

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TEXT TO ACCOMPANY:  
  
COAL RESOURCE OCCURRENCE  
  
AND  
  
COAL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL  
  
MAPS  
  
OF THE  
  
SCAPER RESERVOIR QUADRANGLE,  
  
CAMPBELL COUNTY, WYOMING

BY  
  
INTRASEARCH INC.  
  
DENVER, COLORADO

OPEN FILE REPORT 79-053  
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This report is preliminary, and has not been  
edited or reviewed for conformity with  
United States Geological Survey standards or  
stratigraphic nomenclature.

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# CONVERSION TABLE

<u>TO CONVERT</u>	<u>MULTIPLY BY</u>	<u>TO OBTAIN</u>
inches	2.54	centimeters (cm)
feet	0.3048	meters (m)
miles	1.609	kilometers (km)
acres	0.40469	hectares (ha)
tons (short)	0.9072	metric tons (t)
cubic yards/ton	0.8428	cubic meters per metric tons
acre feet	0.12335	hectare-meters
Btu/lb	2.326	kilojoules/kilogram (kJ/kg)
Btu/lb	0.55556	kilocalories/kilogram (kcal/kg)
Fahrenheit	$5/9 (F-32)$	Celsius

## I. Introduction

This report and accompanying maps set forth the Coal Resource Occurrence (CRO) and Coal Development Potential (CDP) of coal beds within the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming. This CRO and CDP map series (U. S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 79-053) includes 30 plates. The project is compiled by IntraSearch Inc., 5351 South Roslyn Street, Englewood, Colorado, under KRCRA Eastern Powder River Basin, Wyoming Contract Number 14-08-0001-17180. This contract is part of a program to provide an inventory of unleased federal coal in Known Recoverable Coal Resource Areas (KRCRAs) in the western United States.

The Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle is located in Campbell County, in northeastern Wyoming. It encompasses parts of Townships 47 and 48 North, Ranges 72 and 73 West, and covers the area: 44°00' to 44°07'30" north latitude; 105°30' to 105°37'30" west longitude.

Main access to the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle is provided by Bell Road, a light-duty road located in the northwestern quadrant, and by an unnamed light-duty road that traverses the north-central portion of the quadrangle. A network of minor roads and trails provides additional access to the area. The closest railroad is the Burlington Northern trackage approximately 8 miles (13 km) to the east.

Eastward-flowing Hoe Creek and its tributaries drain the central and southern portions of the quadrangle. Caballo Creek flows eastward across the northeastern quadrant. East of the quadrangle boundary, Hoe Creek drains into Caballo Creek, and Caballo Creek drains into the Belle Fourche River. Topographic elevations within the quadrangle vary from less than 4560 feet (1390 m) above sealevel in the valley of Caballo Creek to more than 5000 feet (1524 m) above sealevel in the southeastern quadrant near the southern boundary of the quadrangle.

The 13 to 14 inches (33 to 36 cm) of annual precipitation falling in this semi-arid region accrue principally in the springtime. Summer and fall precipitation usually originates from thunderstorms, and infrequent snowfalls of 6 inches (15 cm) or less generally characterize winter precipitation. Although temperatures ranging from less than -25°F (-32°C) to more than 100°F (38°C) have been recorded near Gillette, Wyoming, average wintertime minimums and summertime maximums range from +5° to +15°F (-15° to -9°C) and 75° to 90°F (24° to 32°C), respectively.

Surface ownership is divided among fee, state, and federal categories with the state and federal surface generally leased to ranchers for grazing purposes. Details of surface ownership are available at the Campbell County Courthouse in Gillette, Wyoming. Details of mineral ownership on federal lands are available from the U. S. Bureau of Land Management in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Federal coal ownership is shown on Plate 2 of the Coal Resource Occurrence maps. The non-federal coal ownership comprises both fee and state coal resources.

The Coal Resource Occurrence and Coal Development Potential program pertains to unleased federal coal and focuses upon the delineation of lignite, subbituminous coal, bituminous coal, and anthracite at the surface, and in the subsurface. In addition, the program identifies total tons of coal in place, as well as recoverable tons. These coal tonnages are then categorized into units of measured, indicated, and inferred reserves and resources, and hypothetical resources. Finally, recommendations are made regarding the potential for surface mining, underground mining, and in-situ gasification of the coal beds. This report evaluates the coal resources of all unleased federal coal beds in the quadrangle which are 5 feet (1.5 m) or greater in thickness and occur at depths down to 3000 feet (914 m). No resources or reserves are

computed for leased federal coal, state coal, fee coal, or lands encompassed by coal prospecting permits and preference-right lease applications.

