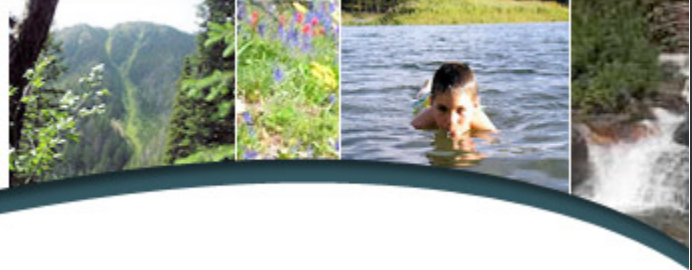


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PROTECTING THE WATER, WILDLIFE AND OUTDOOR HERITAGE OF THE CROWN OF THE CONTINENT.



BP announced it would voluntarily relinquish 1853 acres of dormant oil and gas leases in the North Fork and West Glacier Area, bringing total lease retirement to over 80 percent ~ a huge step in permanently protecting the North Fork.

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BP Gives Up North Fork Oil & Gas Leases

November 24, 2010

Dear [member_name_first]:

Senators Max Baucus and Jon Tester announced November 19 that BP has agreed to not pursue further oil and gas development on leases it holds near Montana's North Fork of the Flathead River, including one property located at the entrance of Glacier National Park. BP reached its decision after discussions with Baucus and Tester, the latest in a series of made by energy development companies to voluntarily retire leases in the watershed. To date, the primary interest in more than 200,000 acres of leases, or about 80 percent of all leases, has been relinquished *at no cost to the American taxpayers.*

"In Montana, our outdoor heritage is in our blood-- camping, hiking, hunting and fishing are a way of life. We have a responsibility to leave our state in even better shape that we found it so future generations can carry on this legacy," Baucus said. **"Permanently protecting the North Fork for our kids and grandkids has been one of my biggest priorities for many years and today's decision by BP is another step toward that goal."**



“This is another right decision to keep this corner of Montana the way it was meant to be without costing taxpayers one penny,” Tester said. “Over the past year we’ve come a long way in making sure this landscape remains one of the world’s most famous outdoor places prized for its wildlife, fish and clean water. ”

The senators helped finalize an agreement by BP to



What's Worth Protecting?

**Wild Wildlife
&
Their Connected Habitat**



What's Worth Protecting?

**Wilderness Recreation
&
Montana's Outdoors Tradition**



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Donate today to help us meet these fundraising challenges. Call us at 406-837-0783 if you'd like to discuss your donation. ~ Thank you!

Click [here](#) or on the Donate Now! button to make an on-line donation. ~**Thank you!**

2010 Oil & Gas Lease Retirement Timeline

- March 4: Baucus and Tester introduce S. 3075, the North Fork Watershed Protection Act of 2010.
- April 28: ConocoPhillips voluntarily relinquishes its interest in 108 federal oil and gas leases covering approximately 169,000 acres in the region.
- June 2: Chevron voluntarily relinquishes its interest in four leases covering approximately 11,121 acres.
- June 28: At Baucus and Tester's request, President Obama discusses cooperative efforts to protect the North Fork with Canadian Prime Minister Harper.
- July 14: Anadarko voluntarily relinquishes its interest in eight leases, jointly owned with ConocoPhillips, covering 24,111.57 acres.
- July 14: Allen and Kirmse, Ltd. voluntarily relinquishes its interest in 50 leases, jointly owned with ConocoPhillips covering 50,889 acres.
- August 5: Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee passes S. 3075, the North Fork Watershed Protection Act of 2010.
- Sept. 9: XTO Energy, a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil Corporation, voluntarily relinquishes its interest in 11 leases covering 21,000 acres.
- Nov. 19: BP voluntarily relinquishes its interest in three leases, covering 1852.91 acres, including land at the entrance of Glacier National Park

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