



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office  
170 South 500 East  
Vernal, Utah 84078  
<http://www.blm.gov>



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
1300  
(UT-08300)3120

April 18, 2008

Memorandum

To: State Director, UT-924  
Attention: Teresa Thompson, Terry Catlin

From: Field Manager, Vernal Field Office *William H. Hargis*

Subject: June 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale Parcel Recommendations

The Vernal Field Office (VFO) has nineteen parcels on the preliminary list for the June 2008 oil and gas lease sale. The following recommendations for leasing or deferral of parcels are provided to the BLM Utah State Director.

Fifteen parcels or pieces of parcels are recommended for deferral pending completion of the Vernal Resource Management Plan. Further information on deferred parcels is contained in Attachment 1. The parcels are as follows:

**Parcels and Portions of Parcels Recommended For Deferral**

UT0508-007\*  
UT0508-008  
UT0508-009  
UT0508-010\*  
UT0508-011\*  
UT0508-014\*  
UT0508-015  
UT0508-017  
UT0508-018  
UT0508-019  
UT0508-020  
UT0508-021  
UT0508-022  
UT0508-024  
UT0508-025

\*portion of parcel being deferred

The attached Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and NEPA Adequacy (DNA) Worksheet was prepared to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for the leasing of oil and gas parcels within the administrative boundaries of the VFO for the June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale. An Interdisciplinary

Team review is included as Attachment 2 of the DNA. The recommended parcel and attached stipulations and lease notices are found in Attachment 1 of the DNA. The following 8 parcels or portions of parcels being considered for the June 2008 sale have been determined to be in conformance with existing Land Use Plans, and are recommended to go forward in the lease sale. The VFO DNA addresses only those 8 parcels offered for sale.

**Parcels Recommended For Sale**

UT0508-007\*

UT0508-010\*

UT0508-011\*

UT0508-012

UT0508-013

UT0508-014\*

UT0508-016

UT0508-023

\*portion of parcel recommended for sale

Additional lease notices were attached to the parcels which were not included on the preliminary offer list submitted by USO on 2/8/08. In accordance with WOIM 2002-174 the following Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation stipulation is to be added to all recommended lease parcels.

“The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.”

In accordance with WOIM 2005-003 Cultural Resources and Tribal Consultation for Fluid Minerals Leasing, the cultural stipulation which states the following has been added to all offered lease parcels:

“This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated.”

Please contact Holly Villa (435)-781-4404 if you have any questions.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table  
Attachment 2 DNA



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SUPERVISORS	INITIAL
Field Mgr.	
Bus Practice	
Fire	
Minerals	<i>fk</i>
NEPA	<i>sh</i>
Operations	
Planning	
Ranger	
Renewables	

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Please contact Holly Villa (435)-781-4404 if you have any questions.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table  
Attachment 2 DNA

**Worksheet**  
**Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)**

U.S. Department of the Interior  
Utah Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

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The signed CONCLUSION at the end of this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal analysis process and does not constitute an appealable decision; however, it constitutes an administrative record to be provided as evidence in protest, appeals and legal procedures.

**A. BLM Office:** Vernal Field Office (UT-080)

**Proposed Action Title:** June 5, 2008 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

**Location of Proposed Action:** Parcels within Uintah County, Utah. Attachment 1 contains legal descriptions for each parcel.

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The Utah State Office proposes to offer 19 parcels of land in Uintah County, Utah administered by the Vernal Field Office for oil and gas leasing in a competitive lease sale to be held on June 5, 2008. All 19 parcels were assessed for land use plan compliance and NEPA adequacy; it was recommended that only eight of these go forward. Attachment 1 lists all parcels including special lease stipulations and lease notices. These parcels include public lands or lands in which the mineral estate is administered by the BLM. If a parcel of land is not purchased at the lease sale by competitive bidding, it may still be leased within two years after the initial offering. A lease may be held for ten years, after which the lease expires unless oil or gas is produced in paying quantities. A producing lease can be held indefinitely by economic production.

Planning decisions can place certain lands in a no leasing category. Most lands are leased with minor stipulations attached to the lease from the appropriate land use plan for the area. Some lands are leased with limited areas of no surface occupancy or no leasing within the lease boundaries. Some lands are leased with no stipulations other than those found on the standard lease contract form. A lease grants the right to drill for oil and gas, at some location on the lease, subject to the terms and conditions of the conditions and stipulations.

A lessee must submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) (Form 3160-3) to the BLM for approval and must possess an approved APD prior to any surface disturbance in preparation for drilling. Any stipulations attached to the standard lease form must be complied with before an APD may be approved. Following BLM approval of an APD, a lessee may produce oil and gas from the well in a manner approved by BLM in the APD or in subsequent sundry notices. The operator must notify the appropriate authorized officer, 48 hours before starting any surface disturbing activity approved in the APD.

**B. Conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP) and Consistency with Related Subordinate Implementation Plans**

LUP Name:

Environmental Analysis Record Oil and Gas Leasing Program Vernal District Office Utah,  
approved June 1975

Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (DMRMP/EIS), approved December 21, 1994

Book Cliffs Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (BCRMP/EIS), approved June 3, 1985

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUPs because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

- Environmental Analysis Record on page VIII-1 found no significant adverse impacts to the environment from leasing, and recommended that an environmental impact statement was not necessary.
- The Record of Decision (ROD) for the DMRMP/EIS in Chapter 2, on page 2-30 and Appendix 2 identifies those specific lands within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area that are available for leasing. The DRMP/EIS' Appendix 2 contains pertinent stipulations and lease notices.
- The Record of Decision (ROD) for the BCRMP/EIS in Chapter 2, on pages 7 through 24, identifies those specific lands within the Book Cliffs Resource Area that are available for leasing.

**C. Identify the applicable NEPA document(s) and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

- Environmental Analysis Record Oil and Gas Leasing Program Vernal District Office Utah, approved June 1975
- Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (DMEIS), 1993
- Book Cliffs Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (BCEIS), 1985.
- Environmental Assessment for Oil and Gas Leasing in the Book Cliffs Resource Area, UT-080-89-002, 1988.
- Supplement to Environmental Assessment for Oil and Gas Leasing in the Book Cliffs Resource Area, UT-080-89-002, 1989.
- Draft Vernal Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement UT-GI-04-001-1610, 2005.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., source drinking water assessments, biological assessments, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, rangeland health standard's assessment and determinations, and monitoring report).

**REVIEW**

State of Utah Sensitive Species List  
Interdisciplinary Team Review  
Attachment 2, Consolidated Resource Review

**DATE**

2007  
February 25, 2008  
March 3, 2008

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the current proposed action substantially the same action (or is a part of that action) as previously analyzed?**

**Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Leasing of the lands described in Attachment 1 was analyzed in the Environmental Analysis Record, BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS. The proposed action - leasing for oil and gas in the June 2008 sale - is substantially the same as the proposed action analyzed in each of the above environmental documents. Public land would be offered for leasing, and exploration and development for oil and gas resources may occur dependent on specific approval by the BLM and dependent on site-specific NEPA analysis. If land is leased, a lessee would be afforded rights to explore for and to develop oil and gas, subject to the lease terms, regulations, and laws.

The Environmental Analysis Record in Chapter 3, page III-1 described the affected environment. Chapter 4 page IV-1 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. It considered both the no leasing and leasing alternatives.

The BCRMP/EIS, in Chapter 3, page 93, of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) described the affected environment. Chapter 4, page 205, describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD, Chapter 2, pages 7 through 24, provides the decision that identifies lands available for lease.

The DMRMP/EIS in Chapter 3 describes the affected environment. Chapter 4 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD for the DMRMP/EIS, in Chapter 2, page 2-30 and Appendix 2, identifies those specific lands within the Diamond Mountain Resource Area that are available for leasing. Appendix 2 contains pertinent stipulations and lease notices.

**2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the current proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, resource values, and circumstances?**

**Documentation of answer and explanation:**

The 1975 Environmental Analysis Record analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing in the resource area under two alternatives. The two alternatives were leasing and no leasing.

The BCRMP/EIS analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing for all lands in the resource area under four different alternatives. The four alternatives ranged from emphasizing oil and gas exploration and development to minimizing oil and gas exploration and development with varying degrees of exploration and development activities and varying stipulations (restrictions) for each alternative ranging from leasing with standard stipulations to not leasing.

The DMRMP/EIS analyzed the impacts of oil and gas leasing on all lands in the resource area under five different alternatives. The five alternatives ranged from emphasizing oil and gas exploration and development to minimizing oil and gas exploration and development with varying degrees of exploration and development activities in between varying stipulations (restrictions) for each alternative.

The alternatives analyzed, and the range of alternatives, covered the entire range of leasing possibilities. That range is still appropriate for this action.

3. **Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances Can you reasonably conclude that all new information and all new circumstances are insignificant with regard to analysis of the proposed action?**

**Documentation of answer and explanation:**

The Vernal Field Office (VFO) reviewed the preliminary lease parcels through an interdisciplinary (ID) team approach. The specialists review existing NEPA documents to determine potential resource impacts. Resource information provided by agencies or the public is then reviewed by the appropriate resource specialist to determine if the information is new. The specialists provide this information to the decision maker in the form of a resource report. The decision maker then determines if the new information is significant.

The VFO received the draft June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale parcel list on February, 8 2008. Copies of the complete list were provided to the interdisciplinary team on February 14, 2008 to complete data review. On February 25, 2008, the ID team of resource specialists, identified in Part E of this DNA, met to review the preliminary lease parcels. As part of the review process, the alternatives analyzed in the Environmental Analysis Record for Oil and Gas Leasing in Vernal, the BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS were reviewed for resource impact from oil and gas leasing. Other manuals and policies were reviewed.

Individual members of the ID team reached conclusions regarding the adequacy of existing NEPA documentation. The review reports and rationale documented by these specialists are found in Attachment 2. The BLM VFO management then conducted an additional multiple-use review to further consider the significance of any new information and/or circumstances in light of the existing oil and gas lease categories, all required stipulations and relevance of information found in the Draft Vernal RMP revision. The results of these reviews for the parcels recommended for sale in the June 2008 lease sale are presented below.

The BLM VFO management considered the following to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for the leasing of the parcels listed in Attachment 1:

- ✓ Environmental Analysis Record
- ✓ The existing BCRMP/EIS and ROD
- ✓ The existing DMRMP/EIS and ROD
- ✓ Applicable laws, regulations and BLM policy
- ✓ Interdisciplinary Team Review Attachment 2
- ✓ Leasing categories
- ✓ The Draft Vernal RMP

Resource information, including new information, none of which is significant is described below.

**Cultural Resources:** A cultural resources report was prepared (see Attachment 2) to consider known and projected cultural properties for the 19 parcels analyzed in this document. The location for each parcel is described in Attachment 1. The analytic unit/APE is the lease sale parcel's external boundary.

Data was derived from the Cultural Program files which include: 1. 7.5' topographic quadrangles, 2. 7.5' Orthophotoquads with inventory and site overlays, 3. pertinent studies and reports which cover the areas of concern.

Based on this analysis, the known and potential sites in the APE of the parcels proposed for leasing will not be adversely affected by adherence to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended and other applicable laws and regulations including Onshore Order #1. A "No Adverse Effect" Determination is recommended. This determination is based upon the above listed physical factors and the physical descriptions provided to the reviewer of this document. Avoidance is practiced by the VFO where possible, otherwise mitigation is implemented through Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Traditional Cultural Properties are always avoided and a protective buffer is implemented for a .5 mile radius. A consultation letter was sent to the State Historic Preservation Office on March 10, 2008.

To assure appropriate consideration of future effects from the June, 2008 lease sale, the BLM will add the following "lease stipulation" (WO-IM-2005-003), to all parcels offered for lease.

*"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration, or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated." (WO-IM 2005-03).*

**Environmental Justice:** This review is for all parcels – The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian tribes

**Invasive, Non-native Species:** Noxious weed introduction is limited by standard operating procedures and best management practices used as conditions of approval for surface use authorizations. These practices include, equipment washing, inspections and treatments to limit the spread or introduction of invasive, not-native species.

**Native American Religious Concerns:** On February 14, 2008 certified consultation letters were sent to the following Tribes: Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, Santa Clara Pueblo Tribe, Zia Pueblo Tribe, Navajo Nation, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation, Nambe Pueblo, Ute Indian Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, White Mesa Ute Tribe, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. There are no known TCPs within the project area. The letter requested comments to be provided to the VFO within 30 days after receipt of the letter. The last return receipt received was dated February 21, 2008. On March 31, 2008 a letter from the Eastern Shoshone tribe was received stating that they would like to be kept informed of any archeological sites which may lie with close proximity of the oil and gas lease sale. If an archeological discovery is made they would like one of their tribal representatives to meet with the VFO and given a tour of the area to assure that there are not any other pre-contact sites which may be in jeopardy. On April 4, 2008 a letter was

received from the Navajo Nation stating that the proposed undertaking/project are will not impact any Navajo traditional cultural properties. However, if any discoveries are made they would like to be contacted. As of April 18, 2008 no concerns pertaining to leasing of the preliminary parcels have been received. Consultation is considered to be closed.

**Special Status Species:** In consideration of the 19 parcels from preliminary lease sale list for the June 2008 lease sale, a special status animal species and wildlife report and a special status plant species report have been prepared and can be reviewed in attachment 2. All appropriate lease notices and stipulations for federally listed and state sensitive species have been applied where species and/or habitat occur in association with these parcels. In accordance with Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174, all parcels would be subject to the Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Stipulation. This stipulation is as follows:

*"The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation."*

In December 2004, BLM and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel completed work on a set of programmatic level, lease notices for federally listed species occurring in Utah, that are to be attached to oil and gas leases offered in the State of Utah. On December 13, 2004, section 7 consultation was initiated with the submission of a memorandum to FWS, containing the lease notices. The FWS responded with a memorandum dated December 16, 2004 concurring with the BLM determination that attachment of the lease notices to appropriate lease parcels would constitute a "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" determination for listed species in Utah. Detailed information on the inclusion of the appropriate lease notices and stipulations are contained in Attachments 1 and 2.

Based on the information and analysis provided in Attachment 2, and inclusion of all appropriate lease notices and stipulations, the June 2008 sale of oil and gas lease parcels complies with the 2004 FWS programmatic consultation and determination and no listed species are likely to be adversely affected by the proposed action.

**ACECs:** Existing ACECS, as identified in the BCRMP and DMRMP, as well as potential ACECs, identified in the draft Vernal RMP, were reviewed to determine if the identified relevant and important values constituted new significant information. Conclusions of this review may be found in the consolidated interdisciplinary team review and report. None of the eight parcels recommended for the June 2008 lease sale, occur within existing as well as potential ACECs alternative A and C.