Surface and subsurface geological and engineering extrapolations drawn from the current data base suggest the occurrence of approximately 11.9 billion tons (10.8 billion metric tons) of unleased federal coal resources in the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle.

The suite of maps that accompany this report sets forth and portrays the coal resource and reserve occurrence in considerable detail. For the most part, this report supplements the cartographically displayed information with minimum verbal duplication of the CRO-CDP map data.

## II. Geology

Regional. The thick, economic coal deposits of the Powder River Basin in northeastern Wyoming occur mostly in the Tongue River Member of the Fort Union Formation, and in the lower part of the Wasatch Formation. Approximately 3000 feet (914 m) of the Fort Union Formation, including the Tongue River, Lebo, and Tullock Members of Paleocene age, are unconformably overlain by approximately 700 feet (213 m) of the Wasatch Formation of Eocene age. These Tertiary formations lie in a structural basin flanked on the east by the Black Hills uplift, on the south by the Hartville and Casper Mountain uplifts, and on the west by the Casper Arch and the Big Horn Mountain uplift. The structural configuration of the Powder River Basin originated in Late Cretaceous time, with episodic uplift thereafter. The Cretaceous Cordillera was the dominant positive land form throughout the Rocky Mountain area at the close of Mesozoic time.



Outcrops of the Wasatch Formation and the Tongue River Member of the Fort Union Formation cover most of the areas of major coal resource occurrence in the Powder River Basin. The Tongue River Member is composed of very fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, claystones, shales, carbonaceous shales, and numerous coal beds. The Lebo Member of the Fort Union Formation consists of light- to dark-gray very fine-grained to conglomeratic sandstone with interbedded siltstone, claystone, carbonaceous shale and thin coal beds. Thin bedded calcareous ironstone concretions interbedded with massive white sandstone and slightly bentonitic shale occur throughout the unit (Denson and Horn, 1975). The Lebo Member is mapped at the surface northeast of Recluse, Wyoming. Here, the Lebo Member is east of the principal coal outcrops and associated clinkers (McKay, 1974), and it presumably projects into the subsurface beneath much of the basin. One of the principal characteristics for separating the Lebo and Tullock Members (collectively referred to as the Ludlow Member east of Miles City, Montana) from the overlying Tongue River Member is the color differential between the lighter-colored upper portion and the somewhat darker lower portion (Brown, 1958). Although geologists are trying to develop criteria for subsurface recognition of the Lebo-Tullock and Tongue River-Lebo contacts through the use of subsurface data from geophysical logs, no definitive guidelines are known to have been published. Hence, for subsurface mapping purposes, the Fort Union Formation is not divided into its members for this study.

During the Paleocene epoch, the Powder River Basin tropical to subtropical depositional environment included broad, inland flood basins with extensive swamps, marshes, freshwater lakes, and a sluggish, but active, northeastward-discharging drainage system. These features were

superimposed on an emerging sea floor, near base level. Much of the vast area where organic debris collected was within a reducing depositional environment. Localized uplifts began to disturb the near sea-level terrain of northeastern Wyoming following retreat of the Cretaceous seas. However, the extremely fine-grained characteristics of the Tongue River Member clastics suggest that areas of recurring uplift peripheral to the Powder River Basin were subdued during major coal deposit formation.

The uplift of areas surrounding the Powder River Basin created a structural basin of asymmetric character, with the steep west flank located on the eastern edge of the Big Horn Mountains. The axis of the Powder River Basin is difficult to specifically define, but it is thought to be located in the western part of the Basin and to display a north-south configuration some 15 to 20 miles (24 to 32 km) east of Sheridan, Wyoming. Thus, the sedimentary section described in this report lies on the east flank of the Powder River Basin, with gentle dips of two degrees or less disrupted by surface structure thought to relate to tectonic adjustment and differential compaction.

Some coal beds in the Powder River Basin exceed 200 feet (61 m) in thickness. Deposition of these thick, in-situ coal beds requires a delicate balance between subsidence of the earth's crust and in-filling by tremendous volumes of organic debris. These conditions in concert with a favorable ground water table, non-oxidizing clear water, and a climate amenable to the luxuriant growth of vegetation produce a stabilized swamp critical to the deposition of coal beds.

