

Finding of No Significant Impact
Environmental Assessment
Kisatchie National Forest
Parcels ES-001-09/12 to ES-054-09/12
EA-020-2015-01

INTRODUCTION

The proposed action is to issue leases for fifty-three (53) parcels for potential oil and gas development within the Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana. The parcels cover approximately 28,581.86 acres of federal minerals administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The surface management agency is the United States Forest Service (Forest Service). The BLM offered the parcels for sale at the September 13, 2012, BLM Eastern States Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. The leases were not issued after the sale due to a protest and BLM subsequently prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other consultation requirements. The proposed action is analyzed in the Southeastern States District EA, ES-020-2015-01.

The purpose of the proposed action is to support the essential development of oil and natural gas to meet the nation's future needs for energy. Continued sale and issuance of lease parcels is needed to maintain options for production as oil and gas companies seek new areas for production or attempt to develop previously inaccessible or uneconomical reserves. Private exploration and development of federal oil and gas reserves are integral to the BLM and Forest Service oil and gas leasing programs under the authority of the Mineral Leasing Act (MLA) of 1920, as amended, the MLA for Acquired Lands of 1947, as amended, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The oil and gas leasing program managed by the BLM and Forest Service encourages the sustainable development of domestic oil and gas reserves and reduction of United States dependence on foreign sources of energy as part of its multiple-use and sustainable yield mandate.

EXTERIOR SCOPING

On June 15, 2012, the BLM posted the September 2012 sale notice for public review for 65 parcels located in Louisiana and Mississippi. On July 19, 2012, BLM received a letter from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and nine other groups protesting the 65 parcels proposed for lease sale. The BLM offered the parcels for sale at the September 13, 2012, BLM Eastern States Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. The BLM sent a protest decision (Part I) letter to NRDC on August 1, 2013. Substantive issues of concern raised by the NRDC et al protest focused on violations of federal law including NEPA, Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act, National Forest Management Act, FLPMA, ESA, and Clean Water Act, as well as concerns that the analysis was not "site-specific" and inadequately analyzed the potential impacts from unconventional oil and gas development (especially with regard to impacts from ground disturbance and impacts on water resources, recreation, human health, wildlife/special-status species, and wilderness).

The BLM Authorized Officer denied or dismissed all but one of the NRDC et al concerns and found that adequate NEPA documentation had not been prepared for 53 of the 65 parcels, either through adoption of the Forest Service NEPA documents or through preparation of its own. Therefore, leases for the 53 protested parcels were not issued (the other 12 leases were issued). BLM subsequently prepared a new leasing EA (ES-020-2015-01) in compliance with NEPA to assess the potential effects of issuing leases for the 53 parcels in response to the protest.

A final protest decision (Part II) letter will be issued by BLM once all requirements under NEPA have been fulfilled, including the issuance of this finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and a separate Decision Record.

For the new leasing EA (ES-020-2015-01), informal consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) was initiated on July 25, 2014 in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Section 7 Consultation requirements. A concurrence letter was received on September 17, 2014. A request was submitted to the Louisiana Natural Heritage Program (LNHP) on August 21, 2014 to review their files for records indicating the occurrence of rare plants and animals, outstanding natural communities, natural or scenic rivers, or other elements of special concern within or near the proposed parcels. A response was received on November 10, 2014. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) occurred on June 17, 2014 and a concurrence letter was received on July 30, 2014. Letters were sent to those Native American Tribes who have ancestral interest in the region on June 17, 2014 notifying them of the proposed action and requesting comments or concerns. The BLM received responses from three Tribes on June 24, June 25, and July 11, 2014 with no concerns expressed. All consultation letters are included in Appendix C of the EA.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based upon a review of EA-020-2015-01 and supporting documents, I have determined that the proposed action is not a major Federal action, and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, individual or cumulatively, with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity as defined in 40 CFR 1508.27. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described:

Context:

The proposed action would occur within the Winn, Catahoula, Kisatchie and Calcasieu Districts of the Kisatchie National Forest in Louisiana. The proposed leases would give the lessee exclusive rights to explore and develop oil and gas reserves on the lease, but does not in itself authorize surface disturbing activities. Although there would be no surface disturbance at this stage, the EA analyzes a reasonably foreseeable development (RFD) scenario to assess potential effects from drilling that may occur later at the application for permit to drill (APD) stage. Additional site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis would also be conducted at that time, once the specific details of planned oil and gas development become available.

