

# CONVERSE COUNTY OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

BLM  
Wyoming High Plains District – Casper Field Office

Public Scoping Meetings  
June 2014



## Presentation Ground Rules

- This is an overview of the NEPA Process and Proposed Plan of Development.
- We are not collecting comments during the presentation. If you have comments after the presentation please make sure to follow the comment process.
- I will take questions at the end of the presentation.



## Agenda

- Introduce the Planning Process
- Why is BLM Preparing an EIS?
- Explain the Proposed Plan of Development
- Answer Questions

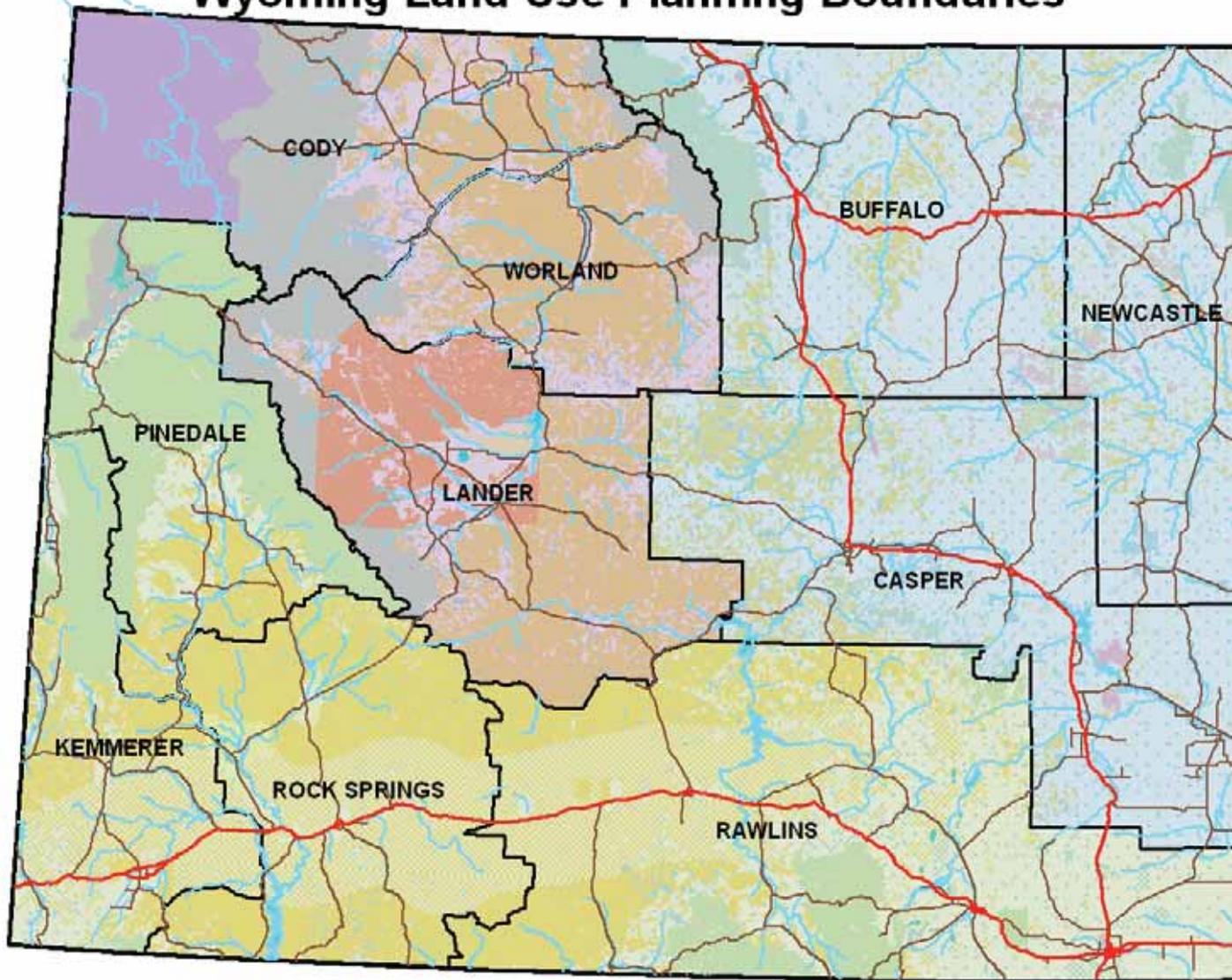


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### Wyoming Land Use Planning Boundaries



## Planning and Regulations

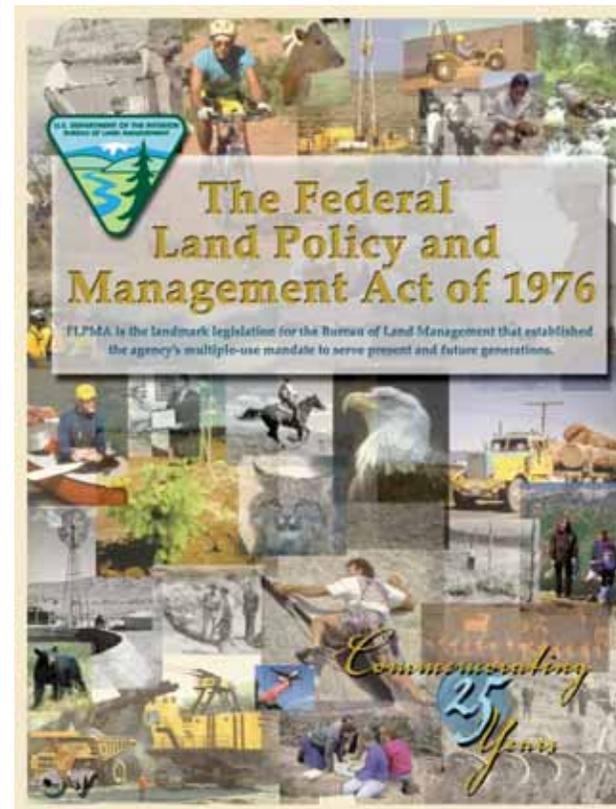
- **Two Over-arching Acts**
  - Federal Land Policy & Management Act (1976)
  - National Environmental Policy Act (1969)
  