**Paleontological Resources:** Parcels UT0508-010, UT0508-013, UT0508-016, and UT0508-023 have high potential for paleontological resources to be impacted by surface disturbing activities. Lease notices to protect paleontological resources during ground disturbing activities have been applied to these parcels. The new information is not significant because formations with a high potential for containing fossils were taken into account in the referenced NEPA documents.

**Floodplains:** Parcels UT0508-012, UT0508-013, UT0508-014, and are within lands that contain floodplains. A lease notice that identifies the need to comply with the Floodplain Executive Order No 11988 would be added to the parcels. The added lease notices would provide adequate protection for the resource. The information is not significant because they were floodplains were addressed in the RMPS and therefore was taken into account in the referenced NEPA documents.

- 4. Do the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the current proposed action?**

**Documentation and explanation:**

The methodology and approach used in the analysis of all alternatives for the Environmental Analysis Record, BCRMP/EIS, DMRMP/EIS, and Vernal Draft RMP identified under Part B and C, are still appropriate for the current proposed action. The methods of extraction, land requirements for exploration and development have not changed substantially since the documents were completed. Specifically the documents considered and analyzed the impacts resulting from preliminary investigations, exploratory drilling, development, production, and abandonment. The analyzed impacts considered in these documents have been verified through site-specific NEPA documents. These site specific documents may include analysis of any of these phases. Specifically EAs or EISs have been written that analyze the impacts of geophysical surveys (preliminary investigation), exploratory drilling and field development. Production and abandonment are also considered in the exploratory drilling and field development documents. The impact analysis disclosed in these documents verify the adequacy and accuracy of the general impact analysis in the EAR, BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal DRMP.

- 5. Are the direct and indirect impacts of the current proposed action substantially unchanged from those identified in the existing NEPA document(s)? Do the existing NEPA documents analyze impacts related to the current proposed action at a level of specificity appropriate to the proposal (plan level, programmatic level, project level)?**

**Documentation and explanation:**

Impacts from the current proposed leasing and subsequent drilling activities would be the same as those analyzed in the EISs associated with the BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal Draft RMP/EIS. This is because the proposed action is essentially the same and the existing resource conditions and values have not changed since analysis in the EISs. The EISs used a general analysis of impacts, but these were tied to specific resources and values present in the specific areas. Leasing categories were established dependent on resources and values in particular areas and stipulations were designed for each of these categories to protect these resources and values. The RFDs further defined expected impacts to specific exploration and production regions. These analyses are therefore region specific and allow region specific location and identification of potential impacts of the current leasing proposal.

Impacts from the current proposed leasing and subsequent drilling activities would be the same as those analyzed in the EAR. This is because the EAR analyzed, in general, the direct and indirect impacts of exploration and production activities that may result after an area in the Vernal District Area is leased.

6. **Can you conclude without additional analysis or information that the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the current proposed action are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?**

**Documentation and explanation:**

The EISs and RFDs for the BCRMP, DMRMP, and Vernal DRMP included analysis of the potential collective and cumulative impacts of oil and gas leasing. Information regarding past actions are included in these documents. Reasonably foreseeable scenarios are also spelled out for each document. Each subsequent document shows the incremental increase of cumulative impacts, as would be expected for an ongoing minerals program. The cumulative impact scenarios disclosed in these documents have been verified through development NEPA documents. Because the reasonably foreseeable level of oil and gas activity analyzed previously is still appropriate; potential cumulative impacts are substantially unchanged from those analyzed in the EISs and RFDs.

7. **Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?**

**Documentation and explanation:**

The public involvement and interagency review procedures and findings made through the development of the Environmental Analysis Record, Diamond Mountain Resource Area RMP/EIS, the Book Cliffs Resource Area RMP/EIS, and the Vernal Draft RMP/EIS are adequate for the proposed lease sale. During the development of the documents listed above, public workshops and meetings and public comments were received. All comments were taken into account in the finalized documents.

- E. **Interdisciplinary Analysis:** Identify those team members conducting or participating in the preparation of this worksheet. An Interdisciplinary checklist is attached to this DNA.

Name	Title	Resource Represented
Jason West	Outdoor Recreation Planner	ACECs, Recreation, VRM
Stephanie Howard	Environmental Coordinator	Environmental Justice, Air Quality
Holly Villa	Natural Resource Specialist	LUP review, farmlands, Wild and Scenic Rivers
Amy Torres	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Animal Species, Wildlife
Robin Hansen	Geologist	Paleontology Review
Gabrielle Elliott	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns,
Merlin Sinfield	Engineering Technician	Hazardous and Solid Wastes
Clayton Newberry	Botanist	Special Status Plant Species, Invasive, Non-native Plant

		Species
Steve Strong	Natural Resource Specialist	Soils, Watershed
Karl Wright	Natural Resource Specialist	Floodplains, Wetlands, Riparian

The results of the ID team reviews are documented in Attachment 2

- F. Mitigation Measures:** The following Lease Notices and/or Lease Stipulations should be applied to the parcels (these are in addition to those applied by the Utah State Office).

**LEASE STIPULATIONS- WO-IM**

**1. Lease Stipulation-Cultural Resources (WO-IM-2005-003); This Stipulation Shall be Applied to All Parcels**

*"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, E.O. 13007, or other statues and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground disturbing activities that may affect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration, or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated." WO-IM 2005-03.*

**2. Lease Stipulation-Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation (WO-IM-2002-174): This Stipulation Shall be Applied to All Parcels.**

*The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. §1531 *et seq.*, including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.*

**CONCLUSIONS**

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that:

Plan Conformance:

- This proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan.
- This proposal does not conform to the applicable land use plan

Determination of NEPA Adequacy

- The existing NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.
- The existing NEPA documentation does not fully cover the proposed action. Additional NEPA documentation is needed if the project is to be further considered.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Responsible Official

4-18-2008  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- Attachments – 3  
Attachment 1, Vernal Parcel List  
Attachment 2, Consolidated Resource Review  
Attachment 3, Interdisciplinary Team Analysis Checklist

## UTAH JUNE 2008 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST

### UT0508-007

T. 4 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 1: Lots 3, 4.  
110.81 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

#### STIPULATION

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range on the entire lease.

#### NOTICES

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.

### UT0508-010

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 3: Lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2NW, S2;  
Sec. 4: Lots 1, 2, S2NE, S2.  
1,078.29 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

#### STIPULATION

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2 of Sec. 3; Sec. 4.

#### NOTICES

UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources located on the entire parcel.  
UT-LN-60: Riparian on Lot 2, SWNE, N2SW, W2SE, SESW of Sec.4.

### UT0508-011

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 7: Lot 1, N2NE, NENW.  
176.19 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

#### STIPULATION

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located on entire lease.

#### NOTICES

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.

## UTAH JUNE 2008 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST

### UT0508-012

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 9: W2;

Sec. 10: ALL.

960.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

### STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use located in the E2NW, NESW, W2SE, SESE Sec. 10.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in the W2 of Sec. 9; and Sec. 10.

### NOTICES

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion in the entire lease.

UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.

UT-LN-37: Utah Sensitive Species – Hamilton Milkvetch (*Astragalus hamiltonii*) in the entire lease.

UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains in the E2NW, NESW, W2SE, SESE of Sec.10.

UT-LN-51: Greater Sage Grouse Habitat-BLM Sensitive Species

### UT0508-013

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, SENW, S2.

520.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

### STIPULATION

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the E2NE, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE Sec. 25.

### NOTICES

UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources located in the N2SW, SWSW Sec. 25.

UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains in the E2NE, SWNE, NWSE, E2SW Sec.25.

UT-LN-44: Sage Grouse Brooding and Wintering Habitat.

## UTAH JUNE 2008 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST

### UT0508-014

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 29: NE;  
160.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

#### NOTICES

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-13: Burrowing Owl Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-53: White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-44: Sage Grouse Brooding and Wintering Habitat.

### UT0508-016

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 10: E2NW.  
80.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

#### STIPULATION

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in the entire lease.

#### NOTICES

UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological Resources located in the SENW Sec. 10.

## UTAH JUNE 2008 OIL AND GAS LEASE SALE LIST

### UT0508-023

T. 4 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 29: ALL.  
640.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

### STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the NE, W2NW, SENW, N2SW, W2SE, SESE Sec. 29.  
UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in the SW, S2SE Sec. 29.

### NOTICES

- UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-30: High potential for paleological resources located on the entire lease  
UT-LN-59: 100-Year Floodplains in the SE, N2SW, S2NW, NWNW of Sec.29.  
UT-LN-60: Riparian in the NE, E2NW, W2SE, SESE of Sec.29.

### UT-LN-29: SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS: NOT FEDERALLY LISTED

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Monument-sensitive plants; *Astragalus chloodes*, *Astragalus saurinus*, *Cymopterus duchesnensis*, and *Eriogonm saurinum* not federally listed, in E2SE of Sec.29 and its habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the special status plants and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table  
June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Deferred Parcel Table  
June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

PARCEL	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	ACRES	REASON TRACT POSTPONED	LAND USE PLAN	PROPOSED LEASING DECISION DATE
UT0508-007*	T. 4S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake Sec. 1 Lots 1, 2, 5, 6, 7	157.42	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-008	T. 10S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake Sec. 18 Lot 4 Sec. 19 Lots 5-7 Sec. 20 W2	421.69	ACEC: This land is within a Potential and existing Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The Vernal Field Office completed an evaluation of potential ACECs in January 2005 as part of its current land use planning process. Wild and Scenic River: Portions of this lease fall within both Alternative A and C for wild and scenic rivers. Wilderness Characteristic: Sec. 19, east side of the river falls within wilderness characteristic The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Diamond Mountain and Book Cliff RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection of R&I values, pending further review of informational requirements sited in 170 IBLA 331
UT0508-009	T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec. 31 Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE Sec. 33 Lots 1-3, 9, NW, NESE	802.35	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-010*	T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec. 4 Lots 3, 4, S2NW Sec. 5 ALL	824.46	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table  
June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

UT0508-011*	T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec. 6 ALL	718.19	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-014*	T. 5 S., R. 20E., Salt Lake Sec. 27 NW, N2SW, Sec. 28 E2NE, SW, NESE Sec. 30 ALL Sec. 31 ALL	1962.32	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.  Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-015	T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake Sec. 33 Lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE Sec. 34 N2 Sec. 35 Lots 1-4, N2NE, NW	1180.36	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.  Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-017	T. 6 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake Sec. 3 NWSW, S2S2, Sec. 10 N2	520.00	Sage Grouse Habitat: This land is within sage grouse habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table  
 June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

UT0508-018	T 7 S. R. 21 E., Salt Lake	1080.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
UT0508-019	Sec.13 SWNE, SE1NW, NESW, NESE; Sec.14 N2SW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE; Sec.15 W2NE, SENE; Sec.22 N2SE; Sec.23 SENE, SWNW, N2SE; Sec.24 W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE	629.47	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-020	T. 7 S. R. 22 E., Salt Lake	320.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
UT-0508-021	T. 10 S. R. 22 E., Salt Lake	40.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
	Sec.35 SESE				

Attachment 1 Deferred Parcel Table  
June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

UT0508-022	T. 3 S. R. 23 E., Salt Lake Sec.5 ALL Sec.6 ALL	1276.24	Prairie Dog Habitat: This land is within white-tailed prairie dog habitat.	Diamond Mountain RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of informational requirements.
UT0508-024	T. 12 S. R. 24 E., Salt Lake Sec.9 N2, W2SW, SE	560.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.
UT0508-025	T. 8 S. R. 25 E., Salt Lake Sec.9 NE, S2NW, S2 Sec.10 ALL Sec.11 N2, SW	1680.00	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the NEPA analysis.	Book Cliffs RMP	The acreage identified is recommended to be deferred until completion of the Vernal RMP.

\*Only portions of lease are deferred

## INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ANALYSIS RECORD CHECKLIST

**Project Title:** Oil and Gas Lease Parcels for June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

**NEPA Log Number:** UT-080-08-242

**File/Serial Number:**

**Project Leader:** H. Villa

**FOR EAs:** NP: not present; NI: resource/use present but not impacted; PI: potentially impacted

**FOR DNAs only:** NC: no change (anticipated resource impacts not changed from those analyzed in the NEPA document on which the DNA is based)

### STAFF REVIEW OF PROPOSAL:

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
<b>CRITICAL ELEMENTS</b>		
NC	Air Quality	The existing Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Management Plans (RMP) and supplemental NEPA documents raise issues and analyze potential impacts relative to air quality. Analysis contained in these documents of anticipated impacts (beneficial and/or adverse) from oil and gas development revealed the Uinta Basin's current Federal Class II Prevention of Significant Deterioration incremental impacts would not be exceeded by leasing of the parcels. Nor would oil and gas development cause the exceedence of the State of Colorado's designated Class I for SO2 covering Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado portion). Preliminary information obtained through air quality modeling for the Vernal Field Office RMP revision validates the earlier analysis. In conclusion there would be no significant changes in circumstances or conditions that warrant further analysis relative to leasing.
NP	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	None of the eight parcels going forward fall within ACEC alt A and C.
NI	Cultural Resources	Section 106 consultation was begun on March 3, 2008 and a with SHPO asking to concur with the finding of no adverse effect.
NI	Environmental Justice	The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian Tribes.
NP	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	None of the parcels contain lands that meet the criteria for prime, state important or unique farmlands.
NC	Floodplains	Parcels or portions of parcels having floodplains would be leased with a notice that would inform the lessee of the potential presence of the resource, and of the need to protect those areas.
NI	Invasive, Non-native Species	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA) would be sufficient to prevent the spread or introduction of Invasive, Non-native species.
NI	Native American Religious Concerns	Letters were sent to appropriate Native American groups. The Vernal Field Office allowed 30 days for the Native American groups to respond. No concerns about the lease parcels have been

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
		expressed.
NI	Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, and Special Status Species	See report, no special status species would be impacted by the proposed action if the mitigation measures are followed.
NP	Wastes (hazardous or solid)	This review is for all parcels – Based on a review of VFO files, inventories and maps, no areas of hazardous/solid wastes were determined to occur on lands being considered for leasing. No new significant information has been found or provided.
NI	Water Quality (drinking/ground)	This review is for all parcels – The two existing RMP/EISs and supplemental field development/project specific NEPA documents cover the offered parcels relative to surface and subsurface water quality and quantity. Surface water quality and quantity was addressed in soils and watershed; maintenance of subsurface water quality is required by current Onshore Orders. These Orders specify that water involved in energy production be isolated from subterranean aquifers expressly to ensure water quality. Currently there is no new information that outlines/provides significantly different impacts and/or analysis of those impacts to surface and/or subsurface water quality. Direct and indirect impacts associated with the proposed oil and gas leasing would remain substantially unchanged from those identified and analyzed in the existing RMP/EISs. Thus, leasing would be consistent with existing RMP/EISs.
NC	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Parcels or portions of parcels having riparian/aquatic areas would be leased with a notice that would inform the lessee of the potential presence of the resource, and of the need to protect those areas.
NP	Wild and Scenic Rivers	None of the parcels going forward for the June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wild and Scenic Rivers on BLM surface.
NP	Wilderness	None of the parcels going forward for the June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.
<b>OTHER RESOURCES / CONCERNS*</b>		
NI	Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA), including reclamation standards, would be sufficient to meet Rangeland Health Standards.
NI	Livestock Grazing	The RMP/EIS analysis assumptions include standard operating procedures (SOPs) that were common to all alternatives. These SOPs and site specific mitigation applied as conditions of approval (COA) would mitigate any potential impacts to livestock grazing (i.e., fenced pits, cattleguards and site reclamation).
NC	Woodland / Forestry	Given the application of standard operating procedures (SOPs), and site specific mitigation applied at the APD stage as conditions of approval (COA), it is concluded that woodland or forest resources would not be affected in a way not already analyzed in existing NEPA documents.
NI	Vegetation including Special Status plant species	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having plant concerns would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.
NI	Fish ,Wildlife, and Special Status	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having animal concerns would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.

