

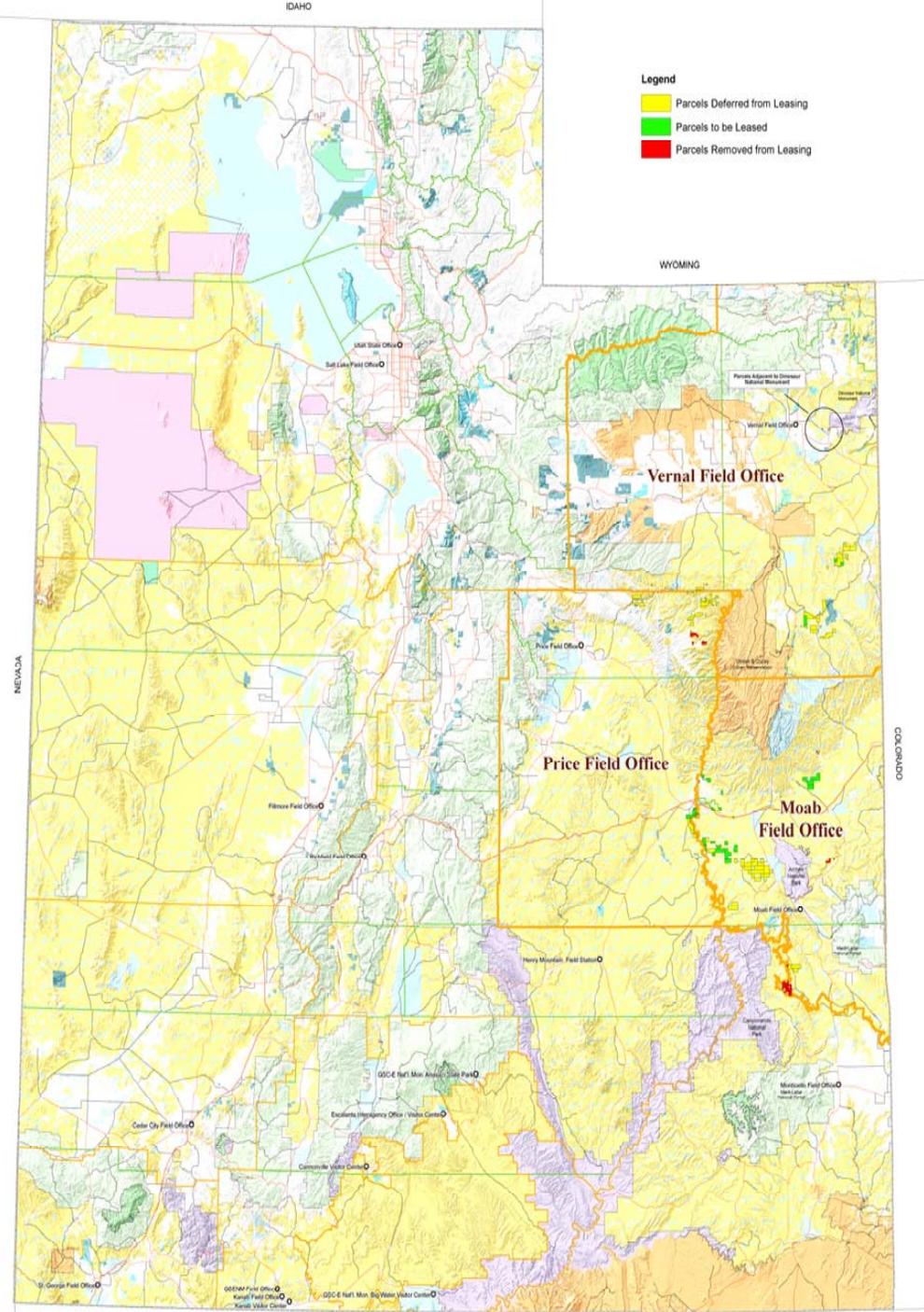
Utah December 2008 Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Review Team Findings



Hayes Report Tasked BLM

- **Establish a team of BLM specialists to review the lease parcels and to recommend how to proceed—lease, defer, or remove from leasing**
- **Develop guidance to assist BLM officials in making future parcel-specific leasing decisions**
- **Consider the benefits of regional air quality analysis**



The 77 parcels fall in Eastern Utah, within BLM's Vernal, Price and Moab Field Offices

The Review Team



Interdisciplinary Team Approach

- Drive to a clear view of the parcel
- As a Team review the proposed lease stipulations, protests, and the supporting land use plans
- Share thoughts
- Take notes and photos



Observe the surrounding area...



