

Geothermal Exploration and Development on National Forests

Forest Service Roles and
Responsibilities

Types of land

- On Lease

- Federal geothermal lease issued by the BLM

- Off Lease

- National Forest System Lands not covered by a federal geothermal lease
- Or on someone else's lease

Types of Activity

- Exploration
 - Surface work
 - Drilling
 - Temperature gradient wells
 - Core holes
- Development
 - Surface work
 - Drilling

Exploration Off-Lease



Forest Service
approves
surface work

Exploration Off-Lease



Forest Service
approves
drilling to
2,000'

Exploration on Regular Leases



BLM approves surface work

Exploration on Regular Leases



BLM approves
drilling activity

Exploration on Monument affected leases

FS approves surface work



Exploration on Monument affected leases

BLM
approves
drilling



Geothermal Development on Regular Leases

- BLM approves surface work
- FS advises on surface work
- BLM approves drilling activities



Geothermal development on Monument affected leases



FS approves
surface work

Development on Monument affected leases

BLM approves
drilling



Exploration versus Development wells



Other Forest Service roles

■ Reclamation

- Forest Service advises BLM of reclamation requirements
- Forest Service monitors reclamation activity
- Forest Service notifies BLM with reclamation requirements are met

Other Forest Service roles

■ Bonding

- Advises BLM if bond amounts are adequate
- Provides BLM with justification for bond amount increases
- Notifies BLM when Forest Service-requested reclamation is complete; one component of releasing the bond