

Wyoming-BLM Reclamation Policy Suggested Reclamation Plan Template for Oil and Gas Operations

I. Reclamation – Baseline Information

Site Description

Climate/Precipitation/Ecological Site Description (ESD)

Orientation/Aspect

Existing land use(s)

Surface and groundwater hydrology

Topography/Relief

Soils Description

Soil features

Soil stripping and stockpiling (length of time and storage configuration)

Soil map (optional, but highly recommended on large locations or those exhibiting different micro-communities)

Viability management

Soil inhibiting factors

Management prescriptions/recommendations

Pre-Disturbance Vegetation Composition

Photo log with locational information

Species with density

Map (optional, but highly recommended on large locations or those exhibiting different micro-communities)

Known weed infestations

Proposed treatment

II. Reclamation Objectives:

The objective of interim reclamation is to restore vegetative cover and a portion of the landform sufficient to maintain healthy, biologically active topsoil; control erosion; and minimize habitat, visual, and forage loss during the life of the well or facilities.

The long-term objective of final reclamation is to return the land to a condition approximating that which existed prior to disturbance. This includes restoration of the landform and natural vegetative community, hydrologic systems, visual resources, and wildlife habitats. To ensure that the long-term objective will be reached through human and natural processes, actions will be taken to ensure standards are met for site stability, visual quality, hydrological functioning, and vegetative productivity.

III. Reclamation Performance Standards

The following reclamation performance standards will be met:

Interim Reclamation – Includes disturbed areas that may be redisturbed during operations and will be redisturbed at final reclamation to achieve restoration of the original landform and a natural vegetative community.

Describe “Success” Criteria

Final Reclamation – Includes disturbed areas where the original landform and a natural vegetative community have been restored.

Describe “Success” Criteria

IV. Reclamation Plan Requirements

1) Operator Contact/Responsible Official

Project Title and Responsible Party

Include existing leases/wells (for geographic field plan only)

2) Construction Control Actions (actions that will be taken to minimize erosion until Reclamation can begin):

Stormwater and erosion control

Slope stabilization

Topsoil viability management

Monitoring

3) Management of Invasive, Noxious, and Non-Native Species (Policy Section B9)

Pre-disturbance presence/Treatment

Invasive plant management plan

Monitoring

4) Interim Reclamation

a) Production-held Surfaces (Policy Sections B1, B2 and B3) (layout diagram)

Stormwater and Erosion control

Facility installation

Housekeeping/Monitoring

b) Pipelines located on-lease (Policy Sections B2 thru B8)

Pressure testing and disposal (if applicable)

Seeding Methods/Mix and Source

Erosion Control measures

Risers (location, work areas, safety barricades)

c) Roads (Policy Sections B2 thru B9)

Production running surface width

Drainage/Erosion controls remaining

Seeding methods/mix

d) Pit Closure (Policy Sections B1, B2 and B3)

Known contents

Length of time pit has been/will be open

Current pit problems (torn pit liner, non-RCRA materials, etc)

Closure methodology

Closure testing plan

Closure sample results submittal

e) Ancillary facilities closure (i.e. water wells, monitor wells, powerlines, fences, etc)

f) Site Preparation (i.e. Recontouring) (Policy Sections B2, B3, B4, B5 and B6)

- Equipment
- Methods
- Suitable soil redistribution
- Final recontour layout diagram

f) Establish desired self-perpetuating native plant community (Policy Section B7):

Application of Topsoil & Revegetation:

Seeding:

- Methods
- Schedule
- Seed Mix

Example Seed Mix Table

Species of Seed (Cultivar)	Seed Source (genetic source; distributor)	App. Rate PLS (lbs/ac)
		Total:

g) Visual Resources Mitigation (Policy Section B8)

- Actions
- Final goal description

h) SME Notification Procedure

i) Reclamation Monitoring (Policy Section B10)

- Methods and Reporting
- Erosion control

j) Invasive Weeds (Policy Section B9)

k) Additional Measures proposed to enhance “success” (ie irrigation, fertilization, fencing, etc)

5) Final Reclamation Procedures – Additional (Policy Sections B1-B10)

a) Facility Removal

Facilities to be removed
Site assessment clearance (spills, trash)

b) Roads

Road proposed to remain? (two track, fully constructed, none)
Removal of surface materials
Road bed preparation
Seeding methods, timing, and mix

c) Pipeline Decommissioning

Pipeline abandonment procedure
Seeding methods, timing, and mix (if necessary)

d) Ancillary facilities decommissioning (water wells, powerlines, monitoring wells, fences, etc.)

e) Additional Site Prep (pad, road, pipeline)

Source of soil materials (if necessary)
Additional dirt work/Recontouring
Final recontour layout diagram
Final surface drainage
Seeding methods, timing and mix

f) Reclamation Monitoring (pad, road, pipeline)

Methods and reporting
Erosion control

g) Invasive weed management

h) Final abandonment approval timeline