# Form 3160-3 (March 2012)

NM OIL CONSERVATION ARTESIA DISTRICT

OCD Artesia N 15 2015

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECEIVED 5. Lease Serial No. NMNM 014842

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO				6. If Indian, Allote N/A	e or Tribe	Name	
la. Type of work: DRILL REEN	TER	MANAGARAGA	4	7. If Unit or CA Ag NMNM 68291x	reement, Na	ame and !	No.
lb. Type of Well: Oil Well Gas Well Other		Single Zone 📝 Multi		8. Lease Name and BGSAU 19-004	Well No.	<31	575
Name of Operator Tandem Energy Corporation				9 API Well No.	5-4	35	7.
3a. Address 2700 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 1000 Houston, Texas 77056	1	Phone No. (include area code) 3) 364-7822		10. Field and Pool, or Metex/Premier	Explorator	ry	<u>.                                     </u>
4. Location of Well Report location clearly and in accordance with	any State	requirements.*)		11, Sec., T. R. M. or	Blk. and Su	rvey or A	rea
At surface 2,581' FSL & 1,196' FEL (NE/4 SW/4) of Se	ction 7	'-18S-29E N.M.		7-18S-29E N.M.			
At proposed prod. zone 2,581' FSL & 1,196' FEL (NE/4 S	W/4) o	f Section 7-18S-29E N.M.	-				
14. Distance in miles and direction from nearest town or post office* Approximately 8.5 miles southwest of Loco Hills, New Ma				12. County or Parish Eddy County		13. Stat NM	ie .
15. Distance from proposed* 1,196' FEL property or lease line, ft. (Also to nearest drig. unit line, if any)	-	No. of acres in lease .000 ac.	17. Spacin 640 a	g Unit dedicated to this cres	well	-	-
18. Distance from proposed location* to nearest well, drilling, completed, applied for, on this lease, ft.		Proposed Depth D: 2,850'		31A Bond No. on file 0342 <b>563</b>		_	
21. Elevations (Show whether DF, KDB, RT, GL, etc.)	22.	Approximate date work will sta	rt*	23. Estimated duration	on		
3,568' GL	08/	/15/2014		30 Days			
		. Attachments					
The following, completed in accordance with the requirements of Onsi	nore Oil	and Gas Order No.1, must be a	ttached to th	is form:			
<ol> <li>Well plat certified by a registered surveyor.</li> <li>A Drilling Plan.</li> <li>A Surface Use Plan (if the location is on National Forest System SUPO must be filed with the appropriate Forest Service Office).</li> </ol>	m Lands	Item 20 above). 5. Operator certific	cation	ns unless covered by an	_		,
25. Signature		Name (Printed/Typed) Troy Zaikis			Date 9/	4/14	,
Title Agent for Tandem Energy Corporation					<u> </u>		
Approved by (Signature)		Name (Printed/Typed)		<del>-</del>	Date	26	2015
Title Steve Caffey FIELD MANAGER	<u>.</u>	Office CAI	RLSBAD	FIELD OFFICE			
Application approval does not warrant or certify that the applicant ho	lds lega	l or equitable title to those righ	ts in the sub	ject lease which would	entitle the a	pplicant	io -
conduct operations thereon. Conditions of approval, if any, are attached.	_	,		NVAL FOR TV			

(Continued on page 2)



Must be in compliance with NMOCD Rule 5.9 prior to transporting/selling product.

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 and Title 43 U.S.C. Section 1212, make it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations as to any matter within its jurisdiction.



Roswell Controlled Water Basin

Approval Subject to General Requirements & Special Stipulations Attached

SEE ATTACHED FOR CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

<u>APPROVAL FOR TWO YEARS</u>

District I
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240
Phone; (575) 393-6161 Fax: (575) 393-0720
District B
811 S. Firu St., Artesia, NM 88210
Phone; (575) 748-1281 Fax: (575) 748-9720
District BI
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410
Phone; (505) 334-6178 Fax: (505) 334-6170
District IV
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Sante Fe, NM 87505
Phone; (505) 476-3460 Fax: (505) 476-3462

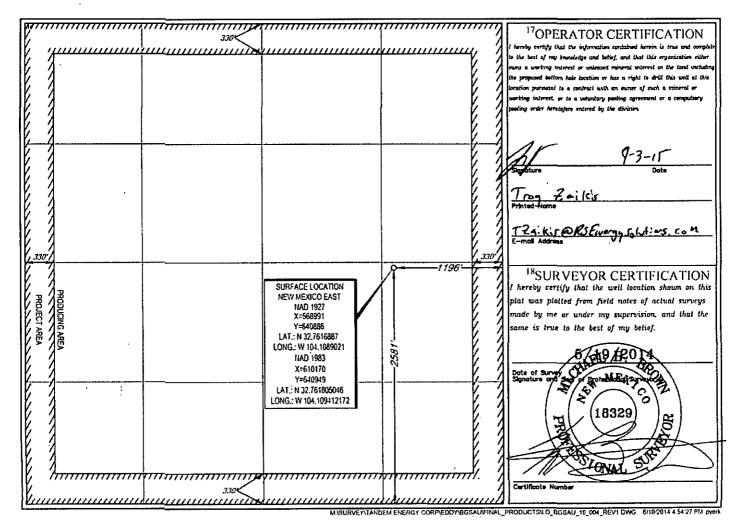
# State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 1220 South St. Francis Dr. Sante Fe. NM 87505

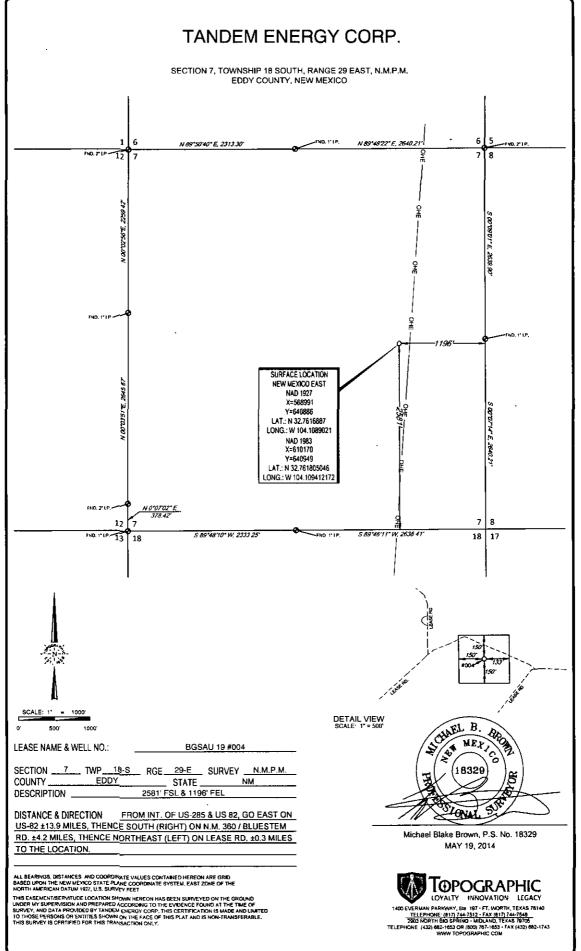
FORM C-102
Revised August 1, 2011
Submit one copy to appropriate
District Office

AMENDED REPORT

			ELL LO	CATION	AND ACRE	EAGE DEDICA	ATION PLAT	<u>r</u>	
<i>3</i> 0.0	API Number	3575	3	<sup>3</sup> Pool Code 9520	لمر	s Hills - Que	ion - Gray	bug-Stn A	adrecs
3157	25				Property Na BGSAU				/ell Number 004
236	83			TAN	NOperator No DEM ENER			i i	Elevation 3568
•					<sup>10</sup> Surface Lo	cation			
VL or lot no.	Section 7	Township 18-S	29-E	Lot Idn	Feet from the 2581'	North/South line SOUTH	Feet from the 1196'	East/West line EAST	EDDY
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Let Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
-	-		-		-		-	_	_
<sup>12</sup> Dedicated Acres 640.00	<sup>13</sup> Joint or I	nfill <sup>14</sup> Cor	rsolidation Çadı	e <sup>15</sup> Order	Na.				

No allowable will be assigned to this completion until all interests have been consolidated or a non-standard unit has been approved by the division.

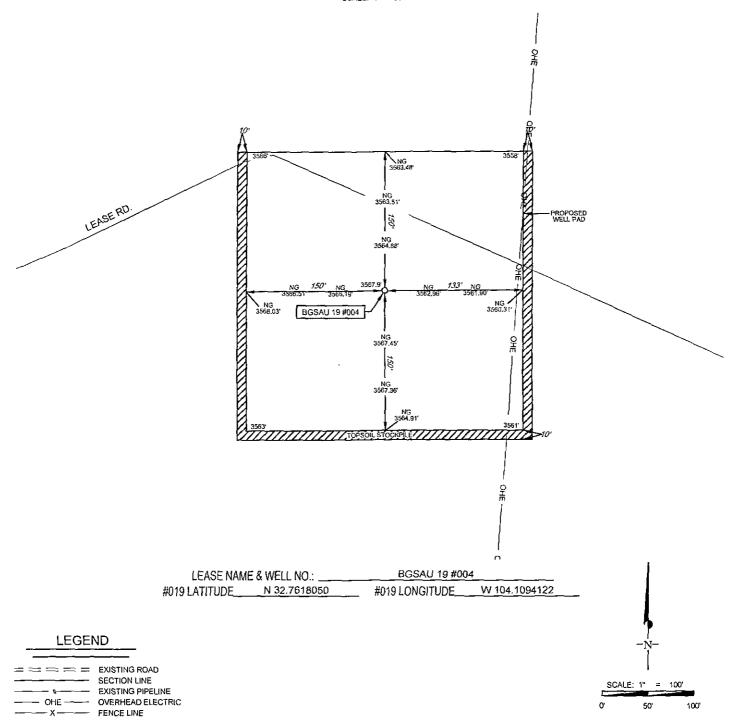




## TANDEM ENERGY CORP.

SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, N.M.P.M. EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

DETAIL VIEW SCALE: 1" = 100"



ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREON ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST 20NE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1983, U.S. SURVEY FEET

THIS PROPOSED PAD SITE LOCATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN SURVEYED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND AT THE TIME OF SURVEY, AND DATA PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. THIS CERTIFICATION IS MADE AND LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE. THIS SURVEY IS CERTIFIED FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.



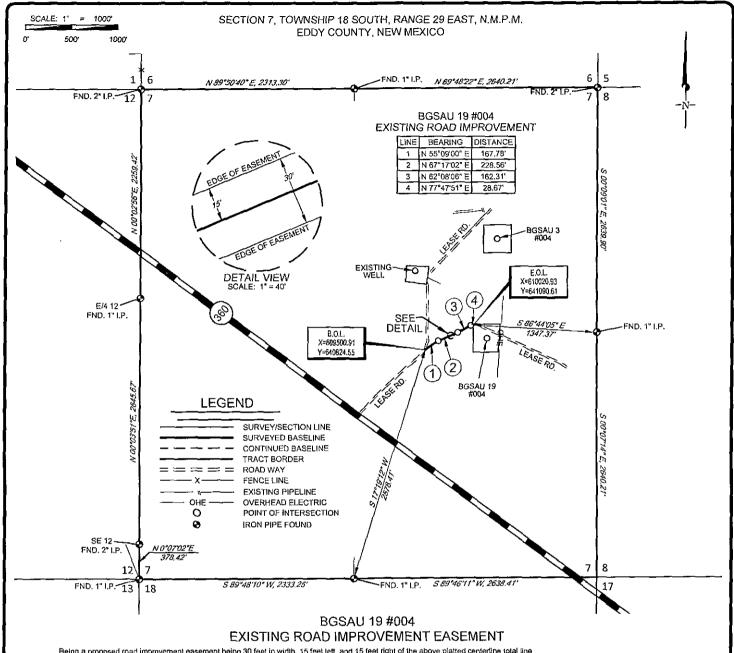
1400 EVERMAN PARKWAY, Ste. 197 • FT, WORTH, TEXAS 76140

TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 • FAX (817) 744-7548

2903 NORTH BIG SPRING • MIDLAND, TEXAS 76705

TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1633 OR (800) 767-1653 • FAX (432) 882-1743

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Being a proposed road improvement easement being 30 feet in width, 15 feet left, and 15 feet right of the above platted centerline total line footage containing 587.32 feet or 35.60 rods, containing 0.40 acres more or fess.



1400 EVERMAN PARKWAY, Ste. 197 • FT, WORTH, TEXAS 76140 TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 • FAX (817) 744-7548 2903 NORTH BIG SPRING • MIDLAND, TEXAS 79705 TANDEM ENERGY CORP. TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1653 OR (800) 767-1653 · FAX (432) 682-1743 WWW.TOPOGRAPHIC.COM "PRELIMINARY, THIS DOCUMENT SHALL NOT BE RECORDED FOR ANY PURPOSE."

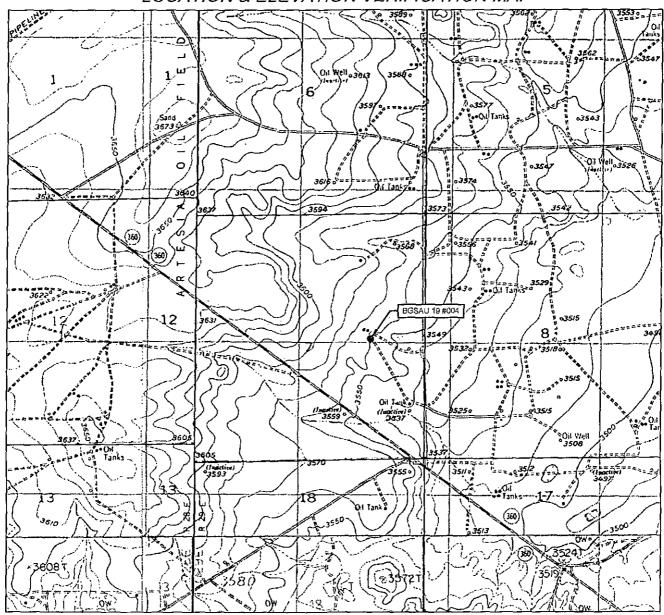
Michael Blake Brown, P.S. No. 18329 JUNE 24, 2014

#### BGSAU 19 #004 REVISION: **EXISTING ROAD** INT DATE IMPROVEMENT EASEMENT DATE: 06/24/14 FILE:EP\_BGSAU\_19\_004\_ROAD DRAWN BY: S.V. SHEET: 1 OF 1

NOTES:

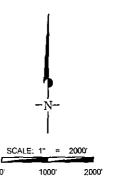
OTES:
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIZE: 8.5" X 11"
ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREIN ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE
COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE, U.S. SURVEY FEET, NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1900.
CERTIFICATION IS MADE ONLY TO THE LOCATION OF THIS BASEMENT, IN RELATION TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND DURING A FIELD SURVEY,
MADE ON THE GROUND, UNDER MY SUPERVISION, AND USING DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. ONLY
UTILITIES/BEASEMENTS THAT WERE VISIBLE ON THE DATE OF THIS SURVEY, WITHINADJOINEMT HIS EASEMENT, HAVE BEEN LOCATED AS
SHOWN HEREON OF WHICH I HAVE KNOWLEDGE. THIS CERTIFICATION IS LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE
FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE, AND MADE FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.
B.C.L.P.O.B. & BEGINNING OF LINE/POINT OF BEGINNING
E.O.L.P.O.B. & BEGINNING OF LINE/POINT OF BEGINNING

#### LOCATION & ELEVATION VERIFICATION MAP



# TANDEM ENERGY CORP.

LEASE NAME &	WELL NO.:	BGS	AU 19 #004
OFOTION 7	THAID 10 C D	OF 29 E	OUDVEY NAMEM
			SURVEY N.M.P.M. ELEVATION 3568'
DESCRIPTION .	25	81' FSL & 1196	S'FEL
LATITUDE	N 32.7618050	LONGITUDE	W 104.1094122



THIS EASEMENT/SERVITUDE LOCATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN SURVEYED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND AT THE TIME OF SURVEY, AND DATA PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. THIS CERTIFICATION IS MADE AND LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE. THIS SURVEY IS CERTIFIED FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.

ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREON ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1963, U.S. SURVEY



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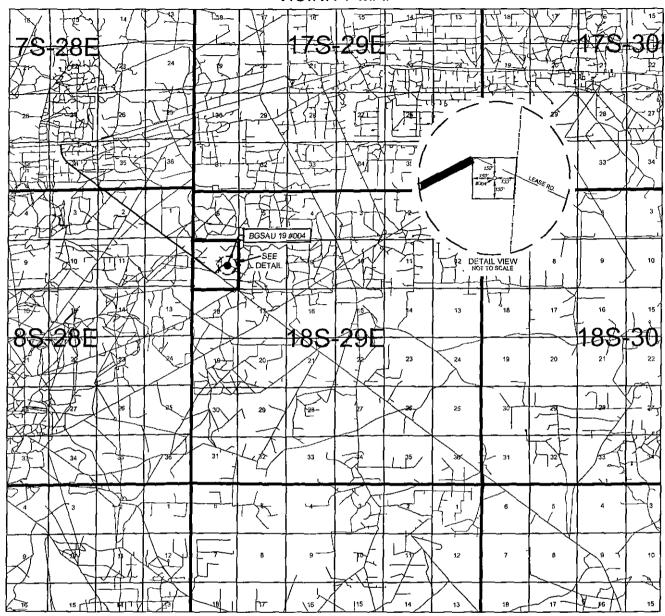
TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 • FAX (817) 744-7548

2903 NORTH BIG SPRING • MIDLAND, TEXAS 78705

TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1653 OR (800) 767-1653 • FAX (432) 682-1743

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#### VICINITY MAP

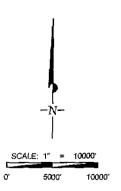


# TANDEM ENERGY CORP.

LEASE NAME & WELL NO.:	BGSAU 19 #004
COUNTYEDDY	
DESCRIPTION	2581' FSL & 1196' FEL
DISTANCE & DIRECTION _	FROM INT. OF US-285 & US 82, GO EAST ON
US-82 ±13.9 MILES, THENCE	SOUTH (RIGHT) ON N.M. 360 / BLUESTEM
RD, ±4,2 MILES, THENCE NO	ORTHEAST (LEFT) ON LEASE RD. ±0.3 MILES
TO THE LOCATION.	

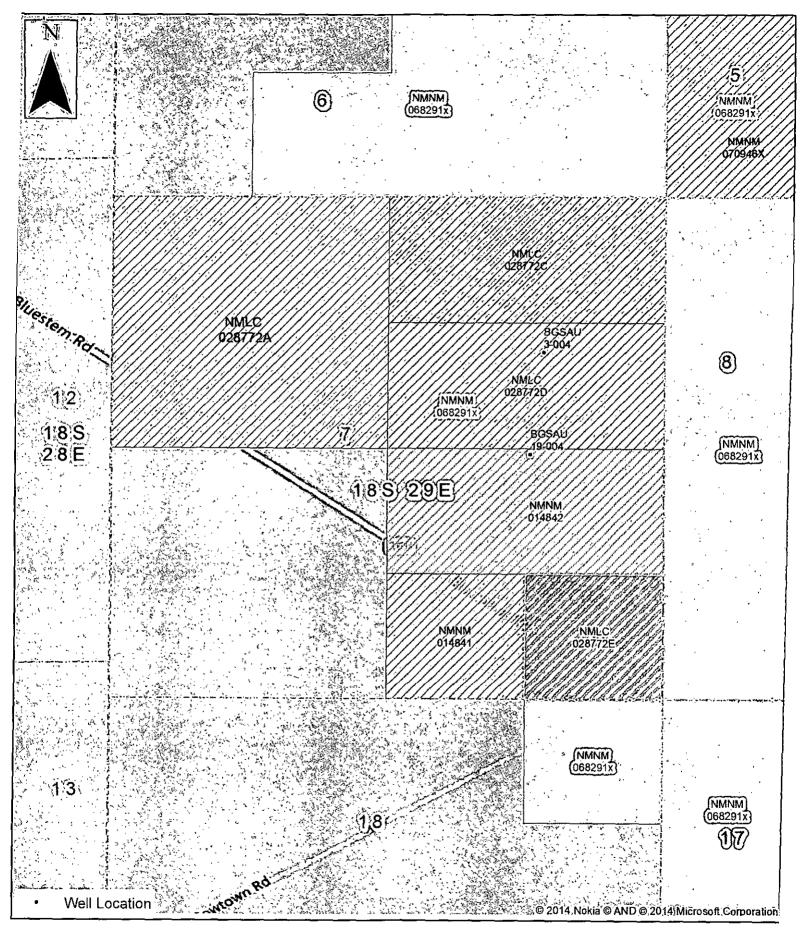
THIS FASEMENT/SERVITUDE LOCATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN SURVEYED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND AT THE TIME OF SURVEY, AND DATA PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. THIS CERTIFICATION IS MADE AND LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE. THIS SURVEY IS CERTIFIED FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.

ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREON ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1927, U.S. SURVEY FEET.





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TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 - FAX (817) 744-7548
2903 NORTH BIG SPRING - MIDLAND, TEXAS 76705
TELEPHONE: (432) 882-1653 OR (800) 767-1653 - FAX (432) 682-1743
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# Lease Plat

Tandem Energy Corporation BGSAU 3-004 and BGSAU 19-004 Section 7-18S-29E Eddy County, NM



# DRILLING PROGRAM

#### Operator:

**Tandem Energy Corporation** 

Project Name: BGSAU 19-004

**Project Location:** 

Surface Hole: 2,581' FSL & 1,196' FEL of Section 7-18S-29E N.M.

Federal Nexus: Mineral Estate

Bureau of Land Management Lease: # NMNM 014842 N/2 SE/4 Section 7-T18S-R29E, Eddy County, New Mexico Containing 80.000 acres

Prepared By:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc.

Date Prepared:

July 22, 2014

Submitted To:

Bureau of Land Management Carlsbad Field Office

Please address inquiries, questions, scheduling of meetings and deficiency statements, if any, to Scott St. John and/or Monica Smith Griffin at the address shown below:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. 1219 Classen Drive Oklahoma City, OK 73103 405-286-9326

sstjohn@rsenergysolutions.com msmith@rsenergysolutions.com

#### 1.0 Drilling Programs

#### 1.1.1 Estimated Formation Tops

EST. FORMATION TOP	Average l	Depth	13-0	04	19-00	)4	23-0	06	3-00	)4
	SUBSEA	MD	SUBSEA	MD	SUBSEA	, MD	SUBSEA	MD	SUBSEA	MD
Rustler (TOP OF SALT)	-3,200	375	3,200	375	3,200	375	3,200	375	13,200	375
BASE OF SALT	2,850	725	2,850	725 ·	2,850	725	2,850	725	2,850	725
,YATES	2,679	898	2,691	887	2,671	897	2,678	908	2,677	898
SEVEN RIVERS	2,323	1,254	2,326	1,252	2,313	1,255	2,326	1,260	2,325	1,250
QUEEN	1,577	1,900	1,670	1,908	1,581	1,887	1,669	1,917	1,688	1,887
GRAYBURG	1,327	2,250	1,290	2,288	1,348	2,220	1,316	2,270	1,353	2,222
LOCO HILLS	1,207	2,370	1,166	2,412	1,229	2,339	1,197	2,389	1,236	2,339
METEX	1,100	2,477	1,056	2,522	1,124	2,444	1,091	2,495	1,129	2,446
PRÉMIER ·	979	2,598	942	2,636	999	2,569	969	2,617	1,007	2,568
SAN ANDRES	904	2,673	865	2,713	922	2,646	894 .	2,692	933	2,642
Total Depth (TD)	727	2,85Ò	728	2,850	718	2,850	736	2,850	725	2,850

Target Formation and Total Depth:

The depth of the proposed well is TVD 2,850' in the Metex and Premier.

#### 1.1.2 Estimated Depths of Anticipated Fresh Water, Oil, and Gas

Substance	<u>Depth</u>
Fresh Water	0'-400'
Hydrocarbons	2,477' - TD

#### 1.1.2.1 Water Protection Compliance

No other formations are expected to yield oil, gas, or freshwater in measureable volumes. The potential fresh water sands will be protected with the 8-5/8" casing set at 400', based on 25 ft penetration into the Rustler Formation at 375'.

1.1.3 Pressure Control Equipment

Surface: 0'-400' None. See COA

<u>Production:</u> 400' MD/TVD – 2,850' TVD The minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) required to drill below the surface casing shoe shall be 3000 (3M) psi. Operator will be using an 11" 3M two ram stack with 3M annular preventer, & 3M Choke Manifold.

Seen

- a. The 11" 3000 psi blowout prevention equipment will be installed and operational after setting the 8 5/8" surface casing and the 8 5/8" SOW x 11" 3K conventional wellhead; the rotating head body will be installed but the rubber will be installed when it becomes operationally necessary.
- b. The BOP and ancillary BOPE will be tested by a third party after setting surface casing. All equipment will be tested to 250/3000 psi for 10 minutes and charted, except the annular, which will be tested to 50% of working pressure.
- c. The BOPE test will be repeated within 21 days of the original test, on the first trip
- d. Other accessory BOP equipment will include a floor safety valve, choke lines, and choke manifold having a 3000 psi working pressure rating and tested to 3000 psi.
- e. The Operator also requests a variance to connect the BOP choke outlet to the choke manifold using a 3" co-flex hose with a working pressure of 3000 psi.
- f. BOP & Choke manifold diagrams attached.

An 11" 3M system will be installed, used, maintained, and tested accordingly as described in Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2.

Our BOP equipment will be:

- Rotating Head
- Annular BOP I 11" 3M
- a Blind Ram, 11" 3M
- Pipe Ram, 11" 3M

After nippling up, and every 30 days thereafter or whenever any seal subject to test pressure is broken followed by related repairs, blowout preventors will be pressure tested. BOP will be inspected and operated at least daily to insure good working order. All pressure and operating tests will be done by an independent service company and recorded on the daily drilling reports. BOP will be tested using a test plug to isolate BOP stack from casing. BOP test will include a low pressure test from 250 to 300 psi for a minimum of 10 minutes or until requirements of test are met, whichever is longer. Ram type preventers and associated equipment will be tested to the approved stack working pressure of 3000 psi isolated by test plug. Annular type preventers will be tested to 50 percent of rated working pressure, and therefore will be tested to 1500 psi. Pressure will be held for at least 10 minutes or until provisions of test are met, whichever is longer. Valve on casing head below test plug will be open during testing of BOP stack. BOP will comply with all provisions of Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2 as specified (See Attached BOP Schematic):

#### 1.1.4 Proposed Casing and Cementing Program

8-34" per Operator

	_	Propose	d Casi	ing and C	emen	ting Pro	gram			
,	(DP <sub>1.1.4</sub>	.1	Propo:	sed Casir	ıg Proj	gram >	See	COI	4	·
Sel	Interval	Length (MD)	Size	Weight/ft	Grade	Thread	Condition	Hole size	Washout Factor	Cement Yield
	Surface	186	8 5/8"	24.0#	J-55	ST&C	New	12 ¼"	100%	1.35 cu. Ft/sk
	Production	2,850'	5 1/2"	17.0#	J-55	LT&C	New	X	100%	2.37/1.53 cu. Ft/sk

#### Surface Casing:

	Top	Bottom	Size	Weight/Ft	Grade	Collapse psi	Internal Yld psi	Body Yld Strength	Joint Strength
1	Surface	400'	8 5/8"	24#	J-5S	1,370	2,950	381,000	244,000

#### **Production Casing:**

Top	Bottom	Size	Weight/Ft	Grade	Thread	Collapse	Internal	Body Yld	Joint
<u> </u>			_		L	psi	Yld psi	Strength	Strength
Surface	2,850'	5-1/2"	17#	<b>j-55</b>	LT&C	4,910	5,320	273,000	247,000

#### 1.1.4.2 Proposed Cement Program

See

Surface Casing: 250 sx Class "C" with 2% CaCl, 0.25% R-38 and 0.25 lb/sx Cellophane flakes (14.8 ppg, 1.35 ft3/sx, 6.34 gps)

Production Casing: Lead - 320 sx Lite (35% Poz, 65% Class "C", 6% gel) with 5 lbs/sx CaCl and 1/4 lb/sx Cellophane flakes (12.01 ppg, 2.37 ft3/sx, 14.08 gps) Tail - 115 sx Class "C" with 0.25 lb/sx Cellophane flakes (13.9 ppg, 1.53 ft3/sx)

Cement volumes are based on bringing TOC to surface.

Operator reserves the right to change cement designs as hole conditions may warrant.

#### 1.1.5 Proposed Mud Program

	Interval	Туре	Mnd Weight for Pressure Control Design	Maximum Mud Weight for Hole Control Design	Viscosity	Formation Fracture Gradient	Fluid Loss
ſ	0' <del>- 4</del> 00'	Freshwater	8.4 - 8.8	8.8	26 - 36	.60	NC
Ε	∕(00'- TD'	Cut Brine	8.8 - 9.2	9.2	28 - 32	.60	NC to <8

Application for Permit to Drill

Tandem Energy Corporation Section 7-18S-29E N.M. Eddy County, New Mexico

BGSAU 19-004

Seco 1.1.5

#### 5.1 Mud System Requirements

Interval	Max TVD (ft)	Anticipated Mud Weight (ppg)	Estimated Max Pore Pressure (ppg)	Internal Yield Strength (psi)	Collapse Strength (psi)	Joint Strenght (psi)	Body Strength (psi)	Burst Safety Factor (Min 1.0)	Colipase Safety Factor (Min 1.1)	Tensile Safety Factor (Min 1.8)
Surface	400'	8.8	5	2,950	1,370	244,000	381,000	16.12	26.82	25.42
Prod.	2,850	9.2	5	5,320	4,910	247,000	273,000	1.3	3.65	5.10

The production hole will start with the fresh water mud to test the surface casing and drill out the shoe track into open hole. The fresh water mud system will be allowed to gain chlorides through the salt section and be cut with brine water for weight increase. Plan to drill with a cut brine system with a mud weight of 8.8-9.2 ppg with no water loss control. When the hole is within 50-100 ft of TD, will start using gel to increase viscosity and LCM (paper) to control fluid loss during logging operations.

If the well will have whole core, sidewall core and open hole logs, the mud properties will be altered to provide a better wall cake and lower fluid loss to improve the quality of the core samples.

The Mud System will run as a closed loop system with PVT monitoring. All drill cuttings and liquid mud will be hauled to an approved site.

1.1.6 Evaluation Program

.... HAGTERIOTI

10' from 1,800' to TD

Samples: Logging:

GR/Neutron/Density/Resistivity/CAL-Triple Combo

Run

Coring:

Whole cores and sidewall cores may be taken

subject to the conditions of the hole and drilling fluid

**Drill Stem Tests:** 

None planned

#### 1.1.7 Downhole Conditions

Zones of possible lost circulation:

N/A

Zones of possible abnormal pressure:

N/A

Maximum bottom hole temperature:

110° F

Maximum bottom hole pressure:

1,200 psi or less.

#### 1.1.8 Flare Pit

The proposed well will not require a flare pit.

## 1.1.9 Plug and Abandon Costs

It estimated that P&A costs associated with this well, including reclamation, is \$35,000.

## **Tandem Energy Corporation Ballard Grayburg San Andres Unit** WELL NAME - Ballard GSAU #13-004 **Planned**

Legals:

Lease:

Ballard GSAU #13-004

Location: D 1018' FNL, 892' FWL,

NW/NW Sec. 5 Township 18S Range 29E

Field:

Ballard Grayburg San Andres Unit

Elevation:

3571

Surface Csg.: 8-5/8" 24#@400"

cmt'd to surface 250 sx cmt.

12 1/4" Hole size

**PBTD 2800'** 

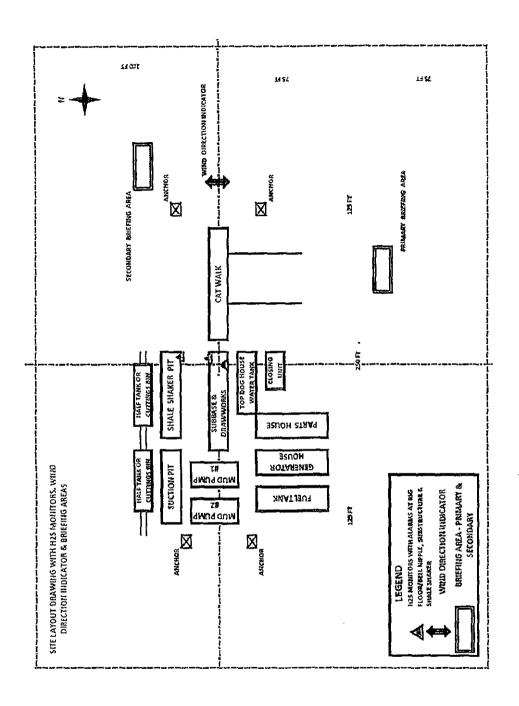
Prod. Csg.:

5 1/2" 17 #, LTD @ 2848'

445 sxs cmt.

TOC calculated at surface

TD 2850'



# SURFACE USE PLAN

#### Operator:

Tandem Energy Corporation

Project Name: BGSAU 19-004

#### Project Location:

Surface Hole: 2,581' FSL & 1,196' FEL of Section 7-18S-29E N.M.

Federal Nexus: Mineral Estate

Bureau of Land Management Lease: # NMNM 014842 N/2 SE/4 Section 7-T18S-R29E, Eddy County, New Mexico Containing 80.000 acres

#### Prepared By:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc.

Date Prepared:

July 22, 2014

#### Submitted To:

Bureau of Land Management Carlsbad Field Office

Please address inquiries, questions, scheduling of meetings and deficiency statements, if any, to Scott St. John and/or Monica Smith Griffin at the address shown below:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. 1219 Classen Drive Oklahoma City, OK 73103 405-286-9326

sstjohn@rsenergysolutions.com msmith@rsenergysolutions.com

#### 2.0 Surface Use Plan

Tandem Energy Corporation proposes to drill the BGSAU 19-004 oil well. The proposed well is located on Bureau of Land Management surface and will be drilled through and produce from Bureau of Land Management managed minerals in the N/2 SE/4 Section 7-18S-29E, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The BGSAU 19-004 well pad will be approximately 300' by 300' (2.07 acres) (See well pad cut/fill plat in exhibit section). An existing lease road will be utilized, no new lease road construction will be required. The proposed pipeline will be placed above the surface and will run to an existing tank battery. The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing.

Due to the proposed wells producing from Bureau of Land Management managed minerals, these wells must be permitted through the Bureau of Land Management.

#### 2.1 Cultural and Biological Clearances

#### 2.1.1 Cultural Clearances

In lieu of a cultural resources inventory survey, compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will be met via contribution to the Permian Basin Programmatic Agreement off-site mitigation fund.

#### 2.1.2 Special Status Species

The Biota Information System of New Mexico was consulted to find special status species at or near the proposed location. A Biological Evaluation was performed for the project area for Tandem Energy Corporation's BGSAU 19-004 in Eddy County, New Mexico.

#### **Determination of Effect Summary**

#### Federally Endangered or Threatened Species:

A determination of "No Effect" for all federally listed species has been made for the project.

#### **New Mexico Species of Concern:**

A determination of "May May Impact Individuals but not likely to Cause a Trend to Federal Listing or a Loss of Viability" has been assessed to the following species:

#### Swift Fox (Vulpes velox)

A determination of "No Impact" on all other New Mexico Species of Concern has been assessed for this project.

#### 2.1.3 Wetlands

A Wetland Determination was performed for the proposed project. The on-site inspection determined that there is no wetland habitat in the project area; therefore, no impact on wetland habitat is expected (See the attached Biological Evaluation).

#### 2.2 Surface Use Program

#### 2.2.1 Staking Information

Well site staking was performed on May 13, 2014, prior to on-site survey and APD approval. The staking and associated plats include directional reference stakes, exterior dimensions of the drill pad, and lease road (See Staking Plats in Exhibit Section).

#### 2.3 Existing Roads

2.3.1 Route and distance from nearest town or locatable reference point to where well access route leaves main road is given below.

From the intersection of U.S. 82 Highway and State Highway 360 east of Artesia, New Mexico; Thence southeast on State Highway 360 for 4.8 miles to an existing lease road in Section 7-18S-29E; Thence northeast 1,550' arriving at the northwest corner of the proposed well pad.

2.3.2 Plans for improvement and/or statement that existing roads will be maintained in the same or better condition is given below.

The proposed lease road will be new road construction and maintained as described below during the operation activity of the proposed well.

All existing Federal, State and County roadways which may be utilized during the proposed action will be maintained and, where necessary, improved in accordance with the rules and regulations of the applicable Federal, State and/or County transportation department and their governing bodies. Federal, State and County permits will be acquired where necessary.

#### 2.4 Planned Lease Road(s)

# 2.4.1 New roads are to be centerline flagged at time of location staking.

All new roads have been center lined surveyed. A legible map of all necessary lease roads to be constructed is attached.

#### 2.4.2 All lease roads require a minimum width of 14 feet.

The proposed lease road right-of-way is approximately 30' wide, while the road surface is approximately 14' wide.

#### 2.4.3 Length of Lease Roads

An existing lease road will be utilized, no new lease road construction will be required.

#### 2.4.4 Maximum grade of lease road is required to be less than 8%

An existing lease road will be utilized and improved. The existing lease road has an elevation change of approximately 4' over the 587' road length (approximately 0.7%).

#### 2.4.5 Description of Turnouts

No turnouts will be constructed for this project.

#### 2.4.6 Drainage Design

The proposed project locations are located in arid grasslands. The surface is leased through the BLM for grazing. All runoff from the project areas would flow southwest before reaching road bar ditches.

To mitigate erosion and protect the natural drainage areas, erosion control methods (e.g. cut ratios of 3:1 and fill ratios of 2:1) will be implemented during the construction and production phases of this project. The slopes of the well pads and the pipeline right-of-way will be seeded. Erosion mitigation such as silt fences and hay bales, will be located on as need surrounding the well pads due to the natural drainage slope that exists in relation to the orientation of the pad and its proximity to the natural drainages.

#### 2.4.7 Location and size of culverts

No culverts will be required for this project.

#### 2.4.8 Major cuts and fills

A maximum 2' fill will be required west of the location stake for the well pad. A maximum 4' fill will be required north of the location stake for the well pad. A maximum 7' fill will be required east of the location stake for the well pad. A maximum 3' fill will be required south of the location stake for the well pad. All cut ratios will be 3:1 and all fill ratios will be 2:1.

#### 2.4.9 Stormwater Management Plan

During drilling activities, trenches will surround all pumps, motors and rig such that runoff will be directed to a sump area on the well site and pumped into a haul off tank. During production operations all runoff contained within the tank battery facility will be pumped into the water tank and disposed of according to applicable regulations.

#### 2.4.10 Surfacing Material

Native on-site material will be used for surfacing with gravel furnished from a private commercial source.

# 2.4.11 Necessary gates, cattle guards, or fence cuts are described as follows:

No fencing is required.

#### 2.4.12 Lease Road Construction

An existing lease road will be utilized, no new lease road construction will be required.

All lease roads will provide all weather access to this property. All lease roads will be maintained with a motor grader in a prudent manner as an all weather road. Maintenance activity shall include but not be limited to re-rocking, reshaping, compacting and crowning said location road as necessary. Any ruts, rills, and eroded areas will be filled as necessary. The soils underlying said location road are discussed in Section 2.14 - Other Information.

