Restoration of Sagebrush Landscapes
Impacted by Energy Development
Jonah Field

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Jonah Field

#### PROJECT PURPOSE

Restore native vegetation to land that has been disturbed by the development of Natural Gas extraction in the Jonah Field to meet objectives outlined in the Record of Decision for the Jonah Field.

### Jonah Field Restoration Drivers

- The Jonah ROD
- A social license to operate
- Need for more understanding and science

#### Jonah Field Location



### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Average annual precipitation 7-9 inches
- Land Cover type for the most part is Wyoming Sage/Rhizomatous wheat grass
- Soils are Loamy, Loamy Slightly Alkaline, and Sandy Clay Loam
- •Two major Ecological Sites are Wind River Loamy 7-9, and Clayey 7-9
- High Desert 34 frost free days

# It Blows!!!!!!!



Sec. 17 - .92"

Sec. 26 - 1.17"



#### **JONAH FIELD**

- Total Field is approximately 30,000 Ac
- Jonah Energy LLC lease approximately 17,400 Ac
- Total disturbance allowed all operators 20,000 Ac
- Never to exceed 14,000 Ac at one time
- Current Disturbance 5026 Ac
- Current Reclamation 4001 Ac
- Average annual Disturbance 200 Ac

### **CURRENT RESTORATION EFFORTS**

965 CONVENTIONAL EARTH LOCATIONS
106 MAT LOCATIONS

#### **ECOLOGICAL GOALS**

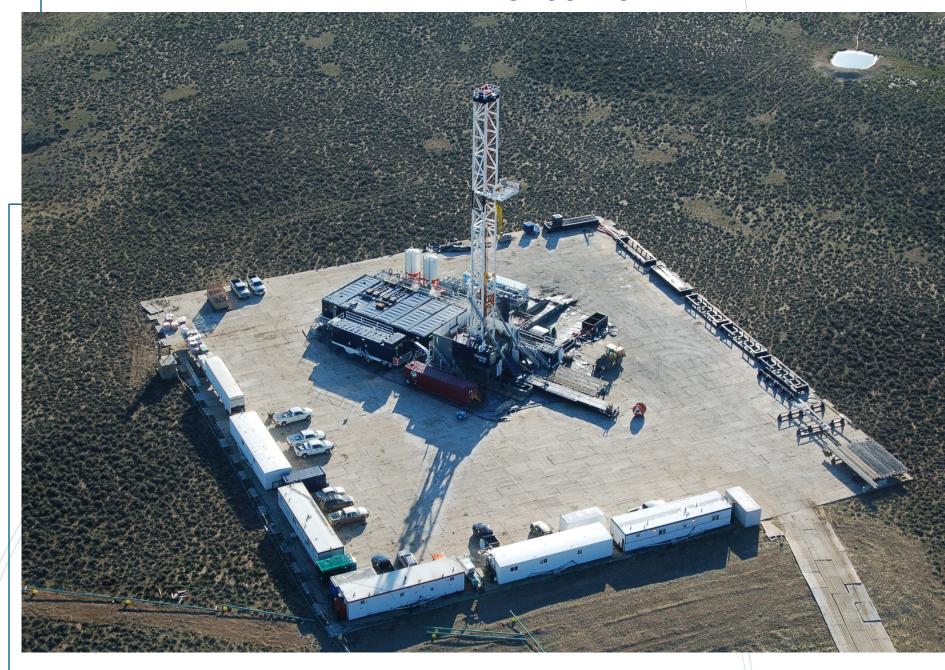
# Restoration of Disturbance to Sage Brush Steppe Landscapes to meet Roll Over Criteria established by <u>Jonah</u> <u>Interagency Office</u>

- Bare Ground equal to or less than reference
- Stable Soil
- Established 5-6 species of forbs
- Shrubs have become established
- Grass three species two bunch grasses
- Forbs, Shrubs and Grasses in a reproductive state

CONVENTIONAL EARTH PAD – SHB 44-11(multi-well)



### MAT PAD DRILLING LOCATION



# CONVENTIONAL LOCATION RESTORATION GOALS

Have conventional locations meet roll over criteria within 5-7 years

# How do we get there?

- Soil Management
- Deep Ripping
- Monitoring
- Patience
- Flexibility/Tools/BMP's