- **Resource Specific Acts**
  - Clean Air Act (1963)
  - Clean Water Act (1972)
  - Endangered Species Act (1973)
  - National Historic Preservation Act (1966)
  - Migratory Bird Treaty Act (1918)
  - Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (1940)



# Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA)

Purpose:

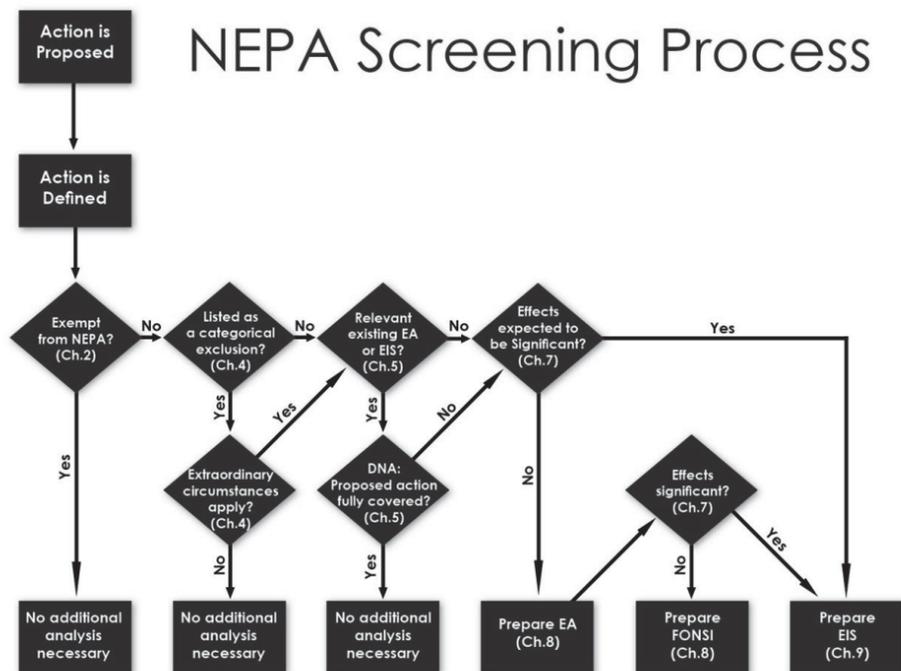
- Establish public land policy;
- Establish guidelines for its administration;
- **Provide for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of the public lands.**



# National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Purpose:

- **Declare a national policy which will encourage productive & enjoyable harmony between man and his environment;**
- **Promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment & stimulate the health and welfare of man.**



