



## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer to:  
3100 (NVL0000)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management has received requests to lease 102 nominated parcels of public land in White Pine County for potential oil and gas exploration and development. A competitive lease sale will be held on June 12, 2012. Some parcels will have stipulations attached to help protect certain resources in accordance with the Approved Ely District Resource Management Plan.

The Ely District wrote the following Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze potential impacts to resources resulting from leasing public lands for oil and gas exploration and development. This document will be posted on the Ely District's website for a full 30 days to allow the public to review and comment on the proposed action.

Comments on the EA and proposed lease sale should be sent to the Ely District Office, attn: Dave Davis at the above address, by FAX at (775) 289-1910, or by e-mail at [drdavis@blm.gov](mailto:drdavis@blm.gov). Comments are encouraged and must be received by February 11, 2012.

Thank you for your interest in Public Lands.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rosemary Thomas

Rosemary Thomas  
District Manager  
Ely District Office

# U.S. Department of the Interior

## Bureau of Land Management

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**Preliminary Environmental Assessment  
DOI-BLM-NV-L010-2012-0009-EA  
January 9, 2012**

### JUNE 2012 OIL & GAS COMPETITIVE LEASE SALE

*Ely District Office  
Ely, Nevada*

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Ely District Office  
Phone: 775-289-1800  
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# Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Identifying Information:

JUNE 2012 OIL & GAS COMPETITIVE LEASE SALE

ELY DISTRICT OFFICE

NEPA #: DOI-BLM-NV-L010-2012-0009-EA

### 1.1.1 Background Information:

Areas available for fluid mineral leasing are identified through management determinations during the planning process. These determinations designate the land as closed or open to leasing, and if open, what stipulations should be applied to the lease. All leases are subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form which allows for up to 60-day timing deferments and 200-meter (656 feet) displacements (Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 3101.1-2). Stipulations modify the lease rights beyond the standard lease terms. Constraints are considered to be either major, such as no surface occupancy, or moderate. Moderate constraints consist of timing limitations (seasonal restrictions) and controlled surface use restrictions. Timing limitations indicate that a leased area generally is open to development activities except during a specified period of time to protect identified resource values such as wildlife. Controlled surface use stipulations may require operating constraints to protect resources year round; for example, staying on existing roads.

A lease notice may be attached to the lease to inform potential lessees of important resource issues under existing laws and regulations that may result in delays associated with subsequent permitting, and appropriate mitigation of those resource concerns.

Resources are further protected during operational activities through the application of best management practices, as contained in the Gold Book (U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Department of Agriculture 2006) and the development of site-specific conditions of approval.

Under certain conditions, waivers, exceptions, and modification to lease stipulations may be granted. The circumstances for granting an exception, waiver, or modification are attached to each stipulation.

Any lease stipulation may be waived or modified as per Title 43 CFR, Section 3101.1-4. A waiver or modification is allowable only if the authorized officer determines that the factors leading to its inclusion in the lease have changed sufficiently to make requirements of the stipulation(s) no longer justified, or mitigation contained in individual permits will preclude unacceptable impacts. If the waiver or modification is of major concern to the public, such modification will be subject to a 30-day public review. This review can be held concurrent with

the required 30-day posting of applications for permit to drill. Plan amendments are not required to waive, modify, or provide exception to lease stipulations.

A waiver eliminates a stipulation from the lease. The stipulation waiver can be considered concurrent with application for permit to drill approvals and can be accomplished with any NEPA vehicle available such as an environmental assessment, documentation of NEPA adequacy, categorical exclusion, or any similar process available to the Ely District Office.

A modification usually is considered a long-term change in the stipulation to fit the new conditions for which the stipulation was applied; however, it can be short term as well. Depending upon the site conditions, the stipulation may or may not apply to all actions or authorizations on the leasehold. An example of a modification could be a sage grouse lek site that may no longer need a “No Surface Occupancy” (NSO) stipulation on drilling and construction operations if the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting the sage grouse lek. Public notice is required only if the authorized officer determines it is of major public concern.

An exception is a one-time exception to all or part of the stipulation for a particular action due to changed environmental conditions at the time and place of the action being considered. For example, a seasonal restriction on drilling in critical winter range could be excepted if the winter is mild and the target species have not moved onto the critical portions of the winter range (near the drilling location). In subsequent years, the conditions could change and preclude an exception being granted. Normally, exceptions are considered minor actions and, therefore, are not subject to a 30-day public review.

### **1.1.2 Current Leasing Review Guidelines:**

It is the policy of the BLM as derived from various laws, including the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, to make mineral resources available and to encourage development of mineral resources to meet national, regional, and local needs. The BLM Nevada State Office (NSO) conducts a yearly competitive lease sale for oil and gas lease parcels in the Ely District.

The Nevada BLM State Office publishes a Notice of Competitive Lease Sale (NCLS) that lists lease parcels offered at the auction at least 45 days before the auction is held. The BLM bases its decision as to which parcels to offer for this competitive lease sale on current information and the management framework developed in the land use plan. Surface management of non-BLM administered lands overlaying federal minerals is determined by BLM in consultation with the appropriate surface management agency or the private surface owner.

In the process of preparing a lease sale, the BLM State Office sends a list of nominated parcels to each field office where the parcels are located. The Field Office staff then review the parcels to determine:

- If they are in areas open to leasing;
- If new information has become available which might change any analysis conducted during the planning process;
- If appropriate consultations have been conducted;
- What appropriate stipulations should be included; and
- If there are special resource conditions, of which potential bidders should be made aware.

Once the draft parcel review is completed and returned to the State Office, a list of available lease parcels and stipulations is made available to the public through a NCLS. Lease stipulations applicable to each parcel are specified in the Sale Notice. On rare occasions, additional information obtained after the publication of the NCLS, may result in withdrawal of certain parcels prior to the day of the lease sale.

The EA verifies conformance with the approved land use plan and provides the rationale for deferring parcels from the lease sale. Additionally, it provides the rationale for any lease stipulations applied to specific parcels.

Resource specialists, who relied on historical data, assessed environmental impacts that might result from an oil and gas lease sale, and personal knowledge of the areas involved, conducted field inspections or reviewed existing databases and file information to determine the appropriate stipulations to attach to specific parcels. This complies with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (Public law 91-90, 42 USC 4321 et seq.)

At the time of this review, it is not known whether nominated parcels will receive bids, if leases will be issued, or if well sites or roads might be proposed in the future. Detailed site-specific analysis of individual wells or roads would occur when an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) is submitted.

## **1.2 Purpose and Need for Action:**

The purpose of the action is to offer all or part of the 102 nominated parcels for competitive oil and gas leasing in the June 2012 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale. Offering nominated parcels for competitive oil and gas leasing allows private individuals or companies to explore the Federal mineral estate of lands managed by the federal government for the development of oil and gas resources.

The sale of oil and gas leases is needed to allow continued exploration for additional petroleum reserves which would help the United States meet its growing energy needs and to enable the United States to become less dependent on foreign oil sources. This action is being initiated to facilitate the BLM Ely District's implementation of the requirements in Executive Order 13212 (2001) and the National Energy Policy Act (2005).

### **1.3 Conformance with BLM Land Use Plan(s):**

The Proposed Action complies with federal, state, and local laws, and regulations, and is consistent with federal, state, and local policies, and plans to maximum extent possible.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Ely District Approved Resource Management Plan (August 20, 2008), which states, *"To provide for the responsible development of mineral resources to meet local, regional, and national needs, while providing for the protection of other resources and uses."* In addition, *"Timing limitations indicate that a leased area generally is open to development activities except during a specified period of time to protect identified resource values such as wildlife"* (page 92).

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Ely Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), November 2007, which states, *"Allow for meeting the Nation's energy needs while providing environmentally responsible production of fluid leasable minerals and geophysical exploration for energy resources on public lands"*(Page S-xvii).

### **1.4 Relationship to Statutes, Regulations, or other Plans:**

This document is tiered to, and incorporates by reference, the Ely Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/FEIS), released in November 2007 (BLM 2008a). Should a determination be made that implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in significant environmental impacts or significant environmental impacts beyond those already disclosed in the existing NEPA documents, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) would be prepared to document that determination and a Decision Record (DR) issued that provides a rationale for approving the selected alternative.

Purchasers of oil and gas leases are required to obey all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations including obtaining all required permits required should lease development occur.

Federal regulations and policies require the BLM to make its public land and resources available based on the principle of multiple-use. At the same time, it is BLM policy to conserve special

status species and their habitats, and ensure that actions authorized by the BLM do not contribute to the need for the species to become listed as threatened or endangered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Compliance with Section 106 responsibilities of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) are adhered to by following the BLM – Nevada State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) protocol agreement, which is authorized by the National Programmatic Agreement between the BLM, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, and other applicable BLM handbooks.

As the BLM reviews draft parcel locations, the cultural resource staff reviews the locations to determine if any are within known areas of cultural or archeological concern. Native American consultation is conducted for each lease sale. If Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP) or heritage related issues are identified, such parcels are withheld from the sale while letters requesting information, comments, or concerns are sent to Native American representatives. If the same draft parcels appear in a future sale, a second request for information is sent to the same recipients and the parcels may be held back again. If no response to the second letter is received, the parcels are allowed to be offered in the next sale.

If responses are received, BLM cultural resources staff will discuss the information or issues of concern with the Native American representative to determine if all or only portions of a parcel need to be withdrawn from the sale or if special stipulations need be attached as lease stipulations. Native American consultation letters for the June 2012 Lease Sale were sent November 11, 2011. Responses from The Duckwater Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation were received on December 29, 2011.

The Proposed Action and alternatives would be in conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, (P.L. 91-190 as amended (42 USC §4321 et seq.); Mineral Leasing Act (MLA) of 1920 as amended and supplemented (30 USC 181 et seq.); the Federal Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987, which includes the regulatory authority under 43 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 3100, Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing; General, and Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) Right-of-Way (ROW) under regulatory authority under 43 CFR 2800 for ROWs.

### **1.5 Identification of Issues:**

While many issues may arise during scoping, not all of the issues raised warrant analysis. Issues raised through scoping are analyzed if:

- Analysis of the issue is necessary to make a reasoned choice between alternatives.

- The issue is significant (an issue associated with a significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impact, or where analysis is necessary to determine the significance of impacts).
- There is a disagreement about the best way to use a resource, or resolve an unwanted resource condition, or potentially significant effects of a proposed action or alternative.

An interdisciplinary (ID) team discussed the potential consequences of the proposed action during internal scoping held on November 7, 2011 for Egan FO, and November 14, 2011 for Schell FO. The following issues were analyzed within this EA as a result of scoping:

- Cultural Resources
- Migratory Birds
- Fish and Wildlife
- Special Status Species
- Wetlands/Riparian Areas
- Visual Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Socioeconomics

During internal review of the nominated parcels against the current Ely RMP (2008), the interdisciplinary staff determined that there were issues with three (3) parcels. The following parcels have been removed in part from this sale, due to these lands being identified for disposal in the Ely RMP (2008) and closed to fluid mineral leasing.

- NV-12-06-042                      T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
    Sec. 012 LOTS 2,3,5;  
    Sec. 012 SWSE;  
    Sec. 013 LOTS 1,4,6,7,9,11,12,14,16,17,19;  
    Sec. 013 SENE,NENW,W2SW,E2SE,SWSE.
- NV-12-06-043                      T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
    Sec. 023 E2E2;  
    Sec. 024 LOTS 1,3,4,6,8,9,13,14,16;  
    Sec. 024 W2E2,NWNW,SESW;  
    Sec. 025 LOTS 1,3,4,6,7;  
    Sec. 025 E2W2,SWSW;  
    Sec. 026 LOTS 1,3,5,6,8;  
    Sec. 026 W2E2,NENE.
- NV-12-06-044                      T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
    Sec. 035 LOTS 1,3;

Sec. 035 NWNE;  
 Sec. 036 NWNW.

Of the 102 parcels that were originally proposed for the lease sale, eight (8) parcels are completely within U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands located in the southern part of the Ruby Mountains. The USFS reviewed the Ruby Mountain R. D. Oil & Gas Lease Availability Analysis and Decision Memo of November 29, 2005 and determined that this NEPA document was adequate to implement the decision to offer the lands for lease with NSO stipulation. All parcels are subject to lease notices for Lands of the National Forest System under Jurisdiction of Department of Agriculture, Floodplains and Wetlands, as well as, the NSO stipulation. The following table correlates the BLM parcel numbers with the USFS parcel numbers analyzed in **Attachment E**.

**Table 1.4**

| <b>USFS Parcel Analyzed</b> | <b>Correlated BLM Parcel Offered</b>             |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>HT26N56E-22</b>          | ½ NV-12-06-014 & ½ NV-12-06-015                  |
| <b>HT26N56E-21</b>          | ½ NV-12-06-014 & ½ NV-12-06-015                  |
| <b>HT26N56E-20</b>          | NV-12-06-013                                     |
| <b>HT25N56E-19</b>          | ¼ NV-12-06-011 & ⅓ NV-12-06-012                  |
| <b>HT25N56E-18</b>          | ¼ NV-12-06-010 & ½ NV-12-06-011                  |
| <b>HT25N56E-17</b>          | ⅔ NV-12-06-009 & ¼ NV-12-06-010                  |
| <b>HT25N56E-16</b>          | ⅓ NV-12-06-012, ¼ NV-12-06-011, & ¼ NV-12-06-010 |
| <b>HT25N56E-15</b>          | ¼ NV-12-06-010 & ⅔ NV-12-06-008                  |
| <b>HT25N56E-14</b>          | ⅓ NV-12-06-008 & ⅔ NV-12-06-009                  |

The following 24 parcels are being deferred from this lease sale until such time the BLM is able to implement the new policy being developed for Greater Sage Grouse conservation under IM 2012-043 and IM 2012-044. Under the new policy, additional parcels may also be deferred.

|              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| NV-12-06-040 | NV-12-06-058 | NV-12-06-082 |
| NV-12-06-042 | NV-12-06-059 | NV-12-06-083 |
| NV-12-06-043 | NV-12-06-060 | NV-12-06-089 |
| NV-12-06-044 | NV-12-06-064 | NV-12-06-101 |
| NV-12-06-046 | NV-12-06-066 | NV-12-06-102 |
| NV-12-06-047 | NV-12-06-078 | NV-12-06-103 |
| NV-12-06-054 | NV-12-06-079 | NV-12-06-105 |
| NV-12-06-055 | NV-12-06-080 | NV-12-06-107 |

The following three (3) parcels partially extended over the Egan Field Office (EFO) boundary into the Mount Lewis Field Office (MLFO). Coordination between the MLFO and EFO took place to ensure resource concerns on each side of the field office boundary matched.

NV-11-09-014

NV-11-09-017

NV-11-09-019

The proposed action is placed on the BLM website for 30 days to receive public comments until February 11, 2012.

A project notice was sent to the Great Basin National Park and the Nevada State Clearinghouse on December 14, 2011. All comments received will be included as part of the Final EA.

## Chapter 2 Proposed Action and Alternatives

### 2.1 Introduction:

The previous chapter presented the Purpose and Need for the proposed project along with the identified relevant issues, i.e., those elements that could be affected by the implementation of the proposed project. In order to meet the purpose and need of the proposed project in a way that resolves the issues, the BLM should developed a range of action alternatives. However, only a proposed action alternative and no action alternative seem feasible and are presented below. No other alternatives to the proposed action were apparent which would meet the purpose and need of the Proposed Action. The potential environmental impacts or consequences resulting from the implementation of each alternative are then analyzed in Chapter 4 for each of the identified issues.

The BLM Nevada State Office submitted a list of 102 nominated parcels totaling over 193,000 acres to the Ely District Office on October 28, 2011. Egan Field Office (EFO) received 66 parcels and Schell Field Office (SFO) received 36 parcels. The EFO is the lead office on this project.

**Table 2.1 Nominated Parcels Distribution**

| <b>Field Office</b> | <b># of Nominated Parcels</b> | <b>Total Acreage</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Egan                | 66                            | 135,000              |
| Schell              | 36                            | 58,000               |
| <b>Total:</b>       | <b>102</b>                    | <b>193,000</b>       |

## 2.2 Description of the Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action is to recommend to the State Director that the BLM offer for competitive oil and gas leasing 102 parcels of federal minerals covering approximately 193,000 acres administered by the Ely District Office. Standard terms and conditions as well as special stipulations would apply. Lease stipulations (as required by Title 43 CFR 3131.3) would be added to the 102 parcels to address site-specific concerns or new information not identified in the land use planning process.

The 102 parcels included in the lease sale are listed in **Appendix A** with parcel numbers, acreages, and legal descriptions of parcels.

Once sold, the lease purchaser has the ability to explore and drill for all of the oil and gas within the lease boundaries, subject to the stipulations attached to the lease (Title 43 CFR 3101.1-2). Oil and gas leases are issued for a 10-year period and continue for as long thereafter as oil or gas is produced in paying quantities.

**Table 2.2 Map Key for Parcels with Acreage**

| AREA | AREA NAME        | PARCEL NUMBERS   | TOTAL ACREAGE |
|------|------------------|--|---------------|
| A    | *Diamond Range   | 5, 6, 7  | 3,765         |
| B    | Duckwater        | 16   | 710           |
| C    | **Ruby Mountains | 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15   | 16,237        |
| D    | Steptoe Valley   | 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 101, 102, 103, 105, 107, 108, 109, 110 | 136,244       |
| E    | Antelope Valley  | 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98   | 36,114        |

*\* These parcels require coordination with the Mount Lewis Field Office, since the parcels overlap our field office boundaries.*

*\*\* These parcels require coordination with the US Forest Service, since all of these parcels are within public lands under their jurisdiction.*

If a lessee fails to produce oil and gas, does not make annual rental payments, does not comply with the terms and conditions of the lease, or relinquishes the lease; ownership of the minerals revert back to the federal government and the lease can be resold.

Drilling of wells on a lease is not permitted until the lease owner or operator secures approval of a drilling permit and a surface use plan specified under Onshore Oil and Gas Orders, Notice to Lessee's (NTL's) listed in Title 43 CFR 3162.

Anyone submitting an informal Expression of Interest (EOI) that certain lands be offered in an oil and gas competitive lease auction, and that the EOI includes split estate lands (private surface/Federal minerals) must provide, with the EOI, the name and address of the current private surface owner(s). Whenever a split-estate parcel is included in an oil and gas Notice of Competitive Lease Sale, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will send a courtesy letter to the surface owner(s). The letter will provide the surface owner(s) notice of the scheduled auction as well as information about the BLM's regulations and procedures for Federal oil and gas leasing and development on split estate lands. Any EOI including split-estate lands that is submitted in the future, or is now pending with a BLM State Office, that does not provide the name and address of the surface owner(s) will not be processed by the BLM. Such lands will not be placed on a list of lands included in a Notice of Competitive Lease Sale until the required information is provided.

