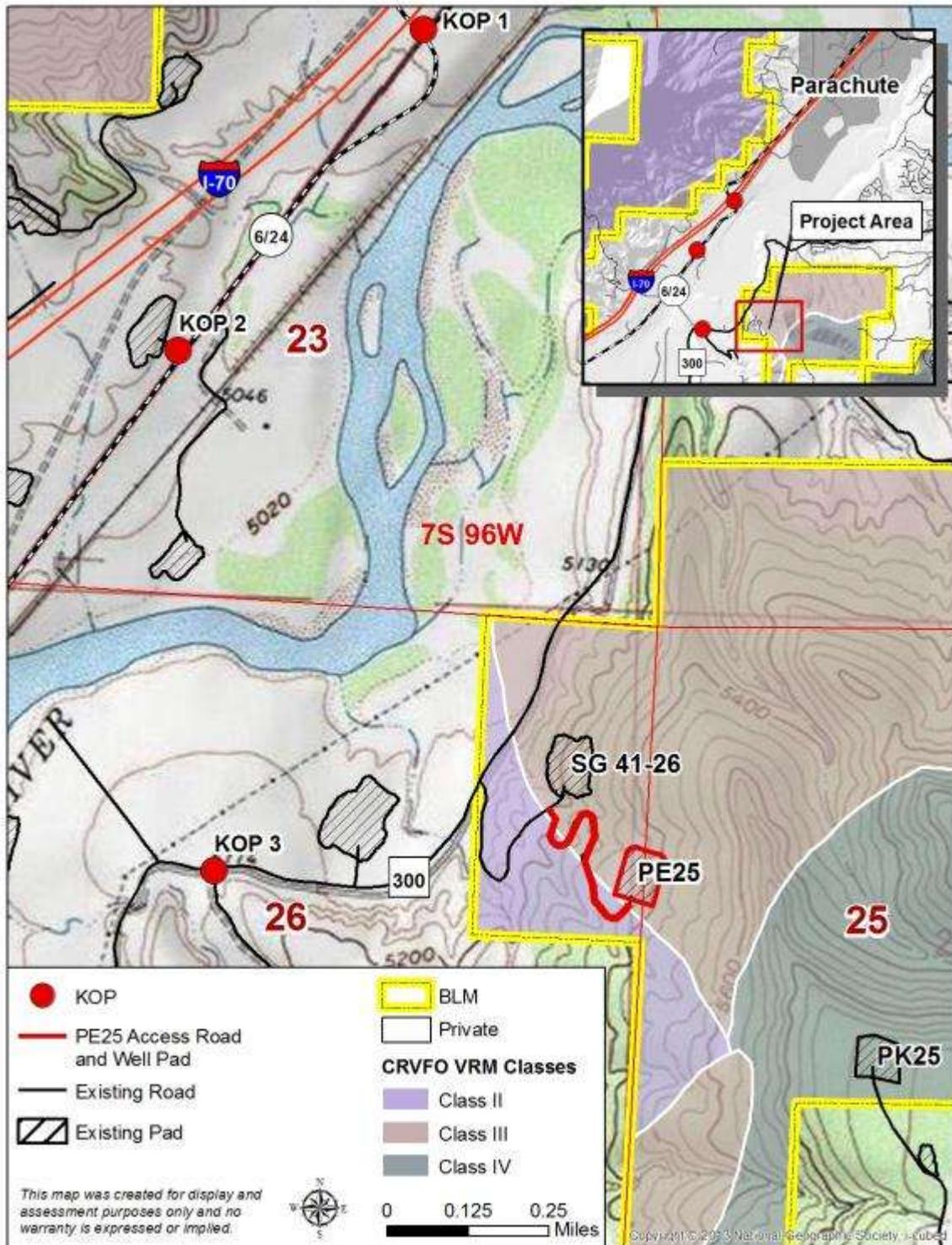


Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map

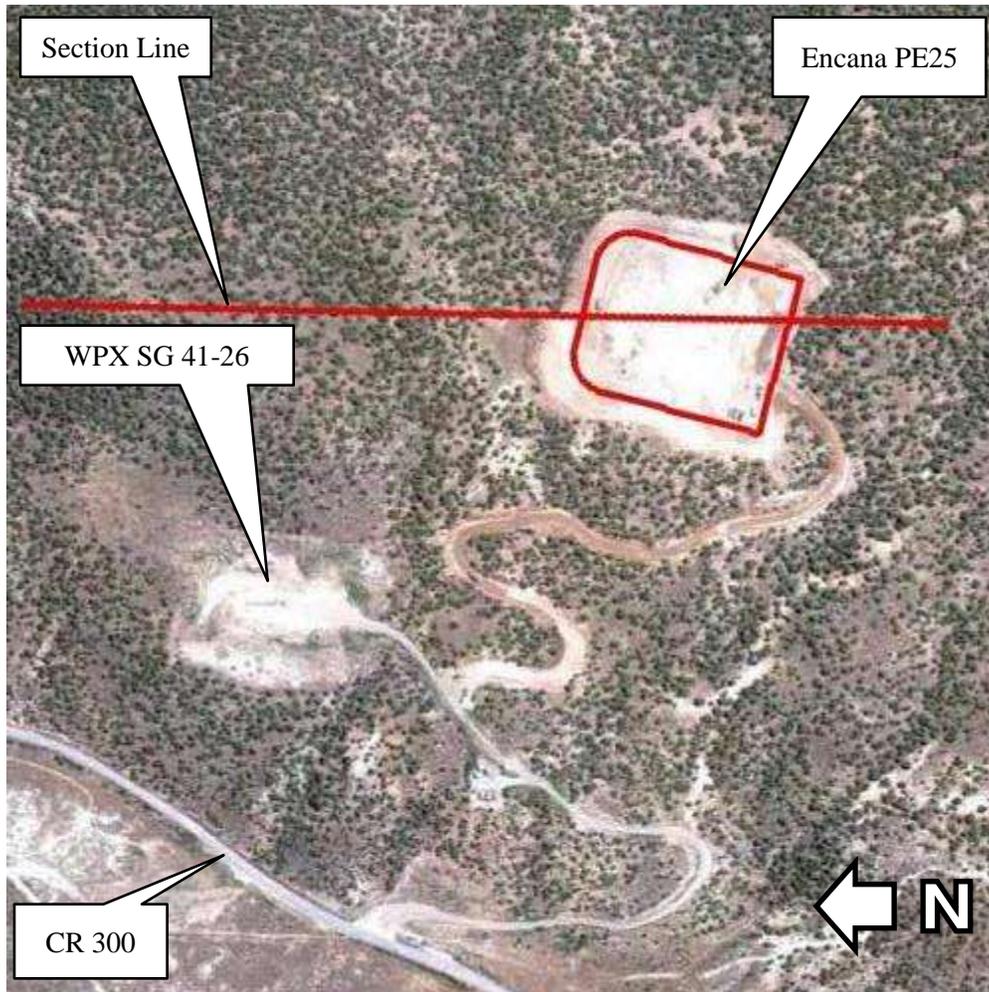


Figure 2. Encana PE25 Access Road and Well Pad Construction

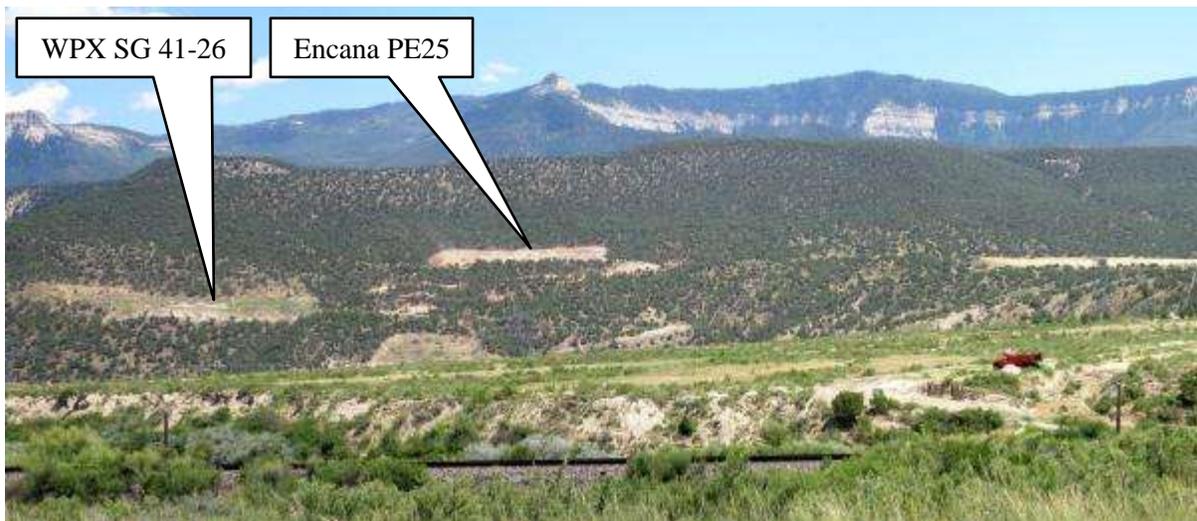


Figure 3. Encana PE25 Access Road and Well Pad Construction from KOP 2 (Photo 2011)

Resource Area (GSRA) are open to oil and gas leasing and development, subject to lease terms and (as applicable) lease stipulations” (BLM 1991, page 3). This decision was carried forward into the 1999 plan amendment for oil and gas. The current project is in an area designated as open to oil and gas leasing and development, for the purpose of accessing fluid minerals in a Federal oil and gas lease duly issued by the BLM, and was addressed in the Beaver Creek Natural Gas Drilling Project (EA #CO078-1999-069). Therefore, the project conforms to the current LUP, as amended.

C. Compliance with NEPA

