

**BLM Nevada News**

ELKO DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 2013-023

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**Noble Energy proposes seismic surveys on public land**

ELKO, Nev. – The Bureau of Land Management, Elko District, Tuscarora Field Office is seeking public input on a proposal by Noble Energy (Noble) to conduct 3D seismic surveys in the Huntington Valley and Jiggs area of Elko County, southeast of Elko for its oil and gas exploration lease.

The purpose of the 3-D seismic program is to gain a better understanding of the subsurface geology to determine if there is oil and gas potential and to determine the best locations for exploratory drilling. The proposed project will also provide information allowing identification of subsurface features that could impede drilling. Without the 3-D seismic program, the exploratory program would require significantly more exploratory wells. The seismic program reduces the exploratory drilling footprint that would otherwise be required and serves to narrow the areas within which Noble may propose to conduct exploratory drilling. Seismic data collection, recording, and cleanup are proposed to begin in September 2013 and would last for approximately 100 days.

The BLM is seeking input from members of the public interested in oil and gas exploration in the project area. All comments must be received by the Tuscarora Field Office by close of business on Feb. 8th. Comments may be mailed to 3900 E. Idaho St., Elko NV 89801, faxed to (775) 753-0255, or e-mailed to Tom Schmidt, project lead, at [tschmidt@blm.gov](mailto:tschmidt@blm.gov).

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comments received may be used to develop alternatives to be considered in the preparation of an environmental analysis to be prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. To review the project and map, please visit our website at [www.blm.gov/rv5c](http://www.blm.gov/rv5c) under ‘NEPA, projects under National Environmental Policy Act review.’

-BLM-

## **Project Description**

**Proposed Action: Noble Energy Seismic Survey (Huntington Valley)**

**Proposed by: BLM, Tuscarora Field Office**

**Project Lead: Tom Schmidt**

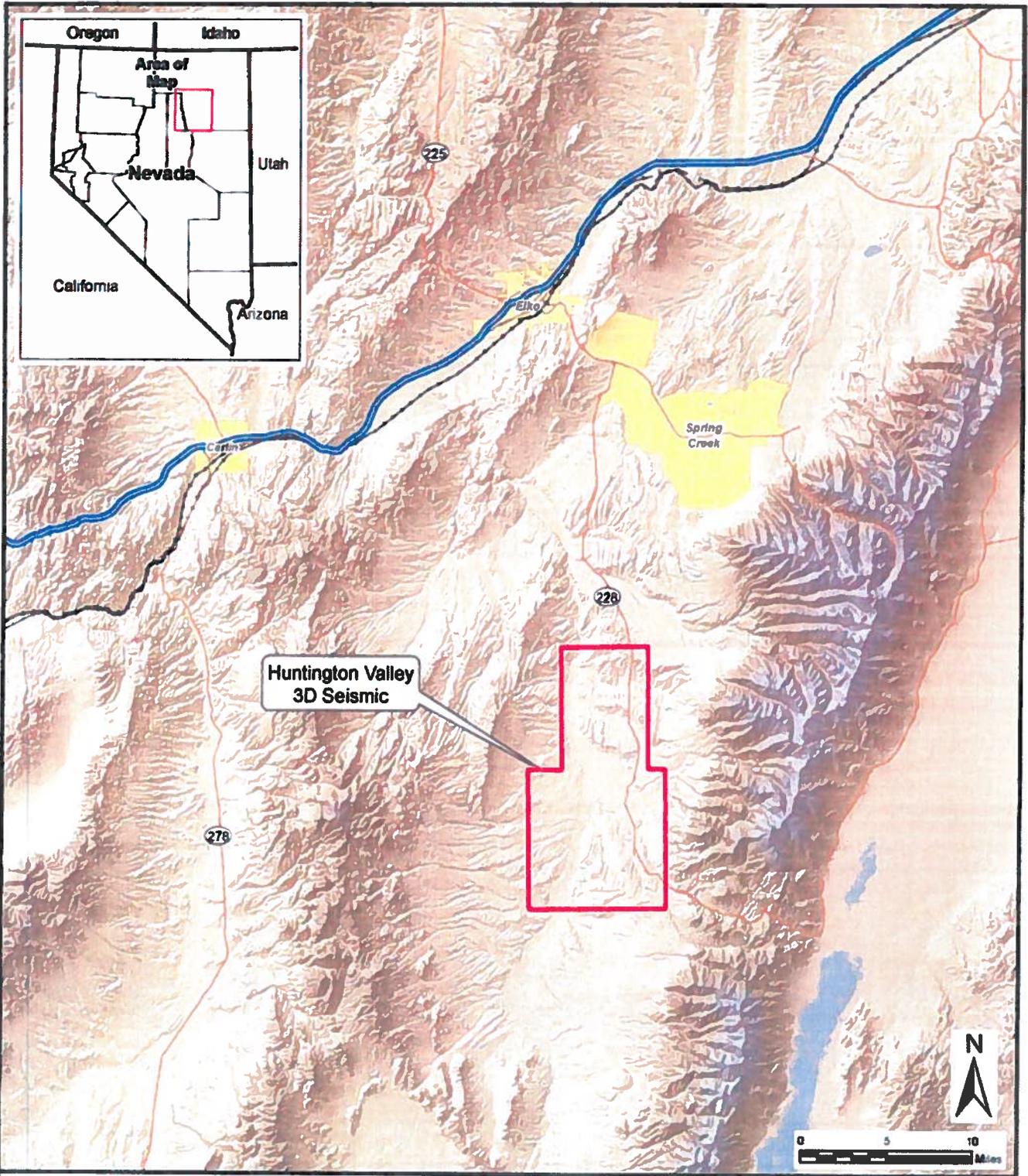
**General Location: (Attached map)**

### **Describe project in simplest form**

Noble Energy, Inc. (Noble) proposes to conduct a 3-D seismic program (Project) in the Huntington Valley and Jiggs area of Elko County, southeast of Elko, Nevada (see Map 1). Noble owns both private and federal mineral leases in the Project. The surface ownership in this area consists of both lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and private lands.