NP/NI/PI NC	Resource	Review Comments (required for all NIs and PIs. PIs require further analysis.)
NI	Soils	In conformance with the RMP, parcels or portions of parcels having soil would be leased with appropriate stipulations and notices to protect those areas.
NP	Recreation	There are no designated recreation facilities within the project area.
NC	Visual Resources	Visual resources were inventoried as part of the land use planning process. The potential impacts of oil and gas development on visual resources were adequately analyzed and documented in the RMP/EIS. Visual resources are managed consistent with the designations made in the RMPs. SOPs and COAs would mitigate impacts to visual resources.
NC	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production	<p>The existing NEPA documents adequately address the impacts of oil and gas leasing, as the EAR addressed oil and gas operations and the impacts that could result from exploration through development.</p> <p>The EARs considered impacts to the natural terrain, such as landscape, scenery, and geologic features. Possible mitigations, such as avoidance, no surface occupancy, and relocation of facilities, were analyzed in the NEPA documents.</p> <p>Oil and gas exploration could lead to an increased understanding of the geologic setting, as subsurface data obtained through lease operations may become public record. This information promotes an understanding of mineral resources as well as geologic interpretation.</p> <p>Conflicts could arise between oil and gas operations and other mineral operations. These could generally be mitigated under the regulations 3101.1-2, where proposed oil and gas operations may be moved up to 200 meters or delayed by 60 days and also under the standard lease terms (Sec. 6) where siting and design of facilities may be modified to protect other resources.</p>
NI	Paleontology	Appropriate lease notices were added in areas where potential for paleontological resources are present. Surveys would be done, as needed, prior to surface disturbing activities. SOPs and COAs would ensure that paleontological resources are protected. These measures would include monitoring during initial construction when necessary.
NC	Lands / Access	Public lands administered by the BLM are available for leasing under the various lease categories prescribed in the RMP. Lessees are granted the right to access leases for exploration and development of oil and gas resources. Those same rights extend to split-estate lands and lands administered by other agencies when these lands are underlain by federal minerals.
NI	Socio-economics	Socio-economic conditions are adequately addressed in the existing NEPA record. The proposed actions considered the social and economic impacts that could be associated with oil and gas operations. The impacts include demands on social and governmental infrastructure, migration of people as work forces increase and decrease, changes in the tax base, economic growth and decline, and changes in social institutions.
NP	Wilderness characteristics	None of the parcels going forward for the June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.

Reviewer Title	Date	Signature	Comments
Environmental Coordinator	4/18/08	<i>Stephanie Howard</i>	
Manager	4-18-2008	<i>[Signature]</i>	

**CONSOLIDATED INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM REVIEW  
OF PRELIMINARY PARCELS FOR  
June 2008 OIL & GAS LEASE SALE**

The following information was provided by the interdisciplinary team assigned to review the proposed June 2008 lease sale parcels in the Uintah Basin. The offered parcels assessed in these reviews are: UT0508-007, UT0508-008, UT0508-009, UT0508-010, UT0508-011, UT0508-012, UT0508-013, UT0508-014, UT0508-015, UT0508-016, UT0508-017, UT0508-018, UT0508-019, UT0508-020, UT0508-021, UT0508-022, UT0508-023, UT0508-024, and UT0508-025.

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**Areas of Critical Environmental Concern –**

Submitted By: Jason West, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Recreation Review

Jason R. West

ORP

2/22/08

Methodology:

Reviewed available GIS layers

Reviewed applicable portions of the VFO Draft RMP and EIS, The Diamond Mountain RoD and the Book Cliffs RoD.

The Following parcels have been reviewed for:

Existing ACECs

Potential ACECs

Potential WSRs

Existing SRMAs

Potential SRMAs

VRM Class

Potential VRM Class

Wilderness Study Areas

Wilderness Characteristics Review

Oil and Gas Stipulations Pertinent to Recreation

**UT0508-007**

T. 4 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: ALL.

268.23 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range on the entire lease.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Hunting Unit

**UT0508-008**

T. 10 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 18: Lot 4;

Sec. 19: Lots 5-7;

Sec. 20: W2.

421.69 Acres

Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

#### STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-30: NSO - Green river recreation and wildlife corridor located in lots 5-9 Sec. 19.
- UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-S-52: Critical Deer and Elk Winter Range located in lot 4, Sec. 18.
- UT-S-63: NSO - Lower Green River - Visual Corridor located in lot 4, Sec. 18.

#### NOTICES

- UT-LN-25: Bald Eagle Habitat located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-29: Special Status Plants: Not Federally Listed located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-32: Severe Soil Erosion located in the SENW, E2SW Sec. 20.

ACEC's: All of Section 18 Lot 4 falls within the current Lower Green River ACEC.

Potential ACEC's: Lower Green River ACEC expansion

Potential WSR's: Lower Green River Proposed WSR

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Current III/IV Under alternatives would switch to II/IV

#### Recreation Notes:

The current Lower Green river stipulations within the Lower Green River ACEC for Minerals are as follows:

LGR20 All 7,900 acres are category 3 (NSO) for leasable minerals

LGR21 All 7,900 acres are open to geophysical activities with no significant surface disturbance.

LGR22 All 7,900 acres are category 4 (closed) for mineral material disposal)

This area in all alternatives is partially covered by the Lower Green River ACEC in alternatives A, C, D, and E.

The proposed wild and scenic river tentative classification for this segment of the green river is Scenic.

The potential stipulations within potential lower green river ACEC expansion under alternative A include:

The area would be managed as NSO for oil and gas leasing.

The potential stipulations within the potential Nine mile ACEC expansion under alternative C include:

The area would be open subject to standard lease terms **OR** managed as NSO for oil and gas leasing. VRM would be managed as class II, III, or IV.

Affected hunting units are the Nine-Mile Anthro unit, and the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek

unit.

**UT0508-009**

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 31: Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 33: Lots 1-3, 9, NW, NESE.

802.35 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in lots 1, 2, 4 Sec. 31; lots 5, 6, NESE Sec. 33.

Recreation Notes: affected hunting unite is the Vernal Hunting unit

**UT0508-010**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: Lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2NW, S2;

Secs. 4 and 5: ALL.

1,902.75 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2 Sec. 3; Sec. 4; lot 3, S2N2, S2 Sec. 5.

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources located in lots 1, 5, Sec. 3.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-011**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL;

Sec. 7: Lot 1, N2NE, NENW.

894.38 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in lots 1, 2, 4-7, 9, SENE, SENW, E2SE Sec. 6; lot 1, N2NE, NENW Sec. 7.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-012**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 9: W2;

Sec. 10: ALL.

960.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use located in the E2NW, NESW, W2SE, SESE Sec. 10.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located on Sec. 10.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-013**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, SENW, S2.

520.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the E2NE, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE Sec. 25.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-14: Ferruginous Hawk located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources located in the N2SW, SWSW Sec. 25.

Recreation Notes: Current recreation includes growing two track mountain biking use on 12 mile bench.

Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-014**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 27: NW, N2SW;

Sec. 28: E2NE, SW, NESE;

Sec. 29: NE;

Secs. 30 and 31: ALL.

2,122.32 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the W2NE, NENW, NESE Sec. 30.

UT-S-53: Sage Grouse lek nesting areas located in the NWNW Sec. 27; NENE Sec. 28; SWNE, NENW, N2SE, SESE Sec. 30.

UT-S-68: No surface occupancy - Golden Eagle Nest Sites located in the SESW, S2SE  
Sec. 30; lots 9-11, NE, E2NW, NESW, N2SE, Sec. 31.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in the NW, N2SW Sec. 27; E2NE, SW, NESE Sec. 28; NE Sec. 29; lots 1-8, E, E2NW, E2SW Sec. 30; Sec. 31.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the NW, N2SW Sec. 27; E2NE, SW, NESE Sec. 28; NE Sec. 29; lots 1-8, E2, E2NW, E2SW Sec. 30;  
Sec. 31.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-015**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 33: Lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE;

Sec. 34: N2;

Sec. 35: Lots 1-4, N2NE, NW.

1,180.36 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in lot 1 Sec. 33; lot 4, N2NE Sec. 35.

UT-S-53: Sage Grouse lek nesting areas located in the NWNE Sec. 34.

UT-S-68: No Surface Occupancy - Golden Eagle Nest Sites located in lot 4 Sec. 35.

UT-S-82: Highway Material Site Right-of-Way.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE Sec. 33; N2 Sec. 34; lots 1-4, N2NE, NW Sec. 35.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE Sec. 33; N2 Sec. 34; lots 1-4, N2NE, NW Sec. 35.

UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological Resources located in lots 3, 4 Sec. 33; E2NE, SWNE Sec. 34; SWNE, NW, N2SW Sec. 35.

Recreation Notes: Current recreation includes growing two track mountain bike use on 12 mile bench. Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit.

**UT0508-016**

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 10: E2NW.

80.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in the E2NW Sec. 10.

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological Resources located in the SENW Sec. 10.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-017**

T. 6 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 3: NWSW, S2S2;  
Sec. 10: N2.

520.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in the SENW Sec. 10.  
UT-S-53: Sage grouse lek nesting areas located in the NWSW, S2S2 Sec. 3; N2 Sec.10.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in the entire lease.  
UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.

Recreation Notes: McCoy flats riding, trail area. Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-018**

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;  
Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE;  
Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;  
Sec. 22: N2SE;  
Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;  
Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.

1,080.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the NESE of Sec. 22.  
UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Bonanza unit.

**UT0508-019**

T. 2 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 33: ALL.

629.47 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

## STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain – Dry Fork Complex Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds,  
Floodplains located in lots 3, 4, SENE, NESE Sec. 33.
- UT-S-52: TL – Crucial deer and elk winter range located in the entire lease from May 1 to  
November 30.
- UT-S-68: No surface occupancy within ½ mile of golden eagle nest sites located in  
lots 2-4,  
N2SE Sec. 33.
- UT-S-123: CSU - VRM Class II & III (Visual Resource Management Area); located in  
lots 1-4,  
NESE Sec. 33.

## NOTICES

- UT-LN-27: Golden eagle habitat located in the entire lease.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine falcon habitat located in lots 1-4, S2NE, W2NW, SENW N2S2  
Sec. 33.
- UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological resources located in the entire lease.
- UT-LN-61 Sage grouse habitat located on the entire lease.
- UT-LN-66 Special status plant species located on the entire lease.

ACEC's: Red Mountain Dry Fork ACEC  
Visual Resource Mgmt Class: II in South 1/2 of section 19  
Special Rec. Management Areas: Red Mountain-Dry Fork SRMA

Recreation Notes: Current VRM is class II/III Class II is located In Section 19, NESE,  
NWSE, NESW, L1, L2, L3, L4.

This is a Major non-motorized use, Mountain biking trails area. It includes the Three Amigos trail, the Jazz/Chrome Molly trail, and the Handsome Cabin Boy trail. Also there are Connector hiking trails in the area as well. This parcel is completely located within the current Red mountain-Dry fork Special recreation management area.

Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

### **UT0508-020**

T. 7 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 5: S2.  
320.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

Recreation Notes: Affected unit is the Bonanza unit.

**UT0508-021**

T. 10 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 35: SESE.

40.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

Special Rec. Management Areas: Alternative C Proposed White River SRMA

Recreation Notes: If the White River SRMA is designated, Oil and Gas Surface disturbance may not be compatible with management objectives for the SRMA. An activity level plan has not yet been developed for this potential designation, and the RMP does not list a management prescription for the SRMA with regards to minerals.

Affected hunting unit is the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek unit.

**UT0508-022**

T. 3 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake  
Secs. 5 and 6: ALL.

1,276.24 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: Controlled surface use located on the SESW, SE Sec. 5; lots 3, 10, SWNW

Sec. 6.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in Sec. 5; Sec. 6.

UT-S-68: No surface occupancy Golden eagle habitat located in lots 1, 2, S2NE Sec. 6.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-26: Golden eagle habitat located in lots 3, 4, SWNW, SW Sec. 5; Sec. 6.

UT-LN-27: Peregrine Falcon located in lots 3, 4, SWNW, SW Sec. 5; Sec. 6.

UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological resources located on lots 1-4, S2NW Sec. 5; lots 1-4, 8-11, S2N2, SW, W2SE Sec. 6.

ACEC's: Red Mountain Dry Fork ACEC

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Current VRM class IV. The preferred alternative would change the class to III.

Special Recreation Management Areas: Red Mountain Dry Fork SRMA

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting units are the Vernal unit and the Diamond Mountain unit.

**UT0508-023**

T. 4 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 29: ALL.

640.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the NE, W2NW, SENW, N2SW, W2SE, SESE Sec. 29.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in the SW, S2SE Sec. 29.

NOTICES

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-30: High potential for paleological resources located in the N2 Sec. 29.

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Currently III. The preferred alternative would make the majority of the area VRM class II.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-024**

T. 12 S., R. 24 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 9: N2, W2SW, SE.

560.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

NOTICE

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the W2E2, E2NW of Sec. 9.