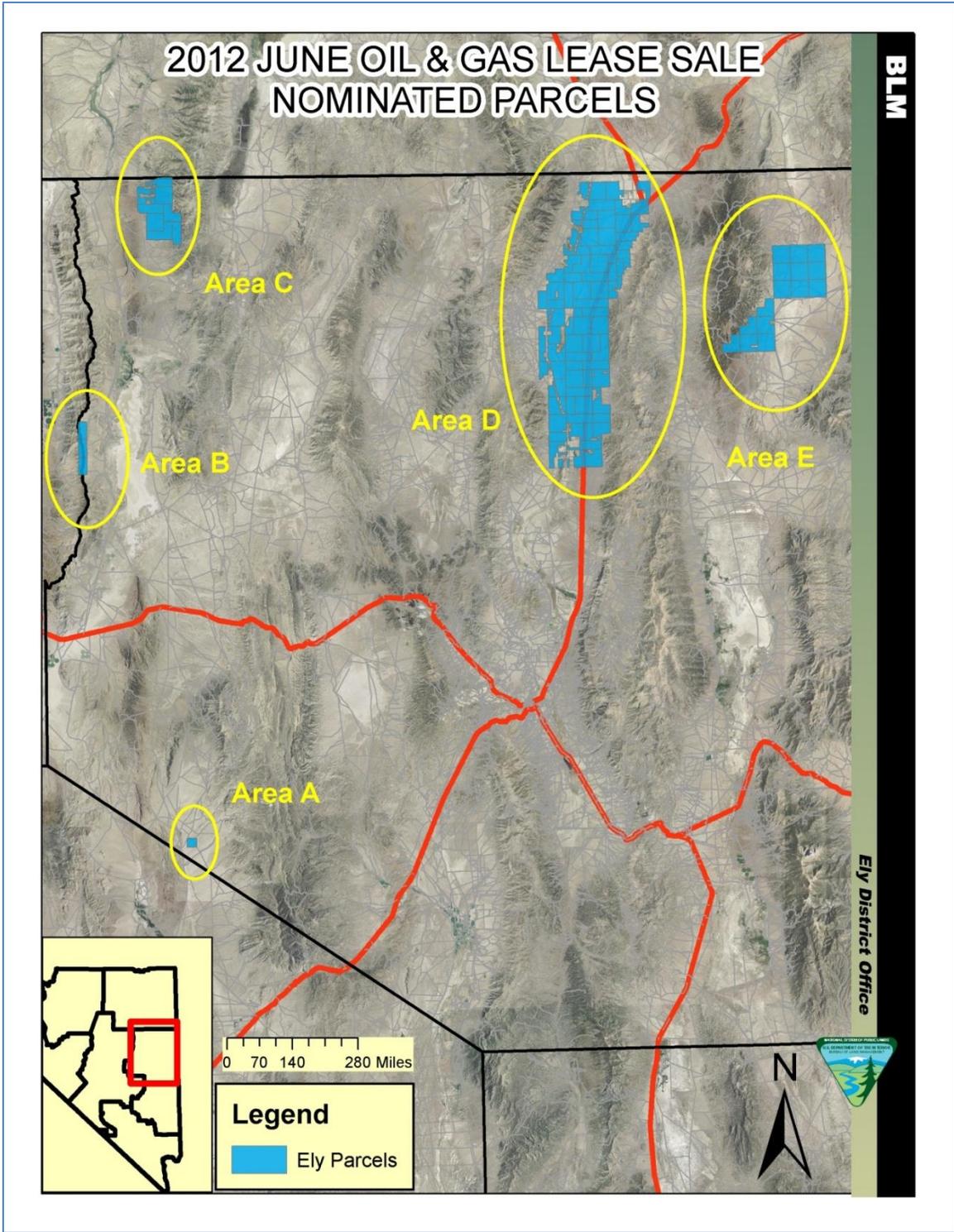
Some of the parcels may contain a special Cultural Resources Lease Notice stating that all development activities proposed under the authority of these leases are subject to compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and Executive Order 13007. Standard terms and conditions as well as special stipulations listed in the RMP would also apply.

Many of the parcels have one or more of the following stipulations associated with the lease, as shown in Appendix B of the EA:

- LEASE NOTICES
  - NV-040-005-004 Historic Trails (Pony Express)
  - NV-040-005-003 Historic Sites
  - NV-040-005-002 Cultural Sites
  - NV-040-005-001 Desert Tortoise Habitat
  
- LEASE TIMING STIPULATIONS
  - NV-040-002-007 Desert Tortoise Habitat
  - NV-040-002-006 Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat
  - NV-040-002-005 Big Game Crucial Winter Range
  - NV-040-002-004 Big Game Calving/Fawning/Kidding/Lambing Grounds
  - NV-040-002-003 Raptor Nest Sites
  - NV-040-002-002 Sage Grouse Nesting Habitat Associated with Leks
  - NV-040-002-001 Sage Grouse Winter Range
  
- LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS

NV-040-001-010 Threatened and Endangered, and Sensitive Species Sites  
NV-040-001-009 U.S. Forest Service Lands  
NV-040-001-008 Desert Tortoise ACEC  
NV-040-001-007 Natural, Scenic, and Recreation Sites  
NV-040-001-006 BLM Facilities  
NV-040-001-005 Paleontological Sites  
NV-040-001-002 Cultural Sites  
NV-040-001-001 Sage Grouse Leks

No additional mitigation measures are necessary at this time. However, if parcels were developed in the future, site-specific mitigation measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) (**Appendix D**) would be attached as Condition of Approval (COA) for each proposed activity, which would be analyzed under their own site-specific NEPA analysis.



**Figure 2.2 Nominated Parcels Map**

### **2.3 No Action Alternative:**

In accordance with BLM NEPA guidelines H-1790-1, Chapter V (BLM 2008), this EA evaluates the No Action Alternative. The objective of the No Action Alternative is to describe the environmental consequences that would result if the Proposed Action were not implemented. The No Action Alternative forms the baseline from which the impacts of all other alternatives can be measured. In the case of a lease sale, this would mean that all expressions of interest to lease (parcel nominations) would be denied or rejected.

Under the No Action Alternative, the BLM would withdraw all 102 nominated lease parcels from the June 2012 lease sale. Surface management would remain the same and ongoing oil and gas development would continue on surrounding leased federal, private, and state lands.

If the BLM does not lease these Federal mineral resources, demand would likely be addressed through imports or production elsewhere.

### **2.4 Alternatives Considered but not Analyzed in Detail:**

The original parcel list sent to the Ely District Office included 102 parcels of federal minerals covering just over 193,000 acres. Standard terms and conditions as well as special stipulations listed in the RMP would apply to these parcels.

No other alternatives to the proposed action were apparent that would meet the purpose and need of the Proposed Action.

### **2.5 Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario:**

A Reasonably Foreseeable Development scenario (RFD) for oil and gas is a long-term projection of oil and gas exploration, development, production, and reclamation activity. The RFD covers oil and gas activity in a defined area for a specified period of time. The RFD projects a baseline scenario of activity assuming all potentially productive areas can be open under standard lease terms and conditions, except those areas designated as closed to leasing by law, regulation, or executive order. The baseline RFD provides the mechanism to analyze the effects that discretionary management decisions have on oil and gas activity. The RFD also provides the basic information that is analyzed in the NEPA document under various alternatives. The RFD discloses indirect future or potential impacts that could occur once the lands are leased. Prior to any future development, the BLM would require a site-specific NEPA analysis at the exploration and development stages in order to comply with NEPA.

Over 10 million acres (87%) of the Ely decision area are open to fluid mineral leasing (**Table 2.5** below). For the Ely RMP, approximately 71% of the areas that are “closed” or with “No Surface Occupancy” (NSO) restrictions would occur in areas that have a high to moderate potential for

the occurrence of fluid minerals. About half of these acres occur in designated wilderness and wilderness study areas. Discretionary closures and no surface occupancy areas make up about 5% of the decision area.

The Proposed Action does not include any surface disturbance, such as exploration, development, production, or final reclamation of oil and gas resources. However, authorization of oil and gas leasing does convey a right to subsequent exploration and production activities. The activities that are associated with oil and gas exploration and production would be analyzed as part of a site-specific NEPA analysis when and if an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) or Notice were received.

**Table 2.5 Summary of Fluid Mineral Leasing in ELY RMP**

| <b>Open to Fluid Mineral Leasing</b>                          | <b>Acres (approx)</b> |
|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Standard Lease Terms and Conditions</b>                    | <b>6,532,500</b>      |
| <b>Moderate Restrictions (Timing/Surface Use Limitations)</b> | <b>3,277,200</b>      |
| <b>Major Restrictions (No Surface Occupancy)</b>              | <b>230,100</b>        |
| <b>Open — Total:</b>  | <b>10,039,800</b>     |
| <b>Closed to Fluid Mineral Leasing</b>                        |                       |
| <b>Designated Wilderness/Wilderness Study Areas</b>           | <b>1,153,500</b>      |
| <b>Discretionary Closures</b>                                 | <b>306,700</b>        |
| <b>Closed — Total:</b>  | <b>1,460,200</b>      |
| <b>Total:</b>   | <b>11,500,000</b>     |

*Note: There will be about 1,087,620 acres of lease notices that could apply to any of the above open categories.*

## **2.6 General Assumptions for the Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario:**

The following is a list of major assumptions upon which the reasonable foreseeable development scenario is based (Ely RMP 2008):

- There would be no major regulatory changes in federal or state statutes, regulations, policy, and guidance that govern the exploration and development of fluid minerals, including lease royalty provisions and lease rental fees.

Oil prices would remain sufficiently high to stimulate continued exploration and drilling. Recent historic highs in the price of oil may stimulate exploration activity above levels of the recent past. It is possible that higher prices may persist for the next few years. The reasonable foreseeable development scenario (ENSR 2004a) is a planning tool that was developed to accommodate the maximum development that could reasonably be expected to occur.

However, actual activity levels, as with prices, cannot be predicted with certainty.

- The amount of federal oil and gas acreage under lease in the decision area would range between 1.0 and 1.5 million acres. Increases in the lease inventory above 1.5 million acres would be driven by commodity prices and availability of land for leasing. As of January 2005, there were 459 federal oil and gas leases covering approximately 1.0 million acres in the decision area. In the next year or two, leases may increase to as much as 3 million acres. This would be due to the unprecedented spike in the price of oil, recent discoveries in similar geologic plays in other parts of the Great Basin, and the availability of additional lands for leasing that have not been available for several years due to the lack of appropriate NEPA analysis.
- Based on 2000 to 2004 numbers, additional federal lease sales are projected to average approximately 220,000 acres per year for the next several years. Due to the factors outlined above, lease sales could average as much as 400,000 acres per year within the next 1 to 2 years.
- It cannot be predicted at this time how much acreage eventually would be held by production, which is entirely dependent on the discovery of commercial oil and gas fields.
- Past oil and gas exploration has concentrated on oil plays (oil-bearing formations) within valley floors. New regional discoveries and a recent oil and gas resource assessment, however, indicate that a large amount of exploration could take place in the mountains (see Map 4.18-1) (U.S. Geological Survey 2005).
- Seismic surveys are a critical part of oil and gas exploration. If new discoveries are made or new plays are developed, seismic activity would increase. It is assumed that approximately 30 miles of seismic survey would be conducted per year, based on recent experience.
- New field discoveries would be similar in size and surface disturbance to the Trap Springs and Kate Springs oil fields within Railroad Valley.
- The reasonably foreseeable development scenario is made without respect to any existing or proposed leasing stipulations and conditions of approval in accordance with BLM guidance.
- Actual locations of potential exploration wells and field development are unknown. The impacts associated with these activities are likely to occur anywhere within the

Assessment Area that is of high or moderate, or even low, potential for oil and gas resources.

As shown on Table 4.18-2 of the Ely 2008 RMP, a total of 448 wells would be drilled resulting in total short-term (5 to 10 years) disturbance of approximately 8,400 acres and a long-term (about 20 years for producing wells) disturbance of approximately 1,400 acres. Short-term disturbance as defined for the reasonably foreseeable development scenario includes locations for wells in the plugged and abandoned category that would be reclaimed immediately after drilling or construction.

The RFD provides the basis for the analysis of the environmental consequences in Chapter 4 of this document. The RFD for the Assessment Area is based on the geology, oil and gas development history, oil and gas potential, BLM well data, and data from other EAs for oil and gas leases in eastern Nevada.

## **2.7 Geology of Oil and Gas in Eastern Nevada:**

Many of the rock formations found within the Assessment Area are indicative of a continental plate margin converging with an oceanic plate. A combination of depositional and orogenic (mountain building) events along this margin have resulted in the Assessment Area being generally prospective for hydrocarbon production.

The development of the Antler Orogeny in the Late Devonian to Early Mississippian allowed the deposition of the organic-rich source rocks necessary for hydrocarbon development. Late Cretaceous Sevier Orogeny created stacked set of thrust sheets, which buried the mid-Paleozoic organic sediments beneath a thickened crust where they could pass into the oil and gas-generating temperature and pressure windows. The Sevier Orogeny in Late Cretaceous also placed locally prospective reservoir rocks above the Mississippian source rocks in potential oil and gas traps. In geologic time following the Sevier Orogeny, the assessment area experienced varying amounts of volcanism and the development of the present-day basin and range topography. The late Tertiary volcanic rocks constitute the main reservoir of the oil fields in the Railroad Valley petroleum province. However, the Chainman Shale and the Pilot Shale of Mississippian ages are the potentially oil-bearing formations sought after in the majority of the Assessment Area.

## **2.8 History of Oil and Gas Exploration within the Ely District:**

The first oil discovery in Nevada occurred in 1954 in Railroad Valley. Railroad Valley is the predominate area of oil and gas production in Nevada. Nevada's only oil refinery is located here. Most of the valley lies in Nye County, but it crosses into White Pine County at its northern end.

Since 1907, over 970 wells have been drilled in Nevada. This includes about 270 wells drilled since 1986 of which about 50 were producers.

Locally, numerous exploration or “wildcat” wells have been drilled throughout White Pine, Northeast Nye, and Lincoln Counties. However, even though many have had oil shows, no well has gone into production within the Ely District boundary.

The first well drilled in the Ely District was in 1920 when the Illipah Syndicate drilled a well in the Barrel Springs area of the White Pine Range in White Pine County. The well was drilled in Section 11, Township 17 North, Range 58 East and reached a total depth of 929 feet with gas and oil shows (evidence of oil and gas) (Garside et al. 1988). The Illipah Syndicate drilled three (3) more wells in the 1920s in the Barrel Springs area with numerous oil and gas shows, but with no commercial results.

About 200 wells have been drilled in the district since the 1920s. Since 1950, slightly more than 170 wells have been drilled in the district, and 90 percent of them were abandoned with only one well currently in production. Many wells had evidence of the presence of hydrocarbons, but not in commercially producible quantities. A small percentage of wells were converted to disposal wells or water wells.

Drilling activity in the 1950s was sparse with only one well drilled in some years, and in other years, no drilling occurred. Since 1964, an average of about four (4) wells per year has been drilled in the district, with most of the wells being drilled in White Pine County (Hess 2001). However, approximately 68 wells have been drilled in the Nye County portion of the district, and most of those are in the Railroad Valley. Most of the drilling occurred on federal leases, and the federal government owns the overwhelming amount of leased minerals. More than one-third of the wells in the district were drilled to depths of between 2,500 and 5,000 feet.

A little more than 5% of the wells were drilled to more than 10,000 feet deep. The deepest well in the district, drilled in 1983, was the Commodore Resources Outlaw Federal #1 drilled to a total depth of 13,000 feet in White Pine County (Section 1, Township 10 North, Range 70 East). The well was drilled east of the Snake Range and had reported hydrocarbon shows, but tests on the oil were not conclusive of naturally occurring hydrocarbons (Poole and Claypoole 1984).

The U.S. Geological Survey (Peterson and Grow 1995) estimated the potential undiscovered technically recoverable hydrocarbon resources for the Eastern Basin and Range area, of which the Assessment Area is part. Their estimates, when extrapolated to the district, indicate that the potential hydrocarbon resource in the district is nearly 98 million barrels of oil and almost 16 billion cubic feet of natural gas.

These estimates are the mean values presented by Peterson and Grow (1995). Low-grade coal (lignite) is present in the district, but mineable deposits have not been found. Therefore, there is very low or no potential for coalbed natural gas resources in the Ely District. Therefore, coalbed natural gas is not included in the natural gas resource estimate.

Based on the foregoing, much of the Assessment Area has a high potential for hydrocarbons based on the following geologic characteristics:

Presence of hydrocarbon source rocks

Evidence of thermal maturation

Presence of reservoir rocks with adequate porosity and permeability

Potential for hydrocarbon traps to exist

There are places in the district where Precambrian-age metamorphic and volcanic rocks are the dominant surface rock types, but the presence of these rocks does not preclude the potential for the occurrence of deeper hydrocarbons in these areas. It is possible that hydrocarbon resources may have been buried by thrust faults or extrusive igneous rocks and that current exploration techniques, exclusive of random drilling, cannot define the location or depth of these hidden potential resources.

## 2.9 History of Oil and Gas Leasing within the Ely District:

Based on 2001 to 2011 leasing numbers below in **Table 2.9** below, federal lease sales average approximately 444,000 acres per year over the last 10 years. The largest amount of acreage leased within the past 10 years was in 2005 where it surpassed 800,000 acres. However, since the new oil and gas leasing reform in 2011, the BLM state office put a limit of 150 parcels per sale and one sale per district office per year. At a maximum of 2,560 acres per parcel, this calculates the total leasable acreage per sale to 384,000. Additional lease sales, such as this one, are optional to the District Office.

**Table 2.9**

| <b>Year Leased</b> | <b>No. of Parcels Leased</b> | <b>Leased Acreage</b> | <b>Currently Active Leases</b> | <b>Current Acreage</b> |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2001               | 173                          | 600,085               | 25                             | 77,761                 |
| 2002               | 29                           | 109,226               | 12                             | 14,362                 |
| 2003               | 55                           | 77,836                | 26                             | 30,877                 |
| 2004               | 119                          | 309,539               | 46                             | 103,171                |
| 2005               | 341                          | 827,236               | 98                             | 219,463                |
| 2006               | 282                          | 675,461               | 163                            | 353,899                |

|                |             |                  |            |                  |
|----------------|-------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| 2007           | 93          | 167,683          | 33         | 47,260           |
| 2008           | 278         | 535,768          | 172        | 321,091          |
| 2009           | 138         | 263,519          | 79         | 136,306          |
| 2010           | 178         | 551,843          | 175        | 541,172          |
| 2011           | 131         | 325,637          | 131        | 325,637          |
| <b>Totals:</b> | <b>1817</b> | <b>4,443,833</b> | <b>960</b> | <b>2,170,999</b> |

The above table also demonstrates the constant turnover of leased parcels. Although the BLM has leased over 4.4 million acres of public land for oil & gas development in the past 10 years, only 2.2 million acres of the 4.4 million acres of leased public land remains authorized. The June 2012 lease sale could add another 193,000 leased acres, while over 77,000 acres leased in 2001 will expire in 2012.

## Chapter 3 Affected Environment:

### 3.1 Introduction:

This chapter describes the existing environment in the project area including physical, biological, social, and economic resources, potential direct and indirect impacts to these resources.

### 3.2 General Setting:

There are no known oil reserves within any of the proposed parcel areas. The oil-bearing formations sought in White Pine County are the Chainman and Pilot shales, as well as, Devonian age subthrust structures known to be present in some valleys within the Assessment Area. The nominate parcels have been segregated into five areas of analysis (**Figure 2.2**).

