

**DECEMBER 2016 DEFERRED LANDS LIST**

<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Vernal	UT1116-001	10	S	13	E	Sec. 31: Lot 1; Sec. 33: Lots 1-4, S2SW; Sec. 34: Lot 1.	246.85	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-002	11	S	13	E	Sec. 1: All; Sec. 11: E2, NENW; Sec. 12: All.	980.79	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential

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								<p>Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.</p>
Vernal	UT11116-003	11	S	13	E	Secs. 3, 4 and 5: All.	1,878.18	<p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil &amp; Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases</p>

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								Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-004	11	S	13	E	Sec. 19: Lot 4, E2NE, E2SW, N2SE.	280.39	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.
Vernal	UT1116-005	11	S	13	E	Sec. 34: SWSW.	40.00	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.
Vernal	UT1116-006	10	S	14	E	Sec. 25: Lot 1, SWNW, S2.	396.94	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.
Vernal	UT1116-007	11	S	14	E	Sec. 8: All.	258.40	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.

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Vernal	UT1116-008	11	S	14	E	Sec. 11: S2; Sec. 12: SW; Sec. 14: E2.	800.00	<p>BLM identified lands with wilderness characteristics in the Currant Canyon Inventory Unit in 2011 and additions in 2015, post-RMP EIS analysis. This parcel is within both the 2011 Inventory Unit and the 2015 addition and was deferred due to staff and time limitations to sufficiently evaluate the impacts to the Unit.</p> <p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil &amp; Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.</p>
Vernal	UT1116-010	11	S	14	E	Sec. 34: NESE.	40.00	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.

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Vernal	UT1116-010	11	S	14	E	Sec. 33: NW, N2SW, SESW.	280.00	BLM identified lands with wilderness characteristics in the Currant Canyon Inventory Unit in 2011 and additions in 2015, post-RMP EIS analysis. This parcel is within both the 2011 Inventory Unit and the 2015 addition and was deferred due to staff and time limitations to sufficiently evaluate the impacts to the Unit.
Vernal	UT1116-011	11	S	14	E	Sec. 30: Lots 3, 4, 7-9, 12; Sec. 31: Lot 6, NENE, NESE.	402.26	BLM identified lands with wilderness characteristics in the Currant Canyon Inventory Unit in 2011 and additions in 2015, post-RMP EIS analysis. This parcel is within both the 2011 Inventory Unit and the 2015 addition and was deferred due to staff and time limitations to sufficiently evaluate the impacts to the Unit.
Vernal	UT1116-012	10	S	15	E	Sec. 1: All.	641.04	BLM received submissions for the Big Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.  WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.

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Vernal	UT1116-013	10	S	15	E	Sec. 22: NE; Sec. 23: W2E2, NW.	480.00	<p>BLM received submissions for the Sheep Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.</p> <p>WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.</p>
Vernal	UT1116-015	10	S	15	E	Sec. 28: SENE, NESE.	80.00	<p>BLM received submissions for the Big Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.</p> <p>WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an</p>

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								informed decision could not be completed.
Vernal	UT1116-017	10	S	15	E	Sec. 33: Lots 1-4; Sec. 34: Lots 1-4, NWNE, SENW; Sec. 35: All.	1,020.76	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-018	11	S	15	E	Sec. 1: All; Sec. 11: NE, S2; Sec. 12: All.	1,761.40	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse

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								Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-019	11	S	15	E	Sec. 3: S2N2, S2; Sec. 4: All.	1,122.72	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis



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								added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-020	11	S	15	E	Sec. 28: NESE, S2SE; Sec. 31: Lot 4; Sec. 33: Lots 1-3, SENE, NW, N2SE.	567.37	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-021	10	S	16	E	Sec. 1: All; Sec. 10: SENE, E2SW, SE; Secs. 11 and 12: All.	2,199.60	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are

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								known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-022	10	S	16	E	Secs. 13, 14 and 15: All; Sec. 23: E2E2.	2,080.00	BLM received submissions for the Sheep Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.  WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.
Vernal	UT1116-023	10	S	16	E	Sec. 25: N2, N2SW, SESW, SE.	600.00	BLM received submissions for the Sheep Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.