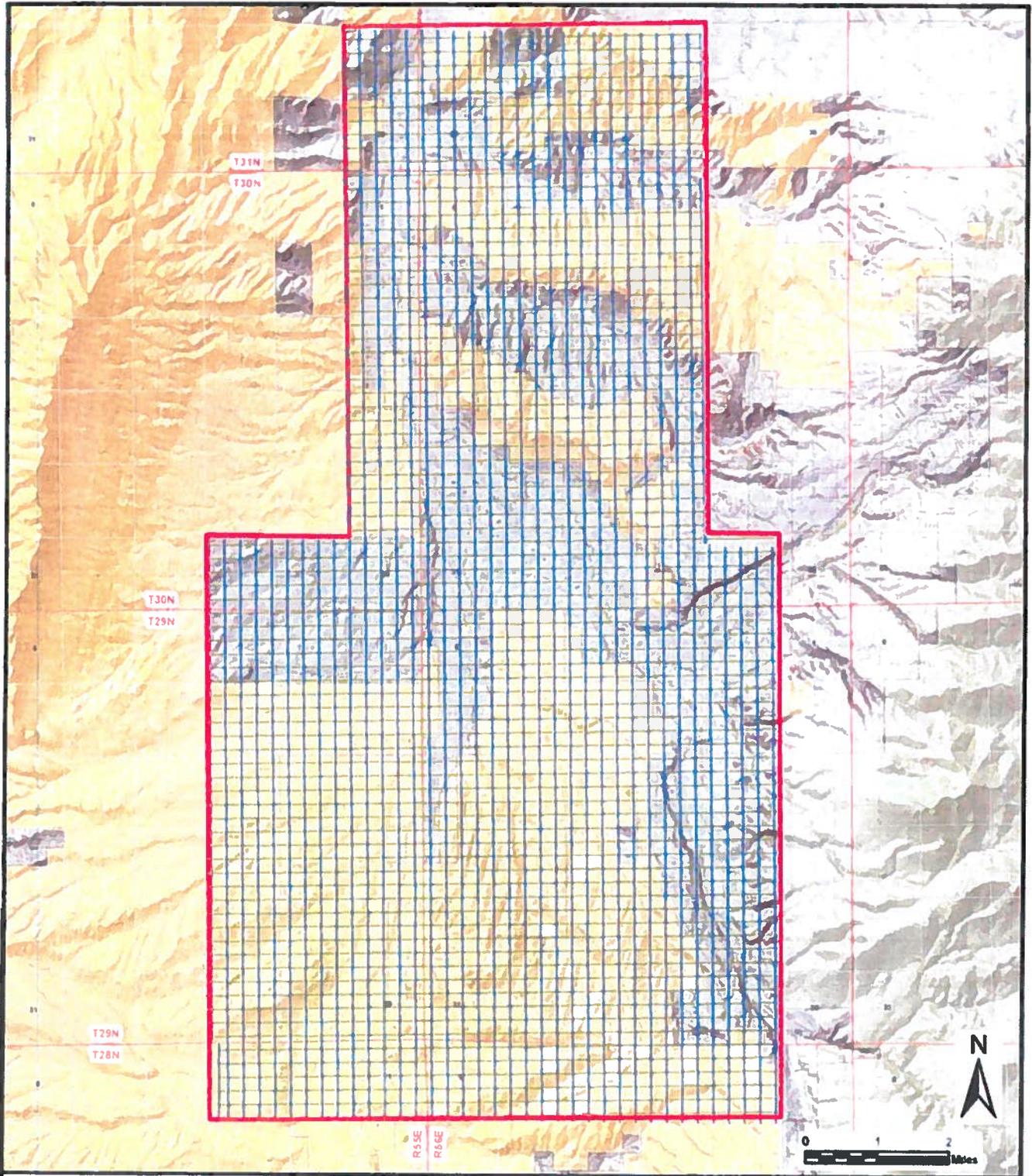
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As directed by the BLM, Noble has conducted and is currently planning to conduct biological and cultural surveys of the project area along the proposed source and receiver lines, where vehicular traffic is proposed. Survey work is expected to be completed by May of 2013. Seismic data collection, recording, and cleanup are proposed to begin in September 2013 and would last for approximately 100 days. The Project includes the use of vibroseis units as the energy source. The potential need for the use of shot holes (with dynamite) is not anticipated but will not be determined until after the seismic source line location survey is complete.



### Map 1

General Location  
Huntington Valley 3D Seismic



**Legend**

- Sources Preliminary
- Receiver Preliminary
- ▭ Area Boundary
- ▭ Bureau of Land Management

**Map 2**

Detailed Location  
Huntington Valley 30 Seismic