**Area A** contains three (3) parcels that straddle the Diamond Range peaks between the Egan Field Office and the Mount Lewis Field Office. It is mostly rugged mountainous terrain with few roads and trails. No exploration wells have ever been drilled in these parcels. There were six (6) wells drilled within 10 miles of these parcels. Only two wells had oil shows or signs of oil present.

**Area B** is a single parcel located northeast of the Duckwater Reservation. The area is in the valley bottom, dominated by low scrubs and sagebrush. The closest exploration well drilled near this parcel is over eight (8) miles to the south. No oil shows were documented for this well.

**Area C** is comprised of eight (8) parcels all within U.S. Forest Service lands near the White Pine-Elko county line. It is a mixture of lowlands with a Pinyon/Juniper community. Five (5) exploration wells have been drilled within ten (10) miles of the parcels. The nearest three (3) wells all reported oil shows.

**Area D** is a large group of 75 parcels located in northern Steptoe Valley, along both sides of Highway 93. It extends 32 miles north from Warm Springs to the southern end of Goshute Lake and up to eight (8) miles wide across the valley floor. Vegetation is mostly sagebrush communities containing sand dunes, sporadic ranches, and the southern end of Goshute Lake. Two (2) wells were drilled within these parcels and one of the wells reported several oil shows. Seven (7) other wells were drilled mostly to the south of Area D and only two (2) reported oil shows.

**Area E** is located in Antelope Valley, just west of the Goshute Reservation in mostly valley bottom terrain and contains 15 parcels. Vegetation consists mostly of low scrub plants and small sagebrush dominates the valley. Ranching and grazing are the predominate activities in this valley. Only one well was drilled in Antelope Valley and it was in 1989. It is located a few miles south of the Reservation boundary and it reported oil shows. Only one other well was drilled in this area more than 10 miles to the northeast of the Reservation boundary.

### 3.3 Resources/Concerns Analyzed:

The following sections evaluate resources for the potential for significant impacts to occur, either directly or indirectly, due to implementation of the proposed action. Potential impacts were evaluated in accordance with criteria listed in section 1.5 of this paper to determine if detailed analysis was required. Consideration of some of these items is to ensure compliance with laws, statutes or Executive Orders that impose certain requirements upon all Federal actions. Other items are relevant to the management of public lands in general, and to the Ely District BLM in particular.

The Mandatory Elements of the Human Environment are listed in **Table 3.3** below. Elements that may be affected would be further described in this EA. A rationale for elements that may or may not be adversely affected is also included in table below.

**Table 3.3** Supplemental Authorities and Ely District additional resources to consider.

| <b>Resource/Concern</b>   | <b>Issue(s) (Y/N)</b> | <b>Rationale for Dismissal from Detailed Analysis or Issue(s) Requiring Detailed Analysis</b>  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Air Quality               | N                     | Air Quality is not an Issue for lease sales since no ground disturbing activities are associated with the sales per se. Air Quality concerns during development of parcels subsequent to lease sales would be handled through design features, mitigation measures, and/or project stipulations. |
| <b>Cultural Resources</b> | <b>Y</b>              | <b>Analyzed in Potentially Affected Resources and Environmental Effects sections. A Class I literature review was conducted to ensure that no</b>  |

| Resource/Concern   | Issue(s)<br>(Y/N) | Rationale for Dismissal from Detailed Analysis or Issue(s) Requiring Detailed Analysis   |
|--|-------------------|--|
|  |                   | <b>cultural sites were present in the parcels that have special interest or importance to the general public, ie national or state historic monuments, public interpretation sites. A brief explanation of the potential substantial cost in time and money of mitigating project effects to cultural sites will also be included.</b> |
| Forest Health  | N                 | The majority of lease parcels do not occur within forested vegetation. Area C is on Forest Service land and they have provided stipulations for those parcels.   |
| Water Resources and Water Rights   | N                 | Water Resources and Water Rights are not Issues for lease sales since no ground disturbing activities are associated with the sales per se. Any concerns that arise during development of parcels subsequent to lease sales would be handled through design features, mitigation measures, and/or project stipulations.                |
| <b>Migratory Birds</b>   | <b>Y</b>          | <b>The proposed project has no surface ground disturbance and therefore will not affect the resource; however, the resource was analyzed for potential affects if drilling were to occur.</b>  |
| Rangeland Health   | N                 | Resource not affected by proposed action. No detailed analysis required.   |
| Native American Religious and Other Concerns   | N                 | A letter reaching out for consultation with the tribes was mailed out and a meeting with the Goshute Tribal Council took place on December 2, 2011. No known resources are known to be within the project area.  |
| FWS Listed or proposed for listing Threatened or Endangered Species or critical habitat. | N                 | No known resources are known to be within the project area.  |
| Wastes, Hazardous or Solid   | N                 | The proposed action will not cause any wastes. A detailed analysis is not required.  |
| Water Quality,   | N                 | Water Quality, whether related to surface or ground  |

| <b>Resource/Concern</b>        | <b>Issue(s)<br/>(Y/N)</b> | <b>Rationale for Dismissal from Detailed Analysis or<br/>Issue(s) Requiring Detailed Analysis</b>  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Drinking/Groundwater           |                           | sources, is not an Issue for lease sales. Any Water Quality concerns that arise during development of parcels subsequent to lease sales would be handled through design features, mitigation.  |
| <b>Environmental Justice</b>   | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>parcels subsequent to lease sales would be handled through design features, mitigation</b>  |
| <b>Socioeconomics</b>          | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>Analyzed in Potentially Affected Resources and Environmental Effects sections</b>   |
| Floodplains                    | N                         | Parcels are not within flood areas on FEMA flood maps. Floodplains are not an Issue for lease sales or subsequent parcel development.  |
| Farm Lands (Prime or Unique)   | N                         | Prime Farmlands are not an Issue for lease sales since soil disturbance is not associated with lease sales per se. No Unique Farmlands occur in Nevada. Prime Farmlands would be looked at in subsequent parcel development operations to ascertain if the pertinent soil associations would be affected by parcel development.  |
| <b>Wetlands/Riparian Zones</b> | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>Wetlands/Riparian Areas are not an Issue for lease sales per se. This resource would be an Issue for subsequent parcel development and would require detailed analysis for parcels determined to be in close enough proximity to potentially affect the resource during development or operation phases.<br/>Wetlands or Riparian systems maintained by a perched water table may exist in some valley floor locations and would not become apparent until boreholes are drilled.</b> |
| Invasive Non-native Species    | N                         | No ground disturbing activities are associated with the lease sale. Therefore, no further analysis is required.  |
| Wilderness/ WSA                | N                         | None of the proposed parcels are within designated wilderness or WSA boundaries. A 1,000-ft buffer has been established around these features for additional protection of the resource. A detailed analysis is not required.  |
| Lands with Wilderness          | Y                         | 11 of the proposed parcels overlap two units which   |

| <b>Resource/Concern</b>  | <b>Issue(s)<br/>(Y/N)</b> | <b>Rationale for Dismissal from Detailed Analysis or<br/>Issue(s) Requiring Detailed Analysis</b>  |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Characteristics (LWC)  |                           | were found to possess Lands with Wilderness Character  |
| <b>Heritage Special Designations (Historic Trails, ACEC's designated for Cultural Resources)</b>                 | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>Analyzed in Potentially Affected Resources and Environmental Effects sections.</b>  |
| Human Health and Safety  | N                         | Resource would not be affected by proposed action. A detailed analysis is not required.  |
| Wild and Scenic Rivers   | N                         | Resource is not present.   |
| <b>Special Status Animal Species, other than those listed or proposed by the FWS as Threatened or Endangered</b> | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>The proposed project has no surface ground disturbance and therefore will not affect the resource, however the resource was analyzed for potential effects if drilling were to occur. Parcels that overlapped with Greater Sage Grouse 75% breeding density polygons were deferred</b>  |
| <b>Special Status Plant Species, other than those listed or proposed by the FWS as Threatened or Endangered</b>  | <b>N</b>                  | <b>Resource is not known to be present..</b>   |
| <b>Fish and Wildlife</b>   | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>The proposed project has no surface ground disturbance and therefore will not affect the resource, however the resource was analyzed for potential effects if drilling were to occur.</b>   |
| Wild Horses  | N                         | No impacts to horses would occur from the leasing of land. A detailed analysis is not required.  |
| Soils Resources  | N                         | Soil Resources is not an Issue for lease sales since ground disturbing actions are not associated with the sales per se. Any concerns during development of parcels subsequent to lease sales would be handled through design features, mitigation measures, and/or project stipulations. Riparian or hydric soils are included with Wetland/Riparian Areas. |
| <b>Visual Resources Management (VRM)</b>   | <b>Y</b>                  | <b>Analyzed in Potentially Affected Resources and Environmental Effects sections.</b>  |
| Grazing Uses/Forage  | N                         | No impacts to grazing uses would occur from the proposed action. A detailed analysis is not required.  |
| Land Uses  | N                         | The proposed project parcels were reviewed for and   |

| <b>Resource/Concern</b>  | <b>Issue(s)<br/>(Y/N)</b> | <b>Rationale for Dismissal from Detailed Analysis or<br/>Issue(s) Requiring Detailed Analysis</b>  |
|--|---------------------------|--|
|  |                           | action/status conflicts. Any that resulted in conflicts with status, land actions, legal descriptions were recommended for deferral until they can be reviewed further.  |
| Recreation Uses including<br>Back country Byways,<br>Caves, Rockhounding Areas | N                         | Recreational areas not affected by proposed action. No further analysis required.  |
| Paleontological Resource   | N                         | A BLM records search was conducted to ensure that no paleontological resources were present in the parcels that have special interest or importance to the general public. A detailed analysis is not required.  |
| Vegetative Resources   | N                         | There is no surface disturbance associated with the proposed action. No further analysis is required.  |
| Mineral Resources  | N                         | The leasing of the parcels gives the lessee the right to explore for oil and gas on their lease(s). Less than 1% of the leases sold ever have a well drilled on them. Eastern Nevada is considered by some to be prospectively rich in oil-bearing formations; however, no producing wells have been drilled east of Railroad Valley to date. No further analysis is required. |
| Fire Management  | N                         | Neither the proposed action nor the no action alternative propose any ground activities. The nature of these actions would not have an impact on fire management within or adjacent to the lease parcels.  |

### **3.4 Cultural Resources Affected Environment:**

The cultural landscape on the Ely District has evidence of a long history of human occupation. The earliest commonly accepted date for human presence in the Eastern Great Basin is approximately 10,000 to 11,000 years before present and has been consistently, though not densely populated up to the present day (Aikens and Madsen 1986). Data for the assessment of cultural resources was reviewed from the Nevada Cultural Resource Inventory System (NVCRIS) and records housed at the BLM Ely District Office. Few previously recorded cultural resources are located in the identified oil and gas lease parcels because of the limited amount of area that has been inventoried. Based on current records, some identified parcels do contain dense deposits of cultural resources.

### **3.4.1 Heritage Special Designations (Historic Trails, ACEC's designated for Cultural Resources) Affected Environment:**

The Pony Express National Historic Trail meanders through approximately 150 miles of the Ely District. Several of the parcels intersect with the trail and or fall within the trail's viewshed.

### **3.5 Fish and Wildlife Affected Environment:**

The Assessment Area includes five (5) groups of parcels across the Egan and Schell field offices. These parcels are expected to provide habitat for a large number of wildlife species, mostly terrestrial with some aquatic. Many species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates may find any one of the proposed lease areas suitable habitat. A few parcels proposed for leasing fall in areas of special importance to one or more wildlife species, such as crucial winter range for big game. These areas may have special stipulations concerning activities, which will have to be followed by anyone proposing to develop specific sites.

#### **3.5.1 Migratory Birds Affected Environment:**

Most bird species not protected under state game laws come under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which prohibits any take, including that of eggs or young in nests. The parcels included in this document contain a number of habitat types, which could provide nesting sites for a large number of bird species, including sagebrush obligates and tree nesters. The period of April 15 through July 15 has been identified as generally covering the majority of these species' nesting seasons, though this may be changed on a site-by-site basis. Activities may be restricted during this time.

#### **3.5.2 Special Status plant and animal species other than those listed as Threatened or Endangered Affected Environment:**

A number of the parcels proposed for leasing have populations of plants or animals designated as Sensitive by the Nevada BLM (**Appendix C**). The Greater Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) is a high profile species whose seasonal habitats cover a large portion of the sagebrush ecosystems on the Ely District. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that the species is "Warranted for Listing but precluded by Species of Higher Priority" and categorized it as a Candidate species.

### **3.6 Environmental Justice Affected Environment:**

There are no known disadvantaged populations or communities residing on or in the immediate surrounding area of any of the parcels proposed for leasing.

Several proposed lease parcels overlap private property and are considered split-estates, a case where the subsurface minerals are federally owned and the private ownership is limited to the surface of the land. In these instances, no authorization is necessary from the Federal

Government to conduct geophysical operations. The operator, following the purchase of the lease, must make a good faith effort to notify the private surface owner before entering private surface to stake a well location and access road or to conduct cultural or biological surveys. The BLM will invite the surface owner to participate in the onsite and final reclamation inspections and will take into consideration the needs of the surface owner when reviewing the Application for Permit to Drill or Reenter (APD) and reclamation plans and when approving final abandonment and reclamation. The BLM will offer the surface owner the same level of surface protection that the BLM provides on Federal surface. The BLM will not apply standards or conditions that exceed those that would normally be applied to Federal surface, even when requested by the surface owner. Prior to approval of the APD (or Sundry Notice to conduct new surface disturbing activities), the operator must certify as part of the complete application that a good faith effort had been made to reach a surface use agreement with the private surface owner and that an agreement was reached or that it failed. If the surface owner and operator fail to reach an agreement, the operator must file a bond with the BLM (\$1,000 minimum) for the benefit of the surface owner to cover compensation, such as for reasonable and foreseeable loss of crops and damages to tangible improvements. Prior to approving the APD, the BLM will advise the surface owner of the right to object to the sufficiency of the bond and will review the value of the bond if the surface owner objects. The BLM will either confirm the current bond amount or establish a new amount. Once the operator has filed an adequate bond, the BLM may approve the APD. Following APD approval, the operator and the surface owner may appeal the BLM's final decision on the bond amount.

The operator must negotiate in good faith with the surface owner. Negotiating in good faith provides a forum through which the operator and surface owner can discuss the preferences and needs of both the surface owner and the operator. In addressing those needs, the operator may be able to modify the development proposal to both minimize damage to the surface owner's property while reducing reclamation and surface damage costs. A typical operation would require approximately five acres to accommodate uses including the well pad, reserve pit, flare pit, multiple trailers to serve as living quarters for crew members, pipe racks, a well, chemical storage, and roads to access the site.

### **3.7 Socioeconomics Affected Environment:**

The proposed lease parcels are located only within White Pine County. White Pine County's total population, according to the 2010 Census, is approximately 10,030 with a population density of right at 1.1 persons per square mile. The median household income is \$48,063 and the unemployment rate in October 2011 was 8.3 percent. Any oil exploration or development on these parcels may provide the county with positive financial gains.

### 3.8 Visual Resource Management Affected Environment:

None of the proposed parcels is within VRM Class I. Most parcels are within Class III and Class IV. Only sections Areas D & E have parcels in the VRM Class II.

**Table 3.8.1 VRM Classification Objectives**

| VRM CLASS | Visual Resource Objective   | Change Allowed (Relative Level) | Relationship to the Casual Observer  |
|-----------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Class I   | Preserve the existing character of the landscape. Manage for natural ecological changes.                        | Very Low                        | Activities should not be visible and must not attract attention.                 |
| Class II  | Retain the existing character of the landscape.   | Low                             | Activities may be visible, but should not attract attention.                     |
| Class III | Partially retain the existing character of the landscape.   | Moderate                        | Activities may attract attention, but should not dominate the view.              |
| Class IV  | Provide for management activities, which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. | High                            | Activities may attract attention, may dominate the view, but are still mitigated |

**Table 3.8.2 VRM Affected Parcels**

| Parcel Area | Number of Parcels | Affected VRM Class |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Area A      | 1                 | Class III          |
| Area B      | 3                 | Class III          |
| Area C      | 8                 | none               |
| Area D      | 75                | Class II, III, IV  |
| Area E      | 10                | Class II, III, IV  |

### 3.9 Wetlands/Riparian Areas Affected Environment:

Certain lease parcels were identified as having either lotic (associated with flowing water such as streamside locations) or lentic (associated with non-flowing water such as springs, seep, or marshes) wetland/riparian areas somewhere on or immediately adjacent to them. Those parcels known to be adjacent to or near perennial streams (07, 18, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38 – 44, 55, 71, and 101) possess a range of lotic and lentic riparian community types with vegetation dominated by sedges, rush, grass communities with some occurrence of willows. Parcels known to have lentic

wetland/riparian areas inside or adjacent to them (05 – 09, 14, 18, 19, 22, 29, 32, 38 – 40, 65, 67, 68, 74, 87, 89, 92) typically are sedge and rush dominated vegetation communities but may also possess shrubs such as willows and water preferring upland species. Parcels that possess reservoirs adjacent or inside to them (09, 18, 19, 30, 31, 35, 36, 38, 40, 45, 47, 62, 68, 80, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101) may also have lentic riparian areas near or around the reservoir systems.

Wetland/Riparian areas that have soils that are sufficiently saturated throughout the year may be classified as having hydric soils. Hydric soils possess physical and chemical characteristics, which are indicators of a saturation regime even if current conditions do not show the presence of riparian vegetation at the surface. Some of the lentic riparian sites associated with the above listed parcels may be dependent upon precipitation within a given water-year in order to express riparian vegetation on the surface. A parcel that possesses soils that exhibit physical or chemical characteristics indicative of frequent flooding events is 100 while soils in parcel 31 indicate occasional flood frequency. Parcels (18, 19, 22, 24 – 29, 31 – 34, 36 – 48, 50, 51, 53 – 61, 63 – 74, 78 – 83, 85, 87, 91, 93, 94, 96 – 98, 101 – 103, 105, 107 – 110) possess soils that show signs of rare or very rare flood events.

### **3.10 Lands with Wilderness Characteristics**

Eleven of the proposed parcels overlap two units of lands with wilderness characteristics (LWC). An area having wilderness characteristics is defined by:

- its size of at least 5,000 acres of contiguous roadless federal land,
- naturalness, and
- outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

The two units LWC units cover approximately 25,463 acres and 22,358, respectively. Both of the LWC units lie in nominated parcel Area E, in the upper elevations of the Antelope Range. Baldy Peak lies in the southwestern corner of one unit (NV-040-004-1-2011), with a number of canyons, including Secret Canyon heading easterly from the peak. The second unit (NV-040-009-2011) includes a jumble of rock outcrops and hills along the front of the range, which allow for ample opportunities for solitude.

## **Chapter 4 Environmental Effects:**

### **4.1 Introduction:**

Approximately 4 million acres presently are available for oil and gas leasing in contrast to approximately 10 million acres in the Ely 2008 RMP area. Therefore, it is expected that only 40 percent (3,400 acres) of the 8,400 acres estimated in the reasonably foreseeable development scenario for oil and gas would be disturbed.