#### 2.5 Location of Existing Wells within a One-Mile Radius

#### 2.5.1 Abandoned Wells

See attached I-mile radius plat

#### 2.5.2 Temporary Abandoned or Shut-In Well

See attached 1-mile radius plat

#### 2.5.3 Disposal Wells or Injection Wells

See attached 1-mile radius plat

#### 2.5.4 Producing Wells

See attached 1-mile radius plat

#### 2.6 Location of Production Facilities

According to NTL 87-1 production facilities shall be painted according to stipulations provided by the surface managing agency; the BGSAU 19-004 is located on BLM surface.

#### 2.7 Location and Type of Water Supply

Water required for drilling and fracturing of the proposed well will be obtained from a private source. There will not be an on-site frac pit.

#### 2.8 Source of Construction Material

The location will be graded and leveled with existing soil at proposed site. Construction material for both the roads and well pads will be obtained from Sweatt Construction Inc. in Artesia, NM, a commercial private site.

#### 2.9 Methods for Handling Waste Disposal

Drilling fluids will be contained in a closed system. All drill cuttings and liquid mud will be hauled to an approved site for disposal or soil farmed upon receiving appropriate State of New Mexico Oil Conservation Division approval.

All construction related debris will be disposed of in an approved manner. Sewage, garbage and other waste material will be placed in containers kept on the well site and disposed of in accordance with all applicable regulations.

# 2.9.1 Plans for eventual disposal of drilling fluids and any produced oil or water recovered during testing operations are as follows:

All drilling fluids including but not limited to salts, chemicals, oil residues, water, sewage and all other waste and chemical pollutants, which may be generated during testing operations, will be disposed of according to applicable regulations.

The BLM Carlsbad Field Office, will be notified in writing if any hazardous materials or hazardous substances are used or if any hazardous waste is generated in or from drilling mud or any part of the drilling, completion, recompletion, producing, or plugging and abandonment process, including the construction, operation, or abandonment of any treatment or process facilities. Included will be a list of the name, kind and amount of any such hazardous materials, substances, or waste, the disposal of such waste and the names addresses and telephone numbers of EPA-qualified transporters and disposers that will be used. The BLM will be furnished with a copy of the manifest after delivery and disposal of the hazardous waste. This manifest copy will be signed by the transporter and disposer (see 40 CFR 116 & 262).

#### 2.10 Ancillary Facilities

There are no ancillary facilities associated with the proposed wells.

#### 2.11 Well Site Layout Plat

Please see attached rig layout plat in Exhibit Section.

#### 2.12 Plans for Reclamation of Surface upon Completion of Operations

- 2.12.1 Tandem Energy Corporation will restore topsoil to its original condition after well pad is downsized during the production phase.
- 2.12.2 Tandem Energy Corporation will backfill, level and restore to original contours with segregation of spoiled materials as needed.
- 2.12.3 Well pad site will be downsized from the south edge of the well pad to the deadman anchors to allow maintenance on well to continue after the well is placed into production.
- 2.12.4 Tandem Energy Corporation will rehabilitate all disturbed areas, including lease roads. All areas of reclamation will be rehabilitated by seeding.
- 2.12.5 If a well is not a producer, the restoration process would begin within sixty (60) days of the rig release and completed within thirty (30) days, weather permitting.
  - If a well is a producer, all areas not being used for production purposes (typically within the dimensions of the anchors and the production facilities) would be reclaimed in the interim period (The interim period is forty-five (45) days after the setting of the production casing string or completion of plugging as a dry hole). After a well is no longer in production, the remainder of the restoration process would begin as soon as possible, but in no case longer than sixty (60) days from final plugging of the well. The restoration process would be completed within thirty (30) days, weather permitting.
- 2.12.6 Upon abandonment of a well, all waste will be hauled away and disposed of in an approved manner. All equipment and salvageable material will be removed from the drill site. All debris generated from the drilling and operating of a well, which is unsuited for burial at an approved landfill, will be disposed of according to applicable regulations. Cleaning operations will commence with completion of drilling activity and should be completed in approximately 10 days. The drill site will be restored as near as practicable to its preconstruction condition and topography. All surface drainage patterns, which may be affected by the proposed action, will be shaped and restored to preconstruction conditions. The soil will be graded and tilled to

prepare its surface for seedbed in accordance with the applicable regulatory and conservation agencies. Erosion control techniques will be implemented when necessary.

#### 2.13 Surface Ownership

The surface ownership at the well locations is as follows:

Bureau of Land Management Carlsbad Field Office 620 E. Greene St. Carlsbad, NM 88220 (575) 234-5972

#### 2.14 Other Information

The proposed well site, lease road, and pipeline are located in Eddy County, New Mexico. Eddy County is situated in the southeastern part of New Mexico which is largely rural. The principal land usage is oil and gas production with light cattle grazing.

More particularly, the project area is located in arid grasslands. The proposed well pad will be approximately 300' by 300' (2.07 acres). The construction of the well pad will not require the removal of trees.

The proposed well pad is located in arid grasslands. The topography surrounding the well pads is flat.

#### 2.14.1 Noise Abatement

There are no residences within a ¼ mile of the proposed project area. There are no compressor engines, or any other machinery currently planned which may cause noise pollution. However, should any machinery be needed or used which may result in noise pollution, Tandem Energy Corporation will address noise abatement appropriately.

#### 2.14.2 Soil

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey and the NRCS Soil Survey for Eddy County, New Mexico, was used to determine the soils present in the proposed project areas.

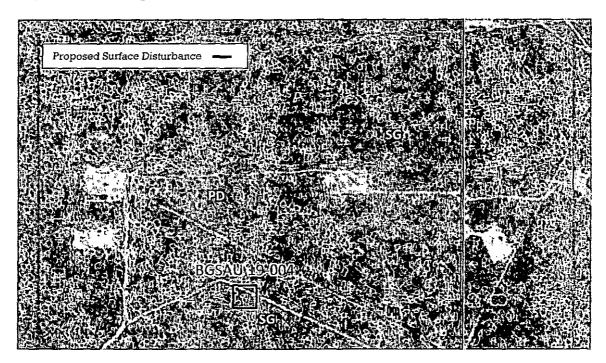
A "Kw" factor has been determined for the soil type. The "Kw" factor relates to erosion caused by water and is based on a scale ranging from 0.02-0.69 with a larger value denoting a higher susceptibility for water

caused erosion. The project area contains soil types with a low rating for erosion susceptibility due to water.

A Wind Erodibility Group has also been determined for the soil type. The Wind Erodibility Group is a parameter used to show a soils susceptibility to erosion caused by wind. The rating scale is based on a 1 to 8 rating with 1 being the most susceptible to wind erosion and 8 being the least susceptible. The project area contains soil types with a moderate rating for erosion susceptibility due to wind.

However, with implementations of erosion control measures, erosion will not have a major impact on environmental resources in the vicinity of the project area.

Figure 1. Soil Map



Soil Type	Slope	Drainage	Parent Material	Frequency of Flooding	Frequency of Ponding	"Kw" Factor	Wind Erodibility Group
Simona gravelly fine sandy loam (SC)	0-3%	Well Drained	Mixed alluvium and/or eolian sands	None	None	0.15	4
Pajarito-Dune land complex (PD)	0-3%	Well Drained	Mixed alluvium and/or eolian sands	None	None	0.24	3

Please see attached Biological Evaluation for discussion of wildlife in the area.

#### 2.14.3 Pipeline Construction Plan

The proposed pipeline will be placed above the surface and will run to an existing tank battery.

The BLM will be provided a map indicating the surface pipeline route whenever a route is decided.

#### 2.15 Bond Certification

Tandem Energy Corporation is responsible under the terms and conditions of the lease to conduct lease operations in conjunction with the application. Bond coverage pursuant to CFR 43 for lease activities is being provided by Tandem Energy Corporation under their Statewide Bond, BLM Bond No. NMB 000312.

#### 2.16 Certification

I hereby certify, that I, or persons under my direct supervision, have inspected the proposed drill sites and access routes; that I am familiar with the conditions which presently exist; that the statements made in this plan are, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct; and, that the work associated with the operations proposed herein will be performed by Tandem Energy Corporation and its contractors and sub-contractors in conformity with this plan and the terms and conditions under which it is approved. This statement is subject to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 1001 for the filing of a false statement.

**Tandem Energy Corporation** 

Vov Zaikis

Ment for Tandem Energy Corporation

Date: 영/기//

IV.Lessee's or operator's representative

Ralph W. Schofield Tandem Energy Corporation 2700 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 1000 Houston, Texas 77056 (713) 364-7822

Please address inquiries, questions, scheduling of meetings and deficiency statements, if any, to Scott St. John and/or Monica Smith Griffin at the address shown below:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. 1219 Classen Drive Oklahoma City, OK 73103 405-286-9326

sstjohn@rsenergysolutions.com msmith@rsenergysolutions.com



June 18, 2014

Bureau of Land Management – New Mexico P. O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115

To Whom It May Concern:

Tandem Energy Corporation has contracted with REAGAN SMITH Energy Solutions, Inc. to act as its Designated Agent to complete the application process for obtaining drilling permits on Department of Interior - Bureau of Land Management leases within the state of New Mexico.

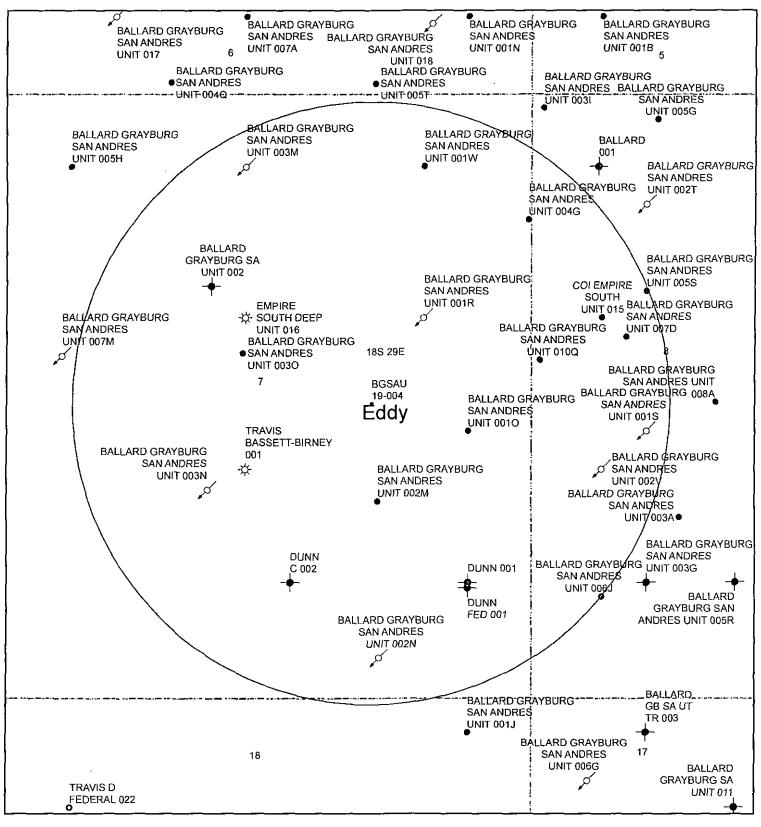
Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

TANDEM ENERGY CORPORATION

Kimmy Watson

Manager, Health, Safety, Environmental and Compliance



- **BGSAU 19-004**
- GAS, AC
- INJ, AC
- OIL, AC
- O, New (Not drilled or compl)

# 1m Radius Plat

**Tandem Energy Corporation BGSAU 19-004** Eddy County, NM Section 7-18S-29E





Map Created July 10th, 2014 By: Alex Sherman ASherman@rsenergysolutions.com





# **Biological Evaluation**

Operator:

**Tandem Energy Corporation** 

Project Name: BGSAU 19-004

Project Location:

Surface Hole: 2,581' FSL & 1,196' FEL of Section 7-18S-29E N.M.

Federal Nexus: Mineral Estate

Bureau of Land Management Lease: # NMNM 014842 N/2 SE/4 Section 7-T18S-R29E, Eddy County, New Mexico Containing 80.000 acres

Prepared By:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc.

Date Prepared:

July 22, 2014

Submitted To:

Bureau of Land Management Carlsbad Field Office

Please address inquiries, questions, scheduling of meetings and deficiency statements, if any, to Scott St. John and/or Monica Smith Griffin at the address shown below:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. 1219 Classen Drive Oklahoma City, OK 73103 405-286-9326

sstjohn@rsenergysolutions.com msmith@rsenergysolutions.com

# **BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

### **Summary Page**

Tandem Energy Corporation proposes to drill the BGSAU 19-004 oil well. The proposed well is located on Bureau of Land Management surface and will be drilled through and produce from Bureau of Land Management managed minerals in the N/2 SE/4 of Section 7-18S-29E, Eddy County, New Mexico.

The BGSAU 19-004 well pad will be approximately 300' by 300' (2.07 acres) (See well pad cut/fill plat in exhibit section). An existing lease road will be utilized, no new lease road construction will be required. The proposed pipeline will be placed above the surface and will run to an existing tank battery. The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing.

<u>Wetland Analysis</u>: Consultation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory map determined that the project area is not located in a mapped wetland. A Wetland Determination was performed for the project. The project inspection determined that there is no wetland habitat in the project area; therefore, there will be no impact to wetland habitat.

Migratory Bird Analysis: The project area for the well pad and pipeline are located in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The operator will comply with the requirements of NTL 96-01 in order to minimize the likelihood of accidental death of birds and bats on oil and gas facilities under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Thirty-one (31) Birds of Conservation Concern are listed for the Chihuahuan Desert (Bird Conservation Region 35), where this project is located. Breeding bird surveys conducted near the site (Lakewood Route) documented three (3) species from that list: Burrowing Owl, Loggerhead Shrike & Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Whereas this project may have impacted individuals, it is not likely to adversely impact the populations of this species.

#### **Determination of Effect Summary:**

#### Federally Endangered or Threatened Species:

A determination of "No Effect" for all federally listed species has been made for the project.

#### New Mexico Species of Concern:

A determination of "May Impact Individuals but not likely to Cause a Trend to Federal Listing or a Loss of Viability" has been assessed to the following species:

Swift Fox (Vulpes velox)

A determination of "No Impact" on all other New Mexico Species of Concern has been assessed for this project.

#### 1.0 Biological Evaluation

#### I. I Biological Evaluation Requirements

Tandem Energy Corporation proposes to drill the BGSAU 19-004 oil well. The proposed well is located on Bureau of Land Management surface and will be drilled through and produce from Bureau of Land Management managed minerals in the N/2 SE/4 of Section 7-18S-29E, Eddy County, New Mexico. Due to the wells producing from Bureau of Land Management managed minerals, the well must be permitted through the Bureau of Land Management. The well will require the construction of a well pad, hereinafter "project area". The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. This Biological Evaluation addresses threatened and endangered species, special status species, migratory birds and wetlands.

#### 1.2 Existing Action

#### 1.2.1 Project Location

From the intersection of U.S. 82 Highway and State Highway 360 east of Artesia, New Mexico; Thence southeast on State Highway 360 for 4.8 miles to an existing lease road in Section 7-18S-29E; Thence northeast 1,550' arriving at the northwest corner of the proposed well pad.

#### 1.2.2 Well Pad Information

A maximum 2' fill will be required west of the location stake for the well pad. A maximum 4' fill will be required north of the location stake for the well pad. A maximum 7' fill will be required east of the location stake for the well pad. A maximum 3' fill will be required south of the location stake for the well pad. All cut ratios will be 3:1 and all fill ratios will be 2:1.

#### 1.2.3 Lease Road Information

**BGSAU 19-004:** An existing lease road will be utilized, no new lease road construction will be required.

#### 1.2.4 Pipeline Information

**BGSAU 19-004:** The proposed pipeline will be placed above the surface and will run to an existing tank battery.

#### 1.2.5 Additional Information

Major activity, other than described in the permit application and any decision document for the permit not covered by this Biological Evaluation will require a Biological Evaluation prior to future surface disturbance. Minor activities that do not result in significant impacts may be covered by an amendment to this Biological Evaluation.

#### 1.3 Environmental Baseline for Project Area

#### 1.3.1 Land Use

The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing.

#### 1.3.2 Soils

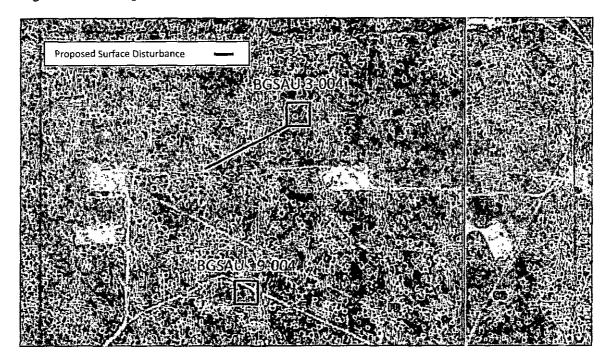
The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey and the NRCS Soil Survey for Eddy County, New Mexico, was used to determine the soils present in the proposed project areas.

A "Kw" factor has been determined for the soil type. The "Kw" factor relates to erosion caused by water and is based on a scale ranging from 0.02-0.69 with a larger value denoting a higher susceptibility for water caused erosion. The project area contains soil types with a low rating for erosion susceptibility due to water.

A Wind Erodibility Group has also been determined for the soil type. The Wind Erodibility Group is a parameter used to show a soils susceptibility to erosion caused by wind. The rating scale is based on a 1 to 8 rating with 1 being the most susceptible to wind erosion and 8 being the least susceptible. The project area contains soil types with a high rating for erosion susceptibility due to wind.

However, with implementations of erosion control measures, erosion will not have a major impact on environmental resources in the vicinity of the project area.

Figure 1. Soil Map



Soil Type	Slope	Drainage	Parent Material	Frequency of Flooding	Frequency of Ponding	"Kw" Factor	Wind Erodibility Group
Simona gravelly fine sandy loam (SG)	0-3%	Well Drained	Mixed alluvium and/or eolian sands	None	None	0.15	4
Pajarito-Dune land complex (PD)	0-3%	Well Drained	Mixed alluvium and/or eolian sands	None	None	0.24	3

#### 1.3.3 Vegetation

A vegetation survey was completed for the project area on May 13, 2014 by Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. The project area is located in an arid grassland that is used for grazing livestock.

#### 1.3.4 Aquatic Communities and Drainages

The proposed project is located in arid grasslands. The surface is leased through the BLM for grazing. All runoff from the project areas would flow southwest before reaching road bar ditches.

To mitigate erosion and protect the natural drainage areas, erosion control methods will be implemented to BLM regulations for the remainder of the production phases of this project. The primary focus of erosion mitigation will be on the southeast

portions of the well pad due to the natural drainage slope that exists in relation to the orientation of the pad.

#### 1.3.5 Wetlands

Under Executive Order 11990, each agency shall provide leadership and shall take action to minimize the destruction, loss or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agency's responsibilities for conducting federal activities and programs affecting land use, including but not limited to water and related land resources planning, regulating and licensing activities.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetland Inventory maps were consulted for the project area. According to the National Wetland Inventory maps, the project area does not fall within a wetland. Furthermore, a wetland and waterway survey was conducted for the project area in order to determine the effect, if any, on aquatic resources. The method used in this Biological Evaluation to determine if an area is a wetland has been described in Section D of the USACE Wetlands Delineation Manual. Generally, in order to be classified as a wetland an area being observed must satisfy three criteria: hydrophytic vegetation, hydric soils, and wetland hydrology. These criteria have been described in the following paragraphs.

#### 1.3.5.1 Wetland Definitions

Under Section 7(c) of Executive Order 11990, a wetland is defined as those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support and under normal circumstances does or would support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats and natural ponds.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual defines wetlands as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and that under normal circumstance do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturate soil conditions.

#### **Hydrophytic Vegetation**

During the on-site survey the vegetation in an area of interest are classified into four (4) groups of classification for plant species.

