



**WILDLIFE PROTECTION
PLAN
DORADO 36 OGD**

Dorado 36 Pad
Rule 304.c.(17)

1 PROJECT INFORMATION

This document was created to comply with the provisions of the Colorado Energy and Carbon Management Commission (ECMC or Commission) 1200 Series Rules, effective January 15, 2021. ECMC Rule 1201.a states “Proposed Oil and Gas Operations on new or amended Oil and Gas Locations requiring a new Form 2A, Oil and Gas Location Assessment outside of High Priority Habitat require a Wildlife Protection Plan that includes a description of the Rule 1202.a operating requirements applicable to the Oil and Gas Location.”

The WPP serves as a framework for wildlife protection and a communication tool to foster cooperative relationships between Bison and its stakeholders. Implementation of this plan will serve to avoid or minimize adverse effects to wildlife populations, their associated habitats, and respective productivity levels in anticipation of the development of Bison oil and gas resources.

This WPP addresses Bison’s plans to comply with all applicable operating requirements and includes a site-specific environmental site assessment. Additional measures may be implemented based on any new environmental constraints that arise or site-specific recommendations.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

Bison IV Operating, LLC (Bison) is proposing the construction, development, and operation of the Dorado 36 Oil and Gas Development Plan (OGDP), which includes the Dorado 36 Pad (Dorado Well Pad, Pad, or Location). The legal and location description for the Dorado 36 Well Pad is summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1
Location Information**

Location Name	Number of Wells	Legal Description
Dorado 36 Pad	10	SE1/4 S36, T7N, R63W, 6 th P.M.

The Project consists of the development of the Dorado 36 Well Pad and associated infrastructure to support the drilling and production of 10 new oil and gas wells. The proposed Location is in an area with agricultural and rangeland activities, other oil and gas development, and the I-70 corridor to the north. The project is a new Location, and the surrounding land type is non-irrigated crop land.

Construction associated with the OGDP would result in an estimated initial total disturbance of approximately 16.6 acres and residual disturbance of 5.3 acres for the well pad. Residual disturbance includes acreage that would remain disturbed for the life of the project (LOP), which is approximately 30 years plus the time required to successfully reestablish vegetation (those acres not subject to interim reclamation). Interim reclamation would be initiated for portions of the well pad not required for the continued operation of the well within 6 months of all drilling and completion, weather permitting.

Additionally, 1.59 acres of the existing access road proposed to be used for the Dorado 36 Location goes through Ferruginous Hawk Active Nest Site HPH (1.19 acres) and Mule Deer Winter Concentration HPH (0.40 acres).

3 OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

This section outlines the operating requirements listed in ECMC Rule 1202.a and their applicability to the proposed Dorado 36 Well Pad. These operating requirements apply to Oil and Gas Operations statewide unless the Operator obtains a signed waiver from Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and the Director or Commission approves a Form 4, Sundry Notice or Form 2A documenting the relief.

3.1 Black Bear Habitat [1202.a.(1)]

In black bear habitat, Operators are required to install and utilize bear-proof dumpsters and trash receptacles for food-related trash at all facilities that generate trash.

The Dorado 36 Well Pad is not located within CPW mapped black bear habitat. Therefore, the Project will not be required to install and utilize bear-proof dumpsters and trash receptacles.

3.2 Discharge into Surface Waters [1202.a.(2)]

Operators are required to disinfect water suction hoses and water transportation tanks withdrawing from or discharging into surface waters (other than contained pits) used previously in another river, intermittent or perennial stream, lake, pond, or wetland and discard rinse water in an approved disposal facility.

Bison will disinfect water suction hoses and water tanks withdrawing from or discharging into surface waters using a CPW-approved disinfectant or with water greater than 140° F for at least 10 minutes.

3.3 Wetlands and Waterways Buffer Requirements [1202.a.(3)]

No new staging, refueling, or chemical storage areas can be situated within 500 feet of the OHWM of any river, perennial or intermittent stream, lake, pond, or wetland.

The WPS and chemical storage areas for the Dorado 36 Well Pad are located greater than 500 feet from the OHWM of any river, perennial or intermittent stream, lake, pond, or wetland. In addition, Bison will implement and maintain best management practices (BMPs) in a manner that minimizes erosion, transport of sediment offsite, and site degradation (in accordance with Rule 1002.f Stormwater Management) to avoid or limit wetland or stream impacts.

3.4 Pit Requirements [1202.a.(4)]

Operators are required to install fences, nets, or other CPW-approved exclusion devices on new drilling pits, production pits, or other pits associated with oil and gas operations that are intended to contain fluids.

Bison's drilling methods and technologies do not use open top drilling pits, production pits, or other open top pits associated with oil and gas operations that are intended to

contain fluids. Therefore, Bison will not be required to install fences, nets, or other CPW-approved exclusion devices associated with such pits.

3.5 Trench Requirements [1202.a.(5)]

For trenches that are left open for more than 5 consecutive days during construction of Pipelines regulated pursuant to the Commission's 1100 Series Rules, Operators will install wildlife escape ramps at a minimum of one ramp per 1/4 mile of trench.

