
**WILDLIFE MONITORING REPORT
FOR 2011-2012 ANNUAL REPORT PERIOD**

Prepared for

Uranerz Energy Corporation

By

**TRC Environmental Corporation
Laramie, Wyoming
TRC Project 51825/112362**

November 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
A.1.0 INTRODUCTION	A-1
A.2.0 2012 SURVEY METHODS	A-1
A.2.1 Raptor Nest Survey	A-1
A.2.2 Greater Sage-grouse Lek Surveys.....	A-1
A.3.0 2012 RESULTS	A-2
A.3.1 Raptor Nest Survey	A-2
A.3.2 Greater Sage-grouse Lek Surveys.....	A-2

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table A.1 Locations and Activity Status of Raptor Nests, Nichols Ranch ISR Project, 2012	A-3
Table A.2 Location of Greater Sage-grouse Leks and Number of Birds Observed, Nichols Ranch ISR Project, 2012	A-5

LIST OF EXHIBITS

	<u>Page</u>
Exhibit A.1 Locations and Status of Raptor Nests and Greater Sage-grouse Leks, Nichols Ranch ISR Project, 2012	Map Pocket

A.1.0 INTRODUCTION

During the annual report period, Uranerz Energy Corporation retained TRC Environmental Corporation to continue the wildlife monitoring program specified in Section 3.15.2 of the Mine Plan. This annual report includes the results of the 2012 raptor nest survey and greater sage-grouse lek surveys.

A.2.0 2012 SURVEY METHODS

A.2.1 Raptor Nest Survey

From April 18 through May 18, 2012 suitable habitats (e.g., cliffs, riparian areas) within the permit area and a 0.5-mi buffer of the permit area, were searched three times using binoculars and/or spotting scopes to locate nest structures, whitewash, or any other indicator of past or present raptor nesting (e.g., defensive or incubating raptors, the presence of juvenile raptors, repeated observations of raptors in the same general area). These surveys generally followed the protocol outlined in Appendix B of the Wyoming DEQ Coal Regulations. When a nest could not be looked into, the nest was classified as active if at least one adult was observed defending the nest. If no sign of occupancy was evident, the area below and around the nest was checked for signs of recent activity (mud, pellets, feathers, prey remains, or young) in an attempt to verify occupancy. In addition, black-tailed prairie dog towns within the permit area and a 0.5-mi buffer were searched using binoculars and/or spotting scopes to locate burrowing owl nest locations. Most areas of the prairie dog towns were searched by traversing the towns and examining burrows for whitewash or other sign of activity.

A.2.2 Greater Sage-grouse Lek Surveys

Eleven known greater sage-grouse leks or satellite leks within 2.0 mi of the Nichols Ranch ISR project area were searched for activity between April 1 and May 7, 2012, in accordance with the approved wildlife monitoring plan. None of these leks are located within either the Nichols Ranch or Hank Unit boundaries. Biologists drove to the area and used binoculars and/or spotting

scopes to locate the lek area and to count the peak number of male and female greater sage-grouse present during each survey. Three lek searches were conducted at each lek, and surveys were conducted from as close to sunrise as possible to 0.5 hour after sunrise.

A.3.0 2012 RESULTS

A.3.1 Raptor Nest Survey

A total of 120 nests within the search area were surveyed by biologists from Wildlife Resources, LLC., of Big Horn, Wyoming, during the spring of 2012, and five nests were determined to be active. Active nests included two red-tailed hawk nests, one great horned owl nest, a golden eagle nest, and a long-eared owl nest. The locations and status of these nests are described in Table A.1 and illustrated on Exhibit A.1.

A.3.2 Greater Sage-grouse Lek Surveys

Eleven leks were surveyed three times between April 1 and May 7, 2012, by biologists from Wildlife Resources, LLC., of Big Horn, Wyoming. However, only two of the leks (Hines NW and Windmill satellite) were active and had any male attendance. Both of these leks are located closest to the Hank Unit. The remaining nine leks were inactive. The Windmill satellite lek had a peak male attendance of 15 birds and the Hines NW lek had a peak male attendance of two birds. The locations of the leks and additional lek data are illustrated on Exhibit A.1 and presented in Table A.2, respectively.

