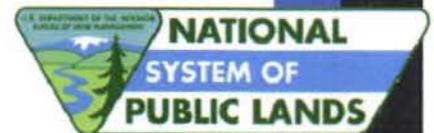


**Decision Record**  
**for**  
**August 2010**  
**Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA**

**WY-040-EA10-126**

**July 2010**

**High Desert District - Rock Springs Field Office**



**DECISION RECORD**  
**Environmental Assessment**  
**WY-040-EA10-126**

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**2010 August Competitive Oil and Gas Lease Sale**

It is my decision to implement Alternative B - the Proposed Action, and recommend the issuance and sale of leases from August 2010 as identified in EA WY-040-EA10-126.

**Authorities:** The authority for this decision is contained in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 3100.

**Compliance and Monitoring:**

No monitoring would be required in the issuance and sale of the lease parcels. Should the parcels be developed, monitoring may be required and would be analyzed under future NEPA documentation.

**Terms/Conditions/Stipulations:**

For all parcels, Standard Oil and Gas lease stipulations, standard terms and conditions as well as Special Cultural Resource Lease Notices 1-3 and standard lease notices, as well as Washington Office: Threatened and Endangered Species Stipulation (included within Instruction Memorandum No. 2002-174); Migratory Bird Species-Interim Management Guidance Policy (included within Instruction Memorandum No. 2008-050); BLM Sensitive Species, Raptors, Migratory Birds, and Prairie Dog Surveys; Biological Survey; and other Washington Office and state guidance would apply and be attached to any parcel that is issued for lease.

**PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CONSISTENCY:**

The proposed action and alternatives have been reviewed and found to be in conformance with the following BLM Land Use Plan and the associated decision(s):

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.28 and 1502.21, this environmental assessment (EA) tiers to and incorporates by reference the information and analysis contained in the Green River Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (1996). The Resource Management Plan was approved by a Record of Decision (ROD) signed August 1997.

**Alternatives Considered:**

**Alternative A: No Action** Under the No Action alternative, the BLM would not sell or issue any of the 12 leases that have been sold. Surface management would remain the same and ongoing oil and gas development would continue on surrounding federal, private, and state leases.

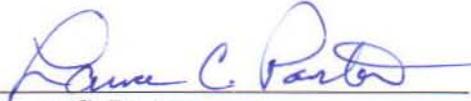
**Alternative B: Proposed Action** The Proposed Action would be a recommendation to the State Director to issue and sell 9 leases in their entirety for oil and gas development containing approximately 6,659.42 acres, two (2) modified parcels with a total of 1,846.37 acres and one (1) deferred with a total of 1,600.00 acres, of federal minerals administered by the Rock Springs Field Office. Standard terms and conditions as well as special stipulations would apply. Lease stipulations (as required by 43 CFR 3131.3) were added to each parcel as identified by the Rock

Springs Field Office to address site specific concerns or new information not identified in the land use planning process.

**Rationale for Decision:**

The decision to approve the proposed action is based upon the following: 1) consistency with resource management plan and land use plan; 2) national policy; 3) agency statutory requirements; 4) relevant resource and economic issues; 5) application of measures to avoid or minimize environmental impacts.

1. This decision is in conformance with the Green River Resource Management Plan (August 1997).
2. It is the policy of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as derived from various laws, including the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended [30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*] and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, to make mineral resources available for disposal and to encourage development of mineral resources to meet national, regional, and local needs.
3. The decision is consistent with all federal, state, and county authorizing actions required for implementation of the Proposed Action.
4. Economic benefits derived from implementation of the proposed action are considered important and have been analyzed in the EA.
5. Standard terms and conditions as well as special stipulations would apply. Lease stipulations (as required by 43 CFR 3131.3) were added to each parcel as identified by the Rock Springs Field Office to address site specific concerns or new information not identified in the land use planning process.

  
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Lance C. Porter  
Field Manager  
Rock Springs Field Office

7/29/2010  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Attachments:** None.