

**Worksheet**  
**Determination of NEPA Adequacy**

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

---

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.

**Office:** Vernal Field Office (LLUTG01000)

**Tracking #:** DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2010-0197-DNA

**Proposed Action Title:** May 2010 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale

**Location/Legal Description:** Parcels within Duchesne and Uintah County, Utah. Attachment 1 contains legal descriptions for each parcel.

**Applicant (if any):** Not Applicable

**A. Description of the Proposed Action and Any Applicable Mitigation Measures:** The Utah State Office proposed to offer four parcels of land in Duchesne and Uintah County, Utah administered by the Vernal Field Office for oil and gas leasing in a competitive lease sale to be held in May 2010. Attachment 1 lists those 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.

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. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance**

LUP Name:

Vernal Resource Management Plan Record of Decision (VRMP/ROD), approved October 31, 2008 (revised version)

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

- The ROD for the VRMP/FEIS decisions MIN 6 – MIN 14 (pages 98-99) identifies those specific lands within the Vernal Field Office that are available for leasing as illustrated on its corresponding Oil and Gas Leasing map (Figure 8a). Within the ROD, Appendices K (Surface Stipulations to all Surface Disturbing Activities), L (Utah's T&E and Special Status Species Lease Notices for Oil and Gas and BLM Committed Measures) and R (Fluid Mineral Best Management Practices) of the FEIS contain pertinent stipulations, lease notices and committed measures.

It is also consistent with RMP decisions and their corresponding goals and objectives related to the management of air quality, cultural resources, recreation, riparian, soils, water, vegetation, fish & wildlife and ACEC.

**C. Identify the applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.**

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

- Final Vernal Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement UT-GI-04-001-1610, 2008.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g. biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

- State of Utah Sensitive Species List (2007)
- RMP USFWS Biological Opinion (2008)
- RMP BLM Biological Assessment (2008)
- RMP SHPO Concurrence Letter (2008)
- Lease Sale SHPO Concurrence Letter (2010)
- Lease Sale Cultural Staff Report (2010)
- Lease Sale Wildlife Report (2010)
- Lease Sale Botany Report (2010)

**D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria**

**1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA documents(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?**

Yes  
 No.

**Documentation of answer and explanation:**

The proposed action is a feature of the VRMP/ROD. Leasing of the lands described in Attachment 1 was analyzed in the Final VRMP. The proposed action - leasing for oil and gas in the May 2010 sale - was analyzed in the above land use plan. Public land would be offered for leasing, as allowed for in the VRMP/ROD, 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 VRMP/EIS in Chapter 3 describes the affected environment. Chapter 4 describes the impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. The ROD for the VRMP/EIS, on page(s) 96-99, identifies those specific lands within the Management Area that are available for leasing. Appendix K contains pertinent stipulations. Applicable best management practices for raptors and fluid minerals are also contained in appendices A and R (respectively) and lease notices detailed in Appendix L of the ROD would be applied, as required for these lease parcels. These are specifically identified by parcel in Attachment 1.

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

Yes  
 No

**Documentation of answer and explanation:**

The VRMP/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 and 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 given current concerns, interests, and values. In addition, alternatives were not identified by the interdisciplinary team or brought forward by the public.

**3. Is existing analysis adequate in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standards assessment; recent endangered species listings, updated list of BLM sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?**

Yes

No

**Documentation of answer and explanation:**

Existing analysis is adequate. New information would not change the analysis as documented below. All resources are adequately protected through leasing category and applicable stipulations and notices.

The VFO received the draft May 2010 competitive oil and gas lease sale parcel list on January 28, 2010. Copies of the complete list were provided to the interdisciplinary team for review. On February 22, 2010, the ID team of resource specialists, identified in Part E of this DNA, met to discuss the preliminary lease parcels. As part of the review process, the VRMP/ROD was reviewed for applicable leasing categories, stipulations, and resource impact from oil and gas leasing. The parcels were reviewed individually by specialists for potential impacts to wildlife, plants, cultural, and watershed. Lease stipulations were added as a result of those reviews in accordance with the VRMP/ROD.

Individual members of the ID team reached conclusions regarding the adequacy of existing NEPA documentation. The BLM VFO management then conducted an additional multiple-use review in light of the parcel specific reviews, existing oil and gas lease categories, all required stipulations and relevance of information found in the Final Vernal RMP. The results of these reviews for the parcels recommended for sale in the May 2010 lease sale are presented below. Resource information, none of which is substantial, is described below.

