

Greater Sage-Grouse Species Report Outline: w/ Tasks

4-27-2015

UPDATED 4-27-2015

Introductory and Background Section		
Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
Chapter: Executive Summary <i>Short (2-3 page) summary of the report.</i>	Amy Nicholas	
Chapter: Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory History (including all FR notices and litigation) → Table of the new information and timelines of major achievements. <i>E.g. Buffer report, Logic for developing this landscape strategy. Introducing concepts and terms, like a "consultation history."</i> <i>Include summary that lead to the 2010 finding.</i> 	? Previously Sarah Backsen	Done? Potentially remove all together?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process for 2015 Status Review 	Sarah Backsen	? Low Priority, needs updating
Chapter: Species Description, Range, and Distribution (Amy Nicholas and Craig Hansen)	Amy, Craig, Pat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species Description <i>Where to work the population information.</i> 	Amy/Pat	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taxonomy → <i>Pat removed a lot of the old stuff.</i> 	Pat?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Genetics <i>Paragraph placeholder → Pat did a brief overview(two paragraphs) Uniqueness, connectivity, Holly and Craig will incorporate connectivity etc. with Pat's overview.</i> 	Pat?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Life history and ecology <i>All life stages: breeding, nesting, brood rearing, wintering, movement/migration</i> 	Pat?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical Range 	Amy?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Range/Distribution <i>Placeholder for a map.</i> 	Amy?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Lek Counts/Surveys <i>Population Trends etc.</i> 	Amy?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management Zone Discussion/Description (one for each management zone with reference to populations contained within) Strongholds map – where does it go, is it regulatory? COT 	Pat/Craig/Amy?	

Comment [AB1]: Pat – we weren't sure how much of these are complete based on what you did last week – could you fill out?

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
<p>Report go here? For Reg mechs, it's PACs and Birds, Threats is Occupied Range and Birds.</p> <p>Introduce that the MZs are our unit of analysis (look for old writeup, Unit of Analysis). Pat has a basic description. Perhaps copy COT report description from Bi-state. Abundance model is run by MZ. FRAMEWORK FOR THIS SET THIS WEEK. NEED BY MAY 1. HIGH PRIORITY.</p> <p>Trends and Cycles. Pat will work on and will coordinate with Craig and Holly on connectivity.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o [Figure – WAFWA MZs, populations, and range map] o [Figure – PACs map] o [Figure – Strongholds map] o [Figure - Distribution models by MZ] <p>Ask Kevin → How are these scaled by MZ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o [Table - Numbers from Distribution models by MZ] o [Figure – Abundance models by MZ] o [Table - Numbers from Abundance models by MZ] 	GIS Team?	
<p>Chapter: Land Ownership and Management</p> <p>Summary (2-3 pages) of Ownership, and types of decisions and management actions (regulatory mechanisms) that are associated with each agency/owner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o [Figure - Land Ownership status by MZ] o [Table – Land Ownership status by MZ] o Will revisit with Reg Mechs. 	Jesse	90 percent done, Jesse working on now. High priority

Impacts Analysis

Include threats table to indicate cumulative threats or threat interactions. All threats will use Management Zone as the common spatial scale/unit of analysis.

Habitat Loss and Fragmentation

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
<p>Chapter: (Tier 1) Wildfire (Altered Fire Regime)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has chunks of reg mechs. List of IMs (Instructional Memos, with qualifiers) → need to summarize. • Summary needs to be in there by May 1. 	<p>Review: Steve</p> <p>Original writing: Genevieve Skora</p>	<p>Steve reviewed, working with Genevieve on questions.</p> <p>Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info</p>

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
Chapter: (Tier 1) Noxious Weeds and Invasives	Review: Steve Original writing: Dawn Davis	Steve reviewed, had no suggestions, provided back to Dawn for Species Report slimdown. Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 1) <u>Conifer Encroachment</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Needs to be assigned. Perhaps start with 2010.</i> <i>There could be an Oregon model, summary of conservation efforts with risk from CEDs. NRCS is building the conifer model, model not done by May 1.</i> 	Re-write/Review: Dawn Original writing: Jeff Everett	Dawn re-wrote, provided back to Jeff (due COB 4/24)? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 1) Agricultural Conversion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Who is putting the modeling information in here after May 1?</i> 	Review: Amy Original writing: Joy Gober	Amy reviewed for completeness → Missing pieces (roads, why used predation buffer, but didn't tie back to predation, indirect buffer). Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 1) Oil & Gas	Review: ? Original writing: Amy	Kevin D. add summary of model info? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 2) Mining	Review: Amy Original writing: Ron Baxter	Amy reviewed → As written now, difficult to gauge impacts, and their location; chapter needs to connect the dots to sage-grouse and needs to be slimmed down. Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
Chapter: (Tier 2) Renewable Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind • Solar • Geothermal 	Review: Genevieve (wind), ? Original writing: Lisa Solberg Schwab	Genevieve reviewed wind → Needs to be trimmed, tables combined. Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 2) Infrastructure Road, Power Lines, Communication Towers	Review: Steve Abele Original writing: Heather McPherron	Steve Abel will review the week of 4-27. Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 3) Fences	Review: ? Original writing: Jennifer Siani	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 3) Grazing and Rangeland Management	Review: ? Original writing: Craig Hansen	? – Craig knows he needs to incorporate LHA data. Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 3) Free-Roaming Equids	Review: Steve Original writing: Genevieve Skora	Steve sent questions to Gen. Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 2) Urban and Exurban Development Landfills	Review: ? Original writing: Joy Gober	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 3) Recreation	Review: ? Original writing: Angela Burgess	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
Chapter: (Tier 3) Climate Change	Review: ? Original writing: Holly Freifeld	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info?
Chapter: (Tier 3) Drought	Review: ?	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info?