Table A.1 Location Greater-sage Grouse Leks and Number of Birds Observed, Nichols Ranch ISR Project, 2012.

Unit Name	Species	WLR ID/BLM ID	TWN	RNG	Sec, qq/q	ZN	Easting	Northing	Datum	County	Date	2012 Status	Condition	Sub/Ht	Nest/Ht
Hank	GRHO	3654	43	75	7, NE/NW	13	425810	4841363	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	ACTI	GOOD	CLF	Sticks/18'
Hank	RETA	4098	44	76	36, NE/NE	13	425170	4844450	83	Campbell	5/29/2012	ACTI	GOOD	CTL/50'	Sticks/40'
Hank	LEOW	4106	44	75	30, NE/SW	13	425968	4845500	83	Campbell	5/1/2012	ACTI	FAIR	JUL/15'	Sticks/8'
Hank	RETA	6535	43	75	8, SW/NW	13	426940	4840760	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	ACTI	GOOD	CTD/10'	Sticks/10'
Nichols Ranch	GOEA	5495	43	76	21, NE/NW	13	419454	4837968	83	Campbell	5/9/2012	ACTI	GOOD	CTL/50'	Sticks/45'
Hank	RETA	3655	43	75	7, NW/NE	13	426126	4841173	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	Tree fell	Sticks/30'
Hank	GRHO	3658	43	75	7, NW/NW	13	425538	4841443	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/40'	Sticks/35'
Hank	LOOW	4101	43	76	1, NE/NE	13	425028	4842796	83	Campbell	5/29/2012	INAC	POOR	JUL/18'	Sticks/12'
Hank	PRFA	4102	44	75	32, SW/SW	13	427040	4843215	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC		CLF	
Hank	PRFA	4103	44	75	32, SW/SW	13	427130	4843380	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC		CLF	
Hank	UNRA	4115	43	76	1, NW/SE	13	424626	4842237	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	POOR	JUL/12'	Sticks/7'
Hank	LOOW	4527	43	76	1, NE/SE	13	425162	4841951	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	JUL/16'	Sticks/12'
Hank	GOEA	4528	43	75	7, NW/NW	13	425405	4841428	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	Tree fell	Sticks/35'
Hank	UNRA	4529	43	75	7, NE/NW	13	425809	4841286	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/45'	Sticks/30'
Hank	UNRA	4531	43	75	7, SE/NW	13	425852	4840885	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/35'	Sticks/25'
Hank	UNRA	4533	43	75	7, SW/SW	13	425535	4839860	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	FAIR	CTL/35'	Sticks/15'
Hank	GRHO	4536	43	76	13, NE/NE	13	424825	4839733	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/45'	Sticks/30'
Hank	UNRA	6185	43	76	13, NE/NE	13	424860	4839710	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	dup of 4536	Sticks
Hank	GRHO	6517	43	75	8, NW/NW	13	426895	4841340	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	CLF	Dirt/20'
Hank	LEOW	6518	43	75	7, SE/NE	13	426766	4840910	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	POOR	JUL/15'	Sticks/10'
Hank	UNRA	6521	43	75	8, NW/SW	13	427150	4840503	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	JUL/14'	Sticks/10'
Hank	UNRA	6522	43	75	8, NW/SW	13	427191	4840479	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/35'	Sticks/25'
Hank	UNRA	6523	43	75	8, NW/SW	13	427193	4840478	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	POOR	JUL/18'	Sticks/10'
Hank	UNRA	6524	43	75	8, NW/SW	13	427203	4840367	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	FAIR	JUL/15'	Sticks/10'
Hank	UNRA	6525	43	75	8, SW/SW	13	427216	4840197	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	FAIR	WIL/25'	Sticks/12'
Hank	RETA	6534	43	75	8, SW/NW	13	426984	4840745	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/50'	Sticks/40'
Hank	BBMA	12340	44	76	25, NE/NE	13	425109	4846310	83	Campbell	5/1/2012	INAC	FAIR	JUN	
Hank	UNRA	12800	43	75	7, SE/NE	13	426712	4840910	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	FAIR	CTL/40'	Sticks/30'
Hank	UNRA	12843	43	75	8, NW/SW	13	427204	4840440	83	Campbell	5/10/2012	INAC	FAIR	JUL/20'	Sticks/15'
Hank	UNRA	12844	43	75	5, NE/SW	13	427461	4842035	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC	POOR	JUL/12'	Sticks/8'
Hank	UNRA	12865	44	76	25, NE/NE	13	425277	4846360	83	Campbell	5/29/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/30'	Sticks/25'
Hank	TUVU	12893	44	75	32, SW/SW	13	427060	4843210	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC	GOOD	Hole	Dirt
Hank	UNRA	12902	43	75	6, NW/NW	13	425247	4842889	83	Campbell	5/29/2012	INAC	FAIR	JUL/25'	Sticks/20'
Hank	UNRA	13009	43	75	5, NE/SW	13	427465	4842089	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC	POOR	JUL/15'	Sticks/12'
Hank	UNRA	13010	43	75	5, NE/SW	13	427595	4842271	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC	GONE	JUL/15'	Sticks/10'
Hank	PRFA	13019	43	75	5, NW/NW	13	427354	4843011	83	Campbell	5/18/2012	INAC		CLF	
Hank	UNRA	13-12	44	75	30, SE/SE	13	426871	4845207	83	Campbell	5/1/2012	INAC	POOR	JUN/20'	Sticks/12'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	4497	43	76	17, SE/SE	13	418438	4838503	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/55'	Sticks/25'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	4498	43	76	16, SE/SW	13	419268	4838365	83	Campbell	5/9/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/50'	Sticks/30'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	4499	43	76	19, NE/NE	13	416802	4838238	83	Johnson	4/18/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/45'	Sticks/30'
Nichols Ranch	GOEA	4500	43	76	20, NE/NE	13	418591	4837803	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	FAIR	CTL/50'	Sticks/40'
Nichols Ranch	RETA	5487	43	76	19, NW/NE	13	416557	4837912	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	FAIR	CTL/60'	Sticks/50'
Nichols Ranch	GOEA	5494	43	76	20, NE/NE	13	418662	4837768	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	GONE	CLF	Sticks
Nichols Ranch	GRHO	5511	43	76	20, NE/SE	13	418271	4837232	83	Campbell	5/17/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/45'	Sticks/35'
Nichols Ranch	RETA	5533	43	76	17, NW/NW	13	417380	4839615	83	Johnson	4/18/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/45'	Sticks/30'
Nichols Ranch	GOEA	12757	43	76	18, SE/NE	13	417064	4837702	83	Johnson	4/18/2012	INAC	FAIR	CTL/50'	Sticks/40'