**Cultural Resources:** Based on the information provided in the Cultural Staff Report (March 2010) the known and potential sites in the APE of the parcels proposed for leasing adherence to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 will not be adversely affected as amended and other applicable laws and regulations including Onshore Order #1.

Parcel's #33; #34; #35 and #36 have limited potential for finding "eligible" sites within the unsurveyed portions of the proposed parcels, and due to the expected site type, size and their density of occurrence, it has been determined that reasonable development could occur on these proposed parcels without impact to "eligible" cultural properties making a recommendation of "no adverse effect to historic properties."

Parcel #39 has been under cultivation probably for an extended period of time yet the parcel is located between two parcels of Tribal land making the possibility of finding "eligible" cultural material probable. The cultivation may have removed the integrity of the sites, but there is still a possibility that "eligible" sites can be identified. A determination of "no adverse effect to historic properties" is being recommended pending an intensive cultural inventory. 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.

To assure appropriate consideration of future effects from the May 2010 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).

**Invasive, Non-native Species:** Weeds are present in the parcels. The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient to disclose impacts to weeds. Surface disturbance activities will require a plan and pesticide use permit. No stipulations or lease notices apply.

**Native American Religious Concern:** Certified consultation letters were sent to the following Tribes: Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Goshute Indian Tribe, White Mesa Ute Tribe, Laguna Pueblo Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe, Santa Clara Pueblo Tribe, Hopi Tribe, Zia Pueblo Tribe, Navajo Nation, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Tribe, and the Eastern Shoshone Tribe. The letter requested comments be provided to the VFO within 30 days after receipt of the letter. The last return receipt received was dated March 1, 2010. As of this date, no concerns pertaining to leasing of the preliminary parcels have been received. If any concerns are raised by the tribes, those concerns will be addressed. Consultation will be considered complete if tribal response presents no objections or if response is not received seven (7) days prior to the date of the proposed sale. Additional consultation will be conducted should site-specific use authorization requests for a lease be received. This correspondence is part of the administrative record.

**Wildlife:** Detailed information on the inclusion of the appropriate lease notices and stipulations are contained in Attachments 1 (Parcel List) and 2 (ID Team Checklist). Wildlife habitat and criteria were identified for raptors, deer fawning, elk calving, pronghorn fawning, Mexican spotted owl, and Colorado endangered fish. UDWR Heritage information was utilized to determine potential presence and absence of species in addition to field office records. All of these habitats are addressed in the RMP and provided certain protections or identify where species or habitat (existing or potential) may exist through stipulations or notices.

**Special Status Species-** 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.”*

The BLM consulted with the USFWS, concerning the Vernal PRMP, as required, prior to initiation of any project by a federal agency that may affect federally listed special status species or their habitat in accordance with Section 7 of the ESA and with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 USC Sec 661 et seq. The RMP/EIS is considered a major planning action, and the BLM initiated formal consultation with the USFWS on August 22, 2008. The VRMP formed the basis for a Biological Assessment (BA). The BLM received the Biological Opinion (BO) from the USFWS on October 23, 2008, which advises the BLM on the actions that must be taken to protect federally listed special status species. A copy of the USFWS Biological Opinion can be found in Appendix N of the ROD. Included in these actions are the programmatic level lease notices for federally listed species occurring in Utah, that are required to be attached to all of the appropriate oil and gas leases offered in the State of Utah.

Based on the information provided in Attachment 2, and inclusion of all appropriate lease notices and stipulations, the May 2010 sale of oil and gas lease parcels complies with the VRMP consultation, so that no listed species are likely to be adversely affected by the proposed action.

**Floodplains:** Lease Notice UTSO-S-53 (Riparian, Floodplains, and Public Water Reserves) which identifies the need to comply with the Floodplain Executive Order No 11988 would be added to the appropriate parcels as identified in Attachments 1 and 2. The added lease notices (Attachments 1 & 2) would provide adequate protection for the resource. The information was addressed in the RMP and therefore was taken into account in the referenced NEPA document.

**Soils:** Lease Notice UTSO-S-29 and UTSO-S-62 (Fragile Soils/Slopes) that identifies if there may be steep slopes or sensitive soils in the area would be added to the appropriate parcels as identified in Attachments 1 and 2. The information was addressed in the RMP and therefore was taken into account in the referenced NEPA document.

**4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?**

Yes  
 No

**Documentation and explanation:**

The direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of leasing and drilling are identical to those analyzed in the VRMP/FEIS. This is because the proposed action is essentially the same and the existing resource conditions and values have not changed since analyzed in the EIS. The EIS 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 RFD 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.