- 1 The first group is obligate; these plants occur in wetlands 99% of the time.
- 2 The second group is facultative wetland; these plants occur in wetlands 67%-99% of the time.
- 3 The third group is facultative; these plants occur in wetlands 34%-66% of the time.
- 4 The fourth group is facultative upland; these plants are found in wetlands less than 33% of the time.

For an area to satisfy the hydrophytic vegetation condition, 50% of the dominant vegetation in the area must be classified as facultative or occurring more frequently.

#### **Hydric Soils**

When determining if the area has wetland hydrology many factors must be observed. Some of these factors include, but are not limited to, high water marks, drift lines, changes in soil characteristics and erosion lines on the banks. Hydric Soils may also be characterized by oxidation in the soil matrix and soil color. If the area of interest is flooded less than 12.5% of the time the area is not to be considered a wetland.

#### Wetland Hydrology

The term "wetland hydrology" encompasses all hydrologic characteristics of areas that are periodically inundated or have soils saturated to the surface at some time during the growing season. Areas with evident characteristics of wetland hydrology are those where the presence of water has an overriding influence on characteristics of vegetation and soils due to anaerobic and reducing conditions, respectively. Such characteristics are usually present in areas that are inundated or have soils that are saturated to the surface

for sufficient duration to develop hydric soils and support vegetation typically adapted for life in periodically anaerobic soil conditions. Hydrology is often the least exact of the parameters, and indicators of wetland hydrology are sometimes difficult to find in the field. However, it is essential to establish that a wetland area is periodically inundated or has saturated soils during the growing season.

#### 1.3.5.2 Determination

#### **Vegetation**

A vegetation survey was completed for the project area on May 13, 2013 by Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. The project area is located in an arid grassland that is used for grazing livestock.

#### Soil

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey and the NRCS Soil Survey for Eddy County, New Mexico, was used to determine the soils present in the proposed project area. The project area overlays a series of well drained soils with hydric soil groups of A and B (moderate to high infiltration rates). During the on-site inspection no hydric soil indicators were observed.

#### Hydrology

The project area consists of gently rolling hills with no drift lines. The area does not foster water-impounding topography. There are no indicators the project area contains wetland hydrology.

#### Wetland Determination

There is a lack of all three wetland indicators within the project area. Due to the lack of wetland indicators, a determination of "**no effect**" on wetland habitat has been assessed for this project.

#### 1.4 Migratory Bird Analysis

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, as amended, authorizes the Secretary of Interior to adopt such measures necessary to protect and

preserve migratory raptor and other avian species. Additionally, the BLM is responsible for implementing protective management goals identified in the Nongame Migratory Bird Habitat Conservation Strategy Plan. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) declare that the policy of the United States is to manage the public lands in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, ecological, and environmental values.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) implements various treaties and conventions between and among the U.S., Canada, Japan, Mexico, and the former Soviet Union for the protection of migratory birds. Under the MBTA, incidental, unintentional, and accidental take, killing, or possession of a migratory bird or its parts, nests, eggs or products, manufactured or not, without a permit is unlawful. The MBTA has no provisions for a permitting process which allows for regulated "take" of migratory birds.

Bureau of Land Management in accordance with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requires a Migratory Bird Habitat Management Plan for all projects in migratory bird habitat requiring an Application for Permit to Drill.

#### 1.4.1 Site Selection

#### Criteria

During site selection the following criteria were considered:

- 1. Avoid migratory bird habitat
- 2. Minimize impacts to migratory bird habitat
- 3. Mitigate impacts to migratory bird habitat
- 4. Landowner requirements
- 5. Avoidance of wetlands
- 6. Existing surface disturbance area
- 7. Proximity to existing surface disturbance
- 8. Cultivated or managed fields
- 9. Edges of grasslands (in order to decrease habitat fragmentation)
- 10. Grasslands
- 11. Edges of wooded areas (to decrease habitat fragmentation)
- 12. Wooded areas (mitigation required)

The on-site meeting for this project occurred on May 13, 2014, prior to on-site survey and APD approval. Representatives from Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Bureau of Land Management and Tandem Energy Corporation were in attendance.

## Avoidance and Minimizing Impacts to Migratory Bird Habitat

The proposed action must avoid the take of migratory birds and/or minimize the loss, destruction, or degradation of migratory bird habitat while completing the proposed project or action.

The well sites were chosen based on maximizing production while minimizing any environmental impacts. The project site reduces ecological impacts to migratory birds by utilizing existing infrastructure. The project area will upgrade an existing ranch road thus reducing surface disturbance.

## 1.4.2 Birds of Conservation Concern Survey and Determination Methods

The project area was surveyed for occurrence of species covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act utilizing a meander search methodology. In addition, specific habitat types/features utilized by potential special status species were surveyed. Surveys consist of searching for individuals; signs of their presence such as scat, tracks, calls, or nests and/or potential habitat. Trees were present within the project area. Vegetation type, soil type, drainage areas, general forest conditions, and any wetland/drainage areas within the vicinity of/or within project area were noted.

The analysis of possible effects to species identified as known or expected to occur in the vicinity of the proposed project, or likely to be affected by the action includes the following existing information:

- 1. Data on species/habitat relationships.
- 2. Species range distribution.
- 3. Occurrences developed from past field surveys or field observations.
- 4. The amount, condition, and distribution of suitable habitat.

Effects to species include anticipated effects from implementation of the proposed action. The following table includes an analysis of birds of conservation concern that could occur within the project area (threatened and endangered species can be found in section 1.5 below).

#### 1.4.3 Survey Results

The project area for the well pad and pipeline are located in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The operator will

comply with the requirements of NTL 96-01 in order to minimize the likelihood of accidental death of birds and bats on oil and gas facilities under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Thirty-one (31) Birds of Conservation Concern are listed for the Chihuahuan Desert (Bird Conservation Region 35), where this project is located. Breeding bird surveys conducted near the site (Lakewood Route) documented three (3) species from that list: Burrowing Owl, Loggerhead Shrike & Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Whereas this project may have impacted individuals, it is not likely to adversely impact the populations of this species.

No evidence of arboreal or ground nesting by migratory birds was observed during the on-site visit.

Determination ofFifect	"No Impact"	"No Impact"	"No Impact"
Forentelliebitel  Rresence/Species Botentelfor  Occurrence/Afthn (he Broject	Potential habitat in project area. Occurrence is unlikely.	Habitat is present in project area.  Occurrence is possible. Implementation of project may benefit species.	No potential habitat in project area. Occurrence is unlikely.
Environmental/Baselino(for)Potential/Habitat	Lives in dry, open areas with no trees and short grass. Found on golf courses, cemeteries, airports, vacant lots, university campuses, pastures, and prairie dog towns.	Found in open country with scattered trees and shrubs, Cropland/hedgerow, Desert, Habitat is present in project area.  Grassland/herbaceous, Old field, Savanna, Shrubland/chaparral. For nesting it prefers Courrence is possible. shortgrass prairies; often perching on poles, wire or fencepost. Suitable hunting perches are an implementation of project may important part of the habitat.	Yellow-billed Cuckoos use wooded habitat with dense cover and water nearby, including woodlands with low, scrubby, vegetation, overgrown orchards, abandoned farmland, and dense thickets along streams and marshes. In the Midwest, look for cuckoos in shrublands of mixed willow and dogwood, and in dense stands of small trees such as American elm. In the Southwest, Yellow-Billed Cuckoos are rare breeders in riparian woodlands of willows, cottonwoods and dense stands of mesquite to breed.
Stātūs	Birds of Conservation Concern	Birds of Conservation Concern	Birds of Conservation Concern
Spectes	Burrowing Owl (Athene cunicularia)	Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius) Iudovicianus)	Yellow-billed cockoo (Coccyzus americanus)

#### **Production Phase**

The operator will comply with the requirements of NTL 96-01 in order to minimize the likelihood of accidental death of birds and bats on oil and gas facilities under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management.

#### 1.5 Species Reviewed

#### 1.5.1 Threatened and Endangered Species

In accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, Federally- listed threatened and endangered species were identified for the project. The group of species referred to in this Biological Evaluation as Special Status Species includes Federal and State listed threatened or endangered plant or animal species, species for listing and species under review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These species have the potential to be present in or migrate through Eddy County, NM.

#### 1.5.2 Survey and Determination Methods

The project area was surveyed for occurrence of Special Status Species utilizing a meander search methodology. In addition, specific habitat types/features utilized by potential Special Status Species were surveyed. Surveys consist of searching for individuals; signs of their presence such as scat, tracks, calls, or nests and/or potential habitat. The ground was inspected for dens, cavities, and nests. In the case of vegetative species, soil types were analyzed using USGS Web Soil Survey. Vegetation type, soil type, drainage areas, general forest conditions, and any wetland/drainage areas within the vicinity of/or within project area were noted.

The analysis of possible effects to species identified as known or expected to occur in the vicinity of the project area, was likely to be affected by the action includes the following existing information:

- 1. Data on species/habitat relationships.
- 2. Species range distribution.
- 3. Occurrences developed from past field surveys or field observations.
- 4. The amount, condition, and distribution of suitable habitat.

Effects to species include effects from implementation of the action. The following table includes an analysis of endangered, threatened and special status species that could occur within the project area.

	Determinatio n of Effect	"No Effect"	"No Effect"	"No Effect"	"No Effect."	"No Effect"
	Species Analysis Required	No further analysis will be required for this species.	Further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	Further analysis will be required for this species.
Threatened and Sensitive Species dy County, New Mexico	Potential Habitat Presence/Species Potential for Occurrence within the Project Area	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area
Endangered, Threatened and Sensitive Eddy County, New Mexico	Environmental Baseline for Potential Habitat	Inferior Least Tern inhabits barron to sparsely vegetated sandbars along rivers, sand and gravel pits, or lake and reservoir shorelines. The premier nesting sites are salt flats, broad sandbars, and barren shores along wide, shallow rivers.	Lesser Prairie-Chicken (LPC) breeds on leks, areas of bare short grass slightly elevated above the surrounding landscape. Optimum habitat is dominated by native vegetation such as sand bluestem, big bluestem, little bluestem, indian grass, sand dropseed, sideoats grama, multiple for species, sagebrush, sunabbush sumac, sand plum and shinnery eak. As a rule, LPC cannot persist in landscapes with greater that 30% cultivation.	Piping Plovers breed on sandy beaches along the Atlantic Coast from Canada to North Carolina, along the sand and gravel shores of Lakes Michigan, Huron and Superior in Michigan, and along Lakes Superior and Michigan, Huron and Superior in Michigan, and along Lakes Superior and Michigan in Wisconsin, and on rive sandbars and islands, barren shorelines of inland lakes, and alkali wellands in the northern Great Plains of Canada and the United States. Wintering primarily along Culf Coast beaches from Florida to Mexico, along the Atlantic Coast from North Carolina to Florida, and on Caribbean islands. Piping Plovers often roost on beaches huddled down in the sand, or behind driftwood or clumps of seaweed and other debris. They also roost among debris in wash-over passes created by hurricanes and storms on barrier islands and peninsulas.	Mexican Spotted owl prefer old-growth or mature forests that possess complex structural components (uneven aged stands, high cahopy closure, multi-storied levels, high tree density). Canyons with riparian or contier communities are also important components.	Northern aplomado falcon Habitat is variable throughout the species range and includes palm and oak savannahs, various desert grassland associations, and open pine woodlands. Within these variations, the essential habitate elements appear to be open terrain with scrattered trees, relatively low ground cover, an abundance of insects and small to medium-sized birds, and a supply of nest sites.
	Status	Endangered (Federal)	Threatened (Federal)	Threatened (Federal)	Threatened (Federal)	Experimental Population, Non-Essential (Federal)
	Species	Interior Least Tem (Sterna antiliarum athalassos)	Lesser prairie- chicken (Tympanuchus pallidicinclus)	Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus)	Mexican Spotted owl (Strix cocidentalis lucida)	Northern aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis)

Sprague's Pipit inhabits well-drained native grasslands, usually in patches of at least 148 ha with density increasing with pasture size, especially with sparse to intermediate grass densities, moderate it
depitis, tew visual obstructions and little woody vegetation. If also breeds in planted grasslands in some parts of its range, predominantly those with similar vegetation characteristics to native grasslands. In carticular, planted fields with a low amount of alfalfa.
Southwestern Willow flycatcher dense riparian habitats (cottonwood/willow and lamarisk vegetation) with microolimatic conditions dictated by the local surroundings. Saturated soils, should make the conditions dictated by the local surroundings.
Texas Hornshell occurs at the head and terminus of shallow, narrow run habitat over travertine bedrock where small-grained substrata
(clays, silts, sends, and gravel) collect in undercut riverbanks, orevices, shelves, and gravel) base of sirge bounders. It cours in sand and stand and an experience of the send of the s
and saint-volde accuminated in pareinne bedrock tracks and an base of large boulders at depths of 0.25-1.38 m and at flow rates of 0.02-0.73 m/sec; often in colonies; often at the head or lower end of travering runs
Pecos Bluntnose shiner occurs in main river channel (especially after
age II), otten below obstructions; over substrate of sand, gravel, and silt. Apparently dependent on large flows. Often over sandy bottom in
area of low velocity laminar flow at depths of 17-41 cm. Young have been found in backwaters, riffles, and pools.
Pecos gambusta prefers shallow margins of clear vegetated spring waters (pools and outflows) high in calcium carbonate, as well as mor
adverse gypsum sinkhole habitats.
1 to 10 to 1
A perennial herb with a branching flower stalk from 1.2-2 dm tall, arising from a cluster of very dark green basal leaves. The tiny yellow
flowers (May and June), are arranged into tight clusters. Live in open gypsum in grama grassland, at about 1800 m; semi-arid. Eroded gypsum clay hills and fans, créosote bush communités.
Kuenzler's hedgehog cactus stems range from 3.0 to 12.0 inches (7.
ou.∪ cm) long. Kuenzier's hedgehog cactus generally produces a solitary or few stems; with T to 12 ribs/stem. Kuenzier's hedgehog cactus is distinguished by its larger flowers⊶which are magenta and
may reach 4.3 inches (11 cm) in length, softer flower spines, and fewer spines/areple command with other minkflower hedrehod cactus

	"No Effect"	"No Effect"	"No Effect"	"No Impact"	"No Impact"	"No Impaci"
	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further." analysis will be required for this species.
	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.
variaties. Chalky-white spines also characteñze this variety.  Kuenzier's nedgehog cactus produces 3 to 6 fruits/plant, with each fruit comaining about 1,050 seeds. Kuenzier's hedgehog cactus. apparatuly prefers warm aspects, gentle slopes, and rocky soils. In the Guadalupe Mountains, Kuenzier's hedgehog cacti grew most ofen on gentle, soulimest-facing slopes or ridgelops of 0% to 5% slope.	Primarily found in cracks in limestone in areas of broken terrain and steep slopes of Chifuahuan desert scrub. Stems forming small dense clusters, the individual stems mostly 1-2 cm thick and to 8 cm hall; tubercles on mature stems with upper surface grooved; spines about 30-90 per areole, typically white often brown at tip, fading to gray, slender and bristle-like, mostly about 1-3.6 mm long, radiating from areole and appressed against plant, sometimes with one to few short porrect centrals; flowers not opening widely, to 1.5 cm wide (usually smaller); tepals pale yellowish to pinkish or nearly white, usually with midribs darker; stigmas white to pink; fruit elongate, 1-1.8 cm long, green to somewhat reddish, seeds about 0.8 mm long, kidney-shaped, pitted, brown; with fillum lateral. Flowers in Abril.	The caclus is restricted to limestone and grows in cracks on vertical cliffs or ledges in Chihuahuan desert scrub at elevations of 3,900 to . 7,700 feet. "Common plant communities associated with the cactus include creosote (Larrea tridentata), Torrey yucca (Yucca forteyi), gramma grasses (Boutelous spp.); sorto (Dasylirion wheeleri), ocotillo (Poquieria spiedens), and lechugilla (Agave lechugilla). Several other cachus species may also be found within the range of Sneed's pincushion cactus.	'A perennial herb, up to 2.4 m tall, with numerous small white or pink flower heads in bloom March-August. Marshy wetlands (cienegas) near springs in otherwise semi-arid to arid areas.	Headwater Catfish inhabits clear, headwater streams in the Rio Grande drainage of New Mexico, Texas and Mexico, and Gulf slope streams of northeastern Mexico	Rio Grande Chub is found in pools of small to moderate streams near areas of current. It is found in association with undercut banks, overthanging bank vegeration and aquatic plants.	Greenthroat Darfer occurs in a variety of non-turbid stream habitats.  with substrates from bedrock to silt covered. A typical riffle species occurring over gravel and rubble, especially when aquatic vegetation is present. It also lives in spring areas, sometimes in cool vegetated pools; largest populations occur in vegetated rocky riffles
	Threatened (Federal)	Endangered (Federal)	Candidate (Federal)	Sensitive (NM)	Sensitive (NIM)	Threatened (NM)
	Lee Fincushion cactus (Coryphantha sneedii yar. leei)	Sneed Pincushion cactus (Corphantha sneedii var. sneedii)	Wright's Marsh thistle (Cirsium urightii)	Headwater Catfish (Ictalurus lupus)	Rio Grande Chub (Gila pandora)	Greenthroat Darter (Etheostoma (epidum)

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No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will , be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species:	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species:	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	Further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.
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Bigscale Logperch prefer gravel and sand runs and pools of small to, medium rivers. Prefers gravel raceway conditions of moderate to swift current, avoiding rubble riffles themselves. Also in rivers with low flow and can be abundant in impounded waters. Most abundant in mud-bottomed turbid sloughs in California.	Pecos Pupfish inhabits saline springs, gypsum sinkholes, and desert streams. Sometimes this species occurs in low salinity waters, but it is most typical and abundant in highly saline habitats that support relatively few species. It can survive in water among gravel where there is no surface water	Gray Redhorse is found in rock, sand, or gravel bottomed pools and deep runs of creeks and rivers, occurs also in some reservoirs. Young and subadulis form loose schools in rifles and gravelly runs. Adults usually found in stream pools with firm substrate of sand or silt, sometimes with moderate turbidity. These stream pools often rather deep with slow-moving currents and little vegetation.	Rio Grande Shiner occurs over substrate of rubble, gravel and sand, often overlain with silt; tends to prefer turbid water. In the Pecos River, New Mexico, they primarily selected mesohabitats with low to moderate velocities.	Blue suckers prefer deep, swift water in pools and channels of large rivers with sand, gravel, or rubble bottoms. They are often associated with wing dams in the Mississippi River and with woody snags in the St. Croix River. Blue suckers are tolerant of high turbidities if currents are swift enough to prevent siltation.	Mexican tetra inhabits a wide range of freshwater habitats. Adults show a preference for rocky and sandy bottomed pools in creeks, streams and rivers, while young Mexican tetras are found in shallower waters, often near vegetation that overhangs the bank of a river or gream.	Western River Cooter prefers rivers and their more permanent tributary streams, particularly larger, deeper stream pools with relatively clear water and sandy or rocky bottoms. Occupied waters, may have a muddy, sandy, or rocky bottom, and may or may not contain aquatic vegetation.	Dunes Sage brush bisasté eccure in the vidruty of active and semi- siablizzed sand dunes, vegetation consists of seathered stands of Shinnery cak and sand sagebrusht it seeks shaher in burrows, under leef liker, or by surrowing uto loose sand. The lisard is absent where blow-outs, topographic relief, or stin-oak are landing	Arid Land Ribbonsnake is a semiaquatic species, the western ribbon snake is most commonly associated with brushy or grassy areas close to water. It may be found close to swamps, marshes, ponds, rivers, streams, lakes, or damp meadows, and has even been found around cattle tanks and ditches.
Threatened (VM)	Threatened (NM)	Endangered (NM)	Sensitive (NM)	Endangered (NM)	Threatened (NM)	Threatened (NM)	Endangerad (NM)	Threatened (NM)
Bigscale Logperch (Percina macrolepida)	Pecos Pupfish (Cyprinodon pecosensis)	Gray Redhorse (Moxostoma congestum)	Rio Grande Shiner (Notropis jemezanus)	Blue Sucker (Cycleptus elongates)	Mexican Tetra (Astyanax mexicanús)	Western River Cooter (Pseudemys gorgugi)	Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (Sceloporus arenicalus)	Arid Land Ribbonsnake (Themnophis proximus)