\* See Chapters 4 and 5 for documentation requirements



## National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) EIS Process and Projected Schedule

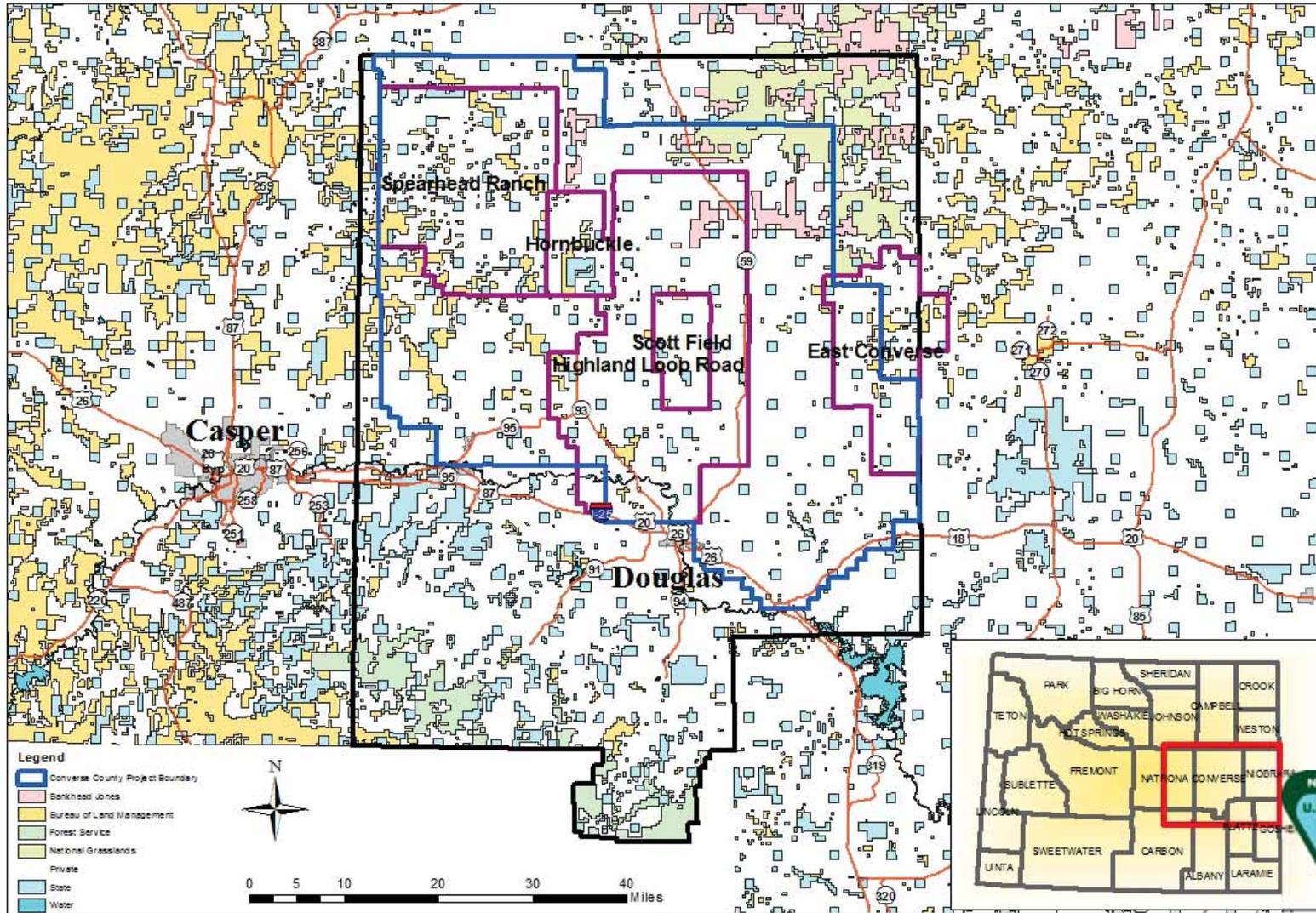


## Ongoing and Approved NEPA and Planning Documents

- Casper Resource Management Plan (2007)
- Sage Grouse Amendments (December 2014)
- Several Environmental Assessments
  - East Converse
  - Highland Loop Road
  - Hornbuckle (2 versions)
  - Scott Field
  - Spearhead Ranch



# EAs within the Converse County EIS

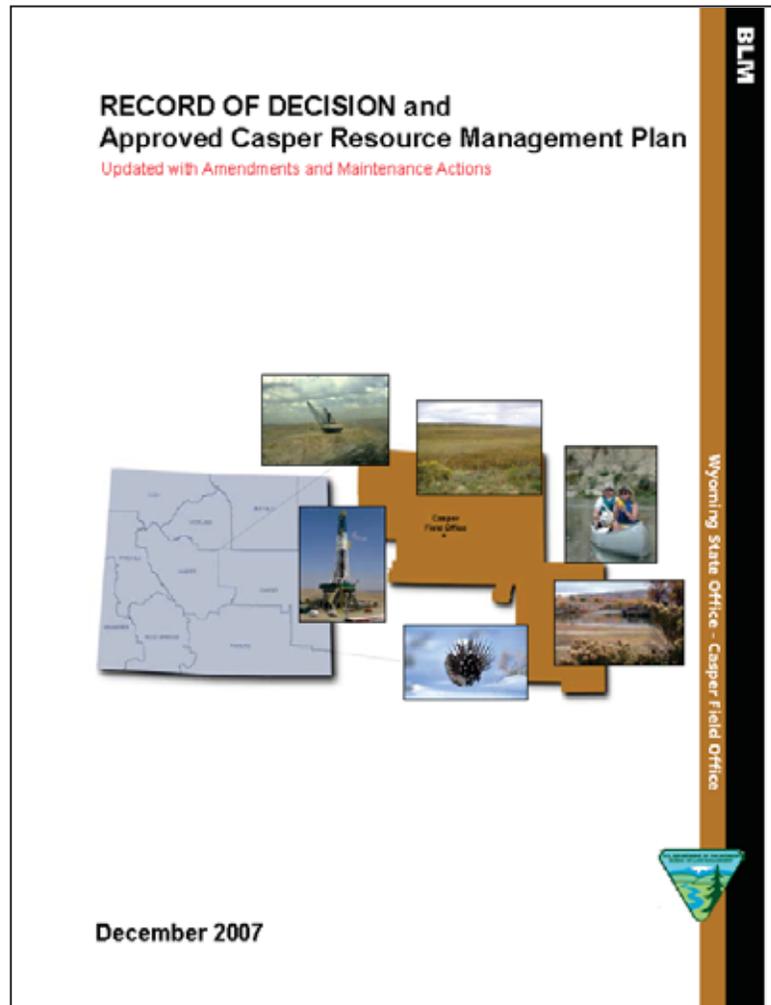


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## 2007 Casper RMP Projected Development



The 2007 Casper RMP Anticipated Drilling up to 1813 New Federal Oil and Gas Wells over 20 Years

The Projected Number of Wells Forms the Basis for Analysis Of Other Resource Programs



## Oil and Gas Permitting in the Casper Field Office

Calendar Year	Total Approved Wells	Approved Wells by County			
		Converse	Natrona	Goshen	Platte
2008	119	4	115		
2009	91	7	84		
2010	60	21	39		
2011	178	49	129		
2012	83	32	51		
2013	151	93	58		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>682</b>	206	476	0	0