Approximately 8,400 acres, as estimated in the reasonably foreseeable development scenario would be disturbed by oil and gas exploration activities. Oil exploration and production activities involve the potential for soil compaction, erosion, excavation, and losses of soil quality in these areas. The effects of surface disturbance on soils vary based on soil type, texture, moisture content, depth, and slope. Vegetation removal for roads and well pad construction can alter existing drainage patterns and contribute to accelerated gully and rill erosion, especially on steeper slopes. Soil compaction would be expected on areas utilized by heavy equipment for oil and gas exploration, development, and production. Compaction typically is greatest when soil moisture is high and where heavy equipment activities are concentrated. Soil compaction reduces vegetation productivity because it decreases root penetration and water infiltration.

Within the State of Nevada, a Memorandum of Understanding for exploration and mining reclamation exists between the BLM and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. Reclamation permits are supported by site-specific reclamation plans which are submitted and maintained according to an agency review and approval process. If approved, a permit defines post-project land uses, growth media salvage and replacement, seedbed amendments and erosion controls, site drainage, public safety provisions, roads, recontouring and revegetation practices, post-treatment monitoring, and other site restoration considerations according to best management practices. As a result, and given the comparatively small extent of mineral exploration and extraction acreage in the Assessment Area, the effects of these activities on soil resources are expected to be minimal.

These impacts would be mitigated through the use of management actions and best management practices and other conditions of approval imposed during the permitting process on a specific site-by-site basis.

## **4.2 Cultural Resources Environmental Effects:**

### **4.2.1 Proposed Action Effects on Cultural Resources:**

A records search was conducted to identify cultural resources that have special interest or importance to the general public, such as national or state historic monuments and public interpretation sites were present in the nominated lease parcels. The records show that several parcels intersect or are in close proximity to the Lincoln Highway historic roadway. Particular segments of the Lincoln Highway have been determined eligible to the National Register of Historic Places, while other segment have yet to be evaluated for the Register. Per the stipulations set forth in the Ely District RMP (2009), all lease development within one mile of the centerline of the Lincoln Highway route must include a visual resources analysis as part of the location specific NEPA analysis.

The lease of oil and gas parcels does not entail ground-disturbing activities as part of the undertaking. Furthermore, all subsequent activities on leased parcels shall be subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and further NEPA study. Therefore, this undertaking will not result in impacts to cultural resources in and of itself; however, ground disturbance from lease development may result in substantial impacts to cultural resources. Any party proposing oil and gas exploration or development on leased parcels shall be responsible for all costs related to conducting Section 106 of the NHPA. The successful lease of a parcel does not guarantee the feasibility of future oil and gas exploration or development because of those costs.

#### **4.2.2 No Action Alternative Effects on Cultural Resources:**

The No Action Alternative would not impact cultural resources in the area. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

#### **4.2.3 Proposed Action Effects on Heritage Special Designations (Historic Trails, ACEC's designated for Cultural Resources):**

Lease parcels along the Pony Express National Historic Trail may contain areas of known high potential for cultural resources. Properties known at the time of lease announcement that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places will be avoided, where possible, by means of lease exclusions or by limits on surface use. The preferred avoidance option is to exclude areas containing National Register of Historic Places eligible sites from leasing and all forms of surface disturbance. Cultural sites not avoided may require consultation with State Historic Preservation Officer and treatment plans. Per the stipulations present in Nevada Instruction Memorandum No. NV-2004-004, a visual resources analysis up to five miles from the Pony Express centerline may be required as part of the NEPA analysis for lease parcel development.

#### **4.2.4 No Action Alternative Effects on Heritage Special Designations (Historic Trails, ACEC's designated for Cultural Resources):**

The No action Alternative would not impact the Pony Express Trail. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

### **4.3 Fish and Wildlife Environmental Effects:**

#### **4.3.1 Proposed Action Effects on Fish and Wildlife:**

There would be no direct effects from issuing new oil and gas leases because leasing does not directly authorize oil and gas exploration and development activities. Direct impacts from these activities would be analyzed under a separate site-specific NEPA Analysis.

Oil and gas exploration and production activities have the potential to affect wildlife in the following ways:

Temporary disturbance, displacement, or mortality of wildlife could result from exploration and development and;

Long-term habitat loss could result from exploration or development, as a result of disturbance to soils and vegetation that remains unreclaimed or unsuccessfully reclaimed. Reclamation, especially in low elevation and low precipitation sites, is difficult even with the best techniques and equipment and the potential for failure is high.

#### **4.3.2 No Action Alternative Effects on Fish and Wildlife:**

The No Action Alternative would not impact fish and wildlife. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

#### **4.3.3 Proposed Action Effects on Migratory Birds:**

There would be no direct effects from issuing new oil and gas leases because leasing does not directly authorize oil and gas exploration and development activities. Direct impacts from these activities would be analyzed under a separate site-specific NEPA analysis.

Site-specific analysis of any APD would include the requirement that the area affected by the activity, including road access, be surveyed for any migratory bird nests if the activity is to be conducted during the nesting season designated for the habitat.

#### **4.3.4 No Action Alternative Effects on Migratory Birds:**

There would be no effects on migratory birds, as no leases would be issued for the parcels covered in this document. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

#### **4.3.5 Proposed Action Effects on Special Status plant and animal species other than those listed as Threatened or Endangered:**

A list of possible BLM Sensitive Species which have known or potential habitat in or near the lease parcels is included in this EA as **Appendix C**. Stipulations in the RMP are designed to help minimize potential effects to some Sensitive Species, such as the Greater Sage Grouse; and raptor species, such as the ferruginous hawk. Site-specific analysis will be required for any APD resulting from the proposed leasing action, including surveys for species such as the pygmy rabbit. Each site-specific NEPA analysis would include mitigation measures to minimize effects on such species.

#### **4.3.6 No Action Alternative Effects on Special Status plant and animal species other than those listed as Threatened or Endangered:**

There would be no change to special status species under the no action alternative as the proposed oil and gas lease parcels would be withdrawn from the lease sale. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

## **4.4 Environmental Justice Environmental Effects:**

### **4.4.1 Proposed Action Effects on Environmental Justice:**

There are no known disadvantaged populations that would be affected by the proposed action. However, the lease parcels that overlap private property could potentially have an impact on the character, usage, or integrity of the private land due to the surface occupancy associated with energy development. In addition to the approximate five acres of development per well, there would also be greater activity from construction and operation of the facility, potential residency of maintenance staff, and the opportunity cost of lost use of the developed area. Due to the regulations of the split-estate arrangement, the landowner has little control over allowing the use on their land, but can negotiate with the operator to determine parameters of development.

### **4.4.2 No Action Alternative Effects on Environmental Justice:**

The No Action Alternative would have no impact on Environmental Justice. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

## **4.5 Socioeconomics Environmental Effects:**

### **4.5.1 Proposed Action Effects on Socioeconomics:**

A direct effect of issuing new oil and gas leases on socioeconomics within the Assessment Area would be the generation of revenue from the sale of the leases. The State of Nevada would receive 49 percent of the proceeds from the initial sale of each lease parcel.

Subsequent oil and gas exploration, development, and production could create additional impacts. During the exploration phase, oil and gas companies typically provide in-house scientists and technicians to do the majority of the work. After initial surveys have been completed, road building, drill pad, and other construction and reclamation activities could occur as a result of oil and gas exploration and development activities. Much of this work could be contracted to local contractors, producing a potential economic impact to the local area through additional jobs, income, and added demand for additional services.

### **4.5.2 No Action Alternative Effects on Socioeconomics:**

The No Action Alternative would not impact the current socioeconomic climate in the area. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

## **4.6 Visual Resource Management Environmental Effects:**

### **4.6.1 Proposed Action Effects on Visual Resource Management:**

The actual sale of the lease parcels would not impact visual resources, though the development of the lease parcels may impact visual resources. When a lease parcel is developed, all facilities associated with the plan of development (POD) must meet the VRM objectives for each

classification. The objective of each VRM class will determine the level of modification that will need to take place for the development of the lease. Modifications to decrease visual contrast may include, painting of facilities, site modification such as berms, etc. When a POD is submitted for a lease parcel, a site-specific visual contrast rating would be conducted. The contrast rating will identify what types of mitigation may be needed to minimize visual contrast so that the POD can meet the VRM objectives identified with the classification of the area where the lease is located.

#### **4.6.2 No Action Alternative Effects on Visual Resource Management:**

The No Action Alternative would not impact the current visual resources in the area. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

#### **4.7 Wetlands/Riparian Areas Environmental Effects:**

##### **4.7.1 Proposed Action Effects on Wetlands/Riparian Areas:**

Direct and indirect effects from the sale of lease parcels may result when development activities begin on the parcel post-purchase. Access construction, pad construction, well pad and facilities construction, and other infrastructure construction needed to develop parcels for operation and production may affect wetland and riparian resources. Development and associated actions could affect riparian or hydric soils by leading to their de-watering by breaching the bounding impermeable layer, or aquitard, which defines the lower layer of the saturated soil and thus, allowing water to flow through effectively draining the soil. Thus drained of its 'standing' water, a lentic wetland or riparian system will eventually dry and lose its surface cover of wetland or riparian vegetation. De-watering through breaching may occur with well drilling actions. It is expected that with proper application of best management practices, adherence to State of Nevada rules governing borehole plugging, and BLM stipulations the risk of encountering a perched water table or breaching one if encountered would be minimized.

Riparian areas can be directly affected by parcel development when roads and drill pad placement fall directly upon the resources. Not all riparian systems occur on soils that are saturated for most of the year. It is possible to site a road and drill pad on a riparian meadow system which does not exhibit hydric soil characteristics but which is still a classified riparian area. These potentially small lentic systems could be cleared of vegetation or completely lost during development. Many of the small lentic systems associated with springs and seeps in some of the parcels are less than one-quarter of an acre in size and can easily be lost in road and pad design occurring during a dry year or the driest part of an average precipitation year. Many of the small lentic systems depend directly upon precipitation from snowmelt, or spring rains in order to define their aerial extent for any given water year.

An effect to wetlands or riparian areas that could be either direct or indirect is the leakage or overflow of waste fluids or materials from settling ponds or other facilities that accompany oil and gas production. With proper siting and adherence to best management practices and BLM stipulations, this risk can be minimized.

#### **4.7.2 No Action Alternative Effects on Wetlands/Riparian Areas:**

The No Action Alternative would not impact the riparian/wetlands in the area. Activities on current leased parcels adjacent to the proposed parcels would still be permitted.

### **4.8 Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Environmental Effects:**

#### **4.8.1 No Action Alternative Effects on Lands with Wilderness Characteristics:**

The proposed action to authorize oil and gas leasing would impact, and potentially eliminate, wilderness character in the two units, when and if exploration and production activities occur.

Short-term (5-10 years) disturbances would have a dramatic and negative effect on the LWC units by reducing and possibly eliminating the wilderness character. Depending on the location and density of exploration wells, the LWC units may be reduced to areas of less than 5,000 acres; naturalness would be eliminated across portions of the units; and opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation may be eliminated.

If exploration wells are plugged and abandoned, they would be reclaimed immediately after drilling or construction. Therefore, in the long term, it is possible that all disturbances would be reclaimed allowing the area to return to a natural state; and opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation would return. Impacts to size may also be reclaimed after exploration, but depending on the extent of wells and associated facilities (roads, gravel pits, etc.) impacts may remain that could continue to eliminate LWCs based on size.

For any producing wells, the impacts would be long term (20 years) or much longer. At that point, the impacts to LWC would be considered permanent.

#### **4.8.2 No Action Alternative Effects on:**

Under the No Action Alternative, all expressions of interest to lease would be denied or rejected. Therefore, there would be no human-caused alterations to the existing landscape and there would be no impacts to the wilderness character.

## **Chapter 5 Cumulative Impacts Analysis:**

### **5.1 Past Actions:**

The Ely District is rich in natural resources and the Assessment Area has been used for a wide array of activities over the years. Mining, ranching, grazing, hunting, recreation, and oil exploration have been conducted throughout the District and more than likely, will continue for many more years. More than 200 wells have been drilled in the Ely District so far, and only one is currently in production.

### **5.2 Present Actions:**

Mining, ranching, grazing, hunting, recreation, and oil exploration are being conducted throughout the District and more than likely, will continue for many more years. One oil well is currently being drilled near the Pancake Range, just south of Highway 50.

### **5.3 Reasonable Foreseeable Future Actions (RFFA's):**

There are many new projects coming to rural Nevada, especially around Ely. Several wind development projects, solar projects, transmission lines, and a massive water pipeline are scheduled to begin development over the next several years. Due to the current prices of gold and oil, the potential for much more exploration for each of these commodities may be experienced in the Ely District in the very near future.

The proposed action does not include exploration, development, production, or final reclamation of oil and gas resources; however, authorization of oil and gas leasing does convey a right to subsequent exploration and production activities. These later activities are associated with oil and gas leasing; therefore, they would be analyzed as part of the proposed action.

The Ely RMP suggests that a total of 448 wells would be drilled resulting in total short-term (5 to 10 years) disturbance of approximately 8,400 acres and a long-term (about 20 years for producing wells) disturbance of approximately 1,400 acres. It also suggests that a new field discovery similar in size and surface disturbance to the Trap Springs and Kate Springs oil fields within Railroad Valley could be made over the next several years. Short-term disturbance as defined for the reasonably foreseeable development scenario includes locations for wells in the plugged and abandoned category that would be reclaimed immediately after drilling or construction.

Lake Valley, White River Valley, and Long Valley seem to be the focus of future exploration in the Ely District. Several APDs are expected from these areas over the next few years.

## **5.4 Cumulative Impacts from Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions:**

### **5.4.1 Cultural Resources Cumulative Impacts:**

Cultural resources include, but are not limited to, historic cemeteries and townsites, rockshelters, caves, rock art, and Paleoindian sites. The primary impact mechanisms that could affect cultural resources within the district include off-highway vehicle and recreational use, minerals development, land disposal, fire, special designations, and livestock grazing. Some of these mechanisms would have a negative impact on cultural resources, which would be mitigated through project abandonment, redesign, and, if necessary, data recovery. However, some of these mechanisms may have a positive or beneficial impact on cultural resources, such as protection under an ACEC designation.

Any program, activity, or project has an effect on a cultural resource if it alters any of the characteristics or criteria that may qualify the resource for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places or otherwise affects a cultural property's legally protected status. Impacts to cultural properties are considered adverse if the effect diminishes the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. Negative or adverse effects can include, but are not limited to: physical destruction of or damage to all or part of a property; alteration of a property (e.g., restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization); removal of a property from its historic location; or, transfer, lease, or sale of property out of federal ownership or control without adequate and legally enforceable restrictions or conditions to ensure long-term preservation (Ely FEIS 2007).

Avoidance is the preferred measure of mitigation in order to preserve and protect the resource.

### **5.4.2 Fish and Wildlife Cumulative Impacts:**

All wildlife species have preferred habitats, some of which may be seasonal. Many disturbances, both natural and human caused may result in wildlife moving to less optimal habitats, which may already be at carrying capacity. This could result in reductions in population sizes due to less successful reproduction or direct mortality. Species dependent on very restricted habitats may be especially affected. A number of ongoing and future activities combined could result in loss of specific habitats, fragmentation and disruption of movement patterns. The stipulations required through the RMP or those determined to be needed on a site-specific basis will help to minimize impacts from these activities.

#### **5.4.2.1 Migratory Birds Cumulative Impacts:**

A number of ongoing and future activities on the District, such as mineral exploration, recreation use, grazing, and energy development, could cumulatively impact migratory birds. It is expected that the proposed actions may contribute to cumulative impacts to a greater or lesser degree,

greatly dependent on the number of Applications to Drill that result. The mitigation required for projects would help to reduce the degree of impacts to be expected.

#### **5.4.2.2 Sensitive Species Cumulative Impacts:**

The combination of past, present and future activities could cumulatively impact Sensitive Plant or Animal Species. These impacts could result in loss of habitats, which may uniquely support some species, may fragment habitats resulting in reductions in reproductive success of some species, or may have direct adverse effects on individuals in populations, which are small to begin with. Mitigation requirements for projects may help to reduce impacts to the extent that they do not reach the level of causing species to require listing as Threatened or Endangered.

#### **5.4.3 Environmental Justice Cumulative Impacts:**

There are no cumulative effects related to environmental justice resulting from the proposed action. However, if exploration and development of these leases occurs at some point in the future, there may be cumulative impacts on leases with split estates. Prior to any exploration or development, additional site-specific NEPA review would be required.

#### **5.4.4 Socioeconomics Cumulative Impacts:**

If other construction projects were to occur at the same time as any future exploration or development activities related to these leases, the direct and indirect economic impacts to the local area could be magnified. There are no cumulative impacts expected to result directly from the proposed action.

#### **5.4.5 Visual Resource Management Cumulative Impacts:**

Since there are no ground disturbing activities associated with lease sales, no cumulative impacts are expected to result directly from the proposed action.

#### **5.4.6 Wetlands/Riparian Areas Cumulative Impacts:**

There are no ground disturbing activities associated with the proposed action. Therefore, no impacts would occur from the proposed action. However, if the lease parcels are sold and exploration and development takes place, then potential impacts would be discussed in a site-specific NEPA process.

There are known and reasonably foreseeable future actions that would affect wetland and riparian areas in Spring Valley. Current water pumping from the shallow aquifer for irrigation use has accounted for some lowering of the water table. Future proposed water pumping from the deep aquifer for municipal use in southern Nevada in conjunction with continued pumping from the shallow aquifer may lead to a reduction in wetland and riparian habitat and vegetation in Spring Valley.

#### **5.4.7 Lands with Wilderness Characteristics Cumulative Impacts:**

There are no cumulative impacts expected to result directly from the proposed action since the proposed action does not include any surface disturbance. However, it does authorize the right

to future exploration and production activities. At the time the lease parcels are sold and exploration and development takes place, then potential impacts would be discussed in a site-specific NEPA process.

#### **5.4.8 Summary of Cumulative Impacts:**

Since there isn't any surface disturbance associated with the proposed action, it is very unlikely that there would be any impacts to the resources within the Ely District, except for maybe a positive cash flow to the State by the sale of the parcels. The state receives 49% of the proceeds from the sale of parcels.

Typically, the Ely District sells only a fraction of the nominated parcels each year. Of the parcels that are sold, most never submit an APD to explore for oil on their parcels during the 10 years they hold the lease. The Ely District only processes an average of 2–3 APDs a year. A site-specific NEPA analysis would be written for each APD submitted to analyze any issues associated with drilling activities and be available for public comment.

The State of Nevada is unique from other oil lease states in that the majority of lands are public and available for leasing. Only a small percentage of lands leased are ever explored or developed. Therefore, it is unlikely that large-scale oil and gas development will occur, unless a major oil reserve is discovered.

