From: Matt Kales
To: Barbara Boyle
Cc: Paul Santavy
Subject: RE: sage-grouse lek potential viewing
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 11:17:05 AM

Thank you all and to your folks for this.

From: Barbara Boyle [mailto:barbara_boyle@fws.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 9:33 AM
To: Matt Kales
Cc: Paul Santavy
Subject: Fwd: sage-grouse lek potential viewing

Matt - I should have added. Peak lek viewing is April 14-30. The regional RDT is meeting at Arapaho NWR, Walden, CO April 14-16.

Barbara Boyle
Refuge Supervisor - CO, KS, NE
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
303-236-4308 (wk)
720-315-9395 (cell)

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Berkley, Elizabeth" <elizabeth_berkley@fws.gov>
> **Date:** March 25, 2014 at 8:43:31 AM MDT
> **To:** Barbara Boyle <barbara_boyle@fws.gov>
> **Subject: Re: FW: FW: sage-grouse lek potential viewing**
>
> Hi Barbara,
>
> How about this...
>
> Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge is located in an intermountain, glacial basin commonly known as "North Park" in northwestern Colorado (elevation 8,200 ft). The basin contains several tributaries that converge to form the North Platte River. This area is comprised of sage-steppe uplands, irrigated meadows, and riparian habitat which support a robust population of greater sage-grouse. This ecosystem also provides essential habitat for waterfowl, pronghorn, elk, and is the moose-viewing capital of Colorado! The refuge is surrounded by private ranches, BLM, and state wildlife areas. Oil and gas development is becoming more prevalent throughout the basin.
> There are approximately 30 active leks in North Park; several in close proximity to the refuge on adjacent BLM lands. The lek that would offer the best viewing opportunity is a 15 minute drive from refuge headquarters depending on weather and road conditions. Refuge headquarters is located 8 miles south of the small town of Walden and is approximately a 3 hour and 15 minute drive from Denver International Airport.

Thanks! Have fun with your sister!!!

Lizzy

Elizabeth Berkley
Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge Complex
953 Jackson Co. Rd 32
Walden, CO 80480

Phone: (970) 723-8202 ext. 6
Fax: (970) 723-8528

"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value."
- Theodore Roosevelt, 1910

On Tue, Mar 25, 2014 at 7:39 AM, Barbara Boyle <barbara_boyle@fws.gov> wrote:

Here ya go. If you could just send it back to me it would greatly appreciated!

Barbara Boyle
Refuge Supervisor – CO, KS, NE
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
303-236-4308 (work)
720-315-9395 (cell)

From: Santavy, Paul [mailto:paul_santavy@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Barbara Boyle; Heather Johnson; Kathy Perez
Subject: Fwd: FW: sage-grouse lek potential viewing

An example of what Kales is looking for re the Director sage grouse lek tour. I think a little shorter and more specific to each area (Arapaho, National Elk, and private ranch) would be good. Kales wants ASAP. Thanks!

PAUL SANTAVY, *CFP, AWB*
Deputy Assistant Regional Director
NWRS and PFW
Mountain-Prairie Region
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Phone: 303-236-4304
Cell: 303-515-0809

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Matt Kales** <matt_kales@fws.gov>
Date: Mon, Mar 24, 2014 at 1:41 PM

Subject: FW: sage-grouse lek potential viewing
To: Paul Santavy <paul_santavy@fws.gov>
Cc: Nicole Alt <nicole_alt@fws.gov>

Good example of the content we are seeking for the SG lek viewing prospectus for the Director. Would encourage you/r folks to think and write similarly. (Note Pat captured the "what, where, why and how" criteria I mentioned in my second VM to you.) Thanks.

From: Deibert, Pat [mailto:pat_deibert@fws.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2014 12:16 PM
To: Matt Kales
Subject: sage-grouse lek potential viewing

Matt -

There are several leks around the Big Piney area of Wyoming in the Upper Green River Basin. This area is a great example of sagebrush ecosystems, and supports large populations of mule deer, pronghorn antelope and one of the most robust populations of sage-grouse. It is also home to large scale oil and gas development.

The Big Piney leks are all on BLM land, and are very active. It would be approximately a 90 minute drive from Jackson (I would encourage actually spending the night in Pinedale as the trip through Hoback Canyon can be "sporty" depending on weather conditions, and probably best attempted during daylight if possible. (also helps with the views!). The leks would be approximately 1/2 hour drive from Pinedale.

We can tie in private land folks or BLM if desired, as well as WGFD and the Governor's office (Bob Budd). Lots of opportunities to talk about private land contributions, landscape scales, energy development demands. Great example of impacts on wildlife with creative solutions (Trapper's point overpass for antelope). This area was really the best of the best and still significantly contributes to sage-grouse conservation in Wyoming.

Dan could fly into Jackson and spend time on the NER and visit their leks, then travel to the Big Piney area. Its a nice juxtaposition - small, isolated population on highly fragmented landscapes, to a large open area with a robust population and examples of one of our primary threats. After the viewing in Big Piney, we can return Dan to Jackson (with the much better daylight view of the Hoback) for a flight out in the afternoon.

p

--
Pat Deibert
National Sage-grouse Conservation Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
5353 Yellowstone Road, Suite 308A

Cheyenne, WY 82009
307-772-2374, ext. 226

got leks?