

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

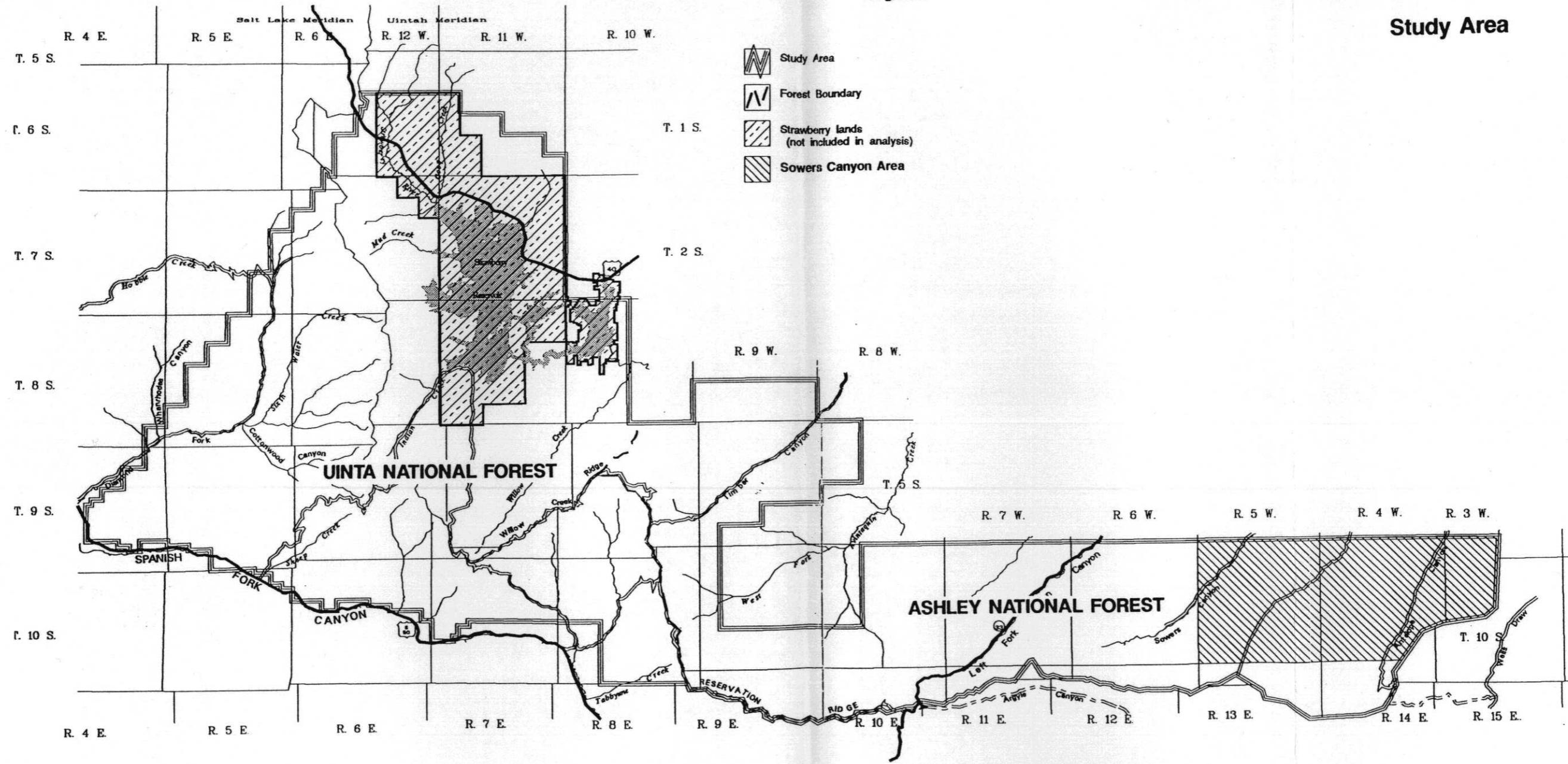


FIGURE S-1
**WESTERN UINTA BASIN
 OIL AND GAS EIS**

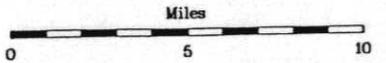
Study Area

Legend

-  Study Area
-  Forest Boundary
-  Strawberry lands
(not included in analysis)
-  Sowers Canyon Area



