

Idaho-Southwestern Montana Greater Sage-Grouse Sub-Regional Land Use Plan Amendment & Draft Environmental Impact Statement

BLM - Forest Service
Sage-Grouse Planning Strategy





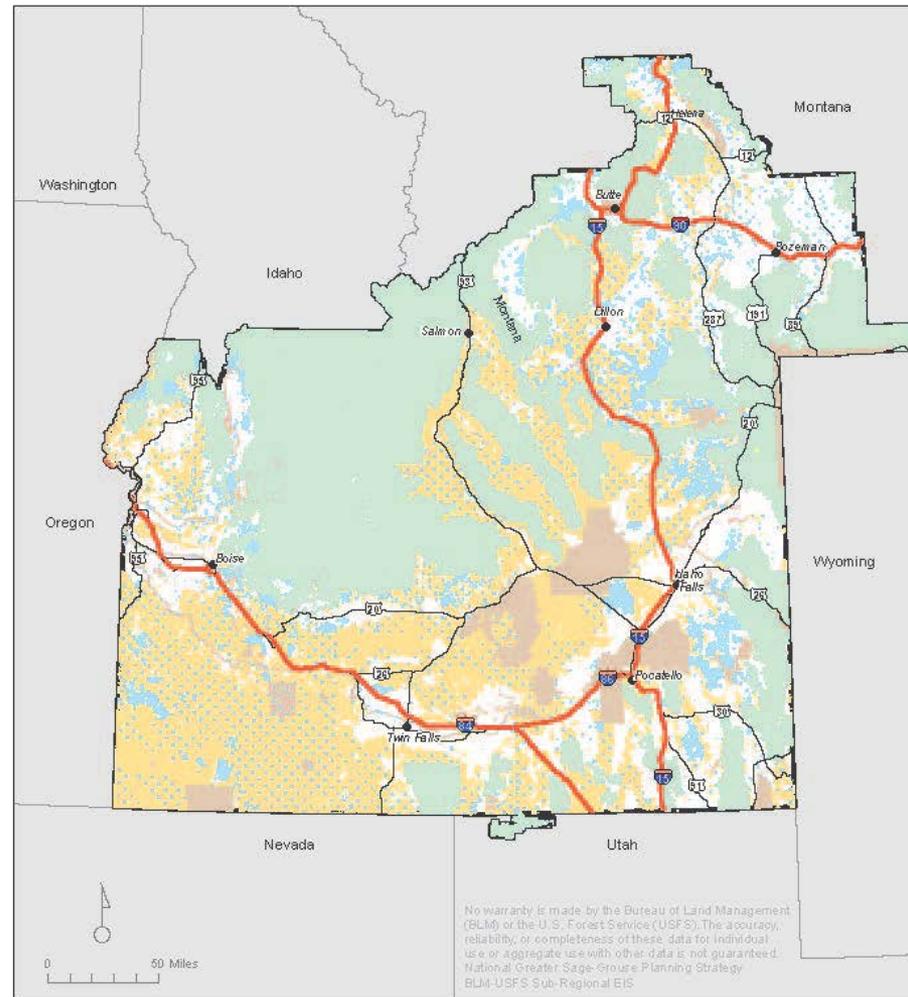
Idaho and Southwest Montana Sub-Region

29 Plans Addressed:

Idaho – 20 BLM Resource
Management P
- 7 Forest Service
Forest Plans

Montana – 1 BLM Resource
Management I
- 1 Forest Service
Forest Plan

Planning Area

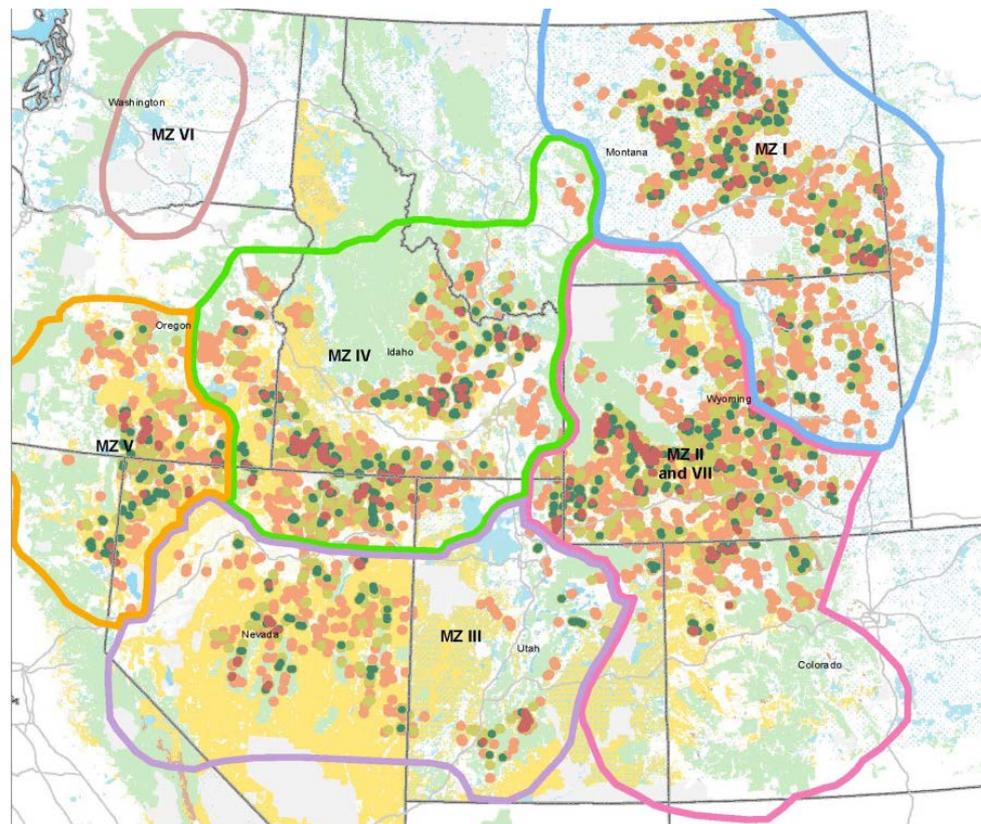


- Analysis Boundary
- Interstate highway
- US highway
- Major Cities

- Bureau of Land Management
- United States Forest Service
- Private
- State
- Other



Planning Area Relationship to Range-Wide Habitat



- GRSG habitat in the planning area: 18.5 million acres
- BLM and Forest Service GRSG habitat in the planning area: 11.2 million acres





Cooperating Agencies

❖ Federal

❖ Forest Service

- ❖ Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest
- ❖ Boise National Forest
- ❖ Caribou-Targhee National Forest
- ❖ Salmon-Challis National Forest
- ❖ Sawtooth National Forest

❖ US Fish and Wildlife Service

❖ Natural Resources Conservation Service

❖ National Park Service – Craters of the Moon National Preserve

❖ US Department of Energy – Idaho National Laboratory

❖ Department of Defense

❖ State

- ❖ Idaho Governor's Office Species of Conservation
- ❖ Idaho Department of Fish and Game
- ❖ Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

❖ Counties

- ❖ Idaho Association of Counties
- ❖ Bingham
- ❖ Blaine
- ❖ Cassia
- ❖ Clark
- ❖ Custer
- ❖ Fremont
- ❖ Jefferson
- ❖ Lemhi
- ❖ Owyhee
- ❖ Power
- ❖ Twin Falls
- ❖ Beaverhead (Montana)
- ❖ Madison (Montana)