Table A.1 (Continued)

Unit Name	Species	WLR ID/BLM ID	TWN	RNG	Sec, qq/q	ZN	Easting	Northing	Datum	County	Date	2012 Status	Condition	Sub/Ht'	Nest/Ht'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	12963	43	76	20, NE/SE	13	418630	4837317	83	Campbell	5/17/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/50'	Sticks/20'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	12965	43	76	19, SE/NE	13	417032	4837780	83	Johnson	4/18/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/40'	Sticks/30'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	12967	43	76	16, NW/SW	13	419028	4838833	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/50'	Sticks/35'
Nichols Ranch	RETA	5486	43	76	16, SE/NW	13	419491	4839078	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	GOOD	CTL/55'	Sticks/40'
Nichols Ranch	LEOW	5491	43	76	16, SW/NW	13	418730	4839255	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/40'	Sticks/30'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	5531	43	76	17, NE/NW	13	417680	4839800	83	Johnson	4/18/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/40'	Sticks/30'
Nichols Ranch	RETA	5532	43	76	17, NW/NW	13	417390	4839590	83	Johnson	4/18/2012	INAC	FAIR	CTL/35'	Sticks/20'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	5534	43	76	16, SW/NW	13	418790	4839206	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	GONE	CTL/25'	Sticks/20'
Nichols Ranch	UNRA	5535	43	76	16, SW/NW	13	418720	4839265	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	POOR	CTL/25'	Sticks/20'
Nichols Ranch	GOEA	5537	43	76	17, SW/SE	13	418170	4838235	83	Campbell	4/18/2012	INAC	GONE		