USFS Region Four
 Ashley and Uinta National Forests



Western Uintah Basin Oil and Gas Leasing

Questions and Answers

1. Why is the decision being made now rather than waiting until after the Forest Plan revision is done?

Based on historic use in the overthrust belt, and current interest and pre-sale offers for leases, the Ashley and Uinta National Forests must respond to the potential for oil and gas activities. In accordance with the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Reform Act of 1987 (36 CFR 228.102) and The Energy Security Act of 1980 leasing actions must be addressed pending Forest Plan revision. Current Forest Plans provide management direction until the revision is complete.

2. Does this analysis address future drilling proposals?

This analysis identifies National Forest System Lands with federal mineral rights that should or should not be made available for oil and gas exploration, development, and production in accordance with the mineral leasing acts. Specific site disturbances are identified at the time an Application for Permit to Drill (APD) and surface use desires have been provided to the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

3. If the term "No Surface Occupancy" does not apply to roads, how can impacts to sensitive areas be avoided?

Access to a leased parcel, or an oil and gas facility, is not guaranteed as a lease right. The Authorizing Officer will determine what is reasonable access and identify trade-offs for each of the various alternatives. Forest Plan standards and guidelines provide direction on the location and design of roads. If unacceptable, resource impacts are identified with a proposed access road, it may either be modified or relocated. It may also be denied by the Authorizing Officer without a lease stipulation.

4. Why do you allow the oil companies to lease and exploit the national forests?

Oil and gas exploration on National Forests is guided by the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970. It states: "The Congress declares that it is the continuing policy of the Federal Government, in the national interest, to foster and encourage private enterprise in...the orderly and economic development of domestic mineral resources, reserves, and reclamation of metals and minerals to help assure satisfaction of industrial, security, and environmental needs..." The Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and other partners will work together to ensure sound ecological practices by applying standard terms and stipulations for leasing.

5. What happens if revision of the Forest Plan makes allocations or establishes standards that are in conflict with this leasing decision?

As required by 36 CFR 219(10), the leasing decision could be revised to comply with the revision. Terms and conditions of existing leases would remain in effect until expiration. Terms and conditions of leases are changed through mutual consent by both parties.

6. What is the difference between the North Slope decision and the Western Uintah Basin decision regarding surface occupancy?

The difference between the two documents is the application of the standard lease terms and stipulations for each resource component such as watershed, wildlife, threatened and endangered species, roadless areas, recreation, and visual resources. Standard lease terms and stipulations are defined as no surface occupancy, timing limitations, controlled surface use, no lease, and standard lease terms. These stipulations are applicable for both documents.

7. What is the scope of the project?

Approximately 400,930 acres of National Forest System lands in northeastern Utah are included in this decision. The study area encompasses lands with high and moderate potential for oil and gas occurrence located on the south unit of the Duchesne Ranger District, Ashley National Forest, and the area south and west of Strawberry Reservoir, Uinta National Forest.

8. How will this decision be tiered to Forest Plan revision?

This decision is consistent with current Forest Plan direction, but does not necessarily preclude another review at the time Forest plans are revised. It is anticipated that a change in this decision will not occur unless substantial changes of resource conditions or new information becomes available. Depending upon Forest Plan revisions, this leasing document may be revised and brought into compliance as required by 36 CFR 219(10).

9. Who is/are the decision maker(s)?

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 requires Responsible Officials to use a process that identifies and assesses potential significant environmental impacts and addresses issues with input from the public. The Responsible Officials for this decision are Peter W. Karp, Forest Supervisor, Uinta National Forest, and Bert Kulesza, Forest Supervisor, Ashley National Forest.

10. What agencies are involved?

USDA Forest Service and USDI Bureau of Land Management are the decision makers. The following agencies participated in the analysis: US Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Natural Heritage Program, Utah State

Historical Society, Bureau of Reclamation, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Utah Governor's Office, Uintah County Treasurer's Office, Utah Geologic and Mineral Survey, Utah Department of Natural Resources, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and the Utah Tax Commission.

