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## Sheep Mountain Uranium Project

[blm\\_wy\\_sheep\\_mountain\\_eis@blm.gov](mailto:blm_wy_sheep_mountain_eis@blm.gov)

### FY 2015

#### Comments

- [Public Comments on the Draft EIS](#) - 4.2mb

#### Draft EIS - January 2015

**Federal Register** - Notice of Availability - 01/16/15

- [Dear Public Land User Letter, Abstract, Executive Summary and Table of Contents](#) - 710kb
- [Chapter 1: Introduction and Background](#) - 190kb
- [Chapter 2: Project Alternatives](#) - 1.9mb
- [Chapter 3: Affected Environment](#) - 4.6mb
- [Chapter 4: Environmental Consequences](#) - 1.1mb
- [Chapter 5: Cumulative Effects](#) - 1.5mb
- [Chapter 6: Consultation and Coordination](#) - 43kb
- [Chapter 7: References](#) - 104kb
- [Chapter 8: Glossary](#) - 40kb
- [Appendices](#) - 3.1mb

#### News Releases

- [BLM Seeks Public Input on Draft Analysis of the Sheep Mountain Uranium Project](#) - 01/16/15

### FY 2013

#### 2013 Final Plan of Operations - 08/2013

- [Revised Plan of Operations](#) - 69.8mb
- [Letter Addendum](#) - Redlined version of Volume 1 - 1.2mb

### FY 2012

#### 2012 Revised Plan of Operations - 07/2012

- **Volume 1**
  - [Revised Transmittal Letter](#) - 542k
  - [Final Plan of Operations](#) - 23.3mb
  - [Attachment - BLM Sensitive Species Report for Vegetation](#) - 1mb
- **Volume 2**
  - [Appendix D1 - Land Use](#) - 12kb
  - [Appendix D2 - Brief History of Crooks Gap and Sheep Mountain Area](#) - 15kb
  - [Appendix D3 - Cultural Resources](#) - 269mb
  - [Appendix D4 - Climatology](#) - 1.4mb
  - [Appendix D5 - Geology and Overburden](#) - 1.1mb
  - [Appendix D6 - Hydrology Update](#) - 4.5mb
  - [Appendix D7 - Soil Assessment](#) - 3.7mb
  - [Appendix D8 - Vegetation Assessment](#) - 125kb
  - [Appendix D9 - Wildlife](#) - 1.96mb
  - [Appendix D10 - Radiology](#) - 354kb
- **Volume 3**
  - [Attachment 3 - Laboratory Results](#) - 68.8mb
- [Scoping Report](#) - 3.8 mb - 11/30/11

### FY 2011

[BLM and Cooperators Meet for Sheep Mountain Uranium Mining - Public Invited](#) - 09/15/11

[BLM to Initiate EIS for Sheep Mountain Uranium Project](#) - 08/23/11

**Federal Register** - Notice of Intent - 08/23/11

- **Plan of Operations** - June 2011
  - [Volume 1](#) - 30.33mb
  - [Volume 2](#) - 9.13mb

## Appendix D-2

### Brief History of Crooks Gap and Sheep Mountain Area

The early history of the Crooks Gap -Sheep Mountain area is typical of other portions of Wyoming along the Oregon Trail.

Sioux Indians originally inhabited the country containing Crooks Gap and the Sweetwater River. Trappers and cavalry units first visited the region in the period between 1830 and 1860. The Oregon Trail which passes about 10 miles north of the Crooks Gap -Sheep Mountain Area became a heavily used route for settlers heading to points west during the mid to late 1800's. The stage route from Rawlins to Lander passed through Crooks Gap and the ruins of the old station and corrals still exist about 1 mile south of the southern portions of Crooks Gap and about 3 miles from the proposed Congo Pit Project. The first permanent settlements in the Sheep Mountain area were established in the early 1900's.

Homesteaders taking advantage of the Homestead Act or the 1916 Stock Entry Homestead originally occupied the Crooks Gap Area and tried to make a living farming. Crooks Gap's climate was not conducive to farming, however, and by the 1940's almost all of the original homesteaders had sold out to ranching families. Ranching was better suited to central Wyoming.

Many of the original ranching families still operate cattle ranches along the Sweetwater River on Crooks Mountain in the Red Desert country south of Crooks Gap. The McIntosh's, Jamerman's and Kirk's (Claytor's by marriage), are original families still operating ranches in the Crooks Gap-Sweetwater area.

Oil was discovered in Crooks Gap and on Sheep Mountain north of Western Nuclear, Inc. permit area in the 1930's with oil fields constructed in the 1940's. At this point in time, the Crooks Gap-Sheep Mountain area was still a largely ranch based economy.

In 1953, ore grade uranium was discovered in the "Crooks" Gap Area. Development and claim staking rapidly followed and application was made with the Atomic Energy Commission for construction of the Split Rock Mill by Western Nuclear, Inc. Construction of the mill was completed in July of 1957.

Several mining firms have owned and operated mines on Sheep Mountain since the start of commercial production in 1957. Continental Materials, Inc. operated the Seismic Open Pit and Reserve shaft during the late 1950's and early 1960's, but sold their holdings to Western Nuclear in 1972. Phelps Dodge Corporation developed and operated the Ravine and Congo Inclines during the early 1960's. Western Nuclear, Inc. developed and operated the Paydirt Open Pit, Golden Goose I Shaft, and Heald Open Pit during the 1960's.

In 1971 Western Nuclear, Inc. was purchased by Phelps Dodge Corporation and from that point on, mining on Sheep Mountain was carried out solely by Western Nuclear, Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary of Phelps-Dodge Corporation.

Development projects on Sheep Mountain since 1972 include the-Sheep Mountain I and II shafts, Golden Goose II shaft, Sun Heald and McIntosh N.E. underground mines and the McIntosh Open Pits.

Pathfinder Corporation established an Open Pit uranium mine on Green Mountain within 3 miles of Western Nuclear's property in 1977. The local economy of the Jeffrey City-Sheep Mountain-Sweetwater Valley region was based heavily on uranium mining with ranching still playing a substantial but reduced role.

Production from the area by Western Nuclear ceased in 1982. In 1987 Pathfinder mines held an option on the property and produced limited tonnage from the Sheep I shaft. U.S. Energy-Crested Corp (USECC) acquired the properties from Western Nuclear in 1988 and completed some mine development through 2000. Subsequently, dewatering was discontinued and the mines allowed to flood.

In December 2004, Uranium Power Corp (UPC) (then known as Bell Coast Capital) entered into a Purchase and Sales Agreement with USECC to acquire a 50% interest in the Sheep Mountain property. The acquisition was completed in late 2007. USECC sold all of its uranium assets, including its 50% interest in Sheep Mountain, to Uranium One Ventures (USA) Inc (U1) in April 2007.

Titan Uranium Inc. acquired UPC's 50% interest in the property when it acquired UPC by a Plan of Arrangement in July 2009. The ownership was subsequently transferred to Titan's wholly-owned subsidiary, Titan Uranium USA (Titan) and the remaining 50% interest was purchased from U1 on October 1, 2009 giving Titan 100% ownership of the project. Since acquiring 100% ownership of the project Titan has been pursuing a mine development strategy which would employ conventional open pit and underground mining with on-site processing of the ores via a heap leach facility.

Historical facts for this brief summary of local history were collected from Reminiscing Along the Sweetwater, by Ruth Beebe, Johnson Publishing Company, Boulder, Colorado, 1973, and from a paper presented in Contributions to Geology, Wyoming Uranium Issue.