

# **BLM Central Coast Field Office Oil and Gas Leasing and Development Resource Management Plan Amendment Public Meetings Summary Report**

*Prepared for:*  
**Bureau of Land Management  
Central Coast Field Office**



*Prepared by:*



**April 2017**

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- Appendix A Public Meeting Sign-in Sheets and Speaker Cards
- Appendix B Meeting Handouts (Project Fact Sheet and Meeting Presentation)

# 1. Introduction

This Public Meetings Summary Report documents the public meetings conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the Central Coast Field Office (CCFO) Draft Resources Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (RMPA/EIS) for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development. The Draft RMPA/EIS was published on January 6, 2017 and analyzes the effects of alternative oil and gas management approaches on lands with Federal mineral estate within the CCFO and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the project in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the amendment to the 2007 Resource Management Plan (RMP) is to determine which BLM-managed lands or subsurface Federal minerals are open or closed to oil and gas leasing and which restrictions apply to protect specific resources. The RMPA would not authorize any actual drilling for exploration or development of oil and gas resources. Actual drilling authorization would be analyzed on a site-specific basis dependent on the project specifications before the BLM at that time.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the Federal Register for the RMPA/EIS on August 5, 2013. The official scoping period began with the publication of the NOI continued for 207 days (ending on February 28, 2014). During the public scoping period, the public was invited to submit oral and written comments to the BLM on the scope of the RMPA/EIS and to identify issues that should be addressed in the environmental document. Four public meetings were held for the RMPA/EIS during the public scoping period on January 29, February 4, February 11, and February 12 of 2014. A Social and Economic Workshop was held on February 4, 2015, in Monterey County, one of the twelve counties located in the Decision Area to provide input on the social and economic analysis for the RMPA/EIS.

In order to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the completed Draft RMPA/EIS, the BLM is holding a 90-day public comment period from January 6, 2017 to April 6, 2017. Substantive comments could lead to changes in one or more of the alternatives or in the analysis of environmental consequences. A press release was released on February 21, 2017, notifying interested parties of the planned public meetings concerning the project. This report documents the issues and concerns expressed orally during the three public comment meetings held March 14-16, 2017.

## 1.1 Purpose of Comment Period

The intent of the comment period is to provide the public with an opportunity to review the Draft RMPA and EIS and provide feedback on the analysis. The BLM invites and encourages comments on alternatives, objectives, and actions described in the Draft RMPA/EIS. The Proposed RMPA may reflect changes or adjustments based on information received during public comment, new information, or changes in BLM policies or priorities.

Written comments received during the comment period are a part of the public record. BLM officials were present at the public meetings and notes were taken on all public comments raised at these meetings. The oral comments will be considered in preparing the Proposed RMPA and Final EIS. However, the public meetings were not recorded and the oral comments will not be individually responded to in the Proposed RMPA and Final EIS.

## 1.2 Summary of the Project

The CCFO RMPA/EIS for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development analyzes the effects of alternative oil and gas management approaches on lands with Federal mineral estate within the CCFO Planning Area. The current management decisions for oil and gas resources are described in the RMP for the Southern

Diablo Mountain Range and Central Coast of California. The Decision Area for the RMPA includes approximately 793,000 acres of BLM-administered subsurface mineral estate underlying public lands or split estate lands within the CCFO Planning Area, or the geographical boundaries of the CCFO. This includes 6.8 million acres of Federal, State, and private lands across all or portions of the 12 counties in western-central California:

- |                |                 |               |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| ■ Alameda      | ■ Monterey      | ■ San Mateo   |
| ■ Contra Costa | ■ San Benito    | ■ Santa Clara |
| ■ Fresno       | ■ San Francisco | ■ Santa Cruz  |
| ■ Merced       | ■ San Joaquin   | ■ Stanislaus  |

The RMP Amendment describes which lands are open or closed to oil and gas leasing, defines leasing restrictions to protect resources, and does *not* authorize drilling for oil and gas resources.

## 2. Public Outreach and Meetings

This section describes the methods used to notify the public and agencies about the public comment process conducted for the Draft RMPA/EIS. It outlines how information was made available for public review and identifies the different avenues available for providing comments on the project (i.e., meetings, email, mail, and phone).

### 2.1 Outreach

#### Project Information and Communication

In addition to public meetings, the BLM provides opportunities for the public to ask questions and/or comment on the Draft RMPA/EIS. The BLM established a project-specific website to provide ongoing information about the proposed project, including project details, current project progress, and avenues for communication. The BLM Project manager, Sky Painter Murphy, can be contacted via email at [BLM\\_CA\\_OGEIS@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_CA_OGEIS@blm.gov) or by phone at (831) 582-2231. The website will remain a public information resource and will announce project updates. The website address is:

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage&currentPageId=96878>

or

<https://tinyurl.com/jhsrwrp>

#### Distribution List/Database

The mailing list/database for the RMPA/EIS was updated after the public meetings and was reviewed to confirm all meeting attendees and all individuals, organizations, and agencies that provided comments are on the list. This mailing list will continue to be used and updated throughout the environmental review process to ensure that all interested parties are notified of key project milestones.

### 2.2 Public Meetings

The BLM held three public meetings on March 14, 15, and 16, 2017. The three meetings provided an opportunity for the public, community and interest groups, and government agencies to obtain more information on the project, learn more about the NEPA environmental review processes, ask questions regarding the project, and provide comment on the RMPA/EIS.

#### Meeting Location

Table 1 presents information about the public meetings held for the Draft RMPA/EIS during the public comment period. Handouts and information materials available at the meeting were:

- PowerPoint Presentation (see Appendix B)
- Project Fact Sheet (see Appendix B)
- Self-Addressed Comment Form
- Speaker Registration Card

**Table 1. Public Meetings**

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Signed-in</b>	<b>Speakers</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 14, 2017</b> 6 pm to 8 pm	<b>Coalinga</b> Harris Ranch 24505 West Dorris Avenue Coalinga, CA 93210	9	3
<b>Wednesday, March 15, 2017</b> 4 pm to 6 pm	<b>Hollister</b> San Juan Oaks Golf Club 3825 Union Road Hollister, CA 95023	54	22
<b>Thursday, March 16, 2017</b> 4 pm to 6 pm	<b>Salinas</b> California State University Monterey Bay at Salinas City Center 1 Main Street Salinas, CA 93901	50	29

Other information made available for public review during the public comment meetings included an overview map of the RMPA/EIS Decision Area, figures depicting each of the five alternatives presented in the Draft RMPA/EIS, and a series of display boards that showed active oil and gas wells, oil and gas leasing areas, oil and gas potential, air basins, area hydrology, and fluid materials leasing.

## **Press Release**

The BLM issued an online press release announcing the start of the public comment period as well as the date, time, and location of the three public meetings. The press release can be found on the BLM website at: <https://www.blm.gov/press-release/blm-announces-public-meetings-draft-plan-oil-and-gas-leasing-central-california>.

### **3. Comments Received**

A total of 54 individuals presented oral comments during the three public meetings. This section summarizes the key issues raised at each public meeting.

#### **3.1 Oral Comments**

##### **March 14, 2017, Meeting in Coalinga**

The BLM held a Draft RMPA/EIS on March 14, 2015, at Harris Ranch from 6pm to 8pm. After a brief presentation, the BLM opened the meeting to public comments on the RMPA/EIS. Public comments organized by key themes are summarized below.

##### **Air Quality**

Concerns associated with air quality were primarily related to the higher level of methane in gas extracted via hydraulic fracturing compared to conventional gas and the need for PM<sub>2.5</sub> flaring to be regulated.

##### **Climate Change**

Speakers voiced concerns about the continued intensification and acceleration of climate change through the pursuit of more fossil fuels, and also expressed the need to pursue more renewable energy.

##### **Public Health and Safety**

A speaker expressed concern about the physical dangers of gas extracted via hydraulic fracturing related to the transportation risks of transporting gas due to the higher volatility of gas compared to crude oil, and the risks to existing pipelines due to the potential increased flow of gas through the pipes as a result of increased gas extraction.

##### **Seismicity**

Speakers expressed concerns associated with increased seismicity caused by hydraulic fracturing, citing Oklahoma as an example.

##### **Water Use and Contamination**

Speakers expressed concerns associated with water use and contamination related to the need for large amounts of water for hydraulic fracturing, wastewater disposal from hydraulic fracturing, the potential leaching of wastewater from hydraulic fracturing in groundwater used for crop irrigation, the resulting impacts of leached wastewater in groundwater on human health, and the unsuccessfulness of enhanced oil recovery (as observed through the attempts in Kern County).