Tribal Consultation and Coordination

**Tribes Interested in the Idaho and Southwestern Montana Sub Region
Include:**

Coeur d'Alene

Kootenai

Nez Perce

Shoshone-Bannock

Shoshone-Paiute

Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation

All received Cooperating Agency invitations in December of 2011

All declined Cooperating Agency status

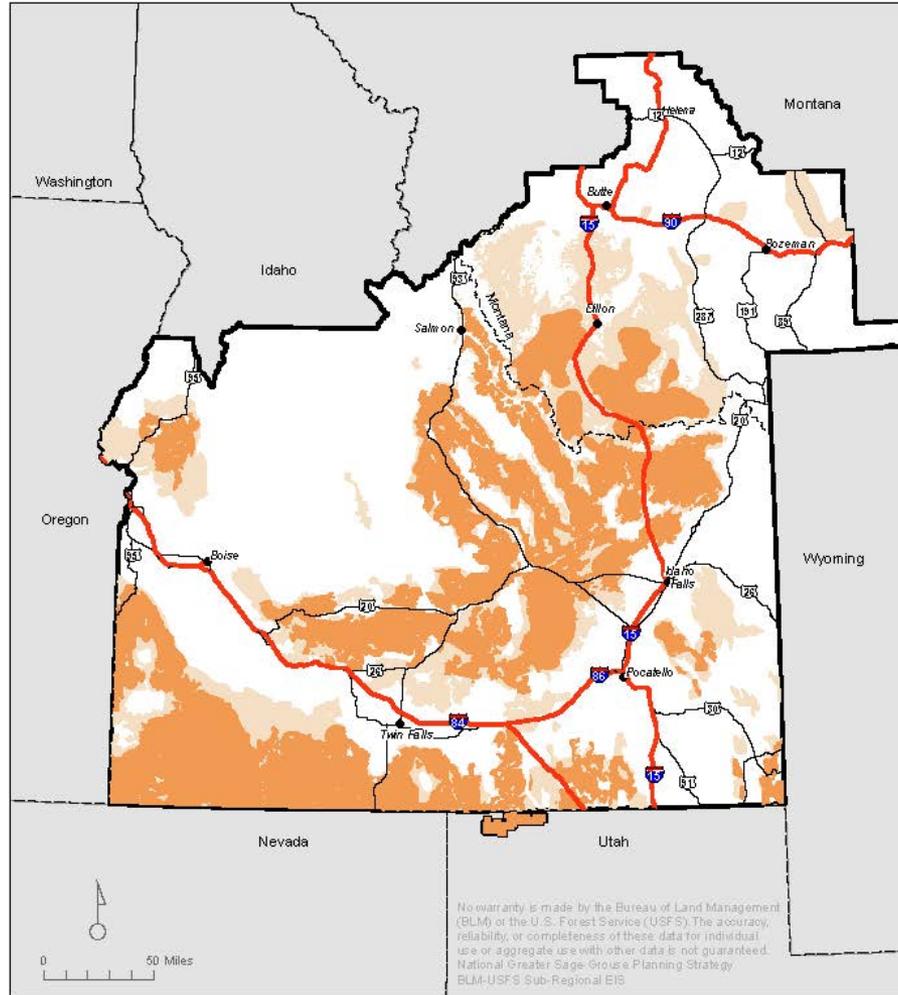
**Consultation and Coordination is continuing and ongoing with all Tribes
through the government-to-government process**





Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat (PPH and PGH)

	BLM (million)	FS (million)	Total (million)
Planning Area	12.7	13.9	49.1
PPH	7.3	1.0	8.3
% WAFWA MZ IV	47.5%	6.5%	54%
% Range-wide	11.4%	1.6%	13%
PGH	2.0	0.9	2.9
% WAFWA MZ IV	39.3%	17.7%	57%
% Range-wide	3.8%	1.7%	5.5%
Leks/Population			
% WAFWA MZ IV			61%
% Range-wide			18%



- Preliminary Priority Habitat
- Preliminary General Habitat
- Analysis Boundary



Alternative Themes and Disturbance Cap

Alternative	Theme
Alternative A	Current Management from 21 BLM and 8 FS LUPs
Alternative B	Based on NTT Report (per IM-2012-044)
Alternative C	Citizen Proposed Conservation Alternative (based on NTT Report plus additional items from scoping). Focused on livestock grazing removal and passive restoration.
Alternative D Co-Preferred	Sub-Regional ID Team Developed Alternative
Alternative E Co-Preferred	Based primarily on State of Idaho submitted Alternative, with Utah areas consistent with State of Utah Conservation Plan
Alternative F	Citizen Proposed Conservation Alternative (based on NTT Report plus additional items from scoping). Focused on reductions in anthropogenic disturbances.