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Currently IV, but preferred alternative would set the class at III.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek unit

**UT0508-025**

T. 8 S., R. 25 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 9: NE, S2NW, S2;  
Sec. 10: ALL;  
Sec. 11: N2, SW.

1,680.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

Potential ACEC's: The preferred alternative would designate the Coyote basin ACEC and the parcel would fall completely within the ACEC.

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: IV. The Preferred alternative would set the Class at III.

Recreation Notes: The affected hunting unit is the Bonanza unit.

**Air Quality** –

Submitted By: Stephanie Howard, Environmental Coordinator

The existing Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Management Plans (RMP) and supplemental NEPA documents raise issues and analyze potential impacts relative to air quality. Analysis contained in these documents of anticipated impacts (beneficial and/or adverse) from oil and gas development revealed the Uinta Basin's current Federal Class II Prevention of Significant Deterioration incremental impacts would not be exceeded by leasing of the parcels. Nor would oil and gas development cause the exceedence of the State of Colorado's designated Class I for SO2 covering Dinosaur National Monument (Colorado portion). Preliminary information obtained through air quality modeling for the Vernal Field Office RMP revision validates the earlier analysis. In conclusion there would be no significant changes in circumstances or conditions that warrant further analysis relative to leasing.

**Cultural Resources** –

Submitted By: Gabrielle Elliott, VFO Archaeologist

**A Cultural Resource Evaluation & Comments Concerning the June 2008 Oil & Gas Lease Sale in Uintah County, Utah.**

**Introduction:**

The Following Listed lease sale parcels are proposed for leasing in the June, 2008 lease sale. The purpose of this document is to consider known and projected cultural properties for the 19 parcels analyzed in this document. The location for each parcel is described in a list provided by the Utah BLM State Office, Branch of Fluid Minerals, Salt Lake City, Utah in February, 2008 to the Vernal Utah BLM Field Office. The analytic unit/APE is the lease sale parcel's external

boundary as defined in the lease document. The one well per parcel theory is followed in this document.

The Vernal Field Office cultural resource records review for the June 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Parcels adequately summarizes previous archaeological inventories and known cultural sites located on the proposed parcels. The impact analysis for each parcel is based on the assumption that one 5 acre well pad and associated access road would be drilled on each parcel. The associated access road to the well may be circuitous in nature; however, due to avoidance of eligible cultural resource sites. The area analyzed in the review consists of an Area of Potential Effect (APE) defined by the legal descriptions of parcels being offered for lease in the June, 2008 sale. The existence of high site density on smaller lease parcels will require a more stringent evaluation that may include a 100% pedestrian survey before determining whether/ or if, a well pad can be permitted. The existence of high site density on larger parcels allows for more flexibility in planning for the placement of a well pad.

Based on the February 20-22, 2008 records search, due to site size, density, and placement, development of at least one well pad and associated access road can occur without adverse impacts to eligible cultural resources on 19 parcels. The documented cultural resources are located in such a fashion that avoidance is feasible for the development of oil and gas potential therefore the staff archaeologist determined that under the Protocol review threshold Part VII.A.C(4) is: "No Historic Properties Affected; eligible sites present but not affected as defined by 36CFR800.4" for the June 2008 oil and gas lease sale. On all parcels, however, once a project specific proposal is submitted and prior to the approval of construction or any ground disturbing activity, an additional Section 106 cultural resource assessment would be completed where site specific issues would be addressed as appropriate. Likewise, the presence of newly found cultural resources in the 19 parcels may cause additional parameters to be placed upon development strategies in areas within the parcels.

Consultation letters were mailed to the Northern Ute Indian Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Ute Mountain Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, the Goshute Tribe, the Laguna Pueblo, the Nambe Pueblo, the Northwestern Shoshone Tribe, the Southern Ute Tribe, the Santa Clara Pueblo, the White Mesa Tribe, and the Zia Pueblo on February 20, 2008 regarding this project. They were requested to identify traditional cultural properties or any other areas of traditional cultural importance that need to be considered within the project proximity. The Utah State Historic Preservation Office was also mailed a certified letter on February 25, 2008 regarding this project.

Data was derived from the Cultural Program files which include: 1. 7.5' topographic quadrangles, 2. 7.5' Orthophotoquads with inventory and site overlays, 3. pertinent studies and reports which cover the areas of concern

This class 1 overview addresses the archaeology of the June, 2008 oil & gas lease sale and utilizes data current to the date of this document, February 25, 2008.

**Recommendations for Leasing:**

The following listed factors were utilized by the VFO archaeologist in determining a lease parcel's sensitivity for the presence or absence of significant archaeological and ethnographic Period sites and areas sensitive to those Tribes who claim a cultural affiliation in N.E. Utah.

1. Known site density
2. Inventory status, class II or III
3. Inventory results
4. Topographic setting
5. soil types and erodibility class
6. Site types in and near a parcel
7. Parcel intra unit variability; topography, water, lithic sources, slopes, elevation etc
8. Statistical modeling results for an area, stratum, factor
9. Past land use patterns
10. Modern land use patterns
11. Archaeological community knowledge
12. land ownership
13. Land ownership is BLM, State of Utah, various agencies, and private. Maps are attached so as to orient the reviewer as to the location, size and configuration of the lease parcels in Uintah County in North Eastern, Utah for the June, 2008 lease sale.

**Parcels listed for leasing:**

**UT0508-007**

T. 4 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: ALL.

268.23 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

No recorded cultural resources on this parcel.

**UT0508-008**

T. 10 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 18: Lot 4;

Sec. 19: Lots 5-7;

Sec. 20: W2.

421.69 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

No recorded resources in the area of parcel up for lease

**UT0508-009**

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 31: Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 33: Lots 1-3, 9, NW, NESE.

802.35 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-010**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: Lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2NW, S2;

Secs. 4 and 5: ALL.

1,902.75 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-011**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL;

Sec. 7: Lot 1, N2NE, NENW.

894.38 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-012**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 9: W2;

Sec. 10: ALL.

960.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-013**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, SENW, S2.

520.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

**UT0508-014**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 27: NW, N2SW;

Sec. 28: E2NE, SW, NESE;

Sec. 29: NE;

Secs. 30 and 31: ALL.

2,122.32 Acres

**UT0508-015**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 33: Lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE;

Sec. 34: N2;

Sec. 35: Lots 1-4, N2NE, NW.

1,180.36 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-016**

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 10: E2NW.  
80.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**UT0508-017**

T. 6 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 3: NWSW, S2S2;  
Sec. 10: N2.  
520.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-018**

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;  
Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE;  
Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;  
Sec. 22: N2SE;  
Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;  
Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.  
1,080.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-019**

T. 2 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 33: ALL.  
629.47 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-020**

T. 7 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 5: S2.

320.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-021**

T. 10 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 35: SESE.  
40.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-022**

T. 3 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake  
Secs. 5 and 6: ALL.  
1,276.24 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-023**

T. 4 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 29: ALL.  
640.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah

**UT0508-024**

T. 12 S., R. 24 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 9: N2, W2SW, SE.  
560.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**UT0508-025**

T. 8 S., R. 25 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 9: NE, S2NW, S2;  
Sec. 10: ALL;  
Sec. 11: N2, SW.  
1,680.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
No recorded cultural resources in proposed lease sale area.

**Cultural Resources:** There are no cultural sites located on any of the parcels for sale.

**Parcel Sensitivity Rankings:**

Rankings for site sensitivity are based on the results of inventories done to date. Mainly these are oil and gas surveys, road Rights-of-Ways, power line Rights-of-Ways, waterline, pipeline surveys etc. Other data sources were the oil shale inventories of the late 1970s and 1980s. Rankings are also based on the probability for site preservation due to topographic factors mentioned above, current land uses, soil stability, and known water sources. The number of known sites in a parcel is also used as a discriminating factor.

A **LOW** rating is predicated on the results of previous inventories in and near the parcel whose results indicated sites were not present and/or preservation factors were not conducive to site preservation e.g. erosion, steep slopes, highly erodable soils.

Based on this analysis, the known and potential sites in the APE of the parcels proposed for leasing will not be adversely affected by adherence to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended and other applicable laws and regulations including Onshore Order #1. A "No Adverse Effect" Determination is recommended. This determination is based upon the above listed physical factors and the physical descriptions provided to the reviewer of this document. Avoidance is practiced by the VFO where possible, otherwise mitigation is implemented through Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended. Traditional Cultural Properties are always avoided and a protective buffer is implemented for a .5 mile radius.

**Other:** The provisions of I.M. 2005-003 will be followed during this lease sale as it explains the tiered process of the fluid minerals program.

A lease sale may have the following stipulation added:

"This lease may be found to contain historic properties and/or resources protected under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), American Indian Religious Freedoms Act, (AIRFA), The Native American graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), E.O. 13007, or other statutes and executive orders. The BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activities that may effect any such properties or resources until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the NHPA and other authorities. The BLM may require modification to exploration or development proposals to protect such properties, or disapprove any activity that is likely to result in adverse effects that cannot be successfully avoided, minimized or mitigated."

**Environmental Justice** –

Submitted By: Stephanie Howard, Environmental Coordinator

The leasing of these parcels would not cause any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian tribes

**Farmlands (Unique or Prime)** –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

No prime or unique farmlands exist within the area.

**Floodplain, Riparian and Public Water Reserves** –

Submitted By: Karl Wright, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

**Sources:** Book Cliffs and Diamond Mountain Resource Management Plans, BLM Utah State Riparian Policy, Public Water Reserve Executive Order 107 and Flood Plain Executive Order No. 11988.

**Methodology:** Lease sale parcels were compared to the Book Cliff and Diamond Mountain RMP’s, the Vernal Field Office GIS data base for Riparian Inventory, 100 Year Floodplain, and Public Water Reserves. The RMP stipulations continue as stated in the RMP’s. Where new data has been acquired the following stipulations should be applied to be in compliance with the minimum requirements with in the above mentioned riparian policy and executive orders.

**RIPARIAN AREAS LEASE NOTICE**

The parcels listed as Riparian Lease Notice in the table below were not inventoried at the time the RMP’s were completed. The following constraints need to be applied.

**LEASE NOTICE – RIPARIAN AREAS**

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing riparian areas. Surface occupancy or use is subject to BLM State Riparian Policy (Instruction Memorandum UT89-192). Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the riparian area in accordance with the following riparian policy constraint: No surface use will be allowed within 100 meters of riparian areas unless it can be shown that: 1) There is no practicable alternative; 2) All long-term impacts are fully mitigated; or, 3) Construction is an enhancement to the riparian areas. Protection of riparian areas was discussed in the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 78) and the Diamond Mountain Resource Area Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (p. 2-36, 2-37). This limitation does not apply to operation and maintenance of producing wells.

**FLOODPLAIN STIPULATION**

The parcels listed as Floodplain Stipulation in the table were mapped as critical flood plain but were not listed with the stipulations. The following constraints need to be applied according to the Bookcliffs RMP.

**CONTROLLED SURFACE USE – 100-YEAR FLOODPLAINS**

Surface occupancy or use is subject to the following special operating constraints.

- No surface use will be allowed within the 100 year floodplains of the Bitter, Evacuation, Hill, Sweetwater, and Willow Creeks or the Green and White Rivers.

On the lands described below:

- For the purpose of: Protection of floodplains and wetlands as discussed in the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 78). This stipulation may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

## **FLOODPLAIN LEASE NOTICE**

The parcels listed as Floodplain Lease Notice in the table were not included as floodplain in the RMP's. The following constraints need to be applied to be in compliance with the Floodplain Executive order 11988.

### **LEASE NOTICE – 100-YEAR FLOODPLAINS**

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in the lease have been identified as potentially containing 100-year floodplains. Surface occupancy or use is subject to the Floodplain Executive Order No. 11988. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the floodplains in accordance with the executive order as follows: If the only practical alternative requires the sitting in the floodplain, the action shall be modified in order to minimize potential harm to or within the floodplain; reduce the risk of flood loss; minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health, and welfare; and, restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. This notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated or the resource values have changed.

## **PUBLIC WATER RESERVES**

The parcels listed as Public Water Reserve Notice in the table were not included with in the RMP's and the following constraints need to be applied to be in compliance with the Public Water Reserve with drawls.

### **LEASE STIPULATION PUBLIC WATER RESERVE**

No occupancy or other activity on the surface of the designated Public Water Reserve is allowed under this lease in order to protect the designated public water reserve.

### **LEASE NOTICE – PUBLIC WATER RESERVE**

The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as a designated Public Water Reserve. Surface occupancy or use is subject to the Public Water Reserve Executive Order No. 107. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required for the protection of the reserve up to and including no surface occupancy or use. Protection of a designated public water reserve as discussed in Public Water Reserve Executive Order No. 107 and the Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan and EIS (p. 123). This limitation does not apply to operation and maintenance of producing wells. This lease notice may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

The only parcels listed are those that need to have the Stipulations/Lease Notices added that are mentioned above. The other parcels already contain adequate stipulations/notices or do not contain Floodplain, riparian, or public water reserves.

<b>Parcel No.</b>	<b>Legal Description</b>	<b>Stipulation/Lease Notice</b>
UT0508-007	T 4S, R 19E	NONE
UT0508-008	T 10S, R 19E Sec 18, Lot 4 Sec 19, Lots 5-7 Sec 20, SESW	Riparian Notice, Floodplain Notice Floodplain Stipulation (Green River), Riparian Notice Floodplain Notice
UT0508-009	T 3S, R 20E Sec 33, Lot 1, 9, S2NW Sec 33, SENW, NESE Sec 33, NESE, S2NW, Lots 1, 2, 9	PWR, Riparian Notice Floodplain Notice
UT0508-010	T 4S, R 20E Sec 4, Lots 2, 3, 4, SENW, SWNE, N2SW, W2SE, SESW Sec 5, Lot 1, NESE Sec 5, Lot 1	Riparian Notice Riparian Notice Riparian Notice PWR
UT0508-011	T. 4S. R 20E	NONE
UT0508-0012	T. 4S. R 20E Sec 10, E2NW, NESW, W2SE, SESE	Floodplain Notice
UT0508-013	T. 5S. R 20E Sec 25, E2NE, SWNE, NWSE, E2SW	Floodplain Notice
UT0508-014	T. 5S. R 20E Sec 30, NENW, NE, NESE	Floodplain Notice
UT0508-015	T. 5S. R 20E Sec 33 Lot 1 Sec 35 N2NE, NENW, Lot 4	Floodplain Notice Floodplain Notice
UT0508-016	T. 8S. R 20E	NONE
UT0508-017	T. 6S. R 21E	NONE
UT0508-018	T. 7S. R 21E	NONE
UT0508-019	T. 2S. R 22E Sec. 33, NWNW Sec 33, SE, SENE	Riparian Notice Floodplain Notice
UT0508-	T. 7S. R 22E	

<b>Parcel No.</b>	<b>Legal Description</b>	<b>Stipulation/Lease Notice</b>
020	Sec. 5, SW	Floodplain Notice
UT0508-021	T. 10S. R 22E	NONE
UT0508-022	T. 3S. R 23E Sec. 6, NESW	Riparian Notice
UT0508-023	T. 4S. R 23E Sec 29, SE, N2SW, S2NW, NWNW SEC 29, NE, E2NW, W2SE, SESE	Floodplain Notice Riparian Notice
UT0508-024	T. 12S. R 24E Sec. 9, W2	Floodplain Stipulation (NSO for Biter Creek)
UT0508-025	T. 8S. R 25E Sec. 9, SESW	Floodplain Notice

**Hazardous/Solid Wastes** –

Submitted By: Merlin Sinfield, VFO HazMat Coordinator

This review is for all parcels – Based on a review of VFO files, inventories and maps, no areas of hazardous/solid wasters were determined to occur on lands being considered for leasing. No new significant information has been found or provided.