682 New Federal Wells Approved in Six Years  
Represents 38% of the Projected Well Total

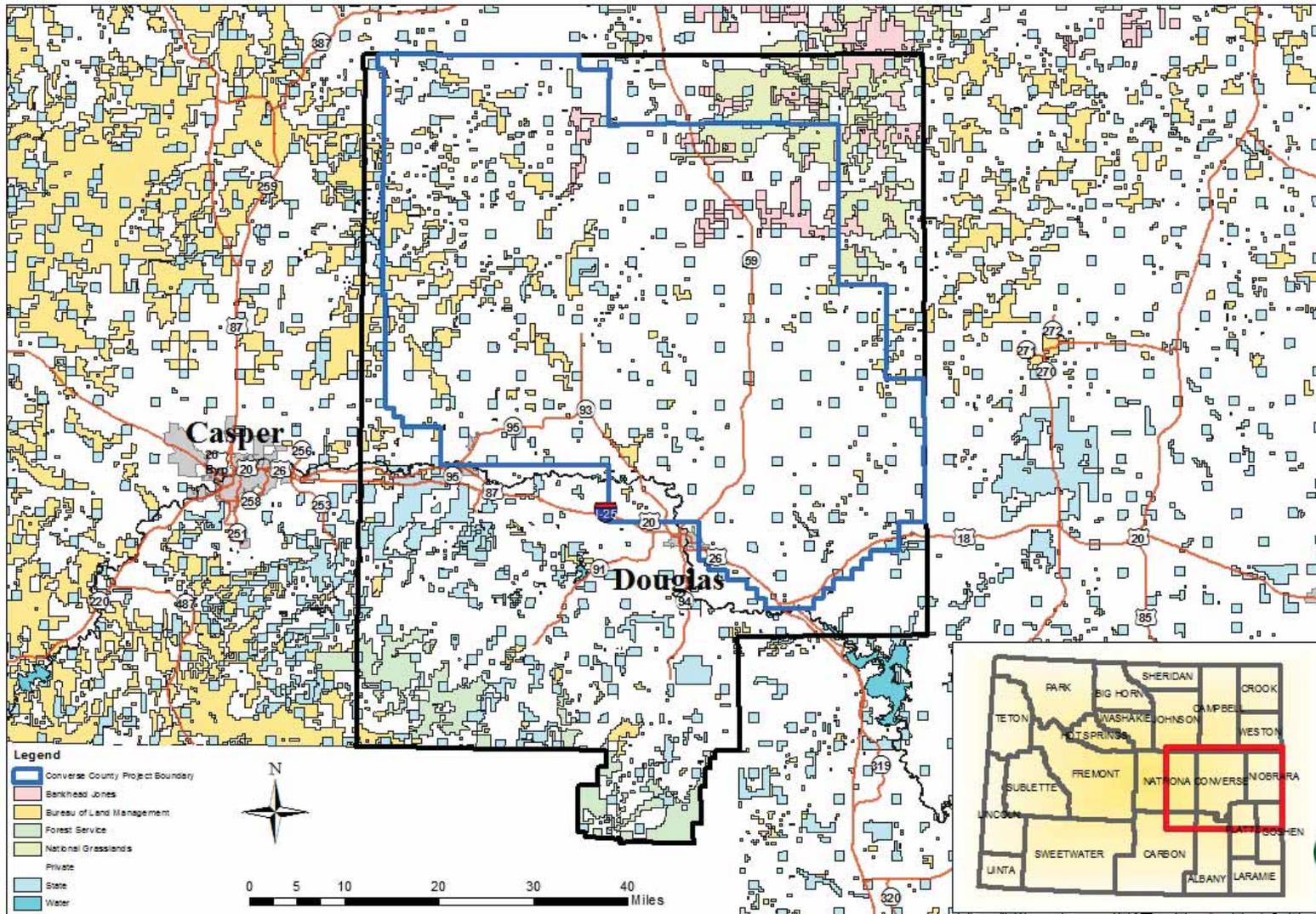


## Proposed Action

- Operator Group consisting of six major and several minor companies.
- Drill up to 5,000 oil and gas wells over 10 years.
- 1,500 new well pads.
- 1 to 16 wells per well pad.
- Up to 50 drill rigs could be operating concurrently at the peak of drilling.
- Includes construction of a gathering system for oil, gas and water.
- Year-round drilling as a project component.



