

Brainstorm List

- For each population? PAC? – Abundance or proxy (e.g. population growth or patch occupancy)
- Distribution - #(%) of populations persisting
- Geographic Diversity

Habitat projected as an intermediate model, as an intermediate to the population projection.

Abundance, Persistence, and Habitat Discussion

Abundance is difficult because states may measure differently. For this reason, we use population trends over the long-term (20-30 years). Short-term (6-10 years) may not capture the true trend due to the population cycles for this species.

Habitat may not indicate where the birds are, but it can be used to show where we are losing the birds due to lack of suitable habitat. Any model we create will likely involve habitat. However, suitability modeling may be too time intensive for range-wide analysis within our timeframe.

Wrap up of Performance Measures Discussion

Threats and abatement will likely be captured in the response of performance measures (abundance, habitat, etc).

Representation can be captured in terms of genetics. But most often I've seen it defined in general ecological concepts. The things that are on the margins will likely help you adapt. Representation and Resilience are interrelated.

DPS and SPR and Genetics

DPS is a fundamental objective; this geographic entity is valued because it is a unique enough entity, such that it warrants protection on its own. The representativeness is perhaps similar; if you have a greater amount of genetic variation, you may be able to deal with change over time. We've been talking about foreseeable future, but the genetics and evolutionary questions are so far outside the foreseeable future, that maybe that's outside of this discussion.

Although the genetic issues may not be pertinent within the foreseeable future, we must consider this issue for conservation. In this way, some of these discussions may occur in qualitative terms.

In bi-state, unique alleles were found that occurred nowhere else in the range of the greater sage-grouse. That level of uniqueness is not always necessary in order to have a Distinct Population Segment.

We are constructing a DPS framework this spring to assess areas that may be discrete. We are not determining their significance at this point. In order to be prepared to evaluate areas that are smaller than the rest of the sage-grouse range, we need to identify possible areas of interest before we complete our analysis.

Wrap Up, Wednesday, April 9, 2014 – Dave Smith

We've focused on what is our status review look like. What would the performance measures look like.