Consistency with CX Category #1: *Individual surface disturbances of less than 5 acres so long as the total surface disturbance on the lease is not greater than 150 acres (Figure 4) and site-specific analysis in a document prepared pursuant to NEPA has been previously completed.* All of the questions listed in Table 1 must be answered “Yes” to use this Section 390 CX.

Table 1. Project Screening Questions		Yes	No
1.	Will the proposed action disturb less than 5 acres?	<u>Yes</u>	
2.	Is the current amount of surface disturbance on the entire leasehold, plus the proposed action, less than 150 acres? (See Figure 3)	<u>Yes</u>	
3.	Was the proposed action adequately analyzed in an existing site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document?	<u>Yes</u>	

NEPA Document Name: The proposed PE25 well pad, access road, and temporary surface natural gas pipelines and water pipelines were analyzed in Environmental Assessment #DOI-BLM-CO-N040-2010-0042, approved on May 27, 2011. The EA satisfies the criteria of being an activity-level or project-level EIS or EA that is applicable to the Proposed Action.

Persons and/or Agencies Consulted: Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.: Bryan Whiteley

Interdisciplinary Review: BLM staff from the CRVFO listed in Table 2 participated in the preparation of this Section 390 CX, including review of resource survey results submitted by the Operator’s consultants, evaluation of impacts likely to occur from implementation of the proposed action, and identification of appropriate COAs.

Table 2. BLM Interdisciplinary Team Authors and Reviewers		
Name	Title	Areas of Participation
John Brogan	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns
Allen Crockett, Ph.D.	Supervisory NRS	NEPA Review
Shauna Kocman, Ph.D., P.E.	Hydrologist	Air Quality, Noise, Soils, Surface Water, Waters of the U.S.
Julie McGrew	Natural Resource Specialist	Visual Resources
Judy Perkins, P.E.	Botanist	Invasive Non-native Species, Special-status Species (Plants), Vegetation
Sylvia Ringer	Wildlife Biologist	Migratory Birds, Special-status Species (Animals), Wildlife, Aquatic and Terrestrial
Todd Sieber	Geologist	Paleontology
Rusty Stark	Fire Management Specialist	Fuels, Vegetation Treatments