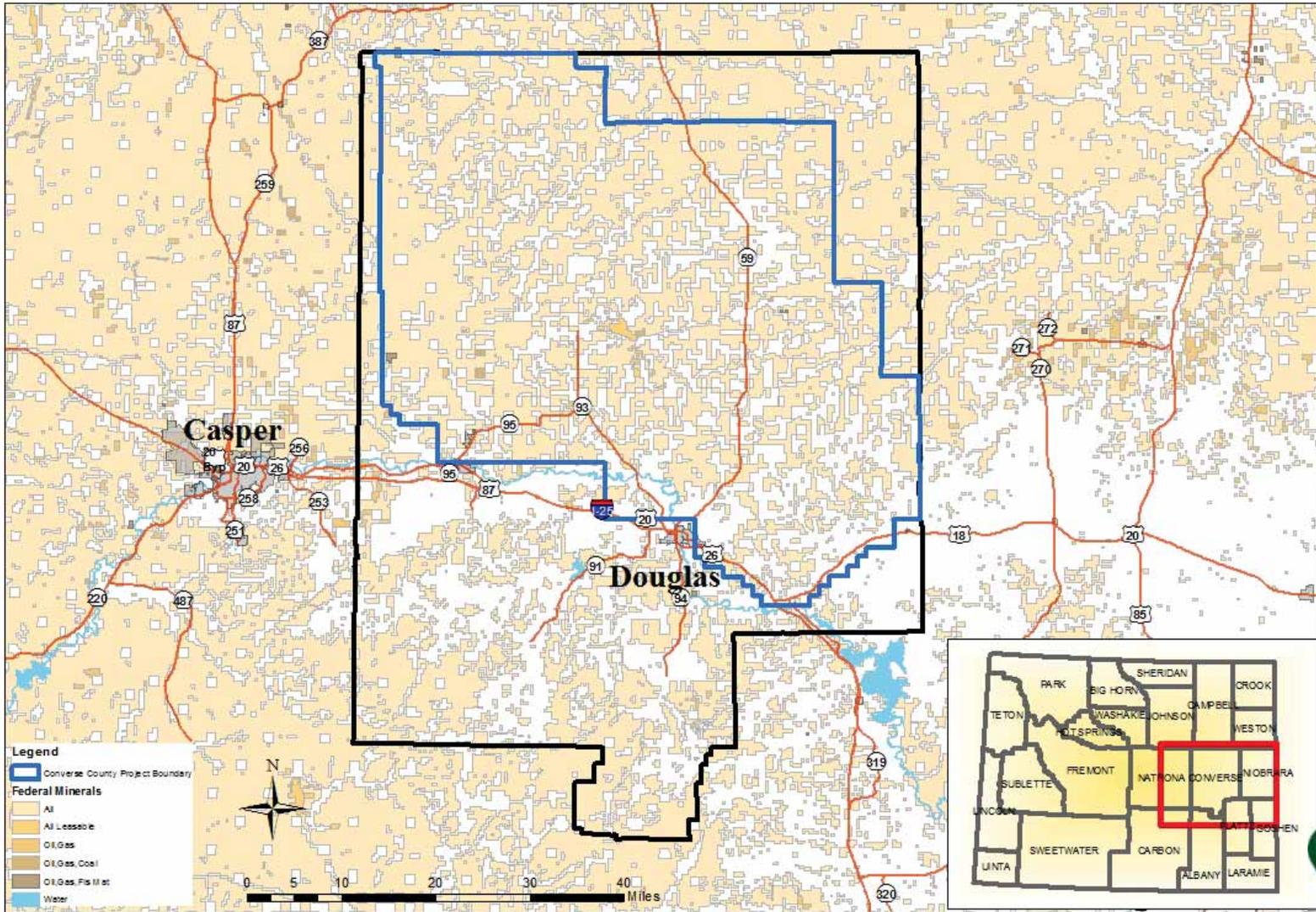
## Project Area Surface Ownership



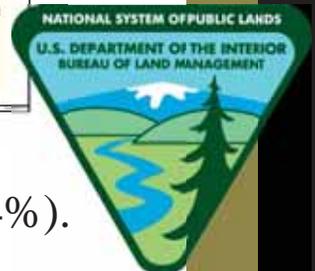
**Project Area ~ 1.5 Million Acres. 101,012 Acres of State of Wyoming (6.7%)  
88,500 Acres BLM Surface (6%). 63,912 Acres of National Grasslands (4.3%)**



# Project Area Mineral Ownership



Project Area ~ 1.5 Million Acres. 965,000 Acres Federal Minerals (64%).



## Proposed Action

### Surface Disturbance

Facility	Short Term Disturbance (Acres)	Long Term Disturbance (Acres)
Well Pads	21,350	12,300
Roads	11,727	6,728
Production Facilities	854	604
Pipelines and Electric Lines	19,545	1,636
	53,476	21,268

Short Term Disturbance = 3.5% of the Project Area

Long Term Disturbance = 1.4% of the Project Area



## Proposed Action

### Water Use

Water is used for:

- Drilling Mud
- Well Completion / Hydraulic Fracturing
- Dust Abatement

Total water use is 50,000 to 80,000 Barrels of Water per Well  
= 6 to 10 Acre Feet of Water Per Well



## Proposed Action

### Produced Water

Average well will produce 30 to 50 barrels per day  
= 1.4 to 2.4 Acre Feet per Year

Produced water is stored in tanks and transported to  
Disposal Wells for re-injection

Recycling and re-use of produced water will be analyzed



## Proposed Action

### Traffic

	Trips / Day / Well	Total Trips / Well
Drilling	44	1,112
Completion	160	1,778
	Total	2,890
Production	4	Depends on Well Life