## Chapter 6 Tribes, Individuals, Organizations, or Agencies Consulted:

**Table 6.1 List of Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted**

| <b>NAME</b>  | <b>Purpose &amp; Authorities for Consultation or Coordination</b> | <b>Findings &amp; Conclusions</b> |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah</b>                             | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>Duckwater Shoshone Tribe</b>                                | Native American Consultation                                      | <b>Comments received</b>          |
| <b>Ely Shoshone Tribe</b>                                      | Native American Consultation                                      | <b>Comments received</b>          |
| <b>Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Indian Reservation</b>   | Native American Consultation                                      | <b>Comments received</b>          |
| <b>Te-Moak Tribes of the Western Shoshone Tribes of Nevada</b> | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>Yomba Shoshone Tribe</b>                                    | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>Wells Band Council</b>                                      | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>South Fork Band Council</b>                                 | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>Elko Band Council</b>                                       | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>Skull Valley Band of Goshute</b>                            | Native American Consultation                                      | No comments received              |
| <b>Nevada Department of Wildlife</b>                           | Consultation and input  | No comments received              |
| <b>Nevada State Clearinghouse</b>                              | Consultation and input  | No comments received              |
| <b>Great Basin National Park</b>                               | Consultation and input  | No comments received              |
| <b>Echo Hawk Law Offices</b>                                   | Consultation and input  | No comments received              |

## Chapter 7 List of Preparers:

Table 7.1

| NAME                      | TITLE   | TASK ASSIGNMENT   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Dave Davis</b>         | Geologist/Project lead                            | Author/Minerals   |
| <b>Ken Humphrey</b>       | Archeologist                                      | Cultural Resources/Paleontology   |
| <b>Mark D'Aversa</b>      | Hydrologist                                       | Air Quality, Soils, Water Resources, Water Quality, Riparian/Wetlands, Farmlands, and Floodplains |
| <b>Marian Lichtler</b>    | Wildlife Biologist                                | Wildlife  |
| <b>Nancy Williams</b>     | Wildlife Biologist                                | Wildlife  |
| <b>Amanda Thimmayya</b>   | Wildlife Biologist                                | Wildlife  |
| <b>Mindy Seal</b>         | Natural Resource Specialist                       | NEPA; Socioeconomics; Environmental Justice   |
| <b>Gus Malon</b>          | Outdoor Recreation Planner                        | Recreation and VRM  |
| <b>John Miller</b>        | Wilderness Ranger                                 | VRM   |
| <b>Emily Simpson</b>      | Planning & Environmental Coordinator (Wilderness) | Wilderness/WSA/Wild & Scenic Rivers/LWC   |
| <b>Ruth Thompson</b>      | Wild Horse/Burro Specialist                       | Wild Horse & Burros   |
| <b>Stephanie Trujillo</b> | Realty Specialist                                 | Land Uses   |
| <b>Alicia Hankins</b>     | Land Law Examiner                                 | Land Uses   |
| <b>T.J. Mabey</b>         | Range Management Specialist                       | Rangeland, Grazing, Invasive, Non-native Species & Vegetative Resources                           |
| <b>Matt Rajala</b>        | Fire Management Specialist (Fire Planner)         | Fire Management   |
| <b>Melanie Peterson</b>   | Environmental Protection Specialist               | Hazardous Materials   |
| <b>Elvis Wall</b>         | Native American Coordinator                       | Native American Religious and other Concerns  |

## Chapter 8 List of References:

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## **Chapter 9. List of Appendices:**

Appendix A: June 2012 Nominated Parcels

Appendix B: June 2012 Parcels with Attached Stipulations

Appendix C: Special Status Species List

Appendix D: BLM Best Management Practices (BMP)

Appendix E: USFS parcel stipulations

**APPENDIX A- JUNE 2012 SALE PRELIMINARY PARCEL LIST**

**NV-12-06-001            1280.000 Acres**

T.0010N, R.0410E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 034    ALL;  
           035    ALL;  
 Esmeralda County  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-002            2534.680 Acres**

T.0040N, R.0410E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 029    ALL;  
           030    LOTS 1-4;  
           030    E2W2,E2;  
           031    LOTS 1-4;  
           031    E2,E2W2;  
           032    ALL;  
 Esmeralda County  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-003            2560.000 Acres**

T.0260N, R.0510E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 021    ALL;  
           022    ALL;  
           023    ALL;  
           024    ALL;  
 Eureka County  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-004            1280.000 Acres**

T.0110N, R.0530E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 004    PROT ALL;  
           005    PROT ALL;  
 Nye County  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-005            1253.000 Acres**

T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 006    PROT ALL;  
           007    PROT ALL;  
 Eureka and White Pine Counties  
 Ely DO  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-006            1256.000 Acres**

T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 018    PROT ALL;  
           019    PROT ALL;  
 Eureka and White Pine Counties  
 Ely DO  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-007            1256.000 Acres**

T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 030    PROT ALL;  
           031    PROT ALL;  
 Eureka and White Pine Counties  
 Ely DO  
 Battle Mountain DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-008            1920.000 Acres**

T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 002    PROT ALL;  
           011    PROT ALL;  
           012    PROT ALL;  
 White Pine County  
 Ely DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

**NV-12-06-009            1873.530 Acres**

T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 003    LOTS 3,4;  
           003    S2NW,SW;  
           003    PROT E2;  
           004    LOTS 1-4;  
           004    S2N2,S2;  
           005    LOTS 1-4;  
           005    S2N2,N2SW,SESW,SE;  
 White Pine County  
 Ely DO  
 Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-010 2520.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009 ALL;  
010 W2;  
010 PROT E2;  
015 W2;  
015 PROT E2;  
016 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-011 2530.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 014 PROT ALL;  
021 ALL;  
022 W2, SE;  
022 PROT NE;  
023 SW;  
023 PROT N2, SE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-012 1600.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 PROT ALL;  
024 PROT ALL;  
025 PROT N2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-013 1542.400 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 021 LOTS 2, 3;  
021 SWNE, N2SW, SWSW, SWSE;  
022 SESW;  
022  
E2, E2NW, S2NWNW, SWNW, N2SW;  
023 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-014 2560.000 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 026 ALL;  
027 ALL;

034 ALL;  
035 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-015 1691.220 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 028 LOTS 3, 4;  
028 SWNE, S2NW, N2SW, SESW;  
028 N2SWSW;  
029  
W2NE, SENE, NW, N2S2, SWSW;  
029 N2SESE;  
032 NWNW, S2N2, S2;  
033 LOTS 3-6;  
033 SWNE, S2NW, NWSE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-016 710.070 Acres  
T.0140N, R.0570E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1-12;  
031 E2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90160  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-017 1285.930 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002 LOTS 5-11;  
002 S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;  
003 LOTS 1-4;  
003 S2N2, S2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90273  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-018 1918.410 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;  
004 S2N2, S2;  
005 LOTS 1-4;  
005 S2N2, S2;  
006 LOTS 1-7;  
006 S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90273  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-019            1760.000 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 007    E2;  
      008    ALL;  
      017    N2,SE;  
      018    NE,E2W2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90273  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-020            1933.410 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010    ALL;  
      011    LOTS 1-4;  
      011    E2,E2W2;  
      014    LOTS 1-4;  
      015    N2,N2SW,NESE,S2SE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90273  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-021            1240.000 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009    ALL;  
      016    NE,W2,N2SE,SWSE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90273  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-022            1879.200 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 019    LOTS 3,4;  
      019    SESW,S2SE;  
      020    E2,S2SW;  
      021    ALL;  
      022    ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90274  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-023            2360.000 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027    ALL;  
      028    NENE,S2NW,S2;  
      033    ALL;  
      034    ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90274  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-024            1399.700 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029    E2,S2SW;  
      030    SESE;  
      031    LOTS 1-4;  
      031    E2E2;  
      032    ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90274  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-025            1884.280 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002    LOTS 1-4;  
      002    S2N2,S2;  
      003    LOTS 1-4;  
      003    S2N2,S2;  
      004    LOTS 1-4;  
      004    S2N2,S2.

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90269  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-026            1268.490 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 005    LOTS 1-4;  
      005    S2N2,S2;  
      006    LOTS 1-7;  
      006    S2NE,SENW,E2SW,SE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90269  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-027 2539.380 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 007 LOTS 1-4;  
007 E2,E2W2;  
008 ALL;  
017 ALL;  
018 E2,E2W2;  
018 1-4;

Clark County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90269  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-028 1280.000 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009 ALL;  
016 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90269  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-029 1911.700 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 019 LOTS 1-4;  
019 E2W2,E2;  
020 ALL;  
021 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90270  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-030 2160.000 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 022 NE,N2NW,N2SE,SESE;  
027 E2,SENW,SW;  
034 ALL;  
035 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90270  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-031 2280.000 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010 N2,NESW,S2SW,SE;  
011 N2N2,SWNW,SENE,S2S2;  
014 ALL;

015 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90269  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-032 2441.390 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS  
1,3,4,5,7,8,10,11;  
001 LOTS 13,14,16,17,19;  
001 S2NW,SW,W2SE;  
002 LOTS 1-4;  
002 S2N2,S2;  
011 ALL;  
012 LOTS 1,3,4,6,8;  
012 W2NE,W2,NWSE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90272  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-033 1241.020 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 LOTS 1-  
5,7,8,10,11,13,14,16;  
013 W2E2,NW;  
014 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90272  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-034 1680.000 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 ALL;  
024 W2NE,NW;  
026 N2NE,SWNE,W2,NWSE;  
035 W2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90274  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-035 431.080 Acres  
T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 LOTS 1,2,3,5;  
025 W2SWNE,S2NW,NWSW;  
036 LOTS

1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14;  
036 NWNW;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90274  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-036 2109.100 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
001 S2N2, S2;  
002 LOTS 1-3;  
002  
W2NWSW, SWSW, E2SESW, SE;  
002  
S2NE, SENW, W2SWNW, NESW;  
011 E2SE;  
011  
NE, NWNWSE, E2NWSE, E2SWSE;  
012 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90271  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-037 1078.580 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;  
003 S2N2, S2;  
010 N2, N2SW, SWSW;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90271  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-038 2140.000 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 ALL;  
014  
NESE, W2NWSE, SWSE, E2SESE;  
014  
E2NE, E2NWNE, W2SWNE, S2SW;  
023 W2NESE, SESE;  
023  
NENENE, W2SENE, W2E2, W2;  
024 E2SWSW, SE;  
024  
N2, E2SW, N2NWSW, SENWSW;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90271

Formerly Lease No.  
NV-12-06-039 2290.000 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 E2, E2NW, SWSW, E2NESW;  
025 W2NWSW, E2SESW;  
026 ALL;  
035 ALL;  
036 NE, SWSENW, W2W2;  
036 W2NESW, SESW, E2NWSE;  
036 NESWSE, E2SE;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90271  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-040 2337.490 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
001 N2S2, N2;  
002 LOTS 1, 3, 4;  
002  
SENE, E2SWNE, SWNW, W2SW;  
002  
N2SENE, SWSENW, W2NESW, SE;  
011 SWSWSW, E2SW;  
011  
E2, E2NENW, N2SWNW, NWNW;  
011  
E2SENE, W2NWSW, E2SWSW;  
012 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90266  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-041 2180.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 E2NE, SWNW, SE;  
026 ALL;  
035  
E2, NW, N2SW, E2SWSW, SESW;  
036 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90266  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-042 1554.430 Acres

T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 012 LOTS 2,3,5;  
012 SW,N2SE,SWSE;  
013 LOTS  
1,4,6,7,9,11,12,14,16,17;  
013 LOTS 19;  
013  
SENE,NENW,W2W2,E2SE,SWSE;  
014 E2,NW,N2SW,SESW;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90265  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-043 2149.150 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 E2,E2NW,SWNW,SW;  
024 LOTS  
1,3,4,6,8,9,13,14,16;  
024 E2,NWNW,SESW;  
025 LOTS 1,3,4,6,7;  
025 E2,E2W2,SWSW;  
026 LOTS 1,3,5,6,8;  
026 NENE,W2NE,W2,W2SE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90265  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-044 1238.080 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 035 LOTS  
1,3,4,6,8,9,11,13,14,16;  
035 NWNE,W2,SESE;  
036 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90265  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-045 1922.500 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-4;  
002 S2N2,S2;  
003 LOTS 1-4;  
003 S2N2,S2;  
004 LOTS 1-4;  
004 S2N2,S2;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90267

Formerly Lease No.  
NV-12-06-046 641.220 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 005 LOTS 1-4;  
005 S2N2,S2;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90267  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-047 948.620 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 007 E2;  
018 LOTS 1-4;  
018 E2,E2W2;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90267  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-048 2560.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 008 ALL;  
009 ALL;  
016 ALL;  
017 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90267  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-049 2560.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010 ALL;  
011 ALL;  
014 ALL;  
015 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90267  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-050 2534.440 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 019 LOTS 1-4;  
019 E2,E2W2;

020 ALL;  
029 ALL;  
030 LOTS 1-4;  
030 E2,E2W2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90268  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-051 2560.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 021 ALL;  
022 ALL;  
027 ALL;  
028 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90268  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-052 2560.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 ALL;  
026 ALL;  
034 ALL;  
035 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90268  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-053 1906.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
031 E2,E2W2;  
032 ALL;  
033 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90268  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-054 1919.120 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;  
004 S2N2,S2;  
008 ALL;  
009 ALL;

White Pine County

Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90263  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-055 1675.460 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 005 LOTS  
1,2,5,7,8,9,10,12,13;  
005  
S2NE,SENW,E2SW,SWSW,SE;  
006 LOTS 8-12,14-  
19,21,22,24;  
007 LOTS 24-27;  
007 LOTS 5,6,8,9,11,13-  
18,20,22;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90263  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-056 1919.200 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
001 S2N2,S2;  
012 ALL;  
013 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90262  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-057 1920.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 014 ALL;  
015 ALL;  
016 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN 90263  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-058 1264.780 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 017 ALL;  
018 LOTS 1-4;  
018 E2,E2W2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN 90263



Acres  
T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 ALL;  
016  
E2, E2W2, W2NWNW, NWSWNW;  
016 E2NWSW;  
017 NE, N2NW, SENW, N2SE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90260  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-068 1150.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 020 SWNE, N2SWSE;  
020  
SWSWSE, E2E2SE, NWSE, W2;  
029 E2E2, W2NWNE;  
029 W2SESW, E2W2SE;  
029 NW, N2SW, SWSW;  
030 N2NE, SENE, NESE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90259  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-069 2480.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 021 E2, E2NW, SW;  
022 ALL;  
027 ALL;  
028 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90259  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-070 2560.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 ALL;  
024 ALL;  
025 ALL;  
026 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90259  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-071 1647.630 Acres

T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 030 LOTS 4;  
031 LOTS 1-4;  
031 SENW, E2SW, SE;  
032 SWSSEW;  
032 NWSW, E2NESW, W2SWSW;  
032  
E2, W2NENW, W2NW, E2SESW;  
033 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90259  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-072 1920.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 034 ALL;  
035 ALL;  
036 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90259  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-073 2450.000 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 ALL;  
026  
E2, E2E2NW, NWNW, W2SWNW;  
026 W2NWSW, E2SW;  
035  
E2, E2NW, E2W2NW, SWSWNW, SW;  
036 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90258  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-074 1090.000 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 ALL;  
033 NENE;  
034  
SENW, NESW, NWNESE, E2SESE;  
034  
N2NE, SWNE, W2SENE, N2NW;  
034 W2SE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90258  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-075 1462.250 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 005 LOTS 2-4;  
005 W2SE;  
005 SWNE, S2NW, SW;  
006 LOTS 1-6;  
006 S2NE, SE;  
008 W2E2, W2;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90262  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-076 1042.050 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 007 LOTS 1-4;  
007 E2;  
017 NWNW;  
018 LOTS 1-4;  
018 NE, N2SE, SWSE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90262  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-077 490.770 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 019 LOTS 1-4;  
019 W2E2;  
030 LOTS 1,2;  
030 W2NWNW, NWSWNE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90262  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-078 1936.580 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;  
003 S2;  
004 S2S2;  
009 ALL;  
010  
N2, SW, E2SE, N2NWSE, SENWSE;  
010  
N2SWNWSE, SESWNWSE, SWSE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO

PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90261  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-079 1680.000 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 016 ALL;  
021 ALL;  
022 N2, W2SW;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90261  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-080 1544.440 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 028 E2NE, W2;  
029 ALL;  
030 LOTS 1-4;  
030 E2;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90261  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-081 1106.120 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
031 E2;  
032 N2, SW, N2SE, SWSE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90261  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-082 1280.000 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 026 ALL;  
027 E2;  
035 E2;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90257  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-083 2118.780 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 W2;

030 LOTS 1-4;  
030 E2,E2W2;  
031 LOTS 1-4;  
031 E2,E2W2;  
032 NE,W2,NESE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90257  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-084 1920.040 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
001 S2N2,S2;  
011 ALL;  
012 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90255  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-085 2395.010 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 N2,SW;  
014 ALL EXCL ME PAT;  
023 ALL;  
024 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90255  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-086 1920.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 ALL;  
021 ALL;  
022 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90256  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-087 2560.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 ALL;  
026 ALL;  
035 ALL;  
036 ALL;

White Pine County

Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90255  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-088 2440.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 ALL;  
028 ALL;  
033 ALL;  
034 N2N2,SWNW,S2;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90256  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-089 1910.400 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 ALL;  
031 LOTS 1-4;  
031 E2,E2W2;  
032 ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90256  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-090 2547.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 PROT ALL;  
002 PROT ALL;  
011 PROT ALL;  
012 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90252  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-091 2552.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 003 PROT ALL;  
004 PROT ALL;  
009 PROT ALL;  
010 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90253  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-092 2540.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 005 PROT ALL;  
006 PROT ALL;  
007 PROT ALL;  
008 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90254  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-093 2560.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 PROT ALL;  
014 PROT ALL;  
023 PROT ALL;  
024 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90252  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-094 2560.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 PROT ALL;  
016 PROT ALL;  
021 PROT ALL;  
022 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90253  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-095 2544.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 017 PROT ALL;  
018 PROT ALL;  
019 PROT ALL;  
020 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90254  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-096 2560.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 PROT ALL;  
026 PROT ALL;

035 PROT ALL;  
036 PROT PROT ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90252  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-097 2560.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 PROT ALL;  
028 PROT ALL;  
033 PROT ALL;  
034 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90253  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-098 2546.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 PROT ALL;  
030 PROT ALL;  
031 PROT ALL;  
032 PROT ALL;

White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90254  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-099 1920.120 Acres  
T.0010S, R.0410E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-4;  
002 S2N2,S2;  
003 LOTS 1-4;  
003 S2N2,S2;  
004 LOTS 1-4;  
004 S2N2,S2;

Esmeralda County  
Battle Mountain DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-100 1040.000 Acres  
T.0260N, R.0510E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 ALL;  
030 E2,E2NW;

Eureka County  
Battle Mountain DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-101 1900.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 W2;  
014  
E2, E2NW, E2NWNW, SWNW, SW;  
023 ALL;  
024 W2;  
White Pine County  
Battle Mountain DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90266  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-102 1454.360 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 006 LOTS 1-5;  
006 SE;  
007 LOTS 1-4;  
007 E2;  
008 S2NE, W2, SE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90261  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-103 2285.400 Acres  
T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 017 ALL;  
018 LOTS 1-4;  
018 E2;  
019 LOTS 1-4;  
019 E2;  
020 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90261  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-104 1280.000 Acres  
T.0010S, R.0410E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009 ALL;  
010 ALL;  
Esmeralda County  
Battle Mountain DO  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-105 1280.000 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV

Sec. 027 ALL;  
034 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90265  
Formerly Lease No.

Parcel NV-12-06-106 deleted  
(duplicate of NV-12-06-100)

NV-12-06-107 1440.000 Acres  
T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 E2NE, W2;  
022 W2E2, W2;  
027 W2E2, W2;  
034 W2, W2SE;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90266  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-108 2557.700 Acres  
T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-4;  
002 S2N2, S2;  
003 LOTS 1-4;  
003 S2N2, S2;  
010 ALL;  
011 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90263  
Formerly Lease No.

