From:	Deibert, Pat
To:	Lief Wiechman
Subject:	spp. outline
Date:	Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:21:27 AM
Attachments:	GRSG2015_Outline_SpReport_20150329 (draft pd dd lw).docx notes from call with CG 033115.docx

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Greater Sage-Grouse Species Report Outline

Introductory and Background Section

Chapter: Executive Summary ***(Amy Nicholas)***

Short (2-3 page) summary of the report.

Chapter: Introduction ***(Sarah Backsen)***

- Regulatory History (including all FR notices and litigation)
- Process for 2015 Status Review
- Species Report Overview

Chapter: Species Description ***(Amy Nicholas and Craig Hansen)***

Very brief chapter; much can be incorporated by reference.

- Species Description
- Taxonomy
- Genetics
- Life history and ecology (all life stages: breeding, nesting, brood rearing, wintering, movement/migration)

Chapter: Current Biological Status ***(Amy Nicholas and Craig Hansen)***

Include occurrence table here.

- Historical Range
- Current Range/Distribution and Population Estimates/Annual Lek Counts
- Management Zone Discussion/Description (one for each management zone with reference to populations contained within)
    - *[Figure – WAFWA MZs, populations, and range map]*
    - *[Figure – PACs map]*
    - *[Figure - Distribution models by MZ]*
    - *[Table - Numbers from Distribution models by MZ]*
    - *[Figure – Abundance models by MZ]*
    - *[Table - Numbers from Abundance models by MZ]*

Chapter: Land Ownership and Management ***(TBD)***

Summary (2-3 pages) of Ownership, and types of decisions and management actions that are associated with each agency/owner

- *[Figure - Land Ownership status by MZ]*
- *[Table – Land Ownership status by MZ]*

- Federal Lands
    - USFS
    - BLM
        - LUP Amendments / Planning efforts
            - Disturbance Monitoring
            - Adaptive Management
            - Mitigation
            - FIAT
    - FWS/Refuges

Comment [DMD1]: So will this provide the summary that lead to the 2010 finding?

Comment [DP2]: CG: add information on what we said in 2010 on the regulatory section. Need an introduction as to what the problem was in 2010 and that we have received information on things that have become problems since.

Comment [DP3]: CG – change title

Comment [LW 4]: I'm not entirely sure what this is/was… we can discuss how/where to use it…

Comment [DP5]: believe it might be states and percentages of pops – we had one in the two previous findings. might not be terrible useful this round, but we may want to think about a MZ table instead.

Comment [LW 6]: Do we want this (PACs)?

Comment [DP7]: I think we have to talk about them so would retain (but maybe not in this location). We will also have to deal with strongholds.

Comment [LW 8]: We'll want input from KD on this

Comment [DP9]: From CG: identifies the players and lay of the land. what are the RM and voluntary actions doing? Not an analysis of what the plans are doing, but a summary. Talk about how what these plans are doing to ameliorate the threat should be in the discussion of the threats themselves (following chapters).

At this point introduce the reader to the concepts, terminology, etc.

reflect what the 2010 finding stated.

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- NPS
- DOD/DOE

- Tribal Lands
- State Lands
- Private Lands
  - FWS
    - CCA/CCAA
  - NRCS
    - SGI

Effects Analysis (Potential Threats/Risks)

Include threats table to indicate cumulative threats or threat interactions. All threats will use Management Zone as the common spatial scale.

Habitat Loss and Fragmentation

Chapter: *(Tier 1)* ***Wildfire (Altered Fire Regime)*** *(Genevieve Skora)*
Chapter: *(Tier 1)* ***Noxious Weeds and Invasives*** *(Dawn Davis)*
Chapter: *(Tier 1)* ***Conifer Encroachment*** *(Jeff Everett)*
Chapter: *(Tier 1)* ***Agricultural Conversion*** *(Joy Gober)*
Chapter: *(Tier 1)* ***Oil & Gas*** *(Amy Nicholas)*
Chapter: *(Tier 2)* ***Mining*** *(Ron Baxter)*
Chapter: *(Tier 2)* ***Renewable Energy*** *(Lisa Solberg Schwab)*
Wind
Solar
Geothermal
Chapter: *(Tier 2)* ***Infrastructure*** *(Heather McPherron)*
Roads
Power Lines
Communication Towers
Fences
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Fences*** *(Jennifer Siani)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Grazing and Rangeland Management*** *(Craig Hansen)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Free-Roaming Equids*** *(Jennifer Siani)*
Chapter: *(Tier 2)* ***Urban and Exurban Development*** *(Joy Gober)*
Landfills
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Recreation*** *(Angela Burgess)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Climate Change*** *(Holly Freifeld)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Drought*** *(Angela Burgess)*

