

## Balancing Resources on the Pinedale Anticline



October 2007

Dear Neighbor,

As fall settles in, we at Ultra, Shell and Questar are reminded of what a wonderful summer we had in Sublette County. We had a great time participating in activities in and around the local communities! Even more, we were fortunate to meet with members of the community and host many tours of our operations on the Pinedale Anticline.

We would like to take this opportunity to update you about our latest activities on the Pinedale Anticline and around the Sublette County communities.

### **GREEN RIVER VALLEY LAND TRUST CONSERVATION EASEMENT**

The Murdock Family ranch is one of the most historic properties in all of Sublette County and boasts some of the county's foremost wildlife habitat. We are proud to have contributed to the Green River Valley Land Trust's effort to secure a conservation easement on the Murdock Family's Double Bar E Ranch in Sublette County.

This easement provides many immediate and long-term benefits to land and wildlife in the area. A conservation easement is designed to maintain open space and is one of the best ways to keep migration corridors perpetually open.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (SEIS)**

Ultra, Shell and Questar developed a long-term management plan for the Pinedale Anticline field focused on balancing resources to efficiently develop the energy resource while minimizing effects on the environment and communities.

#### **The main components of the plan are:**

- Year-round development in specific areas with temporary relaxation of wildlife stipulations;
- Installation of a full-field Liquids Gathering System and use of directional drilling which will leave large blocks of contiguous habitat undisturbed for wildlife migration corridors;
- Suspension of leases on East and West flanks of the Anticline to allow for wildlife movement and migration;
- Mitigation and Monitoring Fund to address off-site mitigation efforts;
- Investment and use of advanced technology to help maintain air quality;
- A steady pace of development builds a long-term workforce to establish a stable economy and assist local leaders in future planning.

In August, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced that based on comments received on the original Draft SEIS (DSEIS), they are considering two additional alternatives for the SEIS. The BLM will accept comments on the additional alternatives when the second DSEIS is released later this fall. They will then analyze the comments received and incorporate changes to publish the Final SEIS sometime early next year.

This new draft will allow the public a chance to understand all of the alternatives presented. We hope you will make your voice heard during this time and show the BLM that you support responsible year-round access.

**Community Information Line: 1-877-526-1007**

**On the Web: [www.PinedaleSEIS.com](http://www.PinedaleSEIS.com)**

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### PINEDALE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP)

The BLM has also been working hard analyzing nearly 100,000 comments submitted regarding the Pinedale Resource Management Plan (RMP). This plan will guide future development projects in the Pinedale area. The majority of the 100,000 comments received by the BLM came from outside the state of Wyoming.

We believe that the Final RMP must correctly reflect new natural gas resources that have been discovered within the management area since the previous RMP in 1988. In addition, we believe the RMP should manage and plan development for all the resources in the area on a broad level and not address only site-specific mitigation requirements.

Many of the comments received encourage the BLM to choose an option that balances energy development and environment. We encourage local residents to get involved during the final comment period to help shape the document that will affect their futures.

### WILDLIFE STUDIES

As a part of our ongoing efforts to provide the best long-term management plan for the Pinedale Anticline, Ultra, Shell and Questar fund several wildlife studies including mule deer, sage grouse, and pronghorn antelope. Additionally, we have just begun a habitat inventory study.

Wildlife Conservation Society recently released the second-year results for the Pronghorn Antelope Study. Data from the research shows that the pronghorn antelope population in the Pinedale Anticline area is stable and healthy.

This summer marks the first of a multi-year Habitat Inventory Study. The goal with this study is to assess the overall condition of habitat and vegetation in the area and to determine how it is being used by wildlife. Data from the study will provide new information on how to better balance habitat conservation with oil and gas activities.

### THE MONTHS AHEAD

Ultra, Shell and Questar will be hosting a free three-part natural gas seminar in October and November to educate the community about topics ranging from leasing and geology, through production. If you are interested in attending the natural gas seminar or meeting with representatives from the companies, please contact us.

Responsible development takes communication and we want to hear from you! Please feel free to contact us at 1-877-526-1007 or visit our website at [www.PinedaleSEIS.com](http://www.PinedaleSEIS.com)

Sincerely,

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