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

Yes  
 No

**Documentation and explanation:**

The public involvement and interagency review procedures and findings made through the development of the the Vernal 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.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, United States Forest Service, State of Utah and State Institutional Trust Lands Administration were notified of the proposed action via letter (dated 1/26/10) regarding the November 2009 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale and were provided a copy of the Preliminary List of Parcels (11 parcels and 10838.64 acres). This correspondence is part of the administrative record.

Public outreach and notification for this lease sale also occurred by posting the action on January 26, 2010 on the BLM's Environmental Notification Bulletin Board (<https://www.blm.gov/ut/enbb/index.php>) and Utah Oil and Gas web page ([http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/prog/energy/oil\\_and\\_gas/oil\\_and\\_gas\\_lease.html](http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/prog/energy/oil_and_gas/oil_and_gas_lease.html)). Notices are also placed in the Field Office and Utah State Office public rooms.

**E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted:**

Name	Title	Resource Represented
Jason West	Outdoor Recreation Planner	ACECs, BLM natural areas, recreation, VRM, wild and scenic rivers, and wilderness
Stephanie Howard	Environmental Coordinator	Environmental Justice, Air Quality, Farmlands, Lands/Access, Socio-economics, and Wastes
Holly Villa	Natural Resource Specialist	Team Lead, Waters of the U.S., Floodplains,

Name	Title	Resource Represented
		Wetlands, Riparian, soils
Dave Gordon Brandon McDonald	Natural Resource Specialist Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Animal Species, Wildlife
Robin Hansen	Geologist	Paleontology Review
Kathie Davies	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns
Aaron Roe	Botanist	Special Status Plant Species, Invasive, Non-native Plant Species
Michael Cutler Jannice Cutler Liza McDonald Stan Olmstead	Natural Resource Specialist	Range

Refer also the List of Preparers identified in the Approved RMP and ROD at page 199.

**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.

Holly Villa  
Signature of Project Lead

4-7-10  
Date

Stephanie J. Forward  
Signature of NEPA Coordinator

4/7/10  
Date

Naemi Hatch  
Signature of the Responsible Official

APR 07 2010  
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

- Attachments
- Attachment 1, Parcel List
  - Attachment 2, Interdisciplinary Team Checklist
  - Attachment 3, Deferred Parcel Table

*Attachment I* Parcel List

**PARCEL UT0510-034**

T. 10 S., R. 16 E., Salt Lake  
Secs. 19, 30 and 31: All.  
1,912.88 Acres  
Duchesne County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

- UTSO-S-01: Air Quality
- UTSO-S-29: Fragile Soils/Slopes: No Surface Occupancy for Slopes Greater Than 40% N2NE, SENE, NW, S2SE Sec.19; all Sec.30; NE, S2NW, N2SE, SW Sec.31.
- UTSO-S-62: Fragile Soils/Slopes
- UTSO-S-104: Timing limitation-Crucial Elk Calving Habitat

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat
- UT-LN-90: Migratory Bird
- UT-LN-105: Waterfowl Nesting Areas
- UT-LN-101: Crucial Elk Calving Habitat
- T&E-03: Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin

**PARCEL UT0510-035**

T. 6 S., R. 21 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 25: Lots 5, 7, SWNE, S2NW, SW;  
Sec. 26: S2N2, S2.  
837.45 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

- UTSO-S-01: Air Quality
- UTSO-S-29: Fragile Soils/Slopes: No Surface Occupancy for Slopes Greater Than 40% lot 5, SWNE, S2NW, NESW Sec.25; S2NW, N2SW, SWSW Sec.26.
- UTSO-S-53: Riparian, Floodplains, and Public Water Reserves within 100m.
- UTSO-S-62: Fragile Soils/Slopes
- UTSO-S-105: Crucial Deer Fawning Habitat on all BLM administered lands within the parcel.