NV-12-06-109 2560.000 Acres  
T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 028 ALL;  
029 ALL;  
032 ALL;  
033 ALL;  
White Pine County  
Ely DO  
PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90270  
Formerly Lease No.  
Stipulations:

NV-12-06-110            1267.300 Acres

T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV

Sec. 030    LOTS 1-4;

030    E2,E2W2;

031    LOTS 1-4;

031    E2,E2W2;

White Pine County

Ely DO

PENDING PRESALE OFFER NO. NVN90270

Formerly Lease No.

Stipulations:

**APPENDIX B- JUNE 2012 PARCEL STIPULATIONS**

**LEASE NOTICE**

**National Historic Trails**

Lands within this lease are in proximity to or contain portions of the Pony Express National Historic Trail. Oil and gas exploration and development activities between a minimum of three and a maximum of five miles of the Pony Express National Historic Trail shall undergo a visual assessment in conjunction with environmental review to determine if the activity will adversely affect the visual integrity (IM No. NV-2004-004, "Historic Landscape Management Along National Historic Trails"). Appropriate mitigation will take place as necessary to maintain the management corridor in as natural a condition as possible.

**Pony Express Trail:**

| <b><u>Parcels</u></b> | <b><u>Description of Lands</u></b>   |
|-----------------------|--|
| NV-12-06-008          | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 002 PROT ALL;<br>Sec. 011 PROT ALL;<br>Sec. 012 PROT ALL.   |
| NV-12-06-009          | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 003 LOTS 3,4;<br>Sec. 003 S2NW,SW;<br>Sec. 003 PROT E2;<br>Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 004 S2N2,S2;<br>Sec. 005 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 005 S2N2,N2SW,SESW,SE. |
| NV-12-06-010          | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 009 ALL;<br>Sec. 010 W2;<br>Sec. 010 PROT E2;<br>Sec. 015 W2;<br>Sec. 015 PROT E2;<br>Sec. 016 ALL.   |
| NV-12-06-011          | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 014 PROT ALL;<br>Sec. 021 ALL;<br>Sec. 022 W2,SE;<br>Sec. 022 PROT NE;<br>Sec. 023 SW;  |

NV-12-06-012            Sec. 023    PROT N2,SE.  
                          T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 013    PROT ALL;  
                          Sec. 024    PROT ALL;  
                          Sec. 025    PROT N2.

NV-12-06-017            T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 002    LOTS 5-9;  
                          Sec. 002    S2NE,SE,SENW,E2SW,SE;  
                          Sec. 003    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 003    S2N2.

NV-12-06-025            T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 002    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 002    S2N2,S2;  
                          Sec. 003    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 003    S2N2,S2;  
                          Sec. 004    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 004    S2N2,S2.

NV-12-06-026            T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 005    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 005    S2N2,S2;  
                          Sec. 006    LOTS 1-7;  
                          Sec. 006    S2NE,SE,SENW,E2SW,SE.

NV-12-06-027            T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 007    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 007    E2,E2W2;  
                          Sec. 008    ALL;  
                          Sec. 017    ALL;  
                          Sec. 018    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 018    E2,E2W2.

NV-12-06-028            T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 009    ALL;  
                          Sec. 016    ALL.

NV-12-06-029            T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 019    LOTS 1-4;  
                          Sec. 019    E2W2,E2;  
                          Sec. 020    ALL;  
                          Sec. 021    ALL.

NV-12-06-030            T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
                          Sec. 022    NE,N2NW,N2SE,SESE;

Sec. 027 E2,SENW,SW;  
Sec. 034 ALL;  
Sec. 035 ALL.

NV-12-06-031 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010 N2,NESW,S2SW,SE;  
Sec. 011 N2N2,SWNW,SENE,S2S2;  
Sec. 014 ALL;  
Sec. 015 ALL.

NV-12-06-036 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 001 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-3;  
Sec. 002 W2NWSW,SWSW,E2SESW,SE;  
Sec. 002 S2NE,SENW,W2SWNW,NESW;  
Sec. 011 E2SE,NE,NWNWSE,E2NWSE,E2SWSE;  
Sec. 012 ALL.

NV-12-06-037 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 003 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 010 N2,N2SW,SWSW.

NV-12-06-038 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 ALL;  
Sec. 014 NESE,W2NWSE,SWSE,E2SESE;  
Sec. 014 E2NE,E2NWNE,W2SWNE,S2SW;  
Sec. 023 W2NESE,SESE;  
Sec. 023 NENENE,W2SENE,W2E2,W2;  
Sec. 024 E2SWSW,SE;  
Sec. 024 N2,E2SW,N2NWSW,SENWSW.

NV-12-06-039 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 E2,E2NW,SWSW,E2NESW;  
Sec. 025 W2NWSW,E2SESW;  
Sec. 026 ALL;  
Sec. 035 N2;  
Sec. 036 NE,SWSENW,W2W2.

NV-12-06-040 T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOT 1;  
Sec. 001 S2NW,S2;  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1,3,4;  
Sec. 002 SENE,E2SWNE,SWNW,W2SW;  
Sec. 002 N2SENW,SWSENW,W2NESW,SE;

Sec. 011 SWSWSW,E2SW;  
 Sec. 011 E2,E2NENW,N2SWNW,NWNW;  
 Sec. 011 E2SEW,W2NWSW,E2SWSW;  
 Sec. 012 ALL.

NV-12-06-041 T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 025 E2NE,SWNW,SE;  
 Sec. 026 ALL;  
 Sec. 035 E2,NW,N2SW,E2SWSW,SESW;  
 Sec. 036 ALL.

NV-12-06-044 T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 035 LOTS 14,16;  
 Sec. 035 SW2,SESE.

NV-12-06-047 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 007 E2;  
 Sec. 018 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 018 E2,E2W2.

NV-12-06-048 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 008 SW,S2SE;  
 Sec. 009 S2SW;  
 Sec. 016 ALL;  
 Sec. 017 ALL.

NV-12-06-049 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 011 S2SE,SESW;  
 Sec. 014 ALL;  
 Sec. 015 ALL.

NV-12-06-050 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 019 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 019 E2,E2W2;  
 Sec. 020 ALL;  
 Sec. 029 ALL;  
 Sec. 030 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 030 E2,E2W2.

NV-12-06-051 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 021 ALL;  
 Sec. 022 ALL;  
 Sec. 027 ALL;  
 Sec. 028 ALL.

NV-12-06-052 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV

Sec. 023 ALL;

Sec. 026 ALL;  
Sec. 034 ALL;  
Sec. 035 ALL.

NV-12-06-053

T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 031 E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 032 ALL;  
Sec. 033 ALL.

NV-12-06-084

T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 001 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 011 ALL;  
Sec. 012 ALL.

NV-12-06-085

T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 N2,SW;  
Sec. 014 ALL EXCL ME PAT;  
Sec. 023 ALL;  
Sec. 024 ALL.

NV-12-06-086

T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 ALL;  
Sec. 021 ALL;  
Sec. 022 ALL.

NV-12-06-087

T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 ALL;  
Sec. 026 ALL;  
Sec. 035 ALL;  
Sec. 036 ALL.

NV-12-06-088

T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 ALL;  
Sec. 028 ALL;  
Sec. 033 ALL;  
Sec. 034 N2N2,SWNW,S2.

NV-12-06-089

T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 ALL;  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 031 E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 032 ALL.

NV-12-06-090 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 SE,S2SW;  
Sec. 011 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 012 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-091 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010 S2SE.

NV-12-06-093 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 014 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 023 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 024 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-094 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 E2,SW,S2NW;  
Sec. 016 SE;  
Sec. 021 E2,SW,S2NW,NENW;  
Sec. 022 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-095 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 019 SESE;  
Sec. 020 S2.

NV-12-06-096 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 026 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 035 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 036 PROT PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-097 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 028 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 033 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 034 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-098 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 030 E2,SW,S2NW;  
Sec. 031 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 032 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-101 T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 W2;  
Sec. 014 E2,E2NW,E2NWNW,SWNW,SW;  
Sec. 023 ALL;

Sec. 024 W2.

NV-12-06-105

T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 SW;  
Sec. 034 ALL.

NV-12-06-107

T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 015 E2NE,W2;  
Sec. 022 W2E2,W2;  
Sec. 027 W2E2,W2;  
Sec. 034 W2,W2SE.

NV-12-06-109

T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 028 ALL;  
Sec. 029 ALL;  
Sec. 032 N2,N2S2,S2SE;  
Sec. 033 ALL.

NV-12-06-110

T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 030 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 030 E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1,2;  
Sec. 031 NE,E2NW, N2SE.

## LEASE NOTICE

### **Historic Sites**

Lands within this lease are in proximity to or contain portions of Hastings Cutoff, the Lincoln Highway, or the Osceola Ditch. Oil and gas exploration and development activities within one mile of these sites must undergo a visual assessment in conjunction with environmental review to determine if the activity will adversely affect the visual integrity. Appropriate mitigation will take place as necessary to maintain the management corridor in as natural a condition as possible.

### **Lincoln Highway:**

#### Parcels

#### Description of Lands

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| NV-12-06-017 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 003 S2N2,S2.  |
| NV-12-06-018 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 004 S2N2,S2;<br>Sec. 005 LOTS 1-2;<br>Sec. 005 S2NE,SE. |
| NV-12-06-019 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 008 E2;<br>Sec. 017 E2.   |
| NV-12-06-020 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 010 ALL;<br>Sec. 015 N2,N2SW,NESE,S2SE.                                       |
| NV-12-06-021 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 009 ALL;<br>Sec. 016 NE,W2,N2SE,SWSE.   |
| NV-12-06-022 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 020 E2;<br>Sec. 021 ALL;<br>Sec. 022 ALL.                                     |
| NV-12-06-023 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 027 W2,W2E2;<br>Sec. 028 NENE,S2NW,S2;<br>Sec. 033 ALL;---                    |

Sec. 034 W2,W2E2.

NV-12-06-024 T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 029 E2,SESW;  
 Sec. 032 E2, E2W2.

NV-12-06-025 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 002 LOTS 3,4;  
 Sec. 002 S2NW,SW;  
 Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 003 S2N2,S2;  
 Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 004 S2N2,S2.

NV-12-06-026 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 005 LOT 1;  
 Sec. 005 SENE,E2SE.

NV-12-06-027 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 008 E2E2;  
 Sec. 017 E2E2.

NV-12-06-028 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 009 ALL;  
 Sec. 016 ALL.

NV-12-06-029 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 020 E2E2;  
 Sec. 021 ALL.

NV-12-06-030 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 022 NE,N2NW,N2SE,SESE;  
 Sec. 027 E2,SESW,SW;  
 Sec. 034 ALL;  
 Sec. 035 W2W2.

NV-12-06-031 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 010 N2,NESW,S2SW,SE;  
 Sec. 011 N2N2,SWNW,SENE,S2S2;  
 Sec. 014 N2;  
 Sec. 015 N2.

NV-12-06-041 T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 026 S2,S2NW;  
 Sec. 035 E2,NW,N2SW,E2SWSW,SESW;  
 Sec. 036 S2,S2N2,N2NW.

NV-12-06-045 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 002 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 003 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 004 LOTS 1-2;  
Sec. 004 S2NE,SE,E2SW.

NV-12-06-048 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009 ALL;  
Sec. 016 ALL.

NV-12-08-049 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010 ALL;  
Sec. 011 W2,W2E2,NENE;  
Sec. 014 W2,W2E2;  
Sec. 015 ALL.

NV-12-06-051 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 021 ALL;  
Sec. 022 ALL;  
Sec. 027 ALL;  
Sec. 028 ALL.

NV-12-06-052 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 W2,W2E2;  
Sec. 026 W2;  
Sec. 034 ALL;  
Sec. 035 W2.

NV-12-06-053 T.0230N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 032 E2E2E2;  
Sec. 033 ALL.

NV-12-06-056 T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 001 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 012 ALL;  
Sec. 013 ALL.

NV-12-06-057 T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 014 ALL;  
Sec. 015 E2SW.

NV-12-06-061 T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
|              | Sec. 022 E2;<br>Sec. 023 ALL;<br>Sec. 026 ALL;<br>Sec. 027 E2,SW,E2NW.   |
| NV-12-06-062 | T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 024 N2,SW,N2SE,SESE;<br>Sec. 025 W2NE,SENE,W2SE,W2.   |
| NV-12-06-063 | T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 033 E2;<br>Sec. 034 ALL;<br>Sec. 035 ALL.   |
| NV-12-06-070 | T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 025 SE,E2NE.  |
| NV-12-06-072 | T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 035 SESE;<br>Sec. 036 E2,SW,E2NW.   |
| NV-12-06-075 | T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 005 LOTS 2-4;<br>Sec. 005 W2SE;<br>Sec. 005 SWNE,S2NW,SW;<br>Sec. 006 LOTS 1-6;<br>Sec. 006 S2NE,SE;<br>Sec. 008 NW,W2SW. |
| NV-12-06-076 | T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 007 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 007 E2;<br>Sec. 017 NWNW;<br>Sec. 018 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 018 NE,N2SE,SWSE.                           |
| NV-12-06-077 | T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 019 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 019 E2NW;<br>Sec. 030 LOTS 1,2.   |
| NV-12-06-078 | T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 003 S2;<br>Sec. 004 S2SE;<br>Sec. 009 ALL;  |

Sec. 010 N2,SW,E2SE,N2NWSE,SE,SWSE;  
 Sec. 010 N2SWNWSE,SE,SWNWSE,SWSE.

NV-12-06-079 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 016 ALL;  
 Sec. 021 ALL;  
 Sec. 022 N2,W2SW.

NV-12-06-080 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 028 E2NE,W2;  
 Sec. 029 ALL;  
 Sec. 030 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 030 E2.

NV-12-06-081 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 031 E2;  
 Sec. 032 N2,SW,N2SE,SWSE.

NV-12-06-082 T.0260N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 035 E2.

NV-12-06-084 T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 001 LOT 1;  
 Sec. 001 S2NE,SE,E2SW;  
 Sec. 011 E2SE;  
 Sec. 012 ALL.

NV-12-06-085 T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 013 N2,SW;  
 Sec. 014 E2,E2W2;  
 Sec. 023 E2,SW,E2NW;  
 Sec. 024 ALL.

NV-12-06-086 T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 021 S2S2SW;  
 Sec. 022 S2S2.

NV-12-06-087 T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 025 ALL;  
 Sec. 026 ALL;  
 Sec. 035 ALL;  
 Sec. 036 N2,SW,N2SE.

NV-12-06-088 T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 027 ALL;

Sec. 028 ALL;  
 Sec. 033 ALL;  
 Sec. 034 N2N2,SWNW,S2.

NV-12-08-089 T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 029 ALL;  
 Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 031 E2,E2W2;  
 Sec. 032 ALL.

NV-12-06-096 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 025 S2,S2NE;  
 Sec. 026 S2S2;  
 Sec. 035 PROT ALL;  
 Sec. 036 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-097 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 027 S2S2S2;  
 Sec. 028 S2S2S2;  
 Sec. 033 PROT ALL;  
 Sec. 034 PROT ALL.

NV-12-06-098 T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 031 S2;  
 Sec. 032 S2,NE,S2NW.

NV-12-06-102 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 008 SE.

NV-12-06-103 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 017 E2,SENE,SW;  
 Sec. 019 E2;  
 Sec. 020 ALL.

NV-12-06-108 T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 002 LOT 1;  
 Sec. 002 SENE,SW;  
 Sec. 011 E2,E2W2.

NV-12-06-109 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 028 ALL;  
 Sec. 029 E2;  
 Sec. 032 E2;  
 Sec. 033 ALL.

## LEASE NOTICE

### **Cultural Sites**

Lands within this lease contain areas of known high potential for cultural resources. Properties known at the time of lease announcement that are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places will be avoided, where possible, by means of lease exclusions or by limits on surface use. The preferred avoidance option is to exclude areas containing National Register of Historic Places eligible sites from leasing and all forms of surface disturbance. Cultural sites not avoided may require consultation with State Historic Preservation Officer and treatment plans.

### **Goshute Lake:**

#### Parcels

#### Description of Lands

NV-12-06-064

T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 1-12;  
Sec. 001 S2;  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-2;  
Sec. 002 S2;  
Sec. 003 LOTS 1-12;  
Sec. 003 S2.

NV-12-06-065

T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 004 SW,E2SE,SE,SWSE,E2SWSE;  
Sec. 009 NENE,S2NE,E2NWNE;  
Sec. 010 ALL.

NV-12-06-066

T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 011 ALL;  
Sec. 012 ALL.

NV-12-06-073

T.0260N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 025 ALL;  
Sec. 026 E2SW;  
Sec. 026 E2,E2E2NW,NW,W2SWNW;  
Sec. 035 E2,E2NW,E2W2NW,SWSWNW,SW;  
Sec. 036 ALL.

NV-12-06-074

T.0260N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 027 ALL;  
Sec. 033 NENE;  
Sec. 034 W2SE;  
Sec. 034 SENW,NESW,NWNESE,E2SESE;  
Sec. 034 N2NE,SWNE,W2SENE,N2NW.

NV-12-06-078 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 004 SWSW;  
Sec. 009 W2W2.

NV-12-06-079 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 016 W2NW.

NV-12-06-083 T.0260N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 029 W2;  
Sec. 030 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 030 E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 031 E2,E2W2;  
Sec. 032 NE,W2,NESE.

NV-12-06-102 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 006 LOTS 1-5;  
Sec. 006 SE;  
Sec. 007 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 007 E2;  
Sec. 008 ALL.

NV-12-06-103 T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 017 N2, N2S2;  
Sec. 018 LOTS 1-3;  
Sec. 018 NE,N2SE.

## **LEASE NOTICE**

### **Desert Tortoise Habitat**

Lands within this lease will require Section 7 consultation prior to any surface disturbance in desert tortoise habitat. The BLM must ensure that the impacts from the operation do not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. The operator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the BLM also must reach concurrence that the proposed actions are below the jeopardy or adverse modification threshold. If it is determined that through the review of the plan of operation and the use of mitigation measures that the operation is not below the jeopardy or adverse modification threshold, the project would not go forward.

#### **Parcels**

NONE

#### **Description of Lands**

## LEASE TIMING STIPULATIONS

### **Resource: Desert Tortoise Habitat**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed within desert tortoise habitat from March 1 through October 31 without concurrence from the Forest Service.

**Objective:** To protect desert tortoise during the most active period to maintain desert tortoise populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action would not adversely affect desert tortoise habitat.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting desert tortoise. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, determines that the entire leasehold is no longer occupied by desert tortoise.

### Parcels

### Description of Lands

NONE

## LEASE TIMING STIPULATIONS

### **Resource: Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed within occupied desert bighorn sheep habitat from March 1 through May 31 and from July 1 through August 31.

**Objective:** To protect desert bighorn sheep from disturbance during lambing and the crucial hot summer months to maintain existing populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting desert bighorn sheep. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that the entire leasehold is no longer occupied by desert bighorn sheep.

### Parcels

### Description of Lands

NONE

**LEASE TIMING STIPULATION**

**Resource: Big Game Crucial Winter Habitat**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed within big game crucial winter range from November 1 through March 31.