Deposition of the unusually thick coal beds of the Powder River Basin may be partially attributable to short-distance water transportation of organic detritus into areas of crustal subsidence.

Variations in coal bed thickness throughout the basin relate to changes in the depositional environment. Drill hole data that indicate either the complete absence or extreme attenuation of a thick coal bed probably relate to location of the drill holes within the ancient stream channel system draining this lowland area in Early Cenozoic time. Where thick coal beds thin rapidly from the depocenter of a favorable depositional environment, it is not unusual to encounter a synclinal structure over the maximum coal thickness due to the differential compaction between organic debris in the coal depocenter and fine-grained clastics in the adjacent areas.

The Wasatch Formation of Eocene age crops out over most of the central part of the Powder River Basin and exhibits a disconformable contact with the underlying Fort Union Formation. The contact has been placed at various horizons by different workers; however, for the purpose of this report, the contact is positioned near the top of the Roland coal bed as mapped by Olive (1957) in northwestern Campbell County, Wyoming, and it is considered to descend disconformably in the stratigraphic column to the top of the Wyodak-Anderson coal bed (Roland coal bed of Taff, 1909) along the eastern boundary of the coal measures. No attempt was made to differentiate the Wasatch and Fort Union Formations on geophysical logs or in the subsurface mapping program for this project.

Although Wasatch and Fort Union lithologies are too similar to allow differentiation in some areas, most of the thicker coal beds occur in the Fort Union section on the east flank of the Powder River Basin. Furthermore, orogenic movements peripheral to the basin apparently increased in magnitude during Wasatch time causing the deposition of friable, coarse-grained to gritty, arkosic sandstones, fine- to very

fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, claystones, brown-to-black carbonaceous shales, and coal beds. These sediments are noticeably to imperceptibly coarser than the underlying Fort Union clastics.

The Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle is located in an area where surface rocks are classified within the Wasatch Formation. Olive (1957) correlated coal beds in the Spotted Horse coal field with coal beds in the Sheridan coal field (Baker, 1929) and Gillette coal field (Dobbin and Barnett, 1927), Wyoming, and with coal beds in the Ashland coal field (Bass, 1932) in southeastern Montana. This report utilizes, where possible, the coal bed nomenclature used in previous reports. The Felix coal bed was named by Stone and Lupton (1910) and the Smith coal bed was named by Taff (1909). Baker (1929) assigned names to the Anderson, Canyon and Wall coal beds. The Cook coal bed was named by Bass (1932), and the Pawnee coal bed was named by Warren (1959).

IntraSearch's correlation of thick coal beds from the Spotted Horse coal field to Gillette points out that the Wyodak coal bed, named the "D" coal bed by Dobbin and Barnett (1927), is equivalent to the Anderson, Canyon and all or part of the Cook coal beds to the north and west of Gillette, Wyoming. Correlation of this suite of coal beds with the Wyodak coal bed, south and southwest of Gillette, suggest that the Anderson and Canyon coal beds equate with the upper 10 to 25 percent of the thick Wyodak coal bed, and the Cook and Wall, or Upper Wall, coal beds are equivalent to the major part of the Wyodak coal bed. Due to problematic correlations outside of the Gillette area, the name Wyodak has been informally used by many previous authors to represent the coal beds in the area surrounding the Wyodak coal mine. The Wildcat, Moyer, and Oedekoven coal beds were informally named by IntraSearch (1978b, 1979, and 1978a).

Local. The Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle lies on the eastern flank of the Powder River Basin, where the strata dip gently westward. The Wasatch Formation crops out over the entire quadrangle, and is comprised of friable, coarse-grained to gritty, arkosic sandstones, fine- to very fine-grained sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, claystones, brown-to-black carbonaceous shales, and coal beds.

### III. Data Sources

Areal geology of the coal outcrops and associated clinker is derived from the Geologic Map of the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle (Grazis, 1977).

Geophysical logs from oil and gas test bores and producing wells comprise the source of subsurface control. Some geophysical logs are not applicable to this study, for the logs relate only to the deep, potentially productive oil and gas zones. More than 80 percent of the logs include resistivity, conductivity, and self-potential curves. Occasionally the suite of geophysical logs includes gamma, density, and sonic curves. These logs are available from several commercial sources.