## **March 15, 2017, Meeting in Hollister**

The BLM held a public comment meeting for the Draft RMPA/EIS on March 15, 2015, at San Juan Oaks Golf Club from 4pm to 6pm. After a brief presentation, the BLM opened the meeting to public comments about the RMPA/EIS. Public comments organized by key themes are summarized below.

### **Air Quality**

Concerns associated with air quality were primarily related to the increased occurrences of asthma in areas surrounding oil and gas wells and the overall quality of the air.

### **BLM Mission Statement**

Speakers expressed concern that moving forward with approval of the RMPA/EIS and supporting continued extraction of oil and gas would go against the BLM Mission Statement: “to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

### **Climate Change**

Speakers voiced concerns related to the continued intensification and acceleration of climate change through the pursuit of more fossil fuels. In addition, speakers expressed the need to pursue more renewable energy.

### **Local Laws**

Numerous speakers stated that the alternatives should be within the parameters of Measure J, BLM should abide by Measures J and Z and the will of the local people, and BLM should not violate local county laws. These concerns were raised by numerous individuals and members of organized groups supporting the passage of Measures J in San Benito County and Measure Z in Monterey County.

### **Public Health and Safety**

A speaker was concerned about the potential for explosions of gas extracted via hydraulic fracturing.

### **Seismicity**

Speakers were concerned about the potential for increased seismicity caused by hydraulic fracturing, and cited Oklahoma as an example.

### **Water Use and Contamination**

Numerous speakers expressed concerns associated with water use and contamination related to the need for large amounts of water for hydraulic fracturing, the disposal of wastewater from hydraulic fracturing, the potential leaching of wastewater from hydraulic fracturing in groundwater used for crop irrigation, and the resulting impacts of leached wastewater in groundwater on human health.

## **March 16, 2017, Meeting in Salinas**

The BLM held a public comment meeting for the Draft RMPA/EIS on March 16, 2015, at California State University Monterey Bay at Salinas City Center from 4pm to 6pm. After a brief presentation, the BLM opened the meeting to public comments about the RMPA/EIS. Public comments received at the Salinas meeting organized by key themes are summarized below.

## **Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases**

Numerous speakers were concerned about air quality, primarily related to the greater greenhouse gas potential of methane compared to carbon dioxide, the increased occurrences of asthma in areas surrounding oil and gas development, and the overall quality of the air.

## **Alternatives**

Speakers requested that BLM consider an alternative that would not allow hydraulic fracturing, and an alternative that would close all BLM Federal mineral estate to oil and gas leasing.

## **BLM Mission Statement**

Several speakers were concerned that moving forward with approval of the RMPA/EIS and supporting continued extraction of oil and gas would go against the BLM Mission Statement: “to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America’s public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

## **Climate Change**

Numerous speakers voiced concerns related to the continued intensification and acceleration of climate change through the pursuit of more fossil fuels. In addition, speakers expressed the need to pursue more renewable energy.

## **Environmental Justice**

Speakers voiced concerns about potential environmental justice impacts, especially to rural communities.

## **Local Laws**

Numerous speakers stated that BLM should abide by Measures J and Z. That is, BLM should respect the decisions of the local people and BLM should not violate local county laws. These concerns were raised by numerous individuals and members of organized groups supporting the passage of Measures J in San Benito County and Measure Z in Monterey County.

## **Public Health and Safety**

A speaker was concerned about the physical dangers of gas and oil extraction.

## **Seismicity**

Several concerns were voiced about increased seismicity caused by hydraulic fracturing, noting increased seismicity due to hydraulic fracturing activities in Oklahoma.

## **Water Use and Contamination**

Numerous speakers expressed concerns associated with water use and contamination related to the need for large amounts of water for hydraulic fracturing, the disposal of wastewater from hydraulic fracturing, the potential leaching of wastewater from hydraulic fracturing in groundwater used for crop irrigation, and the resulting impacts of leached wastewater in groundwater on human health.

## **Wildlife and the Environment**

Concerns associated with impact of oil and gas extraction on wildlife and the environment.

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# **Appendix A**

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## Public Meeting Sign-in Sheets & Speaker Cards



# Sign-In

(Note: If you are already on the mailing list, you do not need to complete your address information.)

Central Coast Field Office Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and  
 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development  
 March 14, 2017 — Harris Ranch, 24505 West Dorris Avenue, Coalinga

Do you prefer to receive notifications via email? Check here

Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
Jean Hays		5493 N. Roosevelt	Fresno CA 93704	559-313-7674	skyhorse3593@sbcglobal.net	<input type="checkbox"/>
Megan Lopez	Chevron	9525 Camino Media	Bakersfield CA 93311	661-654-7970	megan.lopez@chevron.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Loren Rager	Chevron	9525 Camino Media	Bakersfield, CA 93311	661-654-7079	loren.rager@chevron.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RON SMITH	—	15 E. Weldon	Fresno, CA 93704	559-750-3737	—	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kacy O'Malley	Chevron	9525 Camino Media	Bakersfield, CA 93311	661-477-1865	kacyomalley@chevron.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>



# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: Cherylyn Smith

Affiliation (if any): Sierra Club + Fresnoans Against Fracking

Address: 1230 N. Van Ness Ave

City, State, and Zip: Fresno, CA 93728

Phone: (559) 999-9673

Email: cherylynsmith@aol.com

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: CATHERINE FOWLER

Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 18928 Rd. 400

City, State, and Zip: MADERA, CA. 93636

Phone: (559) 674-9990

Email: cfowlerstcrchoice@yahoo

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name:

Polly Hughes

Affiliation (if any):

Citizens Climate Lobby

Address:

8040 Hahn Rd.

City, State, and Zip:

Ben Lomond CA 95005

Phone:

Email:

phpainter@cruziacom

Meeting Location:



COALINGA



HOLLISTER



SALINAS



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March 15, 2017 – San Juan Oaks Golf Club, 3825 Union Road, Hollister