11. What is the definition of surface occupancy?

There are two categories of surface occupancy used in this decision. The No Surface Occupancy stipulation is intended for use only when other stipulations are determined insufficient to adequately protect the public interest. No Surface Occupancy means that no well sites, central tank batteries, or similar facilities could be constructed on the lands covered by the stipulations. The Controlled Surface Use stipulation is intended for use when oil and gas development is generally allowed on all or portions of the lease area year-round, but because of special values, or resource concerns, lease activities must be strictly controlled.

12. How does the proposed project affect roadless inventories?

Ten roadless areas are identified in this decision totaling 165,430 acres. Effects on the roadless areas are estimated to be less than one percent of the area. Subsequent leasing decisions and associated mining activities may affect the character of these areas. Portions of them may be excluded from the roadless inventory update being conducted as part of the forest plan revisions. Effects of this decision on the roadless resource are documented in the Environmental Impact Statement.

13. What impacts will the public see as a result of this decision?

This decision allocates lands available for potential leasing, and sets parameters for future decisions regarding the leasing of specific lands for oil and gas exploration and development.

14. What mitigation efforts are proposed?

General mitigation is being addressed through standard lease and stipulations. Individual mitigation issues will be addressed through specific site analysis.

15. What are the major impacts to wildlife?

The Timing Limitation stipulations applied to most of the sensitive areas for wildlife are designed to avoid or minimize impacts to wildlife during their most critical seasons (calving, fawning, strutting, winter and summer range). More site specific analysis will include wildlife mitigation. The decision is responsive to the concerns to mitigate impacts to wildlife. As such, there are no 'major' impacts which are anticipated as a result of this decision.

16. What are my opportunities for becoming involved in the decisions to issue leases?

Site specific analysis will be conducted when companies file an Application for Permit to Drill (APD). Our Quarterly Schedule of Proposed Actions will include these proposals and identify the timeframes and involvement opportunities. Copies of the Quarterly Project Schedule may be obtained at the Uinta and Ashley National Forest offices.

17. What is the duration of the project?

There is no specific 'project' which will result directly from this decision. The decisions documented in the ROD are in effect as long as conditions (environmental, regulatory, etc.) remain unchanged.

18. What are the Forest Plan standards and guidelines regarding oil and gas development?

Current Forest plans contain broad standards and guidelines pertaining to oil and gas exploration and development. This decision provides specific lease terms and stipulations to respective resource components.

19. What are the estimated royalties from this proposed project?

There is no specific 'project' which will result directly from this decision. No royalties are estimated.

20. What is the appeal 'window?'

Our decision may be appealed within 45 days from the date legal notice of this decision appears in the Vernal Express and the Provo Daily Herald.

21. How are the values derived in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement?

Resource maps, inventories, and other data have been converted and digitized into a Geographical Information System (GIS). Standard lease terms and stipulations have been applied to the respective resource components. GIS map layers are super-imposed to generate the numbers.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

LETTER FROM DOI
COMMENTS



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Deane Federal Center, Building 58, Room 1000
P.O. Box 25067 (D-108)
Denver, Colorado 80225-0067

July 11, 1996

ER 96/355

Mr. Bert Kulesza
Forest Supervisor
Ashley National Forest
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

Dear Mr. Kulesza:

The Department of the Interior has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Western Uinta Basin Oil and Gas Leasing, Uinta and Ashley National Forests, Wasatch and Duchesne Counties, Utah, and has the following comments.

SURFACE WATER RESOURCES

1 The surface water section does not contain data for water years 1993 and 1994. These data are available and should be incorporated into the tables and text of the Final EIS (FEIS). Also, flood frequency analyses and other statistical analyses should be performed for major streams to assess potential issues relating to the siting of production facilities and these analyses should be included in the FEIS.