All geophysical logs available in the quadrangle are scanned to select those with data applicable to Coal Resource Occurrence mapping. Paper copies of the logs are obtained and interpreted, and coal intervals are annotated. Maximum accuracy of coal bed identification is accomplished where gamma, density, and resistivity curves are available. Coal bed tops and bottoms are picked on the logs at the midpoint between the minimum and maximum curve deflections. The correlation of coal beds within and between quadrangles is achieved utilizing a fence diagram to associate local correlations with regional coal occurrences.

In some parts of the Powder River Basin, additional subsurface control is available from U. S. Geological Survey open-file reports that

include geophysical and lithologic logs of shallow holes drilled specifically for coal exploration. A sparse scattering of subsurface data points are shown on unpublished CRO-CDP maps compiled by the U. S. Geological Survey, and where these data are utilized, the rock-coal intervals are shown on the Coal Data Map (Plate 1). Inasmuch as these drill holes have no identifier headings, they are not set forth on the Coal Data Sheet (Plate 3). The geophysical logs of these drill holes were not available to IntraSearch to ascertain the accuracy of horizontal location, topographic elevation, and downhole data interpretation.

The reliability of correlations, set forth by IntraSearch in this report, varies depending on: the density and quality of lithologic and geophysical logs; the detail, thoroughness, and accuracy of published and unpublished surface geological maps; and interpretative proficiency. There is no intent on the part of IntraSearch to refute nomenclature established in the literature or used locally by workers in the area. IntraSearch's nomenclature focuses upon the suggestion of regional coal bed names applicable throughout the eastern Powder River Basin. It is expected, and entirely reasonable, that some differences of opinion regarding correlations, as suggested by IntraSearch, exist. Additional drilling for coal, oil, gas, water, and uranium, coupled with expanded mapping of coal bed outcrops and associated clinkers will broaden the data base for coal bed correlations and allow continued improvement in the understanding of coal bed occurrences in the eastern Powder River Basin.

The topographic map of the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle is published by the U. S. Geological Survey, compilation date 1971. Land network and mineral ownership data are compiled from land plats available from the U. S. Bureau of Land Management in Cheyenne, Wyoming. This information is current to October 13, 1977.

#### IV. Coal Bed Occurrence

Wasatch and Fort Union Formation coal beds or coal zones that are present in all or part of the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle include, in descending stratigraphic order, the Felix and Smith coal beds, the Wyodak coal zone, the Pawnee coal bed, an unnamed local coal bed, and the Wildcat-Moyer-Oedekoven coal zone. A complete suite of maps (structure, coal isopach, overburden isopach, identified-and, where applicable, hypothetical-resources, and areal distribution of identified resources) is prepared for each of these coal beds or coal zones, except the local coal bed, where insufficient areal extent precludes detailed mapping. Mining ratio contours are presented on the isopach maps of the Felix and Smith coal beds and the Wyodak coal zone. Interburden contours are presented on the overburden isopach maps of the Felix and Smith coal beds.

Within the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle physical and chemical analyses have been published only for the Felix coal bed. The general "as received" basis proximate analyses for the Felix coal bed in the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle and other coal beds elsewhere in Campbell County are as follows:

COAL BED NAME		ASH %	FIXED CARBON %	MOISTURE %	VOLATILES %	SULFUR %	BTU/LB
Felix	(U) Hole 7315	6.757	32.934	28.714	31.595	0.548	8093
Upper Smith	(U) Hole 7312C	16.323	29.797	25.376	28.503	2.598	7273
Lower Smith	(U) Hole 7312C	6.167	33.340	29.610	30.883	1.068	8215
Wyodak	(U) Hole 755	4.438	35.522	27.405	32.719	0.207	8568
Pawnee	(U) Hole 7424	7.880	31.029	31.910	29.183	0.386	7344

(U) - U. S. Geological Survey & Montana Bureau of Mines & Geology - 1973, 1974, and 1976.