**NOTICES**

- UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat
- UT-LN-90: Migratory Bird
- UT-LN-123: Horseshoe Milkvetch (*Astragalus equisolensis*).
- T&E-03: Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin

**PARCEL UT0510-036**

T. 8 S., R. 22 E., Salt Lake  
Sec. 3: Lots 1, 2, 7, 8.  
121.13 Acres  
Uintah County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UTSO-S-01: Air Quality  
UTSO-S-29: Fragile Soils/Slopes: No Surface Occupancy for Slopes Greater Than 40%  
UTSO-S-62: Fragile Soils/Slopes

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat  
UT-LN-16: Pronghorn Fawning  
UT-LN-21: High Potential Paleontological Resources  
UT-LN-90: Migratory Bird  
T&E-03: Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin

**UINTAH SPECIAL MERIDIAN**

**PARCEL UT0510-039**

T. 3 S., R. 1 W., Uintah Spec  
Sec. 20: W2NW.  
80.00 Acres  
Duchesne County, Utah  
Vernal Field Office

**STIPULATIONS**

UTSO-S-01: Air Quality  
T&E fish

**NOTICES**

UT-LN-07: Raptor Habitat  
UT-LN-90: Migratory Bird  
T&E-03: Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin

*Attachment 2*  
**Interdisciplinary Team Checklist**

**INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM CHECKLIST**

**Project Title:** May 2010 Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale (Vernal Field Office)

**NEPA Log Number:** DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2010-0197-DNA

**File/Serial Number:** NA

**Project Leader:** Holly Villa

**DETERMINATION OF STAFF:** *(Choose one of the following abbreviated options for the left column)*

NP = not present in the area impacted by the proposed or alternative actions

NI = present, but not affected to a degree that detailed analysis is required

PI = present with potential for relevant impact that need to be analyzed in detail in the EA

NC = (DNAs only) actions and impacts not changed from those disclosed in the existing NEPA documents cited in Section D of the DNA form. The Rationale column may include NI and NP discussions.

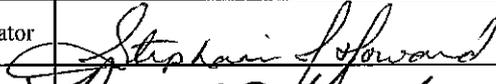
<b>Determi- nation</b>	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Rationale for Determination*</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>RESOURCES AND ISSUES CONSIDERED (INCLUDES SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES APPENDIX 1 H-1790-1)</b>				
NC	Air Quality	The act of leasing the proposed parcels will not result in any impacts to air quality. The RMP included an air quality model to determine the impact of exploration activities in the Uinta Basin on air quality. A more comprehensive analysis with updated emissions inventory data was run for the Uinta Basin Air Quality Study. No exceedances of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards were modeled for exploration activities. Should the leases be issued and development be proposed, the impact of development on air quality would be revisited on a site specific basis. Standard stipulations apply to all parcels.	Stephanie Howard	2/18/2010
NC	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Jason West	2/22/2010
NC	BLM Natural Areas	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Jason West	2/16/2010
NC	Cultural Resources	Parcel's #30; #31 a, b, d, and e; #32; #33; #34; #35 and #36 have limited potential for finding "eligible" sites within the unsurveyed portions of the proposed parcels, and due to the expected site type, size and their density of occurrence, it has been determined that reasonable development could occur on these proposed parcels without impact to "eligible" cultural properties making a recommendation of "no adverse effect to historic properties."  Parcel #39 has been under cultivation probably for an extended period of time yet the parcel is located between two parcels of Tribal land making the possibility of finding "eligible" cultural material probable. The cultivation may have removed the integrity of the sites, but there is still a	Kathie A. Davies	3-22-2010

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
		possibility that "eligible" sites can be identified. A determination of "no adverse effect to historic properties" is being recommended pending an intensive cultural inventory.		
NC	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	The act of leasing the proposed parcels will not result in any impacts to air quality. No standards have been set by EPA or other regulatory agencies for greenhouse gases. In addition, the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change is still in its earliest stages of formulation. Global scientific models are inconsistent, and regional or local scientific models are lacking so that it is not technically feasible to determine the net impacts to climate due to greenhouse gas emissions. It is anticipated that greenhouse gas emissions associated with this action and its alternative(s) would be negligible. Should the leases be issued and development be proposed, the impact of development on air quality would be revisited on a site specific basis.	Stephanie Howard	2/18/2010
NC	Environmental Justice	No minority or economically disadvantaged communities would be disproportionately affected by the proposed leasing.	Stephanie Howard	2/18/2010
NC	Farmlands (Prime or Unique)	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Stephanie Howard	2/18/2010
NC	Fish and Wildlife Excluding USFW Designated Species	<u>Bald eagle:</u> UT0510-035 is just outside of ½ mile of 5 known roosts, however none of the parcel is within the ½ buffer for the known roost trees. <u>Raptors:</u> All parcels either contain known nests or have potential nesting habitat. <u>Elk calving:</u> UTU0510-033, & 034 <u>Mule deer fawning:</u> UT0510-035 <u>Pronghorn fawning:</u> UT0510-036	Brandon McDonald	03/04/2010
NC	Floodplains	The act of leasing oil & gas parcels does not have direct impact to public land. Specific permit authorization analysis for floodplain disturbance and avoidance or mitigation. The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient to disclose impacts to floodplains. Parcel 35 involves floodplains. Stipulation UTSO-S-53 will apply to that parcel.	Stan Olmstead Holly Villa	2/22/2010 2/24/10
NC	Fuels/Fire Management	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Holly Villa	2/24/10
NC	Geology / Mineral Resources/Energy Production	Parcel 35 is open for mineral material disposal under the VFO-RMP.	Robin L Hansen	2/25/2010
NC	Hydrologic Conditions	The leasing of oil & gas parcels does not have any direct impact to the hydrologic conditions of public land. Permit authorization includes onsite and NEPA analysis for specific impacts to public land surface where water flow patterns would be affected. The analysis of the Vernal RMP is sufficient to disclose impacts to hydrologic conditions. No conflicts are anticipated. Stormwater will be addressed at the application level and addressed on the onsite. Also UTSO-S-53 for floodplains will be attached to parcel 35 as per the RMP.	Stan Olmstead Holly Villa	2/22/2010 2/24/10
NC	Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	Oil and gas activities have the potential to increase invasive species and noxious weeds with increased surface disturbance. However, this will be analyzed on upon site specific proposals.	Holly Villa	2/22/10

