



Oil Shale & Tar Sands Leasing Programmatic EIS
Scoping Meetings

WELCOME

Public Scoping Meeting

**Oil Shale and Tar Sands Leasing
Programmatic EIS**

January 2006



The NEPA Process

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

- An environmental impact statement (EIS) is prepared to assess potential impacts of a proposed action, and reasonable range of alternative actions, on the quality of the human environment.
- A Programmatic EIS evaluates the environmental impacts of broad agency actions, such as the development of programs or the setting of national policies.



Energy Policy Act of 2005 Requirement

Section 369 (d)(1): PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT- Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, in accordance with section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)), the Secretary shall complete a programmatic environmental impact statement for a commercial leasing program for oil shale and tar sands resources on public lands, with an emphasis on the most geologically prospective lands within each of the States of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming.



Objectives of the Oil Shale/Tar Sands Leasing Program

- The PEIS will guide development of regulations
- Regulations will set up leasing program and operations program
- Regulations to be published no later than 6 months after the Record of Decision
- First lease sale to be held no sooner than 6 months after the regulations are published



Related Program Activities

- 160-acre Research, Development & Demonstration (RD&D) applications have been submitted
- Technical, environmental, and financial evaluations are complete
- Selected companies announced Jan. 17, 2006
- Site-specific environmental analysis of selected applications next
- If commercially viable, the applicants will be entitled to a 5,120-acre preference right lease



RMP Amendments

- Wyoming
 - Green River
 - Rawlins
 - Kemmerer
- Utah
 - Richfield
 - Price
 - Vernal
 - San Juan
- Colorado
 - Grand Junction
 - Little Snake
 - White River
 - Glenwood Springs