COC 059137 & COC 027825

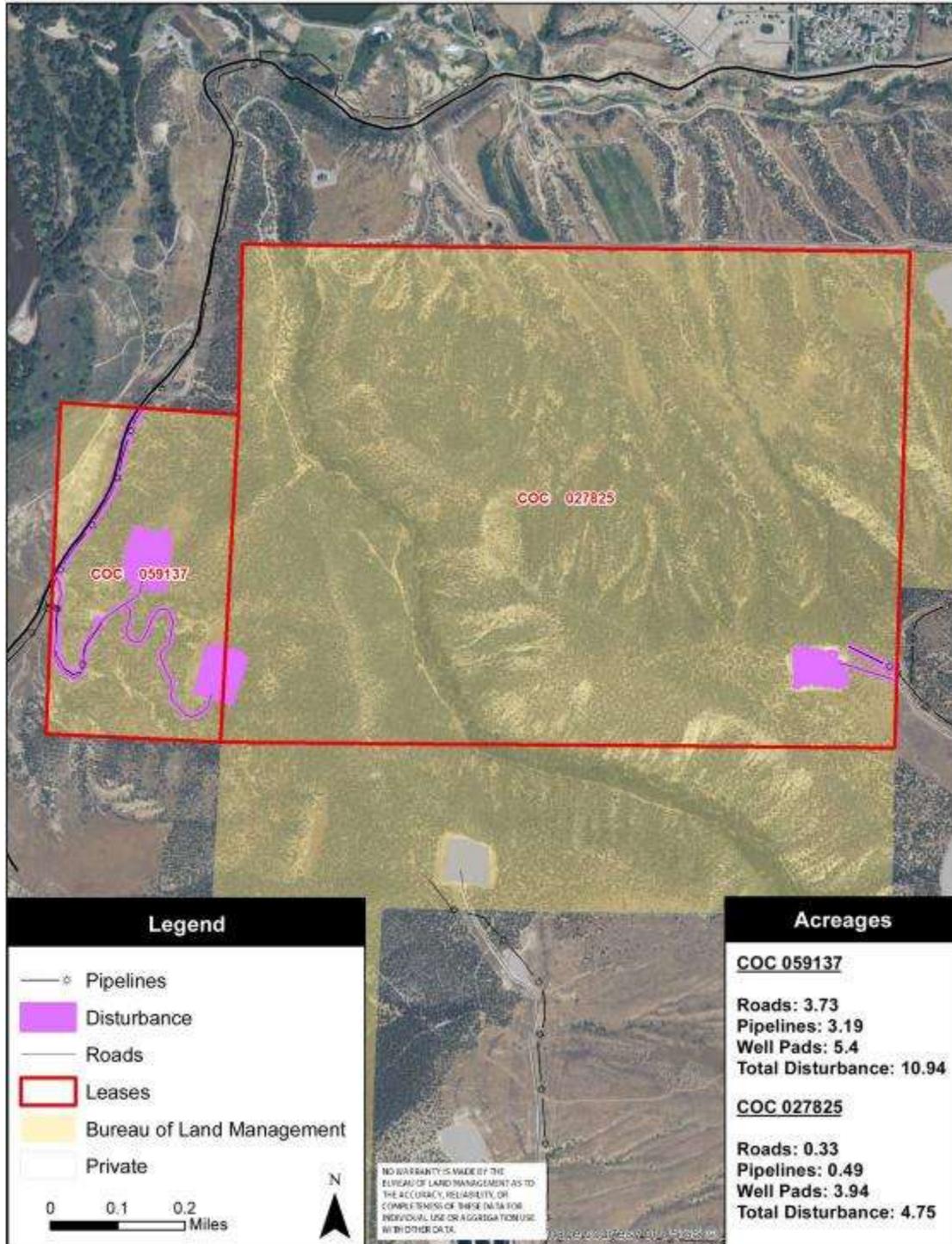


Figure 4. Disturbance Acreage for Federal Lease COC27825 and COC59137

The Proposed Action was presented to the Colorado River Valley Field Office interdisciplinary team on April 3, 2013. The Section 390 CX was posted on the CRVFO NEPA website on March 29, 2013 to solicit public comment on this project.

MITIGATION: Conditions of approval (COAS) are listed in the attachment to this section 390 CX.

Name of Preparer: Julie McGrew, NRS

Date: April 12, 2013

D. Signature

The Proposed Action is statutorily categorically excluded from further NEPA documentation in accordance with Section 390 (b)(1) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which provides for such exclusion of:

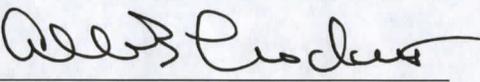
Individual surface disturbances of less than 5 acres so long as the total surface disturbance on the lease is not greater than 150 acres and site-specific analysis in a document prepared pursuant to NEPA has been previously completed.