Mottled Rock	Threatened	10	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore,	No further	"No Impact"
Rattlesnake	· · (MIM)	slopes, gorges, rimrock, limestone outcrops, and rocky streambeds.	there is no potential for this species to be found within	analysis will	
(Crotalus lepidus			the boundaries of the proposed project area.	be required 🐣	
. Lepidus)				for this	7
	*			species.	10 No. 10
Gray-banded	Threatened	Gray-banded Kingsnake rocky canyons and arroyos, limestone	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there	No further	"No Impact"
Kingsnake	(MIM)	indges, talus slopes and boulder piles are preferred, although	is potential for this species to be found within the	analysis will	2
(Lampropeltis		specimens are occasionally found in desert flats.	boundaries of the proposed project area. There is not	be required	
alterna)			preferred habitat within the project area.	for this	
				species.	一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一 一
Plainbelly Water	Endangered	Plain-bellied water snakes are semi-aquatic snakes, using both	No potential habitats exist for this species: therefore	No further	F"Wo Impact 2.5
Snake	(MM)		there is no notantial for this species to be found within	analiraia mill	3
(Narodia			the houndaries of the memory days and one	bo romined	STATE OF THE STATE
Southworselex)		extends into tropical climates. Terrestrial habitats used include	ווופ הסתווקסוופס סו ווופ הוסהספת הוספרו מופס.	ne reduited	
er/unogasier/		forests, grasslands, and scrublands. Terrestrial habitats are used as		ior trus	Transfer of the second
		travel corridors, aestivation sites, hibernation sites and occasional		species.	
		feeding sites. Aquatic habitats include ephemeral ponds or temporary			
		pools, permanent lakes and ponds, swamps, bogs, marshes, small		***	9
		rivers, and riverine sloughs.			10 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
N. Beardless	Endangered	N. Beardless Tyrannulet is largely, a gleaner of insects, although at	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore;	No further,	"No Impact"
Tyrannulet	(MIM)	times flying prey is taken. In the Southwest, the species typically	there is no potential for this species to be found within	analysis will	, d
Camptostoma		occurs at lower elevations in dense stands of mesquite and associated	the boundaries of the proposed project area.	be remirred	to the same of the
imberbe)		easily c		for this	
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		Cuadalupe Canyon in 1960 was 9 in from the ground in an Affaona excemira Morthern heardlans, breathailete profes denne stands of		- · ·	
*	, å	Sycamore, Notified to Cartaness-tyranimets present delise stating of			
Common Black-	Threatened	Common Black-Hawk live in desert riparian deciduous woodland,	No notential habitats exist for this species: therefore	Nofurther	""No Impact"
Hawk (Buteogallus)	(MM)	marsh, woodlands, especially of cottonwoods, that occur where desert	there is no notential for this species to be found writin	analyzeis will	
anthracinus)		streams provide sufficient moisture for a narrow band of trees and	the houndaries of the proposed project area	he remirred	
,		n black		for this	3
÷ 8				ann ann	
		bosques) that are located near permanent streams where principal nrev snemes are available.		, icomodic	
Varied Bunting	Threatened	Varied Buntings inhabit deserts and xeric shrublands, preferring	No potential habitats exist for this species: therefore	No further	"No Impact"
Passerina	CMM)		there is no potential for this species to be found within	analysis will	
versicolor)			the boundaries of the proposed project area.	be remired	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	seeds. Varied Buntings weave open-cup nests of grass and spider		for this	
		webs in the outer branches of thorny shrubs, usually near water.		species	the design of the second
Neotropic	Theatened	Cormorants are generally found on larger bodies of water such as	No potential habitats exist for this species: therefore	No further	"No Impact"
Cormorant	(MIM)	ly ma	there is no potential for this species to be found within	analysis will	
(Phalacrocorax		in New Mexico. They nest near or over water, in vegetation such as	the boundanes of the proposed project area.	be required	ない とうしょう
brasilianus)		יובמדי אינות מסיים אונות מסיים אינות מסיים אינות מסיים אינות מסיים אינות מסיים אינות מסיים אונות מסיים אינות מסיים אונות מונות מסיים אונות מסיים אונות מסיים אונות מונות מונות מסיים אונות מונות מונות מסיים אונות מונות מונות		for this	A STATE OF THE STA
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Yellow-billed cuckoo (C. a. occidentalis) is associated with lowland deciduous woodlands, willow and alder thickets, second-growth woods; deserted farmlands, and orchards.	Bald Eagle is primarily water-oriented, and the majority of the populations occurring in New Mexico are found near streams and lakes. On the other hand, there are some "dry land" areas where these eagles occur regularly most notably in the region between the Pecos Valley and the Sandia, Manzano, Capitan, and Sacramento mountains, pius on the Mogolion Plateau. The birds typically night-roost in groups in trees, usually in profected sites such as canyons	Peregrine Falcon breeding territories center on cliffs that are in wooded/forested habitats, with large "gulfs" of air nearby in which these predators can forage. The nest sites are typically ledges or potholes, with the 3-4 eggs being laid directly on the bare substrate.	Arctic Peregrine Falcon breeding territories center on cliffs that are in wooded/forested habitats, with large "gulfs" of air nearby in which these predators can forage	Northern goshawk inhabits mature woodland, both coniferous and deciduous, from lowlands into mountainous, subalpine areas. It particulatly favors woodland edges that border open areas, and sometimes occurs in town parks	Common Ground Dove lives in open areas that have trees and bushes. They are also found in forests with sandy areas, farmlands, and savannahs and near human infrastructure. Common ground doves seem to hold territories but they are rarely aggressive when dealing with intruders.	Broad-billed Hummingbird is common in Mexico as well as in southwestern United States. They tend to live and nest in areas such as canyons, foothills and streambeds. Their distribution in any particular area is closely tied to the availability and abundance of appropriate tood plants.	Lucifer Hummingbird habitats vary widely depending on the speographic location. The lucifer hummingbird can be found in the plains, foothills, and on the sides of rocky hillsides throughout its range.  Tange.  Thick-billed kingbirds usually occur in arid or partly and areas in streamside riparian canyons, or open areas near water. They are particularly fond of sycamore woodland edges. They make a nest in a tree branch, usually close to the trunk above 6 meters high. The
Sensitive (NM)	Threatened (NM)	Threatened (NM)	Threatened (NM)	Sensitive (NN)	Endangered (NM)	Threatened (NM)	Threatened (NM) Endangered (NM)
Yellow-billed Cuckor (Coccyzus americanus occidentalis)	Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus Jeucocephalus)	Peregrine Falcon -(Falco peregrinus . anatum)	Arctic Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus), tundrius)	Northern Goshawk (Accipiter gentilis)	Common Ground- dove (Columbina passerine)	Broad-billed Hummingbird (Cynanthus,	Lucifer Hurningbird (Calothorax fucifer)  "Thick-billed Kingbird (Tyrannus crassirostris)

species, F.	স্টিয়ালয়েন্দ্রন্দ শুরুদ্ধি বিচারতারে, বাদ্ধারার্থান পরী বাদ্ধারার্থান স্থায়ি বাদ্ধারার্থানন	swill ired	ીમાં પ્રાપ્તા નાર્યાપુરાક પ્રાપ્તી કુંક પ્રકલ્પા જર્જો જ. દેશિક ના ભળકોલક	No further analysis will be required for this is species.	No further; . ?	No further "" "No Impact" analysis will be required for this ""
	મિલ્લોકાર્યોનો મોર્ગાનોક ક્લોર્સપુર પ્રાપ્ત માત્ર કોલ્લોક પાસ્ત્ર વિકાર કૈકા, ભૂપિતીકાર્યો એ એક સ્ટાર્ટાલ્ફ પ્રાપ્ત પ્રિયમિત માત્રિતા ત્રીમ પ્રમુશામિત એ, ગ રીધ છું ગુલાલાએ ફિલ્લોમાં સમસ્ત	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	રેફાફ્કાલિમ લગામાલા જ્યારા ભિલ્લો મુક્કાલામાં તું મુક્કાલામાં ભાગ માત્ર મુક્કાલામાં મિલ્લમ કેકાફાયલામાં ભાગ જ સુરકાલામાં તું મુખ્ય સમામ પાત્રી માત્ર માત્ર પણાસાયલામાં આ ઉપયા તું સુષ્ટાકામાં માત્રો	No potential habitats exist for this species, therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.
female lays 3-5 eggs.	The graph and the sufficient mentions of the graph propertion and available of the properties of the control of	Pelicans are strictly coastal, rarely living more than 20 miles or 32 km from the shoreline. They are found in warm coastal waters or marine estuaries during the non-breeding season. They require dry areas that are not subjected to frequent disturbance. They roost offshore at night and loaf during the day after or while foraging. Typical loaf and roost sites intolude sandbars, pilings, jettles, breakwaters, mangrove islets, and offshore rocks or islands.	ીં ભાદભૂજીમી ભારત કરીમાં પ્રિક્ષ મુખ્યમંત્ર કાફલમાં ખાલામાં મારીક કરવામાં લાક કરીમાં કરિક્રામાં કર્યા છે. પ્રયાસ કોમ કિલ્લામાં કરવામાં જાય પ્રાપ્ત પ્રાપ્ત કામ કામ મારા અંતિ મારા અંતિ પ્રાપ્ત મારા મારા મારા મારા કામ કોમ્પાણ કોમ્પાણ	Baird's Sparrow breeds in native mixed-grass and fescue praine. 7. Winters in grasslands; specific winter habitat requirements not well described. Baird's Sparrow does not inhabit prairie lands where fire suppression and changes in natural grazing patterns have allowed woody.vegetation to grow excessively. Some hayfields or pastures may support Baird's Sparrow where native grasses occur, in sufficient quantity, but generally cultivated land is far inferior habitat relative to true praints.	Black tern occupies very different habitats during the breeding and non-breeding seasons. During the breeding season, it is abit of the freshwater and brackish wetlands, breeding on well-vegetated inland, pools, lakes, marshes, diches, peat bogs, swampy meadows, quier streiches of rivers and in rice fields. It shows a preference for areas streiches of rivers and in rice fields. It shows a preference for areas streiches or surally where the water is one to two metres deep. In contrast, the black tern uses coastal habitats in winter; including estuaries, salt marshes, hays and coastal lagoons, and will even feed up to 600 kilometres offshore. During migration, this species uses both inland wentands and more coastal habitats	Bell's Virco prefers dense brush, willow thickets, mesquite, streamside thickets, and scrub oak, in arid regions often near water, also adjoining uplands. Nesis in shrub or low tree, usually averaging about one meter above ground, usually in horizontal or downsloping.
	Brazováno, Qvak Getnene centevne ne. अंग्री	Brown Pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis)	Loogen Anee G. Shirthe Spanning. Annes walerardeness (Shirt)	Baird's Sparrow (Threatened (Ammodramus (NIM) bairdii)	Black Term (Childonis nger)	Bell's Vireo (Vireo bellii) (NM)

Biological Evaluation

	en e	'twig fork, typically near edge of thicket.		species.	
	,				, 5
Gray Vireo (Vireo vicinior)	Threatened (NM)	Gray Vireo is found in desert scrub, mixed juniper or pinyon pine and oak scrub associations, and chaparral, in hot, arid mountains and high plains scrubland.	No potential habitats exist for this species, therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No further analysis will be required for this	"No Impact"
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			species	
Pale Townsend's Big-eared Bat (Corynorhinus	Sensitive (NM)	*Pale Townsend's Big-eared Bat lives in montane forest. This type of forest is thick with pine, fir, and aspen trees and is bounded by shrub and grasslands. At higher elevations, the surrounding vegetation is subalpine. Córynorhinus townsendii palleacens lives in an arid	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No further analysis will be required	"No Impact"
(in in i		habitats with limited desert sorub vegetation, but stops short of living in extreme desert environments. Corynomius townsendii townsendii inhabit the humid coastal area of the Pacific Northwest, Eastern		species.	
		populations of Corynorhinus townsendii are generally found in oak- hickory forests.		,	
Cave Myotis.	Sensitive		No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore,	No further.	"No Impact"
(Myous, yellier)	(NIM)	Afock creviues, one bullands, carports, under bridges, and even in abandoned cliff swallow nests.	there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	analysis will be required	
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	The state of the s			for this species.	
Big Free-tailed Bat	Sensitive * * (MM)	N. macrotis appears to be mainly an inhabitant of rugged, rocky habitets in and landscapes. It has been found in a variety of plant	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no notential for this species to be found writhin	No further	"No Impact"
macrotis	77	associations, including desert shrub, woodlands, and evergreen forests. It appears to be associated with lowlands, but has been	the boundaries of the proposed project area.	be required	
A Company of the Comp		documented at around 8,000 ft in New Mexico.		tor this species.	4.00
Fringed Myotis	Sensitive:	Exinged Myotis has been found in hot desert scrubland, grassland, veric woodland, same-trass steppe, mests old-trowth friest, and	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there	No fürther	"No Impact"
(canoning time the fact of the		multi aged subalpine confiscous and mixed-deciduous forest. Xenc	boundaries of the proposed project area. The habitat is	analysis will be required	
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	woodlands (oak and pinyon juniper) appear to be the most commonly.	not preferred and therefore there should be no impacts.	for this species.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Long-legged	Sensitive (NM)	M. volans are found in forested regions. They establish roosts in trees, rock crevices, fissures in stream banks, and buildings. Caves '	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within	No further analysis will	"No Impact"
(Myolis volans)		and mines are not used in the day, but M. volans can be captured. there at night:	the boundaries of the proposed project area.	be required for this	
				species.	
Eastern Red Bat. (Lasiurus borealis)	Sensitive (NIM)	Lesiurus borealis are fast flying bats that live throughout the Americas. They tend to choose habitats that are sparsely to the control of th	No potential habitats exist for this species, therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within	No further analysis will	"No Impact"
	***	areas.	the boundaries of the proposed project area.	be required for this species	
Western Small-	Sensitive (NIM)	Western Small-footed Myotis has a wide ecological range, from rock outcrops on open grasslands to canyons in the foothills to lower	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the	No further analysis will	"No Impact"
(Myous ciliolabrum)		mountains with yellow pine woodlands. Day roosts are variable, but include cracks and crevices in cliffs, beneath tree bark, in mines and	boundaries of the proposed project area. The habitat is	be required	

	"No Impact"	"No Impact"	"No Impact"	"No Impact"	"No Impact"	"May Impact Individuals but not likely to Cause a Trend to Federal Listing or a hoss of Vigibility"	"No Impacit"
for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species,	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	Further are are the required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.
not preferred and therefore there should be no impacts.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species, therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the species boundaries of the proposed project area. The species is a habitat generalist therefore no impacts are
caves, and occasionally in dwellings of humans. Night roosts are under a variety of natural and human-induced structures. Hibernacula include caves, mines, and tunnels.	Spotted bat prefers and regions, desert scrub, and open forest in rugged landscapes. They roost on vertical cliffs and in open canyons. Their habitat always seems to be associated with a water source such as a spring, creek, river or lake.	Yuma Myotis is found in a variety of habitats, ranging from jumper and riparian woodlands to desert regions near open water. One is almost guaranteed to find this species wherever there are rivers, streams, ponds, lakes, etc. in fact, it is more closely associated with water than any other North American species of bat. When not near water over which to forage, these animals can be found in the thousands roosting in caves, attics, buildings, mines, underneath bridons and other similar emintures.	Black-tailed Prairie Dog occupies a relatively restricted range of open, level, arid, short-grass plains. These prairie dogs are commonly found near river flats or in coulee bottomlands where sagebrush, greasewood, and prickly pear grow. They are never found in moist areas.	AZ Black-failed Prairie Dog is primarily a Great Plains species, a originally occurring from extreme southern Saskatchewan in Ganada (Frenchman River Valley), and Montana south through the western and central Great Plains to the desert grasslands of western Texas, New Mexico, southeastern Arizona (formerly) in the United States, and northern Chinhahua in Mexico. The species is now extirpated from southeastern Arizona, southwestern New Mexico, and locally in many other areas throughout its range.	Red fox makes its home in wooded areas, prairies and farmland.	Swiff takes. Ifve palmasely in shortgrass prairies and deserts. They often their their said fences or the plants that the said fences or the plants fields.	Pocket gophers of this species are extremely adaptable as regards habitat. They occur in soils ranging from loose sands and silts to tight clays and in vegetative zones grading from dry deserts to montane meadows. Perhaps one reason why they can tolerate such servironmental extremes is that they spend fully 90% of their lives in underground burrows, secure from the elements
15 mg	Threatened (NIM)	Sensitive (NIM)	Sensitive (NM)	Sensitive (NIM)	Sensitive (NM)	Churage (Churage Churage Chura	Sensitive (NM):
	Spotted Bat (Euderma maculatum)	Yuma Myotis (Myotis Fumanensis)	Black-tailed Prairie Dog (Cynomys lidovicianus)	AZ Black-tailed Prairie Dog (Cynomys ludovicianus arizonensis)	Red Fox	Swift Fox (Vulpes velox)	Guadalupe Pocket, Gopher (Thomomys bottee)

pact"	pact"	Dact	Impact"	pact"	Ded.	paçt
"No Impact	"No Impact	No Impact	"No Im	"No Impact	"No Impac	"No Impaç
No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further analysis will be required for this species.	No further: analysis will be required for this species.	No further, analysis will be required for this species.
Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area. The habitat is not preferred due to sandy soil type and therefore there should be no impacts.	No potential habitats exist for this species, therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area	No potential habitats exist for this species, therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area. The species is a habitat generalist therefore no impacts are anticipated.	Potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area. The species is a habitat generalist therefore no impacts are anticipated.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore; there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area.	No potential habitats exist for this species; therefore, there is no potential for this species to be found within the boundaries of the proposed project area
Nelson's Pocket Mouse occurs in desert shrub vegetation, where it is associated with rocky soils on slopes with scattered shrub cover. This rodent has strong preference for rocky places in Chihuahuan desert shrub vegetation. It prefers rocky soils or slopes where cactus, creosoft, stool, and echuguilla provide scattered cover. It is seldom found on sandy or other fine soils.	Muskrats are found in brackish and fresh-water lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, and marshes. Depending on the location, they will either dig burrows into waterside banks, or construct houses of vegitation.	Ringfails live in many different habitats, but they prefer rocky areas such as rock piles, stone fences, canyon walls, and talus slopes.  Ringfails are expert climbers, capable of climbing vertical walls to find the most protected crevices, crannies, and hollows in which to build their dens. In woodland areas, where they are less common, they den in hollow trees and logs. They have also been observed iwhich in buildings.	Common Hog-nosed Skunks inhabits a wide variety of habitats within their range, including woodlands, grasslands, deserts, brusky, areas, and rocky canyons in mountainous regions.	Western spotted skunk has been recorded in a big spectrum of habitats varying from open lowlands to mountainous areas, streams to rocky places, beaches to human buildings and other disturbed areas, chaparral among others.	'Pecos Springsnail is currently restricted to less than three miles of a single spring run and associated marsh; Blue Spring, tributary to the Black River, tributary to the Pecos River. Carlsbad area of Pecos River valley, Eddy County, New Mexico. Historically found in an adjacent spring, Castle Spring, as well:	Ovate Vertigo Snail are primarily found in graminoid litter and on cattail leaves in swamps, sedge meadows, wet and mesic prairie, low calcareous meadows, river banks, lakeshores, roadside ditches, and wooded wetlands. It is also occasionally found on bedrock outcrops, upland forest, and upland grassland habitats
Sensitive (NM)	Sensitive (NM)	Sensitive. (MM)	Sensitive (NM)	Sensitive (NIM)	Threatened (NM)	Threatened (NM)
Nelson's Pocket Mouse (Chaetodipus nelson)	Pecos River Muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus ripensis)	Ringtail (Bassariscus astutus)	Common Hog- nosed Skunk (Conepatus leuconotus)	Western Spotted Skunk (Spilogale gracilis)	Pecos Springsnail (Pyrgulopsis pecosensis)	Ovate Vertigo Snail (Vertigo ovate)

#### 1.6 Federal Species of Concern

Lesser Prairie Chicken (*Tympanuchus pallidicinctus*)
Northern Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*)

#### 1.6.1 Lesser Prairie Chicken (Tympanuchus pallidicinctus)

Environmental Baseline: The Lesser Prairie Chicken (LPC) is a North American grouse species that occupies sand sagebrush (Artemisia filifolia), sand shinnery oak (Quercus havardii) and mixed grass vegetation communities of the southern Great Plains within portions of Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and During the breeding season (primarily mid-March through May), male LPC congregate on lek sites and perform courtship displays to attract females for mating. Nests are initiated mid-April through late May, typically within two weeks of lek attendance and copulation (Bent 1932, Copelin 1963, Snyder 1967, Merchant 1982, Haukos 1988, Behney et al. 2010). Hatching peaks in late May through mid-June throughout the range (Copelin 1963, Merchant 1982). Re-nests (following nest depredation or abandonment of the initial clutch) are initiated mid-May through early June, with hatching mid-June through early July (Merchant 1982, Pitman et al. 2006). After hatching there is a period of time during which chicks are brooded by the female. This means the critical reproduction period for LPC range-wide is from March 1-July 15, with some variation due to latitude. In autumn and winter, birds assemble into mixed flocks, feeding primarily in sand sagebrush, sand shinnery oak, or mixed-grass prairies, but also often in waste grain fields (Hagen and Giesen 2005). Habitat components necessary to fulfill LPC life history needs include nesting habitat, brood-rearing and summer habitat, and autumn/winter habitat.