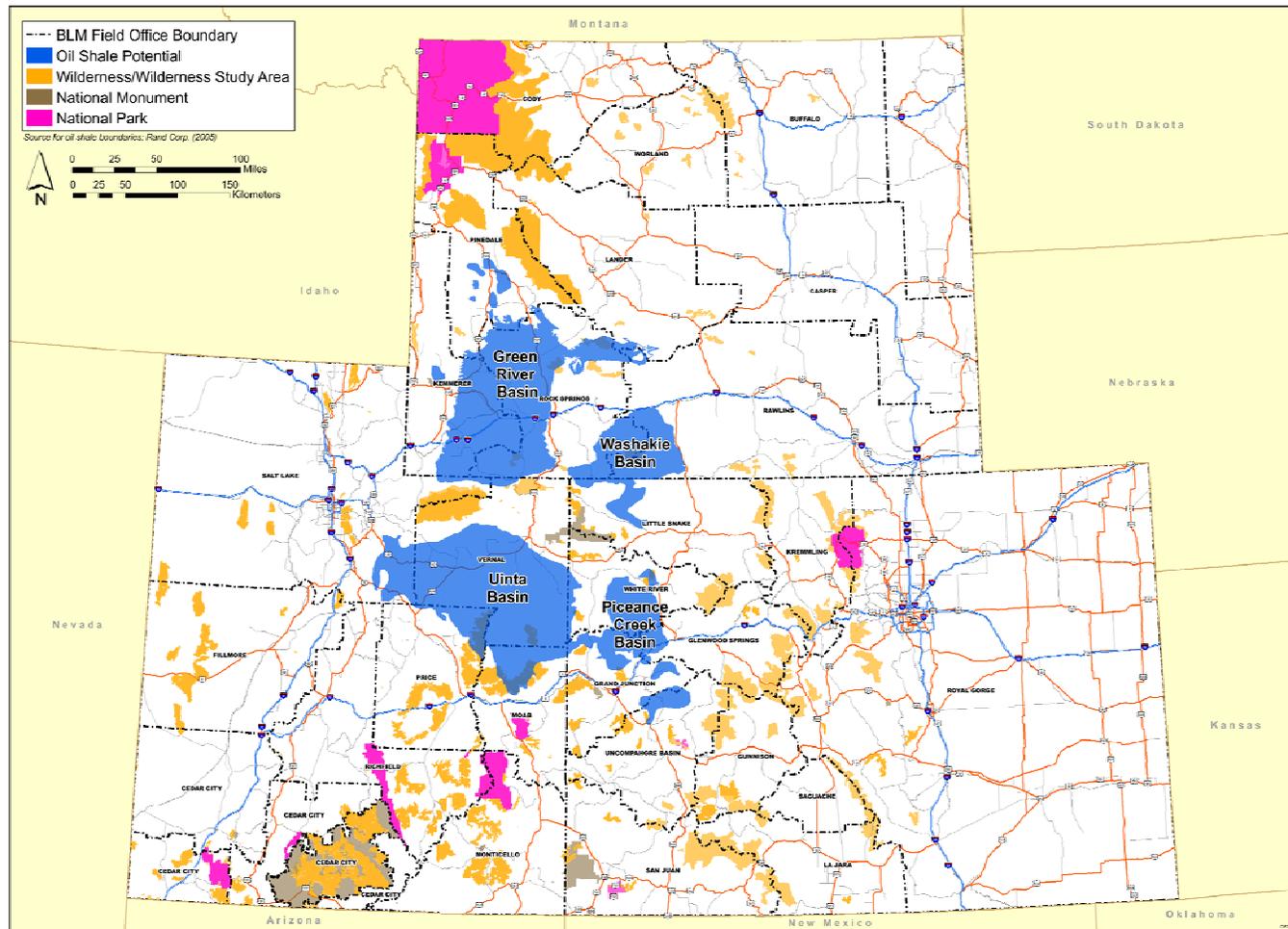
Planning Areas

- Oil shale resources:
 - Piceance Creek and Washakie Basins in Colorado
 - Uintah Basin in Utah,
 - Green River and Washakie Basins in Wyoming.