GROUNDWATER RESOURCES

2 The groundwater resources of the area are important in that they provide base-flow for the perennial streams in the area. Therefore, protection of the groundwater resources of the proposed oil and gas leasing area should be emphasized in the FEIS. The area may contain highly mineralized groundwater overlying or underlying zones of fresh water. Interconnection of the zones during drilling or after completion of oil or gas wells may be a major problem and should be addressed in the FEIS. In addition to the State of Utah, Department of Natural Resources, Tech Pub 53 (referenced in the DEIS text), there are a number of other publications, such as Tech Pub 57 and 62, Utah basic data release no. 26, and Holmes, W.F., 1985, Water budget and groundwater occurrence in the Uinta Basin, in "Geology and energy resources, Uinta Basin of Utah"; Utah Geological Association Publication 12, which contain very useful data on the groundwater resources of the area. These publications should be consulted and listed as references in the EIS. Permeability of the lacustrine deposits of the Green River Formation could be significant. Studies in the southeastern Uinta Basin, adjacent to the Western Uinta Basin, conducted as part of the Oil Shale project, report transmissivities of up to 15,000 feet squared per day in the Parachute Creek Member of the Green River Formation and 170 feet squared per day in the Douglas Creek Member of the Green River Formation (USGS Water Supply Paper 2248). The studies also indicate that the permeability of the rocks is mostly primary with some secondary permeability due to fracturing. The FEIS should analyze the potential impacts of permeability to the area's groundwater.

Page-specific comments are enclosed.

Sincerely,

Barbara M. Stewart
for Robert F. Stewart
Regional Environmental Officer

Enclosure

cc: Peter W. Karp
Forest Supervisor
Uinta National Forest
88 West 100 North

RESPONSES

1. The data used in the surface water quality section (section 3.2.4.5) was from a retrieval of water quality data from the EPA's STORET database. The numbers presented in Table 3.2-5 are the mean values calculated from what are, in most cases, many years of water quality statistics. Adding another year of data that may have become available since the STORET database was queried for this report would have little effect on the mean values shown in the table and would not impact the conclusions drawn from the information presented. Flood frequency analyses will be performed for major streams at the Application to Drill Stage, if appropriate based on proposed facility locations.
2. The well casing program currently in effect is designed to prevent interconnection of zones during drilling or during the operation of oil or gas wells. The potential impacts caused by a site specific proposal to drill will be further examined at the Application for Permit to Drill stage when more specific NEPA analysis is completed.

PAGE-SPECIFIC COMMENTS (Page 1 of 3)

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|----|--|-----|--|
| 3 | Page S-2, paragraph 2, line 3: Change "historical well and gas" to historical oil and gas. | 3. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 4 | Page S-3, paragraph 1, line 1: Suggest changing proposed action (1) to read "to decide which lands would be administratively available. . . ." | 4. | Designating lands as not administratively available is part of the decision under some alternatives. That decision requires the same NEPA analysis as the "available" lands. |
| 5 | Page S-3, Alternative 1, next to last line: Suggest inserting "existing" before "leases within the Sowers Canyon area. . ." for clarity. | 5. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 6 | Page 1-10, last paragraph, sentence 5: Substitute "lands" for "lease" in this sentence. | 6. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 7 | Figure 2-1: The map legend indicates that under Alternative 1, all areas with Federal minerals would carry a No Surface Occupancy stipulation. Alternative 1 is the No action/No lease alternative; thus, there could be no stipulations if no leases are issued. The FEIS should reflect this. | 7. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 8 | Several oil and gas wells are mentioned in the first several pages of Chapter 3. It would be very helpful to the reader if the location of each well were also given. A map showing the well locations and some referenced geological features (Diamond Fork Anticline, Strawberry Thrust, etc.) would enhance the discussion. | 8. | This information was decided not to be necessary to the analysis at hand and would not add important information changing the environmental analysis. |
| 9 | Page 3-2, paragraph 2: We assume that the Paleozoic and Precambrian rocks are present in the subsurface only. The FEIS should clarify this. | 9. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 10 | Page 3-3, section 3.1.4: The discussion indicates that no locatable or saleable minerals are present within the study area but gives no information on the presence or absence of leasable minerals other than oil and gas. If there are no other mineral resources (locatable, saleable or leasable) in the area, Issue 13 is not an issue, and the FEIS should reflect this. | 10. | The EIS states that there are no specific mineral proposals for locatable minerals. They may be present. |
| 11 | Page 3-3, last paragraph, line 4: Suggest inserting "areas" after "high potential". | 11. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 12 | Page 3-5, paragraph 1, line 2: Correct a typo by replacing "Chokesberry" with Chokeycherry. Also, it would be helpful if the well location and producing formation were given. | 12. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 13 | Page 3-5, paragraph 2, line 4: The abbreviation for a thousand cubic feet is mcf; a million cubic feet is Mmcf. The FEIS text should be corrected to reflect this. | 13. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |

- 14 Page 3-5, paragraph 4, line 3: Suggest replacing ". . . stratigraphic porosity. . ." with stratigraphically controlled porosity. . . .
- 15 Page 3-5, paragraph 5, line 5: It would be helpful if the names of the nearby producing fields were included in the FEIS.
- 16 Page 3-5, paragraph 5: Again, it would be helpful if the locations (at least, the section and township and range) of the wells discussed here were provided.
- 17 Page 3-6, paragraph 2, lines 3, 4 and 5: This is not a complete sentence and should be rewritten in the FEIS.
- 18 Page 3-7, paragraph 1, line 4: Suggest referring to Figure 1-2 after "Sowers Canyon Field".
- 19 Page 3-7, paragraph 2, line 1: Mesa Verde is one word when referring to the formation or group (Mesaverde); this correction should be made in the FEIS.
- 20 Page 3-7, paragraph 3, line 2: The source of the estimated gas reserves should be reference in the FEIS text.
- 21 Page 3-7, Paragraph 4: The source for the estimate of \$3.00/mcf gas should be cited in the FEIS text.
- 22 Page 3-8, paragraph 7, line 1: Suggest inserting "required" between elements and for.
- 23 Page 3-43, bottom of page: Issue No. 2 has a typographical error and should read: The effects of oil and gas leasing and subsequent activities on wildlife.
- 24 Page 3-44, first paragraph: The last two sentences in this paragraph about stream classifications seem out of context with this paragraph and its discussion on sensitive wildlife species. Perhaps the sentences should be moved to Section 3.2.4.5.
- 25 Page 3-48, last paragraph: The system for identification of candidate species was modified by USFWS in Federal Register, Vol. 61, No. 40, February 28, 1996, after the USFWS letter included in Chapter 5. The FEIS should reflect this change.
- 26 Page 3-51, paragraph 5: Only the mountain plover and spotted frog are currently identified by USFWS as candidate species. The FEIS text should reflect this change.

- 14. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 15. Change made, see Errata Sheets. The names of the nearby oil fields are Nutter Canyon, Castle Peak, and Duchesne.
- 16. This information was considered to not be necessary, and would not change the results of the analysis.
- 17. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 18. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 19. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 20. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 21. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 22. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 23. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 24. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 25. Change made, see Errata Sheets.
- 26. Change made, see Errata Sheets.

PAGE-SPECIFIC COMMENTS (Page 3 of 3)

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|----|--|-----|---------------------------------|
| 27 | Page 3-51, paragraph 6: Several of the raptor species listed here as sensitive (ferruginous hawk and flammulated owl) are not identified in Section 3.4.4.6, Raptor Habitat (Page 3-48). This omission should be corrected. | 27. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 28 | Page 3-53, Candidate Species: Please refer to the previous comment about the current USFWS list of candidate species. Discussion of species other than the Mountain Plover and Spotted Frog should be omitted. | 28. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 29 | Page 4-2, paragraph 5, line 1: The sentence reads as if oil and gas were locatable or salable rather than leasable. Are any other leasable mineral resources other than oil and gas likely to be present? | 29. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 30 | Appendix C: Two Figures, C-1 and C-2, are identified in the text (page C-6, next to last paragraph, and page C-7, second paragraph) but are not included in this appendix. The FEIS should be appropriately corrected. | 30. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 31 | Appendix D, page D-4, paragraph 6, sentence 3: There is an error in identifying the cumulative area of surface disturbance from a well pad and roads. | 31. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |
| 32 | The Uintah Special Meridian township labels on all maps should be checked. The maps show the northern body of Strawberry Reservoir as being in T. 2 S. This should be T. 3 S., and the other townships should be adjusted accordingly. | 32. | Change made, see Errata Sheets. |

LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMMENTS

RESPONSES



ARMY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1335 J STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-2922

July 1, 1996

Regulatory Branch (199650341)

Bert Kulesza
Forest Supervisor
U.S. Forest Service
Ashley National Forest
355 N. Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

Dear Mr. Kulesza:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Western Uinta Basin Oil and Gas Leasing Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which assesses alternatives and impacts of such leases on lands administered by the Uinta and Ashley National Forests in Wasatch and Duchesne Counties, Utah. Due to the relatively minor nature of our potential regulatory involvement with these projects, we have confined the scope of our review to portions that deal with impacts to waters of the United States, such as streams and wetlands.

From the table that shows acres of disturbance to wetland/riparian areas (p. 4-20) it is apparent that, for all alternatives, the greatest potential for disturbance is located in the Ashley National Forest, outside the Sowers Canyon area. The potential 26.8 acres of anticipated disturbance in this area is substantial in size.

The DEIS emphasizes adherence to standards and guidelines in the Forest Management Plans to protect wetlands and other waters from avoidable impacts. It is important that these policies be fully considered and implemented in the design of individual projects. Most activities associated with oil and gas exploration and production may qualify for various nationwide permit authorizations. However, circumstances may arise that could warrant the Corps asserting discretionary authority and require an individual permit. For example, the Corps may require an individual permit if it is determined that cumulative impacts within a particular watershed would result in unacceptable levels of degradation to the aquatic environment. Eligibility for coverage by a nationwide permit(s) is subject to compliance with all terms and conditions of the nationwide permits. Among those conditions are requirements that discharges into waters of the United States be minimized or avoided to the maximum extent practicable at the project site. Therefore, if a less damaging alternative is available and practicable and yet is not selected, the Corps may elect to require an individual permit.

If you have any questions on these comments, please contact Ms. Michela Waltz, at the Utah Regulatory Office, 1403 South 600 West, Suite A, Bountiful, Utah 84010, telephone (801) 295-8380.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Schwinn
Chief, Utah Regulatory Office

Copy furnished:

Mr. Peter W. Karp, Forest Supervisor, Uinta National Forest,
88 West 100 North, Provo, Utah 84601

LETTER FROM UTAH WILDLIFE FEDERATION
COMMENTS

RESPONSES



UTAH WILDLIFE FEDERATION
P.O. Box 526367
Salt Lake City, Utah 84152-6367

UWF File Ashley 3.

July 12, 1996

Chauncie Todd
Ashley National Forest
355 N. Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

Kim Martin
Uinta National Forest
88 West 100 North
Provo, Utah 84601

Dear Forest Service contacts,

Please reference your Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Western Uinta Basin Oil and Gas Leasing for Wasatch and Duchesne Counties.

As of this date (July 12, 1996) we have not been able to fully study the five alternatives contained in your Draft, arrive at a position and provide you our comments. Accordingly, for the record, we submit a negative reply at this time.

Please keep us advised of the progress of this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gerald E. Gordon".

Gerald E. Gordon
Public Lands Issue Coordinator

LETTER FROM STATE OF UTAH
COMMENTS



State of Utah

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET
Resource Development Coordinating Committee

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Brad T. Barber
State Planning Coordinator

James L. DeKromm
Committee Chairman

John A. Harja
Executive Director

116 State Capitol Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
(801) 538-1027
Fax: (801) 538-1547

July 15, 1996

Bert Kulesza
Ashley National Forest
Vernal Ranger District
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

SUBJECT: DEIS Western Uinta Basin Oil and Gas Leasing
State Identifier Number: UT960523-010

Dear Mr. Kulesza,

The Resource Development Coordinating Committee (RDCC), representing the State of Utah, has reviewed this proposal. The Utah Geological Survey comments:

