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To: [Dan Ashe](#); [Gary Frazer](#); [Noreen Walsh](#); [Michael Thabault](#); [Nicole Alt](#)
Cc: [Anne E Kinsinger](#)
Subject: Release of a New Report on Sage-grouse Conservation Buffers
Date: Friday, November 21, 2014 5:01:48 PM

I assume folks within your agency already sent you links to the sage-grouse conservation buffers report that was released this morning. In case not, below are the links to the report and to the technical announcement. Please let us know if you need anything further.

Technical Announcement/Summary: [Review of Minimum and Maximum Conservation Buffer Distance Estimates for Greater Sage-Grouse and Land-Use Activities](#)

Full Report: [Conservation Buffer Distance Estimates for Greater Sage-Grouse—A Review](#)

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Subject: Release of a New Report on Sage-grouse Conservation Buffers

On Friday, Nov. 21 the USGS will make public on the usgs.gov website a new study titled *Conservation Buffer Distance Estimates for Greater Sage-Grouse*. This peer-reviewed report is a review and synthesis of conservation buffer distances for greater sage-grouse. This assessment was requested by BLM and other DOI leaders in late September. The report summarizes the published literature on quantitative estimates of buffer distances and disturbance thresholds for greater sage-grouse associated with six categories of land use or disturbance (e.g., roads, energy development). For each category, we provide a minimum and maximum buffer distance found in the scientific literature, as well as suggested lower and upper limits based on information in the scientific literature and the review of an expert science team.

Once the report becomes available tomorrow, I will follow-up with a link to the report. I would also like to offer to a briefing on the report early next week if there is interest. Please let me know if you would like a briefing on the report or if I can answer any questions.

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