

FEDERAL ABSTRACT COMPANY



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WEEKLY REPORT OF THE OIL AND GAS LEASING ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO, TEXAS, OKLAHOMA AND KANSAS AS TAKEN FROM THE RECORDS IN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, STATE OFFICE, AND THE NEW MEXICO STATE LAND OFFICE, IN SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO.

Report No. 2719

July 15, 2016 thru July 22, 2016

The following are the results of the Oil and Gas Lease Sale held by the Commissioner of Public Lands in Santa Fe, New Mexico on July 19, 2016:

<u>TRACT #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>LEASE #</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>	<u>PRICE PER ACRE</u>
VB-S-001	T. 8 S. – R. 33 E. Section 27 – W2 Kastleford Land Company, LLC Slash Exploration LP Continental Land Resources, LLC Doug J. Schutz	VB-2742	\$18,200.00 \$56,160.00 \$194,880.00 \$258,240.00	\$807.00
VB-S-002	T. 9 S. – R. 31 E. Section 14 – N2 Dakota Resources Inc. Doug J. Schutz	VB-2743	\$27,200.00 \$28,975.00	\$90.55
VB-S-004	T. 26 S. – R. 24 E. Section 16 – S2 Slash Exploration LP	VB-2744	\$48,320.00	\$151.00
VB-S-006	T. 9 S. – R. 32 E. Section 14 – NE4SE4 Spence Energy Co. Slash Exploration LP Kastleford Land Company, LLC Continental Land Resources, LLC	VB-2745	\$3,000.00 \$4,100.00 \$4,700.00 \$20,280.00	\$507.00
VB-S-007	T. 9 S. – R. 34 E. Section 14 – S2NW4 Dakota Resources Inc. Continental Land Resources, LLC	VB-2746	\$16,500.00 \$48,720.00	\$609.00
VB-S-008	T. 16 S. – R. 33 E. Section 11 – S2 Slash Exploration LP Featherstone Development Corp. Chase Oil Corporation Doug J. Schutz	VB-2747	\$13,120.00 \$17,892.00 \$49,600.00 \$71,360.00	\$223.00

VB-S-009	T. 18 S. – R. 38 E. VB-2748 Section 16 – S2 Slash Exploration LP \$10,420.00 Adobe Energy, LLC \$48,640.00 Federal Abstract Company \$72,000.00 Paramount Field Service, L.L. C. \$104,000.00	\$325.00
VB-S-010	T. 20 S. – R. 35 E. VB-2749 Section 12 – N2 Slash Exploration LP \$32,320.00 Featherstone Development Corp. \$123,123.00 Federal Abstract Company \$133,440.00	\$417.00
VB-S-012	T. 25 S. – R. 36 E. VB-2750 Section 16 – NW4SW4 Slash Exploration LP \$6,040.00 Federal Abstract Company \$16,600.00	\$415.00
VB-S-013	T. 26 S. – R. 36 E. VB-2751 Section 36 – N2NW4 Featherstone Development Corp. \$6,640.00 Slash Exploration LP \$16,080.00 Fivestones Ventures, Inc. \$16,110.00 Federal Abstract Company \$52,488.00	\$656.10
VB-S-014	T. 6 S. – R. 34 E. VB-2752 Section 16 – N2 Slash Exploration LP \$112,160.00	\$350.00
VB-S-015	T. 7 S. – R. 34 E. VB-2753 Section 2 – Lots 1, 2, S2NE4, SE4 Kastleford Land Company, LLC \$14,200.00 Aetos Energy Partners, L.L.C. \$24,297.75	\$75.00
VB-O-001	T. 9 S. – R. 31 E. VB-2754 Section 14 – S2 Dakota Resources Inc. \$34,000.00	\$106.25
VB-O-003	T. 26 S. – R. 24 E. VB-2755 Section 16 – N2 Federal Abstract Company \$10,000.00	\$31.25
VB-O-004	T. 16 S. – R. 33 E. VB-2756 Section 18 – Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, E2W2 Chase Oil Corporation \$72,000.00	\$224.92
VB-O-005	T. 18 S. – R. 38 E. VB-2757 Section 16 – NE4, N2NW4, SE4NW4 Federal Abstract Company \$140,000.00	\$500.00
VB-O-006	T. 20 S. – R. 36 E. VB-2758 Section 34 – NE4 Robert G. Hooper \$5,000.00	\$31.25
VB-O-007	T. 23 S. – R. 37 E. VB-2759 Section 36 – NE4, NE4NW4, S2NW4 Opal Resources II LLC \$15,000.00	\$53.57
VB-O-008	T. 23 S. – R. 38 E. VB-2760 Section 30 – NW4, N2SW4, SW4SW4 Opal Resources II LLC \$21,000.00	\$75.00