Overutilization

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Hunting</i>	Review: ? Original writing: Amy Nicholas	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info?
<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Scientific and Education Purposes</i>	Review: ? Original writing: Amy Nicholas	Amy finished.

Disease and Predation

<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Disease</i>	Review: ? Original writing: Holly Freifeld	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info
<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Predation</i>	Review: ? Original writing: Lara Drizd	Is this a Tier 3? Elevate to Tier 2? Tie back to Habitat Loss and Fragmentation.

Other Threat Factors

<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Small population and life history traits affecting population viability</i>	Review? Original writing: Lief	Not yet complete, Low priority.
<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Contaminants (Angela Burgess) Energy Development Other</i>	Review? Original writing: Angela Burgess	? Craig and Angela adding state plan/CCAA info?
<i>Chapter: (Tier 3) Military Activity</i>	Original writing: Pat?	Yakima Training Center is important. Pat waiting for update from Jessi on Yakima, Pat has new info on MT bombing range. Low priority.

Synergistic Impacts

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
Chapter: Threat Interactions <i>This chapter will describe synergistic relationships among threats described in chapters above. These relationships are identified in individual threat chapters under 'Compounding Effects'. This chapter will lead reader into cumulative threats discussion below.</i> <i>(Examples: Fire and Invasives, Fire and Conifer, Anthropogenic disturbance and predators)</i>	Dawn with assistance from Pat	Make sure chapters are consistent. Pick out the Top 5 interactions (e.g Fire and Invasives) maybe come up with a list. Look at Tier levels, a check. Graphic not necessary. Worked on this.

Comment [LW 2]:
May want to change this title of the Chapter subsection to be consistent...

Regulatory Mechanisms and Conservation Efforts

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
Chapter: Federal	Jesse	Jesse has these Landownership percentages now. Yakima Training Center (WA State) DOE (in Idaho, CCA), NPS (Craters of the Moon). FWS (Arapaho NWR , etc), BLM and FS. Need to write up the PECE-like criteria. Federal regulations → Jesse will pull this together next week. BLM and FS. Waiting on FO assistance sent (some back already) and GIS.
Chapter: State	Craig/Jesse	Plug in the FO text and tables. Craig completed summary table and some narratives (by State and by potential threat). Craig has his narratives posted to SP under the Plans/Reg Mech. Page, and will attempt a State narrative for this section. Jesse will review and incorporate.
Chapter: Private Tribal Canada Local	Jesse/Holly/Amy/ Craig	Need to check the WGA report that was recently released. Tribal → Jesse - The SLT is reaching out to Tribes that occupy more than 0.5 percent of the MZ (Wind River, Uinta and Ouray, Duck Valley, Summit Lake). Hunting regulations from Amy? Canada → Holly – draft complete, waiting on small pieces of information. Local → Craig.
Chapter: Conservation Efforts • FIAT Secretarial Order	Dawn	DONE and incorporated by Dawn → Fire and Invasives (Table that breaks down by project and MZ, acres). County weed management areas (table of proportion by MZ9).

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CED Summary 	Holly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare to threat acreages (What goes here and what goes in each chapter). Phased process and numbers. Summary by early next week. Intro paragraphs for CED background. Explain the tables and maps. Done early next week, except for potential delays due to maps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threat acreages are under construction (this goes into the threat chapters). Summaries by MZ and threat all of the projects deemed effective by the FWS. Almost done with summary table of all projects that the proponents deemed complete and effective. Holly is attempting to address overlap between zones and threats (multiple threats and occur in multiple MZs). Will have a clean number by threat across the range. Holly will send the GIS team information for a map of all complete and effective projects entered into the CED and NRCS data not entered into the CED. <p>Threat amelioration calculations for conifer, agriculture, and urbanization.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCA and CCAAs 	Angela	<p>Angela → DONE - summary information about CCAAs/CCAs complete, table similar to Craig's for BLM EISs complete (to document effectiveness for conservation measures by threat). Information summarized by threat to put in each threat chapter.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGI and Working Lands for Wildlife 	Jesse/Kathy/Angela/Dawn/Lief	<p>Kathy provided summary, Angela in process of cleaning up and providing summary to Jesse.</p> <p>Dawn → Need to summarize by specific threat? Conifer, grazing, fences, ag conversion. Perhaps using their report. Dawn going to take Kathy's work and add threat specifics from SGI report.</p> <p>Lief → Going to make map of SGI data for conifer removal. See above under CED.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation Banking 	Drue/Shaina/Lee	Done - summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada (Non-regulatory) 	Holly	draft complete, waiting on small pieces of information.

