

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Travel Management Prioritization for BLM Sage-Grouse Conservation Planning

April 16, 2013

Background

At a March 2013 Federal Family meeting on Sage-grouse conservation the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requested that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) provide its priorities for travel management planning with respect to Sage-grouse. The BLM's request came because BLM does not currently have sufficient funding to conduct travel management planning on all its lands within the range of the Sage-grouse. This document responds to BLM's request.

Factors Considered

- Priority was given to population strongholds with large tracts of BLM land where "Recreation" was listed as a threat in the Conservation Objectives Team Report (COT) and USFWS Field Offices identified a need for travel management planning.
- Next priority were smaller populations in areas with large tracts of BLM land where "Recreation" was listed as a localized threat in the COT report and USFWS Field Offices identified a need for travel management planning. Within this group, populations were prioritized by population size –from biggest to smallest (based on data in Garton 2011).
- Sub-priorities correspond to subpopulations or a BLM Field Office and were developed based on the estimated relative amount of BLM land within the subpopulation or BLM Field Office.

Priorities for Travel Management Planning

Letter in parentheses corresponds to the COT report characterization of threats from "Recreation" in that population; **Y** indicates the threat is present and widespread; **L** indicates the threat is present but localized. Sub-priorities without a **Y** or **L** indicate BLM Field Offices within the population.

1. Wyoming Basin Population (Y)

Lander, WY

Rawlings, WY

Little Snake Resource Area, CO (**Y**)

Kemmerer, WY

Rich-Summit-Morgan Population, UT (**Y**)

2. Northern Great Basin Population (Y)

Tuscarora, NV

Wells, NV

Jarbidge, ID

Burley, ID

Box Elder population, UT (Y)

3. Snake-Salmon-Beaverhead Population (L)

Upper Snake, ID

Shoshone, ID

4. Central Oregon (L)

5. Sheeprock Mountains, UT (L)

6. East Central Idaho (Pocatello) (L)

7. Baker, OR (L)

8. Weiser, ID (L)