The Coal Data Sheet, Plate 3, shows the downhole identification of coal beds within the quadrangle as interpreted from geophysical logs from oil and gas test bores and from producing sites. A datum coal bed is utilized to position columnar sections on Plate 3. This portrayal is schematic by design, hence, no structural or coal thickness implications are suggested by the dashed correlation lines projected through no record (NR) intervals. Inasmuch as the Wyodak coal zone underlies the entire quadrangle, it is designated as datum for the correlation diagram. The uppermost coal bed in the Wyodak coal zone shows the thickest single coal bed occurrence within the quadrangle. The Felix and Smith coal beds are relatively thin. The coal beds in the Wildcat-Moyer-Oedekoven coal zone show moderate coal thickness.

Eroded from approximately 30 percent of the study area, the Felix coal bed crops out in the northeastern and east-central portions of the quadrangle. The Felix coal bed attains maximum thicknesses of more than 40 feet (12 m) in the northwestern quadrant. The non-coal interburden within the Felix coal bed ranges from 0 to 77 feet (0 to 23 m) thick. The Felix coal bed dips one to two degrees to the west. The Felix coal bed lies from 0 to slightly more than 400 feet (122 m) beneath the surface throughout the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle.

The Smith coal bed occurs approximately 280 to 291 feet (85 to 89 m) below the Felix coal bed. The Smith coal bed ranges from less than 5 feet (1.5 m) to more than 30 feet (9 m) in thickness. The thickness of interburden within the Smith coal bed varies from 0 to 153 feet (0 to 47 m). Structural contours drawn on top of the Smith coal bed indicate minor flexures superimposed upon a westward dip of less than two degrees. The Smith coal bed lies from less than 100 feet (30 m) to greater than 500 feet (152 m) beneath the surface of the quadrangle.



A non-coal interval ranging from 182 feet (55 m) to more than 280 feet (85 m) thick separates the Wyodak coal zone from the overlying Smith coal bed. The Wyodak coal zone consists of a thick upper coal bed and as many as four thin lower coal beds. With a minimum of less than 70 feet of coal (21 m) in the northeastern corner, the composite thickness of coal beds in the Wyodak coal zone attains a maximum thickness of more than 140 feet (43 m) in the west-central portion of the quadrangle. The structure contour map of the Wyodak coal zone is dominated by a broad northwestward-plunging syncline which extends from the southeastern to the northwestern corners of the quadrangle. The Wyodak coal zone lies at depths from less than 500 feet (152 m) to greater than 1000 feet (305 m) beneath the surface of Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle.

The Pawnee coal bed occurs approximately 149 to 429 feet (45 to 131 m) below the Wyodak coal zone. The thickness of the Pawnee coal bed varies from 0 feet (0 m) throughout approximately 10 percent of the study area near the eastern quadrangle boundary to more than 22 feet (7 m) along the western quadrangle boundary. The Pawnee coal bed dips one to two degrees to the west. The overburden above the Pawnee coal bed ranges from less than 1000 feet (305 m) to greater than 1500 feet (457 m).

The Wildcat-Moyer-Oedekoven coal zone lies approximately 340 to 388 feet (104 to 118 m) beneath the Wyodak coal zone. The combined thickness of coal beds in the Wildcat-Moyer-Oedekoven coal zone ranges from less than 35 feet (11 m) to more than 65 feet (20 m). Minimum thicknesses occur in the northwestern and southwestern corners, and maximum thicknesses occur in the east-central portions of the quadrangle. Structure contours drawn on top of the Wildcat-Moyer-Oedekoven coal zone indicate a westward dip of one to two degrees. The Wildcat-Moyer-Oedekoven coal zone lies from less than 1250 feet (381 m) to greater than 1750 feet (533 m) below the surface.

V. Geological and Engineering Mapping Parameters

The correct horizontal location and elevation of drill holes utilized in subsurface mapping are critical to map accuracy. IntraSearch Inc., plots the horizontal location of the drill hole as described on the geophysical log heading. Occasionally this location is superimposed on or near to a drillsite shown on the topographic map, and the topographic map, horizontal location is utilized. If the ground elevation on the geophysical log does not agree with the topographic elevation of the drillsite, the geophysical log ground elevation is adjusted to conformance. If there is no indication of a drillsite on the topographic map, the "quarter, quarter, quarter" heading location is shifted within a small area until the ground elevation on the heading agrees with the topographic map elevation. If no elevation agreement can be reached, the well heading or data sheet is rechecked for footage measurements and ground elevation accuracy. Inquiries to the companies who provided the oil and gas geophysical logs frequently reveal that corrections have been made in the original survey. If all horizontal location data sources have been checked and the information accepted as the best available data, the drillsite elevation on the geophysical log is modified to agree with the topographic map elevation. IntraSearch Inc., considers this agreement mandatory for the proper construction of most subsurface maps, but in particular, the overburden isopach, the mining ratio, and Coal Development Potential maps.