Overutilization

Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Hunting*** *(Amy Nicholas)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Scientific and Education Purposes*** *(TBD)*

Comment [LW 10]: Jesse, this is what you had in your version… assuming it would be a summary, with the bulk of the discussion coming later…

DMD: It seems like this section will have considerable overlap with the threat amelioration section below? I'm not sure what the distinction between these two sections are?

Comment [DMD11]: Would this include a discussion of regulatory mechanisms that are in place now and what has change since 2010?

Comment [DP12]: Frpm CG: what has happened historically, what is happening now and what it looks like into the future. Incorporate amelioration actions here.

put CE in separate chapter

include a table in each chapter that summarizes the impact of the threat by MZ, bird, population – what level, and what is the severity and intensity of each threat – make the table consistent across threat chapter.

Comment [LW 13]: Originally – this was it's own chapter, so I put it below for flow purposes… however, we could just roll it into Infrastructure

Comment [LW 14]: Should these be in "Other"…?

Or as a separate subtitle, "Climate" similar to bi-state species report?

Comment [DP15]: it was in the habitat section in 2010 simply because it affected habitat. I don't have strong feelings and maybe this is a question for Carey

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Disease and Predation

Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Disease*** *(Holly Freifeld)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Predation*** *(Lara Drizd)*

Other Threat Factors

Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Small population and life history traits affecting population viability*** *(Lief Wiechman)*
Chapter: *(Tier 3)* ***Contaminants*** *(Angela Burgess)*

Compounding Effects

Chapter: Summary of Threat Interactions (TBD)

It will describe synergistic relationships among threats described in chapters above. These relationships are identified in individual threat chapters under compounding effects. This chapter will lead reader into cumulative threats discussion below. (Examples: Fire and Invasives, Fire and Conifer, Anthropogenic disturbance and predators)

~~Summary of Effects~~ Threat summary by MZ

Each chapter in this section will be written by management zone and each management zone will have a lead (may tap into others outside of the state).

Chapter: Cumulative Threats by Management Zone (TBD)

This chapter is the discussion of cumulative threats by MZ. This chapter will identify all threats by MZ, relying on threat interactions described in previous chapter and spatial threat concentration information of primary threats. This allows an examination of primary threats that we have quantitative/spatial information for, and a concomitant examination of other threats tied to the primary threat by MZ.

- MZ 1 (Montana TBD [support from Wyoming and South Dakota)
- MZ 2 (Wyoming TBD [Support from Montana, Colorado, Utah])
- MZ 3 (Nevada – TBD / Utah – TBD)
- MZ 4 (Idaho – TBD [Support from Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Montana])
- MZ 5 (Oregon – TBD [Support from Nevada, California])
- MZ 6 (Washington – TBD) (potentially Jessi Gonzales, Heather)
- MZ 7 (Colorado – TBD)
- Rangewide Summary?

Chapter: Threat Amelioration (TBD)

This chapter would describe the efforts implemented and planned to reduce or remove threats and risks on the landscape. Summaries of conservation action information would be summarized from CED, as well as evaluation of plans, policies, and regulatory mechanisms, broken down by MZ.

The following sub-sections are recommended for this MZ-subsection, based on the organization of the 2010 greater sage grouse finding:

- Laws, regulations, Polices and Management Plans
  - Federal Lands
    - BLM/FS LUP Amendments / Planning efforts
      - Disturbance Monitoring
      - Adaptive Management
      - Mitigation
      - FIAT
  - FWS/Refuges

Comment [LW 16]: Discussions have occurred to add this to the O&G chapter…

Comment [DP17]: We may want to split it out into contaminants associated with energy development and all others, (e.g. pesticides)

Comment [DP18]: CG – synergistic effects, then lead into cumulative effects – not a summary but a presentation of cumulative - put into CE. Interrelated threat factors.

Comment [LW 19]: I'm not wed to the name.