Do you prefer to receive notifications via email? Check here

Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
WES WHITE	MEASURE J/Z	PO BOX 6534	SALINAS, CA 93912	(510) 274-9275	luckyagentwes@yahoo.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lynn Figue	CA Wm for Ag	P.O. Box 725	Tres Pinos CA 95075		sgsolutions4u@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jen Moore		87 Lawton Dr.	Milpitas CA 95035	408 718 6053	kittyshrink@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Angel Neal	measure J	1200 Rancho R. Apt. B-5	Hollister, CA, 95023	(831) 313-5671	zorcunye470@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sara M. Frisco	women's march / measure J	↗		(831) 537-3792	soly luncevera@yahoo.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rebecca G. Vallegas		348 Magdaly Rd	Hollister	831-637-3413		<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
Mary Hsia-Coron	San Benito Rising	501 Ricardo Dr.	Aromas	831-726-3350	mary.hsia@coron@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Elvia Skow	Hollister				elvia@garlic.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asael G. Gutierrez	751 Enterprise	nd Hollister Ca.	95023			<input type="checkbox"/>
Maurice Bloch	133 Calle Cuesta	Hollister	95023		bloch7@charter.net	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sean Hottel	450 Merrill Rd	SJB	95045			<input type="checkbox"/>
Anthony Batelko	382 Olympia Ave	SJB	95045		bpfwit@garlic.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rob Bernosky	445 Mark Dr	Hollister	95023		rebernosky@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
Anne Mae Gazo		PO Box 937	Gonzales <sup>CA</sup> 93924	831 578-6888	amgazo@sbcglobal.net	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ricky Royce		PO Box 1988	HOLLISTER 95024	408 705 6869		<input type="checkbox"/>
Alette Brooks		POB 20331	San Jose 95160		alettebrooks@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sallie Calhoun	Parcines Ranch	PO Box 8	Parcines, CA 95043		sallie@parcinesranch.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Luis Burguillos			Hollister, CA 95023			<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
Karl Sura	Self	4382 JOHNSON ST	HOLLISTER	(831) 213-5512		<input type="checkbox"/>
Mark Boos		342 Blom Ave	Aromas	831-682-5978	MarkBoos@SBCglobal.NET	<input type="checkbox"/>
William McGuire	me	561 Seely Ave	Aromas	831-726-1729	1LD7438@gmail	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sara Steiner		13140 Cienega	Hollister		Kj63as@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natasha West		5850 San Felipe	"		natashawest@gmail	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stephen Mills		713 Helen Dr	Hollister	(408) 802-5347	stephenmills@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ellic Wakefield		713 Helen Dr	Hollister	(408) 464-1279	wakefieldellie@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ann Vasquez		120 Daffodil Dr	Hollister	831-537-7190	annvasquez5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mary Zanger		7380 Pacheco Pass Hwy	"	831-637-6445	@Yahoo.com	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
Chris Ebert	N/A	2151 Cole Rd	Aromas 95004	831-726-2100	cebert@ gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Larry Rebecchi	SBR	1951 Highland	Hollister 95023	831-637-9727	larryrebecchi@ yahoo.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alexandra Klukoff	SCI	61 Verdoso Ave	La Selva Beach CA 95076		skopidia@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paul Hain	Hain Hain ORF	608 Polaris Rd	Tres Pinos CA	831 628 3380		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nick Brown	San Benito Rising	40 Chappell Cir	Hollister CA 95023	408 201 4070	nickb20@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elia Muñoz-Cowan	County Resident	1947 Santa Ana Ct	Hollister CA 95023			<input type="checkbox"/>
Vanetta McGuire	SBR	56 Bell Ave	Aromas Ca. 95004			<input type="checkbox"/>
Audrey Hsia-Coron	SBR	501 Ricardo Dr	Aromas, CA 95004	831 726-3350	audreyhc7@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
KATHLEEN RUIZ		6681 Pacheco Pass	Hollister CA 95023		KATHY RUIZ@GMAIL.COM	<input type="checkbox"/>
Polly Hughes					phpainter@cruzio.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SETH CAPRON		1811 COLE ROAD	AROMAS, CA 95004		sethcapron@razzolink.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carolyn Hernandez		9723 Blackfoot Ct	Gilroy 95020		carolhernandez1966@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jennette Langstaff		1631 Tiburon Dr.	Hollister 95023		jlschob@gmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ash Lauth	Asst. For Bio. Div.	1212 Broadway, Ste 800	Oakland, CA 94606	510 844.7135	alauth@biologicaldiversity.org	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Peter Munoz-Cowan		1947 Santa Ana Ct.	Hollister, CA 95023		petroskymc@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Margaret Rebecca		1951 Highland Dr.	Hollister, ca. 95023		margaretrebeccia@mail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Name	Affiliation	Address	City, State, Zip	Phone	Email	PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
Michael Ostrowski	<del>Sierra Club</del>	35 San Jose St #2310	San Juan Bautista Calif. 95045	831 623-2397		<input type="checkbox"/>
MICHAEL KEELIN	SIERRA CLUB	LOMA PRIETA			MIKE KEELIN @ GMAIL.COM	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andres Sheikh	<del>Sierra Club</del>	Center for Biological Diversity		(619) 847-3738		<input type="checkbox"/>
Suzanne Fellenz	Sierra Club	Loma Prieta	San Jose	95130	auntsuzy@hotmail.com	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reta Rochelle	—	Hollister		95023	retarochelle2@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jerry Muenzer	County of San Benito	461 4th St	Hollister	95023	jerrymuenzer@gmail.com	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bob Sigala		9555 Santa Teresa St				<input type="checkbox"/>
Pick UPB		337 MARKS DR	HOLLISTER			<input type="checkbox"/>
JASON LATHAM		1208 WELBURN AVE,	GILROY	CA 95020		<input type="checkbox"/>



# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: Alexandra Klukff

Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 61 Verdoso Ave

City, State, and Zip: La Selva Beach CA 95076

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: skopidia@gmail.com

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: Suzanne Fellenz

Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 5010 Montreal Dr

City, State, and Zip: San Jose, CA 95130

Phone: 408 / 483 - 4191

Email: auntsuzy@hotmail.com

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: Anthony Botelho

Affiliation (if any): San Benito County Board of Supervisors

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name: WES WHITE

Affiliation (if any): MEASURE J/Z

Address: PO BOX 6534

City, State, and Zip: SALINAS, CA 93912

Phone: (510) 274-9275

Email: luckyagentwes@yahoo.com

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name:

Larry Rebecchi

Affiliation (if any):

San Benito Rising

Address:

1951 Highland Dr.

City, State, and Zip:

Hollister CA 95023

Phone:

831-637-9727 831-801-9061

Email:

larryrebecchi@yahoo.com

Meeting Location:  COALINGA  HOLLISTER  SALINAS

# Speaker Registration Card

(Please Print)

Name:

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## **Appendix B**

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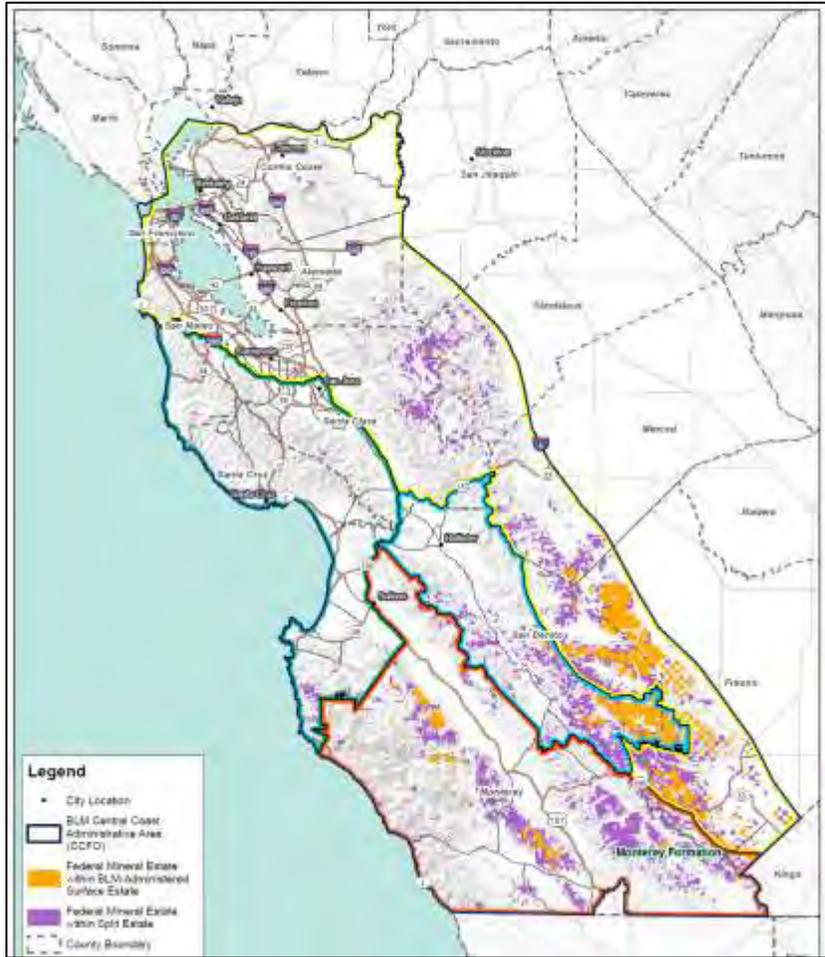
Meeting Handouts:  
Project Fact Sheet & Meeting Presentation



# Central Coast Field Office Draft Resources Management Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development – Public Meetings

March 2017

The United States (US) Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Central Coast Field Office (CCFO) has prepared a Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement (RMPA/EIS) for Oil and Gas Leasing and Development to analyze the effects of alternative oil and gas management approaches on lands with Federal mineral estate within the CCFO. The current management decisions for oil and gas resources are described in the 2007 Resource Management Plan for the Southern Diablo Mountain Range and Central Coast of California.



**Federal Mineral Estate within the BLM CCFO**

The purpose of this amendment to the 2007 RMP is to determine which BLM-managed lands or subsurface Federal minerals (see figure) are open or closed to oil and gas leasing and which restrictions apply to protect specific resources. The RMPA would not authorize any actual drilling for exploration or development of oil and gas resources. Actual drilling authorization would be analyzed on a site-specific basis dependent on the project specifications before the BLM at that time.

There is also a need to determine appropriate stipulations for the two suspended non-surface occupancy (NSO) leases referenced in Case No. 11-06174 and the 12 prospective non-NSO leases identified in Case No. 13-01749.<sup>1</sup>

## Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario

The BLM development a new Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario that considered current and future use of well stimulation technologies, including hydraulic

fracturing, acid matrix stimulation and acid fracturing, and future uses of enhanced oil recovery. Because this RFD Scenario forecasts a greater amount of development as compared to the scenario developed for the 2007 RMP, there is a need to consider whether the land use plan decisions in the 2007 RMP should be adjusted to address the current and potential future uses of well stimulation technologies.