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								WO IM 2013-106 stated, "The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added]." BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.
Vernal	UT1116-024	10	S	16	E	Sec. 27: N2; Sec. 28: N2.	640.00	<p>BLM received submissions for the Sheep Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.</p> <p>WO IM 2013-106 stated, "The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added]." BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.</p> <p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM</p>

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								No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-025	10	S	16	E	Sec. 35: SENE, SESE.	80.00	BLM received submissions for the Sheep Wash Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.  WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.

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								<p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil &amp; Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.</p>
Vernal	UT1116-026	11	S	16	E	<p>Sec. 1: All; Sec. 11: S2;                      Sec. 12: W2; Sec. 13:                      N2N2, SE; Sec. 14: N2;                      Sec. 15: N2.</p>	2,234.48	<p>BLM received submissions for the Badlands Cliffs Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.</p>

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								<p>WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.</p> <p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil &amp; Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.</p>

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Vernal	UT1116-027	11	S	16	E	Sec. 6: Lots 1-7, S2NE, SENW; Sec. 7: All.	853.78	<p>BLM received submissions for the Badlands Cliffs Addition in July 2014 during the scoping period for the November 2014 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA. While field work has been performed, BLM was unable to complete an update to the wilderness characteristics inventory or finalize a determination of the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics in advance of the November 2016 Oil and Gas Lease Sale EA.</p> <p>WO IM 2013-106 stated, “The BLM field offices should make finalized and signed wilderness characteristics inventory findings... <b>before the inventory data is used to make informed decisions</b> [emphasis added].” BLM is unable to analyze and disclose impacts to wilderness characteristics until the presence or absence of the resource is determined. Therefore, the analysis necessary to make an informed decision could not be completed.</p> <p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil &amp; Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides</p>

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								that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-028	11	S	16	E	Secs. 25 and 26: All.	1,280.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-029	11	S	16	E	Secs. 33, 34 and 35: All.	1,920.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.



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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Vernal	UT1116-030	9	S	17	E	Sec. 35: All.	640.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-031	10	S	17	E	Sec. 30: Lot 4; Sec. 31: Lots 1-4, E2W2.	359.20	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-033	11	S	17	E	Sec. 19: Lots 2-4, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE; Sec. 20: All; Sec. 21: SWNW, S2.	1,464.42	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development

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								under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-034	11	S	17	E	Sec. 23: S2S2; Sec. 24: S2S2; Secs. 25, 26 and 27: All.	2,240.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-035	11	S	17	E	Sec. 31: E2E2.	160.00	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.
Vernal	UT1116-035	11	S	17	E	Sec. 28: S2; Sec. 29: S2; Sec. 30: Lots 3, 4, E2SW, SE; Sec. 31: Lots 1, 2, 4, W2NE, E2NW, SESW, SWSE.	1,295.33	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Vernal	UT1116-036	11	S	17	E	Secs. 33, 34 and 35: All.	1,920.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-037	9	S	18	E	Sec. 33: S2.	320.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-040	11	S	18	E	Sec. 17: N2NE, SENE, NW; Sec. 18: N2NE, SWNE, NW, N2SW, NWSE.	680.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-041	11	S	18	E	Sec. 19: N2SW, N2SWSW, SESW, S2SE; Sec. 20: S2S2; Sec. 29: W2; Secs. 30 and 31: All.	1,980.00	The Sand Wash Recreation Area was not fully analyzed in the Vernal RMP; therefore, the parcel is being deferred until further analysis is completed.

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Vernal	UT1116-042	11	S	18	E	Sec. 25: SESW, S2SE; Secs. 26, 35 and 36: All.	1,442.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-043	11	S	18	E	Sec. 27: Lots 1-4, S2NW, W2SW; Sec. 28: S2NE, NWNW, SE; Sec. 33: N2NE.	649.49	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-044	11	S	18	E	Sec. 27: NESE, S2SE; Sec. 33: S2SW, NWSE; Sec. 34: N2NE, SWNE, S2NW, N2SW, SWSW.	560.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law.