The LPC inhabits native rangeland in different stages of plant succession and consisting of a diversity of native, short- to midheight grasses and forbs interspersed with low-growing shrubby cover comprise optimum LPC habitat. Sand sagebrush communities dominated by sand dropseed, side oats grama, and little bluestem make up the most preferred LPC habitat in Kansas, Colorado, Texas and northern Oklahoma.

Texas, New Mexico, and western Oklahoma provide shinnery oak/bluestem habitat dominated by sand bluestem, little bluestem, Indiangrass, switchgrass, buffalo grass, sand dropseed, and sand sagebrush. Sand plum and skunkbush

sumac are valuable shrubs for providing shade and brood-rearing cover as well.

Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool (CHAT) -- an accessible online system of maps displaying crucial wildlife habitat and corridors in the Southern Great Plains. The Southern Great Plains CHAT is a spatial model put together to designate and prioritize areas for LPC conservation activities and industry development. As such, it plays a dual role in that it is used to encourage development activities to occur outside of high priority areas as well as monitor activities that occur in each of the categories. In many ways, it is the spatial representation of the Lesser Prairie Chicken Range-wide Conservation Plan. Another purpose of this dataset is to create an online tool usable by conservation managers, industry, and the public that identifies priority habitat, including connecting corridors that can be used in the early stages of development or conservation planning. By providing a consistent layer, used by all, we help target both conservation and development in areas that provide the greatest overall benefits to LPC.

Below is a description of each category:

- a. CHAT 1 This category is comprised of the focal areas for LEPC conservation. The focal areas were designated by teams in each state that prioritized and identified intact LEPC habitat. The goal in this category is to have 70% of the area within, managed under LEPC conservation plans. They were defined using GIS layers such as landscape integrity models, aerial photos, soil maps, anthropogenic disturbances, land cover, and expert opinion.
- b. CHAT 2 This category is comprised of the corridors for LEPC conservation. The corridor areas were designated by teams in each state that prioritized and identified intact LEPC habitat. The goal in this category is to have 40% of the area within, managed under LEPC conservation plans. They were defined using GIS layers such as landscape integrity models, aerial photos, soil maps, anthropogenic disturbances, land cover, and expert opinion.
- c. CHAT 3 This category is comprised on the lek Maxent models. Maxent is short for maximum entropy classifier and is an ecological niche model used for describing available and potential habitat. The model uses base layers (e.g., lek, nests, Conservation Reserve Program, land cover, abiotic site

condition) in a manner that allows for the results to characterize that habitat on the landscape.

d. CHAT 4 - This category is comprised of the estimated occupied range (EOR) for the LEPC plus 10 miles. The EOR is an expert derived delineation that has had 10 miles added to it for range expansion and planning.

Un-improved roads do not show the same avoidance distance as improved roads so co-locating increases with un-improved roads increases the LPC avoidance and potentially increase fragmentation. All new power lines associated with this project should be buried or co-located with improved roads.

**Project Habitat Evaluation:** The project area is located in the Shinnery Oak Ecoregion. The project area is located ~3 miles outside of the critical habitat area (CHAT) as defined by WAFWA.

The project area is located in a mixed grass pasture that is used for grazing livestock. The dominant vegetation in the project area consists of sage brush, sand plum thickets and various prairie grasses.

**Project Survey Information:** No survey was conducted for this project area due to the project being located ~3 miles outside of the critical habitat area (CHAT) as defined by WAFWA.

**Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Effects:** The proposed project area is not located in the CHAT area, therefore there should be no direct effects to the Lesser Prairie Chicken.

**Determination:** A determination of "**No Effect**" has been made based on the proximity to the CHAT area.

#### 1.6.2 Northern Aplomado Falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis)

Environmental Baseline: Habitat is variable throughout the species range and includes palm and oak savannahs, various desert grassland associations, and open pine woodlands. Within these variations, the essential habitat elements appear to be open terrain with scattered trees, relatively low ground cover, an abundance of insects and small to medium-sized birds, and a supply of nest sites.

**Project Analysis:** The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The dominant vegetation in the project area consists of various forbs with a scattering of grasses.

Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Effects: No trees or adequate roost areas exist in or around the project area. Therefore, no direct, indirect or cumulative effects are expected

**Determination:** The immediate project area does not impede habitat favored by this species. Therefore, it is unlikely the Northern Aplomado Falcon will be present at the project location. A determination of "No Effect" has been assessed to the project area.

#### 1.7 New Mexico Species of Concern

Burrowing Owl (Athene cunicularia)
Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (Sceloporus arenicolus)
Swift Fox (Vulpes velox)
Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus)

#### 1.7.1 Burrowing Owl (Athene cunicularia)

Environmental Baseline: The Burrowing Owl collects mammal dung and puts it in and around its burrow. Burrowing Owls are generally active at dusk and dawn, but sometimes at night also. They are highly terrestrial, and are often seen perched on a mound of dirt, telegraph or fence post - frequently on one foot. Burrowing Owls are found in open, dry grasslands, agricultural and range lands, and desert habitats often associated with burrowing animals, particularly prairie dogs, ground squirrels and badgers. They can also inhabit grass, forb, and shrub stages of pinyon and ponderosa pine habitats.

**Project Analysis:** The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The dominant vegetation in the project area consists of various forbs with a scattering of grasses.

Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Effects: Due to the fact that no burrows or burrowing mammals were observed in the project are, direct effects are not expected. Indirect or cumulative effects to the Burrowing Owl may occur from implementation of this project by removing potential burrowing mammal habitat.

**Determination:** The immediate project area does not impede habitat favored by this species. No abandoned prairie dog towns, ground squirrels or badgers were observed. Therefore,

it is unlikely the Burrowing Owl will be present at the project location. A determination of "No Impact" has been assessed to the project area.

#### 1.7.2 Dunes Sagebrush Lizard (Sceloporus arenicolus)

Environmental Baseline: Dunes Sagebrush Lizard occurs in the vicinity of active and semi-stabilized sand dunes; vegetation consists of scattered stands of Shinnery oak and sand sagebrush; it seeks shelter in burrows, under leaf litter, or by burrowing into loose sand. The lizard is absent where blow-outs, topographic relief, or shin-oak are lacking.

**Project Analysis:** The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The dominant vegetation in the project area consists of various forbs with a scattering of grasses. There are no shin-oak, blowouts or topographic relief within the project area.

**Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Effects:** Due to the fact that no shin-oak, blowouts or topographic relief is present within the project area, direct, indirect or cumulative effects are expected.

**Determination:** The habitat in the project area is somewhat suitable, however, due to the absence of shin-oak, blowouts or topographic relief it is unlikely this species will be present within the project area. Therefore, a determination of "No Impact" has been assessed to the project area.

#### 1.7.3 Swift Fox (Vulpes velox)

**Environmental Baseline:** Swift foxes live primarily in short grass prairies and deserts. They often form their dens in sandy soils on open prairies, along fences or in plowed fields.

**Project Analysis:** The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The dominant vegetation in the project area consists of various forbs with a scattering of grasses.

Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Effects: Due to the project being located in an arid grassland with sandy soil it is possible this species may utilize the project area. Direct and indirect effects include but are not limited to displacement of individuals or possibility of mortality due to increased vehicle traffic within the project area. Cumulative effects may include further displacement or loss of habitat due to future oil operations.

**Determination:** The habitat in the project area is suitable. However, this species is highly mobile and able to avoid most adverse impacts. Therefore, a determination of "May Impact Individuals but not likely to Cause a Trend to Federal Listing or a Loss of Viability" has been assessed to the project area.

#### 1.7.4 Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus)

**Environmental Baseline:** Loggerhead Shrike prefers open country with scattered shrubs and trees, but the species can also be found in more heavily wooded habitats with large openings and in very short habitats with few or no trees.

**Project Analysis:** The project area falls in an arid grassland utilized for cattle grazing. The dominant vegetation in the project area consists of various forbs with a scattering of grasses.

Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Effects: Due to the project being located in an arid grassland with a majority shrub coverage. Direct, cumulative and indirect effects include but are not limited a loss of foraging habitat.

**Determination:** The habitat in the project area is suitable. However, due to the lack of trees adequate shrubs it is unlikely this habitat would be utilized. Therefore, a determination of "No Impact" has been assessed to the project area.

#### 1.8 Determination of Effect

#### Federally Endangered or Threatened Species:

A determination of "No Effect" for all federally listed species has been made for the project.

#### New Mexico Species of Concern:

A determination of "May Impact Individuals but not likely to Cause a Trend to Federal Listing or a Loss of Viability" has been assessed to the following species:

#### Swift Fox (Vulpes velox)

1 0

A determination of "No Impact" on all other New Mexico Species of Concern has been assessed for this project.

Prepare	ed By:
-	Trby Zaikis Lead Wildlife Biologist/Environmental Ecologis
Dated:	914/14



### **United States Department of the Interior**

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office 2105 OSUNA ROAD NE ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87113

PHONE: (505)346-2525 FAX: (505)346-2542 URL: www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/



July 14, 2014

Consultation Tracking Number: 02ENNM00-2014-SLI-0423

Project Name: BGSAU 3-004 & BGSAU 19-004

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project.

#### To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your recent request for information on federally listed species and important wildlife habitats that may occur in your project area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has responsibility for certain species of New Mexico wildlife under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) as amended (16 USC 701-715), and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) as amended (16 USC 668-668c). We are providing the following guidance to assist you in determining which federally imperiled species may or may not occur within your project area and to recommend some conservation measures that can be included in your project design.

#### FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AND DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT

Attached is a list of endangered, threatened, and proposed species that may occur in your project area. Your project area may not necessarily include all or any of these species. Under the ESA, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or its designated representative to determine if a proposed action "may affect" endangered, threatened, or proposed species, or designated critical habitat, and if so, to consult with the Service further. Similarly, it is the responsibility of the Federal action agency or project proponent, not the Service, to make "no effect" determinations. If you determine that your proposed action will have "no effect" on threatened or endangered species or their respective critical habitat, you do not need to seek concurrence with the Service. Nevertheless, it is a violation of Federal law to harm or harass any federally-listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species without the appropriate permit.

If you determine that your proposed action may affect federally-listed species, consultation with the Service will be necessary. Through the consultation process, we will analyze information contained in a biological assessment that you provide. If your proposed action is associated with Federal funding or permitting, consultation will occur with the Federal agency under section

7(a)(2) of the ESA. Otherwise, an incidental take permit pursuant to section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA (also known as a habitat conservation plan) is necessary to harm or harass federally listed threatened or endangered fish or wildlife species. In either case, there is no mechanism for authorizing incidental take "after-the-fact." For more information regarding formal consultation and HCPs, please see the Service's Consultation Handbook and Habitat Conservation Plans at www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/index.html#consultations.

The scope of federally listed species compliance not only includes direct effects, but also any interrelated or interdependent project activities (e.g., equipment staging areas, offsite borrow material areas, or utility relocations) and any indirect or cumulative effects that may occur in the action area includes all areas to be affected, not merely the immediate area involved in the action. Large projects may have effects outside the immediate area to species not listed here that should be addressed. If your action area has suitable habitat for any of the attached species, we recommend that species-specific surveys be conducted during the flowering season for plants and at the appropriate time for wildlife to evaluate any possible project-related impacts.

#### **Candidate Species and Other Sensitive Species**

A list of candidate and other sensitive species in your area is also attached. Candidate species and other sensitive species are species that have no legal protection under the ESA, although we recommend that candidate and other sensitive species be included in your surveys and considered for planning purposes. The Service monitors the status of these species. If significant declines occur, these species could potentially be listed. Therefore, actions that may contribute to their decline should be avoided.

Lists of sensitive species including State-listed endangered and threatened species are compiled by New Mexico state agencies. These lists, along with species information, can be found at the following websites:

Biota Information System of New Mexico (BISON-M): www.bison-m.org

New Mexico State Forestry. The New Mexico Endangered Plant Program: www.emnrd.state.nm.us/SFD/ForestMgt/Endangered.html

New Mexico Rare Plant Technical Council, New Mexico Rare Plants: nmrareplants.unm.edu

Natural Heritage New Mexico, online species database: nhnm.unm.edu

#### WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS

Under Executive Orders 11988 and 11990, Federal agencies are required to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and floodplains, and preserve and enhance their natural and beneficial values. These habitats should be conserved through avoidance, or mitigated to ensure that there would be no net loss of wetlands function and value.

We encourage you to use the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps in conjunction with ground-truthing to identify wetlands occurring in your project area. The Service's NWI program

website, www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html integrates digital map data with other resource information. We also recommend you contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for permitting requirements under section 404 of the Clean Water Act if your proposed action could impact floodplains or wetlands.

#### MIGRATORY BIRDS

The MBTA prohibits the taking of migratory birds, nests, and eggs, except as permitted by the Service's Migratory Bird Office. To minimize the likelihood of adverse impacts to migratory birds, we recommend construction activities occur outside the general bird nesting season from March through August, or that areas proposed for construction during the nesting season be surveyed, and when occupied, avoided until the young have fledged.

We recommend review of Birds of Conservation Concern at website www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Management/BCC.html to fully evaluate the effects to the birds at your site. This list identifies birds that are potentially threatened by disturbance and construction.

#### **BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLES**

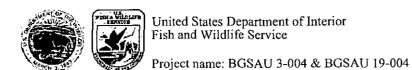
The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) was delisted under the ESA on August 9, 2007. Both the bald eagle and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are still protected under the MBTA and BGEPA. The BGEPA affords both eagles protection in addition to that provided by the MBTA, in particular, by making it unlawful to "disturb" eagles. Under the BGEPA, the Service may issue limited permits to incidentally "take" eagles (e.g., injury, interfering with normal breeding, feeding, or sheltering behavior nest abandonment). For information on bald and golden eagle management guidelines, we recommend you review information provided at www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/guidelines/bgepa.html.

On our web site www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/SBC\_intro.cfm, we have included conservation measures that can minimize impacts to federally listed and other sensitive species. These include measures for communication towers, power line safety for raptors, road and highway improvements, spring developments and livestock watering facilities, wastewater facilities, and trenching operations.

We also suggest you contact the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division for information regarding State fish, wildlife, and plants.

Thank you for your concern for endangered and threatened species and New Mexico's wildlife habitats. We appreciate your efforts to identify and avoid impacts to listed and sensitive species in your project area. For further consultation on your proposed activity, please call 505-346-2525 or email nmesfo@fws.gov and reference your Service Consultation Tracking Number.

Attachment



#### **Official Species List**

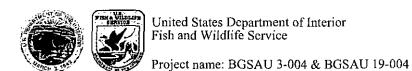
#### Provided by:

New Mexico Ecological Services Field Office 2105 OSUNA ROAD NE ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87113 (505) 346-2525\_ http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/NewMexico/

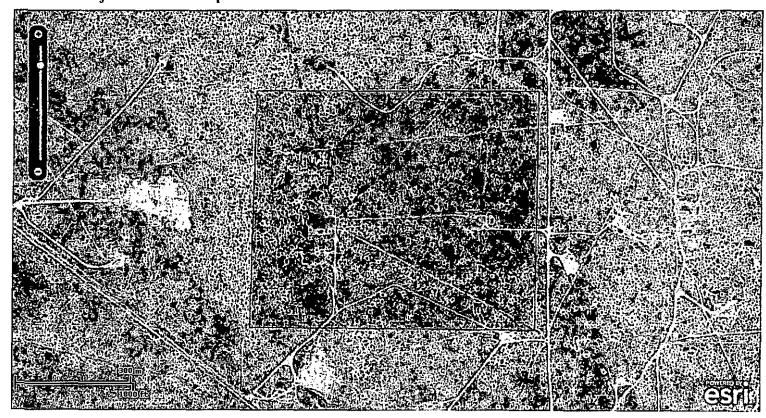
Consultation Tracking Number: 02ENNM00-2014-SLI-0423

Project Type: Oil Or Gas

Project Description: Well pad and lease road

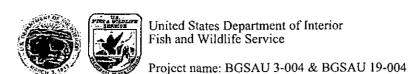


#### **Project Location Map:**



**Project Coordinates:** MULTIPOLYGON (((-104.1137121 32.7667092, -104.1058371 32.7666912, -104.105924 32.7611517, -104.1138837 32.7612239, -104.1137121 32.7667092)))

Project Counties: Eddy, NM



#### **Endangered Species Act Species List**

There are a total of 15 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats** within your project area section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Birds	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Least tern (Sterna antillarum)  Population: interior pop.	Endangered		
Lesser prairie-chicken (Tympanuchus pallidicinctus)	Threatened		
Mexican Spotted owl (Strix occidentalis lucida)  Population: Entire	Threatened	Final designated	
northern aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis)  Population: U.S.A (AZ, NM)	Experimental Population, Non- Essential		
Piping Plover (Charadrius melodus) Population: except Great Lakes watershed	Threatened	Final designated	
Southwestern Willow flycatcher (Empidonax traillii extimus) Population: Entire	Endangered	Final designated	
Sprague's Pipit (Anthus spragueii) Clams	Candidate		
Texas Hornshell (Popenaias popei)	Candidate		

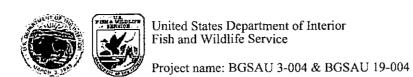




## United States Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: BGSAU 3-004 & BGSAU 19-004

Fishes					
Pecos Bluntnose shiner (Notropis simus pecosensis)  Population: Entire	Threatened	Final designated			
Pecos gambusia (Gambusia nobilis)  Population: Entire	Endangered				
Flowering Plants	· .				
Gypsum wild-buckwheat (Eriogonum gypsophilum)	Threatened	Final designated			
Kuenzler Hedgehog cactus (Echinocereus fendleri var. kuenzleri)	Endangered				
Lee Pincushion cactus (Coryphantha sneedii var. leei)	Threatened				
Sneed Pincushion cactus (Coryphantha sneedii var. sneedii)	Endangered				
Wright's Marsh thistle (Cirsium wrightii)	Candidate				