- 1 Overall, the EIS covered the topics in detail and gives equal consideration to all pertinent issues. The potential hydrocarbon ratings for the areas defined seem fair and reasonable. The predicted activity seems low but admittedly such predictions are extremely difficult to make.
- 2 Page 3-5 shows it as Altamont-Bluebells field, should be Altamont-Bluebell fields.
- 3 Page 3-8 discusses the estimate drilling activity in each area. UGS would estimate one or two more wells for area A and B. The DEIS estimate is based at least in part on historical trends. Did these historical trends take into account all the years it was impossible to drill on NPS lands?

The Committee appreciates the opportunity to review this proposal. Please direct any other written questions regarding this correspondence to the Utah State Clearinghouse at the above address or call Carolyn Wright at (801) 538-1535 or John Harja at (801) 538-1559.

Sincerely,

Brad T. Barber
State Planning Coordinator

RESPONSES

1. Thank you for your comment.
2. Change made, see Errata Sheets
3. Trend was accounted for by number of wells, by year - not other influences.

ERRATA

Errata Sheets
Western Uinta Basin Oil and Gas Leasing
Environmental Impact Statement

The candidate RNAs identified in the Draft EIS have been formally designated and, therefore, the word “candidate” and the discussion of candidate status should be dropped on the following pages:

Alternative Descriptions, Pages 2-19, 2-21, and 2-23
Tables S-2 and 2-10, Sheet 9 of 12
Page 3-57
Pages 4-48 and 4-49

Page S-2, paragraph 2, line 3: “historical well and gas” has been changed to “historical oil and gas”.

Page S-3, Alternative 1, next to last line: The word “existing” has been inserted before the words “leases within the Sowers Canyon area”.

Page 1-10, last paragraph, sentence 5: The word “lease” has been replaced the word “lands”.

Figure 2-1: In the map legend the words “No Surface Occupancy (Alternative 1)” has been replaced with “No Lease (Alternative 1)”.

Page 3-2, paragraph 2: A sentence has been added to the end of the paragraph. It reads “Paleozoic and Precambrian rocks are present in the subsurface only”.

Page 3-3, last paragraph, line 4: The word “areas” has been inserted after the words “high potential”.

Page 3-5, paragraph 1, line 2: The word “chokesberry” has been replaced with the word “chokecherry”.

Page 3-5, paragraph 2, line 1: The words “Altamont-Bluefields field” has been corrected to read “Altamont-Bluefield field”.

Page 3-5, paragraph 2, line 4: The abbreviation “mcf” has been replaced with “Mmcf”.

Page 3-5, paragraph 4, line 3: The words: The words “stratigraphic porosity” have been replaced with the words “stratigraphically controlled porosity”.

Page 3-5, paragraph 5, line 2. The period after “reservoir” has been replaced with a comma, and the following words have been added: “including the Nutter Canyon, Castle Peak, and Duchesne fields.”

Page 3-6, paragraph 2, lines 3, 4 and 5: The 3rd sentence has been rewritten to read “Currently, there area six federal leases...”.

Page 3-7, paragraph 1, line 4: The words “(see Figure 1-2)” have been added after the words “Sowers Canyon Field”.

Page 3-7, paragraph 2, line 1: The words “Mesa Verde” has been corrected to read “Mesaverde”.

Page 3-7, paragraph 3, line 1: The reference “(Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining 1977)” has been added after the words “100 billion cubic feet (bcf)”. This reference has also been add to Chapter 7, References.

Page 3-7, paragraph 4: The words “ by the Energy Information Administration” has been inserted after the words “ Based on estimates”.

Page 3-8, paragraph 7, line 1: The word “required” has been inserted after the word “elements”.

Page 3-43, bottom of page, Issue No. 2: The sentence has been corrected to read “and subsequent activities on wildlife”.

Page 3-44, first paragraph: The last two sentences of this paragraph, starting with the sentence that begins with “Streams are described by...” have been removed from the text.