**LUP Review** –

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

\*portions in blue have been added or changed, portions with a ~~strikethrough~~ have been deleted

**UT0508- 007**  
No changes

**UT0508- 008**  
STIPULATIONS  
UT-S-30: NSO-Green river recreation and wildlife corridor located in lots 5-9 7 Sec. 19.

**UT0508- 009**  
STIPULATION  
UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in lots 4, 2, 4, SESE Sec.31; lots ~~5~~,-6, NESE Sec.33.

**UT0508- 010**

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-30: High Paleontological Resources located in lots 1, 5, 8 Sec.3.

**UT0508- 011**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 012**

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in W2 Sec.9; Sec.10.

**UT0508- 013**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 014**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 015**

UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological resources located in lots 3, 4 Sec.33; E2NE, SWNE Sec.34; SWNE, NW, N2SW Sec.35.

**UT0508- 016**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 017**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 018**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 019**

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-51: CSU-Red Mountain-Dry Fork Complex Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds, Floodplains located in ~~lots 3, 4, SENE, NESE~~ all Sec.33.

**NOTICES**

~~UT-LN-61: Sage grouse habitat located on the entire lease.~~

~~UT-LN-66: Special status plant species located on the entire lease.~~

**UT0508- 020**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 021**

**No changes**

**UT0508- 022**

NOTICE

UT-LN-27: Peregrine Falcon located in lots 3, 4, SWNW, SW Sec.5; lots 2-4, 8-11, SWNE, S2NW, SW, W2SE Sec.6.

**UT0508- 023**

UT-LN-30: High Potential for paleontological resources located in the N2, N2SW, N2SE Sec.29.

**UT0508- 024**

No changes

**UT0508- 025**

No changes

**Paleontology –**

Submitted By: Robin Hansen, Geologist

**Paleontology:** I have reviewed those preliminary lease parcels pertaining to the Book Cliffs RMP for the Vernal planning area for the upcoming June 2008 oil and gas lease sale. The Book Cliffs Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (BCRMP/EIS) on Page 132 identifies that significant fossils are present within the boundaries of the Vernal Field Office. On Page 157 of the BCRMP/EIS paleontological resources were identified.

Paleontological resources are protected by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) as amended; the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 as amended; the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act of 1988 as amended; and BLM Manual M-8270, Paleontological Resource Management; BLM Handbook H-8270-1 – General Procedural Guidance for Paleontological Resource Management; and 43 CFR Subparts 3610, 3622, 3802, 3809 and 8365 add additional protection for paleontological resources. Prospective lease areas **UT0508-010, UT0508-013, UT0508-015, UT0508-016, UT0508-019, UT0508-022 and UT0508-023** have high potential for paleontological resources to be impacted by surface disturbing activities. Surface Use Plan of Operations may require modification to protect paleontological resources from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms and 43 CFR 3101.1-2. Monitoring of specific sites may be required.

**Methodology:** Geologic maps were used to identify which geologic formations are present within each individual lease parcel (Stokes and Madsen, 1961; Cashion and others, 1973; Rowely and others, 1985; and Sprinkle, D.A., in press). BLM internal data files, GIS Paleontologic Locality Data and maps were inspected to identify any fossil resources within the same section or within 1 mile from each lease parcel. Analyses conducted in this manner conform to NEPA requirements of 1969 as outlined in (P.L. 91-190; 31 Stat. 852, 42 U.S.C. 44321-4327) and FLPMA of 1976 (P.L. 94-579; 90 Stat. 2743, U.S.C 1701-1782). The analysis conducted for this lease sale conforms to the ROD/EIS for the Vernal Resource Area (BLM, 1985; p. 77) and the Vernal Field Office Draft management Plan.

**Summary:** Field inventory maps and files, and geologic maps have been reviewed by the Vernal Field Office Paleontologist tasked with management of the paleontologic resources in the Book Cliffs RMP. The following parcels **UT0508-010, UT0508-013, UT0508-015, UT0508-016, UT0508-019, UT0508-022 and UT0508-023** shall require a paleontology lease notice for paleontological resources.

**Recreation and Visual Resources –**

Submitted By: Jason West, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Recreation Review

Jason R. West

ORP

2/22/08

Methodology:

Reviewed available GIS layers

Reviewed applicable portions of the VFO Draft RMP and EIS, The Diamond Mountain RoD and the Book Cliffs RoD.

The Following parcels have been reviewed for:

Existing ACECs

Potential ACECs

Potential WSRs

Existing SRMAs

Potential SRMAs

VRM Class

Potential VRM Class

Wilderness Study Areas

Wilderness Characteristics Review

Oil and Gas Stipulations Pertinent to Recreation

**UT0508-007**

T. 4 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 1: ALL.

268.23 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range on the entire lease.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Hunting Unit

**UT0508-008**

T. 10 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 18: Lot 4;

Sec. 19: Lots 5-7;

Sec. 20: W2.

421.69 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

UT-S-30: NSO - Green river recreation and wildlife corridor located in lots 5-9 Sec. 19.

- UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-S-52: Critical Deer and Elk Winter Range located in lot 4, Sec. 18.
- UT-S-63: NSO - Lower Green River - Visual Corridor located in lot 4, Sec. 18.

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-25: Bald Eagle Habitat located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-28: Peregrine Falcon Habitat located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-29: Special Status Plants: Not Federally Listed located in lot 4 Sec. 18.
- UT-LN-32: Severe Soil Erosion located in the SENW, E2SW Sec. 20.

ACEC's: All of Section 18 Lot 4 falls within the current Lower Green River ACEC.  
 Potential ACEC's: Lower Green River ACEC expansion  
 Potential WSR's: Lower Green River Proposed WSR  
 Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Current III/IV Under alternatives would switch to II/IV

**Recreation Notes:**

The current Lower Green river stipulations within the Lower Green River ACEC for Minerals are as follows:

- LGR20 All 7,900 acres are category 3 (NSO) for leasable minerals
- LGR21 All 7,900 acres are open to geophysical activities with no significant surface disturbance.
- LGR22 All 7,900 acres are category 4 (closed) for mineral material disposal)

This area in all alternatives is partially covered by the Lower Green River ACEC in alternatives A, C, D, and E.

The proposed wild and scenic river tentative classification for this segment of the green river is Scenic.

The potential stipulations within potential lower green river ACEC expansion under alternative A include:

The area would be managed as NSO for oil and gas leasing.

The potential stipulations within the potential Nine mile ACEC expansion under alternative C include:

The area would be open subject to standard lease terms **OR** managed as NSO for oil and gas leasing. VRM would be managed as class II, III, or IV.

Affected hunting units are the Nine-Mile Anthro unit, and the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek unit.

**UT0508-009**

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 31: Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 33: Lots 1-3, 9, NW, NESE.

802.35 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in lots 1, 2, 4 Sec. 31; lots 5, 6, NESE Sec. 33.

Recreation Notes: affected hunting unite is the Vernal Hunting unit

**UT0508-010**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 3: Lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2NW, S2;

Secs. 4 and 5: ALL.

1,902.75 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2 Sec. 3; Sec. 4; lot 3, S2N2, S2 Sec. 5.

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources located in lots 1, 5, Sec. 3.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-011**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 6: ALL;

Sec. 7: Lot 1, N2NE, NENW.

894.38 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in lots 1, 2, 4-7, 9, SENE, SENW, E2SE Sec. 6; lot 1, N2NE, NENW Sec. 7.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-012**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 9: W2;

Sec. 10: ALL.

960.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use located in the E2NW, NESW, W2SE, SESE Sec. 10.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located on Sec. 10.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-013**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 25: NE, SENW, S2.

520.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the E2NE, SWNE, E2SW, N2SE Sec. 25.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-14: Ferruginous Hawk located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-30: High Potential Paleontological Resources located in the N2SW, SWSW Sec. 25.

Recreation Notes: Current recreation includes growing two track mountain biking use on

12 mile bench.

Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-014**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 27: NW, N2SW;  
Sec. 28: E2NE, SW, NESE;  
Sec. 29: NE;  
Secs. 30 and 31: ALL.

2,122.32 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

- UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the W2NE, NENW, NESE Sec. 30.
- UT-S-53: Sage Grouse lek nesting areas located in the NWNW Sec. 27; NENE Sec. 28; SWNE, NENW, N2SE, SESE Sec. 30.
- UT-S-68: No surface occupancy - Golden Eagle Nest Sites located in the SESW, S2SE  
Sec. 30; lots 9-11, NE, E2NW, NESW, N2SE, Sec. 31.

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in the NW, N2SW Sec. 27; E2NE, SW, NESE Sec. 28; NE Sec. 29; lots 1-8, E, E2NW, E2SW Sec. 30; Sec. 31.
- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the NW, N2SW Sec. 27; E2NE, SW, NESE Sec. 28; NE Sec. 29; lots 1-8, E2, E2NW, E2SW Sec. 30;  
Sec. 31.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-015**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 33: Lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE;  
Sec. 34: N2;  
Sec. 35: Lots 1-4, N2NE, NW.

1,180.36 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

STIPULATIONS

- UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in lot 1 Sec. 33; lot 4, N2NE Sec. 35.
- UT-S-53: Sage Grouse lek nesting areas located in the NWNE Sec. 34.
- UT-S-68: No Surface Occupancy - Golden Eagle Nest Sites located in lot 4 Sec. 35.
- UT-S-82: Highway Material Site Right-of-Way.

NOTICES

- UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE Sec. 33; N2 Sec. 34; lots 1-4, N2NE, NW Sec. 35.
- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in lots 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SE Sec. 33; N2 Sec. 34; lots 1-4, N2NE, NW Sec. 35.
- UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological Resources located in lots 3, 4 Sec. 33; E2NE, SWNE Sec. 34; SWNE, NW, N2SW Sec. 35.

Recreation Notes: Current recreation includes growing two track mountain bike use on 12 mile bench. Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit.

**UT0508-016**

T. 8 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 10: E2NW.

80.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

STIPULATION

- UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in the E2NW Sec. 10.

NOTICE

- UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological Resources located in the SENW Sec. 10.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal Unit

**UT0508-017**

T. 6 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 3: NWSW, S2S2;  
Sec. 10: N2.

520.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

- UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in the SENW Sec. 10.
- UT-S-53: Sage grouse lek nesting areas located in the NWSW, S2S2 Sec. 3; N2 Sec.10.

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-26: Ferruginous Hawk located in the entire lease.
- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.

Recreation Notes: McCoy flats riding, trail area. Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-018**

T. 7 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE;  
Sec. 14: N2SW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE;  
Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE;  
Sec. 22: N2SE;  
Sec. 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE;  
Sec. 24: W2NE, SENE, E2NW, N2SW, NESE.

1,080.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the NESE of Sec. 22.
- UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Bonanza unit.

**UT0508-019**

T. 2 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 33: ALL.

629.47 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: CSU - Red Mountain – Dry Fork Complex Critical Soils, Municipal Watersheds,

Floodplains located in lots 3, 4, SENE, NESE Sec. 33.

UT-S-52: TL – Crucial deer and elk winter range located in the entire lease from May 1 to

November 30.

UT-S-68: No surface occupancy within ½ mile of golden eagle nest sites located in lots 2-4,

N2SE Sec. 33.

UT-S-123: CSU - VRM Class II & III (Visual Resource Management Area); located in lots 1-4,

NESE Sec. 33.

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-27: Golden eagle habitat located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-28: Peregrine falcon habitat located in lots 1-4, S2NE, W2NW, SENW N2S2 Sec. 33.

UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological resources located in the entire lease.

UT-LN-61 Sage grouse habitat located on the entire lease.

UT-LN-66 Special status plant species located on the entire lease.

ACEC's: Red Mountain Dry Fork ACEC

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: II in South 1/2 of section 19

Special Rec. Management Areas: Red Mountain-Dry Fork SRMA

Recreation Notes: Current VRM is class II/III Class II is located In Section 19, NESE, NWSE, NESW, L1, L2, L3, L4.

This is a Major non-motorized use, Mountain biking trails area. It includes the Three Amigos trail, the Jazz/Chrome Molly trail, and the Handsome Cabin Boy trail. Also there are Connector hiking trails in the area as well. This parcel is completely located within the current Red mountain-Dry fork Special recreation management area.

Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-020**

T. 7 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 5: S2.

320.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

Recreation Notes: Affected unit is the Bonanza unit.

**UT0508-021**

T. 10 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake

Sec. 35: SESE.

40.00 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

Special Rec. Management Areas: Alternative C Proposed White River SRMA

Recreation Notes: If the White River SRMA is designated, Oil and Gas Surface disturbance may not be compatible with management objectives for the SRMA. An activity level plan has not yet been developed for this potential designation, and the RMP does not list a management prescription for the SRMA with regards to minerals.

Affected hunting unit is the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek unit.

**UT0508-022**

T. 3 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake

Secs. 5 and 6: ALL.

1,276.24 Acres

Uintah County, Utah

Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UT-S-51: Controlled surface use located on the SESW, SE Sec. 5; lots 3, 10, SWNW

Sec. 6.

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in Sec. 5; Sec. 6.

UT-S-68: No surface occupancy Golden eagle habitat located in lots 1, 2, S2NE Sec. 6.

