

From: [Norman, Kate](#)
To: [Noreen Walsh](#)
Cc: [Nicole Alt](#); [Michael Thabault](#); [Matt Kales](#)
Subject: GRSG 2015: State Webinar 02/24/2015 (Re: heads up for Dan)
Date: Monday, February 23, 2015 2:46:18 PM
Attachments: [20150224 GRSG TalkPts.docx](#)
[20150224 StateUpdate.pptx](#)

Good Afternoon-

I did not have a chance to talk to Mike, but Nicole shared his edits. We also spoke to Matt Kales this afternoon and have drafted some talking points for Dan.

These documents (presentation and talking points) are available on SharePoint (<https://portal.doi.net/usfws/SG/docs/Forms/0224.aspx>) and attached here for reference.

Please let me know if you have any edits!

Thanks,
K

On Mon, Feb 23, 2015 at 1:28 PM, Noreen Walsh <noreen_walsh@fws.gov> wrote:

Kate,

Did you end up talking to Mike this morning after I did? I'd like to send Dan the ppt as soon as possible along with any points you want him to make in his opening comments, so I was hoping you might have the final version – thanks very much,

Noreen

Noreen Walsh

Regional Director

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Director's Talking Points

Greater sage-grouse Status Review, State Webinar 2/24/2015

- We appreciate our state partners and your ongoing commitment to conservation of the greater sage-grouse.
- We realize this isn't easy or simple, but we've come a long way.
- Thank you for providing your information through our Conservation Efforts Database so that we can better understand the scope of on-the-ground conservation efforts.
- We're committed to inclusiveness and transparency.
- We wanted to take this opportunity, as we did in October and January, to keep you informed of our progress on the status review for greater sage-grouse.
- But we want to keep this conversation broad and dynamic.
- We want to have a conversation and discussion about how we move forward (beyond September 30, 2015).
- This is a long term effort; we'd like to continue to engage the states so we can work collaboratively together into the future.



Greater Sage-grouse Update for States

February 24, 2015

Goals for Today

- **Species Report Progress**
 - Disease
 - Recreation
- **Conservation Efforts Database (CED)**
- **Fire**
- **Additional Updates**
 - Media Schedule (IJNR)
 - Grazing Memo
 - Stronghold Memo



Conversation: Conservation now and in the future

Species Report: Disease - West Nile Virus

- In 2010, we concluded that disease was not a significant threat to the species
- Non-native, mosquito-borne pathogen
- Occurs throughout range of sage-grouse
- Occurrence influenced by temperature, mosquito breeding habitat, precipitation
- July – September transmission season
- For individuals impacted: High mortality, very low resistance
- Greatest impacts to small, isolated populations



Species Report: Recreation

- **Uses:**

- Recreational use of GRSG (Bird watching and photography)
- Recreational Activities in GRSG habitat (hiking, camping, OHV use, etc.)

- **Impacts:**

- Habitat impacts – Localized degradation and fragmentation
- Disturbance to individuals (Noise, Predation, Mortality from crushing/collision)



Conservation Efforts Database

- **Number of Data Providers:** 43 groups (including agencies from 9 states, federal agencies, soil and water conservation districts, industry, and NGOs)
- **Number of Projects Entered:** 6,148
- **Number of Plans Entered:** 110



Fire – SO 3336

Timeline and Deliverables:

- **2/1/2015:** Implementation Plan
 - Organizing document
- **3/1/2015:** Initial Plan – Due March 1
 - Details actions for the 2015 fire season
- **5/1/2015:** Final Plan – Due May 1
 - Details actions for the 2016 fire season and beyond



Fire – SO 3336



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Forests and Rangelands website. The header features a large image of a forest and the title "Forests and Rangelands". Below the header, there is a navigation bar with links to "Home", "Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration", and "About Forests & Rangelands". The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a search bar and a list of links under the heading "Forests & Rangelands Home". The middle column features a large image of a rangeland with the caption "Secretarial Order Number 3336 sets in motion options..." and a paragraph of text. The right column contains two sections: "Highlights" and "Events", each with a list of links and dates.

