

Range of Management Ideas Based on Public Input, Resources, and Current Management

Natural Gas Exploration and Development					
Management Idea	Current Management	Range of Management Ideas			Other Ideas
General Operations					
New Roads Accessing Natural Gas Wells	No limit.	No more than 20 miles of additional roads.	No more than 15 miles of additional roads.	No more than 10 miles of additional roads.	
Public Access on Existing and Future Resource Roads Used by Natural Gas Operations	No restriction.	Restrict general public access to all sensitive areas.	Restrict general public access to specified areas.	Restrict general public access to all areas.	
Invasive Plant Species	Conditions of approval.	Require operators and contractors to self-certify the vehicles and equipment they are using are weed seed free.	Require all vehicles or equipment to be physically power washed before entering onto public land.		
Reclamation of Disturbed Areas		Require reclamation of disturbed areas within 2 months of completing construction.	Require reclamation (dirt work and seeding) to be completed not later than November 15.		
Inspection And Enforcement	Producing properties are inspected every third year.	Inspect producing properties semi-annually.	Inspect producing properties annually.	Inspect producing properties bi-annually.	
Drilling Operations					
Low Impact Drilling and Directional Drilling Technology	No requirement.	Low impact drilling on all future wells.	Low impact drilling on locations with slopes less than 10% and directional drilling for other areas.	Low impact drilling on locations with slopes less than 5% and directional drilling for other areas.	Refrain drilling operations from areas with slopes greater than 25%.

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Raptors including Bald Eagle	Surface uses may be controlled or excluded within a ¼-mile to 3-mile zone of identified essential habitat (some leases).	No surface use within ½ mile from March to August 1 for bald eagle nests and nesting habitat and within ½ mile of raptor nest sites that have been active within the past 2 years.			
Sage Grouse Habitat	Limit surface use within 500' from grouse strutting grounds and special care to avoid nesting area associated with strutting grounds would be necessary from March 1 to June 30 (some leases).	No surface use on identified sage grouse winter areas between December 1 and March 31.	No surface use (or timing provisions) within ¼ mile of all identified sage grouse leks.	No surface use (or timing provisions) within 2 miles of leks between March 1 and June 15.	
Big Game	Limit surface use on crucial wildlife winter ranges from December 1 to May 15, and in elk caving areas from May 1 to June 30 (some leases).	No surface use on identified big game winter range between and December 1 and March 31.	No surface use (or timing provisions) within identified bighorn sheep area of distribution.	No surface use (or timing provisions) in identified bighorn sheep lambing areas.	
Sensitive Species (i.e. Mountain Plovers, Black-Footed Ferrets, Burrowing Owls, Black-Tailed Prairie Dogs)	Limit surface use ¼ mile from identified essential habitat of state and federal sensitive species (some leases).	No surface use (or timing provisions) on all prairie dog towns.	No surface use (or timing provisions) on prairie dog towns greater than 80 acres.	No surface use (or timing provisions) on prairie dog towns that have identified associated sensitive status species.	
Potential Natural Gas Reserves	State spacing requirements (990-foot setbacks from Section lines).	Recommend the reduction of setbacks to 100 feet from Section lines.			

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Contamination to Subsurface Soils	No requirement of complete self-containment.	Require the operation be completely self-contained (no reserve pits to be dug), with an impermeable layer to be placed between the earth and the drill rig.	Require the operation be completely self-contained (no reserve pits to be dug) with no impermeable layer to be placed between the earth and the drill rig.		
Noise, Light and Occupation of Drilling Operations	No restriction on the number of drilling wells.	One drilling well at a time would be allowed within a township and the wells would be required to be a minimum of 4 miles apart from other drilling well(s) in adjacent townships.	No more than one well to be drilled in the Monument at any given time.		
Production Operations					
View Sheds	Standard operating procedures (Oil and Gas Gold Book).	Require all structures be placed and painted in a manner that helps blend into the natural environment.	Require all new structures be placed and painted in a manner that helps blend into the natural environment.		
Travel	No restrictions.	Restrict travel on certain existing and future roads to four wheelers/ATVs.	Remote sensing in sensitive areas.	Specific time restrictions for site visits.	
Pipelines	Standard operating procedures (Oil and Gas Gold Book).	Require pipelines to remain within the access road and/or road right-of-way.	Restrict pipeline construction to non-highly erosive soils.		
Water Disposal	Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 7 regulating disposal of produced water	Treat for beneficial use for wildlife and livestock.	No pits or re-injection. Dispose off lease.		