



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Greater Sage-Grouse

BLM Colorado State Office
September 2016

Current Status

BLM Colorado is implementing the Northwest Colorado Greater Sage-Grouse Approved Resource Plan Amendment (ARMPA). We are coordinating closely with our national office to ensure a consistent approach to implementation that supports Colorado's local needs and partnerships. Our focus includes engaging our partners, monitoring habitat condition, minimizing habitat disturbance, and improving habitat conditions through on-the-ground restoration projects.

The BLM recently issued seven instruction memoranda to guide rangewide Greater Sage-Grouse plan implementation through clear and consistent application of management activities across the western Greater Sage-Grouse states, while providing flexibility to respond to local situations and concerns.

The policies focus on:

- How data gathered using the BLM's Assessment Inventory and Monitoring strategy will be used to assess is achieving goals in the land use plans.
- Methods for describing the condition of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat for rangewide discussions.
- Procedures for reporting changes in management based on the plans' scientific trigger points.
- How to prioritize grazing permit renewals in Greater Sage-Grouse habitat.
- How to incorporate thresholds and responses into grazing management.
- How to prioritize oil and gas leasing and development consistent with the sage-grouse conservation strategy.
- Methods for tracking disturbance and reclamation in Greater Sage-Grouse habitat

BLM Colorado is hosting its first interagency technical implementation meeting in October to address the status of Greater Sage-Grouse habitat conditions and gather information necessary to make changes to management as discussed in the ARMPA adaptive management plan and the recently issued guidance.

Background

In March 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service found that the Greater Sage-Grouse was warranted for protection under the ESA. BLM Colorado analyzed incorporating new Greater Sage-Grouse conservation measures into RMPs for five field offices within its Northwest District. On September 22, 2015, the BLM issued the Records of Decision and Approved RMPs that will help conserve Greater Sage-Grouse habitat and support sustainable economic development on portions of public lands in 10 states across the West, including Colorado.