Approximately 30 Days to Drill. 10-15 Days to Complete



## Proposed Action

### Year-Round Drilling

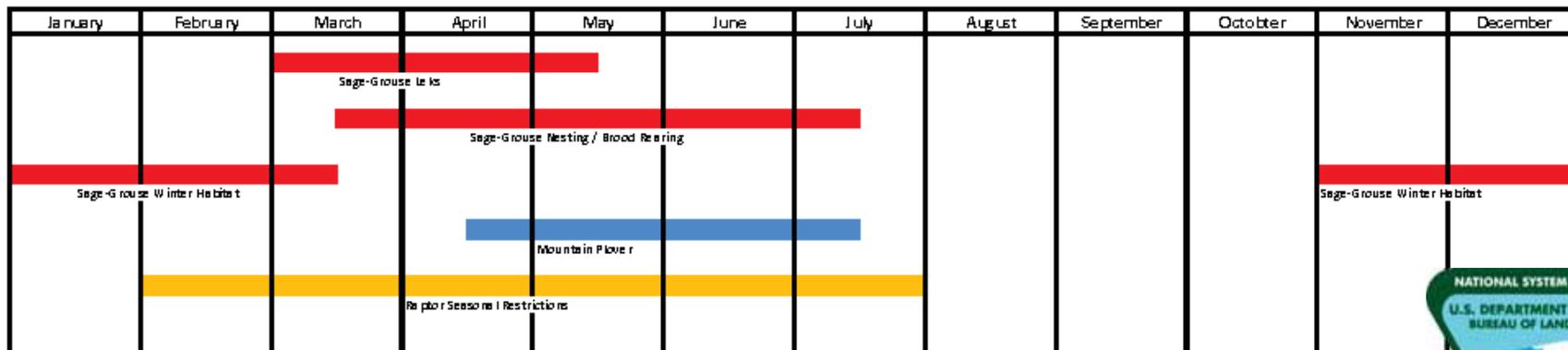
Proposal includes drilling up to 16 wells per pad.

Year-round drilling would be required to drill and complete 16 wells at a single location.



# Seasonal Timing Limitations – 2007 Casper RMP

Decision Number	Action	Start Date	End Date
4054	Seasonal Restriction within 1/4 mile of Occupied Sage-grouse Leks	3/1	5/15
4055	Seasonal Restriction in suitable sage-grouse nesting / early brood-rearing habitats	3/15	7/15
4056	Seasonal Restriction in sage-grouse winter habitats	11/15	3/14
4015	Seasonal Restriction Mountain Plover Nesting	4/10	7/10
4047	Seasonal Restriction 1/2 mile of raptor nests	2/1	7/31