**Objective:** To protect elk, mule deer, and pronghorn antelope from disturbance during the crucial winter period to maintain wildlife populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area no longer contain winter habitat. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife determines that the entire leasehold no longer contains crucial winter range for big game.

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| NV-12-06-032 | T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 002 S2SW;<br>Sec. 011 W2,W2E2. |
| NV-12-06-033 | T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 014 W2, W2E2.                  |
| NV-12-06-034 | T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 023 W2;<br>Sec. 026 W2.        |
| NV-12-06-090 | T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 001 N2.                        |

## LEASE TIMING STIPULATION

### **Resource: Big Game Calving/Fawning/Kidding/Lambing Grounds**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed within big game calving/fawning/kidding/lambing grounds from April 15 through June 30.

**Objective:** To protect elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep from disturbance during calving, fawning, kidding, and lambing to maintain wildlife populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting big game calving, fawning, kidding, and lambing. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife determines that the entire leasehold no longer contains big game calving/fawning/kidding/lambing grounds.

#### Parcels

#### Description of Lands

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| NV-12-06-005 | T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 006 ALL;<br>Sec. 007 ALL. |
| NV-12-06-006 | T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 018 ALL;<br>Sec. 019 ALL. |
| NV-12-06-007 | T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 030 ALL;<br>Sec. 031 ALL. |

## LEASE TIMING STIPULATION

### **Resource: Raptor Nest Sites**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed from May 1 through July 15 within 0.5 mile of a raptor nest site which has been active within the past five years.

**Objective:** To protect raptor nesting activities to maintain existing populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting raptor nesting activity. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife determines that the entire leasehold no longer contains raptor nest sites.

### Parcels

### Description of Lands

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| NV-12-06-020 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 015 N2,N2SW,NESE,S2SE.             |
| NV-12-06-025 | T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 002 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 002 S2N2,S2. |
| NV-12-06-030 | T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 034 ALL;<br>Sec. 035 W2W2W2.       |
| NV-12-06-034 | T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 023 W2W2.                          |
| NV-12-06-075 | T.0240N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 008 W2E2,W2.                       |
| NV-12-06-090 | T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 001 N2N2.                          |
| NV-12-06-094 | T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 021 W2W2SW.                        |
| NV-12-06-095 | T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 020 PROT ALL.                      |
| NV-12-06-098 | T.0240N, R.0680E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 029 N2N2.                          |

## LEASE TIMING STIPULATION

### **Resource: Sage Grouse Nesting Habitat Associated with Leks**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed within two miles of a sage grouse lek from March 1 through May 15 (June 15).

**Objective:** To protect sage grouse nesting activities associated with leks to maintain sage grouse populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting sage grouse nesting activity. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife determines that the entire leasehold no longer contains nesting habitat for sage grouse.

#### Parcels

#### Description of Lands

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| NV-12-06-005 | T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 006 N2,SE.  |
| NV-12-06-006 | T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 019 E2,E2SW.  |
| NV-12-06-007 | T.0210N, R.0550E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 030 ALL;<br>Sec. 031 E2,NW,E2SW.  |
| NV-12-06-017 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 002 LOTS 5-11;<br>Sec. 002 S2NE,SE,SE,<br>Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 003 S2N2,S2. |
| NV-12-06-018 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 004 S2N2,S2;<br>Sec. 005 LOTS 1;<br>Sec. 005 SENE.          |
| NV-12-06-020 | T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 010 N2;<br>Sec. 011 LOTS 1,2;<br>Sec. 011 NENW,NWNE.                              |

NV-12-06-021 T.0210N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009 N2NE.

NV-12-06-028 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 009 SESE;  
Sec. 016 E2,E2SW.

NV-12-06-029 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 019 E2,E2W2.

NV-12-06-030 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 022 NE,N2NW,N2SE,SESE;  
Sec. 027 E2,SEW,SW;  
Sec. 034 ALL;  
Sec. 035 ALL.

NV-12-06-031 T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 010 E2SW,SWSW,SE;  
Sec. 011 S2;  
Sec. 014 ALL;  
Sec. 015 ALL.

NV-12-06-032 T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 001 LOTS 3,4,8,16,17  
Sec. 001 S2NW,SW,W2SE;  
Sec. 002 LOTS 1-4;  
Sec. 002 S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 011 ALL;  
Sec. 012 LOTS 1,3,4,6,8;  
Sec. 012 W2NE,W2,NWSE.

NV-12-06-033 T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 013 LOTS 1-5,7,8,10,11,13,14,16;  
Sec. 013 W2E2,NW;  
Sec. 014 ALL.

NV-12-06-034 T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 N2,N2S2;  
Sec. 024 W2NE,NW.

NV-12-06-036 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 002 LOT 3;  
Sec. 002 W2NWSW,SWSW,E2SESW,S2SE;  
Sec. 002 SENW,W2SWNW,NESW;  
Sec. 011 E2SE;  
Sec. 011 NE,NWNWSE,E2NWSE,E2SWSE;

Sec. 012 SW,SWNW.

NV-12-06-037 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 003 S2N2,S2;  
 Sec. 010 N2,N2SW,SWSW.

NV-12-06-038 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 013 W2;  
 Sec. 014 NESE,W2NWSE,SWSE,E2SESE;  
 Sec. 014 E2NE,E2NWE,W2SWNE,S2SW;  
 Sec. 023 W2NESE,NENENE,W2SENE  
 Sec. 023 ,W2E2,W2;  
 Sec. 024 W2NW.

NV-12-06-039 T.0220N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 026 N2NW.

NV-12-06-041 T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 035 E2SW.

NV-12-06-042 T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 012 LOTS 2,3,5;  
 Sec. 012 SW,N2SE,SWSE;  
 Sec. 013 LOTS 1,4,6,7,9,11,16;  
 Sec. 013 NENW,W2NW,NWSW  
 Sec. 014 E2,NW,N2SW,SESW.

NV-12-06-043 T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 023 E2NW,SWNW,SW,W2SE;  
 Sec. 026 W2,W2NE.

NV-12-06-044 T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 035 NW.

NV-12-06-055 T.0240N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 005 LOTS 5,7,8,9,10.  
 Sec. 006 LOTS 8-11,16,17,  
 Sec. 007 LOTS 9,22,24

NV-12-06-071 T.0250N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
 Sec. 030 LOT 4;  
 Sec. 031 LOTS 1-4;  
 Sec. 031 SENW,E2SW,SE;  
 Sec. 032 W2,W2NE.

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| NV-12-06-078 | T.0250N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 003 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 003 S2;<br>Sec. 010 E2,E2NW.            |
| NV-12-06-082 | T.0260N, R.0650E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 026 SE,SESW,SENE;<br>Sec. 035 E2.                             |
| NV-12-06-088 | T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 033 SW,S2SE.  |
| NV-12-06-089 | T.0230N, R.0670E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 031 S2SE;<br>Sec. 032 S2.                                     |
| NV-12-06-105 | T.0240N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 027 ALL;<br>Sec. 034 W2,NE,N2SE.                              |
| NV-12-06-107 | T.0230N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 034 W2,W2SE.  |
| NV-12-06-109 | T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 028 ALL;<br>Sec. 029 E2SE;<br>Sec. 032 E2E2;<br>Sec. 033 ALL. |

**LEASE TIMING STIPULATION**

**Resource: Sage Grouse Winter Range**

**Stipulation:** Timing Limitation. No surface activity would be allowed within winter range for sage grouse from November 1 through March 31.

**Objective:** To protect sage grouse from disturbance during the crucial winter period to maintain sage grouse populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action are minimal or can be adequately mitigated.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area no longer contain sage grouse winter habitat. The dates for the timing restriction may be modified if new information indicates the dates are not valid for the leasehold.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife determines that the entire leasehold no longer contains winter range for sage grouse.

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NV-12-06-033

T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 014 SW, W2SE, SESE.

NV-12-06-034

T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 023 N2, W2W2SW;  
Sec. 024 W2NW;  
Sec. 026 SWNE, NWSE, SW, S2NW, W2NWNW;  
Sec. 035 W2.

**LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS**

**Resource: Cultural Sites**

**Stipulation:** No ground disturbance activities would be allowed within the boundaries of cultural properties and archaeological/historic districts determined to be eligible or potentially eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. No surface occupancy would be allowed within the:

Baker Archaeological Site ACEC

Rock Animal Corral Archaeological Site

Honeymoon Hill/City of Rocks ACEC

Mount Irish ACEC

Pahroc Rock Art ACEC

Rose Guano Bat Cave ACEC

Shooting Gallery ACEC

Snake Creek Indian Burial Cave ACEC

Sunshine Locality National Register District

White River Archaeological District

**Purpose:** To protect significant cultural properties and archaeological districts and their settings.

**Exception:** None.

**Modification:** None.

**Waiver:** None.

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NONE

## **LEASE- NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION**

### **U.S. Forest Service Lands:**

A review of the Ruby Mountain R.D. Oil & Gas Lease Availability Analysis and Decision Memo of November 29, 2005, has been completed and the NEPA analysis was determined to be adequate. The Forest Service is implementing the decision to offer the lands for lease with No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulation. All parcels are subject to lease notices for Lands of the National Forest System under Jurisdiction of Department of Agriculture, Floodplains and Wetlands, as well as, the NSO stipulation. (If an APD is submitted, the NSO stipulation may be modified or removed on a case-by-case basis)

#### **Parcels**

#### **Description of Lands**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| NV-12-06-008 | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 002 PROT ALL;<br>Sec. 011 PROT ALL;<br>Sec. 012 PROT ALL.   |
| NV-12-06-009 | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 003 LOTS 3,4;<br>Sec. 003 S2NW,SW;<br>Sec. 003 PROT E2;<br>Sec. 004 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 004 S2N2,S2;<br>Sec. 005 LOTS 1-4;<br>Sec. 005 S2N2,N2SW,SESW,SE. |
| NV-12-06-010 | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 009 ALL;<br>Sec. 010 W2;<br>Sec. 010 PROT E2;<br>Sec. 015 W2;<br>Sec. 015 PROT E2;<br>Sec. 016 ALL.   |
| NV-12-06-011 | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 014 PROT ALL;<br>Sec. 021 ALL;<br>Sec. 022 W2,SE;<br>Sec. 022 PROT NE;<br>Sec. 023 SW;<br>Sec. 023 PROT N2,SE.  |
| NV-12-06-012 | T.0250N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV<br>Sec. 013 PROT ALL;   |

NV-12-06-013  
Sec. 024 PROT ALL;  
Sec. 025 PROT N2.  
T.0260N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 021 LOTS 2,3;  
Sec. 021 SWNE,N2SW,SWSW,SWSE;  
Sec. 022 SESW;  
Sec. 022 E2,E2NW,S2NWNW;SWNW,N2SW;  
Sec. 023 ALL.

NV-12-06-014  
T.0260N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 026 ALL;  
Sec. 027 ALL;  
Sec. 034 ALL;  
Sec. 035 ALL.

NV-12-06-015  
T.0260N, R.0560E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 028 LOTS 3,4;  
Sec. 028 SWNE,S2NW,N2SW,SESW;  
Sec. 028 N2SWSW;  
Sec. 029 W2NE,SENE,NW,N2S2,SWSW;  
Sec. 029 N2SESE;  
Sec. 032 NWNW,S2N2,S2;  
Sec. 033 LOTS 3-6;  
Sec. 033 SWNE,S2NW,NWSE.

**LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS**

**Resource: Desert Tortoise ACEC**

**Stipulation:** No surface occupancy would be allowed within the Beaver Dam Slope ACEC or the Mormon Mesa ACEC.

**Purpose:** These areas encompass the habitat which has been determined to be critical to the survival of the desert tortoise population. The desert tortoise is a listed species under the Endangered Species Act.

**Exception:** The authorized officer may grant an exception (allow surface occupancy) upon completion of formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that yields a no-jeopardy opinion if a plan of development is submitted that does not significantly impact tortoise habitats or populations. The plan of development must demonstrate no significant impact will occur through mitigation of impacts, compensation (in accordance with BLM policy), and restoration of the land to pre-disturbance condition.

**Modification:** None

**Waiver:** None

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NONE

**LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS**

**Resource: Natural, Scenic, and Recreation Sites**

**Stipulation:** No ground disturbance activities would be allowed within the boundaries of areas that exhibit exceptional natural, scenic, or recreational values. No Surface Occupancy would be allowed within the:

Blue Mass Scenic Area ACEC

Cleve Creek Recreation Site

Egan Crest Trailhead

Garnet Hill

Illipah Reservoir

Kirch Wildlife Management Area

Sacramento Pass Recreation Site

Ward Mountain Recreation Site

White Pine County Shooting Range

**Purpose:** To protect the public’s opportunity for quality recreation experiences at those sites developed for those purposes.

To prevent user conflicts and incompatible uses in areas with high recreational values and significant amounts of recreational activity. To control the visual impacts of activities and facilities within acceptable levels.

**Exception:** None

**Modification:** None

**Waiver:** A waiver may be granted for a site if it is moved or eliminated.

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NONE

**LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS**

**Resource: BLM Facilities**

**Stipulation:** No surface occupancy would be allowed within the following withdrawal areas:

Caliente Field Station

Pony Springs Fire Station

**Purpose:** To protect the operation and maintenance of the BLM's facilities.

**Exception:** None

**Modification:** None

**Waiver:** None

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NONE

**LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS**

**Resource: Paleontological Sites**

**Stipulation:** No ground disturbance activities would be allowed within the boundaries of areas of known paleontological sites/locales. No surface occupancy would be allowed within the: Andies Mine Trilobite Site

**Purpose:** To preserve and protect significant vertebrate fossils and paleontological sites.

**Exception:** None

**Modification:** None

**Waiver:** None

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NONE

**LEASE – NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATIONS**

**Resource: Cultural Sites**

**Stipulation:** No ground disturbance activities would be allowed within the boundaries of cultural properties and archaeological/historic districts determined to be eligible or potentially eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. No surface occupancy would be allowed within the:

- Baker Archaeological Site ACEC
- Rock Animal Corral Archaeological Site
- Honeymoon Hill/City of Rocks ACEC
- Mount Irish ACEC
- Pahroc Rock Art ACEC
- Rose Guano Bat Cave ACEC
- Shooting Gallery ACEC
- Snake Creek Indian Burial Cave ACEC
- Sunshine Locality National Register District
- White River Archaeological District

**Purpose:** To protect significant cultural properties and archaeological districts and their settings.

**Exception:** None.

**Modification:** None.

**Waiver:** None.

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NONE

**LEASE- NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY STIPULATION**

**Resource: Sage Grouse Leks**

**Stipulation:** No surface occupancy. No surface use would be allowed within 0.25 mile of a sage grouse lek.

**Objective:** To protect sage grouse breeding activities and the integrity of the habitat associated with sage grouse leks to maintain sage grouse populations.

**Exception:** An exception to this stipulation may be granted by the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, if the operator submits a plan that demonstrates that impacts from the proposed action would not affect breeding activity nor degrade the integrity of the habitat associated with the sage grouse lek.

**Modification:** The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada Department of Wildlife, determines that portions of the area can be occupied without adversely affecting the sage grouse lek.

**Waiver:** The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer, in consultation with Nevada

Department of Wildlife, determines that the lek has been inactive for at least five consecutive years or the habitat has changed such that there is no likelihood the lek would become active.

**Parcels**

**Description of Lands**

NV-12-06-030

T.0220N, R.0640E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 022 SENE,NESE;

Sec. 034 NE,N2SE.

NV-12-06-032

T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 011 SW.

NV-12-06-033

T.0210N, R.0630E, 21 MDM, NV  
Sec. 014 N2N2NW.

APPENDIX C. BLM Sensitive Species (2012) that occur or have the potential to occur within the parcels. The BLM reviews and updates this list annually.

| <b>Common Name</b>           | <b>Scientific Name</b>                 |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Birds</b>                 |  |
| Northern Goshawk             | <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>              |
| Golden Eagle                 | <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>               |
| Western Burrowing Owl        | <i>Athene cuniculariaa hypugaea</i>    |
| Ferruginous Hawk             | <i>Buteo regalis</i>                   |
| Swainson's Hawk              | <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>                 |
| Greater Sage Grouse          | <i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>       |
| Western Snowy Plover         | <i>Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus</i> |
| Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo | <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>             |
| Perigrine Falcon             | <i>Falco peregrinus</i>                |
| Pinyon Jay                   | <i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>       |
| Bald Eagle                   | <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>        |
| Loggerhead Shrike            | <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>             |
| Black Rosy-finch             | <i>Leucosticte atrata</i>              |
| Lewis Woodpecker             | <i>Melanerpes lewis</i>                |
| Sage Thrasher                | <i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>            |
| Brewer's Sparrow             | <i>Spizella breweri</i>                |
| <b>Mammals</b>               |  |
| pallid bat                   | <i>Antrozous pallidus</i>              |
| pygmy rabbit                 | <i>Brachylagus idahoensis</i>          |
| Townsend's big-eared bat     | <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>         |
| big brown bat                | <i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>                |
| spotted bat                  | <i>Euderma maculatum</i>               |
| silver-haired bat            | <i>Lasiorycteris noctivagans</i>       |
| western red bat              | <i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i>           |
| hoary bat                    | <i>Lasiurus cinereus</i>               |
| dark kangaroo mouse          | <i>Microdipodops megacephalus</i>      |
| California myotis            | <i>Myotis californicus</i>             |
| western small-footed myotis  | <i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>              |
| long-eared myotis            | <i>Myotis evotis</i>                   |
| little brown myotis          | <i>Myotis lucifugus</i>                |
| fringed myotis               | <i>Myotis thysanodes</i>               |
| long-legged myotis           | <i>Myotis volans</i>                   |
| Yuma myotis                  | <i>Myotis yumanensis</i>               |
| western pipistrelle          | <i>Pipistrellus hesperus</i>           |
| Brazilian free-tailed bat    | <i>Tadarida brasiliensis</i>           |
| <b>Fish</b>                  |  |
| Newark Valley tui chub       | <i>Gila bicolor newarkensis</i>        |
| relict dace                  | <i>Relictus solitarius</i>             |
| <b>Insects</b>               |  |
| Steptoe Valley crescent-spot | <i>Phyciodes pascoensis arenacolor</i> |
| <b>Molluscs</b>              |  |
| Northern Steptoe pyrg        | <i>Pyrgulopsis serrata</i>             |

## **APPENDIX D, SECTION 1 RESOURCE PROGRAM BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Section 1 contains best management practices developed by the Ely Field Office. They have been organized by the primary resource the best management practices would benefit or protect. Each best management practice could actually be implemented by a number of resource programs within the Field Office. Between the Draft RMP/EIS and the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, certain best management practices have been incorporated into Chapter 2.0 as management actions, edited for clarity, or deleted because they are no longer appropriate. Best management practices would be implemented at the discretion of the Ely Field Office on a project-specific basis, depending on the specific characteristics of the project area and the types of disturbance being proposed. They may not be appropriate to implement in all cases. It has been assumed for impact analysis that best management practices would be implemented wherever appropriate.

### **1.2 Air Resources**

- 1.2.1 Use dust abatement techniques on unpaved, unvegetated surfaces to minimize airborne dust.
- 1.2.2 Post and enforce speed limits (e.g., 25 miles per hour) to reduce airborne fugitive dust.
- 1.2.3 Cover construction materials and stockpiled soils if they are a source of fugitive dust.
- 1.2.4 Use dust abatement techniques before and during surface clearing, excavation, or blasting activities.