Like the headquarters of Dinosaur National Monument



The current setting, including...

Adjacent development activities

(in this case a State well in the Desolation Canyon area)

...

Adjacent landscapes and vistas





Key habitats...

What we found...

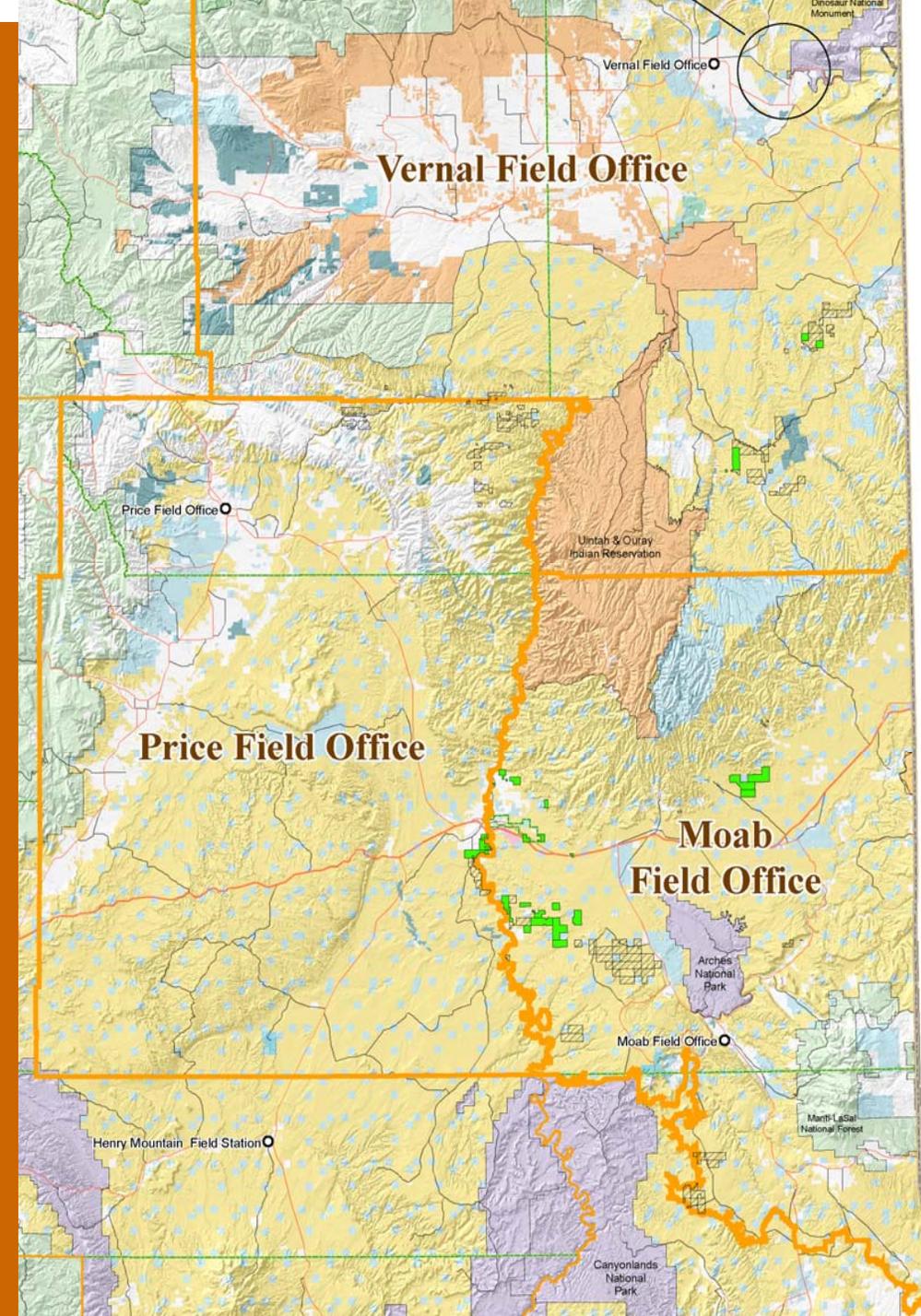


Lease



Lease





COLORADO

Lease

Defer

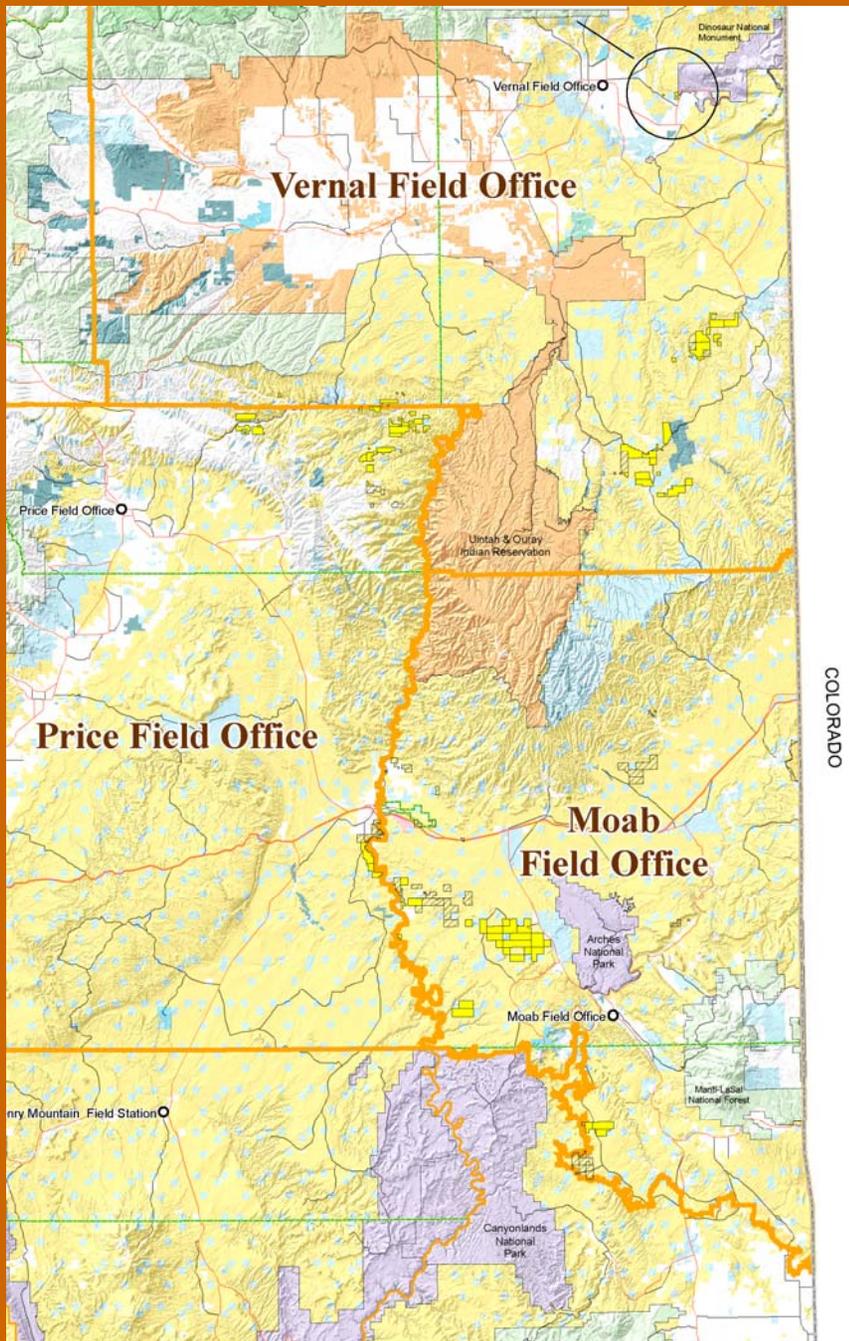


Defer



Defer





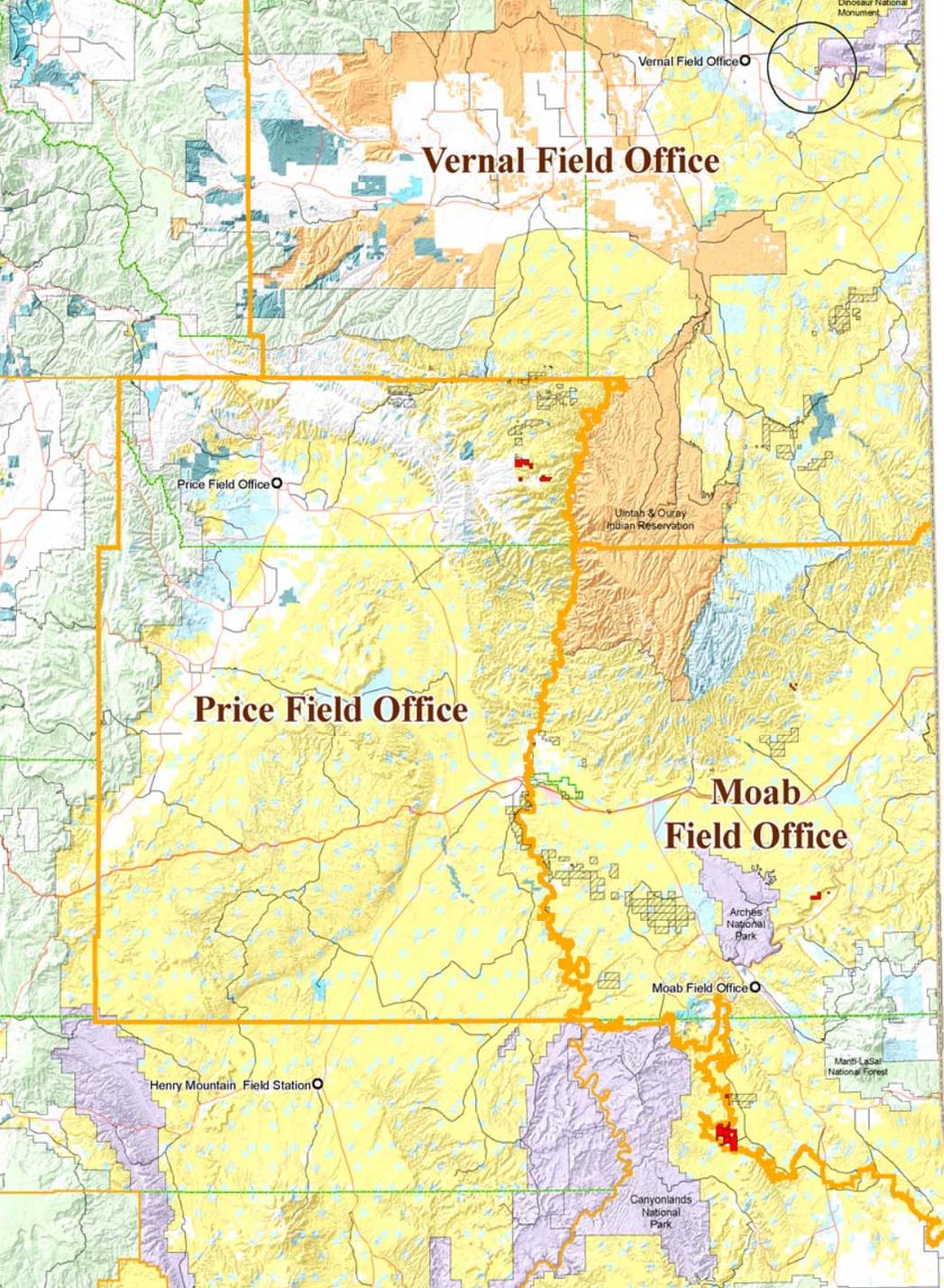
Defer

Remove from leasing



Remove from leasing





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Remove from Leasing

All total, the Team recommends:

- Lease- 17 parcels
- Defer- 52 parcels
- Remove- 8 parcels



“Defer” encompasses a wide range

- Simple actions
 - correcting an error on the lease offer
 - Removing superfluous stipulations
- Reconsider later if and as development progresses
- Some form of land use plan (RMP) modification
 - Inventory
 - Reassess stipulations used (or not used)
 - Areas to be removed from further consideration for leasing
- Waiting for the completion of ongoing studies

Why the different result?

- On-the-ground review
- A diverse, experienced interdisciplinary review team
- Hindsight through protests and legal challenges
- Time to devote attention to a single task
- Opportunity to see comparisons and contrasts between approaches, parcels, and decisions

Air Quality

- BLM should take a leadership role
- Comprehensive interagency strategy
 - Monitoring
 - Modeling platform
 - Determine what mitigation gets results
 - Common understanding of modeling's limitations
- Develop an interagency strategy before launching new regional model



Other Recommendations

- BLM should take a stronger role in identifying lease parcels to be offered
- More interdisciplinary review of lease packages
- Ensure consistent understanding of lease rights, no surface occupancy limitations, etc.
- BLM Utah specific recommendations
 - Start a shared landscape cooperative effort in canyon country
 - Dust abatement near cultural resources
 - Cultural resource consultation Wildlife stipulations and lease notices

