



THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

## **Preliminary Analysis of Current Federal Actions Authorizing Drilling of New Wells (Updated August 2007)**

**Analysis Completed by The Wilderness Society's BLM Action Center**

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In October 2006, The Wilderness Society's BLM Action Center conducted a preliminary analysis of land use plans and large-scale projects approved or in the process of approval in the states of Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming in order to estimate the number of new oil and gas wells likely to be approved for drilling over the next 15 to 20 years. This document represents an update to that analysis and lists the names of the plans and projects analyzed, the number of new wells expected, and the sources the BLM Action Center used in its analysis. Over **126,000** new wells are expected in the five-state region from the 32 federal actions analyzed.

### **Summary**

<b>Total New Wells in Colorado:</b>	<b>22,211</b>
<b>Total New Wells in Montana:</b>	<b>26,152</b>
<b>Total New Wells in New Mexico:</b>	<b>10,905</b>
<b>Total New Wells in Utah:</b>	<b>8,904</b>
<b>Total New Wells in Wyoming:</b>	<b>58,209</b>

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**TOTAL: 126,381**

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## Colorado

Agency	Field Office/Forest	Plan/Project Status	New Wells	Source	Date of New Well Figure
BLM	Glenwood Springs Field Office	Roan Plateau Partial Record of Decision Published 6/8/07	1,570	Proposed Plan, p. S-10 - No Change in Record of Decision	Jun-07
BLM	Little Snake Field Office	Little Snake RMP, Draft Published 2/9/07	3,031	Preferred Alternative, p. ES-11	Feb-07
BLM	Little Snake Field Office (CO), Rock Springs Field Office (WY)	Hiawatha Regional Energy Development Project (EIS) - Draft in Process (Colorado Portion Only)	1,403	Scoping Notice, p. 1	Sep-06
BLM	White River Field Office	White River RMP Oil and Gas Amendment - Draft in process*	15,000	Scoping Report, p. 2	May-07
BLM	White River Field Office	Exxon Mobile/Piceance Development Project, EA Approved April 2007	1,080	FONSI, p. 1	Apr-07
USFS/BLM	San Juan National Forest	Northern San Juan Basin Coal Bed Methane Project (HD Mountains)	127	ROD Q and E79A, p. 1	Apr-07

**Total New Wells in Colorado: 22,211**

\* Scoping report actually predicts "over 15,000 wells" and the BLM has indicated that this number will likely exceed 20,000 wells.

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## Montana

Agency	Field Office/Forest	Plan/Project Status	New Wells	Source	Date of New Well Figure
BLM	Billings Field Office and Southern Portion of Miles City Field Office	Powder River/Billings RMP Record of Decision	19,995	Final Environmental Impact Statement, Proposed RMP Amendment - p. 2-25. Alternative E chosen in Record of Decision	Apr-03
BLM	Dillon Field Office	Dillon RMP Record of Decision	10	Final Environmental Impact Statement, Proposed RMP - p. 160, Proposed Plan chosen in Record of Decision	Feb-06
BLM	Lewistown Field Office	Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument Draft RMP	34	Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Draft RMP - p. xii	Sep-05
BLM	Butte Field Office	Butte Field Office Draft RMP, Comments due 9/5/07	57	Appendix L, p. 884	Jun-07
BLM	Miles City Field Office	Miles City Field Office RMP - Draft in process	6,056	Miles City RFD - p. 6-2	Sep-05

**Total New Wells in Montana:        26,152**

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## New Mexico

Agency	Field Office/Forest	Plan/Project Status	New Wells	Source	Date of New Well Figure
BLM	Farmington Field Office	Farmington Field Office Record of Decision	9,942	Record of Decision - p. 3	Dec-03
BLM	Las Cruces District Office	RMP Amendment for Federal Fluid Minerals Leasing and Leasing and Development in Sierra and Otero Counties Record of Decision	141	Record of Decision - p. 6	Jan-05
BLM	Socorro Field Office	Socorro Field Office Draft RMP - Final in process	22	RFD in Draft RMP, p. 44	Apr-07
USFS	Carson National Forest	Surface Management of Gas Leasing and Development, Jicarilla Ranger District, Carson National Forest	800	Draft Environmental Impact Statement - p. 1 of Purpose and Need	Sep-03

**Total New Wells in New Mexico:        10,905**

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## Utah

Agency	Field Office/Forest	Plan/Project Status	New Wells	Source	Date of New Well Figure
BLM	Monticello Field Office	Monticello RMP - Draft in process	195	RFD - pp. 1 and 12	Jul-05
BLM	Price Field Office	Price Draft RMP - Final in process	1,500	Draft RMP, Exec Summary and RFD p. 7	Jul-04
BLM	Moab Field Office	Moab RMP Draft RMP, comments due 11/30/07	432	Draft RMP, p. 2-65	Aug-07
BLM	Kanab Field Office	Kanab RMP - Draft in process	75	RFD - p. 73	Mar-06
BLM	Richfield Field Office	Richfield RMP - Draft in process	360	RFD - p. 1	Mar-07
BLM	Vernal Field Office	Vernal Draft RMP - Final in process	6,342	Draft RMP, p. 4-101	Jan-05

**Total New Wells in Utah:            8,904**

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**Wyoming**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Field Office/Forest</b>	<b>Plan/Project Status</b>	<b>New Wells</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Date of New Well Figure</b>
BLM	Buffalo Field Office	Powder River Basin Oil and Gas Project Record of Decision Published 2003	25,654	Preferred Alternative, Proposed SEIS, p. 2-73	Apr-03
BLM	Casper Field Office	Casper Final RMP Published 6/8/07	1,814	Proposed Plan, p. 4-43	Jun-07
BLM	Kemmerer Field Office	Kemmerer Draft RMP Published 7/13/07, Comments Due 10/10/07	1,010	Preferred Alternative, p. 4-34	Jul-07
BLM	Pinedale Field Office	Jonah Infill Drilling Project Record of Decision	3,100	Record of Decision, p. 1	Mar-06
BLM	Pinedale Field Office	Pinedale-Anticline Gas Field Infill Draft SEIS *	4,400	Dear Reader Letter, p. 2	Dec-06
BLM	Pinedale Field Office	Pinedale Field Office RMP - Draft RMP Published 6/18/07, Final Expected Winter '08	7,836	Preferred Alternative, pp. 2-192 and 4-246	Jun-07
BLM	Rawlins Field Office	Desolation Flats Natural Gas Development Record of Decision	385	Record of Decision, p. 1	Aug-04
BLM	Rawlins Field Office	Continental Divide - Creston EIS - Draft in process	8,950	Notice of Intent, p. 4	Mar-06
BLM	Rawlins Field Office	Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Development Project Final EIS Published	2,000	Final EIS, p. 2-8	Nov-06
BLM	Little Snake Field Office (CO), Rock Springs Field Office (WY)	Hiawatha Regional Energy Development Project (EIS) - Draft in Process (Wyoming Portion Only)	2,805	Scoping Notice, p. 1	Sep-06
BLM	Rock Springs Field Office	Jack Morrow Hills CAP Record of Decision	255	Jack Morrow Hills ROD, p. ROD-7	Jul-06

**Total New Wells in Wyoming: 58,209**

\* Requirements in the SEIS for multiple wells per pad, will reduce the overall surface disturbance associated with this number of wells in comparison to placing one well per well pad.