<sup>1</sup> The *Center for Biological Diversity v. Bureau of Land Management* (Case No. 11-06174) decision determined that the BLM violated NEPA when it failed to prepare an EIS prior to issuing two non-NSO leases. BLM has agreed to prepare an EIS to analyze and assess the adequacy of proposed stipulations for the non-NSO leases referenced in Case No. 11-06174, and has suspended operations and production on those leases. The BLM has also agreed to not issue and to assess the adequacy of proposed stipulations for 12 prospective non-NSO leases identified in Case No. 13-01749, pending completion of the EIS (*Center for Biological Diversity v. Bureau of Land Management*, 2014).

The 2015 RFD Scenario assumes that the current development trends in this region are likely to continue for the next 15 to 20 years. It estimates between 0 and 32 development wells could be expected on Federal mineral estate within existing fields in the CCFO Planning Area and three to five exploratory wells would be drilled on Federal mineral estate in the CCFO Planning Area. Given the limited extent of Federal mineral estate (793,000 acres) within the entire Planning Area (6.8 million acres), it is unlikely that more than a total of 37 exploratory and development wells will be drilled on new Federal oil and gas leases over the next 15 to 20 years. Well stimulation technologies and enhanced oil recovery techniques are assumed to be used on any or all of these wells.

## Alternatives

As noted above, each alternative includes lands that would be open and closed to oil and gas leasing. Table 1 provides an overview, including acreages, for each alternative. Table 2 summarizes the leases subject to the settlement by alternative.

**Table 1. Summary of Alternatives<sup>1</sup>**

Alter- native	Areas Closed / Open to Oil & Gas Leasing	Stipulations	Open with CSU <sup>2</sup>	Closed	Open with NSO <sup>3</sup>
A (No Action)	Open areas would remain open; Areas closed under 2007 RMP would remain closed (Wilderness, WSAs, <sup>4</sup> Clear Creek Serpentine ACEC, Ft. Ord National Monument).	Stipulations under the 2007 HFO RMP. NSO stipulations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ACECs; and</li> <li>▪ R&amp;PP leases.</li> </ul> Endangered Species stipulations for all open areas.	683,800	67,500	41,700
B	Lands within oil & gas fields and 0.5-mile buffer areas currently defined by DOGGR would be open; All other areas would be closed including those in the 2007 RMP.	CSU stipulations on lands open to leasing.	39,000	754,000	N/A
C	High oil & gas occurrence potential areas or lands within oil and gas fields and 0.5-mile buffer areas would be open (except core population areas of the giant kangaroo rat in the vicinity of Panoche, Griswold, Tumey, and Ciervo Hills); Moderate, low and no oil and gas potential areas would be closed; Areas closed under 2007 RMP would remain closed.	CSU stipulations on lands open to leasing. NSO stipulations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ T&amp;E critical habitat;</li> <li>▪ BLM developed recreation sites and administrative sites; and</li> <li>▪ Special status split estate lands (state and county parks, conservation easements, land trusts, scenic designations).</li> </ul>	368,800	394,400	29,800
D	Federal mineral estate underlying BLM surface estate would be open; Split estate lands would be closed; Ciervo Panoche Natural Area would be closed; Areas closed under 2007 RMP would remain closed.	CSU stipulations on lands open to leasing. NSO stipulations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ACECs; and</li> <li>▪ R&amp;PP leases.</li> </ul>	121,200	655,400	16,400

**Table 1. Summary of Alternatives<sup>1</sup>**

Alter-native	Areas Closed / Open to Oil & Gas Leasing	Stipulations	Open with CSU <sup>2</sup>	Closed	Open with NSO <sup>3</sup>
E	Federal mineral estate within California DWR Bulletin 118 groundwater basins and sub-basins would be closed; all other Federal mineral estate would be open; Areas closed under 2007 RMP would remain closed.	CSU stipulations on lands open to leasing. NSO stipulations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hydrologic Units intersecting EPA impaired, perennial surface waters, or non-impaired, perennial surface waters that intersect split estate;</li> <li>▪ Hydrologic Unit subwatersheds with the highest aquatic intactness score</li> <li>▪ 0.25 miles from non-impaired, perennial surface waters; and</li> <li>▪ 0.25 miles from eligible Wild &amp; Scenic Rivers.</li> </ul>	487,200	99,400	206,400

1 - All numbers are in acres.

2 - CSU: Controlled Surface Use, use and occupancy is allowed (unless restricted by another stipulation), but identified resource values require special operation constraints that may modify the lease rights.

3 - NSO: No surface occupancy, use or occupancy of the land surface for fluid mineral exploration or development is prohibited to protect identified resource values.

4 - WSA = Wilderness Study Areas, ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern, R&PP = Recreation & Public Purpose lease, DOGGR = California Department of Conservation Division of Oil, Gas, & Geothermal Resources, T&E = Threatened & Endangered species, DWR = California Department of Water Resources

**Table 2. Summary of Leases Subject to Settlement by Alternative**

	Calculated GIS Acres Open with CSU	Calculated GIS Acres Closed	Calculated GIS Acres Open with NSO
Alternative A (No Action)	17,600	N/A	N/A
Alternative B	3,800	13,800	N/A
Alternative C (Preferred)	17,600	N/A	N/A
Alternative D	4,400	13,200	N/A
Alternative E	10,000	300	7,300

**Preferred Alternative.** Alternative C is the BLM’s current Preferred Alternative. This is not a final agency decision, but instead an indication of the agency’s preliminary preference. The Proposed RMP may reflect changes or adjustments based on information received during public comment, new information, or changes in BLM policies or priorities. The Proposed RMP may include objectives and actions described in the other analyzed alternatives. For this reason, BLM invites and encourages comments on all alternatives, objectives, and actions described in this Draft RMPA/Draft EIS.

**Environmental Consequences**

The analysis of all alternatives assumes up to 37 wells would be drilled resulting in an estimated 206 acres of ground disturbance.

**Alternative A** would open the greatest number of acres of Federal mineral estate to potential oil and gas development. It provides the most flexibility for oil and gas drilling. It would have the greatest potential for causing localized air quality impacts to sensitive receptors. The alternative could impact the largest number

of groundwater basins assigned a high ranking priority and the largest number of watersheds. It is the least protective of biological resources and has the greatest potential for impacts to National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

**Alternative B** would open the fewest acres of Federal mineral estate to potential oil and gas development. It provides the least flexibility for oil and gas drilling and would substantially limit future wildcat wells. It confines impacts to the public due to risk of upset to the smallest area and would likely have the shortest emergency response times. With Alternative E, it would impact the fewest groundwater basins assigned a high ranking priority and watersheds. It would have the potential to be inconsistent with fewer Visual Resource Management Class objectives and would have the least adverse effects to Special Management Areas and negligible impacts to National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

**Alternative C** would balance open and closed acreages of Federal mineral estate, with almost the same amount of each. It provides more flexibility for oil and gas drilling than Alternatives B and D but less than Alternatives A and E. It is the most protective of threatened and endangered species critical habitat. It has the greatest potential for adverse effects to Special Management Areas.

**Alternative D** would open the second fewest acres of Federal mineral estate to potential oil and gas development and would open no split estate lands, limiting the flexibility for oil and gas drilling. It is the most protective of the Ciervo Panoche Natural Area and the special status species found in that region. It has no potential adverse effects from split estate lands but would limit some of the economic benefits of oil and gas development in certain areas.

**Alternative E** would open the second highest number of acres of Federal mineral estate to potential oil and gas development. It is the most protective for groundwater resources and with Alternative B, would impact the fewest number of watersheds. It has the potential to be inconsistent with the largest number of Visual Resource Management Classes, including Class I, the most protective class.

## Next Steps

The comment period on this Draft RMPA/EIS ends **April 6, 2017**. Comments can be sent to:

BLM, California State Office  
Attn: CCFO O&G Leasing EIS  
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-1623  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Email: [BLM\\_CA\\_OGEIS@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_CA_OGEIS@blm.gov)

After comments are received they will be evaluated. Substantive comments could lead to changes in one or more of the alternatives, or in the analysis of environmental consequences. A Proposed RMPA/Final EIS will then be completed and released for a review period. If protests are received on the Proposed RMPA/Final EIS, they will be reviewed and addressed by the Director of the BLM before a Record of Decision and Approved Plan is released.