It's the compounding effects section – synergistic threats/relationships… several things we could call it.

Comment [DMD20]: I think we need to discuss the utility of this section. This discussion is not represented consistently across individual chapters and the bulleted summaries some chapters provide little valuable information compared to the narrative included in other chapters. Do we need to include the compounding effects section in the individual threat chapters and if so what should that look like? If not is it better to summarize here to reduce repetition? Can we eliminate this section entirely or find a way to incorporate it into the discussion below?

Comment [DP21]: CG – make into CE section, should include compounding effects.

CE may be a separate threat chapter.

example – fences not a threat to the species or synergistic. But disease and climate change synergism would be cumulative

include what amelioration factors are happening where – summary of threat and conservation by MZ – including the RM and OTG efforts

Comment [DP22]: Move to own section and out of summary.

Comment [LW 23]: Different from the preceding chapter, this would describe how Agriculture and Infrastructure cumulatively impact the species in MZ 1 (for …

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Comment [DP24]: CG – incorporate appropriate components into individual threat chapters

Comment [DP25]: combine into CE – see comment 21 above

Comment [LW 26]:
- MZ 1 (Montana – Jeff Berglund / North Dakota Kevin Shelley [support from Wyoming and South Dakota) …

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- NPS
- DOD/DOE
- Other?

- Tribal Lands
- State Lands
- Local Lands
  - Private Lands
    - FWS CCAA
    - NRCS SGI
  - Canadian Federal and Provincial Laws and Regulations
- Conservation Measures
  - CED Summaries

Comment [DMD27]: Will this have significant overlap with the discussion under Land Ownership and Management?

Comment [LW 28]: Not sure if it's best to have this here. Or elsewhere…

Comment [GM29]: Subsections will be based on input received in CED

Overall Summary of Species Status and Impacts

Chapter: Overall Summary of Species Status and Impacts

What's new and different since 2010 status determination? Include Changes over Time Table.

- MZ 1 (Montana – TBD [support from Wyoming and South Dakota)
- MZ 2 (Wyoming – TBD [Support from Montana, Colorado, Utah])
- MZ 3 (Nevada – TBD / Utah – TBD)
- MZ 4 (Idaho – TBD [Support from Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Montana])
- MZ 5 (Oregon – TBD [Support from Nevada, California])
- MZ 6 (Washington – TBD)
- MZ 7 (Colorado – TBD)
- Rangewide Summary

Comment [DP30]: CG – this be redundant to the CE chapter, if the CE chapter stands alone –
so this needs to be an overall summary, may not need to provide extensive discussion by MZ as that will be captured above. This should be a summary to the species as a hole.

Comment [DP31]: we should probably also have a range-wide section here

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Support Sections

REFERENCES CITED

APPENDIX A — DEFINITIONS
APPENDIX B — ACRONYMS USED
APPENDIX C — OCCURRENCE TABLE (if too large to include in that section)
APPENDIX D — THREATS SUMMARY TABLE (if too large to include in that section)
APPENDIX E — CHANGES OVER TIME SUMMARY TABLE (if too large to include in that section)
APPENDIX F — MANAGEMENT ZONE (and POPULATION) MAPS
APPENDIX G — NON-REGULATORY MECHANISMS EVALUATED

Comment [GM32]: Place for evaluation of conservation efforts to be attached. Need to discuss if we want this attached or separate from report.

Tools for Writers:

- Chapter Template ***(Amy Nicholas)***
- Occurrence Table ***(Amy Nicholas)***

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- Threat Summary Table ***(Amy Nicholas)***
- Changes over Time Summary Table ***(Amy Nicholas)***

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ff – include certainty by threat about how far out we can project. Identify uncertanities around each time frame (best available/best professional judgment). Don't need an overall time for the finding.

small populations – CG will send example

species report structure – see outline attached, plus notes below

Canada – no threat data layers so analyses will be focused on US for quantification factors. Will still be important to include in the summary of the entire species – need to reference SARA and its threat analyses – maybe look at the historical perspective as to what happened there. For MZ 1 – quantitative analyses for US, but for MZ in its entirety include Canada.

SSA framework – lowest common denominator – MZ – all chapters need to have the same discussion – maybe create a table that is filled out consistently for each MZ to help support the argument/conclusion