Unit Area	Lek I.D.	Sec. q/q	Twn	Rng	Easting	Northing	County	Date	Time	Conditions	Males	Females	Air/ground	Observer	Remarks
Nichols Ranch	Cottonwood Creek 2	15, SE/SE	43	76	421621	4838450	Campbell	4/5/2012	7:15 AM	Mostly clear, calm, 35 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								4/18/2012	6:50 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								5/1/2012	7:15 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Paul	
Hank	Hines	16, NW/SE	43	75	429600	4838600	Campbell	4/6/2012	6:18 AM	Mostly cloudy, calm, 35 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	GOEA and swift fox near lek location.
								4/19/2012	5:55 AM	Partly cloudy, 5-10 S, 37 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								5/2/2012	5:49 AM	Partly cloudy, 5-10 S, 43 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
Hank	Hines NW	17, NE/NE	43	75	428443	4839637	Campbell	4/6/2012	6:50 AM	Mostly cloudy, calm, 35 F	2	1	Ground	Roy	
								4/19/2012	6:30 AM	Partly cloudy, 5-10 S, 37 F	2	1	Ground	Roy	
								5/2/2012	6:20 AM	Partly cloudy, 5-10 S, 43 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
Hank	Windmill	2, SE/SE	43	76	423323	4841666	Campbell	4/5/2012	6:40 AM	Mostly clear, calm, 35 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								4/18/2012	6:10 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								5/1/2012	6:08 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Paul	
Hank	Windmill Sat.	11, NE/NE	43	76	423429	4841417	Campbell	4/5/2012	6:40 AM	Mostly clear, calm, 35 F	12	2	Ground	Dan	
								4/18/2012	6:15 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	15	0	Ground	Dan	
								5/1/2012	6:17 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	15	4	Ground	Paul	
Hank	Windmill North	35, SE/SE	44	76	423500	4843360	Campbell	4/5/2012	6:35 AM	Mostly clear, calm, 35 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	Light mist to start the survey and then cleared out.
								4/18/2012	6:05 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								5/1/2012	6:05 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
Hank	Windmill NW	2, NE/SW	43	76	422599	4842051	Campbell	4/5/2012	6:50 AM	Mostly clear, calm, 35 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								4/18/2012	6:20 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Dan	
								5/1/2012	6:30 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Paul	
Hank	North Butte	20, NE/SW	44	75	427450	4846946	Campbell	4/5/2012	6:58 AM	Clear, calm, 39 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								4/18/2012	6:25 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								5/1/2012	6:20 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
Hank	Gilbertz III	21, SE/SW	44	75	429307	4846518	Campbell	4/5/2012	7:03 AM	Clear, calm, 39 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								4/18/2012	6:34 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								5/1/2012	6:28 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
Hank	Gilbertz III	21, SW/SW	44	75	428960	4846700	Campbell	4/5/2012	7:05 AM	Clear, calm, 39 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								4/18/2012	6:35 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								5/1/2012	6:30 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
Hank	Mud Spring	33, NE/NE	44	75	430151	4844662	Campbell	4/5/2012	7:10 AM	Clear, calm, 39 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								4/18/2012	6:41 AM	Cloudy, 10-20 S, 40 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	
								5/1/2012	6:35 AM	Mostly cloudy, 0-5 E, 45 F	0	0	Ground	Roy	

Table A.2

Locations and Activity Status of Raptor Nests, Nichols Ranch ISR Project, 2012.