Authorizing Official:  Date: April 22, 2013

E. Decision and Rationale for Action

I have decided to approve the PE25 Well Pad Visual Mitigation with the stipulations and conditions of approval identified in the COAs and stipulations attached to this form. The stipulations and COAs are required by this decision, and variance from these stipulations and COAs during project implementation may require further NEPA review.

I have reviewed Section C. Land Use Plan Conformance and Compliance with NEPA, and have determined that the proposed activity is in conformance with the applicable land use plan(s) and referenced NEPA documents. I have also evaluated the proposal to ensure the appropriate exclusion category as described in Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 has been correctly applied. I have determined, that no further environmental analysis is required.


Allen Crockett, Ph.D.
Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist

April 22, 2013
Date

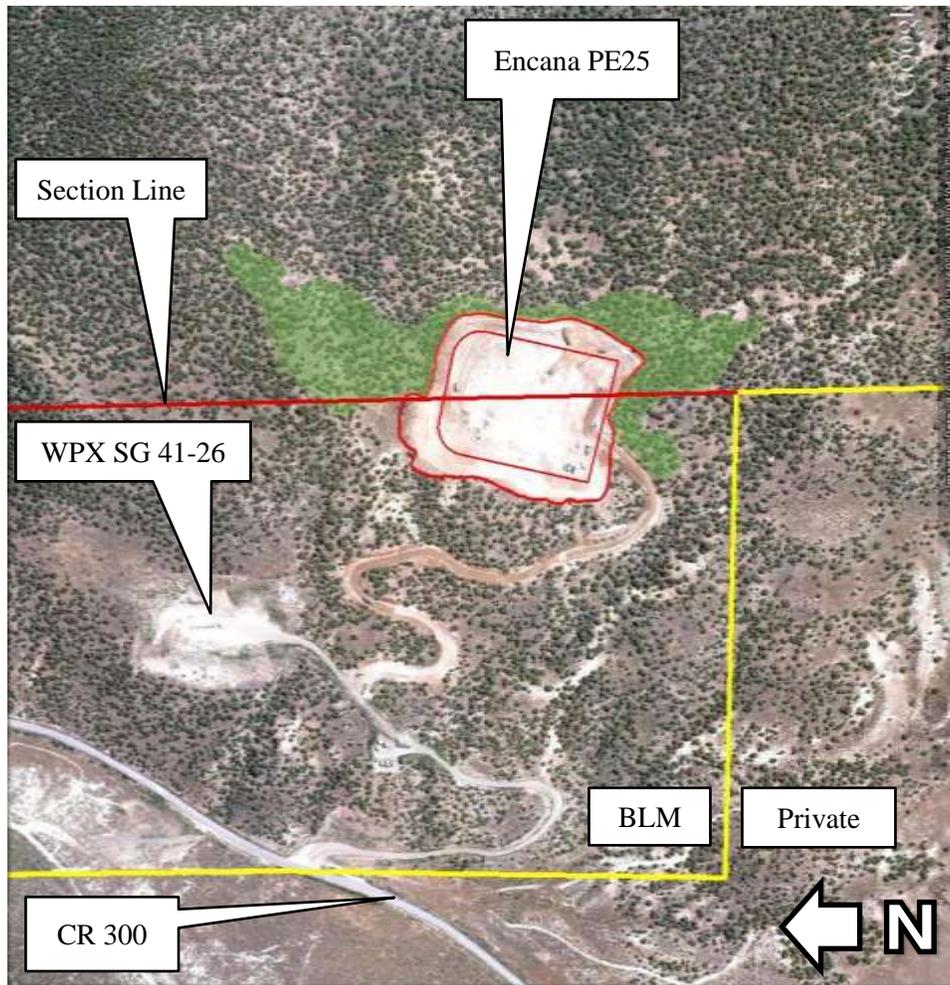


Figure 5. Conceptual Mitigation Plan for the PE25 Well Pad – Aerial Photo



Figure 6. Conceptual Visual Mitigation Plan for the PE25 Well Pad from KOP 2 (Photo 2013)

SITE-SPECIFIC COAS APPLICABLE TO THE PE25 WELL PAD VISUAL MITIGATION

1. Startup Notification. The operator shall notify the BLM representative at least at 48 hours prior to initiation of tree removal. A meeting at the project site shall occur with EnCana and BLM representatives prior to construction startup.

