

Wildlife Management Issues Currently Affecting Oil and Gas Operations in Wyoming

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Oil and gas operators are required to work within a number of state and federal land management structures that also include consideration of the impact of a proposed activity on wildlife species and their habitats. This presentation will provide an overview of the most significant wildlife management issues currently impacting oil and gas operations in Wyoming. It will address the two primary agencies relative to wildlife and habitat resource management and two species as examples of issues affecting the oil and gas industry: Federal land use planning; Endangered Species Act; National Environmental Policy Act; BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species Policy and List; Wyoming Game and Fish Department; WGFD State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) and Species of Greatest Conservation Need; WGFD Recommendations for Development of Oil and Gas Resources within Important Wildlife Habitats; Greater Sage-grouse management /conservation, state and federal policies; and Mountain Plover, as examples of the ESA process.