

**U.S. Geological Survey  
Digital Data Series DDS-69-BB**

***National Oil and Gas Assessment Project:*  
Oil Shale Resources of the Uinta Basin, Utah and Colorado**

By U.S. Geological Survey Oil Shale Assessment Team

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## **Introduction**

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) recently completed a comprehensive assessment of in-place oil in oil shales of the Eocene Green River Formation of the Uinta Basin of eastern Utah and western Colorado. The oil shale interval was subdivided into eighteen roughly time-stratigraphic intervals, and each interval was assessed for variations in gallons per ton, barrels per acre, and total barrels in each township. The Radial Basis Function extrapolation method was used to generate isopach and isoresource maps, and to calculate resources. The total in-place resource for the Uinta Basin is estimated at 1.32 trillion barrels. This is only slightly lower than the estimated 1.53 trillion barrels for the adjacent Piceance Basin, Colorado, to the east, which is thought to be the richest oil shale deposit in the world. However, the area underlain by oil shale in the Uinta Basin is much larger than that of the Piceance Basin, and the average gallons per ton and barrels per acre values for each of the assessed oil shale zones are significantly lower in the depocenter in the Uinta Basin when compared to the Piceance Basin. These relations indicate that the oil shale resources in the Uinta Basin are of lower grade and are more dispersed than the oil shale resources of the Piceance Basin.

## **Contact Information**

This volume is one of a series of products resulting from the National Oil and Gas Project of the U.S. Geological Survey. Inquiries about this CD-ROM or the project should be addressed to:  
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## Using This CD

The descriptive and interpretive text chapters of this volume are in PDF format. Use Adobe Acrobat Reader, version 7.0 or later to access these chapters.

Contained on this CD-ROM are tabular data and graphical data in support of the assessment. The chapter text PDF contains links to the data and images. Data-table files in various formats are presented, usable in spreadsheet and database software. Graphical and summary-table files are presented as portable document format files (.pdf files) and spreadsheets.

GIS information is presented in the Spatial folder and its subfolders that contain the spatial data and documentation. The Spatial folder may be downloaded at DDS-69-BB in Spatial.zip.

The Spatial folder contains ArcView/ArcGIS shapefiles, GRIDs, TINs, and various tables in .dbf and .xls formats.

## Contents of This CD-ROM

When the CD-ROM is opened, the following folders appear on the screen:  
OPEN\_FIRST—from OPEN\_FIRST.pdf in this folder, navigate to the ReadMe file, assessment reports plus support data, and spatial data.  
READ\_ME—you can access the ReadMe file from this folder also.  
REPORTS—listing of, and links to, the chapters, plus the supporting data.  
SPATIAL—folder contains the Readme\_Spatial.pdf file for the GIS data that may be downloaded at DDS-69-BB in Spatial.zip.



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