



Oregon State Fact Sheet

Facts, figures & discussion about Greater Sage-grouse



A multi-stakeholder group developed The Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Assessment and Strategy to help manage sage-grouse populations in 2005. It was later updated and adopted by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission in 2011. The strategy identifies and maps Core Areas essential to sage-grouse conservation which provides a tool for planning and identifying appropriate mitigation in the event of human development in sage-grouse habitats. The statewide goal is to maintain or enhance sage-grouse numbers and distribution at the 2003 spring breeding population level (approximately 30,000) over the next 50 years.

General Facts About Greater Sage-grouse in Oregon

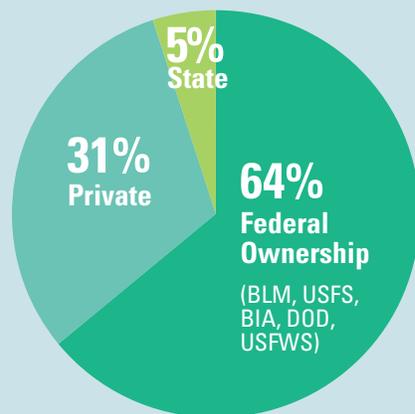
- Resident game bird currently managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)
- Occurs across 8 counties.
- Current Range: ~14,000,000 acres of sagebrush habitat.
- As of 2010, there were 1,054 known lek (communal breeding ground) locations in Oregon
- Sagebrush dependent, particularly in winter
- Annual home-range size can cover 230 square miles or more
- ODFW allows harvest of up to 5% of the projected fall population of birds

Land Ownership (Priority Areas for Conservation (PAC))

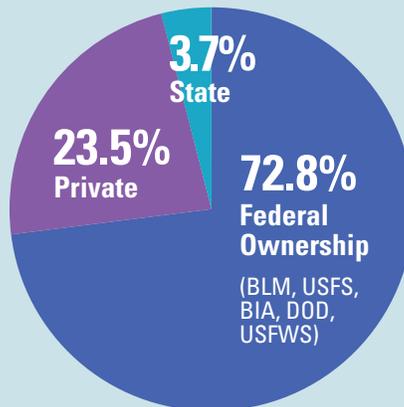
- PACs: key habitats essential for long-term viability of sage-grouse
- 75.5 million Total PAC acres, 63% of current range (Conservation Objectives Team)
- 6,567,794 acres in Oregon.
- 64% federally owned, 48 million acres rangewide

Land Ownership

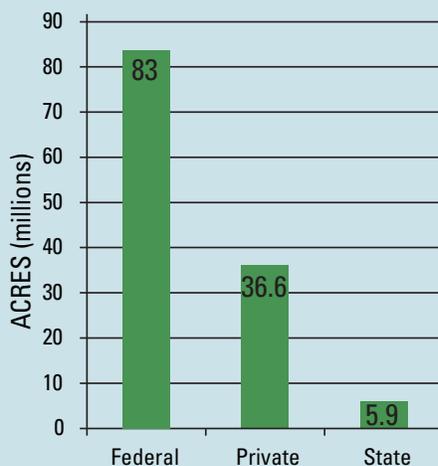
Range-wide (%)



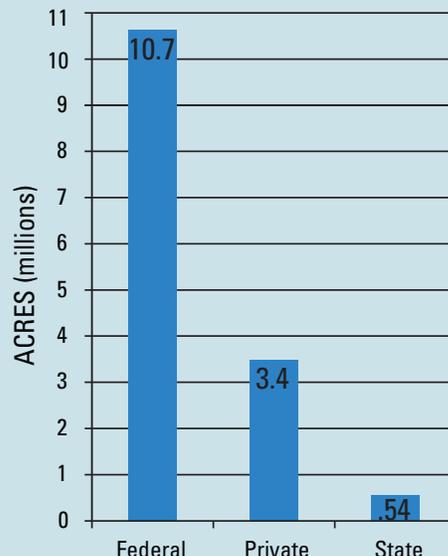
Oregon (%)



Range-wide (acres)



Oregon (acres)



Population & Distribution

- State agencies monitor sage-grouse populations by counting males attending a lek
- There is no consistent, rangewide survey methodology for sage-grouse

Primary threats

- Loss and fragmentation of sagebrush primarily from wildfires, invasive plants, and juniper/conifer encroachment
- Lack of regulatory mechanisms to protect sagebrush habitat

General Facts About Sagebrush

- Most widespread vegetation in Western North America
- Includes 18 woody plant species of various shapes and sizes
- Co-occurs with native grasses and forbs as a shrub steppe system.
- Essential habitat for 350 species, including sage-grouse
- In jeopardy due to altered fire regimes, invasions of nonnative plants, encroachment of trees, anthropogenic land uses and climate change



Greater sage-grouse / © Tatiana Gettelman

Candidate Conservation Agreements (CCA) with Assurances (CCAA)

CCAs are formal agreements between the Service and one or more parties to address the conservation needs of proposed or candidate species before they become listed as endangered or threatened. The participants voluntarily commit to implementing specific actions that will remove or reduce the threats to these species, thereby contributing to stabilizing or restoring the species so that listing is no longer necessary. CCAs are specifically for private and other non-Federal property owners and they offer a permit containing assurances that additional conservation measures beyond those included in the CCAA will not be required should the species be listed.

CCAA Acres in Oregon

Harney County*	1,170,120
Malheur County	886,549
Baker/Union County	486,989
Grant County	56,696
Crook/Deschutes County	485,964
Lake County	398,624
Moore CCAA*	7,290
Department of State Lands	540,484
Total Acres	4,032,716

*Completed Agreements, all others pending completion

FWS Goals

- Our goal is to ensure the long-term conservation of greater sage-grouse by ***maintaining viable, well-distributed grouse populations that are connected by healthy sagebrush across their range.***
- We would like to see management actions in place that will ***arrest or reverse recent population declines*** and establish conditions where populations can be expected to increase.
- Our decision on whether or not to list the greater sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act ***will take into consideration all ongoing conservation plans, efforts and management programs*** that can assist in restoring the health of the species and its habitat. Our decision is due in September 2015.
- ***We do not yet know what the decision in 2015 will be.*** States and federal agencies across the range continue to work on conservation plans. These efforts must be completed and integrated across the species' range. It's important for everyone to contribute. Everyone's actions can count.
- There is broad agreement that sagebrush ecosystems have been significantly degraded over the past several decades. This has impacted not only sage-grouse but the community of wildlife that depends on healthy sagebrush rangelands.
- ***Our collective conservation actions must improve and maintain productive sagebrush ecosystems*** for people and wildlife for generations to come.