Information on the project can be found on the BLM's ePlanning website:

[https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do)

or

<https://tinyurl.com/jhsrwrp>

*U.S. Bureau of Land Management*  
*Central Coast Field Office*

**Oil & Gas**

**Leasing and Development**

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AMENDMENT**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**March 2017**



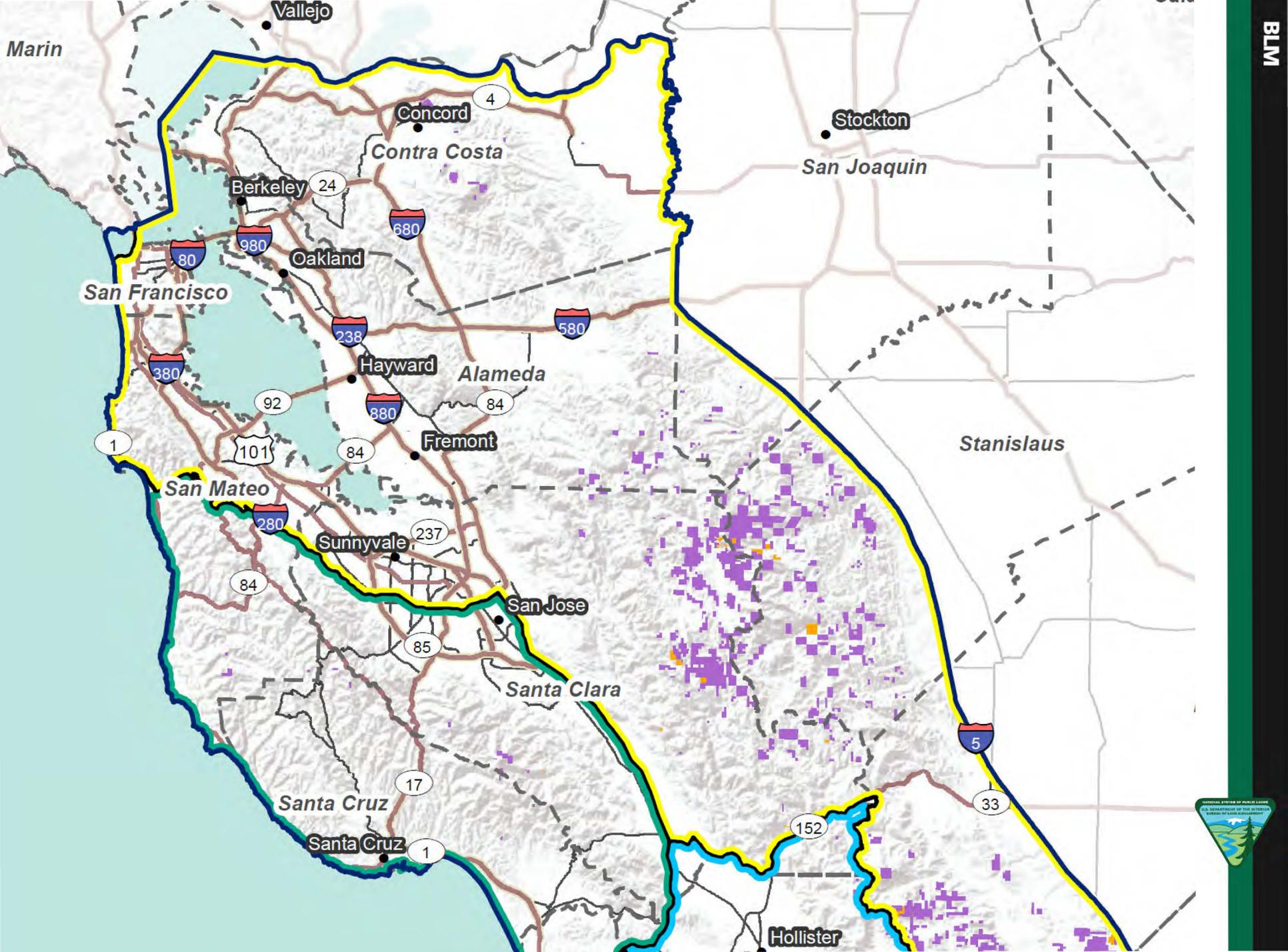
# Overview of Presentation

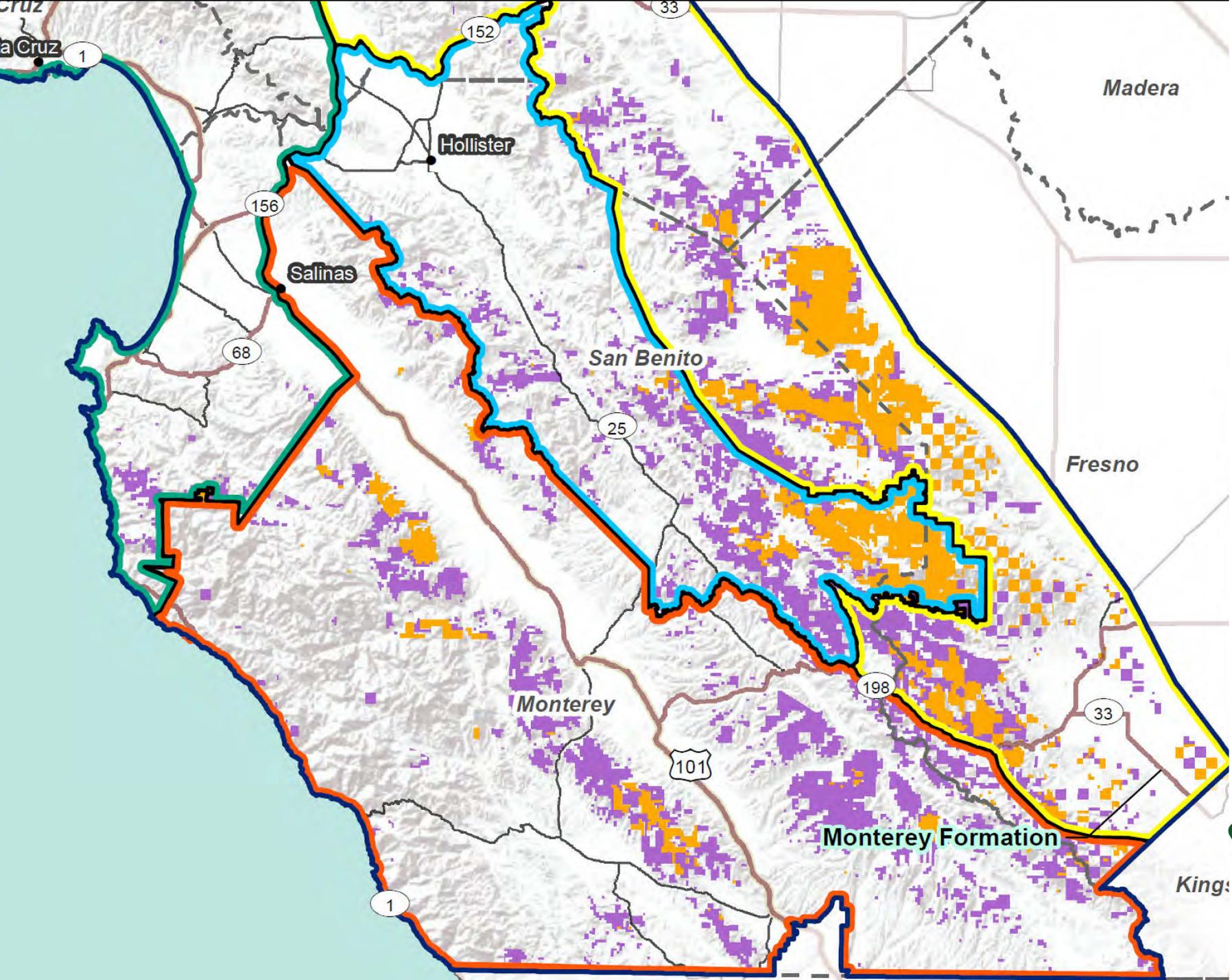
- BLM's Mission
- Planning Area - Federal Minerals
- NEPA & FLPMA
- Draft Resource Management Plan (RMP) Amendment
  - Range of Alternatives & Preferred Alternative
- Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- How to Comment

# Bureau of Land Management

- The BLM is the federal agency that has the delegated authority to manage public lands and all onshore federal mineral estate on behalf of the American people.
- The BLM's multiple-use mission is:  
*“...to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.”*
- The BLM accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.