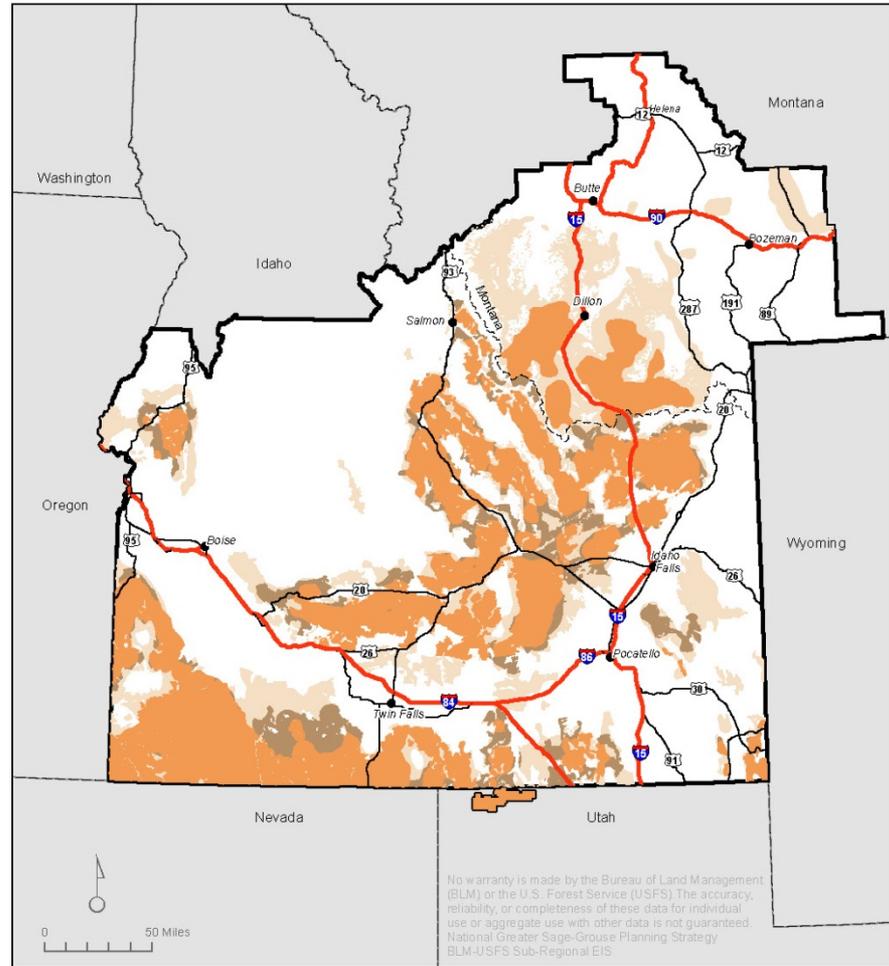




Sub-Regional Alternative

Greater Sage-Grouse Management Areas

- Preliminary Priority
- Preliminary Medial
- Preliminary General



- Preliminary Priority Mgt Area
- Preliminary Medial Mgt Area
- Preliminary General Mgt Area
- Analysis Boundary

