

**DECISION RECORD and FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
For
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WY-020-2009-056**

**NORTH OREGON BASIN 3-D SEISMIC SURVEY PROJECT
For
Marathon Oil Company, P.O. Box 3128, Houston, TX 77253**

I. DECISION

It is my decision to approve the associated Notice of Intent (NOI) described as Alternative “A” of Environmental Assessment No. WY-020-2009-056, and to include those measures proposed by Marathon Oil Company’s Notice of Intent to conduct Oil and Gas Geophysical Exploration Operations. This Authorization will be granted subject to the Project Design Features (PDF’s) as attached in Appendix E.

II. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Project considered two alternatives. Alternative A, the “Proposed Action” alternative, assessed and disclosed the projected effects of the operator’s proposal as detailed in the “Proposed Action” portion of the environmental assessment. It was felt that certain PDF’s were necessary and proper to provide adequate protection of the public resources within the project area. For the purpose of analysis, the PDF’s are part of this alternative.

The “No Action” alternative (Alternative B) assessed the effects of not implementing any portion of the proposal. Under the No Action Alternative, the Cody Field Office analyzed the effects of a denial of any further development associated with this project. This alternative provides a benchmark, enabling the decision-maker to compare the magnitude of the environmental effects of the alternatives.

III. RATIONALE

The proposed action is in conformance with the Cody Resource Area, Record of Decision (ROD) and Resource Management Plan, dated November 8, 1990. Page 21 of the ROD states, “All parts of the planning area that are open to oil and gas exploration are open to geophysical exploration.” All aspects of this project will follow timing restrictions set forth in the Cody RMP and the Grass Creek RMP (2002, as amended). Sage grouse seasons are between the dates of February 1 and July 31.

Project Design Features necessary for this action are attached and are considered a part of this approval.

IV. FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

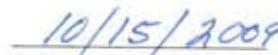
I have reviewed this environmental assessment including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts. I have determined that the proposed action will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an EIS is not required. I find that implementation of the proposed action would not result in unnecessary or undue degradation of the Public Lands. I have determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the appropriate approved land use plans. It is my decision to implement the proposed action, as modified by the recommended mitigation.

V. APPEALS

Under BLM regulations, this decision is subject to administrative review in accordance with 43 CFR 3150. Any request for administrative review of this decision must include information required under 43 CFR 3150.2 (Appeals), including all supporting documentation. Such a request must be filed in writing with the State Director, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003, no later than 20 business days after this Decision Record is received or considered to have been received.

Any party who is adversely affected by the State Director's decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, as provided in 43 CFR 3165.4.


Michael P. Stewart, Field Manager, Cody


Date

Attachments --
EA – WY-020-2009-056
Appendix E - Project Design Features