

DRAFT AND PREDECISIONAL – DO NOT RELEASE

- A. The exact metric has yet to be developed but examples might be percent of populations persisting over time or percent distribution or possibly some index of habitat fragmentation into the future.
- ii. Using expert elicitation with outside parties to solicit input about the degree to which the threat will be relevant and impact sage-grouse into the future; or
- iii. Using structured internal review and analysis to: present, evaluate, analyze, and discuss the best available information; consider risk, exposure to threats and likelihood of persistence; apply appropriate policies

*b. Put in place plans since 2010 that are not yet implemented but that are certain to be implemented and certain to effectively remove or reduce threats in the future – explain how we will analyze this via PECE?*

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We will then assess whether the species rangewide meets the definition of threatened or endangered. The various outcomes from our structured prediction processes, along with the qualitative evaluation of other threats and conservation actions, would be the basis of a structured workshop discussion to present, evaluate, analyze, and discuss the best available information; consider risk, exposure to threats and likelihood of persistence; apply appropriate policies regarding reasonableness and certainty, all leading to a discussion about the likelihood of the species persisting:

This evaluation is informed in large part by:

- a. Current status and trend of the species, and
- b. The degree to which we predict the PACs will persist, with the greatest weight in our evaluation being given to those areas with the highest densities of birds.

Policy considerations at this stage include: how far out are our predictions reliable (i.e., what is the foreseeable future).

10. If the species is not Threatened or Endangered Rangewide

If the species is not Threatened or Endangered rangewide, we will assess whether any distinct population segment meets the definition of threatened or endangered as well as applying our understanding of Significant Portion of the range.

- a. Distinct Population Segment
  - i. What is discrete?
  - ii. What is significant?
    - 1. What is significant in terms of genetic divergence when defining a Distinct Population Segment?
- b. Significant Portion of the Range