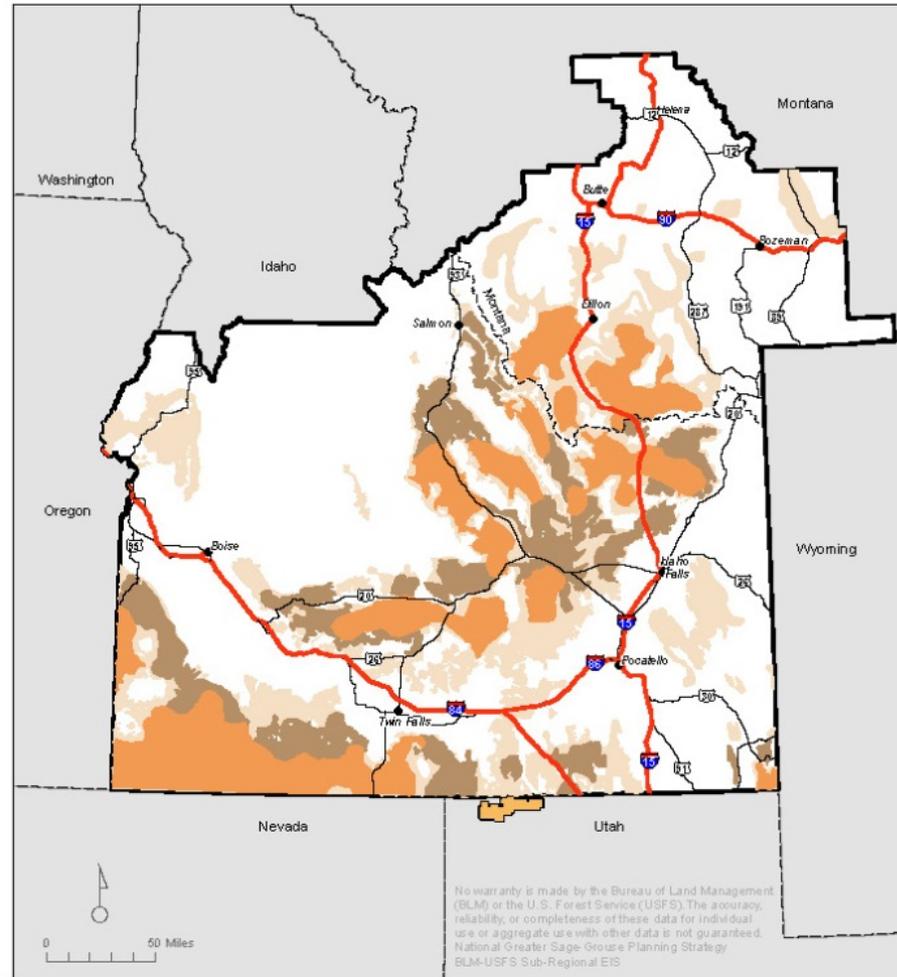




Idaho/Utah Governor's Alternative

Greater Sage-Grouse Areas

Core Habitat Zone Important Habitat Zone General Habitat Zone



- Idaho Core Zone / Montana Preliminary Priority Mgt. Area
- Idaho Important Zone
- Idaho General Zone / Montana Preliminary General Mgt. Area
- Utah Habitat within SGMA
- Analysis Boundary





Alternative Comparison

Program	A	B	C	D	E	F
<u>Habitat</u> PPMA (PPH – 8.3M) PMMA PGMA(PGH – 2.9M)	0	8.3 M	11.2 M	7.0 M 1.3 M 2.9 M	Core – 4.9 M Import. – 2.7 M General –3.5 M	8.3 M 2.9 M 0.5 M Restoration
<u>Adaptive Management</u>	None	Develop	Develop	Habitat and Population Triggers Modifies Medial Areas	Hard and Soft Habitat and Population Triggers Modifies Important Areas	Develop
<u>Right-of Way</u> PPMA or Core	Varies	Exclusion	Exclusion	Avoidance-w/Exclusions & RDF	Avoidance-w/mitigation	Exclusion
PMMA or Imp. PGMA or General	Varies Varies	Avoidance	Exclusion	Avoidance-w/RDF Avoidance-w/RDF	Avoidance-w/mitigation Varies	Exclusion
<u>Renewable</u> PPMA or Core	Varies	Exclusion	Exclusion	Exclusion	Avoid -w/mitigation	Exclusion
PMMA or Imp. PGMA or General	Varies	Exclusion	Exclusion	Avoidance Avoidance	Avoid-w/mitigation Varies	Exclusion
<u>Fluid Minerals</u> PPMA or Core	Varies	Closed	Closed	Open – NSO near leks	Wyoming Governor’s Executive Order Direction	Closed
PMMA or Imp. PGMA or General	Varies	NSO	Closed	Open – NSO near leks Open – NSO near leks		Closed





Alternative Comparison (Cont.)

