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To: [Matt Kales](#)
Cc: [Jesse DElia](#); [Mary Grim](#)
Subject: GRSG: prep for SGTF
Date: Thursday, January 15, 2015 11:20:13 AM
Attachments: [Prep for SGTF state bullets 011415.docx](#)

Matt - please see attached. We did not receive information from OR or NV, but I think there is enough here to work with. There is a lot of detail here, although each state only has one bullet. Please feel free to revise as appropriate for the need.

pat

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got leks?

Outstanding issues, outstanding opportunities

- As we shift much of our focus from federal planning efforts to our status review, we believe it is important to identify outstanding issues and the opportunities that remain to address those issues. **Many of these issues, we believe, are ripe for the SGTF and its member states to pursue as we transition from data collection to data analysis.**

Specifically:

- In Utah complete an Executive Order that would direct state agencies to implement avoidance and minimization measures on private, state, and SITLA lands in accordance with the state sage-grouse conservation plan (including implementation of a 4-mile lek buffer and a 3% disturbance cap).
- In Wyoming ensure that the Executive Order is reinstated/reissued without decreasing conservation values/efforts. Keep strong control over exceptions/waivers for the core area
- In the Dakotas, commit all necessary resources to maintain/increase existing GRSG population, including making available the resources to engage key landowners in conservation actions to benefit GRSG. Continue funding research and science support, especially any State support of the SGI biologist to ensure no further reduction in the abundance in distribution of GRSG along the eastern-most extent of the species range.
- In South Dakota follow through on MOU development between SDGF&P and School & Public Lands for project review of activities in GRSG areas and between SDGFP and Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources for project review of activities in GRSG area.
- In Montana fully implement mandatory adherence to the EO by all state agencies (in time to be considered in our status review), with use of a minimum 1-mile lek buffer and application of the mitigation sequence (avoid, minimize, reclaim, compensate) to all core areas, connectivity areas and general habitats. Require compensatory mitigation for all projects that will result in direct, indirect, temporary and permanent impacts so as to achieve a net conservation gain for sage-grouse and their habitats.
- In Colorado, implement and update the state greater sage-grouse conservation plan. Require implementation of conservation measures identified by CPW during HB 07-1298 consultation procedures for oil and gas activities under state jurisdiction and provide sufficient funding and staffing to CPW for the HB 07-1298 consultations. Make mitigation required vs. voluntary for unavoidable impacts on non-federal lands.
- In Idaho finalize commitments for sage grouse conservation measures for State and private lands, including implementation of a mitigation strategy; development of mechanisms and funding for fire prevention and suppression (including additional Rural Fire Protection Associations); development of measures and funding for sage grouse habitat enhancement and restoration; and Increase capacity for sage grouse population and habitat monitoring.

- In Washington support completion of the umbrella CCAA (including necessary funding and staffing) and support development of a CCAA for DNR lands. .
- **FOR ALL STATES:**
 - Encourage voluntary enhancement/restoration of sage grouse habitat, even outside of the core areas. Provide the necessary state staff to accomplish these activities, and provide funding and support for acquiring conservation easements in key sage-grouse habitats.
 - Ensure all state management decisions are based on the best available biological data first and foremost.