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FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
								Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-045	9	S	19	E	Sec. 1: Lots 5-7; Sec. 13: Lot 5; Sec. 14: Lot 5.	59.78	This parcel is in Yellow-Billed Cuckoo habitat. The Yellow-Billed Cuckoo is a federally listed species; therefore, this parcel is being deferred because the RMP EIS did not analyze impacts to this species.
Vernal	UT1116-046	9	S	19	E	Sec. 13: NENE, S2NE, E2SW, SE.	360.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-047	9	S	19	E	Sec. 14: Lots 1-3, NW, N2SW; Sec. 15: All.	952.05	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-048	11	S	19	E	Sec. 6: Lots 3-7, SENW, E2SW; Sec. 7: Lots 1-4, E2W2; Sec. 18: Lot 1.	669.09	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-050	4	S	20	E	Secs. 4, 5 and 6: All.	2,030.42	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and

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								provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-051	4	S	20	E	Secs. 7, 8 and 9: All.	1,985.12	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
								known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-052	4	S	20	E	Sec. 10: All; Sec. 11: Lots 3-6, E2NE, SWNW, W2SW, SE; Sec. 13: Lots 2, 5-7, SWNE, SENW, E2SW, W2SE; Sec. 24: Lot 1.	1,483.10	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-053	4	S	20	E	Sec. 17: N2NE, SWNE, W2, W2SE, SESE; Secs. 18 and 19: All.	1,969.04	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases

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								Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-054	4	S	20	E	Secs. 20, 29 and 30: All.	1,982.80	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-055	4	S	20	E	Sec. 21: NE, W2NW, SENW, S2; Secs. 28 and 33: All.	1,880.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM



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								No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-056	5	S	20	E	Sec. 3: Lots 3, 4, S2NW, SW; Secs. 4 and 10: All.	1,575.70	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be

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								leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-057	5	S	20	E	Secs. 13, 14 and 24: All.	1,920.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-058	6	S	20	E	Sec. 31: ROW U16133.	77.06	ROW must be leased under the Rights-of-Way Leasing Act of May 21, 1930.

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Vernal	UT1116-058	6	S	20	E	Sec. 30: Lots 1-4, E2W2; Sec. 31: All excluding ROW U16133 (77.06 ac.).	859.60	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-059	6	S	20	E	Secs. 33, 34 and 35: All.	1,920.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-063	7	S	20	E	Sec. 22: NWNW; Sec. 23: NENE, SWNE, E2NW, NESW, NWSE; Sec. 27: E2NW.	360.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-068	3	S	21	E	Sec. 13: NWNW.	40.00	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.
Vernal	UT1116-068	3	S	21	E	Sec. 13: NE, NENW, S2NW, S2; Sec. 24: All; Sec. 25: NE, W2NW, SENW, S2.	1,840.16	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to

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FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
								lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-072	4	S	21	E	Sec. 18: Lots 2-4, E2NW, NESW; Sec. 19: E2SESE; Sec. 30: SWNE, NENENW; Sec. 31: SE.	465.50	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-073	5	S	21	E	Sec. 15: Lots 1-8; Sec. 19: All; Sec. 22: Lots 1, 2, S2NE; Sec. 23: Lots 4, 5, S2NW, SW; Sec. 24: NESE.	1,474.55	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-074	6	S	21	E	Secs. 3, 10 and 15: All.	1,794.16	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-075	6	S	21	E	Secs. 6 and 7: All.	1,155.38	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-076	6	S	21	E	Sec. 11: All; Sec. 12: Lots 1, 2, 7, 8, S2; Sec. 14: Lots 7, 8, NENW, W2W2.	1,401.43	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-077	7	S	21	E	Sec. 14: NWSW; Sec. 15: W2NE, SENE; Sec. 20: SE.	320.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-081	7	S	21	E	Sec. 31: Lots 17-19, 25, 26; Sec. 32: Lots 19, 20.	239.56	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.