# Topsoil Management

- Separate topsoil from subsoil
- Spray for weeds
- Return topsoil within 1 year



Deep ripping of subsoil prior to topsoiling







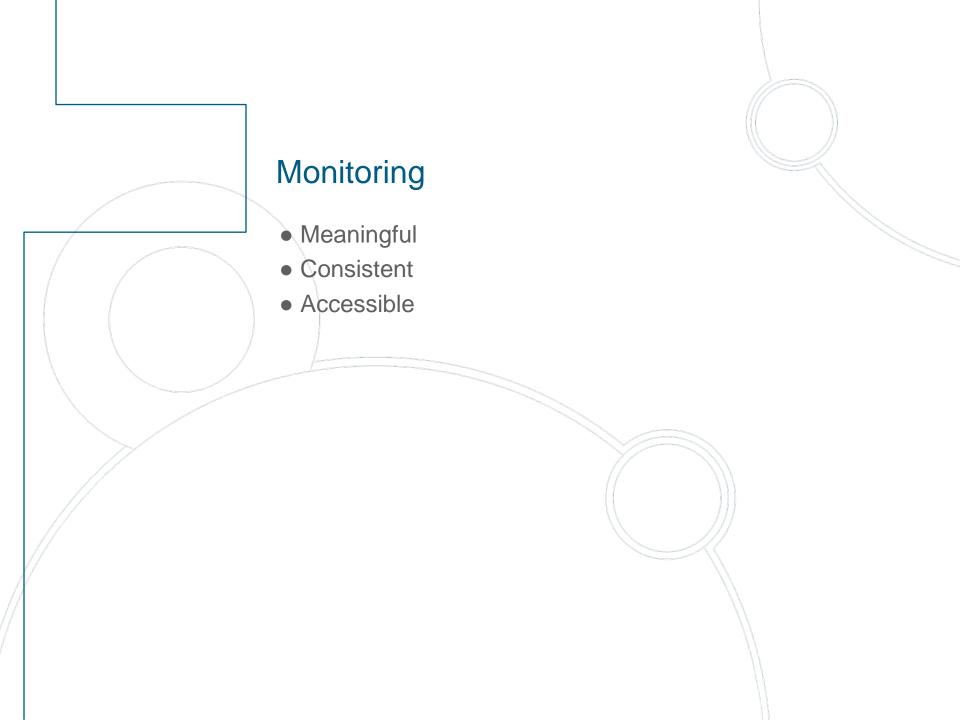
#### TRUAX RANGELAND DRILL WITH 12 INCH ROW SPACING



## How do we know how we are doing?

									111			
Operator	Location Name	Germinated Comment	Undesirabl Is	s Stable ( Noxi	ous C Other Und	Good Repr Reclamation	Location R Sage Grow BMP Com	Geometry	ProcessFl	Reg ID	Reclaime	ed Jonah Loca
Encana	SAG 17-30	Seeded Late Fall < 1 yr	r No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Grass/Fort Perennial \	3 Seedling < Wattle	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	CDP
Encana	SAG 73-20	Seeded Late Fall < 1 yr	r No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass/Fort Perennial \	3 Seedling < Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	CDP
Encana	SAG 48-19	Seeded 2+ yrs, No Ger	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass - O No Perenn	1 Not Applic Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
Encana	SAG 34-19	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Good Repr Perennial \	4 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	CDP
Encana	SAG 35-19	Seeded 2+ yrs, No Ger	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass - O No Perenn	2 Not Applic No BMP	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
<b></b> ≢ncana	SAG 36-19	Seeded 2+ yrs, No Ger	n No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass - O No Perenn	2 Not Applic No BMP	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
<b>‡</b> ncana	CAB 11-19	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Not Applic Perennial \	3.5 Seedling 2 Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Well with E
<b> ‡</b> ncana	SAG 5-17	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Good Repr Perennial \	4.5 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	CDP
<b> t</b> ncana	CAB 69-19	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	3.5 Seedling 2 Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Well with E
<b> ‡</b> ncana	CAB 12-19	Seeded 2+ yrs, No Ger	n No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass - O No Perenn	1 Not Applic Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Well with E
<b> t</b> ncana	CAB 72-19	Grass on <25% of Loca	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Hal	Grass - Tv No Perenn	2 Not Applic Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
<b> t ncana</b>	CAB 13-19	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Hal	Not Applic Perennial \	3.5 Seedling > Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	CDP
<b> t</b> ncana	CAB 75-19V	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Good Repr Perennial \	4 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 17-25	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Good Repr Perennial \	4.5 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
Encana	CAB 1-25	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	3 Not Applic Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Well with E
<b> t</b> ncana	CAB 31-25	Grass on <25% of Loca	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Hal	Grass - Tr Perennial \	2 Seedling 2 Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 32-25	Good Germination	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Hal	Grass Goc Perennial \	3.5 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 33-25	Good Germination	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Grass Goc Perennial \	3.5 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 8-25	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Hal	Grass Goc Perennial \	3 Seedling < Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	CDP
Encana	CAB 34-25	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Grass Goc Perennial \	4 Seedling > Not Applic			<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 47-25	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou No Other U	Grass Goc Perennial \	3.5 Seedling > Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 12-30	Good Germination	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	3 Seedling < Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Well with E
Encana	CAB 57-30	Good Germination	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	3 Seedling < Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 58-30	Other	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	2 Seedling 2 Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
Encana	CAB 11-30	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Hal	Good Repr Perennial \	4 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Mar	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Well with E
Encana	CAB 53-30	Good Germination	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	3 Good Sage Not Applic	GPS, Mai	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
≢ncana	CAB 60-30	Not Applicable	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Grass Goc Perennial \	3.5 Good Sage Not Applic			<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
Encana	CAB 70-30OH	Good Germination	No Undesi S	Site Stable No N	Noxiou Mostly Tur	Good Repr Perennial \	3 Seedling 2 Not Applic	GPS, Ma	<null></null>	<null></null>	<null></null>	Single We
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## **MONITOR**