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-26: Golden eagle habitat located in lots 3, 4, SWNW, SW Sec. 5; Sec. 6.
- UT-LN-27: Peregrine Falcon located in lots 3, 4, SWNW, SW Sec. 5; Sec. 6.
- UT-LN-30: High potential paleontological resources located on lots 1-4, S2NW Sec. 5; lots 1-4, 8-11, S2N2, SW, W2SE Sec. 6.

ACEC's: Red Mountain Dry Fork ACEC

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Current VRM class IV. The preferred alternative would change the class to III.

Special Recreation Management Areas: Red Mountain Dry Fork SRMA

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting units are the Vernal unit and the Diamond Mountain unit.

**UT0508-023**

T. 4 S., R. 23 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 29: ALL.  
640.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

- UT-S-51: Controlled Surface Use - Red Mountain located in the NE, W2NW, SENW, N2SW, W2SE, SESE Sec. 29.
- UT-S-52: Crucial deer and elk winter range located in the SW, S2SE Sec. 29.

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-27: Golden Eagle Habitat located in the entire lease.
- UT-LN-30: High potential for paleological resources located in the N2 Sec. 29.

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Currently III. The preferred alternative would make the majority of the area VRM class II.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Vernal unit.

**UT0508-024**

T. 12 S., R. 24 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 9: N2, W2SW, SE.  
560.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-04: Severe Soil Erosion on the W2E2, E2NW of Sec. 9.

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: Currently IV, but preferred alternative would set the class at III.

Recreation Notes: Affected hunting unit is the Book Cliffs-Bitter Creek unit

**UT0508-025**

T. 8 S., R. 25 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 9: NE, S2NW, S2;  
Sec. 10: ALL;  
Sec. 11: N2, SW.

1,680.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICE**

UT-LN-05: Antelope Kidding on the entire lease.

Potential ACEC's: The preferred alternative would designate the Coyote basin ACEC and the parcel would fall completely within the ACEC.

Visual Resource Mgmt Class: IV. The Preferred alternative would set the Class at III.

Recreation Notes: The affected hunting unit is the Bonanza unit.

**Soils**

Submitted By: Steve Strong, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

**UT0508-007**

T. 4 S., R. 19 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 1: ALL.

268.23 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range on the entire lease.

**NOTICES**

**Severe Soil Erosion located on the entire parcel.**

**UT0508-009**

T. 3 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 31: Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE;

Sec. 33: Lots 1-3, 9, NW, NESE.  
802.35 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICES**

**Severe Soil Erosion located on entire parcel.**

**UT0508-011**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 6: ALL;  
Sec. 7: Lot 1, N2NE, NENW.  
894.38 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATION**

UT-S-52: Crucial deer & elk winter range located in lots 1, 2, 4-7, 9, SENE, SENW,  
E2SE Sec. 6; lot 1, N2NE, NENW Sec. 7.

**NOTICES**

**Severe Soil Erosion located on entire parcel.**

**UT0508-012**

T. 4 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 9: W2;  
Sec. 10: ALL.  
960.00 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICES**

**Severe Soil Erosion located on entire parcel.**

**UT0508-014**

T. 5 S., R. 20 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 27: NW, N2SW;  
Sec. 28: E2NE, SW, NESE;  
Sec. 29: NE;  
Secs. 30 and 31: ALL.  
2,122.32 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**NOTICES**

**Severe Soil Erosion located on entire parcel.**

## **Special Status Animal Species and Wildlife –**

Submitted by: Amy Torres, VFO Wildlife Biologist

All Parcels- The BCRMP/EIS and the DMRMP/EIS as well as the Records of Decision (RODs) were reviewed to determine if the existing NEPA analysis is adequate for leasing of the preliminary lease parcels. BLM Manual 6840 (Special Status Species Management) gives guidance consistent with existing laws, regarding the conservation of special status plant and animal species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Special status species include those which are proposed for federal listing, listed as federally threatened or endangered, candidates for federal listing, listed by a State in a category such as threatened or endangered implying endangerment or extinction and those species designated by the BLM State Director as sensitive. Manual 6840 policy is to ensure that actions authorized by the BLM do not contribute to the need to list any special status species. In addition, Utah BLM Instruction Memorandum (IM) Number UT 2007-078 updates the Utah BLM State Director's Sensitive Plant and Animal Species Lists as defined in the 6840 Manual. This direction replaces IM Number UT-2003-027 and will continue to be updated as necessary. By the updated IM, Utah BLM adopts the existing Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) Utah Sensitive Species List. This means that the BLM will now use the official DWR list that is in place at the time of a given action. DWR updates this list on a regular basis so it will be important to consult the DWR web site at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov> to ensure that the latest list is being used. Only those species or their habitat that occur on BLM administered public lands are considered.

Washington Office Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174 states that all State Offices will include the attached lease stipulation (see Attachment 1) on oil and gas leases where threatened, endangered, or other special status species or critical habitat is known or strongly suspected. State Offices are instructed not to use versions or generic stipulations other than the attached unless the current land use plan explicitly requires for a different wording. This is critical in order to be consistent with current BLM policy and regulations. This stipulation adds no new requirements; it merely provides that BLM will comply with requirements under existing law and policy. The IM also encourages State Offices to provide a separate notification to prospective lessees identifying the particular special status species that are present on the lease parcel offered. This information will be provided through a lease notice and not by lease stipulation (unless otherwise provided in current land use plans). Copies of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service species list for Daggett, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties, and the State of Utah Sensitive Species List are on file at the Vernal Field Office.

DMRMP/EIS-Decisions for Special Status Animal Species may be found starting on page 2-13 (FWS28)-2-16 (FWS36) detailing timing restrictions and other appropriate language supporting sensitive species. All applicable lease notices/stipulations can be found in appendix A in the DMRMP Record of Decision.

BCRMP/EIS-Page 117 discusses endangered or threatened species. In the ROD, page 50, the management direction for endangered or threatened species and sensitive species is stated. Other laws, regulations, and BLM policies for special status species apply.

Species specific lease notices and stipulations that have been added to the preliminary lease parcels are listed below. Additionally, Adherence to Section 6 of the Standard Lease Form, application of standard operating procedures and Best Management Practices, and the opportunity to adjust any proposed surface activities pursuant to 43 CFR 3101.1-2 would provide for further protection.

Further protection should occur under 43 CFR 3101.1-2, Surface Use Rights, that authorizes reasonable measures to minimize adverse impacts to other resource values provided they are consistent with lease rights granted. While the 200 meter and 60 day restriction is always deemed consistent, greater restrictions may be imposed when less stringent measures would be ineffective and the measure does not render the recovery of oil and gas infeasible or uneconomic. Moreover, at the time of APD approval, the well location and access road may be moved as far as necessary in order to comply with valid, nondiscretionary statutes (laws). Nondiscretionary statutes include our obligations under the: Endangered Species Act; National Historic Preservation Act; Clean Water Act; Clean Air Act; Federal Land Policy and Management Act; etc....

The need to move a well location or restrict an activity will be analyzed in the site-specific NEPA document prepared for the APD. The analysis will also include an assessment of the technical feasibility of moving the well location and the adequacy of less stringent measures for protecting the resource values in question (Alternatives). Where BLM's action is discretionary (and both reasonable and necessary), and protection of the resource value is not required by statute (law), BLM should prepare a separate document to describe the costs of compliance with the protective mitigation measure and its effects on the economics of recovering the oil and gas resource. This analysis should be used to assure that the mitigation BLM is contemplating does not breach the lease contract or take property rights. Where there is a question of consistency of the measure with the reasonable expectations of the lessee under the lease contract, an analysis should be performed in the form prescribed in Executive Order 12630 and in close consultation with the Solicitor's Office.

An individual environmental analysis will be required at the APD stage of any proposed development. As part of this APD stage analysis, compliance with the Endangered Species Act will be required and any necessary Section 7 consultation proceedings with the FWS will be part of the analysis.

## **Parcel UT0508-007**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

**Sage Grouse: Lots 1, 2, 5, 6 and a portion of Lot 7 of this parcel are located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain South sage grouse lek. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse brooding habitat. Recommend deferral in this portion of the parcel due to sage grouse issues.**

Antelope: The entire parcel contains BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated high priority winter range for elk.

*LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

This entire parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-008**

Lands west of the Green River are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP. Lands east of the Green River are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral of the portions of this parcel that are located within the Bookcliffs RMP area due to raptor issues.**

Antelope: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long fawning habitat for antelope and BLM designated year-long critical habitat for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial year-long range for deer and portions of the parcel contain BLM designated limited year-long range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains BLM designated substantial winter range for elk.

*LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-30 (No Surface Occupancy-Green River Recreation and Wildlife Corridor)

Lots 5-9 in Section 19 of this parcel contain a no surface occupancy stipulation for the Green River Recreation and Wildlife Corridor. No surface occupancy or use is allowed on the lands described above for the purpose of protecting the Green River Recreation and Wildlife Corridor as discussed in the BCRMP and EIS (p. 73). This stipulation may be waived, excepted, or modified by the authorized officer if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

Lot 4, Section 18 of this parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-25 (Lease Notice-Bald Eagle Habitat)

Lot 4 in Section 18 of this parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Bald Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Bald Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

Lot 4 in Section 18 of this parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-28 (Lease Notice-Peregrine Falcon Habitat)

Lot 4 in Section 18 of this parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Peregrine Falcon Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine Falcon and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

*UTAHS T&E SPECIES NOTICES*

T&E-03 (Lease Notice-Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin)

The lessee/operator is given notice that the lands in this parcel contain Critical Habitat for the Colorado River Fish (bonytail, humpback chub, Colorado pikeminnow, and razorback sucker) listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, or these parcels have watersheds that are tributary to the designated habitat. Designated critical habitat for all of the endangered fishes includes those portions of the 100-year floodplain that contain primary constituent elements necessary for survival of the species. Avoidance or use restrictions may be placed on portions of the lease. Several portions of this parcel are located within the designated 100-year floodplain or are within 1.0 mile of the Green River.

**Parcel UT0508-009**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

*NOTES*

**The entire parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain North and Little Mountain South sage grouse leks. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse brooding habitat. Recommend deferral of this parcel due to Sage Grouse issues.**

Antelope: The entire parcel contains BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range for deer. Portions of the parcel contain BLM designated crucial winter range and crucial summer range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated high priority winter range for elk.

*LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

Lots 1, 2, and 4 in Section 31; and Lots 5, 6 and NESE in Section 33 of this parcel contain a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-010**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

*NOTES*

**Portions of this parcel are located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain South sage grouse lek. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse brooding habitat. Recommend deferral in the NW of Section 4 and Section 5 (all) due to Sage Grouse issues.**

Antelope: The entire parcel contains BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated high priority winter range for elk.

### *LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)  
Lots 1-6, 8, 9, and the S2 in Section 3; Section 4 (all); and Lot 3, S2N2, and the S2 in Section 5 of this parcel contain a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

### *LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)  
A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

## **Parcel UT0508-011**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

**Portions of this parcel are located within 2.0 miles of the Little Mountain South sage grouse lek. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse brooding habitat. Recommend deferral in the Section 6 (all) due to Sage Grouse issues.**

Antelope: The entire parcel contains BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range for deer. Portions of the parcel contain BLM designated crucial winter range and crucial summer range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated high priority winter range for elk.

### *LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)  
Lots 1, 2, 4-7, 9, SENE, SENW and E2SE in Section 6; and Lot 1, N2NE, and NENW in Section 7 of this parcel contain a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

### *LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)  
A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect

the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

## **Parcel UT0508-012**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

**Sage Grouse: The entire parcel is located in DWR designated brooding habitat for sage grouse.**

**Antelope: The entire parcel contains BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.**

**Deer: The entire parcel contains UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.**

**Elk: The entire parcel contains UDWR designated crucial winter range and BLM designated high priority winter range for elk.**

### *LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

All of Section 10 of this parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

### *LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

## **Parcel UT0508-013**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

**Sage grouse: The entire parcel is located within DWR designated sage grouse brooding and winter habitat.**

**Antelope: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.**

**Deer: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated limited year-long range for deer.**

### *LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-26 (Lease Notice-Ferruginous Hawk Habitat)**

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous Hawk Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Ferruginous Hawk and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)**

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

## **Parcel UT0508-014**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

**Recommend deferral in the NW, N2SW of Section 27; E2NE, SW, NESE of Section 28; and Section 30 and 31 (all) due to prairie dog issues.**

**The parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Halfway Hollow and the North Twelve Mile sage grouse leks. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse wintering and brooding habitat. Recommend deferral in the NWNW of Section 27; NENE of Section 28; and the SWNE, NENW, N2SE, and the SESE of Section 30 due to Sage Grouse issues.**

**Antelope: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated year-long critical range for antelope.**

Deer: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated limited year-long range for deer.

### *LEASE STIPULATIONS*

**UT-S-53 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas)**

The NWNW of Section 27; NENE Section 28; and the SWNE, NENW, N2SE, and SESE of Section 30 of this parcel contain a timing limitation stipulation for sage grouse lek nesting areas. No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

**UT-S-068 (No Surface Occupancy Stipulation-Golden Eagle Nest Sites)**

The SESW, and S2SE of Section 30; and Lots 9-11, NE, E2NW, NESW, and N2SE of Section 31 of this parcel contain a no surface occupancy stipulation for golden eagle nest sites. No surface occupancy or use is allowed (does not apply to casual use) within 0.5 miles of golden eagle nests which have been active within the past two years. This restriction would not apply to maintenance and operations of existing programs and facilities. It would not apply if impacts could be mitigated through other management actions or site specific analysis of terrain features.

#### *LEASE NOTICES*

##### **UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

##### **UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

##### **UT-LN-26 (Lease Notice-Ferruginous Hawk Habitat)**

The NW, and N2SW of Section 27; the E2NE, SW, and NESE of Section 28; the NE of Section 29; Lots 1-8, E2, E2NW, and the E2SW of Section 30; and Section 31 (all) of this parcel contain a lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous Hawk Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Ferruginous Hawk and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

##### **UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)**

The NW, and N2SW of Section 27; the E2NE, SW, and NESE of Section 28; the NE of Section 29; Lots 1-8, E2, E2NW, and the E2SW of Section 30; and Section 31 (all) of this parcel contain a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

##### **UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

## **Parcel UT0508-015**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

## NOTES

**Recommend deferral due to prairie dog issues throughout the entire parcel.**

**The parcel is located within 2.0 miles of the Halfway Hollow and the South 12 Mile sage grouse leks. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse wintering and brooding habitat. Recommend deferral in the NWNE of Section 34 due to sage grouse issues.**

**Antelope: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated year-long critical range for antelope.**

Deer: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated limited year-long range for deer.