## DECEMBER 2016 DEFERRED LANDS LIST

FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
Vernal	UT1116-082	12	S	21	E	Sec. 7: Lot 1.	33.34	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-083	12	S	21	E	Sec. 17: W2; Sec. 18: E2; Sec. 28: All.	1,280.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential

## DECEMBER 2016 DEFERRED LANDS LIST

FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
								Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM's Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act "which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary." (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-084	3	S	22	E	Secs. 17, 18 and 19: All.	1,986.84	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-085	3	S	22	E	Sec. 22: E2E2, E2W2NE.	200.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-085	3	S	22	E	Secs. 20 and 21: All; Sec. 22: W2W2NE, W2, W2SE.	1,728.41	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-086	3	S	22	E	Sec. 27: Lots 1, 6, 7, 10; Sec. 34: Lots 1-4.	342.07	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-086	3	S	22	E	Sec. 27: Lots 2-5, 8, 9, SWNE, SENW, E2SW, W2SE; Sec. 34: Lots 5-7, W2NE, NW, N2SW, NWSE.	973.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.

## DECEMBER 2016 DEFERRED LANDS LIST

FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
Vernal	UT1116-087	3	S	22	E	Secs. 28, 29 and 33: All.	1,920.00	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-088	3	S	22	E	Secs. 30 and 31: All.	1,346.28	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-089	4	S	22	E	Secs. 3, 4 and 5: All.	1,919.12	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-090	4	S	22	E	Sec. 6: All; Sec. 7: Lots 1, 7, NE, E2NW, NESW, N2SE; Sec. 8: All.	1,793.43	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-091	4	S	22	E	Sec. 34: E2, E2NW; Sec. 35: All.	1,040.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-092	5	S	22	E	Sec. 1: All; Sec. 11: NENE, S2NE, SE; Sec. 12: W2NW, SENW, SW, W2SE, SESE.	1,321.60	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-094	6	S	22	E	Sec. 12: Lots 12, 13, SESW, NESE; Sec. 13: NE, NENW, S2N2, S2; Sec. 14: Lots 12, 13, NESE, S2SE; Sec. 15: Lots 12 and 13; Secs. 23 and 24: All.	2,282.27	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-095	6	S	22	E	Sec. 17: SWNE, W2.	360.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area

## DECEMBER 2016 DEFERRED LANDS LIST

FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
Vernal	UT1116-096	7	S	22	E	Sec. 1: W2SW; Sec. 3: Lots 1-8, S2NE, SENW, NESW, N2SE.	563.88	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-097	8	S	22	E	Sec. 6: Lots 1-5, S2NE, SENW.	317.92	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-098	4	S	23	E	Sec. 6: Lots 1-3, S2NE, SENW, E2SW, SE.	456.41	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-100	4	S	23	E	Sec. 28: S2NW, SW; Secs. 29 and 30: All; Sec. 31: Lots 1, 4, NE, E2NW, N2SE; Sec. 33: Lots 7, 8, NW, N2SW, NWSE.	2,300.94	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-101	4	S	23	E	Sec. 34: Lots 5-7.	120.04	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-102	5	S	23	E	Sec. 5: S2NE, SW, SWSE; Sec. 6: Lots 5-7, SENW, E2SW, W2SE, SESE; Sec. 7: Lots 1-4, NE, E2NW, NESW, NESE; Sec. 18: Lots 7, 8, E2NENWNE, NESWNWNE, S2SWNWNE, SENWNE, E2NESENW, SESENW.	1,175.42	The VFO RMP does not contain sufficient stipulations or analysis to address protection of White-Tail Prairie Dog habitat. BLM is deferring this parcel until appropriate protections can be applied through additional analysis.
Vernal	UT1116-104	7	S	23	E	Secs. 5 and 6: All; Sec. 9: W2NW, NWSW.	1,861.16	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area



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FIELD OFFICE	PARCEL NO.	TWN	N / S	RNG	E / W	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL ACRES	REASON
Vernal	UT1116-106	16	S	23	E	Sec. 12: E2, NESW, S2SW; Sec. 13: N2NE, NW, N2SW.	760.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-107	8	S	24	E	Sec. 1: Lots 1, 2, S2NE, SE.	320.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
								<p>Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.</p>
Vernal	UT1116-108	8	S	24	E	Sec. 13: S2SE; Sec. 24: E2; Sec. 25: E2.	720.00	<p>Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil &amp; Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases</p>

