



U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office

Bi-State DPS of Greater Sage-Grouse Proposed Protection



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed to protect the Bi-State Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of greater sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as a threatened species with a special rule.

Genetic markers and long-term geographic isolation from the wider-ranging greater sage-grouse population tell us that the Bi-State DPS of greater sage-grouse is a specific distinct population segment of the wider-ranging greater sage-grouse population.

The DPS's current range is limited to six population management units (PMUs) along the California and Nevada border, which is less than 50 percent of its historical range. Scientists predict that four of the six PMUs could be lost in the foreseeable future.

The greater sage-grouse is a large, ground-nesting bird known for elaborate courtship displays on its breeding grounds. The booming calls of male sage-grouse have long been associated with the arrival of spring on the sagebrush steppe of the West.