## LEASE STIPULATIONS

UT-S-53 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas)

The NWNE of Section 34 of this parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for sage grouse lek nesting areas. No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

UT-S-068 (No Surface Occupancy Stipulation-Golden Eagle Nest Sites)

Lot 4 of Section 35 of this parcel contains a no surface occupancy stipulation for golden eagle nest sites. No surface occupancy or use is allowed (does not apply to casual use) within 0.5 miles of golden eagle nests which have been active within the past two years. This restriction would not apply to maintenance and operations of existing programs and facilities. It would not apply if impacts could be mitigated through other management actions or site specific analysis of terrain features.

## LEASE NOTICES

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-26 (Lease Notice-Ferruginous Hawk Habitat)

Lots 1-4, NE, NESW and N2SE of Section 33; the N2 of Section 34; and lots 1-4, N2NE and NW of Section 35 of this parcel contain a lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous Hawk Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Ferruginous Hawk and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)**

Lots 1-4, NE, NESW and N2SE of Section 33; the N2 of Section 34; and lots 1-4, N2NE and NW of Section 35 of this parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

**Parcel UT0508-016**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

*NOTES*

**Antelope: The entire parcel is located within BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.**

**Deer:** The entire parcel is located within BLM designated critical year-long range for deer.

*LEASE STIPULATIONS*

**UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)**

The E2NW in Section 10 of this parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

*LEASE NOTICES*

**UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-017**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

*NOTES*

**Sage Grouse:** The NWSW, and the S2S2 of Section 3; and the N2 of Section 10 of this parcel are located within 2.0 miles of the Observatory sage grouse lek. This entire parcel is located within UDWR identified sage grouse wintering and brooding habitat. Recommend deferral in this portion of the parcel due to sage grouse issues.

**Antelope:** The entire parcel is located within BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

**Deer:** The entire parcel is located within BLM designated limited year-long range for deer.

*LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

The SENW of Section 10 of this parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

UT-S-53 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Sage Grouse Lek Nesting Areas)

The NWNE of Section 34 of this parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for sage grouse lek nesting areas. No surface use is allowed within the nesting areas from March 1 through June 30. This stipulation does not apply to operation and maintenance of production facilities. This stipulation would not apply if sage grouse are not present or if impacts could be mitigated.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-26 (Lease Notice-Ferruginous Hawk Habitat)

This entire parcel contain a lease notice identifying potential Ferruginous Hawk Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Ferruginous Hawk and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-018**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral in SWNE, SENW, NESW and NESE Section 13; and N2SW, SWSW, W2SE, and SESE of Section 14 due to prairie dog issues.**

**Recommend deferral of the entire lease due to raptor issues.**

**Antelope: The entire parcel is located within UDWR designated crucial year-long fawning habitat for antelope and BLM designated crucial range for antelope.**

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-05 (Lease Notice-Antelope Kidding)

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying crucial pronghorn (antelope) habitat as identified in the BCRMP. Modifications, including seasonal restrictions from May 15 through June 20, may be required in the Surface Use Plan of Operations to protect the pronghorn during the kidding period.

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

**Parcel UT0508-019**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral in Section 33 (all) due to prairie dog issues.**

**Deer: The entire parcel is located within UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.**

**Elk: The entire parcel is located within UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for elk.**

*LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)

This entire parcel contains a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

UT-S-68 (No Surface Occupancy-Golden Eagle Nest Sites)

Lots 2-4 and the N2SE in Section 33 of this parcel contain a no surface occupancy stipulation for Golden Eagle Nest Sites as identified in the DRMP. No surface occupancy or use is allowed (does not apply to casual use) within 0.5 miles of golden eagle nests which have been active within the past two years. This restriction would not apply to maintenance and operation of existing programs and facilities. It would not apply if impacts could be mitigated through other management actions or site specific analysis of terrain features. Waivers, exceptions, or modifications to this limitation may be specifically approved in writing by the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-28 (Lease Notice-Peregrine Falcon Habitat)

Lots 1-4, S2NE, W2NW, SENW and N2S2 in Section 33 of this parcel contain a lease notice identifying potential Peregrine Falcon Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine Falcon and/or

habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

**UT-LN-61 (Lease Notice-Sage Grouse Habitat)**

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential sage grouse habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan may be required in order to protect sage grouse and their habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with State and range wide conservation recommendations.

**Parcel UT0508-020**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral of the entire lease due to raptor issues.**

**Antelope: The entire parcel is located within UDWR designated crucial year-long fawning habitat for antelope.**

*LEASE NOTICES*

**UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-021**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral of the entire lease due to raptor issues.**

*LEASE NOTICES*

**UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

## Parcel UT0508-022

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

**Recommend deferral in Section 5 and 6 (all) due to prairie dog issues.**

Deer: The E2E2 of Section 6 is located in UDWR designated crucial year-long fawning range for deer. The rest of the parcel is located in UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel is located in UDWR and BLM designated crucial winter range for elk

### *LEASE STIPULATIONS*

UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)  
Section 5 (all); and Section 6 (all) of this parcel contain a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

UT-S-68 (No Surface Occupancy-Golden Eagle Nest Sites)  
Lots 1, 2, and the S2NE in Section 6 of this parcel contain a no surface occupancy stipulation for Golden Eagle Nest Sites as identified in the DRMP. Nor surface occupancy or use is allowed (does not apply to casual use) within 0.5 miles of golden eagle nests which have been active within the past two years. This restriction would not apply to maintenance and operation of existing programs and facilities. It would not apply if impacts could be mitigated through other management actions or site specific analysis of terrain features. Waivers, exceptions, or modifications to this limitation may be specifically approved in writing by the authorized officer of the Bureau of Land Management if either the resource values change or the lessee/operator demonstrates that adverse impacts can be mitigated.

### *LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

Lots 3, 4, SWNW, and the SW in Section 5; and Section 6 (all) of this parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-28 (Lease Notice-Peregrine Falcon Habitat)**

Lots 3, 4, SWNW, and the SW in Section 5; and Section 6 (all) of this parcel contain a lease notice identifying potential Peregrine Falcon Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Peregrine Falcon and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

## **Parcel UT0508-023**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Diamond Mountain RMP.

### *NOTES*

Antelope: The entire parcel is in BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel is located in UDWR designated crucial winter range for deer. The N2 of Section 29 is BLM designated high priority winter range for deer and the S2 of Section 29 is BLM designated critical year-long habitat for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel is located in BLM designated high priority winter range for elk.

### *LEASE STIPULATIONS*

**UT-S-52 (Timing Limitation Stipulation-Crucial Deer and Elk Winter Range)**

The SW and S2SE in Section 29 of this parcel contain a timing limitation stipulation for crucial deer and elk winter range as directed in the DMRMP. No surface use is allowed within crucial deer and elk winter range from December 1 through April 30. This stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities or if animals are not present.

### *LEASE NOTICES*

**UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)**

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-27 (Lease Notice-Golden Eagle Habitat)

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying potential Golden Eagle Habitat as identified in the DMRMP. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Golden Eagle and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-024**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral of the entire lease due to raptor issues.**

Antelope: The entire parcel is in BLM designated year-long high priority range for antelope.

Deer: The entire parcel is located in UDWR designated crucial winter range for deer. The SE of Section 9 is BLM designated crucial winter range for deer.

Elk: The entire parcel is located in UDWR designated crucial winter range for elk.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

**Parcel UT0508-025**

Lands in this parcel are managed under the Bookcliffs RMP.

*NOTES*

**Recommend deferral of the entire lease due to raptor issues.**

**Recommend deferral in the NE, S2NW, and the S2 of Section 9; Section 10 (all); and N2 and SW of Section 11 due to prairie dog issues.**

Ferret: The entire parcel is located within the Black-footed ferret Primary Management Zone.

Antelope: The entire parcel is in UDWR crucial year-long fawning habitat for antelope. The entire parcel is located in BLM designated crucial range for antelope.

*LEASE NOTICES*

UT-LN-05 (Lease Notice-Antelope Kidding)

This entire parcel contains a lease notice identifying crucial pronghorn (antelope) habitat as identified in the BCRMP. Modifications, including seasonal restrictions from May 15 through

June 20, may be required in the Surface Use Plan of Operations to protect the pronghorn during the kidding period.

UT-LN-07 (Lease Notice-Raptor Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential raptor species and habitat was added to the entire parcel. Seasonal restrictions to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Raptors and/or habitat in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-013 (Lease Notice-Burrowing Owl Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential burrowing owl habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that lands in this lease have been identified as containing Burrowing Owl Habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the Burrowing Owl and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities in accordance with Section 6 of the lease terms, Endangered Species Act, and 43 CFR 3101.1-2.

UT-LN-053 (Lease Notice-White Tailed Prairie Dog Habitat)

A lease notice identifying potential white-tailed prairie dog habitat was added to the entire lease. The lessee/operator is given notice that this lease has been identified as containing white tailed prairie dog habitat. Modifications to the Surface Use Plan of Operations may be required in order to protect the white tailed prairie dog and/or habitat from surface disturbing activities.

*UTAH'S T&E SPECIES NOTICES*

T&E-02 (Lease Notice-Black-Footed Ferret)

This entire parcel is located within the Primary Management Zone for Black-footed ferrets. The Lessee/Operator is given notice that the lands in this lease may contain occupied black-footed ferret habitat, an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act classified as an experimental, nonessential population in the state of Utah. Avoidance and minimization measures that should be followed are included within the *Cooperative Plan for the Reintroduction and Management of Black-Footed Ferrets in Coyote Basin, Uintah County, Utah* published by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources in September, 1996. These measures may be updated based on the best available scientific data as it becomes available.

Attachment 1

Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation Stipulation

The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that will contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity that may affect any such species or critical

habitat until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. § 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.

## **Special Status Species Plants and Invasive, Non-native Plant Species –**

Submitted By: Clayton Newberry, Botanist

### **SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES**

**REVIEW AND METHODOLOGY:** Special status (Federally threatened, endangered or candidate, and Bureau-sensitive) plant species that occur on lands within the Vernal Field Office are listed in Appendix A and are based on the US Fish and Wildlife Utah semi-annual Federally listed species list and the Utah Bureau of Land Management statewide sensitive species list (Instruction Memorandum No. UT 2003-027). Special status plant survey maps along with habitat descriptions; individual species survey publications; Utah Natural Heritage Program species occurrence records and habitat descriptions; geological maps and soil maps; ecological site descriptions for potential vegetation communities; aerial GIS data layers; and personal familiarity with the areas of the proposed activity were utilized to determine the occurrence of, or potential habitat for, special status plant species listed for the Vernal Field Office within or near the locations of the proposed lease sale parcels.

**ADDITIONAL SPECIES:** It is possible that non-status endemic and rare plant species and habitat may occur within some of the parcels. These species currently are not listed as special status plant species but could be in the future if loss of habitat and increased threats warrant listing. The following has been directed by the Washington Office of the BLM (WOIM No. 2002-174) to be added as a stipulation to lease parcels to provide protection to species that change in the future:

**The lease area may now or hereafter contain plants, animals, or their habitats determined to be threatened, endangered, or other special status species. BLM may recommend modifications to exploration and development proposals to further its conservation and management objective to avoid BLM-approved activity that would contribute to a need to list such a species or their habitat. BLM may require modifications to or disapprove proposed activity that is likely to result in jeopardy to the continued existence of a proposed or listed threatened or endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of a designated or proposed critical habitat. BLM will not approve any ground-disturbing activity until it completes its obligations under applicable requirements of the Endangered Species Act as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq., including completion of any required procedure for conference or consultation.**

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#### **UT0508-007**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 268.23 Acres  
T4S R19E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 1 ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine, Utah juniper and perennial grasses. Elevation is from 6840 to 7687 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-008**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 421.69 Acres  
T10S R19E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 18: LOT 4  
SEC 19: LOTS 5-7  
SEC 20: W2

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub, mixed sagebrush scrub, lower riparian and invasive annual grasses. Elevation is from 4627 to 5200 ft.

Federally endangered clay reed-mustard (*Schoenocrambe argillacea*) is known throughout SEC 20 NW and in SEC 20 SESW. Federally threatened Uinta Basin hookless cactus (*Sclerocactus wetlandicus*) occurs approximately ½ mile west of the unit in T10S R19E SEC 19. Leasing this unit will therefore warrant a POTENTIAL EFFECT determination upon individuals and/or habitat of clay reed-mustard and Uinta Basin hookless cactus.

No other Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in this unit.

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**UT0508-009**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 802.35 Acres  
T3S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 31: LOTS 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE  
SEC 33: LOTS 1-3, 9, NW, NESE

Vegetation in this unit consists of ponderosa pine, sagebrush, pinyon pine, Utah juniper and perennial grasses. Elevation is from 7000 to 8320 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-010**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1902.75 Acres  
T4S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 3: Lots 1-6, 8, 9, S2NW, S2  
SECS 4 and 5: ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine, Utah juniper and perennial grasses. Elevation is from 6300 to 8200 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-011**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 894.38 Acres  
T4S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 6: ALL  
SEC 7; LOT 1, N2NE, NENW

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine, Utah juniper and perennial grasses. Elevation is from 7100 to 8034 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-012**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 960.00 Acres  
T4S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 9: W2  
SEC 10: ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, pinyon pine and Utah juniper. Elevation is from 6260 to 7340 ft.

Habitat and individuals of Federally listed plant species are lacking in this unit. Bureau-sensitive Hamilton milkvetch (*Astragalus hamiltonii*) occurs approximately 0.125 mile outside the unit boundary in T4S R20E SEC 11. In general, the entire extent of Asphalt Ridge contains occupied habitat for Hamilton milkvetch. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a POTENTIAL EFFECT determination for Bureau-sensitive Hamilton milkvetch.

No other Federally listed or Bureau-sensitive plant species are known to occur in this unit.

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**UT0508-013**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 520.00 Acres  
T5S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 25: NE, SENW, S2

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 5140 to 5400 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-014**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 2122.32 Acres  
T5S R20 E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 27: NW, N2SW  
SEC 28: E2NE, SW, NESE  
SEC 29: NE  
SECS 30 & 31: ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 5200 to 5610 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-015**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1180.36 Acres  
T5S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 33: LOTS 1-4, NE, NESW, N2SW  
SEC 34: N2  
SEC 35: LOTS 1-4, N2NE, NW

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 5200 to 5610 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-016**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 80.00 Acres  
T8S R20E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 10: E2NW

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 4590 to 4770 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-017**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 520.00 Acres  
T6S R21E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 3: NWSW, S2S2  
SEC 10: N2

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 4900 to 5300 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-018**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1080.00 Acres  
T7S R21E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 13: SWNE, SENW, NESW, NESE  
SEC 14: N2SW, SWSW, W2SE, SESE  
SEC 15: W2NE, SENE  
SEC 22: N2SE  
SEC 23: SENE, SWNW, N2SE  
SEC 24: W2NE, SENE, E2SW, N2SW, NESE

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 4900 to 5300 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-019**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 629.47 Acres  
T2S R22E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 33: ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush and Utah juniper. Elevation is from 5800 to 6055 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

Monument-sensitive grass milkvetch (*Astragalus chloödes*) occurs in this unit, in SEC 33 SESE, and somewhat widely throughout this general area to the east and south of this unit.