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
								Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-109	8	S	24	E	Sec. 15: N2SW, SESW, SE; Sec. 23: SENE, SWSE.	360.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-110	9	S	24	E	Sec. 4: Lots 3, 4, S2N2, S2.	552.49	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
								No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-111	15.5	S	24	E	Sec. 31: SESW.	40.00	No Split-Estate Contact Information submitted. Will need to be re-nominated with split-estate contact information.
Vernal	UT1116-111	15.5	S	24	E	Secs. 33 and 34: All.	905.62	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
								that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-112	16	S	24	E	Sec. 3: All; Sec. 4: Lots 1, 2, S2NE, SE.	959.23	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-113	7	S	25	E	Secs. 1, 11, 12, 13 and 14: All.	2,141.56	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Vernal	UT1116-114	7	S	25	E	Sec. 3: Lots 3, 6, 10, S2N2, S2; Sec. 4: Lots 1-12, S2N2, SW; Sec. 9: NENE, S2NE, NW, S2; Sec. 10: SW.	2,055.95	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-115	7	S	25	E	Sec. 5: Lots 3-6, 9-12, S2N2, SE; Sec. 6: Lots 1, 9-12, S2N2, W2SW, SESW; Sec. 8: E2.	1,377.01	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-116	7	S	25	E	Sec. 15: W2, W2E2; Secs. 21 and 22: All.	1,760.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-117	7	S	25	E	Secs. 17, 18, 19 and 20: All.	2,560.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-118	7	S	25	E	Secs. 23 and 24: All; Sec. 25: Lots 1-3, W2NW, SWSW; Secs. 26 and 35: All.	2,370.88	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-119	7	S	25	E	Secs. 27, 33 and 34: All.	1,920.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area
Vernal	UT1116-120	7	S	25	E	Secs. 28 and 29: All; Sec. 30: N2NE, E2SWNE, SENE, E2SE.	1,500.00	Vernal Master Leasing Plan Area

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<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Vernal	UT1116-140	11	S	18	E	Sec. 27: S2NE, E2SW, NWSE; Sec. 33: S2NE, N2SW; Sec. 34: N2NW.	440.00	At the time of the preparation of the preliminary EA, the introduction of H.R. 5780, the Utah Public Lands Initiative (UPLI), was imminent; a public discussion draft was released in January 2016 and the bill was formally introduced on July 14, 2016. This nominated parcel is located in areas that would be protected from development under the UPLI. Offering and issuing new leases within areas protected by the UPLI could create additional conflicts to be resolved should the bill become law. Therefore, in the judgement of the Acting Utah State Director, deferral of the parcel is the most prudent course of action.
Vernal	UT1116-143	5	S	21	E	50% U.S. Mineral Interest Sec. 13: S2SE; Sec. 24: N2NE.	160.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and

**DECEMBER 2016 DEFERRED LANDS LIST**

<b>FIELD OFFICE</b>	<b>PARCEL NO.</b>	<b>TWN</b>	<b>N / S</b>	<b>RNG</b>	<b>E / W</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL ACRES</b>	<b>REASON</b>
								development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.
Vernal	UT1116-151	11	S	15	E	Sec. 13: E2.	320.00	Instruction Memorandums (IMs) were not issued relative to sage-grouse habitat until after the 2016 Green River District oil and gas lease sale draft EA was published; however, the agency considered parcels that would focus potential disturbance outside the most important areas for sage-grouse conservation, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the GRSG plan. On September 1, 2016, IM No. 2016-143, Implementation of Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Revisions or Amendments – Oil & Gas Leasing and Development Sequential Prioritization was issued. It states that the BLM’s Authorized Officer, acting under the delegated authority of the Secretary of the Interior, has discretion to determine which public lands will be offered at a lease sale. The Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 (MLA), as amended, provides that lands subject to disposition under the Act “which are known or believed to contain oil or gas deposits <u>may</u> be leased by the Secretary.” (30 U.S.C. § 226(a) (emphasis added)). When evaluating Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to lease particular parcels, pursuant to the Competitive Leases Handbook (H-3120-1), the BLM will plan for leasing and development in accordance with the objective and provisions in the GRSG Plans.