VB-O-009	T. 6 S. – R. 34 E. Section 16 – S2 Manzano Energy Partners	VB-2761 \$20,000.00	 \$62.50
VB-O-010	T. 7 S. – R. 34 E. Section 2 – Lots 3, 4, S2NW4, SW4 Aetos Energy Partners, L.L.C	VB-2762 \$28,000.00	 \$86.10
VB-O-011	T. 8 S. – R. 34 E. Section 32 – N2N2, SE4NW4 Continental Land Resources, LLC	VB-2763 \$110,000.00	 \$550.00

The following tracts were withdrawn due to the fact that there were no bidders:

VB-S-003 T. 26 S. – R. 23 E.
Section 2 – N2

VB-S-005 T. 26 S. – R. 24 E.
Section 32 – Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, N2N2 (All)

VB-S-011 T. 23 S. – R. 37 E.
Section 36 – S2

VB-O-002 T. 26 S. – R. 23 E.
Section 2 – S2

Registered Bidders:

Chase Oil Corporation
Kastleford Land Company, LLC
MBF Land Services
Doug J. Schutz
Aetos Energy Partners, L.L.C.
Continental Land Resources, LLC
Paramount Field Services
Adobe Energy, LLC
Federal Abstract Company
Opal Resources II LLC
Dakota Resources Inc. (I)
Robert G. Hooper
Roy Barton
Manzano Energy Partners

Feds Remove the Lesser Prairie Chicken from Protection List

By: Associated Press

Published in the Albuquerque Journal Tuesday, July 19th, 2016

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Facing an uphill court fight, the U.S. government announced Tuesday it was formally removing the lesser prairie chicken from a federal protection list under the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said the move follows recent court rulings in Texas that stripped the lesser prairie chicken of federal protection. However, federal officials say the removal didn't mean authorities had concluded the lesser prairie chicken didn't warrant federal protection for biological reasons.

“The service is undertaking a thorough re-evaluation of the bird’s status and the threats it faces using the best available scientific information to determine anew whether listing under the ESA is warranted,” the agency said.

The previous rulings found that Fish and Wildlife failed to make a proper evaluation of a multistate conservation plan when it listed the lesser prairie chicken as threatened.

Oil and gas groups had strongly opposed the threatened listing. The Permian Basin Petroleum Association said it would impede operations and cost companies hundreds of millions of dollars in oil and gas development in one of the country’s most prolific basins, the Permian Basin in the Texas Panhandle and eastern New Mexico.

Ranchers also opposed the listing.

The lesser prairie chicken’s Great Plains habitat has shrunk by more than 80 percent since the 1800s, and its population by 99 percent. It lives primarily in Kansas, but also in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Colorado. About 95 percent of the bird’s range is on private lands.

To keep the bird off the endangered species list, the five states organized their own conservation program, offering economic incentives to landowners and companies that set aside land. Still, the Fish and Wildlife Service last year designated the lesser prairie chicken as threatened, one step beneath endangered status. The classification means federal officials think the bird soon will be in danger of extinction.

“The storied prairie landscape of the Southwest is of tremendous economic and cultural importance. It is also a critical area for the birds, mammals, reptiles and other animals that rely on this unique habitat,” Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe said Tuesday. “Responding to this court ruling by removing the bird from the Federal List does not mean we are walking away from efforts to conserve the lesser prairie-chicken. Far from it.”

Caren Cowan, executive director of the New Mexico Cattle Growers’ Association, said she’s worried the agency still is re-evaluating the bird’s status. “The agency did choose not to appeal the listing in this particular case, but it is not precluded from trying to list a second time,” she said.

Still, state officials where the lesser prairie chicken roamed praised the Fish and Wildlife Service decision. Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt said it was “good news for private property rights, the rural Kansas economy and common sense.”

In 2014, Kansas enacted a law saying the state has the sole power to regulate the lesser prairie chicken — along with the larger, darker and more abundant greater prairie chicken — and their habitats within Kansas. It authorizes the attorney general or county prosecutors to sue over federal attempts to impose conservation measures.

Associated Press writer John D. Hanna in Topeka, Kansas contributed to this report.

Commissioner of Public Lands, Aubrey Dunn, invites you to stay informed about policies and projects at the State Land Office through the agency’s quarterly newsletter, *Enchanted Lands*.

Contact Assistant Commissioner for Communication, Emily Strickler, (505) 827-3650, or estrickler@slo.state.nm.us, to get on the mailing list.