Tree Removal Method: The tree removal work shall be done with rubber-tired equipment (hydro-axe) and/or hand crew operating chainsaws depending on the topography and terrain. Trees shall be removed within identified areas marked with flagging adjacent to the well pad (Figures 5 and 6). Trees shall be thinned within these areas to provide a visual feathered effect along the edge of the well pad and to reduce the sharp contrasting line created by the exposed bare soil and shape of the well pad. Trees shall be thinned with a final spacing of 40-60 feet between trees. Trees left will be selected by the following hierarchy.

- a. Piñon Pine.
- b. Juniper greater than or equal to 10 inches DBH with good form and full healthy crowns.
- c. All standing dead trees over 8 inches DBH shall be reserved for wildlife snags.

Areas with a slope above 35% and/or rocky soil will not be treated using heavy equipment in order to avoid soil erosion and equipment damage. Areas where heavy equipment cannot be used shall be hand-treated.

The expected number of large trees to be included in the project is relatively low. Many of the existing small trees in the understory (< 4 feet in height) shall remain undisturbed in the project area to ensure juniper recruitment into the forest canopy over time.

The height of tree stumps shall not exceed 6 inches. Hydro-axed woody material shall be reduced to a mulch material that shall be scattered evenly across the soil surface at an average of 4 inches deep. Trees removed by chainsaw in close proximity to the well pad perimeter shall be removed by hand and placed across the recontoured pad slopes per BLM direction. Trees that are too large to remove by hand shall be felled cross-slope and chipped on site or hauled away if practicable.

Equipment shall be cleaned prior to entering the project area to ensure that noxious weed seeds are removed. BLM shall require a pre-work inspection to ensure compliance.

Hydro-ax routes used during the project shall be designed to avoid straight line effects that could be visible in the landscape. Any routes that may be created during the project shall be covered with woody material to prevent continued use after project completion.

Wheeled motorized equipment shall not be operated when conditions are muddy or the soil moisture is high enough for the vehicles to leave ruts.

No trees shall be felled toward or across any improvement such as, but not limited to roads or fences. Section corner monuments, survey markers, private land boundaries, and temporary surface pipelines will be protected.

2. Tree Marking Scheme. The trees to be removed (thinned) ***shall have flagging*** wrapped around the tree stem.

3. Project Completion Deadline. The planned tree removal work shall be completed to the satisfaction of the BLM Authorized Officer no later than May 1, 2013 unless otherwise directed by the BLM Authorized Officer or as per COA #7.
4. Cultural Education/Discovery. All persons in the area who are associated with this project shall be informed that if anyone is found disturbing historic, archaeological, or scientific resources, including collecting artifacts, the person or persons will be subject to prosecution.

Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the BLM authorized officer shall be notified by telephone, with written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4 (c) and (d), activities shall stop in the vicinity of the discovery, and the discovery shall be protected for 30 days or until notified by the BLM authorized officer to proceed.

If in connection with operations under this contract, the operator, its contractors, their subcontractors, or the employees of any of them discovers, encounters, or becomes aware of any objects or sites of cultural value or scientific interest such as historic ruins or prehistoric ruins, graves or grave markers, fossils, or artifacts, the operator shall immediately suspend all operations in the vicinity of the cultural resource and shall notify the BLM authorized officer of the findings (16 USC 470h-3, 36 CFR 800.112). Operations may resume at the discovery site upon receipt of written instructions and authorization by the BLM authorized officer. Approval to proceed will be based upon evaluation of the resource. Evaluation shall be by a qualified professional selected by the BLM authorized officer from a Federal agency insofar as practicable. When not practicable, the operator shall bear the cost of the services of a non-Federal professional.

Within five working days, the BLM authorized officer will inform the operator as to:

- whether the materials appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
- what mitigation measures the holder will likely have to undertake before the site can be used (assuming that *in-situ* preservation is not necessary)
- the timeframe for the BLM authorized officer to complete an expedited review under 36 CFR 800.11, or any agreements in lieu thereof, to confirm through the SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer that the findings of the BLM are correct and that mitigation is appropriate

The operator may relocate activities to avoid the expense of mitigation and delays associated with this process, as long as the new area has been appropriately cleared of resources and the exposed materials are recorded and stabilized. Otherwise, the operator shall be responsible for mitigation costs. The BLM authorized officer will provide technical and procedural guidelines for relocation and/or to conduct mitigation. Upon verification from the BLM authorized officer that the required mitigation has been completed, the operator will be allowed to resume construction.

