

APPENDIX A: SPECIES SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

These reasonable recommendations are derived from the best available science and represent preferred management actions to protect wildlife and wildlife habitats where oil and gas development is occurring.

BLACK-FOOTED FERRET

- Place surface facilities outside of prairie dog colonies in the Wolf Creek Management Area, the Coyote Basin Management Area, and the valley bisected by Highway 40 running from the Utah/Colorado border to the town of Dinosaur.
- Avoid oil and gas activities in prairie dog colonies where documented sightings of black-footed ferrets have occurred since 2005.
- Avoid surface disturbances between March 1 and July 15, with special attention to the period between May 1 and July 15, in prairie dog colonies where black-footed ferrets have been released or documented since 2001.
- Conduct seismic activity outside the period from March 1 to July 15 in prairie dog colonies where black-footed ferrets have been released or where black-footed ferret occurrence has been documented since 2001.
- Limit seismic activity to daylight hours in these colonies.
- Limit development of new roads within Wolf Creek Management Area and Coyote Basin Management Area.
- Gate single-purpose roads and restrict general public access to reduce traffic disruptions to wildlife.
- Close and immediately reclaim all roads that are redundant, not used regularly, or have been abandoned to the maximum extent possible to minimize disturbance and habitat fragmentation.
- Establish company guidelines to minimize wildlife mortality from vehicle collisions on roads.
- Promptly reclaim disturbed areas within prairie dog colonies within the Wolf Creek Management Area, the Coyote Basin Management Area, and the valley bisected by Highway 40 running from the Utah/Colorado border to the town of Dinosaur, CO with native grasses and forbs appropriate to the ecological site.
- Aggressively control non-native and invasive weeds, particularly cheatgrass, in reclamation areas within the Wolf Creek Management Area, the Coyote Basin Management Area, and the valley bisected by Highway 40 running from the Utah/Colorado border to the town of Dinosaur, CO.
- Survey for black-footed ferret when impacting prairie dog colonies unless the site is less than 80 acres in size for black-tailed prairie dogs, less than 200 acres in size for white-tailed prairie dogs or Gunnison's prairie dogs, or within a designated block-cleared area.