Intensity:

The following discussion is organized around the Ten Significance Criteria described in 40 CFR 1508.27 and incorporated into resources and issues considered (includes supplemental authorities

Appendix 1 H-1790-1) and supplemental Instruction Memorandum, Acts, regulations and Executive Orders. The following have been considered in evaluating intensity for this proposal:

1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.

The resource analysis in the EA incorporates by reference the information and analysis contained in the 1999 Kisatchie National Forest Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Based on a review of the proposed action and anticipated environmental impacts associated with the RFD scenario, the following resources were included for additional analysis in the EA: Environmental Justice, Social and Economic Environment, Cultural Resource and Native American Concerns, Recreation/Scenery/Noise Resources, Minerals and Mineral Development, Wastes, Soils, Air Resources, Water Resources, Floodplains/Riparian Areas/Wetlands, Invasive/Exotic Species, Special Status Species, Wildlife and Vegetation, and Migratory Birds of Concern. The proposed action of leasing would result in no direct impacts, but there would be minor adverse impacts associated with potential future development (based on the RFD scenario analysis).

Measures to reduce impacts to the various resources were incorporated in the design of the proposed action through the use of lease stipulations and best management practices (attached to this FONSI). None of the direct, indirect, or cumulative environmental effects discussed in detail in the EA are considered significant, nor do the effects exceed those described in the Kisatchie National Forest Plan.

2. The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.

The proposed action would result in issuing leases for the 53 parcels that were sold. No aspect of the proposed action would have an effect on public health and safety. Stipulations and best management practices have been identified to reduce impacts to various resources from potential future development, which would also eliminate potential impacts to public health and safety. If the leased parcels are developed for oil and gas in the future, public health or safety would be further addressed through site-specific NEPA analysis. If determined necessary at the time of development, conditions of approval would be applied to ensure public health and safety is not affected.

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

All of the parcels are located in the South Central Plains Ecoregion. The EA evaluated the area of the proposed action and determined that no unique geographic characteristics such as Wild and Scenic Rivers, Prime or Unique Farmlands, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, Designated Wilderness areas, or Wilderness Study Areas were present. Wetland areas are located on five of the lease parcels, and several surface water features are located throughout the lease area. The proposed leasing action would not directly affect wetlands or surface waters. Impacts from potential future development would be controlled through the use of best management practices and lease stipulations (such as no surface occupancy within 250 feet of a surface water or wetland) to minimize potential adverse impacts from sedimentation or vegetation disturbance. If the leases enter into a development stage at a later date, aquatic habitats would be further

addressed through site-specific NEPA and conditions of approval may be applied at the APD stage.

With regard to cultural resources, the lease areas do contain recorded cultural resources sites, including some acreage within all of the parcels considered high and/or moderate probability areas for existing cultural resources. No known sites for religious purposes, Sacred Sites or Traditional Cultural Properties were identified through the tribal consultation process for leasing. The BLM completed consultation with the Louisiana SHPO on July 30, 2014 for the proposed leasing action. BLM and Forest Service lease stipulations would be applied to the parcels, which state that the agencies would not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect historic resources until all requirements under the NHPA are fulfilled. Additional site-specific NEPA and NHPA consultation would be conducted at the time of proposed oil and gas development.

4. The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be controversial.

Effects on the quality of the human environment are not expected to be significant or highly controversial. Additional, site-specific NEPA would be conducted that addresses specific effects on resources at the time of development. There would be no development of oil and gas resources without federal oversight. Controversy in this context is considered to be in terms of disagreement about the nature of the effect- not the political controversy or expression of opposition to the action or preference among the alternatives analyzed within the EA.

