



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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# Energy & Environment Symposium

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BLM/Federal Update  
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# Climate Change

- Priority for the administration
- Executive Order 13990 Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis
- Executive Order 14008 Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad
- Secretarial Order 3399
  - Accelerating renewable energy development and identifying actions to foster investments in energy communities
  - Using science in decision making and analyzing impacts of climate change – including on BLM-managed lands and resources



# Oil & Gas Program– court rulings

- *Louisiana v. Biden* – W.D. La 2021 – Executive Order 14008 – lease sales (appealed)
- *Friends of the Earth v. Haaland* – D.D.C. 2022 – offshore lease sale overturned - consideration of foreign consumption of oil and natural gas from greenhouse gas emissions analysis
- *Louisiana v. Biden* – 5th Circuit 2022 - Executive Order 13990 – social cost of greenhouse gas emissions
- *350 Montana v. Haaland* – 9th Circuit 2022 – greenhouse gas emissions standard of significance



# Oil & Gas Program - status

- November 2021 report as directed by Executive Order 14008 – including potential climate and other impacts, fair return and royalties, transparency
- Completed scoping period and initial comment period on environmental assessments for oil and gas lease sale – parcels from deferred 2021 Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 sales – prior to LA v. Biden rulings
- Rulemaking





# Oil & Gas Program - recent and upcoming guidance

- PIM 2022-001 NEPA for APDs on Parcels where the lease sale is subject to further analysis due to litigation
- IM 2022-003 Tracking Waivers Exceptions and Modifications to Onshore Lease Stipulations
- Carbon Sequestration Projects on Public Lands

<https://www.blm.gov/policy/instruction-memorandum>



# Oil & Gas Program – orphaned/idled wells

Orphaned wells program - \$4.7 billion effort funded by Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- \$250M federal program
- \$4.275B state program – cooperation with Colorado program
- \$150M Tribal program
- Prioritize based on public health and safety, potential environmental harm, other subsurface impacts or land-use priorities
- Requires tracking of costs, emissions, contamination of surface water and groundwater, disproportionate burden on underserved communities

## Idled wells

- Definition updated
- BLM to inventory and address





# Greater sage-grouse

## Litigation context:

- 2015 plans are being litigated in several courts
- 2019 plans were stayed by the US District Court for Idaho; directed implementation of 2015 plans
- BLM directed to re-initiate consideration of mineral withdrawal
- BLM committed to publish a Notice of Intent to begin scoping in November 2021





# Greater sage-grouse

## Status:

- Withdrawal – will prepare Draft EIS
- Planning
  - 2015 – rangewide plan amendments - cited by FWS in 2015 not-warranted finding
  - 2019 all states except MT revisited their GRSG amendments
  - 2019 plan amendments preliminarily enjoined - 2015 plan amendments in effect.
  - Scoping closed February 7, 2022 – scoping report to be published
  - Building on the foundation of prior planning efforts, will incorporate new science published since 2015 and work to address concerning trends to improve sage-grouse conservation, with a focus on continuing implementation efforts.
  - Will address compensatory mitigation







# Greater sage-grouse

## New science being considered

- Genetic connectivity and important areas of genetic diversity;
- Models of breeding habitats and lek persistence;
- Effects of wild horse populations above recommended levels;
- GRSG abundance;
- Impacts from climate change;
- Changes in local conditions identified through coordination with partners.

Continue implementation efforts and focus updates accordingly





# Questions