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**UT0508-020**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 320.00 Acres  
T7S 22E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 5: S2

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 4800 to 5000 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

Horseshoe milkvetch (*Astragalus equisolensis*) occurs widely in SEC 5 E2. Horseshoe milkvetch was removed from Federal candidate status in summer 2007. It is rumored to be on the soon-to-be-revised Bureau-sensitive list. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a POTENTIAL EFFECT determination on Horseshoe milkvetch, whose status is in question.

No other Federally listed, Bureau-sensitive, or potentially enstated plant species are known to occur in this unit.

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**UT0508-021**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 40.00 Acres  
T10S R22E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 35: SESE

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub and desert grasses. Elevation is from 5600 to 5800 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-022**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1276.24 Acres  
T3S R23E (Salt Lake)  
SECS 5 & 6: ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of sagebrush, Utah juniper and pinyon pine. Elevation is from 5680 to 6408 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

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**UT0508-023**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 640.00 Acres  
T4S R23E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 29: ALL

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub. Elevation is from 4920 to 5280 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

Monument-sensitive grass milkvetch (*Astragalus chloödes*), Dinosaur milkvetch (*Astragalus saurinus*), Uinta Basin spring parsley (*Cymopterus duchesnensis*) and Dinosaur buckwheat (*Eriogonum saurinum*) all occur in this unit, in SEC 29 E2SE, and more widely immediately east of this unit, in SEC 28 adjacent to the Monument boundary. Monument-sensitive Vernal beardtongue (*Penstemon angustifolius* var. *vernalensis*) also occurs in SEC 28, 1/3 mile northeast from unit boundary.

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**UT0508-024**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 560.00 Acres  
T12S R24E (Salt Lake)  
SEC 9: N2, W2SW, SE

Vegetation in this unit consists of Intermountain Basin sagebrush and salt desert scrub. Elevation is from 5920 to 6240 ft.

This unit forms a squared-off horseshoe surrounding occupied habitat of non-status oilshale catseye (*Cryptantha barnebyi*), in SEC 9 E2SW. Oilshale catseye is rumored to be on the soon-to-be-revised Bureau-sensitive list. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a POTENTIAL EFFECT determination on oilshale catseye, whose status is in question.

The presence of oilshale catseye indicates a surface outcrop of oil shale, which potentially hosts Bureau-sensitive Graham's beardtongue (*Penstemon grahamii*) and Federal candidate White River beardtongue (*Penstemon scariosus* var. *albifluvis*). Leasing this unit therefore warrants a POTENTIAL EFFECT determination on Bureau-sensitive Graham's beardtongue and Federal candidate White River beardtongue.

No other Federally listed, Bureau-sensitive, or potentially enstated plant species are known to occur in this unit.

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**UT0508-025**

Uintah County, UT: Vernal Field Office, 1680.00

T8S R25E (Salt Lake)  
 SEC 9: NE, S2NW, S2  
 SEC 10: ALL  
 SEC 11: N2, SW

Vegetation in this unit consists of salt desert scrub, invasive annual grasses and sagebrush. Elevation is from 5393 to 5640 ft.

Habitat for Federally listed plant species and Bureau-sensitive plant species is lacking in this unit; and no special status plant species of either category are known to occur in this unit. Leasing this unit therefore warrants a NO EFFECT determination on Federal and Bureau special status plants.

Bureau-sensitive Hamilton milkvetch (*Astragalus hamiltonii*) occurs approximately 1 mile outside the unit boundary, north and northeast in SECS 4 and 5, but habitat changes between there and the unit in Coyote Basin. Leasing this unit is not expected to affect individuals or habitat of Hamilton milkvetch.

**POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE SUMMARY  
 SPECIAL STATUS PLANT SPECIES VFO  
 JUNE 2008 OIL & GAS LEASE SALE**

SPECIES	S T A T U S	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Arabis vivariensis</i> Park rock cress	S	Uintah— Diamond Mt, Diamond Gulch Weber Fm sandstone & limestone, mixed desert shrub or PJ, 5000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Astragalus equisolensis</i> Horseshoe milkvetch	0	Uintah—Green River Horseshoe Bend, Duchesne River Fm sand & silty sand, desert shrub (ARTR2, ATCO, TETRA3), 4790-5185 ft.	Yes— UT0508-020
<i>Astragalus hamiltonii</i> Hamilton milkvetch	S	Uintah—Asphalt Ridge Mowry, Dakota & Wasatch Fms Lapoint & Dry Gulch Mbrs, Duchesne Fm mixed desert shrub or PJ comm 5240-5800 ft.	Yes— UT0508-012 UT0508-025
<i>Cirsium ownbeyi</i> Ownbey thistle	S	Daggett, ne Uintah—east Uinta Mts canyons Crowe & Allen Cyns, Diamond Mt WMA PJS, desert shrub or riparian comm 5500-6200 ft.	None

SPECIES	S T A T U S	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Cleomella palmeriana</i> var. <i>goodrichii</i> Goodrich cleomella	S	Uintah—Diamond Mt Morrison, Mancos, Tropic Fms heavy clay & shale slopes salt desert shrub comm (ATCO4, XYVE) 4000-6000 ft.	None
<i>Cryptantha barnebyi</i> Oilshale catseye	0	Uintah—south & southeast of Bonanza Evacuation Creek, lower Parachute Mbrs shale slopes, semi-barren desert shrub or PJ 4600-6000 ft.	Yes— UT0508-024
<i>Erigeron untermannii</i> Untermann fleabane	S	Duchesne, Uintah—West Tavaputs Plateau Green River, Uinta Fm ridges, dry calcareous shales & sandstones PJ or mountain brush comm 7000-7800 ft.	None
<i>Habenaria zotheцина</i> Alcove bog-orchid	S	Uintah—"hanging garden" oases Navajo or Nugget Sandstone Fm mixed desert shrub, PJS, or oak brush comm 4360-8690 ft.	None
<i>Hymenoxys lapidicola</i> Rock bitterweed	S	Uintah—Blue Mt, Cliff Ridge Weber Fm, sandy ledges & crevices PJ or ponderosa-manzanita comm 5700-8100 ft.	None
<i>Lepidium barnebyanum</i> Barneby's pepperplant	E	TRIBAL—Duchesne West Tavaputs Plateau, Indian Canyon Uinta Fm, white shale outcrops & ridges barren inclusions in pinyon-juniper woodland 6200-6500 ft.	None
<i>Lepidium huberi</i> Huber pepperplant	S	Uintah—foothills, Ashley Crk, Dry Fork Chinle, Park City, Weber Fm eroding cliffs, alluvium, sandy or shaly bluffs black sage or mt brush comm (AMAL, ERICA2, ERIOG, JUOS, THRH) 5000-6400 ft.	None
<i>Mentzelia goodrichii</i> Goodrich blazingstar	S	Duchesne— Willow & Argyle Canyons Green River Fm, steep escarpments & cliffs white calcareous shale open montane brush (PJ, PIFL2, CERCO) 8100-8800 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon acaulis</i> Stemless beardtongue	S	Daggett—Browns Park Fm ashy, gravelly or sandy ridges & knolls sagebrush-desert grass or PJ comm 5840-7285 ft.	None

SPECIES	S T A T U S	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Penstemon gibbensii</i> Gibbens beardtongue	S	Daggett—Browns Park Fm Green River Fm sandy / shaly bluffs, slopes juniper, thistle, buckwheat, serviceberry 5500-6400 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon goodrichii</i> Goodrich beardtongue	S	Duchesne, Uintah Lapoint, Tridell, Whiterocks Duchesne River Fm; clay badlands desert shrub, shadscale, PJ or mountain brush 5590 to 6215 ft.	None
<i>Penstemon grahamii</i> Graham beardtongue	S	Uintah, Duchesne oil shale outcrops throughout VFO Evacuation Creek, lower Parachute Mbrs oil shale or white shale knolls & talus semi-barren mixed desert shrub or PJ comm 4600-6700 ft.	Yes— UT0508-024
<i>Penstemon scariosus</i> var. <i>albifluvis</i> White River beardtongue	C	Uintah—south & southeast of Bonanza Evacuation Creek, lower Parachute Mbrs shale slopes, semi-barren desert shrub or PJ 4600-6000 ft.	Yes— UT0508-024
<i>Schoenocrambe argillacea</i> Clay reed-mustard	T	Uintah—canyon rims & steep slopes contact zone, Uinta-Green River Fms mixed desert shrub (ARNO4, ORHY) 5000-5650 ft.	Yes— UT0508-008
<i>Schoenocrambe suffrutescens</i> Shrubby reed-mustard	E	Duchesne, Uintah Big Pack Mt, Wrinkles Rd, Hill Crk Basin Green River Fm, calcareous shale mixed desert shrub, PJS or mountain brush (ARPY2, CEMO2, JUOS, PIED) 5400-6000 ft.	None
<i>Sclerocactus brevispinus</i> Pariette cactus	T	Duchesne—Pariette Wash south of Myton Uinta Fm, Wagonhound Mbr, alkaline clay shadscale, mat-saltbush, greasewood 4700-5400 ft.	None
<i>Sclerocactus wetlandicus</i> Uinta Basin hookless cactus	T	Duchesne, Uintah—widespread in VFO alluvial benches Ouray to Carbon Co. line mixed desert shrub comm 4700-6000 ft.	Yes— UT0508-008
<i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> Ute ladies'-tresses	T	Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah unconsolidated alluvium riparian corridors, wetlands, wet meadows 4400-6810 ft.	None

SPECIES	S T A T U S	LOCATION / HABITAT (county, location, geologic formation, plant community, elevation)	OCCURRENCE or POTENTIAL OCCURRENCE
<i>Thelesperma caespitosum</i> Uinta greenthread	S	Duchesne West Tavaputs Plateau, n slope Uinta Mts Bishop Fm, white shale benches, ridgecrests cushion plant comm above PJS & mt brush 5000-9000 ft.	None

STATUS      E = Federally Endangered  
                   T = Federally Threatened  
                   C = Federal Candidate  
                   S = Bureau-sensitive  
                   0 = nonstatus, removed from status, potential status

OCCURRENCE: None = Populations, potential or suitable habitat for species are unknown in Project Area.  
 Yes = Occurrences or potential occurrences are known in Project Area.

**Water Quality –**

Submitted By: Holly Villa; VFO Natural Resource Specialist

This review is for all parcels – The two existing RMP/EISs and supplemental field development/project specific NEPA documents cover the offered parcels relative to surface and subsurface water quality and quantity. Surface water quality and quantity was addressed in soils and watershed; maintenance of subsurface water quality is required by current On Shore Orders. These Orders specify that water involved in energy production be totally isolated from subterranean aquifers expressly to ensure water quality. Currently there is no new information that outlines/provides significantly different impacts and/or analysis of those impacts to surface and/or subsurface water quality. Direct and indirect impacts associated with the proposed oil and gas leasing would remain substantially unchanged from those identified and analyzed in the existing RMP/EISs. Thus, it is concluded that leasing would be consistent with existing RMP/EISs.

**Wilderness, Wilderness Characteristics –**

Submitted By: Holly Villa; VFO Natural Resource Specialist

None of the parcels going forward for the June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wilderness or wilderness characteristics on BLM surface.

**Wild and Scenic Rivers**

Submitted By: Holly Villa, VFO Natural Resource Specialist

None of the parcels going forward for the June 2008 competitive oil and gas lease sale contain wild and Scenic Rivers on BLM surface.

08-0524



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vernal Field Office

170 South 500 East

Vernal, UT 84078

(435) 781-4400 Fax: (435) 781-4410

<http://www.blm.gov/utah/vernal>



IN REPLY REFER TO:

3160

(UT083)

March 3, 2008

Matthew Seddon  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Utah State Historical Society  
300 Rio Grande  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101-1182

### Project Description

Oil and Gas Parcels: Lease Sale June 2008, Vernal Field Office.

### **Background**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Utah State Office proposes the sale of the attached lease parcels in the Vernal Field Office in June, 2008. Based on the records review completed on February 27, 2008 at the Vernal Field Office and February 21, 2008, due to site size, density, and placement, development of at least one, five acre well pad and associated access road can occur somewhere on each parcel as listed in the sale list without adverse impacts to eligible cultural resources. The attached Staff Memo and maps offer a synthesis of the presence or absence of previous cultural resource inventories and known archaeological sites within each designated lease parcel. The Area of Potential Effect for each parcel is the legal description provided for each parcel. If a parcel is not taken by competitive bidding, then it may be leased by non-competitive sale for the two years following the competitive lease sale. A lease is issued with a ten year primary term (see 43 CFR 3120.2-1), after which the lease would expire unless the lease is capable of production in paying quantities. A producing lease would be held indefinitely by paying production of oil or gas.

A lessee's right to explore and drill for oil and gas, at some location on the lease, is implied by issuance of the lease, unless the lease has a non-surface occupancy stipulation or a site specific proposal impacts non-discretionary resource values. A lessee must submit an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) to the BLM for approval and must possess a BLM approved APD prior to drilling. An appropriate level of NEPA documentation must be prepared with its analysis and decision prior to APD approval. Following BLM approval of an APD, a lessee may drill the well associated with the approved APD with the intent produce oil and gas from a lease without additional approval. Additional wells proposed upon said lease would also require an approval from

Received

MAR 26 2008

USNFO

BLM requests your concurrence in a determination of "no historic properties affected."

Please review the enclosed documentation, then sign and return this letter with your comments within thirty working days.

Bureau of Land Management, Vernal Field Office

Field Office Archaeologist

Date

*[Signature]*

March 10, 2008

Assistant Field Office Manager for Minerals

Date

*[Signature]*

March 10, 2008

Utah State Historic Preservation Officer

Concur

Do Not Concur

*[Signature]*

Date 4/28/08

Comments: **Matthew T. Seddon, RPA**  
**Deputy State Historic**  
**Preservation Officer**

Received additional requested information  
on April 7, 2008.