

DECEMBER 2008 BLM OIL AND GAS LEASE PARCEL SALE  
INFORMATION SHEET

**Yellow Cat Road/Lost Springs Canyon Area**

***Parcels:*** UT1108-198, UT1108-199, UT1108-214, UT1108-215

***Description:*** Adjacent to the northern boundary of Arches National Park, parcels overlap Yellow Cat Road, lower Cottonwood Wash, and lower Lost Springs Canyon; parcels lie within the general view shed of the Devil's Garden section of Arches National Park. Parcel 215 lies mostly within the Dome Plateau portion of wilderness area proposed by America's Redrock Wilderness Act and adjacent to land within the 1998 BLM Wilderness Inventory.

***Resource Concerns:***

**Species Habitat:** Critical habitat for white-tailed prairie dog [198], critical habitat and nesting sites for raptor species [198,199,215], critical winter habitat for deer and elk [198,199], critical habitat for kit fox [214], endangered condor [214], and endangered Jones cycladenia [214].

**Air Quality:** S-1 air shed designation [214].

**Visual Resources:** VRM Class II designation for high-quality visual resources [215].

**Recreational Resources:** Potential light and sound pollution would negatively affect the experience of National Park visitors [198,199,215].

***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](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](http://www.redrockforests.org/blm_dec_2008_oil_and_gas_lease.htm)