Subsurface mapping is based on geologic data within, and adjacent, to the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle area. Data from geophysical logs are used to correlate coal beds and control contour lines for the coal thickness, structure, and overburden maps. Structure contour maps are constructed on the tops of the main coal beds. Where subsurface data

are scarce, supplemental structural control points are selected from the topographic map along coal outcrops.

In preparing overburden isopach maps, no attempt is made to identify coal beds that occur in the overburden to a particular coal bed under study. Mining ratio maps for this quadrangle are constructed utilizing a 95 percent recovery factor. Contours of these maps identify the ratio of cubic yards of overburden to tons of recoverable coal. Where ratio control points are sparse, interpolated points are computed at the intersections of coal bed and overburden isopach contours using coal structure, coal isopach, and topographic control. On the Areal Distribution of Identified Resources Map (ADIR), coal bed reserves are not calculated where the coal is less than 5 feet (1.5 m) thick, where the coal occurs at a depth greater than 500 feet (152 m), where non-federal coal exists, or where federal coal leases, preference-right lease applications, and coal prospecting permits exist.

Coal tonnage calculations involve the planimetering of areas of measured, indicated, inferred reserves and resources, and hypothetical resources to determine their areal extent in acres. An Insufficient Data Line is drawn to delineate areas where surface and subsurface data are too sparse for CRO map construction. Various categories of resources are calculated in the unmapped areas by utilizing coal bed thicknesses mapped in the geologically controlled area adjacent to the insufficient data line. Acres are multiplied by the average coal bed thickness and 1750, or 1770--the number of tons of lignite A or sub-bituminous C coal per acre-foot, respectively (12,874 or 13,018 metric tons per hectare-meter, respectively), to determine total tons in place. Recoverable tonnage is calculated at 95 percent of the total tons in place. Where tonnages are computed for the CRO-CDP map series, re-

sources and reserves are expressed in millions of tons. Frequently the planimetering of coal resources on a sectionized basis involves complexly curvilinear lines (coal bed outcrop and 500-foot stripping limit designations) in relationship with linear section boundaries and circular resource category boundaries. Where these relationships occur, generalizations of complexly curvilinear lines are discretely utilized, and resources and/or reserves are calculated within an estimated 2 to 3 percent, plus or minus, accuracy.

VI. Coal Development Potential

Strippable Coal Development Potential. Areas where coal beds are 5 feet (1.5 m) or more in thickness and are overlain by 500 feet (152 m) or less of overburden are considered to have potential for surface mining and are assigned a high, moderate, or low development potential based on the mining ratio (cubic yards of overburden per ton of recoverable coal). The formula used to calculate mining ratios for subbituminous coal is as follows:

$$MR = \frac{to (0.911) *}{tc (rf)}$$

where MR = mining ratio  
to = thickness of overburden  
tc = thickness of coal  
rf = recovery factor  
0.911\* = conversion factor (cu. yds./ton)

\*A conversion factor of 0.922 is used for lignite.

A surface mining development potential map (Plate 29) was prepared utilizing the following mining ratio criteria for coal beds 5 to 40 feet (1.5 to 12 m) thick:

1. Low development potential = 15:1 and greater ratio.
2. Moderate development potential = 10:1 to 15:1 ratio.
3. High development potential = 0 to 10:1 ratio.

The following mining ratio criteria are utilized for coal beds greater than 40 feet (12 m) thick:

1. Low development potential = 7:1 and greater ratio.
2. Moderate development potential = 5:1 to 7:1 ratio.
3. High development potential = 0 to 5:1 ratio.

The surface mining development potential is high for approximately 60 percent of the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle due to the thickness of the Felix coal bed and the thinness of the overburden above it. Moderate to low surface mining development potential covers approximately 20 percent of the quadrangle. The moderate to low surface mining development areas are located primarily in the northeastern quadrant where the Felix coal bed is eroded. The remaining 10 percent of the study area is non-federal coal land. Table 1 sets forth the estimated strippable reserve base and hypothetical resources tonnages per coal bed for the quadrangle.