Forests and Rangelands

About Forests & Rangelands

Home: Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration

Search

Forests & Rangelands Home

Wildland Fire

- Wildland Fire Leadership Council »
- Cohesive Strategy »
- Quadrennial Fire Review (QFR) »
- Wildland Fire Information and Technology (WFIT) »
- Success Stories
- Resources »
- Related Links

Forest Management

- Forest Operations Catalog »
- Stewardship Contracting
- Tools
- Woody Biomass Utilization »

Rangeland Management

- Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration »

Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration



Secretarial Order Number 3336 sets in motion options...

On January 5, 2015, U. S. Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell signed Secretarial Order Number 3336, Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration ("Order") (PDF, 86 KB). The Order sets in motion actions to enhance the protection, conservation, and restoration of a healthy sagebrush-steppe ecosystem, and to address important public safety, economic, cultural, and social concerns. This effort builds upon the experience and success of addressing rangeland fire and the broader wildland fire prevention, suppression and restoration efforts to date. This includes the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and the recent The Next Steppe: Sage-Grouse and Rangeland Fire in the Great Basin conference, and ensures improved coordination with local, state, tribal and regional efforts to address the threat of rangeland fire at a landscape-level.

Highlights

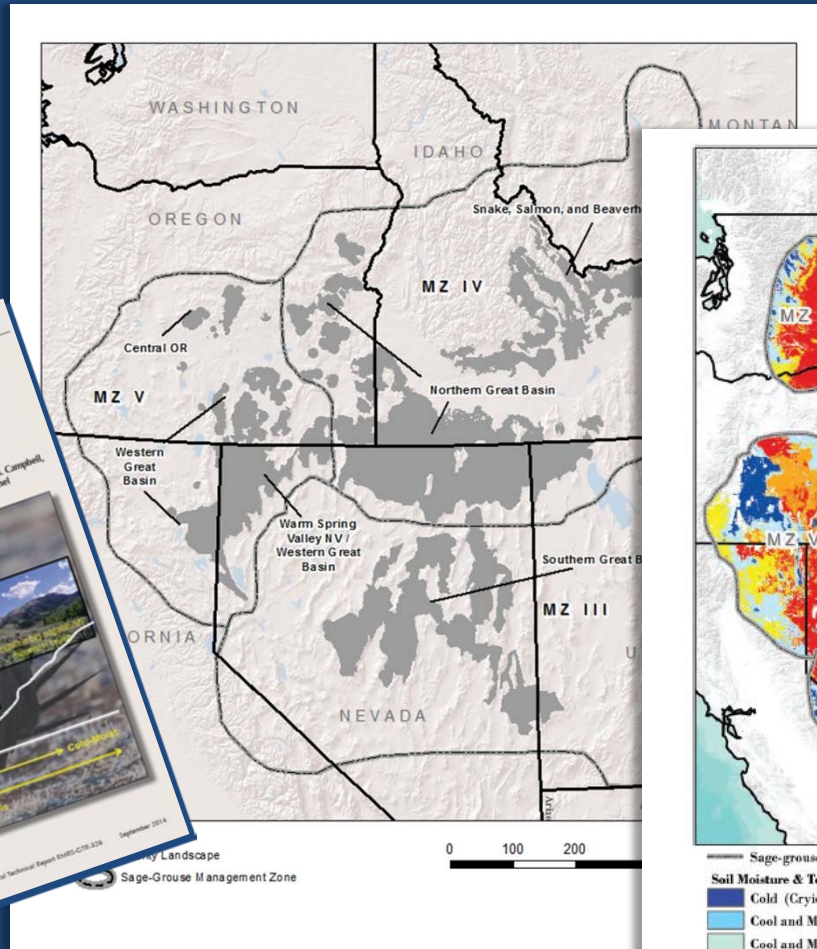
- DRAFT February 17, 2015: SO 3336 The Initial Report A Strategic Plan for Addressing Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration in 2015 (PDF, 564 KB)
- Submit comments about the report online...
- The Implementation Plan, Secretarial Order 3336 - Rangeland Fire Prevention, Management, and Restoration (PDF, 219 KB)
- Frequently Asked Questions about Secretarial Order 3336

Events

- Stakeholder Outreach Listening Session:**
Friday, February 20, 2015
Time: 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. PST
Call Number: 1-877-915-2768
Passcode: 7530552#
- Tribal Consultations:**
February 19, 2015,

<http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/rangeland/index.shtml>





Update: Sagebrush Country Institute

The USFWS supporting a field-based journalism learning expedition with Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources.

