

DUNLAP DWIGHT L  
 Form 4  
 February 16, 2012

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 DUNLAP DWIGHT L  
  
 (Last) (First) (Middle)  
 601 JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 3600  
  
 (Street)  
 HOUSTON, TX 77002  
  
 (City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 NATURAL RESOURCE PARTNERS LP [NRP]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/14/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 \_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 CFO and Treasurer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 \_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Units					20,836	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
						Code	V	(A)	(D)
Phantom Units <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>					02/22/2012	02/22/2012	Common Units	7,000
Phantom Units <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>					02/12/2013	02/12/2013	Common Units	8,000
Phantom Units <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>					02/11/2014	02/11/2014	Common Units	8,000
Phantom Units <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>					02/10/2015	02/10/2015	Common Units	9,000
Phantom Units <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>(2)</u> <u>(3)</u>	02/14/2012		A	10,000	02/14/2016	02/14/2016	Common Units	10,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
DUNLAP DWIGHT L 601 JEFFERSON STREET, SUITE 3600 HOUSTON, TX 77002			CFO and Treasurer	

## Signatures

Dwight L. Dunlap 02/16/2012

     \*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The phantom units were granted to the reporting person under the issuer's long term incentive plan.
- (2) The phantom units will be paid in cash based on the average closing price of the common units for the 20 trading days immediately preceding the date of vesting.
- (3) Award includes tandem distribution equivalent rights pursuant to which the quarterly distributions paid by the partnership on each unit will be accrued over the vesting period and paid on vesting.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.