### **Qualitative Ranking Criteria**

- 1. Majority of location lacks a minimum of two species of grass and needs remediation seeding.
- 2. Location has some cover on over 50% of location with 3 grass species and a least some perennial forbs but needs watching for additional seeding work
- 3. Location is stable throughout has three or more grass species has forbs and shrubs scatted over location but lacks sagebrush seedlings.
- **3.5**. Location is stable throughout and has three or more grass species, has forbs and shrubs scatted over location and has some sagebrush seedlings.
- **4**. Location is stable throughout and has three or more grass species, has a variety forbs and shrubs scatted over location and has good population of sagebrush seedlings.
- 5. Meets roll over criteria



# **Location Rating Distribution**



## Patience









### SHB 70-34 – planted fall 2012



SHB 32-10 – granted rollover 2013





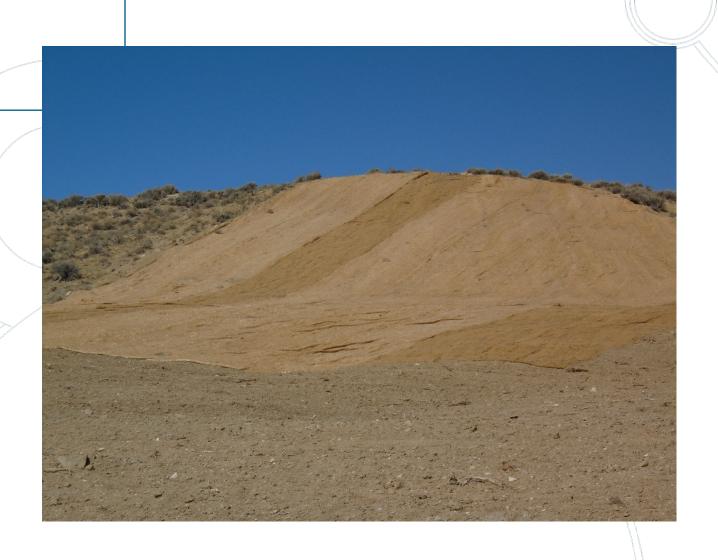




# Flexibility/Tools/Use of Tools

- Erosion Mats
- Mulch
- Irrigation
- Interseeding
- Weed Control

### SHB 66-26 Reclaimed Fall 2014



#### SHB 84-36X Reclaimed Fall 2014



#### JF 22-5 Mulched and reclaimed Fall 2014







## Stabilize Drainages

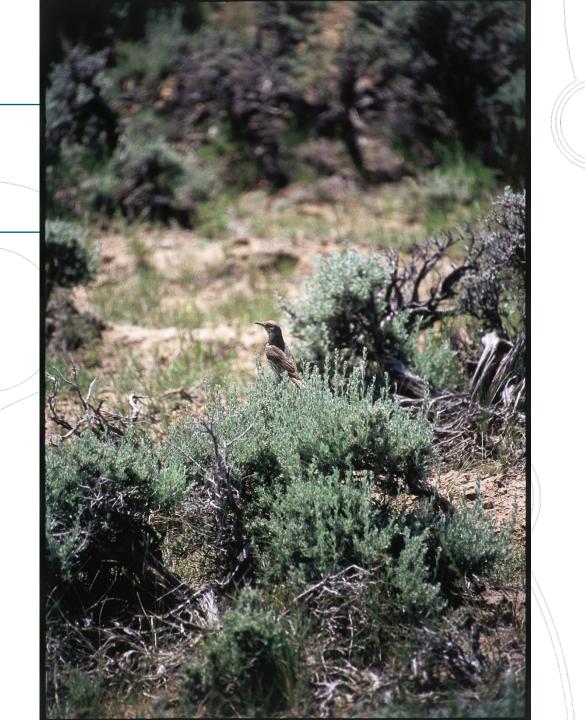


# Irrigation



# Interseeding







### Summary

- Proper Management of topsoil
- Deep Ripping/Seedbed preparation
- Monitor
- Be Patient
- 40 locations have been rolled over consisting of 91 acres