## Critical habitats that lie within your project area

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

District I
1625 N. French Dr., Hobbs, NM 88240
Phone: (375) 393-6161 Fax: (575) 393-0720
District II
811 S. First St., Artesia, NM 88210
Phone: (375) 748-1283 Fax: (575) 748-9720
District III
1000 Rio Brazos Road, Aztec, NM 87410
Phone: (305) 334-6178 Fax: (505) 334-6170
District IV
1220 S. St. Francis Dr., Sante Fe, NM 87505
Phone: (305) 476-3460 Fax: (505) 476-3462

# State of New Mexico Energy, Minerals & Natural Resources Department OIL CONSERVATION DIVISION 1220 South St. Francis Dr. Sante Fe, NM 87505

FORM C-102 Revised August 1, 2011 Submit one copy to appropriate District Office

	AMENDED REPO	RT
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			<sup>2</sup> Pool Code	Code SPOOL Name					
			ŀ						
<sup>4</sup> Property Code				<sup>5</sup> Property Na	<sup>5</sup> Property Name			<sup>6</sup> Well Number	
		BGSAU 19					004		
<sup>7</sup> OGRID	No.	<sup>8</sup> Operator Name					<sup>9</sup> Elevation		
1		TANDEM ENERGY CORP. 3568'						568'	
				<u>-</u>	<sup>10</sup> Surface Loc	ation			
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Idn	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
<u>I</u>	7	18-S	29-E	-	2581'	SOUTH	1196'	EAST	EDDY
<u> </u>									
UL or lot no.	Section	Township	Range	Lot Ido	Feet from the	North/South line	Feet from the	East/West line	County
_	-	-	] - ]	-	-	-	- ]	- ]	_
<sup>12</sup> Dedicated Acres	13 Joint or 1	Infill 14Ce	onsolidation Code	<sup>15</sup> Order	No.				<del></del>
640.00			•						
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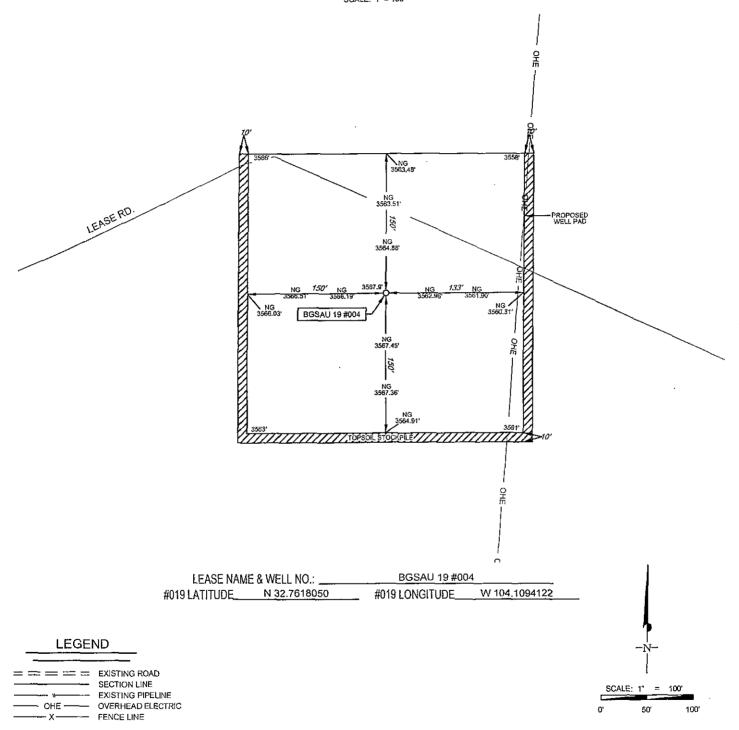
No allowable will be assigned to this completion until all interests have been consolidated or a non-standard unit has been approved by the division.

	330			17 OPERATOR CERTIFICATION  I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that this organization either owns a working interest or unleased mineral interest in the land including the proposed bottom hole location or has a right to ciril this well at this location pursuant to a contract with an owner of such a mineral or working interest, or to a voluntary pooling agreement or a compulsory pooling order heretafore entered by the division.
330			33	Signature Date  Printed Name  E-mail Address
PRODUCING AREA PROJECT AREA		SURFACE LOCATION NEW MEXICO EAST NAD 1927 X=568991 Y=640886 LAT.: N 32.7616887 LONG.: W 104.1089021 NAD 1983 X=610170 Y=640849	1196'-	18SURVEYOR CERTIFICATION I hereby certify that the well location shown on this plat was plotted from field notes of actual surveys made by me or under my supervision, and that the same is true to the best of my belief.  Oute of Survey Signoture and as an information of survey.
<u>                                   </u>	77777777777777777777777777777777777777	LAT.: N 32,761805046 LONG.: W 104.109412172		Certificate Number

#### TANDEM ENERGY CORP.

SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, N.M.P.M. EDDY COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

DETAIL VIEW SCALE: 1" = 100"



ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREON ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1983, U.S. SURVEY FEET

THIS PROPOSED PAD SITE LOCATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN SURVEYED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND AT THE TIME OF SURVEY, AND DATA PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. THIS CERTIFICATION IS MADE AND LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE. THIS SURVEY IS CERTIFIED FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.



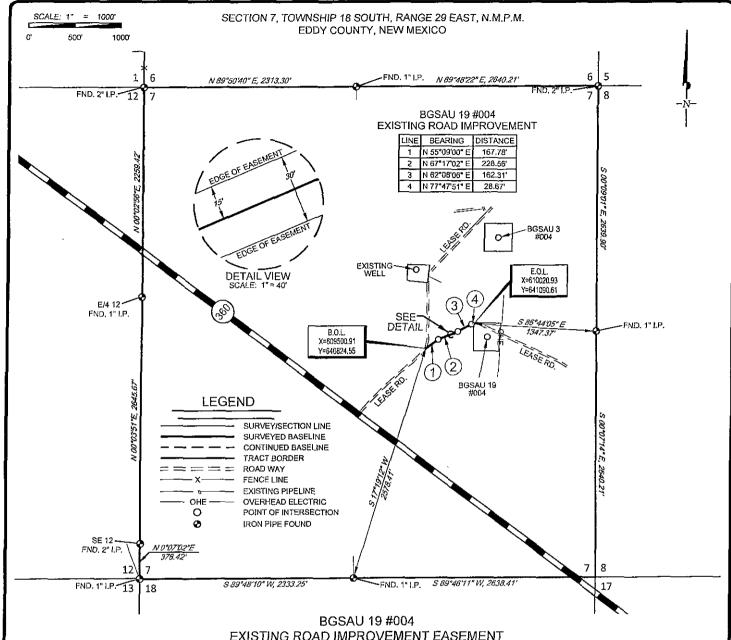
1400 EVERMAN PARKWAY, Ste. 197 - FT. WORTH, TEXAS 76140

TELEPHONE: (817) 724-7512 - FAX (817) 744-7548

2903 NORTH BIG SPRING - MIDLAND, TEXAS 75705

TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1633 OR (800) 767-1653 - FAX (432) 682-1743

WWW.TOPOGRAPHIC.COM



**EXISTING ROAD IMPROVEMENT EASEMENT** 

Being a proposed road improvement easement being 30 feet in width, 15 feet left, and 15 feet right of the above platted centerline total line footage containing 587.32 feet or 35.60 rods, containing 0.40 acres more or less.



1400 EVERMAN PARKWAY, Ste. 197 • FT, WORTH, TEXAS 76140 TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 - FAX (817) 744-7548
2903 NORTH BIG SPRING - MIDLAND, TEXAS 7970S TANDEM ENERGY CORP. TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1653 OR (800) 767-1653 - FAX (432) 682-1743 WWW.TOPOGRAPHIC.COM

#### "PRELIMINARY, THIS DOCUMENT SHALL NOT BE RECORDED FOR ANY PURPOSE."

Michael Blake Brown, P.S. No. 18329 JUNE 24, 2014

#### BGSAU 19 #004 REVISION: **EXISTING ROAD** INT DATE IMPROVEMENT EASEMENT DATE: 06/24/14 FİLE:EP BGSAU 19 004 ROAD DRAWN BY: SHEET: 1 OF 1

NOTES:

NOTES:

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIZE: 8.5" X 11"

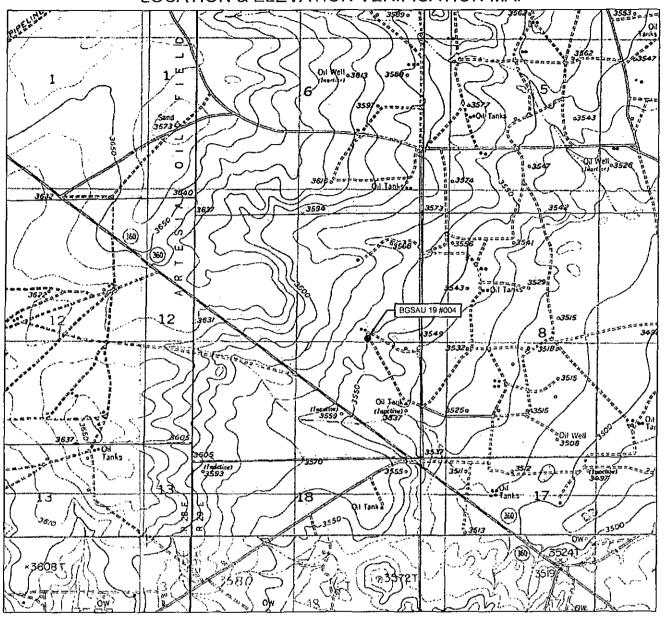
ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREIN ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE, U.S. SURVEY FEET, NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1983.

CERTIFICATION IS MADE ONLY TO THE LOCATION OF THIS EASEMENT, IN RELATION TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND DURING A FIELD SURVEY, MADE ON THE GROUND, UNDER MY SUPERVISION, AND USING DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. ONLY UTILITIES: REASEMENTS THAT WERE VISIBLE ON THE DATE OF THIS SURVEY, WITHINADAID INING THIS EASEMENT, HAVE BEEN LOCATED AS SHOWN HEREON OF WHICH I HAVE KNOWLEDGE. THIS CERTIFICATION IS LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE, AND MADE FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.

4. B.O.L.P.O.B., \*\* BEGINNING OF LINEPOINT OF BEGINNING

5. E.O.L.P.O.B., \*\* BEGINNING OF LINEPOINT OF BEGINNING

## **LOCATION & ELEVATION VERIFICATION MAP**



# TANDEM ENERGY CORP.

LEASE NAME & W	/ELL NO.:		BGS/	10 19 #004	
SECTION7	_ TWP <u>18-</u>	s _ RGE_	29-E	SURVEY	N.M.P.M,
COUNTYE					
DESCRIPTION _					
010011111111111111111111111111111111111	<u> </u>	<del></del>			
LATITUDE	N 32.7618050	LO	NGITUDE	W 104.1	094122

DOGALI 40 #004



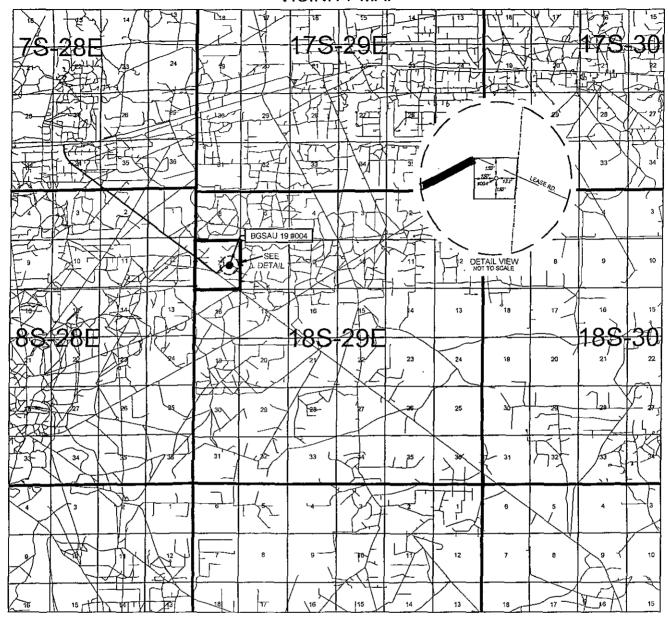
THIS EASEMENT/SERVITUDE LOCATION SHOWN HEREON HAS BEEN SURVEYED ON THE GROUND UNDER MY SUPERVISION AND PREPARED ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE FOUND AT THE TIME OF SURVEY, AND DATA PROVIDED BY TANDEM ENERGY CORP. THIS CERTIFICATION IS MADE AND LIMITED TO THOSE PERSONS OR ENTITIES SHOWN ON THE FACE OF THIS PLAT AND IS NON-TRANSFERABLE. THIS SURVEY IS CERTIFIED FOR THIS TRANSACTION ONLY.

ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREON ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1983, U.S. SURVEY FEET.



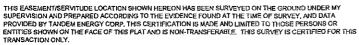
1400 EVERMAN PARKWAY, SI<sub>0</sub>, 197 • FT. WORTH, TEXAS 76140 TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 • FAX (817) 744-7548 2993 NORTH BIG SPRING • MDLAND, TEXAS 78705 TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1653 OR (800) 767-1653 • FAX (432) 582-1743 WWW.TOPOGRAPHIC.COM

# VICINITY MAP

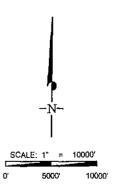


# TANDEM ENERGY CORP.

LEASE NAME & WELL NO.:	BGSAU 19 #004			
SECTION	STATENM			
DISTANCE & DIRECTION FRO	DM INT. OF US-285 & US 82, GO EAST ON DUTH (RIGHT) ON N.M. 360 / BLUESTEM			
	HEAST (LEFT) ON LEASE RD. ±0.3 MILES			



ALL BEARINGS, DISTANCES, AND COORDINATE VALUES CONTAINED HEREON ARE GRID BASED UPON THE NEW MEXICO STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, EAST ZONE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM 1927, U.S. SURVEY FEET.





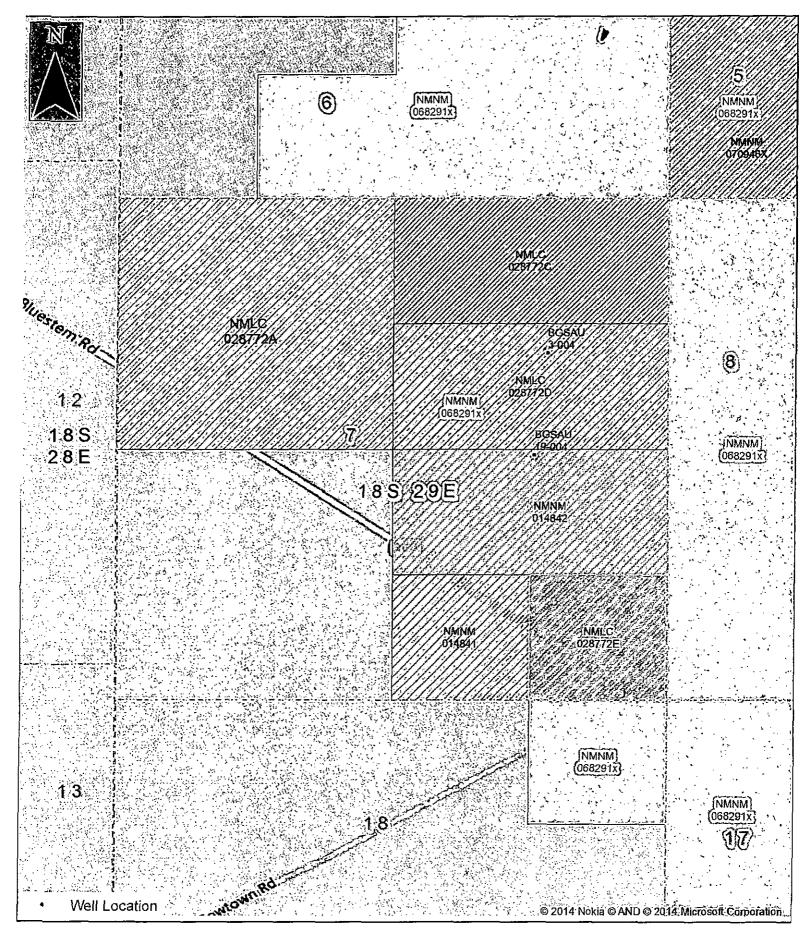
1400 EVERMAN PARKWAY, Ste. 197 · FT. WORTH, TEXAS 76140

<u>TELEPHONE: (817) 744-7512 · FAX (817) 744-7548</u>

2903 NORTH BIG SPRING - MIDLAND, TEXAS 79705

TELEPHONE: (432) 682-1530 OR (800) 767-1653 · FAX (432) 682-1743

WWW.TOPOGRAPHIC.COM



# Lease Plat

Tandem Energy Corporation BGSAU 3-004 and BGSAU 19-004 Section 7-18S-29E Eddy County, NM



# NM OIL CONSERVATION

ARTESIA DISTRICT

# PECOS DISTRICT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

JUN 15 2015

OPERATOR'S NAME:
LEASE NO.:
WELL NAME & NO.:
SURFACE HOLE FOOTAGE:
BOTTOM HOLE FOOTAGE
LOCATION:
COUNTY:
RECEIVED

Tandem Energy Corp
NM14842
4-BGSAU 19
2581'/S & 1196'/E
'/ & '/
Section 7, T. 18 S., R. 29 E., NMPM
Eddy County, New Mexico

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Standard Conditions of Approval (COA) apply to this APD. If any deviations to these standards exist or special COAs are required, the section with the deviation or requirement will be checked below.

General Provisions
Permit Expiration
Archaeology, Paleontology, and Historical Sites
Noxious Weeds
Special Requirements
Unit Wells
Construction
Notification
Topsoil
Closed Loop System
Federal Mineral Material Pits
Well Pads
Roads
Road Section Diagram
☑ Drilling
Casing/Cement Requirements
BOP/BOPE Requirements
H2S – Onshore Order 6 Requirements
Waste Material and Fluids
Production (Post Drilling)
Well Structures & Facilities
Interim Reclamation
Final Abandonment & Declaration

#### I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The approval of the Application For Permit To Drill (APD) is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations: 43 Code of Federal Regulations 3160, the lease terms, Onshore Oil and Gas Orders, Notices To Lessees, New Mexico Oil Conservation Division (NMOCD) Rules, National Historical Preservation Act As Amended, and instructions and orders of the Authorized Officer. Any request for a variance shall be submitted to the Authorized Officer on Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Report on Wells.

#### II. PERMIT EXPIRATION

If the permit terminates prior to drilling and drilling cannot be commenced within 60 days after expiration, an operator is required to submit Form 3160-5, Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, requesting surface reclamation requirements for any surface disturbance. However, if the operator will be able to initiate drilling within 60 days after the expiration of the permit, the operator must have set the conductor pipe in order to allow for an extension of 60 days beyond the expiration date of the APD. (Filing of a Sundry Notice is required for this 60 day extension.)

# III. ARCHAEOLOGICAL, PALEONTOLOGY & HISTORICAL SITES

Any cultural and/or paleontological resource discovered by the operator or by any person working on the operator's behalf shall immediately report such findings to the Authorized Officer. The operator is fully accountable for the actions of their contractors and subcontractors. The operator shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery shall be made by the Authorized Officer to determine the appropriate actions that shall be required to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values of the discovery. The operator shall be held responsible for the cost of the proper mitigation measures that the Authorized Officer assesses after consultation with the operator on the evaluation and decisions of the discovery. Any unauthorized collection or disturbance of cultural or paleontological resources may result in a shutdown order by the Authorized Officer.

#### IV. NOXIOUS WEEDS

The operator shall be held responsible if noxious weeds become established within the areas of operations. Weed control shall be required on the disturbed land where noxious weeds exist, which includes the roads, pads, associated pipeline corridor, and adjacent land affected by the establishment of weeds due to this action. The operator shall consult with the Authorized Officer for acceptable weed control methods, which include following EPA and BLM requirements and policies.