5. The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.

The proposed action of leasing is not unique or unusual. The BLM has experience implementing similar actions in similar areas. The potential environmental effects on the human environment are fully analyzed in the EA. There are no predicted effects on the human environment that are considered to be highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks. Additionally, further analysis in the form of site-specific NEPA would be conducted in the future should oil and gas development occur.

6. The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

This leasing of federal minerals and more specifically fluid minerals has been occurring since the creation of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, and, therefore, the proposed action would not establish a precedent for future actions. A decision to lease would not limit later resource management decisions for areas open to development proposals, although lease stipulations do establish sideboards for future potential oil and gas development.

7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

The interdisciplinary teams preparing the EA evaluated the proposed action in context of past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions. In addition to the 53 parcels discussed in the EA, 55 parcels totaling 21,232.03 acres located in the Kisatchie National Forest were sold at the December 2012 Lease Sale and 25 parcels totaling 24,470.45 acres located in the Kisatchie National Forest were sold at the March 2013 Lease Sale. Monies were received although the leases have not yet been issued. The cumulative effects analysis in the EA considers potential impacts of leasing these parcels. The cumulative impacts may result in a very small increase in greenhouse gas emissions but are not expected to result in climate change impacts that differ from the no action alternative because climate change is a global process that is affected by the total of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The incremental contribution to global greenhouse gases from the proposed action cannot be translated into effects on climate change globally or within the area of the lease parcels. Other minor cumulative effects could occur to natural resources such as water resources and vegetation from potential future development of the parcels in combination with other leasing activities, but significant cumulative effects are not expected. The use of best management practices and lease stipulations, as well as potential conditions of approval at the APD stage, would lessen the potential for cumulative effects.

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the NRHP or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

There are no sites within the project area listed or eligible for listing on the NRHP that would be adversely affected by a decision to issue leases on the subject parcels. If leases enter into a development stage, potential NRHP-eligible resources would be further addressed through site-specific NEPA, as discussed under Criteria #3.

9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the ESA of 1973.

There are eight wildlife species in the project area that are listed on the ESA. Lease stipulations were developed in conjunction with the Forest Service to reduce impacts to wildlife and fisheries. The FWS provided a letter of concurrence to BLM on September 17, 2014 that the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect five species (Louisiana Pine Snake, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Pallid Sturgeon, Louisiana Pearlshell, and Northern Long-eared Bat), and that the proposed action would have no effect on two species (Sprague's Pipit and Interior Least Tern) because surface use restrictions including stipulations would be used. Furthermore, post-lease actions/authorizations (e.g. Applications for Permit to Drill, road/pipeline right-of-way), may need additional no surface occupancy, controlled surface use or timing limitation restrictions on a case-by-case basis, as required through project-specific NEPA analysis or other environmental review.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

The project does not violate any known federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. In addition, the project is consistent with applicable land management plans, policies and programs.

Grace Guess (acting for)
Bruce Dawson
Southeastern States District Manager

9-15-15
Date

Lease Stipulations, Notices, and Best Management Practices
for the 53 parcels within the
Kisatchie National Forest

