

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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Stakeholder Meeting Notice

Update of Sensitive Wildlife Habitat and Restricted Surface Occupancy Maps

In December, 2008 the COGCC adopted rules regarding the protection of Wildlife Habitat to minimize the impact from oil and gas activities to Colorado's diverse Wildlife Resources. Those rules stipulated that protection would be established through cooperation of Oil and Gas Operators, Surface Owners and the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW, formerly Division of Wildlife). CPW created species-specific wildlife habitat maps that identify areas in which protective measures should be considered. The COGCC rules specify that the habitat maps shall be periodically updated, but not more frequently than biennially. It has been five years since the habitat maps have been updated, and recent data gathered by CPW shows revisions are necessary to assure sensitive wildlife habitat areas are correctly identified. This announcement is the start of the formal Rulemaking process required to update the maps.

The proposed maps and a comparison of the change to Sensitive Wildlife Habitat and Restricted Surface Occupancy areas for each affected species relative to the 2008 maps can be found on the stakeholder page of the COGCC web site. An interactive Internet map allows for detailed review of the habitat areas. The current maps are available on the COGCC website on the Rules page, under Appendix VIII and on the Internet map. There are also proposed changes to 100 Series Rules regarding the definition of sensitive wildlife habitat for Mule Deer, Lesser Prairie Chicken and Greater Sage Grouse to better describe the data used to define the sensitive wildlife habitat.

The stakeholder meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Ralph L. Carr Colorado Judicial Center, Conference Room 1E, 1300 Broadway, Denver. It is best to enter the building from the corner of 13th and Broadway, allow for time to clear security. There will be the option to call in to participate via phone at (877) 820-7831 participant code 326793#.