Antiquities, historic ruins, prehistoric ruins, and other cultural or paleontological objects of scientific interest that are outside the authorization boundaries but potentially affected, either directly or indirectly, by the Proposed Action shall also be included in this evaluation or mitigation. Impacts that occur to such resources as a result of the authorized activities shall be mitigated at the operator's cost, including the cost of consultation with Native American groups.

Any person who, without a permit, injures, destroys, excavates, appropriates or removes any historic or prehistoric ruin, artifact, object of antiquity, Native American remains, Native American cultural item, or archaeological resources on public lands is subject to arrest and penalty of law (16 USC 433, 16 USC 470, 18 USC 641, 18 USC 1170, and 18 USC 1361).

6. Raptor Nesting. Raptor nest surveys for the PE25 project conducted on April 7, 2010 and March 29, 2013, resulted in no observations of raptor nest structures within 0.25 mile of a well pad or 0.125 mile of an access road, pipeline, or other surface facility associated with this project. Therefore, a raptor nesting TL is not attached to this EA. However, new nests may be built and occupied between the initial surveys and project implementation. To ensure compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the operator should schedule construction or drilling activities to begin outside the raptor nesting season (February 1 to August 15) if practicable. If initiation of construction, drilling, or completion activities during these dates cannot be avoided, the operator is responsible for complying with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which prohibits the “take” of birds or active nests (those containing eggs or young), including nest failure caused by noise and human activity.
7. Migratory Birds. It shall be the responsibility of the operator to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) with respect to “take” of migratory bird species. Under the MBTA, “take” means to pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. The operator shall prevent use by migratory birds of any pit containing fluids associated with oil or gas operations—including but not limited to reserve pits, produced water pits, frac-water pits, cuttings trenches (if covered by water/fluid), and evaporation pits. Fluids in these pits may pose a risk to migratory birds (e.g., waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, songbirds, and raptors) as a result of ingestion, absorption through the skin, or interference with buoyancy and temperature regulation. Regardless of the method used, it should be employed as soon as practicable after the pit has begun receiving liquids. At a minimum, the method shall be in place within 24 hours following the placement of fluids into a pit. Because of high toxicity to birds, oil slicks and oil sheens should immediately be skimmed off the surface of any pit that is not netted. The most effective way to eliminate risk to migratory birds is prompt drainage, closure, and reclamation of pits, which is strongly encouraged. All mortality or injury to species protected by the MBTA shall be reported immediately to the BLM project lead and to the USFWS representative to the CRVFO at 970-876-9051 and visit <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/contaminants/oilpits.htm>.
7. Birds of Conservation Concern. Pursuant to BLM Instruction Memorandum 2008-050, all surface disturbing activities are prohibited from **May 1 to June 30** to reduce impacts to Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC). An exception to this COA may be granted if nesting surveys conducted no more than one week prior to surface-disturbing activities indicate that no BCC species are nesting or otherwise present within 10 meters of the area to be disturbed. Nesting surveys shall include an aural survey for diagnostic vocalizations in conjunction with a visual survey for adults and nests. Surveys shall be conducted by a qualified breeding bird surveyor between sunrise and 10:00 AM under favorable conditions for detecting and identifying a BCC species. This provision does not apply to ongoing construction, drilling, or completion activities that are initiated prior to May 15 and continue into the 60-day period at the same location.
8. Weed Control. The operator shall regularly monitor and promptly control noxious weeds or other undesirable plant species as set forth in the Glenwood Springs Field Office *Noxious and Invasive Weed Management Plan for Oil and Gas Operators*, dated March 2007. A Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) must be approved by the BLM prior to the use of herbicides. Annual weed monitoring reports and Pesticide Application Records (PARs) shall be submitted to BLM by **December 1**.