Underground Mining Coal Development Potential. Subsurface coal mining potential throughout the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle is considered low. Inasmuch as recovery factors have not been established for the underground development of coal beds in this quadrangle, reserves are not calculated for coal beds that occur more than 500 feet (152 m) beneath the surface. Table 2 sets forth the estimated coal resources in tons per coal bed.

In-Situ Gasification Coal Development Potential. The evaluation of subsurface coal deposits for in-situ gasification potential relates to the occurrence of coal beds more than 5 feet (1.5 m) thick buried from 500 to 3000 feet (152 to 914 m) beneath the surface. This categorization is as follows:

1. Low development potential relates to: 1) a total coal section less than 100 feet (30 m) thick that lies 1000 feet (305 m) to 3000 feet (914 m) beneath the surface, or 2) a coal bed or coal zone 5 feet (1.5 m) or more in thickness which lies 500 feet (152 m) to 1000 feet (305 m) beneath the surface.

2. Moderate development potential is assigned to a total coal section from 100 to 200 feet (30 to 61 m) thick, and buried from 1000 to 3000 feet (305 to 914 m) beneath the surface.

3. High development potential involves 200 feet (61 m) or more of total coal thickness buried from 1000 to 3000 feet (305 to 914 m).

An in-situ gasification coal development potential map (Plate 30) is prepared using the above criteria. The coal development potential for in-situ gasification is high to moderate for approximately 25 percent of the study area. The high to moderate potential area is located along the western quadrangle boundary, and it results from the increased thickness and depth of occurrence of the Wyodak coal zone. The remainder of the quadrangle is either non-federal coal land or leased federal coal land. Table 3 sets forth the estimated coal resource tonnages for in-situ gasification coal development potential within the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle.

Table 1.--Strippable Coal Reserve Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons) for Federal Coal Lands in the Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.

Development potentials are based on mining ratios (cubic yards of overburden/ton of recoverable coal).

Coal Bed	High Development Potential (0-10:1 Mining Ratio)	Moderate Development Potential (10:1-15:1 Mining Ratio)	Low Development Potential ( >15:1 Mining Ratio)	Total
<u>RESERVE BASE</u>				
Felix	1,123,860,000	71,450,000	-----	1,195,310,000
Smith	42,330,000	251,580,000	427,560,000	721,470,000
	<u>(0-5:1 Mining Ratio)</u>	<u>(5:1-7:1 Mining Ratio)</u>	<u>(&gt;7:1 Mining Ratio)</u>	
Wyodak	-----	49,430,000	142,710,000	192,140,000
TOTAL	1,166,190,000	372,460,000	570,270,000	2,108,920,000
<u>HYPOTHETICAL RESOURCE</u>				
Felix	-----	-----	6,990,000	6,990,000
Smith	-----	-----	83,890,000	83,890,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	90,880,000	90,880,000
GRAND TOTAL	1,166,190,000	372,460,000	661,150,000	2,199,800,000

Table 2.--Coal Resource Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons)  
for Underground Mining Methods for Federal Coal Lands in the  
Scaper Reservoir Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.

Coal Bed Name	High Development Potential	Moderate Development Potential	Low Development Potential	Total
<u>RESOURCE BASE</u>				
Smith	-----	-----	334,610,000	334,610,000
Wyodak	-----	-----	5,669,820,000	5,669,820,000
Pawnee	-----	-----	613,690,000	613,690,000
Wildcat- Moyer-Oedekoven	-----	-----	2,829,480,000	2,829,480,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	9,447,600,000	9,447,600,000
<u>HYPOTHETICAL RESOURCES</u>				
Smith	-----	-----	157,810,000	157,810,000
TOTAL	-----	-----	9,605,410,000	9,605,410,000



Table 3.--Coal Resource Base and Hypothetical Resource Data (in short tons)  
for In-Situ Gasification for Federal Coal Lands in the Scaper  
Reservoir Quadrangle, Campbell County, Wyoming.

Coal Bed Name	High Development Potential	Moderate Development Potential	Low Development Potential	Total
<u>RESOURCE BASE</u>				
	37,610,000	1,796,860,000	7,613,130,000	9,447,600,000
<u>HYPOTHETICAL RESOURCE</u>				
	-----	-----	157,810,000	157,810,000
 TOTAL	 37,610,000	 1,796,860,000	 7,770,940,000	 9,605,410,000

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