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Comments: SIERRA CLUB

December 27, 2019

Oil & Gas EIS Project

Mr. Robert Potts

Natural Resources and Planning Team Leader

National Forests and Grasslands in Texas

2221 North Raguet

Lufkin, Texas 75904

Dear Rob,

The Houston Regional Group and Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club (Sierra Club) provide this tenth set of comments for scoping for the U.S. Forest Service (FS) oil/gas leasing environmental impact statement (OGLEIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas (NFGT).

Although the official scoping period is over, the Sierra Club will continue to send the FS documents and articles that relate to the OGLE IS. The Sierra Club has been told in the past that although there is an official scoping comment period, that scoping extends from "the beginning of the scoping comment period until the draft EIS is released. There are additional articles that the Sierra Club provides to the FS with this letter.

1. "Climate change leads birds to migrate earlier", David Frey, The Wildlife Society,
December 20, 2019

Due to climate change (caused in part by oil/gas drilling air pollution) birds are migrating earlier and may not have the food resource available when they migrate. This could, in part, be one factor which has led to long-term declines in bird populations in the United States. These bird populations 'are supposed to be protected by the FS via its management of the NFGT.

2. "Oil sector may be entering final decade of growth", Jordan Blum, Houston Chronicle,
December 26, 2019.

This article documents that oil/gas shale drilling may be heading for a decline in the United States over the next 10 years.

3. "Financing for Arctic drilling could be on thin ice", Dino Grandoni, Washington Post,
Houston Chronicle, December 22, 2019.

This article states that some forms of oil financing are being rejected by major U.S. banks.,
The Sierra Club appreciates this opportunity to provide these additional initial scoping comments about the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the OGLEIS.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brandt Mannchen

Forest Management Issue Chair

Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club Chair,

Forestry Subcommittee .

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