# V. SPECIAL REQUIREMENT(S)

# **Unit Wells**

The well sign for a unit well shall include the unit number in addition to the surface and bottom hole lease numbers. This also applies to participating area numbers. If a participating area has not been established, the operator can use the general unit designation, but will replace the unit number with the participating area number when the sign is replaced.

# Plan of Development

Operator is to submit a Unit Plan of Development (UPOD) annually to the BLM. Guidelines for UPOD are available upon request at the BLM Carlsbad Field Office

# VI. CONSTRUCTION

#### A. NOTIFICATION

The BLM shall administer compliance and monitor construction of the access road and well pad. Notify the Carlsbad Field Office at (575) 234-5909 at least 3 working days prior to commencing construction of the access road and/or well pad.

When construction operations are being conducted on this well, the operator shall have the approved APD and Conditions of Approval (COA) on the well site and they shall be made available upon request by the Authorized Officer.

#### B. TOPSOIL

The operator shall strip the top portion of the soil (root zone) from the entire well pad area and stockpile the topsoil along the edge of the well pad as depicted in the APD. The root zone is typically six (6) inches in depth. All the stockpiled topsoil will be redistributed over the interim reclamation areas. Topsoil shall not be used for berming the pad or facilities. For final reclamation, the topsoil shall be spread over the entire pad area for seeding preparation.

Other subsoil (below six inches) stockpiles must be completely segregated from the topsoil stockpile. Large rocks or subsoil clods (not evident in the surrounding terrain) must be buried within the approved area for interim and final reclamation.

#### C. CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM

Tanks are required for drilling operations: No Pits.

The operator shall properly dispose of drilling contents at an authorized disposal site.

#### D. FEDERAL MINERAL MATERIALS PIT

Payment shall be made to the BLM prior to removal of any federal mineral materials. Call the Carlsbad Field Office at (575) 234-5972.

#### E. WELL PAD SURFACING

Surfacing of the well pad is not required.

If the operator elects to surface the well pad, the surfacing material may be required to be removed at the time of reclamation. The well pad shall be constructed in a manner which creates the smallest possible surface disturbance, consistent with safety and operational needs.

#### F. EXCLOSURE FENCING (CELLARS & PITS)

#### **Exclosure Fencing**

The operator will install and maintain exclosure fencing for all open well cellars to prevent access to public, livestock, and large forms of wildlife before and after drilling operations until the pit is free of fluids and the operator initiates backfilling. (For examples of exclosure fencing design, refer to BLM's Oil and Gas Gold Book, Exclosure Fence Illustrations, Figure 1, Page 18.)

#### G. ON LEASE ACCESS ROADS

#### Road Width

The access road shall have a driving surface that creates the smallest possible surface disturbance and does not exceed fourteen (14) feet in width. The maximum width of surface disturbance, when constructing the access road, shall not exceed twenty-five (25) feet.

#### Surfacing

Surfacing material is not required on the new access road driving surface. If the operator elects to surface the new access road or pad, the surfacing material may be required to be removed at the time of reclamation.

Where possible, no improvements should be made on the unsurfaced access road other than to remove vegetation as necessary, road irregularities, safety issues, or to fill low areas that may sustain standing water.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to require surfacing of any portion of the access road at any time deemed necessary. Surfacing may be required in the event the road deteriorates, erodes, road traffic increases, or it is determined to be beneficial for future field development. The surfacing depth and type of material will be determined at the time of notification.

#### Crowning

Crowning shall be done on the access road driving surface. The road crown shall have a grade of approximately 2% (i.e., a 1" crown on a 14' wide road). The road shall conform to Figure 1; cross section and plans for typical road construction.

#### Ditching

Ditching shall be required on both sides of the road.

#### Turnouts

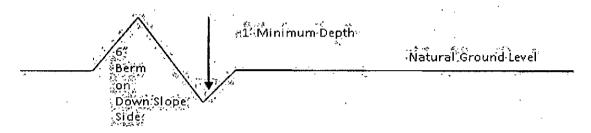
Vehicle turnouts shall be constructed on the road. Turnouts shall be intervisible with interval spacing distance less than 1000 feet. Turnouts shall conform to Figure 1; cross section and plans for typical road construction.

#### Drainage

Drainage control systems shall be constructed on the entire length of road (e.g. ditches, sidehill outsloping and insloping, lead-off ditches, culvert installation, and low water crossings).

A typical lead-off ditch has a minimum depth of 1 foot below and a berm of 6 inches above natural ground level. The berm shall be on the down-slope side of the lead-off ditch.

## Cross Section of a Typical Lead-off Ditch



All lead-off ditches shall be graded to drain water with a 1 percent minimum to 3 percent maximum ditch slope. The spacing interval are variable for lead-off ditches and shall be determined according to the formula for spacing intervals of lead-off ditches, but may be amended depending upon existing soil types and centerline road slope (in %);

#### Formula for Spacing Interval of Lead-off Ditches

Example - On a 4% road slope that is 400 feet long, the water flow shall drain water into a lead-off ditch. Spacing interval shall be determined by the following formula:

400 foot road with 4% road slope: 
$$\underline{400'} + 100' = 200'$$
 lead-off ditch interval  $4\%$ 

#### Cattleguards

An appropriately sized cattleguard sufficient to carry out the project shall be installed and maintained at fence/road crossings. Any existing cattleguards on the access road route shall be repaired or replaced if they are damaged or have deteriorated beyond practical use. The operator shall be responsible for the condition of the existing cattleguards that are in place and are utilized during lease operations.

# Fence Requirement

Where entry is granted across a fence line, the fence shall be braced and tied off on both sides of the passageway prior to cutting. The operator shall notify the private surface landowner or the grazing allotment holder prior to crossing any fences.

#### **Public Access**

Public access on this road shall not be restricted by the operator without specific written

- **Construction Steps**
- 1. Salvage topsoil
- 3. Redistribute topsoil
- 2. Construct road
- 4. Revegetate slopes

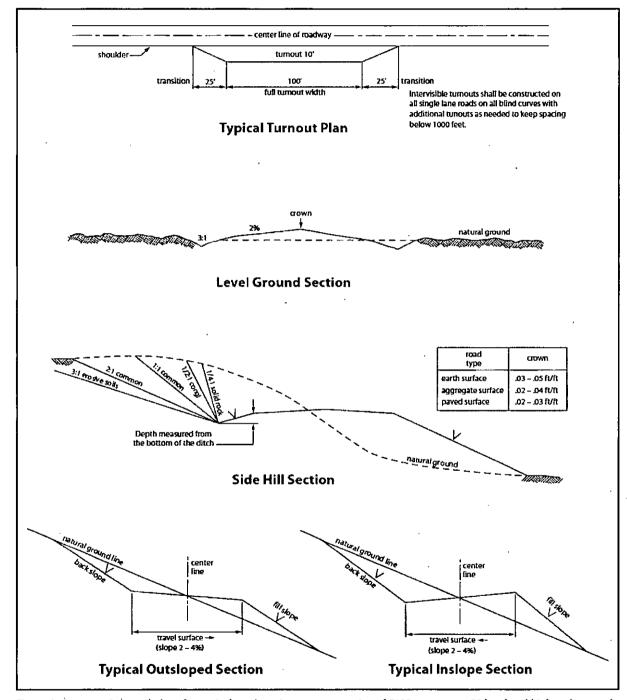


Figure 1. Cross-sections and plans for typical road sections representative of BLM resource or FS local and higher-class roads. approval granted by the Authorized Officer.

#### VII. DRILLING

# A. DRILLING OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS

The BLM is to be notified in advance for a representative to witness:

- a. Spudding well (minimum of 24 hours)
- b. Setting and/or Cementing of all casing strings (minimum of 4 hours)
- c. BOPE tests (minimum of 4 hours)

# **⊠** Eddy County

Call the Carlsbad Field Office, 620 East Greene St., Carlsbad, NM 88220, (575) 361-2822

- 1. A Hydrogen Sulfide (H2S) Drilling Plan shall be activated 500 feet prior to drilling into the Grayburg formation. As a result, the Hydrogen Sulfide area must meet Onshore Order 6 requirements, which includes equipment and personnel/public protection items. If Hydrogen Sulfide is encountered, please provide measured values and formations to the BLM.
- 2. Unless the production casing has been run and cemented or the well has been properly plugged, the drilling rig shall not be removed from over the hole without prior approval. If the drilling rig is removed without approval an Incident of Non-Compliance will be written and will be a "Major" violation.
- 3. Floor controls are required for 3M or Greater systems. These controls will be on the rig floor, unobstructed, readily accessible to the driller and will be operational at all times during drilling and/or completion activities. Rig floor is defined as the area immediately around the rotary table; the area immediately above the substructure on which the draw works is located, this does not include the dog house or stairway area.
- 4. The record of the drilling rate along with the GR/N well log run from TD to surface (horizontal well vertical portion of hole) shall be submitted to the BLM office as well as all other logs run on the borehole 30 days from completion. If available, a digital copy of the logs is to be submitted in addition to the paper copies. The Rustler top and top and bottom of Salt are to be recorded on the Completion Report.

#### B. CASING

Changes to the approved APD casing program need prior approval if the items substituted are of lesser grade or different casing size or are Non-API. The Operator can exchange the components of the proposal with that of superior strength (i.e. changing from J-55 to N-80, or from 36# to 40#). Changes to the

approved cement program need prior approval if the altered cement plan has less volume or strength or if the changes are substantial (i.e. Multistage tool, ECP, etc.).

The initial wellhead installed on the well will remain on the well with spools used as needed.

Centralizers required on surface casing per Onshore Order 2.III.B.1.f.

Wait on cement (WOC) time prior to drilling out for a primary cement job will be a minimum 18 hours for a water basin, 24 hours in the potash area, or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater for all casing strings. DURING THIS WOC TIME, NO DRILL PIPE, ETC. SHALL BE RUN IN THE HOLE. Provide compressive strengths including hours to reach required 500 pounds compressive strength prior to cementing each casing string. See individual casing strings for details regarding lead cement slurry requirements.

No pea gravel permitted for remedial or fall back remedial without prior authorization from the BLM engineer.

Possibility of water flows in the Salado and Queen.
Possibility of lost circulation in the Artesia Group, Rustler, San Andres, and Grayburg.

- 1. The 13-3/8 inch surface casing shall be set at <u>approximately 300 feet</u> (a minimum of 25 feet into the Rustler Anhydrite and above the salt) and cemented to the surface. If salt is encountered, set casing at least 25 feet above the salt.
  - a. If cement does not circulate to the surface, the appropriate BLM office shall be notified and a temperature survey utilizing an electronic type temperature survey with surface log readout will be used or a cement bond log shall be run to verify the top of the cement. Temperature survey will be run a minimum of six hours after pumping cement and ideally between 8-10 hours after completing the cement job.
  - b. Wait on cement (WOC) time for a primary cement job is to include the lead cement slurry.
  - c. Wait on cement (WOC) time for a remedial job will be a minimum of 4 hours after bringing cement to surface or 500 pounds compressive strength, whichever is greater.
  - d. If cement falls back, remedial cementing will be done prior to drilling out that string.

- 2. Drilled with an 8-3/4" hole, the minimum required fill of cement behind the 5-1/2 inch production casing is:
  - Cement to surface. If cement does not circulate, contact the appropriate BLM office.

#### C. PRESSURE CONTROL

- 1. All blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) shall comply with well control requirements as described in Onshore Oil and Gas Order No. 2 and API RP 53 Sec. 17.
- 2. In the case where the only BOP installed is an annular preventer, it shall be tested to a minimum of 2000 psi (which may require upgrading to 3M or 5M annular).
- 3. Minimum working pressure of the blowout preventer (BOP) and related equipment (BOPE) required for drilling below the surface casing shoe shall be 2000 (2M) psi.
- 4. The appropriate BLM office shall be notified a minimum of 4 hours in advance for a representative to witness the tests.
  - a. In a water basin, for all casing strings utilizing slips, these are to be set as soon as the crew and rig are ready and any fallback cement remediation has been done. The casing cut-off and BOP installation can be initiated four hours after installing the slips, which will be approximately six hours after bumping the plug. For those casing strings not using slips, the minimum wait time before cut-off is eight hours after bumping the plug. BOP/BOPE testing can begin after cut-off or once cement reaches 500 psi compressive strength (including lead when specified), whichever is greater. However, if the float does not hold, cut-off cannot be initiated until cement reaches 500 psi compressive strength (including lead when specified).
  - b. The tests shall be done by an independent service company utilizing a test plug not a cup or J-packer.
  - c. The test shall be run on a 5000 psi chart for a 2-3M BOP/BOP, on a 10000 psi chart for a 5M BOP/BOPE and on a 15000 psi chart for a 10M BOP/BOPE. If a linear chart is used, it shall be a one hour chart. A circular chart shall have a maximum 2 hour clock. If a twelve hour or twenty-four hour chart is used, tester shall make a notation that it is run with a two hour clock.
  - d. The results of the test shall be reported to the appropriate BLM office.

- e. All tests are required to be recorded on a calibrated test chart. A copy of the BOP/BOPE test chart and a copy of independent service company test will be submitted to the appropriate BLM office.
- f. The BOP/BOPE test shall include a low pressure test from 250 to 300 psi. The test will be held for a minimum of 10 minutes if test is done with a test plug and 30 minutes without a test plug. This test shall be performed prior to the test at full stack pressure.

#### D. DRILL STEM TEST

If drill stem tests are performed, Onshore Order 2.III.D shall be followed.

#### E. WASTE MATERIAL AND FLUIDS

All waste (i.e. drilling fluids, trash, salts, chemicals, sewage, gray water, etc.) created as a result of drilling operations and completion operations shall be safely contained and disposed of properly at a waste disposal facility. No waste material or fluid shall be disposed of on the well location or surrounding area.

Porto-johns and trash containers will be on-location during fracturing operations or any other crew-intensive operations.

EGF 052015

# VIII. PRODUCTION (POST DRILLING)

# A. WELL STRUCTURES & FACILITIES

#### **Placement of Production Facilities**

Production facilities should be placed on the well pad to allow for maximum interim recontouring and revegetation of the well location.

#### **Exclosure Netting (Open-top Tanks)**

Immediately following active drilling or completion operations, the operator will take actions necessary to prevent wildlife and livestock access, including avian wildlife, to all open-topped tanks that contain or have the potential to contain salinity sufficient to cause harm to wildlife or livestock, hydrocarbons, or Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976-exempt hazardous substances. At a minimum, the operator will net, screen, or cover open-topped tanks to exclude wildlife and livestock and prevent mortality. If the operator uses netting, the operator will cover and secure the open portion of the tank to prevent wildlife entry. The operator will net, screen, or cover the tanks until the operator removes the tanks from the location or the tanks no longer contain substances that could be harmful to wildlife or livestock. Use a maximum netting mesh size of 1 ½ inches. The netting must not be in contact with fluids and must not have holes or gaps.

#### Chemical and Fuel Secondary Containment and Exclosure Screening

The operator will prevent all hazardous, poisonous, flammable, and toxic substances from coming into contact with soil and water. At a minimum, the operator will install and maintain an impervious secondary containment system for any tank or barrel containing hazardous, poisonous, flammable, or toxic substances sufficient to contain the contents of the tank or barrel and any drips, leaks, and anticipated precipitation. The operator will dispose of fluids within the containment system that do not meet applicable state or U. S. Environmental Protection Agency livestock water standards in accordance with state law; the operator must not drain the fluids to the soil or ground. The operator will design, construct, and maintain all secondary containment systems to prevent wildlife and livestock exposure to harmful substances. At a minimum, the operator will install effective wildlife and livestock exclosure systems such as fencing, netting, expanded metal mesh, lids, and grate covers. Use a maximum netting mesh size of 1 ½ inches.

## **Open-Vent Exhaust Stack Exclosures**

The operator will construct, modify, equip, and maintain all open-vent exhaust stacks on production equipment to prevent birds and bats from entering, and to discourage perching, roosting, and nesting. (Recommended exclosure structures on open-vent exhaust stacks are in the shape of a cone.) Production equipment includes, but may not be limited to, tanks, heater-treaters, separators, dehydrators, flare stacks, in-line units, and compressor mufflers.

# **Containment Structures**

Proposed production facilities such as storage tanks and other vessels will have a secondary containment structure that is constructed to hold the capacity of 1.5 times the largest tank, plus freeboard to account for precipitation, unless more stringent protective requirements are deemed necessary.

#### **Painting Requirement**

All above-ground structures including meter housing that are not subject to safety requirements shall be painted a flat non-reflective paint color, **Shale Green** from the BLM Standard Environmental Color Chart (CC-001: June 2008).

#### IX. INTERIM RECLAMATION

During the life of the development, all disturbed areas not needed for active support of production operations should undergo interim reclamation in order to minimize the environmental impacts of development on other resources and uses.

Within six (6) months of well completion, operators should work with BLM surface management specialists (Jim Amos: 575-234-5909) to devise the best strategies to reduce the size of the location. Interim reclamation should allow for remedial well operations, as well as safe and efficient removal of oil and gas.

During reclamation, the removal of caliche is important to increasing the success of revegetating the site. Removed caliche that is free of contaminants may be used for road repairs, fire walls or for building other roads and locations. In order to operate the well or complete workover operations, it may be necessary to drive, park and operate on restored interim vegetation within the previously disturbed area. Disturbing revegetated areas for production or workover operations will be allowed. If there is significant disturbance and loss of vegetation, the area will need to be revegetated. Communicate with the appropriate BLM office for any exceptions/exemptions if needed.

All disturbed areas after they have been satisfactorily prepared need to be reseeded with the seed mixture provided below.

Upon completion of interim reclamation, the operator shall submit a Sundry Notices and Reports on Wells, Subsequent Report of Reclamation (Form 3160-5).

#### X. FINAL ABANDONMENT & RECLAMATION

At final abandonment, well locations, production facilities, and access roads must undergo "final" reclamation so that the character and productivity of the land are restored.

Earthwork for final reclamation must be completed within six (6) months of well plugging. All pads, pits, facility locations and roads must be reclaimed to a satisfactory revegetated, safe, and stable condition, unless an agreement is made with the landowner or BLM to keep the road and/or pad intact.

After all disturbed areas have been satisfactorily prepared, these areas need to be revegetated with the seed mixture provided below. Seeding should be accomplished by drilling on the contour whenever practical or by other approved methods. Seeding may need to be repeated until revegetation is successful, as determined by the BLM.

Operators shall contact a BLM surface protection specialist prior to surface abandonment operations for site specific objectives (Jim Amos: 575-234-5909).

#### **SEED MIXTURE 2 (SANDY LOCATIONS)**

The holder shall seed all disturbed areas with the seed mixture listed below. The seed mixture shall be planted in the amounts specified in pounds of pure live seed (PLS)\* per acre. There shall be <u>no</u> primary or secondary noxious weeds in the seed mixture. Seed will be tested and the viability testing of seed will be done in accordance with State law(s) and within nine months prior to purchase. Commercial seed will be certified or registered seed. The seed container will be tagged in accordance with State law(s) and available for inspection by the authorized officer.

Seed will be planted using a drill equipped with a depth regulator to ensure proper depth of planting where drilling is possible. The seed mixture will be evenly and uniformly planted over the disturbed area (smaller/heavier seeds have a tendency to drop to the bottom of the drill and are planted first; the holder shall take appropriate measures to ensure this does not occur). Where drilling is not possible, seed will be broadcast and the area shall be raked or chained to cover the seed. When broadcasting the seed, the pounds per acre are to be double the amounts listed below. The seeding will be repeated until a satisfactory stand is established as determined by the authorized officer. Evaluation of growth will not be made before completion of at least one full growing season after seeding.

Species to be planted in pounds of pure live seed\* per acre (note: if broadcasting seed, amounts are to be doubled):

Pound/acre
2.0
1.0
1.0

\* Pounds of pure live seed = (Pounds of seed) x (Percent purity) x (Percent germination)