

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Nevada State Office
P.O. Box 12000
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

In Reply Refer To:
6844/9015 (NV-930) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 10/27/99
Information Bulletin No. NV-2000-008

To: Field Managers, Nevada

From: Deputy State Director, Resources, Lands, and Planning

Subject: Sage Grouse/Sagebrush Steppe Conference

DD: 10/29/99

On November 17-18, Nevada will be hosting the regional Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat Conference. To coincide with the regional conference, we have scheduled a Nevada sage grouse coordination meeting for Tuesday, November 16 at the Nevada State Office beginning at 1 p.m. in the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service's conference room. The target audience for the state coordination meeting is Field Managers, Assistant Field Managers for Renewable Resources, and a wildlife staff representative. The draft agenda for the meeting is attached.

The regional Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat conference is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17 at the Reno Sparks Convention Center (Room B7). The purpose of this conference is to get representatives from states affected by the potential listing of sage grouse together to share information and coordinate conservation efforts. I have attached a copy of IB 2000-015 which provides additional details and the draft agenda for the conference.

NV-930 will coordinate Nevada's response to IB 2000-015 in relation to the request for participants. The number of participants to be allowed from each state will be determined later this week. I am requesting each field office submit the information required in Attachment 3 to IB 2000-015 for those individuals you would like to have attend the conference to Dave Pulliam no later than the close of business on Friday, October 29. Once the number of participants by state has been identified, Nevada's participants will be identified. At that time, each participant will be notified individually.

Should you have any questions concerning either the Nevada sage grouse coordination meeting or the regional Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat conference, please contact Dave Pulliam at (775) 861-6471.

Signed By;
Michael R. Holbert
Acting DSD, NRL&P

Authenticated By:
Deborah Spitale
Staff Assistant

2 Attachments

1. Draft Agenda - NV Sage Grouse Coordination Meeting (1 p)
2. WO-IB-No. 2000-015 (6 pp)

Nevada Sage Grouse Coordination Meeting

November 16, 1999

U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service Conference Room

Draft Agenda

1:00 PM	Introduction	Bob Abbey
1:30 PM	Status of Regional Coordination	Dave Pulliam
2:00 PM	Conservation Assessment and Planning in Nevada	Terry Crawford
2:30 PM	Break	
3:00 PM	Roles in Conservation Assessment and Planning	Group Discussion
4:30 PM	Adjourn	

Attachment 1

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 22, 1999

In Reply Refer To:
6844/9015 (230) P

EMS TRANSMISSION 10/25/99
Information Bulletin No. 2000-015

To: State Directors (CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT & WY), D-NARSC and D-NIFC

From: Assistant Director, Renewable Resources and Planning

Subject: Conference on Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat DD: 10/29/99

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) offices and State Fish and Wildlife Agencies in nine western states are involved in developing conservation strategies for sage grouse and sagebrush habitat. Representatives from these offices and agencies need to meet to coordinate their conservation efforts because of the interstate nature of the issues.

A Bureau of Land Management Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat Conference will be held in Reno, Nevada on November 17-18, 1999. The conference will be held at the Reno Sparks Convention Center (Room B7). The purpose of the conference is to get representatives from states affected by the potential listing of sage grouse together to share information and coordinate conservation efforts between states and State agencies.

The workshop is intended to include BLM managers and field specialists, State Wildlife Management agency personnel, and US Fish and Wildlife Service staff who are involved in developing conservation strategies for sage grouse, and restoration planning for sagebrush habitat. It is recommended that each state consider sending two managers and representatives from each of the following programs: a wildlife biologist to share what is going on in your state (Attachment 1), a range specialist, botanist, fire specialist, planner, a minerals specialist if appropriate, and GIS coordinator. A copy of the proposed agenda is attached (Attachment 2).

Participants need to send the information requested in Attachment 3 to Richard Mealberry, WO-220, (202) 452-7750 by October 29, 1999, to supply necessary information for the cost analysis required for meeting approval by the Assistant Secretary.

A block of rooms has been reserved for November 16, 17, and 18, departing on November 19 at the Atlantis Hotel and Casino just across the street from the meeting site. The hotel has a shuttle to and from the airport on the half-hour. The room rate is \$50.00 plus tax. The closing date for the block of room is November 1, but rooms should be available beyond that date. Participants should make their own room reservations and travel arrangements. Individual credit card numbers are required to confirm rooms. Reservations may be made by calling the Atlantis at 1-800-723-6500 and telling them you are attending the BLM Sage Grouse Conference.