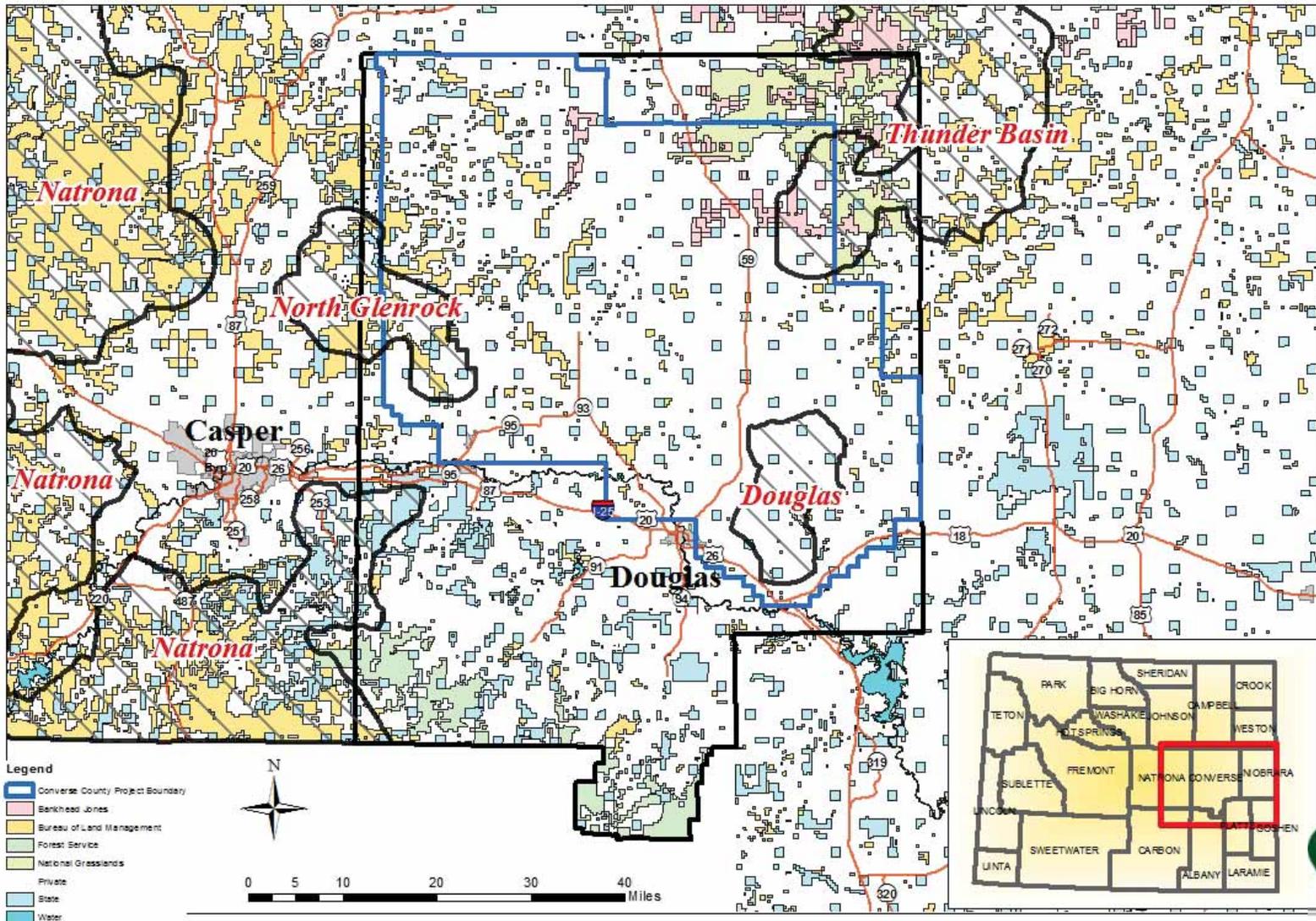


## Resources

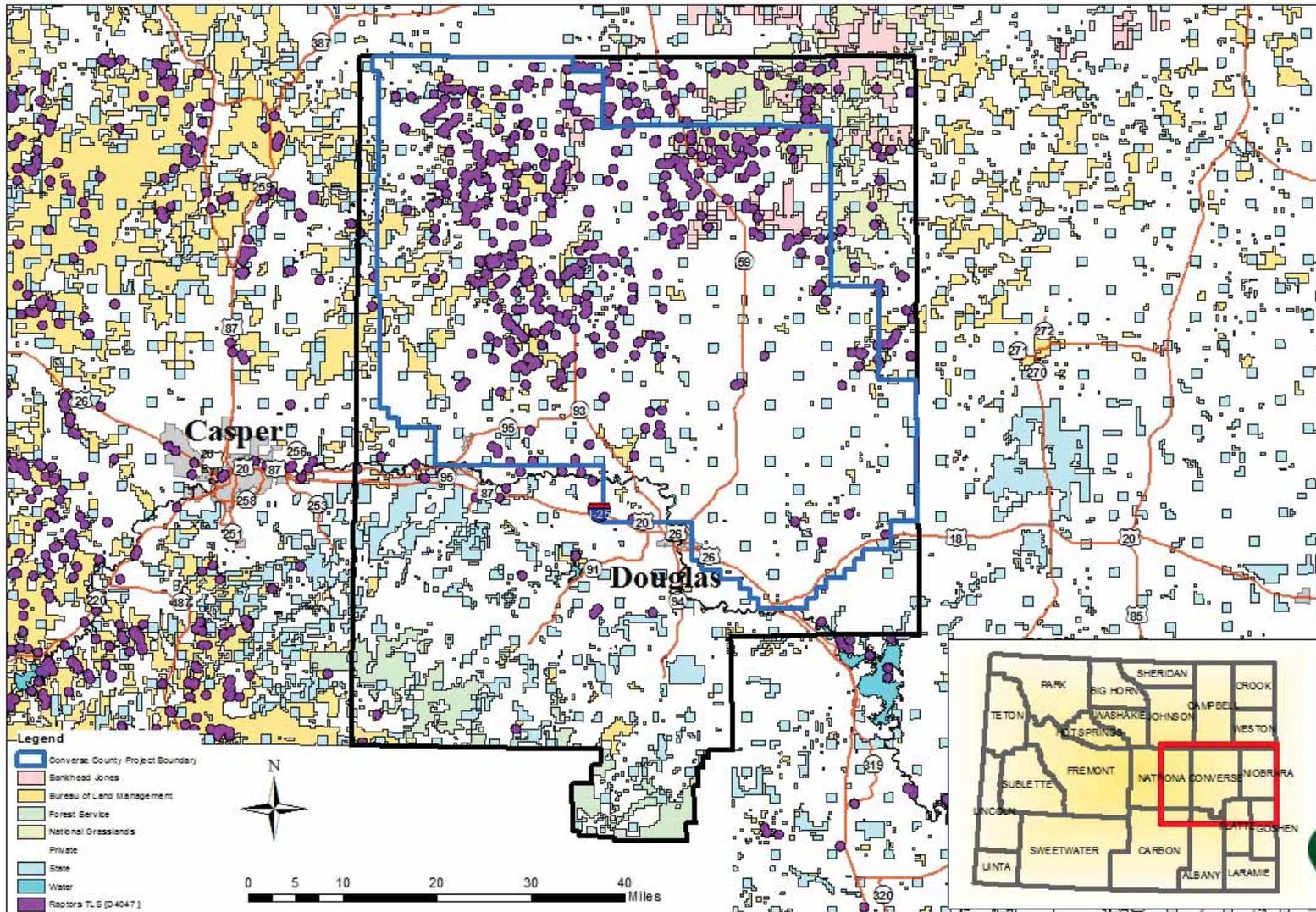
- Greater Sage-grouse
- Raptors
- Historic Trails
- Air Resources