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
NC	Lands/Access	Right-of-way holders are present in the project areas. R/W holders would be notified by BLM upon site specific proposals. Class D roads identified on the County Transportation Maps within the project areas may require a right-of-way be obtained by the applicable county. Private and State lands occur within portions of the project areas. Surface authorizations would need to be obtained from the surface owner(s) upon site specific proposals.	Cindy McKee	2-10-2010
NC	Livestock Grazing	These parcels are within the following allotments: Big Wash, Big Wash Draw, Castle Peak, Five Mile, Horseshoe Bend, Park Canyon, Water Canyon #2, Wells Draw, and West Deadman. Known Range Improvements exist in the following parcels: UT0510-034, UT0510-035. Range Improvements may exist now or in the future in other parcels. If any range improvement projects will be impacted by wells or associated infrastructure, wells may be moved up to 200 meters to avoid these impacts (Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 43 CFR 3101.1-2). These parcels and other parcels included in this lease sale are in areas that have received and are planned for extensive oil and gas development. There is cumulative loss of forage and subsequent reduction of AUMs due to ongoing activities in the area.	Jannice Cutler Michael Cutler Liza McDonald Stan Olmstead	2/9/2010
NC	Migratory Birds	Migratory birds are present within all of the proposed parcels.	Brandon McDonald	03/04/2010
NC	Native American Religious Concerns	Native American Tribes were consulted. The responding Tribes had no concerns at this time.	Kathie A. Davies	3/22/2010
NC	Paleontology	PFYC classification for all but one parcel is 3 which requires a survey prior to any surface disturbance. The exposed surface formation on parcel 36 is the Myton member of the Uinta Formation. Paleontological monitoring may be required for any surface disturbing activity for this parcel.	Robin L Hansen	2/25/2010
NC	Rangeland Health Standards	Allotments within this proposed lease have had Rangeland Health assessments conducted and were meeting Utah Rangeland Health Standards and Guidelines at the time. Cumulative oil and gas development in these areas could compromise the ability to continue to meet standards within these allotments (Vernal RMP\ROD, Goals and Objectives).	Jannice Cutler Michael Cutler Liza McDonald Stan Olmstead	2/9/2010
NC	Recreation	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Jason West	2/16/2009
NC	Socio-Economics	The Vernal RMP considered the impact of oil and gas leasing and development on Uinta Basin communities. The proposed leasing of the subject parcels falls within the scope of what was analyzed. No stipulations apply.	Stephanie Howard	2/18/2010
NC	Soils	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient to disclose impacts. No conflicts are anticipated. Stipulations (UTSO-S-29 and UTSO- S-62) will apply to all parcels due to slope and soil type as per the RMP.	Holly Villa	2/24/10
NC	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species	There are several populations of White River beardtongue ( <i>Penstemon scariosus</i> var. <i>albifluvis</i> ) surrounding parcel 38. The potential exists for individual White River beardtongue plants to be found on shale outcrops within the parcel.	Aaron Roe	2/10/2010
NC	Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species	Federally listed fish: All parcels are anticipated to have water depletion.	Brandon McDonald	03/04/2010
NC	Wastes	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No hazardous	Stephanie Howard	2/18/2010