If you have any questions regarding this memo, please contact Richard Mealberry at (202) 452-7750. Send information or inquiries to Richard via Lotus Notes, or fax to (202) 653-5279.

Signed by:
James M. Colby
Acting Deputy Assistant Director
Renewable Resources and Planning

Authenticated by:
Robert M. Williams
Directives, Records
& Internet Group, WO540

3 Attachments

- 1 - Report Format (1 p)
- 2 - Draft Agenda (2 p)
- 3 - Cost Analysis Information (1 p)

Report Format

**BLM's Conference on Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Steppe Habitat
November 17-18, 1999**

DRAFT State Status Report Information Request

Please provide the following information (following the format below) for your state. Please send electronically to Jodie Polled (Lakeview BLM, 541/947-6175) by November 3, 1999. Copies of your report will be made available to conference participants. Also, please be prepared to give a 10-minute overview of this report at the conference.

- 1. Status of Sage Grouse**
Bird trends, lek counts, migration, etc.; may want to include historical information
- 2. Status of Sagebrush Steppe Habitat**
Fire, grazing, development, etc.
- 3. Conservation Planning**
Current efforts, etc.
- 4. Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Steppe Habitat Research in the State**
Current, proposed
- 5. Status of Mapping/GIS**
Habitat (winter, brooding, nesting, etc.), sagebrush vegetation (by species, by % cover, etc.), wildfire and prescribed fire perimeters, current lek locations, etc.

DRAFT Agenda

BLM's Conference on Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat November 17-18, 1999 Reno, Nevada

Purpose:

- Information sharing and coordination of conservation efforts among BLM western states
- Initiate actions leading to development of BLM Sage Grouse and Sagebrush Habitat Conservation Strategy
- Identify follow-up actions needed to continue Conservation Strategy coordination and information sharing

Wednesday, November 17

0800	Welcome, Overview and Objectives	Bob Abbey, <i>Nevada State Office</i>
0830	BLM and Sage Grouse in the Sagebrush Ecosystem	Steve Ellis, <i>Lakeview (Oregon) District</i> and Chris Jauhola, <i>Washington D.C. Office</i>
0900	Great Basin Ecosystem Restoration Initiative	Roy Johnson, <i>Office of Fire and Aviation</i>
0930	Break	
0940	Status Report from Each State:	
0945	Idaho	
0955	Colorado	
1005	Nevada	
1015	Utah	
1025	Oregon/Washington	
1040	Wyoming	
1050	California	
1100	Montana	
1110	Washington Office and NARC	
1120	Break	
1140	Working with State Agencies	Terry Crawford (suggested), <i>Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies</i>
1215	Lunch	
1315	ICBEMP Process	Jay Carlson
1345	USFWS Petition Process	Al Fister or Pat Diebert (suggested)
1430	Break	
1450	Panel: BLM Activities and Effects in Sagebrush Habitat and BLM Regulatory Mechanisms	Ron Dunton (<i>Fire</i>); Dick Mealberry (<i>Range</i>); UT or WY - Steve will confirm (<i>Minerals, Oil & Gas</i>); Eric Stone [suggested] (<i>Planning</i>); Scott Florence (<i>Area Manager</i>); AFister or PDiebert [suggested] (<i>USFWS</i>); Walt VanDyke [suggested] (<i>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>)
1630	Panel Discussion and Q & A	
1700	Adjourn	

Thursday, November 18

0800	Overview and Review Meeting Objectives	
0815	Conservation Planning	Chris Jauhola will confirm
0900	Break-out Groups Process and Products	Cadre
0915	Break	

0930	Facilitated Break-out Group Discussions: Wildland Fire; Grazing; Minerals, Oil & Gas; Vegetation Management (invasive plants, etc.); Mapping/Information; Research	Cadre
1200	Lunch	
1300	Reports from Break-out Groups	
1430	Break	
1450	Follow-up Actions	Chris Jauhola and Steve Ellis
1600	Adjourn	

Cost Analysis Information

Participants Name: _____

Employing Office: _____

Job Series (eg, 0401, 0454): _____

Grade and Hourly Wage: _____

Phone Number: _____

email/Lotus Notes address: _____