

DECEMBER 2008 BLM OIL AND GAS LEASE PARCEL SALE INFORMATION SHEET

Duma Point Area

Parcels: UT1108-166, UT1108-167, UT1108-168, UT1108-171

Description: Bordered by Duma Point Road, parcels comprise wilderness area proposed by America's Redrock Wilderness Act.

Resource Concerns:

Species Habitat: Critical habitat for kit fox [166], condor [166], and jones cycladenia [166]; desert bighorn lambing grounds and migration corridors [168, 171], and critical habitat and nesting sites for raptor species such as the burrowing owl and ferruginous hawk [167]

Air Quality: S-1 air shed designation [166]

Visual resources: VRM Class II high-quality visual resources[167]

Seasonal vulnerability: Fragile saline soils derived from Mancos Shale provide for potential winter watershed damage, compaction, rutting, topsoil loss, and other applicable damages. [167]

Other considerations:

The BLM has attempted in its RMP (Resource Management Plan) to mitigate the above concerns by placing stipulations intended for protection of habitat, viewshed, and prohibition or limitation of surface occupancy. However, these stipulations are not a replacement for a more protective "no lease" option. Each stipulation provides an "exception," allowing lessee a potential loophole around the intended protections. Only a handful of the 21 pages of stipulations expressly prohibit oil & gas from these exceptions. In addition, the BLM's provided stipulations fail to address cumulative effects of oil & gas leasing and the bigger picture of regional environmental protection.

Also keep in mind that if a parcel contains NSO (No Surface Occupancy) stipulations, the parcel must be drilled at from an *adjacent* parcel. The RMP does not adequately address the implications of this need, or the logistics of facilitating this type of drilling while upholding needed environmental protections.

For more information on stipulations or explanations of the new Visual Resource Management stipulations, please refer to a downloadable copy of the BLM's RMP (Resource Management Plan) found online at:

http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/moab/planning/final_rmp_eis.html



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For more information: www.redrockforests.org/blm_dec_2008_oil_and_gas_lease.htm