

# Lands and Realty

Infrastructure is a major component of the BLM and Forest Service lands and realty programs. Infrastructure such as roads and power lines directly affect Greater Sage-Grouse through habitat fragmentation, habitat loss, and by posing a collision hazard. Habitat fragmentation is the separation or splitting apart of previously contiguous habitat. Indirectly, infrastructure increases the likelihood for sage-grouse mortality through increased vehicle traffic and perching opportunities for avian predators.

**Issue: What measures will the BLM and Forest Service put in place to protect Greater Sage-Grouse habitat from the effects of infrastructure development?**

## Management Actions

Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative D	Alternative E	Alternative F
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintain current management from 21 BLM and 8 Forest Service LUPs.</li> <li>- Manage right-of-ways (ROWs)/special use authorizations (SUAs) as follows (acres): ROW Avoidance: 1,903,400 ROW Exclusion: 1,010,900</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manage PPMA as exclusion areas for new ROW/SUAs (8,263,200 acres).</li> <li>- Manage PGMA as avoidance areas for new ROW/SUAs (2,903,700 acres).</li> <li>- Within designated ROW or SUA corridors encumbered by existing ROW or SUA exclusion areas, allow new ROWs if the project can be completed (co-located) within the existing disturbed area.</li> <li>- Evaluate and take advantage of opportunities to remove, bury, or modify existing power lines within PPMA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manage PPMA as exclusion for new ROWs/SUAs (11,165,500 acres).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manage PPMA as ROW avoidance areas and exclusion areas for wind and solar development (11,407,900 acres).</li> <li>- Do not allow new authorizations for the following uses: Transmission facilities (greater than 50kV in size), wind energy testing and development, commercial solar development, commercial geothermal development, nuclear development, oil and gas development, mineral development, airports, and ancillary facilities associated with any of the aforementioned development; paved roads and graded gravel roads, landfills, airports, and hydroelectric projects. Allow communication sites.</li> <li>- Manage PMMA and PGMA as ROW avoidance areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manage CHZ and IHZ as avoidance areas for new ROW/SUAs (8,479,600 acres), subject to BMPs.</li> <li>- Require compensatory mitigation in CHZ.</li> <li>- Manage new ROWs consistent with local LUPs in GHZ.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Manage PPMA as exclusion areas for new ROW/SUAs (8,263,200 acres).</li> <li>- Manage PGMA and PRMA as ROW avoidance areas (2,920,900 acres).</li> <li>- Within designated ROW corridors encumbered by existing ROW authorizations, new ROWs may be co-located only if the entire footprint of the proposed project (including construction and staging) can be completed within the existing disturbance associated with the authorized ROWs.</li> </ul>



Idaho and Southwestern Montana  
Greater Sage-Grouse Draft LUPA/EIS