Page 3-48, Section 3.4.4.6 Raptor Habitat, line 4: The following species has been inserted following “owl”: “ferruginous hawk, flammulated owl,”

Page 3-48, last paragraph, line 4: The following sentences have been deleted, based on USFWS modifications to the designation of candidate species, published in Federal Register, Vol 61, No. 40, February 28, 1996: “Candidate species fall into three categories. Category 1 comprises species for which the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) currently has substantial information on hand to support the biological appropriateness of listing the species as endangered or threatened. Category 2 comprises species for which listing is possibly appropriate, but for which conclusive data on biological vulverability and threat are currently not available to support proposed inclusion. Category 3 comprises species that were once being considered for listing, but are not currently receiving such consideration. These species may be believed to be extinct, no longer taxonomically recognized, or are more widespread and abundant than previously thought.”

Page 3-51, fifth paragraph: This paragraph has been rewritten to read: “Candidate species that may potentially occur in the study area include mountain plover (*Charadrius montanus*) and spotted frog (*Rana pretiosa*).

Page 3-51, last paragraph, line 1: “five birds” has been changed to “three birds”.

Page 3-51, last paragraph, line 2: the words “Swainsons hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*), have been deleted.

Page 3-51, last paragraph, line five: The following words have been inserted following “(*Plecotus townsendii*);”: “two fish, Colorado cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki pleuriticus*) and Bonneville cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki utah*)”

Page 3-51, last paragraph, line 5: the words “(also a federal candidate species)” have been deleted.

Page 3-53, paragraphs 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8: The paragraphs describing western snowy plover, black tern, western least bittern, loggerhead shrike, and white-faced ibis have been deleted.

Page 3-53, last paragraph: The paragraph describing Colorado cutthroat trout has been moved to the sensitive species section.

Page 3-54, paragraphs 2 and 3: The paragraphs describing Bonneville cutthroat trout and Untermann fleabane have been moved to the end of the sensitive species section on page 3-5.

Page 3-88, paragraph 2, sentence 4: After “... utilized for oil and gas exploration.” Add the following: “However, due to recent planning, scheduling, and construction activities of the Central Utah Water Project (CUP), access through Diamond Fork may be limited with the proposed construction of a dam at Monks Hollow which is located approximately 8 miles north of U.S. Highway 6 as well as other related infrastructures within Diamond Fork.”

Page 3-88, Uinta NF Region, paragraph 2, last sentence: delete “Forest Roads (FR) 116 and 070.”

Page 3-89, Uinta NF Region, paragraph 1: Change “From FR 125, a low standard pickup ...” to “FR 135, a low standard, high clearance ...”.

Page 3-89, Uinta NF Region: Add the following as the last paragraph: “It is expected that the roads listing above will generally remain unchanged, but due to time and management of nature resources, the transportation system may change which may include the road closures and/or obliteration, road surfacing, and road numbers.”

Page 4-2, paragraph 5, line 1: The beginning of this sentence which reads “Exploration for or development of other locatable or salable minerals besides oil and gas, should any be identified, ...” has been changed to read “Exploration for or development of locatable or salable minerals, should any be identified...”.

Two Figures, Figure C-1 and C-2, referenced on pages C-6 and C-7, have been added to the document.

Appendix D, page D-4, paragraph 6, sentence 3: Sentences 3 and 4 have been corrected to read “One well would be expected to disturb approximately 6.9 acres. The 6.9 acre disturbance would be composed of 2 acres for a well pad and 4.9 acres for roads”.

Appendix D, page D-6, first paragraph: The calculations at the top of page D-6 which calculate the acres of disturbance for exploration activities have been corrected. Lines 3 and 4 of the calculation now read:

$$\begin{aligned} &1 \text{ well} \times 0.7 \text{ miles/well} \times 3.6 \text{ acres /mile} = 2.5 \text{ acres} \\ &\text{Total acres of disturbance} = 6.9 \text{ acres} \end{aligned}$$

All Figures: Two of the Uinta Meridian Township designations have been corrected. “T.1.S” has been changed to “T.2.S.”, and “T.2.S.” has been changed to “T.3.S.”.