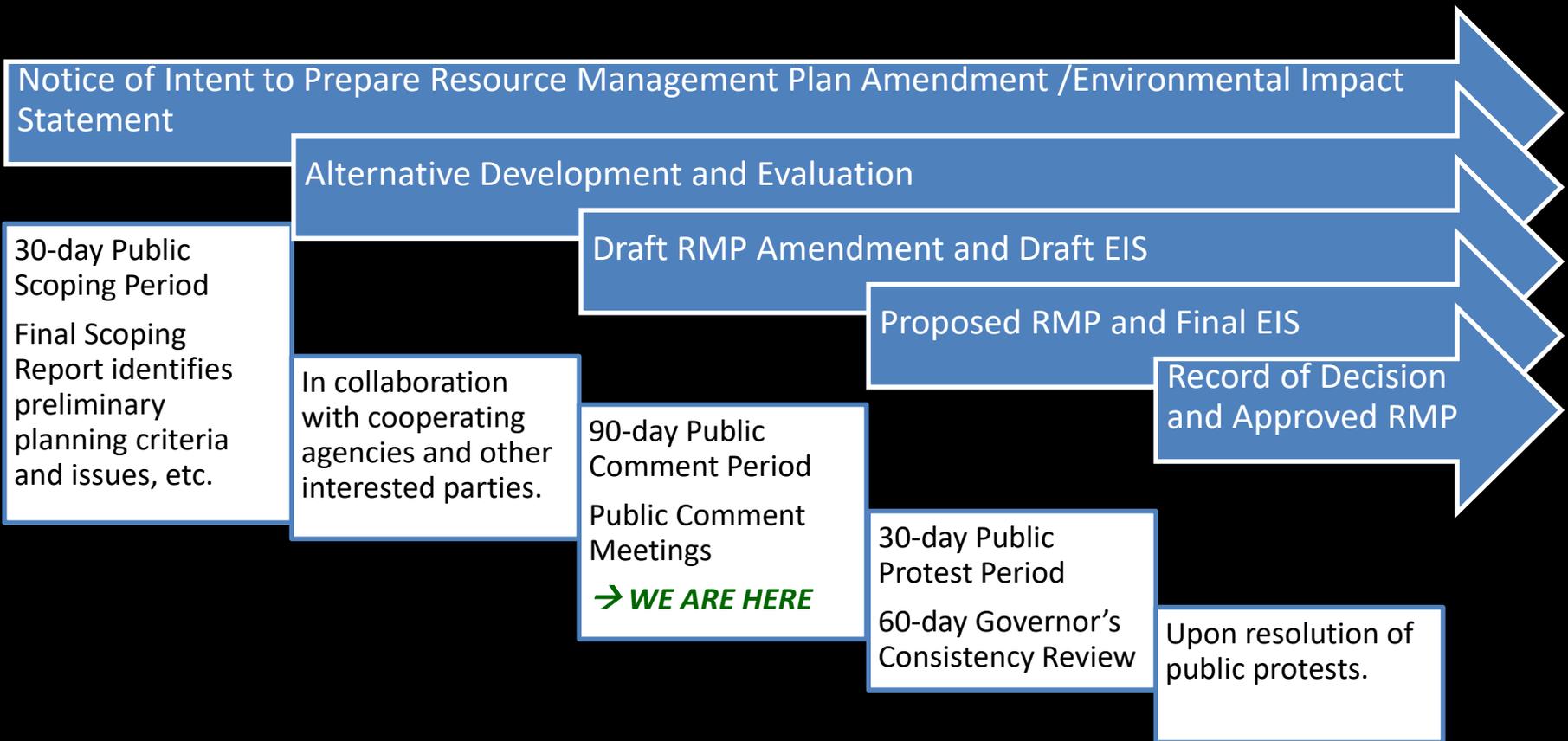




Kings

# National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

## Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA)



## Phases of BLM Authorization – Oil and Gas

### Land Use Plans

RMP's , as amended, define which federal minerals are open or closed to leasing

RMP's also identify stipulations for BLM lease areas



We are here

### Leasing

Occurs via lease sale

Only in areas defined as “open to leasing” in RMP

Environmental review and public notice required

Offer lease at public auction

Bidders must agree to lease stipulations and protect identified resources

### Development

Receive *Application for Permit to Drill (APD)* from oil or gas company

Confirm proposed activities conform to lease stipulations

Apply Conditions of Approval to specific plan of operations

Issue or Deny Permit to Drill

# Resource Management Plan Amendment

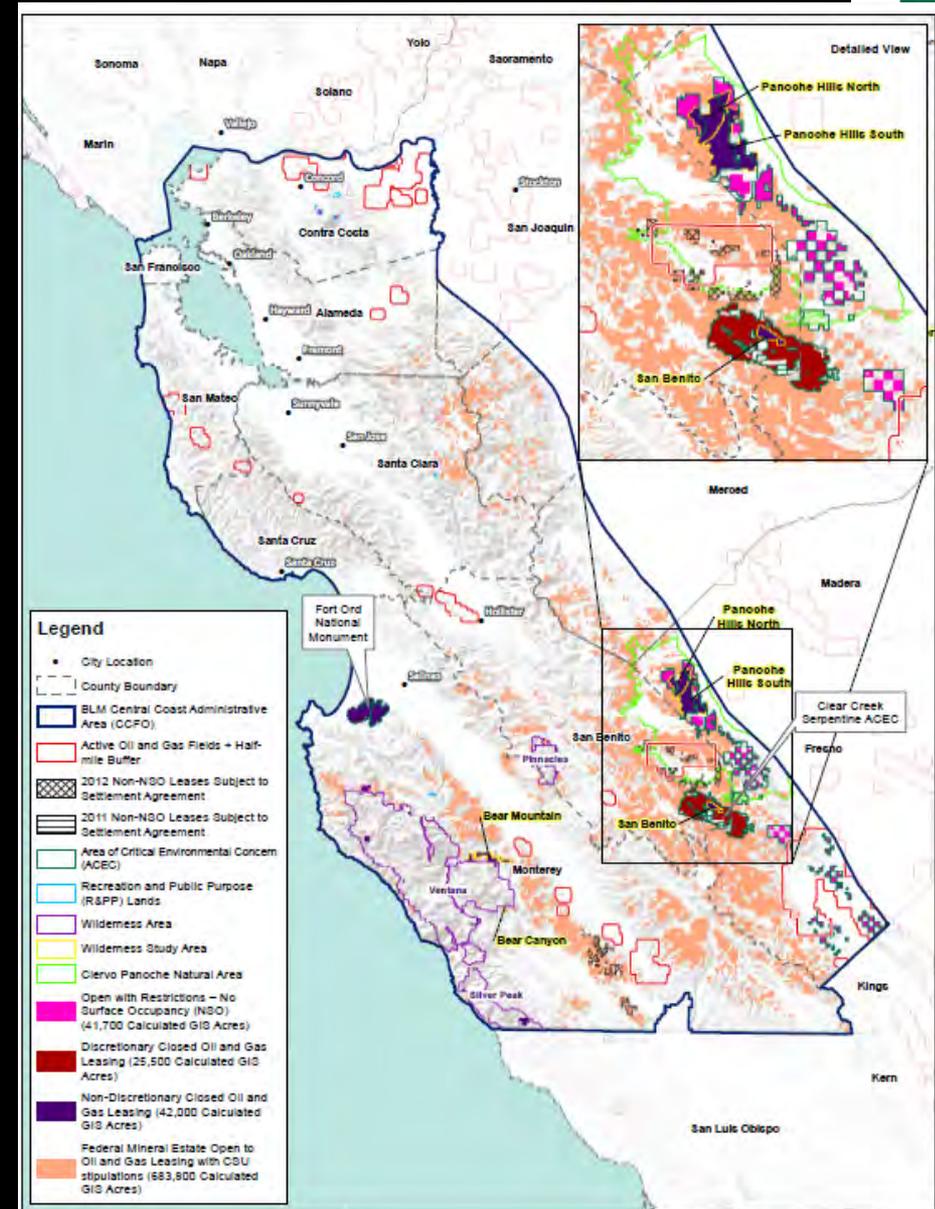


# RMP Amendment

- Describes which lands are open or closed to oil and gas leasing
- Defines leasing restrictions to protect resources
- Does not authorize drilling for oil and gas resources

