

PROJECT FACT SHEET

CONTRACT TITLE: 3-D Seismic Exploration Project, Ute Indian Tribe, Uintah & Ouray Reservation, Uinta Basin, Utah

ID NUMBER: DE-FG26-00BC15193

CONTRACTOR: Wind River Resources Corporation

B&R CODE: AC1005000

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DOE PROJECT MANAGER:

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CONTRACT PROJECT MANAGER:

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PROJECT SITE

CITY: Roosevelt **STATE:** UT
CITY: Fort Duchesne **STATE:** UT
CITY: **STATE:**

CONTRACT PERFORMANCE PERIOD:

9/15/2000 to 10/15/2001

PROGRAM: Exploration & Production
RESEARCH AREA: Native American Initiative
PRODUCT LINE: RLE

CO-PARTICIPANTS:

PERFORMER:	CITY:	STATE:	CD:
PERFORMER:	CITY:	STATE:	CD:
PERFORMER:	CITY:	STATE:	CD:
PERFORMER:	CITY:	STATE:	CD:

FUNDING (1000'S)	DOE	CONTRACTOR	TOTAL
PRIOR FISCAL YRS	500	275	775
FY 2002 CURRENT OBLIGATIONS	0	0	0
FUTURE FUNDS	0	0	0
TOTAL EST'D FUNDS	500	275	775

OBJECTIVE: To determine the utility of a 3-D seismic survey as a tool for oil and gas (NGLs) exploration on the Uintah and Ouray (Northern Ute) Indian Reservation.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**Background:**

Work to be Performed: Select a project site and compile a database containing applicable literature, available geological data, the location of existing seismic lines, drilling and test data from nearby wells and for analog fields, as well as historical and current production data. Design and acquire a +/-15-sq. mi. 3-D seismic survey suitable for use in exploring all potentially productive formations in the project area agreed to by the Ute Indian Tribe. Process and interpret acquired survey. Engage in technology transfer activities designed to disseminate information about the utility of 3-D seismic technology as a tool for exploration on the Uintah & Ouray Indian Reservation.

PROJECT STATUS:

Current Work: Completed - Project site was selected with Ute Tribe (area in and around T15S-R20E, Uintah County, Utah) and named the North Hill Creek Project. Literature search conducted for all prospective formations; analog field identified and well logs digitized; digital base map compiled; regional cross-sections compiled; operator of closest analog field engaged as a cooperative participant; Western Geophysical (now Western Geco) selected as geophysical contractor; 3-D survey designed by Western Geco, Black Coral LLC and Wind River Resources; permits obtained; data acquired in field from 9-26-00 through 12-7-00, with vertical seismic profile run in existing well in survey area on 11-29-00; processing at Western Geco processing center in Denver began 12-11-00. After initial difficulties associated with very dense near-surface sandstone, data is now appears quite good. As of 1-26-01 structural information was clear and significant structures, both expected and unexpected, could be seen.

5-29-01: Because of near-surface highly reflective formations the processing of our 3-D data volume required extra effort. This phase was completed and the interpretation phase begun at the end of February. The data volume is very large and includes a number of different kinds of interesting features and anomalies. The first phase interpretation included a gross structural interpretation of the deeper (pre-Wasatch Formation) rocks and a detailed interpretation of the shallower Wasatch. Two Wasatch wells have been staked on the basis of the initial interpretation. Each has one oil target and several gas/NGL targets. The first of these wells will commence drilling as soon as permitting is processed (we hope before the end of June).

Scheduled Milestones:

Complete processing	02/01
Interpretation at Black Coral LLC will begin	02/01
Interpretation completed	03/01
Spud first well	04/01

Accomplishments: We have demonstrated that a well-designed 3-D seismic survey, carefully acquired, can be processed to provide good to excellent quality data despite the topographic challenges and near surface reflector effects that have made many operators skeptical about the use of 3-D in this area. It is possible to see both gross and subtle structures (faults and folds) and such stratigraphic features as stream channels on the seismic. We hope to be able to say a great deal more about this after testing our interpretations with a drilling rig.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER:

Technology/Information Transfer: We anticipate that papers will be written discussing both the geophysical data processing and seismic exploration/geological aspects of the project. We have been negotiating with Landmark Graphics (Halliburton) in Denver to allow the use of the data set as a demonstration in their new Denver 3-D visualization center. This would involve a work commitment on their part, including additional specialized processing for AVO and attribute analysis. We would expect to present a joint paper at the AAPG meeting a year from now. Our arrangement with Landmark should allow generous use of the 3-D theater so that we can make effective presentations of the survey information to the DOE, Ute Tribe, the BIA, and other interested parties.

Public Relations: WRRC point of contact - Marc Eckels, 435-722-2546
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Updated By: **Marc T. Eckels**

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