### **1.3 Water Resources**

- 1.3.1 Avoid the application of fire retardant or foam within 300 feet of a stream channel or waterway, when possible, except for the protection of life and property. Aerial application and use of retardants and foams would be consistent with national policy guidelines established by the National Office of Fire and Aviation, as amended.
- 1.3.2 Fire engines that have surfactant foam mixes in tanks must be fitted with an anti-siphon (back flow protection valve) if filled directly from a stream channel.
- 1.3.3 Construct a containment barrier around all pumps and fuel containers utilized within 100 feet (30.5 meters) of a stream channel. The containment barrier would be of sufficient size to contain all fuel being stored or used on site.
- 1.3.4 Prior to use on lands administered by the Ely Field Office, all fire suppression equipment from outside the planning area utilized to extract water from lakes, streams, ponds, or spring sources (e.g., helicopter buckets, draft hoses, and screens) will be thoroughly rinsed to remove mud and debris and then disinfected to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic species. Rinsing equipment with disinfectant solution will not occur within 100 feet of natural water sources (i.e., lakes, streams, or springs). Ely suppression equipment utilized to extract water from water sources known to be contaminated with invasive aquatic species, as identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Nevada Department of Wildlife, also will be disinfected prior to use elsewhere on lands administered by the Ely Field Office.

- 1.3.5 Do not dump surfactant foam mixes from fire engines within 600 feet of a stream channel.
- 1.3.6 Do not conduct fire retardant mixing operations within 600 feet of a stream channel.
- 1.3.7 Remove all modifications made to impound or divert stream flow by mechanical or other means to facilitate extraction of water from a stream for fire suppression efforts when suppression efforts are completed.
- 1.3.8 When drafting or dipping water during fire operations, continuously monitor water levels at the site that water is being removed from. Do not allow water extraction to exceed the ability of the recharge inflow to maintain the water levels that exist at the time initial attack efforts began. If the water level drops below this predetermined level, all water removal would cease immediately until water levels are recharged.
- 1.3.8 When possible, do not cross or terminate fire control lines at the stream channel. Terminate control lines at the edge of the riparian zone at a location determined appropriate to meet fire suppression objectives based on fire behavior, vegetation/fuel types, and fire fighter safety.
- 1.3.10 Construct access roads and fords that cross stream channels to BLM road standards.
- 1.3.11 Do not construct new roads or mechanical fire control lines or improve existing roads within 300 feet of a stream channel unless authorized by the BLM Field Manager or Authorized Officer.
- 1.3.12 Limit stream crossings on travel routes and trails to the minimal number necessary to minimize sedimentation and compaction. The BLM Authorized Officer will determine if any impacts need to be rehabilitated by the permittee.
- 1.3.13 Conduct mixing of herbicides and rinsing of herbicide containers and spray equipment only in areas that are a safe distance from environmentally sensitive areas and points of entry to bodies of water (storm drains, irrigation ditches, streams, lakes, or wells).
- 1.3.14 A water well may be accepted by the BLM Ely Field Office upon completion of operations. The BLM authorized officer will make the determination whether to accept the well based upon the submission of the well completion forms and relevant hydrogeologic data reports. The well must be installed by drillers licensed by the state of Nevada according to specifications in Nevada Revised Statutes Title 48, Chapter 534.

#### **1.4 Soil Resources**

- 1.4.1 Require the use of specialized low-surface impact equipment (e.g., balloon tired vehicles) or helicopters, as determined by the BLM Authorized Officer, for activities in off-road areas where it is deemed necessary to protect fragile soils and other resource values.
- 1.4.2 During periods of adverse soil moisture conditions caused by climatic factors such as thawing, heavy rains, snow, flooding, or drought, suspend activities on existing roads that could create excessive surface rutting. When adverse conditions exist, the operator would contact the BLM Authorized Officer for an evaluation and decision based on soil types, soil moisture, slope, vegetation, and cover.
- 1.4.3 When preparing the site for reclamation, include contour furrowing, terracing, reduction of steep cut and fill slopes, and the installation of water bars, as determined appropriate for site-specific conditions.

1.4.4 Upon completion or temporary suspension of mining operations, backfill all holes and trenches and re-contour the pit to the natural slope, if possible, with pit walls greater than 3 feet in height knocked down and sloped at 3 horizontal to 1 vertical or to the original topography, whichever is less.

1.4.5 Restoration requirements include reshaping, re-contouring, and/or resurfacing with topsoil, installation of water bars, and seeding on the contour. Removal of structures such as culverts, concrete pads, cattle guards, and signs would usually be required. Fertilization and/or fencing of the disturbance may be required. Additional erosion control measures (e.g., fiber matting and barriers) to discourage road travel may be required.

## **1.5 Vegetation Resources**

1.5.1 Where seeding is required, use appropriate seed mixture and seeding techniques approved by the BLM Authorized Officer.

1.5.2 The BLM Authorized Officer will specify required special handling and recovery techniques for Joshua trees, yucca, and some cactus in the southern part of the planning area on a site-specific basis.

1.5.3 Keep removal and disturbance of vegetation to a minimum through construction site management (e.g., using previously disturbed areas and existing easements, limiting equipment/materials storage and staging area sites, etc.).

1.5.4 Generally, conduct reclamation with native seeds that are representative of the indigenous species present in the adjacent habitat. Document rationale for potential seeding with selected nonnative species. Possible exceptions would include use of nonnative species for a temporary cover crop to out-complete weeds. In all cases, ensure seed mixes are approved by the BLM Authorized Officer prior to planting.

1.5.5 Certify that all interim and final seed mixes, hay, straw, and hay/straw products are free of plant species listed on the Nevada noxious weed list.

1.5.6 An area is considered to be satisfactorily reclaimed when all disturbed areas have been recontoured to blend with the natural topography, erosion has been stabilized, and an acceptable vegetative cover has been established. Use the Nevada Guidelines for Successful Revegetation prepared by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, the BLM, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (or most current revision or replacement of this document) to determine if revegetation is successful.

1.5.7 Reclamation bond release criteria would include the following:

The perennial plant cover of the reclaimed area would equal or exceed perennial cover of selected comparison areas (normally adjacent habitat). If the adjacent habitat is severely disturbed, an ecological site description may be used as a cover standard. Cover is normally crown cover as estimated by the point intercept method. Selected cover can be determined using a method as described in Sampling Vegetation Attributes, Interagency Technical Reference, 1996, BLM/RS/ST-96/002+1730. The reclamation plan for the area project would identify the site-specific release criteria and associated statistical methods in the reclamation plan or permit.

1.5.8 Utility companies will manage vegetation in their rights-of-way for safe and reliable operation while maintaining vegetation and wildlife habitat.

1.5.9 Respread weed-free vegetation removed from the right-of-way to provide protection, nutrient recycling, and seed source.

## **1.6 Fish and Wildlife**

1.6.1 Install wildlife escape ramps in all watering troughs, including temporary water haul facilities, and open storage tanks. Pipe the overflow away from the last water trough on an open system to provide water at ground level.

1.6.2 As appropriate, mark certain trees on BLM-administered lands for protection as wildlife trees.

1.6.3 Consider seasonal distribution of large wildlife species when determining methods used to accomplish weed and insect control objectives.

1.6.4 Protect active raptor nests in undisturbed areas within 0.25 mile of areas proposed for vegetation conversion using species-specific protection measures. Inventory areas containing suitable nesting habitat for active raptor nests prior to the initiation of any project.

1.6.5 When used to pump water from any pond or stream, screen the intake end of the draft hose to prevent fish from being ingested. Screen opening size would be a maximum of 3/16 inch (4.7 millimeters).

1.6.6 Special recreation use permittees will take action to ensure that race participants and spectators do not harass wildlife.

## **1.7 Special Status Species**

1.7.1 Avoid line-of-sight views between the power poles along powerlines and sage grouse leks, whenever feasible.

1.7.2 Use current science, guidelines, and methodologies (Avian Power Line Interaction Committee 1994, 1996, 2005) for all new and existing powerlines to minimize raptor and other bird electrocution and collision potential.

1.7.3 When managing weeds in areas of special status species, carefully consider the impacts of the treatment on such species. Wherever possible, hand spraying of herbicides is preferred over other methods.

1.7.4 Do not conduct noxious and invasive weed control within 0.5 mile of nesting and brood rearing areas for special status species during the nesting and brood rearing season.

1.7.5 To the greatest extent possible, survey all mine adits and shafts slated for closure for bat presence and use prior to being closed. Minimize impacts to bat roosts and bat habitat through the use of current science, guidelines, and methodologies when closing and abandoning mine adits.

1.7.6 Develop grazing systems to minimize conflicts with special status species habitat.

1.7.7 For streams currently occupied by any special status species, do not allow extraction of water from ponds or pools if stream inflow is minimal (i.e., during drought situations) and extraction of water would lower the existing pond or pool level.

1.7.8 When new spring developments are constructed on BLM lands and BLM has the authority to design the project, the source and surrounding riparian area will be fenced, the spring will be developed in a manner that leaves surface water at the source and maintains the associated riparian area, water will be provided outside the enclosure in a manner that provides drinking water for large ungulates, wild horses, and/or livestock so they are less likely to break into the enclosure.

1.7.9 Salt and mineral supplements:

- Base placement of salt and mineral supplements on site-specific assessment.
- Normally place salt and mineral supplements at least 0.5 mile away from riparian areas, sensitive sites, populations of special status plant species, cultural resource sites.
- Place salt at least 0.5 mile from any water source including troughs.
- Place salt and mineral supplements at least 1 mile from sage grouse leks.

1.7.9 Water hauling:

- Place water haul sites at least 0.5 mile away from riparian areas, cultural sites, and special status species locations.
- Limit water hauling to existing roads when possible.

## **1.8 Wild Horses**

1.8.1 To protect wild horses and wildlife flag all new fences every 16 feet with white flagging that is at least 1 inch wide and has at least 12 inches hanging free from the top wire of the fence.

1.8.2 If a project involves heavy or sustained traffic, require road signs for safety and protection of wild horses and wildlife.

## **1.9 Cultural Resources**

1.9.1 Ensure that all activities associated with the undertaking, within 100 meters of the discovery, are halted and the discovery is appropriately protected, until the BLM authorized officer issues a Notice to Proceed. A Notice to Proceed may be issued by the BLM under any of the following conditions:

- Evaluation of potentially eligible resource(s) results in a determination that the resource(s) are not eligible;
- The fieldwork phase of the treatment option has been completed; and
- The BLM has accepted a summary description of the fieldwork performed and a reporting schedule for that work.

1.9.2 The operator will inform all persons associated with the project that knowingly disturbing cultural resources (historic or archaeological) or collecting artifacts is illegal.

1.9.3 The BLM may approve cross-country operations of seismic trucks and support vehicles on bare frozen ground or over sufficient snow depth (vehicle traffic does not reveal the ground) so as to prevent surface disturbance.

1.9.4 Perform viewshed reclamation when the setting of a site contributes to the significance of the property.

## **1.10 Paleontological Resources**

1.10.1 When paleontological resources of potential scientific interest are encountered (including all vertebrate fossils and deposits of petrified wood), leave them intact and immediately bring them to the attention of the BLM Authorized Officer.

#### 1.11 Visual Resources

1.11.1 On industrial facilities authorized by the Ely Field Office, utilize anti-glare light fixtures to limit light pollution.

1.11.2 During the implementation of vegetation treatments, create irregular margins around treatment areas to better maintain the existing scenic character of the landscape.

1.11.3 When feasible, bury utility lines on public land when in the viewshed of residential or community development.

#### 1.12 Travel Management and Off-highway Vehicle Use

1.12.1 Design access roads requiring construction with cut and fill to minimize surface disturbance and take into account the character of the landform, natural contours, cut material, depth of cut, where the fill material would be deposited, resource concerns, and visual contrast. Avoid construction of access roads on steep hillsides and near watercourses where alternate routes provide adequate access.

1.12.2 Where adverse impacts or safety considerations warrant, limit or prohibit public access when authorizing specific routes to areas or sites under permit or lease.

#### 1.13 Recreation

1.13.1 Do not allow surface or underground disturbance to occur within 100 yards (horizontally or vertically) of known cave resources.

1.13.2 Where appropriate, do not allow ground disturbing activities within 100 yards of cave entrances, drainage areas, subsurface passages, and developed recreation sites. Do not dispose of waste material or chemicals in sinkholes or gates by cave entrances. If during construction activities any sinkholes or cave openings are discovered, cease construction activities and notify the BLM authorized officer.

#### 1.14 Livestock Grazing

##### 1.14.1 Water troughs

- Place troughs connected with spring developments outside of riparian and wetland habitats to reduce livestock trampling damage to wet areas.
- Control trough overflow at springs with float valves or deliver the overflow back into the native channel.

1.14.2 Based on allotment situations and circumstances associated with livestock grazing and multiple use management, implement any or all of the following appropriate management practices on winterfat dominated ecological sites.

- Develop grazing systems to control or rest grazing use on winterfat sites after March 1 or when the critical growing season begins. Allow spring grazing use during the critical growing period if a grazing rotation system that provides rest from grazing during the critical growing period at least every other

year for all areas is in place. Utilization during the critical growth period should not exceed 35 percent under any circumstances.

- Place salt and supplements at least 0.5 mile away from winterfat dominated sites. Base placement on site-specific assessment and characteristics such as riparian, topography, cultural, special status species, etc.
- Locate sheep bedding grounds and camps at least 0.5 mile away from winterfat dominated sites. Base placement on site-specific assessment and characteristics such as riparian, topography, cultural, special status species, etc.
- Locate water haul sites at least 0.5 mile away from winterfat dominated sites. Base placement on site-specific assessment and characteristics such as riparian, topography, cultural, special status species, etc.
- Construct livestock reservoirs away from winterfat dominated sites. Base placement on site specific assessment and characteristics such as riparian, topography, cultural, special status species, etc.
- If water wells are approved to be drilled in winterfat dominated sites, strive to pipe the water at least 0.5 mile away from winterfat dominated sites. Base placement on site-specific assessment and characteristics such as riparian, topography, cultural, special status species, etc.

### **1.15 Mineral Extraction**

1.15.1 Applications for permit to drill would follow the best management practices as outlined in the BLM oil and gas Gold Book ([http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/oil\\_and\\_gas/best\\_management\\_practices/gold\\_book.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/oil_and_gas/best_management_practices/gold_book.html)), as well as on-shore regulations, individual surface use plans, and conditions of approval that may be part of the Record of Decision for EISs or Decision Records for environmental assessments/Findings of No Significant Impacts, Documentation of NEPA Adequacy, and Categorical Exclusions prepared for site-specific projects.

1.15.2 Do not permit blasting if it would be detrimental to the significant characteristics of archeological or historical values, recreation areas, known caves, water wells, or springs.

1.15.3 Notify the BLM authorized officer within 5 days of completion of reclamation work so that timely compliance inspections can be completed.

### **1.16 Watershed Management**

1.16.1 Manage activities, uses, and authorizations on burned areas to best meet resource management objectives established for the area in specific stabilization, restoration, or activity plans. The BLM authorized officer may open areas to livestock grazing based upon those considerations.

### **1.17 Fire Management**

1.17.1 Notify valid existing land users (such as mine claimants, holders of rights-of-way, and livestock permittees) prior to implementation of prescribed fires that may affect their investments.

1.17.2 Remove vegetation, where appropriate, to protect facilities (e.g., range improvements, communication sites, and recreation sites).

1.17.3 Within the area of operation, every effort will be made to prevent, control, or suppress any fire. Firefighting equipment may be required to be on site while operations are in progress, depending on hazards inherent in the type of operation and fire hazard levels. Report uncontrolled fires immediately to the BLM Ely Field Office Manager or Authorized Officer. The BLM Fire Dispatch telephone number is (775) 289-1925 or 1-800-633-6092. After working hours, call 911 or the White Pine County Sheriff's Office at (775) 289-8801, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office at (775) 962 5151, or the Nye County Sheriff's Office at (775) 482-8101.

## **1.18 Noxious and Invasive Weed Management**

1.18.1 Control or restrict the timing of livestock movement to minimize the transport of livestock-borne noxious weed seeds, roots, or rhizomes between weed-infested and weed-free areas.

1.18.2 When maintaining unpaved roads on BLM-administered lands, avoid the unnecessary disturbance of adjacent native vegetation and the spread of weeds. Grade road shoulders or barrow ditches only when necessary to provide for adequate drainage. Minimize the width of grading operations. The BLM Authorized Officer will meet with equipment operators to ensure that they understand this objective.

## **1.19 Health and Safety**

1.19.1 Consider nozzle type, nozzle size, boom pressure, and adjuvant use and take appropriate measures for each herbicide application project to reduce the chance of chemical drift.

1.19.2 All applications of approved pesticides will be conducted only by certified pesticide applicators or by personnel under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.

1.19.3 Prior to commencing any chemical control program, and on a daily basis for the duration of the project, the certified applicator will provide a suitable safety briefing to all personnel working with or in the vicinity of the herbicide application. This briefing will include safe handling, spill prevention, cleanup, and first aid procedures.

1.19.4 Store all pesticides in areas where access can be controlled to prevent unauthorized/untrained people from gaining access to the chemicals.

1.19.5 Do not apply pesticides within 440 yards (0.25 mile) of residences without prior notification of the resident.

1.19.6 Areas treated with pesticides will be adequately posted to notify the public of the activity and of safe re-entry dates, if a public notification requirement is specified on the label of the product applied. The public notice signs will be at least 8 1/2" x 11" in size and will contain the date of application and the date of safe re-entry.

1.19.7 The recreation permittee will post warning signs at all known mine shafts and other hazardous areas that occur within 100 feet of a race course or pit/spectator area and will verbally inform race participants of all hazards at the pre-race meeting.

1.19.8 The recreation permittee will assume liability for and clean up of any and all releases of hazardous substances or oil (more than one quart) disposed on public land as defined in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Subpart 300). The permittee will immediately notify the BLM Authorized Officer of any and all releases of hazardous substances or oil (more than one quart) on public land.

1.19.9 Properly dispose of all tailings, dumps, and deleterious materials or substances. Take measures to isolate, control, and properly dispose of toxic and hazardous materials.

1.19.10 Remove and properly dispose of all trash, garbage, debris, and foreign matter. Maintain the disposal site and leave it in a clean and safe condition. Do not allow burning at the site.

1.19.11 Do not drain oil or lubricants onto the ground surface. Immediately clean up any spills under 25 gallons; clean up spills over 25 gallons as soon as possible and report the incident to the BLM Authorized Officer and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection.

1.19.12 The operator will work with the BLM Authorized Officer on the containment of drilling fluids and drill hole cuttings. Adequately fence, post, or cover mud and separation pits, and hazardous material storage areas.

1.19.13 Locate powder magazines at least 0.25 mile from traveled roads. Attend loaded shot holes and charges at all times. Use explosives according to applicable federal and state regulations.

1.19.14 Containerize petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel fuel, helicopter fuel, and lubricants in approved containers. Properly store hazardous materials in separate containers to prevent mixing, drainage, or accidents.

APPENDIX E- USES PARCEL STIPULATIONS