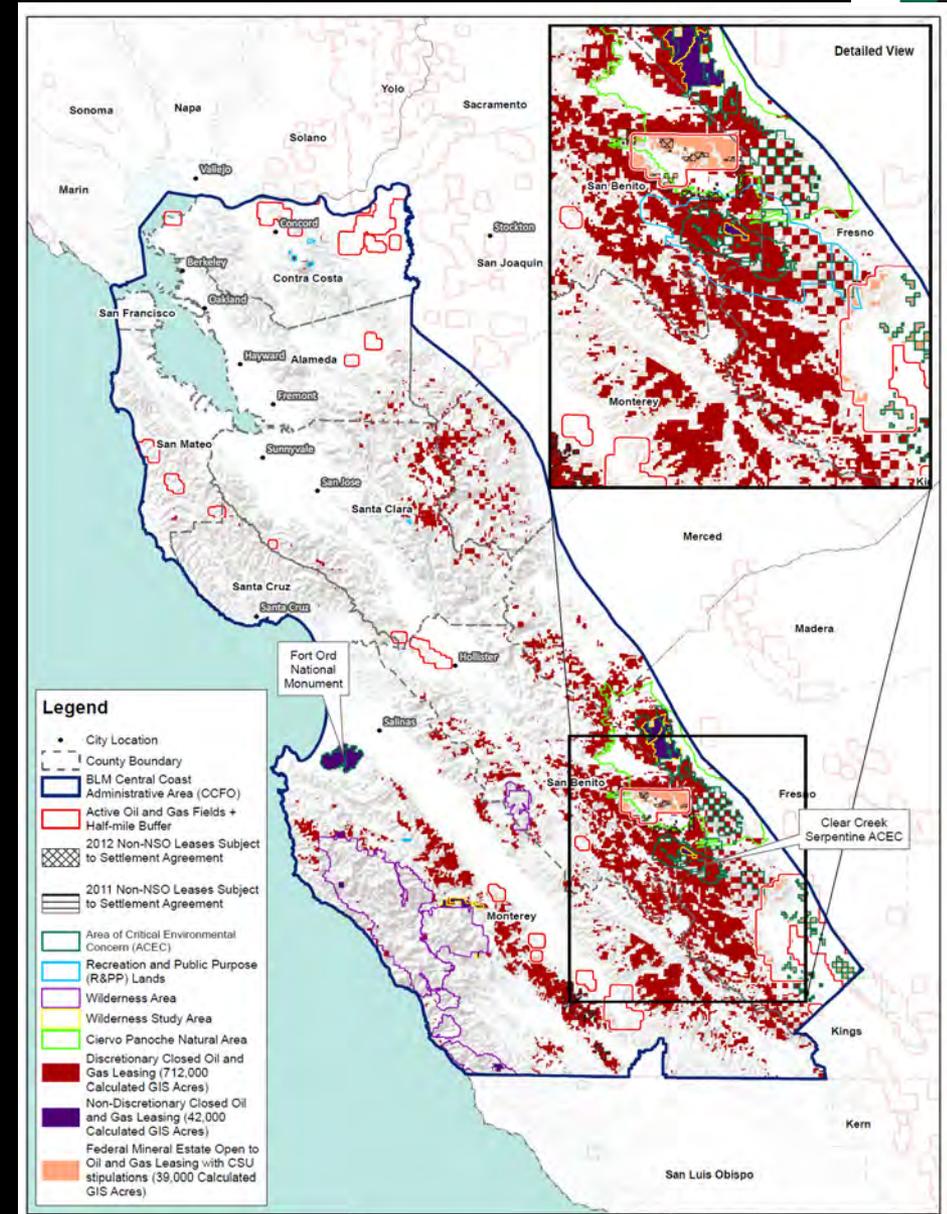
# Alternative A (No Action)

- Continue current management
- Federal mineral estate OPEN except:
  - Designated Wilderness
  - Wilderness Study Areas
  - Fort Ord National Monument,
  - Clear Creek Serpentine ACEC



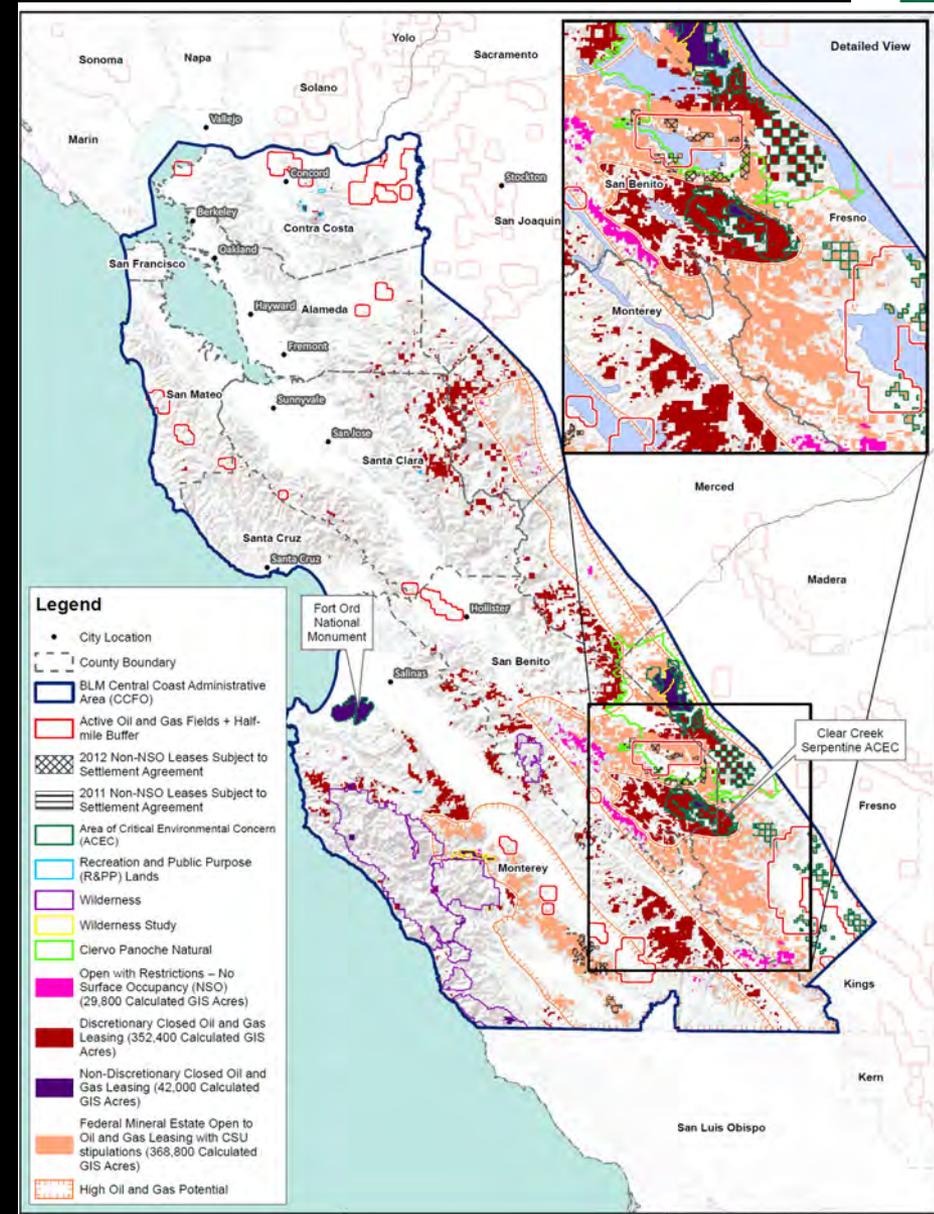
# Alternative B

- Federal mineral estate **CLOSED** except:
  - Within boundaries of oil & gas fields, plus 0.5-mile buffer
  - Only up to 32 development wells anticipated
  - No exploratory wells