Lease Stipulations, Notices, and Best Management Practices
September 13, 2012 - Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Parcel Number	Serial Number	CSU #1	CSU #2	CSU #2A	FSLN #3	FSLN #4	NSO	BLM-O&G LSS
1	LAES 057522	X	X		X			X
2	LAES 057523	X	X		X		X	X
3	LAES 057524	X	X		X			X
4	LAES 057525	X			X			X
5	LAES 057527	X	X		X			X
7	LAES 057528	X	X		X			X
8	LAES 057529	X	X		X			X
9	LAES 057530	X	X		X			X
10	LAES 057531	X			X			X
11	LAES 057532	X	X		X			X
12	LAES 057533	X	X		X			X
13	LAES 057534	X	X		X			X
14	LAES 057535	X	X		X			X
15	LAES 057536	X	X		X			X
16	LAES 057537	X	X		X			X
17	LAES 057538	X	X		X			X
18	LAES 057539	X			X			X
19	LAES 057540	X	X		X			X
20	LAES 057541	X	X		X		X	X
21	LAES 057542	X	X		X			X
22	LAES 057543	X	X		X	X		X
23	LAES 057544	X	X		X		X	X
24	LAES 057545	X	X		X			X
25	LAES 057546				X	X		X
26	LAES 057547	X	X		X	X		X
27	LAES 057548	X	X		X	X		X
28	LAES 057549				X	X	X	X
29	LAES 057550	X	X		X	X		X
30	LAES 057551	X	X		X	X		X
31	LAES 057552	X	X		X	X		X
32	LAES 057553				X	X	X	X
33	LAES 057554		X		X	X		X
34	LAES 057555	X	X		X	X		X
35	LAES 057556				X	X	X	X
36	LAES 057557	X	X		X	X		X
37	LAES 057558	X			X	X		X
38	LAES 057559	X	X		X	X		X
39	LAES 057560	X	X		X	X		X
40	LAES 057561	X	X		X	X	X	X
41	LAES 057562	X	X		X	X	X	X
42	LAES 057563	X	X	X	X	X		X
43	LAES 057564	X	X	X	X	X		X
44	LAES 057565	X		X	X	X		X
45	LAES 057566	X	X	X	X	X		X
46	LAES 057567	X	X	X	X	X		X
47	LAES 057568	X	X	X	X	X		X
48	LAES 057569	X	X	X	X	X		X
49	LAES 057570	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
50	LAES 057571	X	X	X	X	X		X
51	LAES 057572	X	X	X	X	X		X
52	LAES 057573	X	X	X	X	X		X
53	LAES 057574	X	X	X	X	X		X
54	LAES 057575	X	X	X	X		X	X
53	Total Number of Parcels							

Key: CSU-Controlled Surface Use
FSLN -Forest Service Lease Notice
BLM O&G LSS-Bureau of Land Management Oil and Gas Leasing Surface Stipulation for Forest Service Parcels
NSO-Forest Service No Occupancy Stipulation

Controlled Surface Use (CSU) #1

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following operating constraints: Placement of mineral extraction equipment, buildings, roads, ponds, and well-pads and the clearing of pipeline right-of-way vegetation are prohibited.

CSU #1: T9N, R2W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
2	SENE; S2SWSE; SESW	16.4
4	NWNW	7.7
5	NE; SENW	16.9
11	S2SENW; NESW	7.1
18	S2SW	31.2
19	NE;NESE	57.6
28	SESE	19.9
30	S2NE; S2NENE; N2NW	63.5
32	S2SW	26.2
34	W2SW	35.9
36	NENE	11.1

For the purpose of: Protection of Streamside Zones. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or 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).

CSU #1: T6N, R6W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Approx. Location	Approx. Acres
6	All west of Rd.339	199.2
7	NW west of Rd.339	29.8
19	All south & west of Rd.339	72.1
22	N2SE;SESE	22.77
23	N2;SW	168.4
26	SENE; E2SWNE; SW; SE	114.1
29	All south & west of Rd.337	203.3
30	All	237.3
31	All	210.6
32	All	328.7
33	All south & west of Rd.337	255.9
34	All south & west of Rd.337	192.7
35	W2NE; NENE; W2	125.3

For the purpose of: Protection of Streamside Zones. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or 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).

NEPA No. ES-020-2015-01
Lease Stipulations, Notices, and Best Management Practices

CSU #1: T1N, R7W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
13	S2NE; NWNW; SWSW; SE	57.9
14	N2NE; SWNE; W2; NESE; S2SE	115.9
15	E2E2; SWSW	36.5
16	SWNW; S2S2; NESE	48.6
17	NE; N2NW; N2SENE; S2	129.2
18	E2; NENW; NENWNW; S2NWNW; S2NW; E2SW	148.8
19	S2NE; NENW; E2SE	47.6
20	All	152.4
21	NE; NENW; S2NW; S2	144.6
22	All	152.4
23	N2N2; SWNW; S2NESW; NWSW; S2SW; W2SE; E2SESE	84.2
24	All	153.4
25	All	148.7
26	All	161.1
27	All	169.3
28	All	157.4
29	N2; N2S2; SESW; S2SE	161.0
30	E2NE; SWNW; NWSW; S2SW; W2SE	78.5
31	NENE; S2NE; NW; S2	146.4
32	W2NW; S2	107.2
33	E2; N2NW; SENW; NWSW	137.1
34	All	137.0
35	All	223.6
36	All	195.2