Determination	Resource	Rationale for Determination*	Signature	Date
	(hazardous or solid)	or solid waste sites are known to be present. No hazardous or solid waste sites are anticipated to occur as a result of leasing. No stipulations or lease notices apply.		
NC	Water Resources/Quality (drinking/surface/ground)	Surface waters would not be directly impacted by the leasing of oil & gas parcels on public land. Authorization for permitting would include onsite and NEPA analysis that would avoid or mitigate water quality concerns. The analysis of the Vernal RMP is sufficient. According to GIS review, there are no public water reserves within the proposed parcels. A stipulation of No Surface Occupancy has been added to the appropriate areas based on GIS review of 100-year floodplains.	Surface: Stan Olmstead and Holly Villa	2/22/2010 2/24/10
NC	Wetlands/Riparian Zones	Riparian habitat would not be directly impacted by the leasing of oil & gas parcels on public land. Authorization for permitting would include onsite and NEPA analysis that would avoid or mitigate riparian concerns.	Stan Olmstead	2/22/2010
NC	Wild and Scenic Rivers	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Jason West	2/16/2010
NC	Wilderness/WSA	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Jason West	2/16/2010
NC	Woodland / Forestry	Pinyon juniper woodlands are present in parcels 34, and 38 as per review of GIS. The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient.	David Palmer	2/22/2010
SSP: NC Veg:NC	Vegetation Excluding USFW Designated Species	SSP: Suitable habitat and known populations of Horseshoe milkvetch ( <i>Astragalus equisolensis</i> ) are found within Parcel 35. Veg: Vegetation will likely be removed from the parcels leased. However, this be handled on an application basis and discussed during the onsite. No stipulations or notices apply and the analysis of the Vernal RMP is sufficient.	SSP: Aaron Roe Veg: Holly Villa	SSP: 02/10/10 Veg:2/24/10
NC	Visual Resources	The analysis in the Vernal RMP is sufficient. No additional impacts are anticipated. No stipulations or lease notices will apply.	Jason West	2/16/2010
NC	Wild Horses and Burros	Analysis within the Vernal RMP and ROD is sufficient in regards to leasing these parcels and WHB management.	Dusty Carpenter	2/18/2010

**FINAL REVIEW:**

Reviewer Title	Signature	Date	Comments
Environmental Coordinator		4/7/10	
Authorized Officer		4/7/10	

**Attachment 3**  
**Deferred Parcel Table**



**Deferred Parcel Table**  
**May 2010 Oil and Gas Lease Sale**

<b>PARCEL</b>	<b>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ACRES</b>	<b>REASON TRACT POSTPONED</b>	<b>LAND USE PLAN</b>	<b>PROPOSED LEASING DECISION DATE</b>
UT0510-030	T. 10 S., R. 15 E., Salt Lake Sec. 22: NE; Sec. 23: W2E2, NW.	480.00 Acres	This parcel contain segments proposed that the Nine Mile Canyon Scenic Backway runs through.	Vernal RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the analysis of the Nine Mile Scenic Backway.
UT0510-031	T. 10 S., R. 15 E., Salt Lake Sec. 28: SENE, NW, NESE; Sec. 29: ALL; Sec. 30: Lots 3, 4; Sec. 34: NWNE, SENW.	1,049.23 Acres	This parcel contain segments proposed that the Nine Mile Canyon Scenic Backway runs through.	Vernal RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the analysis of the Nine Mile Scenic Backway.

UT0510-032	T. 11 S., R. 15 E., Salt Lake Sec. 3: S2N2, SE.	320.00 Acres	This parcel contains segments that would be within viewshed of the Nine Mile Canyon Scenic Backway.	Vernal RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the analysis of the Nine Mile Scenic Backway.
UT0510-033	T. 10 S., R. 16 E., Salt Lake Secs. 7 and 8: All; Sec. 17: W2; Sec. 18: All.	2,227.96 Acres	This parcel contains segments that would be within viewshed of the Nine Mile Canyon Scenic Backway.	Vernal RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the analysis of the Nine Mile Scenic Backway.
UT0510-038	T. 11 S., R. 25 E., Salt Lake Sec. 26: SW; Sec. 27: NESE, S2S2; Secs. 34 and 35: All.	1640.00 acres	The parcel contains habitat for White River beardtongue ( <i>Penstemon scariosus</i> var. <i>albiflorus</i> )	Vernal RMP	The acreage identified is recommended for deferral for interim protection pending further review of the species and its habitat.