Resource	A	B	C	D	E	F
<u>Locatable</u> PPMA or Core	Open	Withdrawn	Withdrawn	Require 3809 Plans	Open	Withdrawn
PMMA or Imp. PGMA or General	Open	Open	Withdrawn	Require 3809 Plans Require 3809 Plans	Open Open	Withdrawn
<u>Livestock Use</u> PPMA or Core	Varies	Incorporate GRSG Mgt Objectives	Closed	Same as Alt B	Incorporate GRSG Mgt Guidelines and Adaptive Mgt Where Populations Declining	25% Reduction
PMMA or Imp. PGMA or Genera	Varies		Closed			25% Reduction
<u>Travel</u> PPMA or Core	Open	Limited	Limited	Limited	Limited	Limited
PMMA or Imp. PGMA or Genera	Open	Limited	Limited	Limited Limited	Limited Limited	Limited
<u>ACEC</u> Acres	350 K	No Additional	2.5 M	No Additional	No Additional	8.3 M





USFWS COT Report Threats

Management Zone IV: Snake River Plains

Threats are characterized as Y= threat is present and widespread; L= threat is present but localized; N= threat is not known to be present

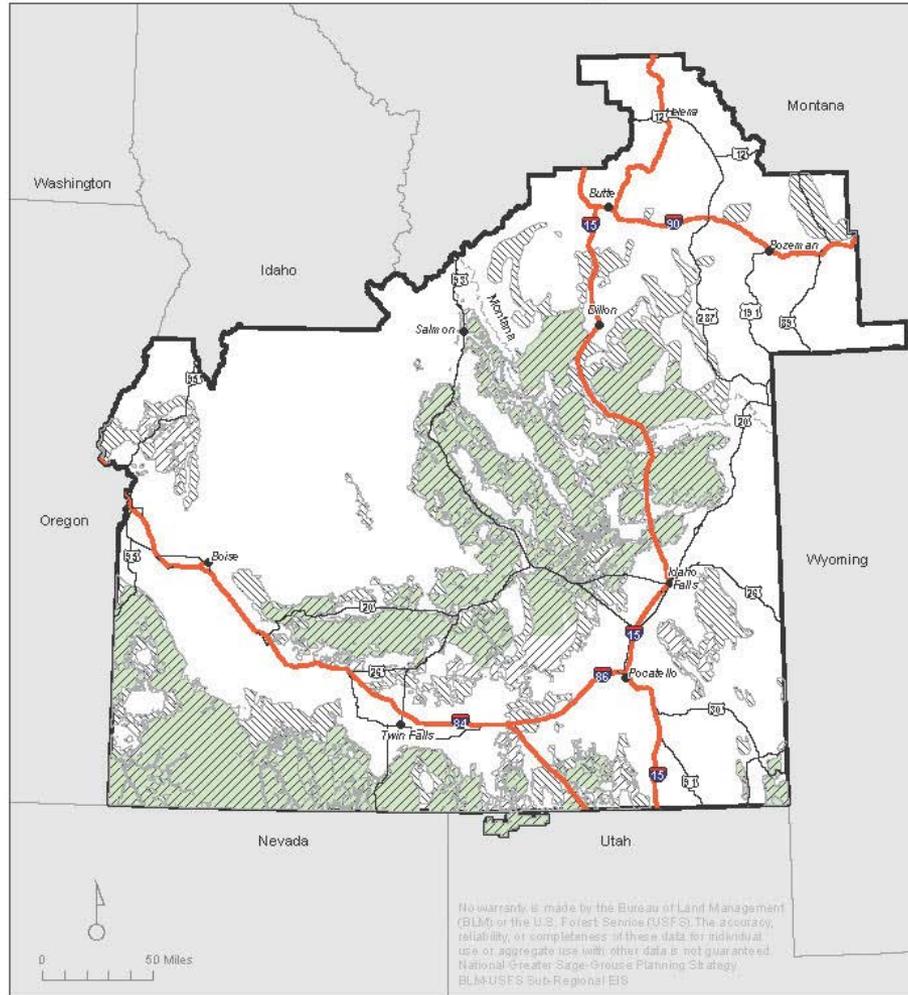
Population	% Chance of <500 birds/200 males in 2107	Isolated/Small Size	Sagebrush Elimination	Agriculture Conversion	Fire	Conifers	Weeds/Annual Grasses	Energy	Mining	Infrastructure	Grazing	Wild Horses and Burros	Recreation	Urbanization
East Central (ID)	ND	Y	L	Y	L	Y	L	Y	N	Y	Y	N	L	N
Southwest Montana	91.9-97.7	N	L	N	L	L	Y	L	L	L	Y	N	L	L
Snake-Salmon-Beaverhead (ID)	26.8	N	L	L	Y	L	Y	Y	N	L	Y	Y	L	N
Belt Mountains (MT)	ND	Y	L	Y	L	L	Y	L	N	L	Y	N	L	L
Weiser (ID)	ND	Y	L	L	L	L	Y	Y	N	L	Y	N	L	L
Northern Great Basin (OR, ID, NV portion)	99.7	N	L	L	Y	Y	Y	L	L	Y	Y	L	Y	Y
Box Elder (UT portion of Northern Great Basin)	99.7	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	L	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N





Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat (PPH and PGH) & Priority Areas for Conservation (PACs)

Idaho & SW Montana Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat



- GRSG COT PAC
- Priority Habitat
- General Habitat
- Analysis Boundary
- Interstate highway
- US highway
- Major Cities



Impact Analysis

- Amelioration of threats described in table in the Draft EIS.
 - Summarizes how each threats is addressed by alternative
 - All the threats identified in the COT Report are addressed.
- Vegetation modeling of 10 Population Areas
 - After 50 years Alternatives D & E (Preferred):
 - 4 Population Areas increase percent of area providing habitat for GRSG
 - 1 Population Areas decreases percent of area providing habitat for GRSG
 - 5 Population Areas maintain percent of area providing habitat for GRSG
- All five action alternatives and limited areas within the No Action Alternative meet the Purpose and Need by providing conservation measures to protect Greater Sage-Grouse populations and habitat.



Idaho and Southwestern Montana Sub-Regional Greater Sage-Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment Summary

- Cooperating Agencies, Tribes, Regional ID and Management Team and WO (BLM and FS) have reviewed Administrative Draft EIS
 - Administrative Draft EIS has been updated based on comments and all outstanding issues have been resolved
- Regional Management Team and National Policy Team (State, Forest Service, USFWS) support issuance of DEIS for public review
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife has participated on ID Team, through reviews and approvals (Regional ID and Management Teams)
- Next Steps
 - Issue DEIS for 90 day public comment – November 1, 2013
 - Issue FEIS- Summer 2014
 - BLM/FS issue separate Records of Decision- Fall 2014





Draft Comment Period and Public Meetings

- ✓ **Draft Released for Public Comment – November 1st, 2103**

- ✓ **90-day Public Comment Period Ends – January 29th, 2014**

- ✓ **Public Meetings – January 2014**
 - ✓ **Murphy, Idaho - January 6th, 2014**
 - ✓ **Idaho Falls, Idaho - January 7th, 2014**
 - ✓ **Salmon, Idaho - January 8th, 2014**
 - ✓ **Dillon, MT - January 9th, 2014**
 - ✓ **Pocatello, ID - January, 13th, 2014**
 - ✓ **Twin Falls, ID - January 14th, 2014**
 - ✓ **Boise, ID - January 15th, 2014**



Questions and Discussion