For the purpose of: Protection of Streamside Habitat Protection Zones (SHPZS) (Revised Land and Resource Management Plan, Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines, Chapter 2, paragraph FW-225, page 2-25). Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or regulatory provisions for such changes. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manuals 1624 and 3101 or FS Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

NEPA No. ES-020-2015-01
Lease Stipulations, Notices, and Best Management Practices

CSU #1: T6, R1E, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
1	W2	95.4
2	E2NE; SW; N2SE	63.5
4	N2NE; NENW	33.5
5	N2; NESW	65.2
6	NE	6.2
7	W2SW	34.5
9	S2NE; SWNW; S2	167.6
10	N2NE; S2N2; S2	174.2
11	All	208.8
12	W2NW	5.5
13	SW; SE	88.7
14 & 39	Pt of S2	18.9
15	All	191.4
20	E2; SESW	103.0
21	N2; W2SW; SESW; NESE	164.5
22	NWNE;N2NW	32.7
23	SENE; S2S2; NESE	71.6
24	W2E2;NW	87.2
26	All	163.1
27	All	213.2
28	NWNE; S2N2; S2	169.8
29	E2; NENW;	115.1
32	NE; E2NW; Pt W2NW; 2SE; SESE	113.3
33	All	123.6
34	N2; S2 less N2NWSW	85.7
38	Pt of N2	39.1

For the purpose of: Protection of Streamside Habitat Zones (SHPZS). (Revised Land and Resource Management Plan, Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines, Chapter 2, paragraph FW-225, page 2-25.) Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manuals 1624 and 3101 or FS Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Controlled Surface Use (CSU) #2

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following operating constraints:
Roads and clearing of right-of-way vegetation may occur if a site-specific environmental analysis determines that the mitigated environment effects would not be significant.

CSU #2: T1N, R7W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
13	W2NE;N2SE	13.3
14	S2SE	5.1
15	SESE	30.0
16	SWSW	1.1
18	W2NW;E2SW	48.3
19	NENW; SESE	21.5
20	E2NE; SE	39.3
21	W2	22.3
22	E2;NW;NESW	185.3
23	N2NE; W2W2; NWSE	32.1
24	SW	4.6
25	N2NW	3.5
26	All	136.7
27	NE; E2SE	42.7
28	NE; NWNW; E2SW; SE	46.6
29	E2; W2NW;S2SW; SWSE	83.0
30	E2NE; SWNW; W2SE	74.5
31	NENE	17.8
32	W2NW	26.6
33	NW;NWSW;SE	116.2
35	E2;E2NW	91.2
36	NW	80.0

For the purpose of: Protection of Riparian Zones. (Revised Land and Resource Management Plan, Forest-wide Standards and Guidelines, Chapter 2, paragraph FW-225, page 2-25.) Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or regulatory provisions for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manuals 1624 and 3101 or FS Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

CSU #2: T9N, R2W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
2	SENE	4.74
4	SWSWNW	0.6
5	NE	15.6
11	SENW;NESW	14.3
18	SESW	5.3
19	NE; NESE	18.3
28	SESE	1.9
30	S2NE; S2NENE	11.4
32	S2SW	50.2
34	W2SW	17.3
36	NENE	0.5

For the purpose of: Protection of Riparian zones. Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or 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).

CSU #2: T6N, R6W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
6	All west of Rd. 339	26.4
19	All south & west of Rd. 339	203.1
22	N2SE; SESE	68.8
23	N2; SW	113.6
26	SENE; S2	43.8
28	SWSW south of Rd 339	18.6
29	All south & west of FH 59	11.4
30	NE; E2NW	75.1
32	NE	15.3
33	All south of FH 59	191.6
34	All south of FH 59	165.2
35	N2; W2SW	144.5

For the purpose of: Protection of Riparian Zones; Amenity Values of Longleaf Trail (FH 59). Any changes to this stipulation will be made in accordance with the land use plan and/or 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).