If a trench is left open for more than 5 consecutive days during pipeline construction, Bison will install wildlife escape ramps at a minimum of one ramp per 1/4 mile of trench.

3.6 Interim and Final Reclamation Requirements [1202.a.(6)]

Operators are required to use a CPW-recommended seed mix for reclamation pursuant to Rules 1003 and 1004 when consistent with the Surface Owner's approval and any local soil conservation district requirements.

The Location is not located within sensitive wildlife HPH, so Bison will coordinate with the surface owner regarding the most appropriate seed mix (see the Interim Reclamation Plan for details).

3.7 Fencing Requirements [1202.a.(7)]

Operators are required to use CPW-recommended fence designs when consistent with the Surface Owner's approval and any relevant local government requirements.

The Site is not located within HPH, so Bison will coordinate with the surface owner and comply with local requirements regarding fence design, if applicable.

3.8 Vegetation Removal Requirements [1202.a.(8)]

Operators are required to implement appropriate hazing or other exclusion measures to avoid take of migratory birds if vegetation removal is scheduled between April 1 and August 31. If hazing or other exclusion measures are not implemented, Operators are required to conduct pre-construction nesting migratory bird surveys within the approved disturbance area prior to any vegetation removal during the nesting season.

If construction or other earth-moving activities will begin within the recognized migratory bird breeding season between April 1 and August 31, Bison will conduct migratory bird surveys no later than one week before construction is scheduled to start to identify potential presence of nesting MBTA species within the Site. Should any nests be identified at that time, Bison will pursue additional surveys, nest monitoring and/or other species-specific best management practices as recommended by and in coordination with CPW.

3.9 Pit/Mosquito Requirements [1202.a.(9)]

Operators are required to treat drilling pits, production pits, and any other pit associated with oil and gas operations containing water that provides a medium for breeding mosquitoes with Bti (*Bacillus thuringiensis v. israelensis*) or take other effective action to control mosquito larvae that

may spread West Nile virus to wildlife resources. Such treatment will be conducted in a manner which will not adversely affect aquatic Wildlife Resources.

Bison will treat the detention pond in the northeast corner of the Dorado 36 Well Pad to minimize mosquito larvae that may spread West Nile virus to wildlife resources. The Dorado 36 Well Pad will not contain any drilling pits, production pits, or other pits that are intended to contain fluids that provide habitat for mosquito larvae.

3.10 Proximity to HPH Requirements [1202.a.(10)]

Operators are required to employ specific BMPs on a new oil and gas location if the working pad surface is located between 500 and 1,000 feet hydraulically upgradient from a HPH identified in Rule 1202.c.(1).Q-S.

The Dorado 36 Well Pad is not located 500 to 1,000 feet hydraulically upgradient of an HPH identified in Rule 1202.c.(1).Q-S. Therefore, associated BMPs will not be required for the Project.

3.11 Flowline and Utility Crossing Requirements [1202.b]

Operators are required to bore flowline and utility crossings of perennial streams identified as aquatic HPH. When installing culverts or bridges, such structures are not permitted to impact or prevent the passage of fish unless otherwise directed by CPW.

The Project will not include any flowline or utility crossings of perennial streams. Therefore, associated design considerations will not be required for the Project.

4 GENERAL PROTECTION MEASURES & BMPS

Bison strives to avoid and minimize impacts to wildlife by incorporating general and site-specific guidance into development plans and project design. In addition to the above-discussed standard operating requirements, additional wildlife protection measures are considered and implemented as appropriate for each project.

When possible, seasonal avoidance of important breeding, nesting, and winter habitats is the primary protection measure to reduce oil and gas development impacts on wildlife populations, productivity, and habitat use. Consultation with CPW and/or other wildlife agencies may be initiated to determine which other site-specific protection measures, if any, should be included in each project. Data collected during preliminary survey efforts is considered during project planning and design, and subsequent follow-up surveys and/or monitoring efforts are scheduled as needed. Protection measures are not limited to those identified in wildlife plans, and Bison recognizes the nature of fluctuating wildlife conditions and remains adaptable to new wildlife constraints that may arise.

Additionally, Bison will implement the following wildlife BMPs:

- Bison will avoid or limit road improvements during the HPH timing stipulations (March 1 - September 15) for the nearby ferruginous hawk active nest site;
- Ensure all personnel and contractors are aware of and adhere to applicable wildlife protection measures and BMPs;

- Personnel and contractors will not harm any wildlife observed on site and will maintain recommended buffer distances related to wildlife;
- Personnel and contractors will report any wildlife concerns, including the discovery of injured or orphaned wildlife, to on-site management and applicable EHSR personnel;
- Consult CPW and/or other applicable agencies/personnel, upon the discovery of new wildlife constraints, as needed;
- Bison will install screening or other devices on the stacks and on other openings of heater treaters or fired vessels to prevent entry by migratory birds.
- Use qualified third-party contractors for wildlife surveys, monitoring, and other consultation purposes; and
- Document any wildlife-related issues or changes.
- Bison will consult CPW and/or other applicable agencies/personnel, upon the discovery of new wildlife constraints, as needed.