

PO Box 750226  
Torrey, UT 84775

July 31, 2006

Carter Reed, Oil and Gas Team Leader  
Fishlake National Forest  
115 East 900 North  
Richfield, UT 84701

Re: Oil and Gas Leasing Analysis Project

Dear Sirs:

After careful consideration I have come to the conclusion that leasing National Forest Service lands in the Fishlake National Forest, Utah for oil and gas leasing is a bad idea. Oil and gas exploration and extraction would cause too large of an impact to the National Forest and surrounding areas. My main concerns would be:

1. Increased vehicular traffic on established trails and forest service roads. Also increased usage of rural highways and scenic byways and backways.
2. The construction of new roads to well sites plus easements for power lines, pipelines, fences and other logistical equipment a well site would need.
3. Setbacks: Massive setbacks would have to be required for a well site anywhere near Recreation areas, points of interest, OHV trails, water sources, hiking trails, highways, and scenic byway and backways. A sufficient setback would ensure that a well site was neither seen nor heard.
4. Fire danger to or caused by a well site. This would require massive clearing around a well site which is unacceptable.
5. Noise: sounds from a well site under construction or in operation can carry for miles which will impact visitors to the forest and wildlife.
6. Operational accidents that could cause irreparable damage to the forest.
7. Security: to properly maintain secure well sites, large portions of forest will have to be declared off limits to the public. This would be unacceptable.

Thank you for allowing me to share my views and concerns on this matter.

Very truly yours,



Scott E. Sojourner

cc: Sierra Club  
SUWA  
Senator Orrin Hatch  
Zephyr