NEPA No. ES-020-2015-01
Lease Stipulations, Notices, and Best Management Practices

CSU #2: T6N, R1E, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
1	NWNW	11.6
2	NENE; NWNWSW	20.7
4	NENENE	.6
5	N2	72.5
6	NENE	6.5
9	SENE; SWNW; W2SW; SE	4.1
11	S2	7.1
12	NWNWNW	.8
13	Pt S2&E2NE	6.9
14 & 39	Pt ofS2	80.0
20	NE; NWNWSW; SESW	76.8
21	N2;NESE	101.8
23	S2SW	5.2
24	W2E2;E2NW	8.6
26	NW;N2SW	26.4
27	NWNWNE	.4
28	W2E2;SWNW	7.4
29	NE;NWNENW	7.8
33	S2SE	37.8
34	SWNE;NWSE	2.9
38	NW	5.1

For the purpose of: Protection of Riparian Zones and Flood Plains and Hickman Trail Head (Sec. 33)

Controlled Surface Use (CSU) #2A

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

The lessee is given notice that all or portions of the lease area are located within the Intensive Use Area for Fort Polk. Army use of these areas is necessary for the accomplishment of the Military mission and any surface use or occupancy that might be allowed within such areas under the terms of this lease will be limited. It will be authorized by the Forest Service only if the lessee demonstrates the surface use or occupancy is essential to his operations, and if he submits plans for operations affecting these areas which provide for such modifications as are satisfactory to the Forest Service for protection of these special values and existing or planned uses. After the Forest Service has been advised of the proposed surface use on the leased lands, and on request of the lessee, the Forest Service will furnish further data on such areas which now include, but are not limited to the following:

CSU #2A: T1N, R7W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
13	S2NE; NWNW; SWSW; SE	321.74
14	N2NE; SWNE; W2; NESE; S2SE	562.24
15	E2E2; SWSW	199.74
16	SWNW; S2S2; NESE	242.07
17	NE; N2NW; N2SENW; S2	586.75
18	E2; NENW; NENWNW; S2NWNW; S2NW; E2SW	553.3
19	S2NE; NENW; E2SE	202.07
20	All less 39.80 acres	602.68
21	NE; NENW; S2NW; S2	595.24
22	All	633.29
23	N2N2; SWNW; S2NESW; NWSW; S2SW; W2SE; E2SESE	440.0
24	All	646.21
25	Pt NWNE; NW; N2SW; SWSW	362.98
26	All	643.95
27	All	646.2
28	All	651.4
29	N2; N2S2; SESW; S2SE less 14.0 acres	584.55
30	E2; SWNW; NWSW; S2SW; W2SE	319.15
31	NENE; S2NE; NW; Pt of S2	601.3
32	W2NW; S2	400.93
33	E2; N2NW; SENW; NWSW	487.79
34	All North of Hwy 405	529.9
35	All North of Hwy 405	361.4
36	NW north and west of Hwy 405	84.1

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

No Surface Occupancy (NSO):

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

NSO: T1N, R7W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
25	E2E2; SWSW	30.9
26	S2SE	32.2
35	N2NE	64.6
36	NWNW	16.2

For the purpose of: Developed Recreation Site (Blue Hole Complex); Jurisdictional Wetlands

NSO: T6N, R1E, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
5	NW	21.4
6	NE	37.4
34	SWNW	0.7

For the purpose of: Protection of Jurisdictional Wetlands. Any changes in this stipulation will be made in accordance with land use plan and/or the regulatory provision for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manuals 1624 and 3101 or FS Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

NSO: T6N, R6W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
20	S2SE	34.8
21	S2SW	46.9
28	N2NW	60.0
29	NE	100.8
34	S2NW	5.0
35	E2SW	24.3

For the purpose of: Protection of Longleaf Vista; Bayou Pierre Overlook; Bayou Cypre Overlook; Any changes in this stipulation will be made in accordance with land use plan and/or the regulatory provision for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manuals 1624 and 3101 or FS Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

NSO: T9N, R2W, Louisiana Meridian

Section	Legal Description	Estimated Acres
18	NWSWSW	1.1

For the purpose of: Protection of Jurisdictional Wetlands. Any changes in this stipulation will be made in accordance with land use plan and/or the regulatory provision for such changes. (For guidance on the use of this stipulation, see BLM Manuals 1624 and 3101 or FS Manuals 1950 and 2820.)