# Greater Sage-Grouse Core Habitat



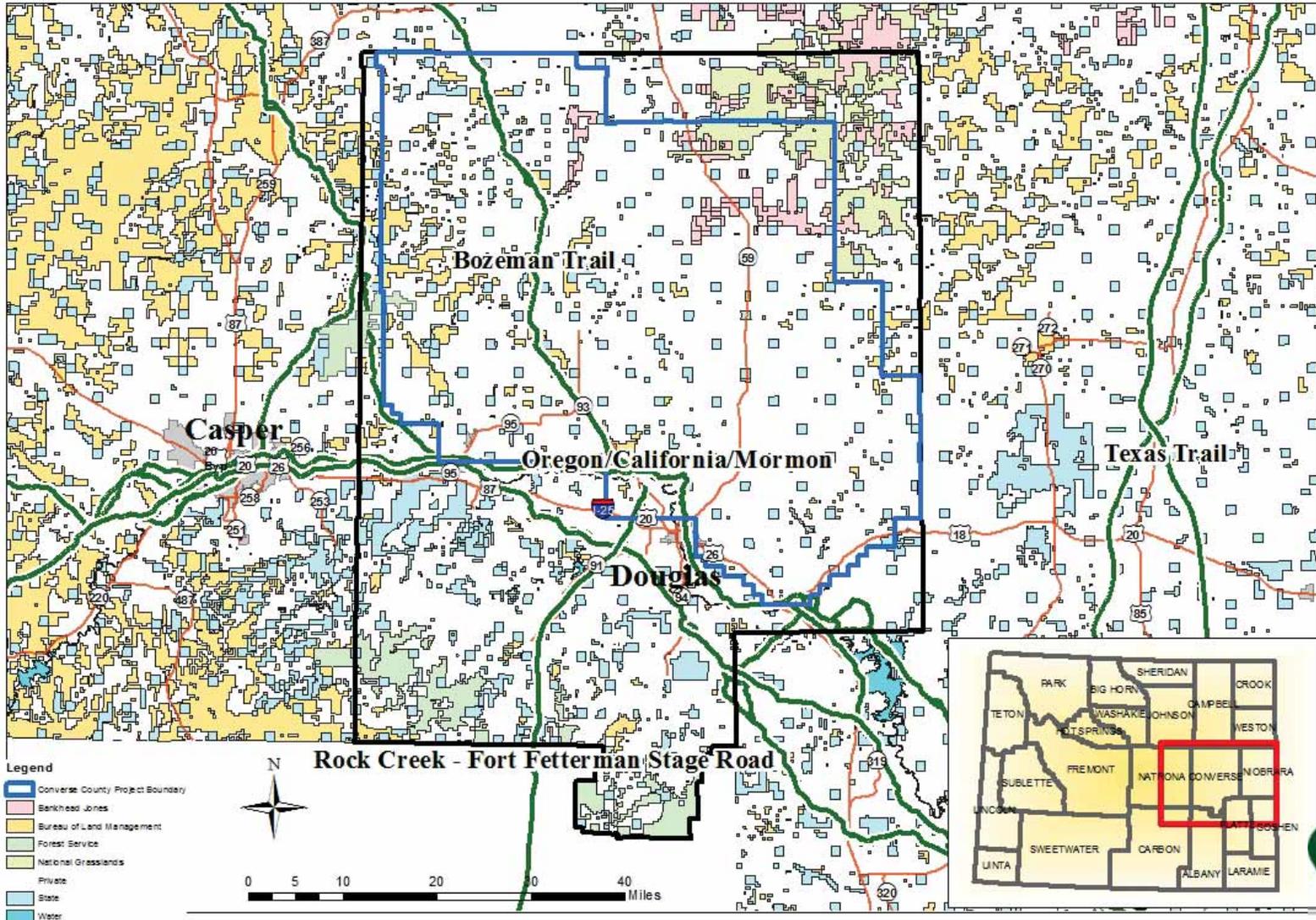
# Raptors



Seasonal Raptor Restrictions Feb. 1 to July 31. ¼ to ½ mile activity buffer from nest.



# Historic Trails



Initiating Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act Process



## Air Resources

- Fugitive Dust
- Fugitive Emissions
- Engine Emissions
- Flaring



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# Stay Informed

[http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/field\\_offices/Casper.html](http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/field_offices/Casper.html)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Wyoming

BLM Wyoming Field Office Casper

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**Casper Field Office**

The Casper Field Office manages 32,531 square miles and has administrative responsibility for 17,347 square miles of public land. The area has a rich history and a variety of recreational opportunities.

**In the Spotlight**

- BLM Casper Releases EA for Black Beauty Mine
- Muddy Mountain Road Opens May 30
- CFO Announces Public Meetings for Converse County O&G Project
  - BLM to Initiate EIS for Converse County O&G Project
- BLM CFO Opens Firewood Sales on Laramie Range in Esterbrook
- BLM Reminds Public of Wildfire Danger
- Wyoming Resource Advisory Council Meeting Set for June
- Proposed Parcels for August 2014 O&G Lease Sale Posted
- BLM Reminds the Public to Respect Cultural Resources on Your Public Lands

**NHTIC Activities:**

- NHTIC Celebrates Pioneer Days: Annual Reenactment Brings Pioneer History to Life
- Trail Center Returns to Seasonal Hours
- Trails Center to Host Smithsonian Exhibition
- Trails Center Remains Open during Roof Replacement Project
- Attention all Kids: Trails Center is Free!

**Connect with BLM Wyoming**

**Casper FO Links**

- Casper RMP
  - Implementation Matrix - 4/2012
- Coal
- Energy & Minerals
  - APD Tracking - 4/2012
- Fire & Fuels
  - Fire Restrictions
- Grazing
- Links
- NHTIC
- NEPA Documents
- NEPA Register
- PRB Restoration
- Recreation
- Resource Advisory Council
- EIS Projects
  - Converse County Oil and Gas Project
  - Moneta Divide Natural Gas and Oil Project

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