9. Monitoring. The operator shall conduct annual monitoring surveys of all sites categorized as “operator reclamation in progress” and shall submit an annual monitoring report of these sites to the BLM by **December 31** of each year. Monitoring shall follow protocols adequate to assess the response of both cheatgrass and native plant species to juniper removal treatments, and the relationship of these plant responses to woody debris resulting from the juniper removal. The monitoring program shall use the four Reclamation Categories defined in Appendix I of the 1998 DSEIS to assess progress toward reclamation objectives. The annual report shall document whether attainment of reclamation objectives appears likely. If one or more objectives appear unlikely to be achieved, the report shall identify appropriate corrective actions. Upon review and approval of the report by the BLM, the operator shall be responsible for implementing the corrective actions or other measures specified by the BLM.

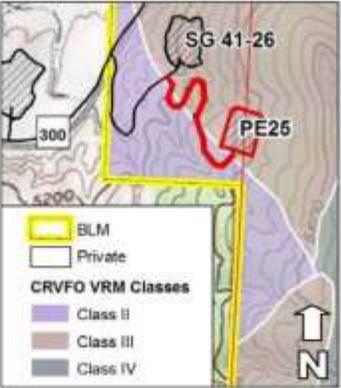
Attachment A – Visual Contrast Ratings (2)

Form 8400-4

UNITED STATES
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: August 8, 2011
 District/ Field Office: Colorado Northwest District
 Resource Area: CRVFO
 Activity (program): Oil & Gas

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: Encana PE25 Well Pad	4. Location Township: 7S	5. Location Sketch 
2. Key Observation Point: KOP 2 – US Hwy 6	Range: 96W	
3. VRM Class: VRM Class II and Class III The PE25 Well Pad is located predominantly in VRM Class III (See Location Sketch) land. A small portion of the well pad's southwest corner is located on VRM Class II land.	Section: 25 & 26	

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Flat river valley floor with rolling to steep hillsides rising up to a generally flat mesa with steep pyramidal mountains rising further in the background	Pinyon-juniper vegetation creates a solid form draped on the rolling hillside slopes with the occasional agricultural clearing on the benches and river valley floor and a clearing created by nearby WPX SG 41-26 well pad and access road	Horizontal, geometric, vertical, block
LINE	Undulating horizontal, gradual diagonal	A distinct, soft, transitional line created by the change between vegetation coverage from the agricultural clearings and PJ	Horizontal, vertical, diagonal
COLOR	Light tan, brown, gray	Olive green, dark green, grass green, golden brown, tan	White, gray, brown, metallic
TEXTURE	Smooth to medium	Smooth to medium, patchy to dense	Smooth

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Angular, bold, steep cut/fill slopes, flat pad surface, distinct	Existing vegetation is interrupted by rectangular-shaped clearing	Cylindrical, block, rectangular
LINE	Horizontal, diagonal	Removal of vegetation resulted in distinct, hard, geometric lines formed by the edge of existing vegetation and the exposed bare ground resulting from the removed vegetation	Horizontal, geometric, vertical
COLOR	Light tan, light brown	Void of noticeable vegetation	Tan, dark brown, gray, green
TEXTURE	Smooth	Void of noticeable vegetation	Smooth

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING SHORT TERM LONG TERM

I. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)								
		STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE	STRONG	MODERATE	WEAK	NONE					
ELEMENTS	FORM	X				X											3. Additional mitigating measures recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	LINE	X				X												Evaluator's Names Date Julie McGrew August 8, 2011
	COLOR			X		X												
	TEXTURE			X		X												

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Proposed PE25 Well Pad is located predominantly on VRM Class III (See Item 5. Location Sketch). Actions on VRM Class III lands allows for a moderate level of change to the existing landscape.

The contrast in form and line of the landform and in the form, line, color, and texture of vegetation resulting from the pad construction is strong and is dominant in the landscape.

Additional Mitigating Measures (See item 3)

The following shall be implemented to meet VRM Class III requirements (PE25 Well Pad):

- Pad interim reclamation cut/fill slope contours shall undulate and mimic the terrain and slopes found in the adjacent landscape.
- Clearing and thinning of PJ stands surrounding the pad, emulating natural openings with a transitional (thinned) edge.
- Removed tree canopies shall not be left intact in newly created openings. They will need to be broken down to the point they are no longer visible or hauled off and place on reclaimed slopes.
- Woody debris shall be place back on the cut/fill slopes to provide a color and texture closer to that found in the native landscape and in locations which fit with the patterns created by the clearing and thinning.