Forest Service Lease Notices (FSLN)

FOREST SERVICE LEASE NOTICE #3

All or part of the leased lands may contain animal or plant species classified under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Other species may have been identified as sensitive in accordance with Forest Service Manual 2670 and be listed on the current Regional Forester's list of sensitive plant and animal species. Further information concerning the classification of these species may be obtained from the authorized Forest Officer.

Exploration and development proposals may be limited or modifications required if activity is planned within the boundaries of a threatened, endangered or sensitive plant or animal species location as it then exists. All activities within these areas must be conducted in accordance with existing laws, regulations and the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan guidelines.

FOREST SERVICE LEASE NOTICE #4

To be used if wetlands are outside streambed or riparian zone

All or part of the leased lands may be classified as wetlands in accordance with Executive Order No. 11990; "Protection Wetlands" or a floodplain in accordance with Executive Order No. 11988; "Floodplain Management." Additional management requirements for the protection of riparian areas are contained in 36 CFR 219.72 (e) and the National Forest Management Act of 1976.

All activities within these areas may require special measures to mitigate adverse impacts to the resource values. They must comply with the above referenced executive orders; regulations; laws and be in accordance with the Forest Land and Resource Management Plan guidelines.

Further information concerning the classification and management of these lands may be obtained from the authorized Forest Officer.

**Bureau of Land Management - Oil and Gas Leasing
Surface Stipulations for Forest Service Parcels (BLM O&G LSS)**

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, 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. These obligations may include a requirement that you provide a cultural resources survey conducted by a professional archaeologist approved by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). If currently unknown burial sites are discovered during development activities associated with this lease, these activities must cease immediately, applicable state laws on unknown burials will be followed and, if necessary, consultation with the appropriate tribe/group of federally recognized Native Americans will take place. 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.

Endangered Species

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.

Exception: None

Modification: None

Waiver: None

Sensitive Plant Species

Controlled Surface Use Stipulation: All suitable special status plant species habitat will be identified during environmental review of any proposed surface use activity. If field examination indicates that habitat of one or more of these species is present, the BLM will require a survey by a qualified botanist for special status plants during periods appropriate to each species. Operations will not be allowed in areas where sensitive plants would be affected.

Objective: To protect threatened, endangered, candidate, proposed, and BLM sensitive plant species.

Exception: An exception may be granted if the operator agrees to implement measures developed in consultation with USFWS and in coordination with State agencies.

Modification: The stipulation may be modified if it is determined that a portion of the lease area does not contain sensitive plant species habitat and the lease area does not support sensitive plant species.

Waiver: The stipulation may be waived if it is determined that the lease area does not contain sensitive plant species habitat.

Freshwater Aquatic Habitat

No Surface Occupancy Stipulation: No surface occupancy or disturbance, including discharges, are permitted within 250 feet of a river, stream, wetland spring, headwater, wet meadow, wet pine savanna, pond, tributary, lake, coastal slough, sand bar, vernal pools, calcareous seepage marsh, or small, marshy calcareous stream. If the slope exceeds 10 percent, the buffer may be extended to 600 feet to provide adequate protection for aquatic habitats and associated species.

Objective: To protect the water quality of watersheds and natural stream substrate and morphology and to avoid potential impacts to aquatic species and their habitat.

Exception: An exception may be granted if the operator agrees to: 1) span creeks, rivers, wetlands, and floodplains by attaching pipelines to bridges; 2) directionally drill wells and pipelines from upland sites under creeks, rivers, other waters, and wetlands; or 3) implement other measures developed in consultation with USFWS and in coordination with State agencies.

Modification: The buffer may be reduced if the adjacent waterway has been surveyed for 100 yards upstream and 300 yards downstream of the site, and the results document the lack of suitable/occupied/critical habitat for listed species which may be affected by the project, as determined by the BLM and USFWS.

Waiver: None