WILDLIFE MEETS ENERGY BOOM

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The Upper Green River Basin is experiencing an energy boom beyond all expectations. The Pinedale Anticline and Jonah fields are considered among the top five gas producing fields in the U.S. Our nation's voracious appetite for natural gas leaves Upper Green River Basin area managers with the task of balancing world-class wildlife populations with developing world-class gas fields. Environmental impact analysis is challenged to keep up with rapid advances in technology and complex wildlife issues. Industry is currently proposing development on the Anticline beyond 2025, based on today's technology and estimated recoverable gas reserves. The effect of energy development on wildlife has already been significant. Wyoming Game and Fish Department has been working collaboratively with industry and surface managing agencies to address the issues. This presentation will reveal that there are no easy choices and most obstacles are formidable.