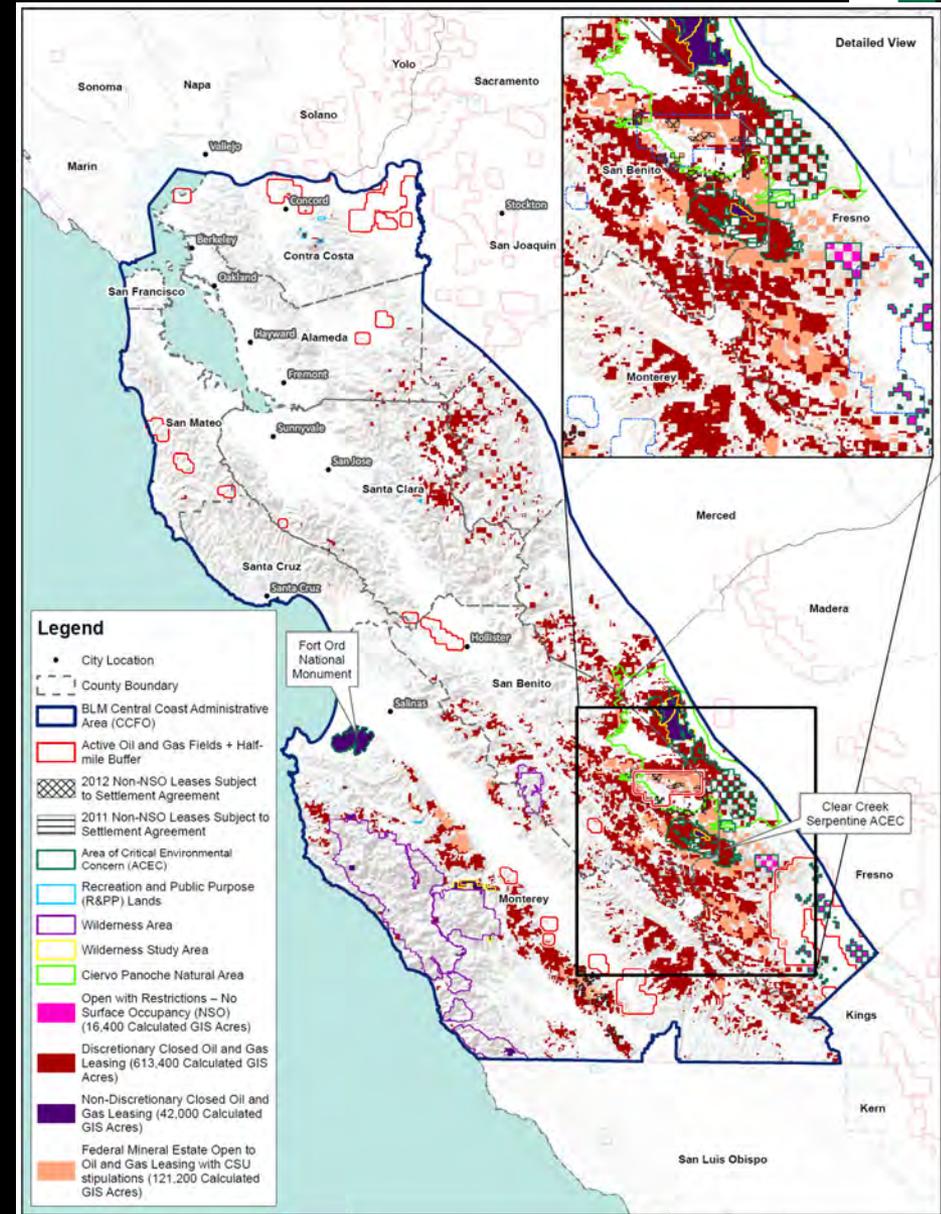
# Alternative C

- Unless currently closed, Federal mineral estate **OPEN** in areas with high oil & gas potential and within oil & gas fields except:
  - Core populations of giant kangaroo rat (GKR) in sensitive areas



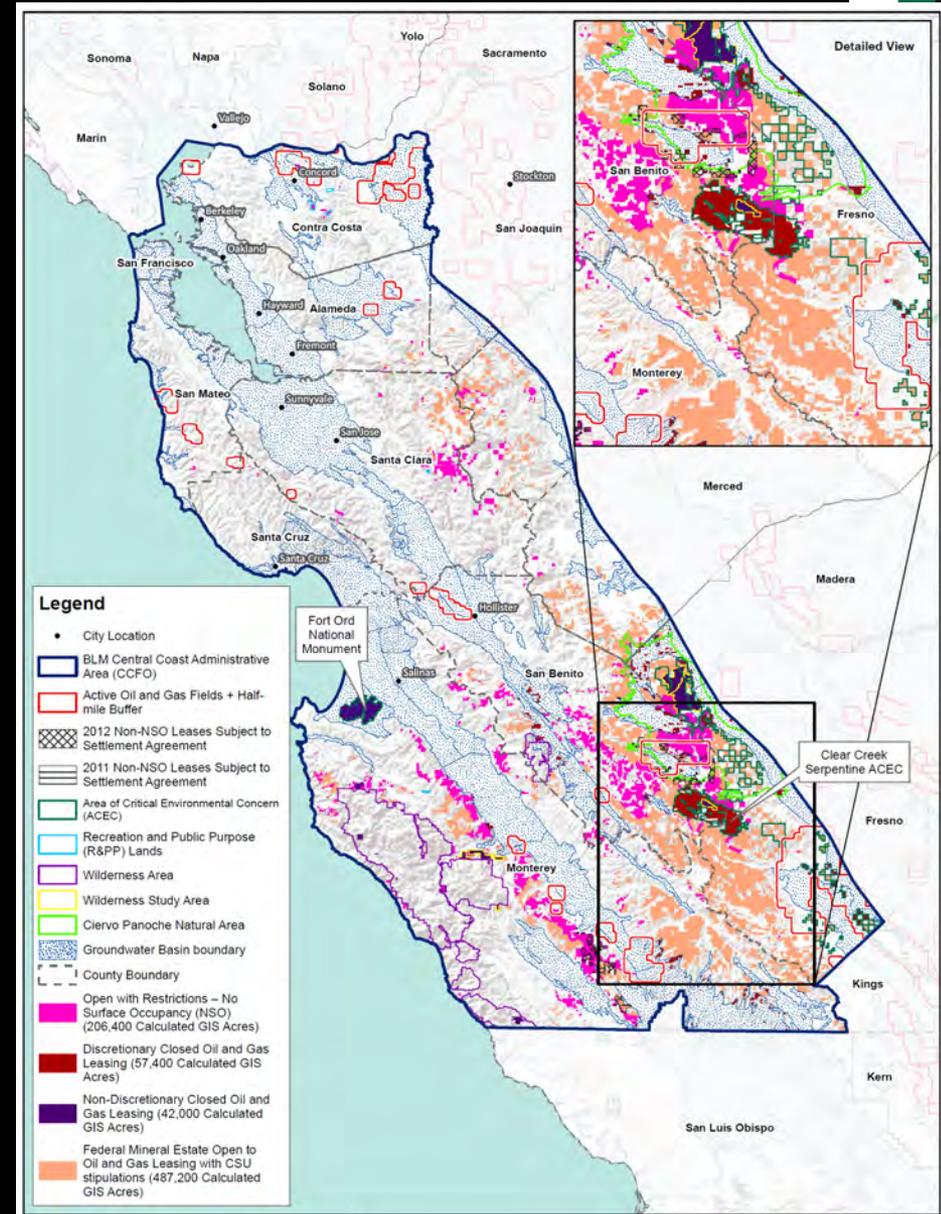
# Alternative D

- Unless currently closed, Federal mineral estate **OPEN** except:
  - Split estate lands
  - Ciervo Panoche Natural Area



# Alternative E

- Unless currently closed, Federal mineral estate **OPEN** except:
  - California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) groundwater basins or sub-basins



# Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario

- RFD scenario's describe information used to determine where oil and gas leasing and development may occur in a planning area.
- Central Coast Field Office RFD Scenario estimates:
  - between 0 & 32 development wells over 15 yrs
  - Between 3 to 5 exploratory wells
  - Well stimulation technologies and enhanced oil recovery techniques assumed on any or all of these wells

# Environmental Impact Statement

- EIS presents the affected environment and environmental consequences of alternatives
  - **Alternative A:** most flexibility for oil & gas drilling, least protective of biological resources
  - **Alternative B:** least flexibility for oil & gas drilling, reduces effects
  - **Alternative C:** balances open and closed areas and most protective of critical habitat
  - **Alternative D:** limits flexibility for oil & gas drilling on split estate lands and most protective of Ciervo Panoche Natural Area
  - **Alternative E:** most protective of groundwater resources



# How to Comment

Please send comments by **April 6, 2017** to:

## Mail:

BLM, California State Office

Attn: CCFO O&G Leasing EIS

2800 Cottage Way, Rm. W-1623

Sacramento, CA 95825

**Email:** [BLM\\_CA\\_OGEIS@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_CA_OGEIS@blm.gov)

**Keep up to date:** BLM ePlanning website

([https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa\\_register.do](https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do))