4/6: Utah

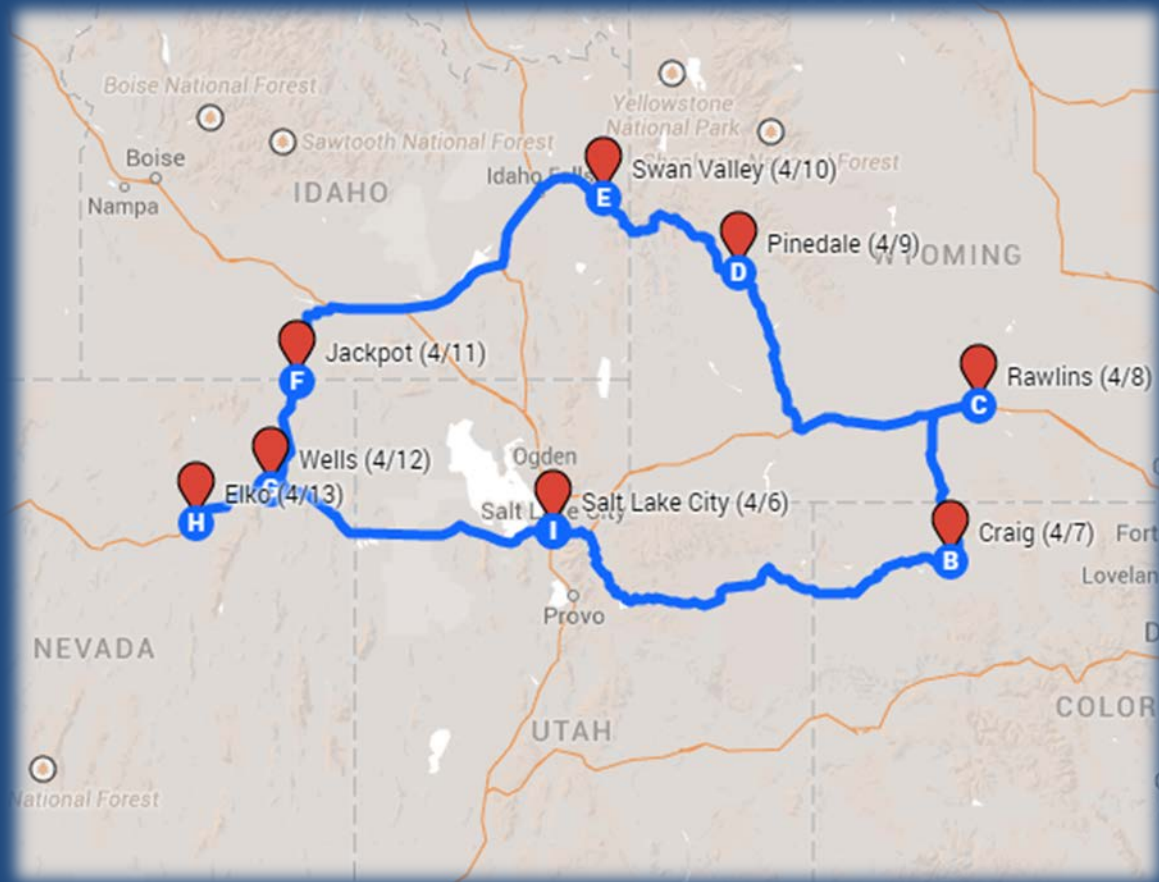
4/7: Colorado

4/8 – 4/9: Wyoming

4/10: Idaho

4/11- 4/12: Nevada

4/13: Nevada and Utah



Other Updates

Grazing and Conservation Collaboration:

The Service recently issued a memo to our personnel providing guidance on our work with rangeland owners.

Strongholds:

At their request, the Service provided to federal landowners recommendation for important areas for sage-grouse conservation.

<https://www.fws.gov/greatersagegrouse/>



Conversation: Conservation now and into the future



Questions