- Tar sands resources:
 - Certain sedimentary provinces in the Colorado Plateau in Utah.



Preliminary Oil Shale Boundaries

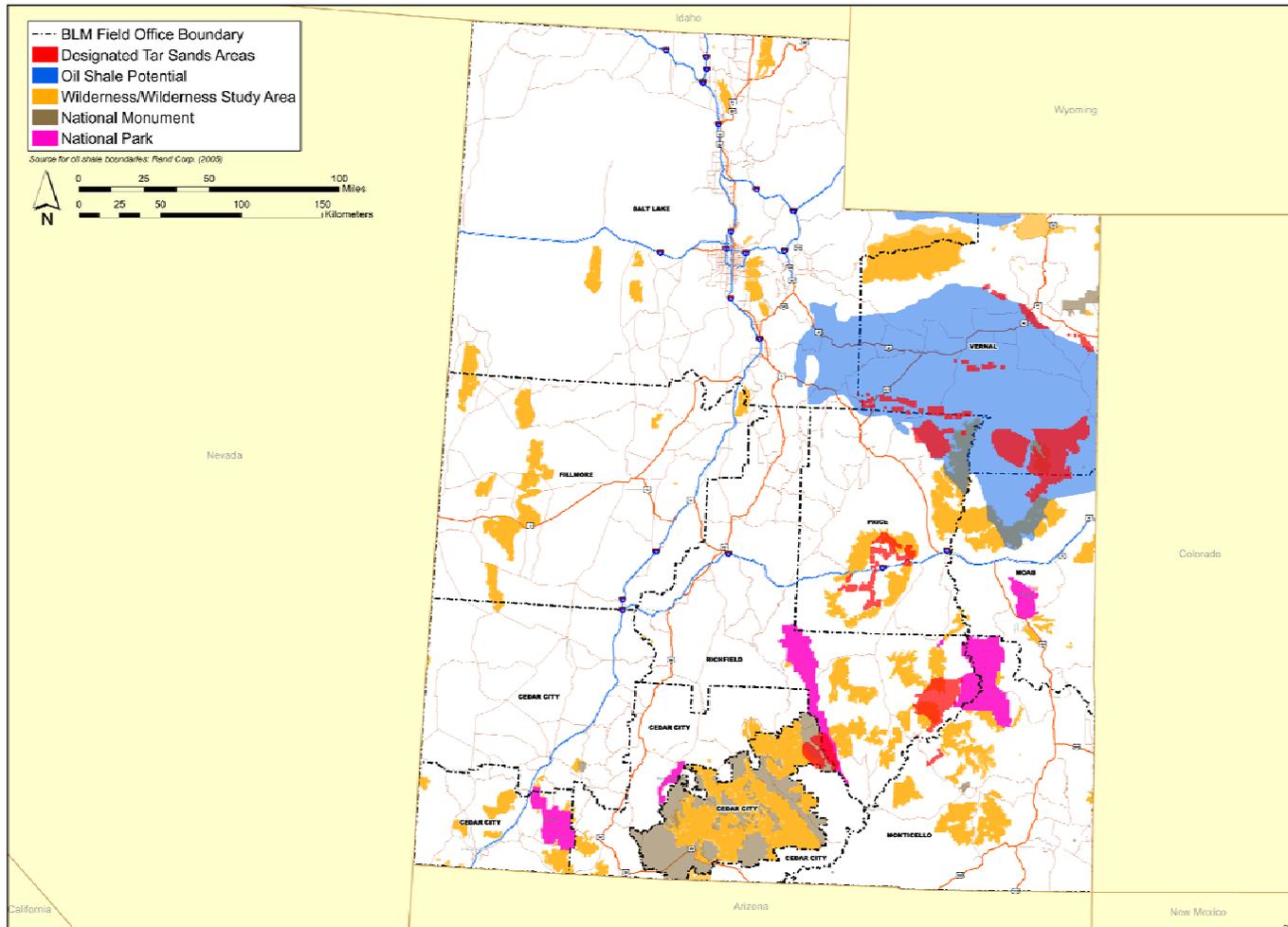
Oil Shale Deposits in the Three-State Area





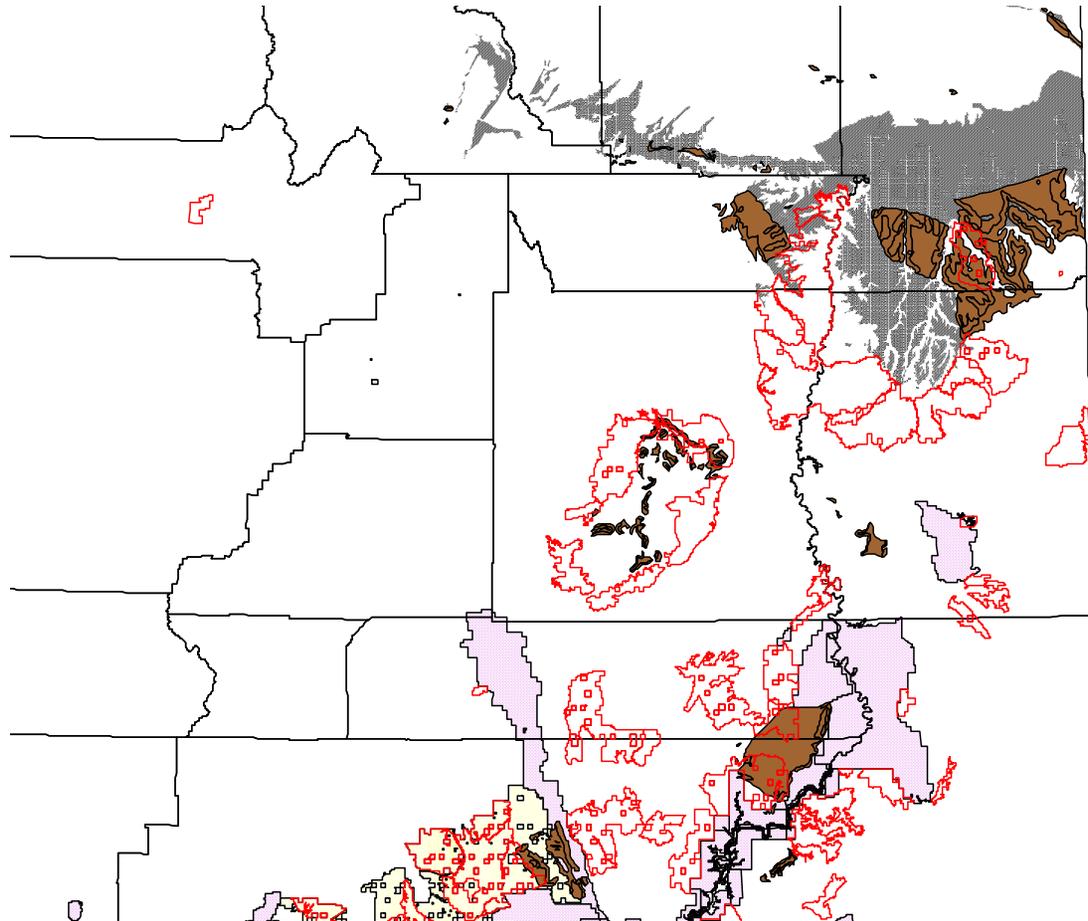
Preliminary Tar Sands Boundaries

Oil Shale & Tar Sand Deposits in Utah





Utah Resource Distribution





Identification of Issues

After BLM has gathered public input on issues the PEIS should address, we will categorize comments as follows:

1. Issues to be resolved in the PEIS;
2. Issues to be resolved through policy, regulation, or administrative action; or
3. Issues beyond the scope of this PEIS.



Planning Criteria

- A. The Programmatic EIS and plan amendments will be completed in compliance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and all other applicable laws.
- B. BLM will work collaboratively with the States of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, tribal governments, county and municipal governments, other Federal agencies, and all other interested groups, agencies and individuals. Public participation will be encouraged throughout the process.



Planning Criteria, cont.

- C. The Programmatic EIS will amend the appropriate individual land use plans to address leasing of oil shale and tar sands resources on BLM-administered lands.
- D. A strategy to mitigate socio-economic impacts including the infrastructure to accommodate the required workforce will be addressed in the Programmatic EIS and plan amendments.



Planning Criteria, cont.

- E. Preparation of the Programmatic EIS and plan amendments will involve coordination with Native American Tribal governments and will provide strategies for the protection of recognized traditional uses.
- F. BLM will coordinate with local, State, and Federal agencies in the Programmatic EIS and plan amendments to strive for consistency with their existing plans and policies, to the extent practicable.
- G. The Programmatic EIS will comply with the legislative directives set forth in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.



Tentative Schedule

Public Scoping:	Dec. 13, 2005 – Jan. 31, 2006
Draft PEIS:	Fall 2006
Final PEIS:	Spring 2007
Record of Decision:	Summer 2007



Public Information Center: <http://ostseis.anl.gov>



Oil Shale & Tar Sands Leasing Programmatic EIS

An online public information and involvement resource

Information Center

Home
About the EIS
Getting Involved
Oil Shale/Tar Sands Guide
EIS Documents

News
FAQs
E-Mail Services

Go

Oil Shale and Tar Sands Leasing Programmatic EIS Information Center

This web site is the online center for public information and involvement in the Oil Shale and Tar Sands Leasing Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Oil Shale and Tar Sands Leasing PEIS).

The United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), will prepare a **Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)** for oil shale and tar sands resources leasing on lands administered by the BLM in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. The PEIS will amend existing applicable Resource Management Plans to address oil shale and tar sands resources leasing in these three states. This web site is the online center for public information and involvement in the PEIS process.



News

- Oil Shale and Tar Sands Leasing PEIS Web Site Launched
- Notice of Intent Published

Subscribe

Enter your e-mail address below to receive updates and announcements.

Go
more info >

? Frequently Asked Questions

E-mail this page
 Print version

Public Scoping Comment Period Open Until Jan. 31, 2006

The public scoping period started with the publication of a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register (December 13, 2005) and will continue for 50 days after publication in the Federal Register. The Agencies will accept written comments on the scope of the Programmatic EIS and electronic comments via this web site. Use the [Public Comment Form](#) on this web site to submit comments.

For more information, see [Getting Involved](#).

Public Participation

Public participation in the Oil Shale and Tar Sands Leasing PEIS is important. This web site provides information and services to help you participate in the



Public Involvement Opportunities

- Scoping – Dec. 13, 2005 through Jan. 31, 2006
- Review of the Draft PEIS
 - targeted for release Fall 2006
- Comment on the Final PEIS
 - anticipated Spring 2007



How to Provide Scoping Comments

There are 3 ways to provide comments:

- Via the project web site: <http://ostseis.anl.gov>
- By regular mail
- In person at the scoping meetings



For More Information

- The project web site: <http://ostseis.anl.gov>
- BLM's Project Manager
Sherri Thompson
Bureau of Land Management
Colorado State Office
2850 Youngfield Street
Lakewood, CO 80215
Phone: (303) 239-3758