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
• Other (if needed)	?	?

Cumulative Effects

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
<p>Chapter: Cumulative Threats and Amelioration by Management Zone</p> <p><i>This chapter is the discussion of cumulative threats and plans/action to ameliorate by MZ, as well as the status of sage-grouse in the MZ.</i></p> <p><i>This chapter will identify all threats by MZ, relying on threat interactions described in previous chapter and spatial threat concentration information of primary threats. This allows an examination of primary threats that we have quantitative/spatial information for, and a concomitant examination of other threats tied to the primary threat by MZ.</i></p> <p><i>Additionally, this chapter will describe the efforts implemented and planned to reduce or remove threats and risks on the landscape. Summaries of conservation actions would be summarized from CED, as well as evaluation of plans, policies, and regulatory mechanisms, broken down by MZ.</i></p> <p><i>Lastly, this chapter will describe overall status of sage-grouse in each management zone, based on the cumulative threats and the plans/action aimed at ameliorating them.</i></p>	Steve, with assistance from MZ Leads.	
<p>MZ X (Template) Similar to 2010. Tables and Maps.</p> <p>1.0 Summarize current population size/population trend /habitat extent (Brief – refer reader to appropriate section earlier in the document – differentiate habitat category when describing extent) What is going on in this MZ to remind the reader. Tier to another section.</p>	Steve, with assistance from MZ Leads.	
<p>2.0 Summarize current threats (existing footprint).</p> <p>2.1 Table (Current human footprint with altered indirect buffers)</p> <p>2.11 All threats w/i MZ X</p> <p>2.12 Call out tier's</p> <p>2.13 Calculate % occurrence against 'habitat' and sum</p> <p>2.14 Calculate % fragmentation ???</p> <p>2.15 Call out interactions (synergistic refer up to section)</p> <p>2.2 Map</p> <p>2.21 Swiss cheese map (existing)</p>	Steve, with assistance from MZ Leads.	

Comment [LW 3]:

Relative to the evaluation of conservation plans, each MZ subsection would include information from the following list (as appropriate):

- Laws, regulations, Policies and Management Plans
 - Federal Plans
 - BLM/FS LUP Amendments / Planning efforts
 - Disturbance Monitoring
 - Adaptive Management
 - Mitigation
 - FIAT
 - FWS (Refuges)
 - NPS
 - DOD/DOE
 - State Planning Effort
 - Private Lands
 - FWS CCAA
 - NRCS SGI
 - Tribal Lands
 - Canadian Federal and Provincial Laws and Regulations

Comment [LW 4]:

--- MZ 1 (Montana – Jeff Berglund / North Dakota Kevin Shelley [support from Wyoming and South Dakota])

--- MZ 2 (Wyoming – Lisa Solberg Schwab [Support from Montana, Colorado, Utah])

--- MZ 3 (Nevada – TBD / Utah – TBD) (potentially Jay Martini, Ron Baxter)

--- MZ 4 (Idaho – TBD [Support from Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Montana])

--- MZ 5 (Oregon – TBD [Support from Nevada, California])

--- MZ 6 (Washington – TBD) (potentially Jessi Gonzales, Heather)

--- MZ 7 (Colorado – TBD)

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
3.0 Summarize future potential threats (could marry 3.0 and 4.0) 3.1 Table (Projected human footprint in year 20xx) 3.12 (similar to 2.11–2.15) 3.2 Map 3.12 Swiss cheese map (future)	Steve, with assistance from MZ Leads.	
4.0 Summarize CED/Reg mechanisms 4.1 Table 4.11 Efforts by threat 4.12 Reg mechs by threat (these will differ depending on habitat delineation (e.g., PHMA). 4.2 Map 4.12 What does the future look like given effort/regs Notes: Human footprint today vs Human footprint in future given conservation efforts and reg changes Need to call out phma and ghma to get at difference	Steve, with assistance from MZ Leads.	

Overall Summary of Species Status

Section:	Assigned To:	Status:
Chapter: Overall Summary of Species Status What's new and different since 2010 status determination? May 4 – May 14, Perhaps work on a bulleted list? Rangewide summary, the MZ summary is above. Include Columbia Basin for now.	SLT	

Support Sections

REFERENCES CITED	Lara Drizd	Where are the hardcopies (PDFs) going? What do the Chapter Authors put the Literature PDFs? Low Priority -
APPENDIX A — DEFINITIONS Glossary. Clarifying terminology.		
APPENDIX B — ACRONYMS USED (Erin?)	Erin?	
APPENDIX C — OCCURRENCE TABLE (if too large to include in that section) Reconsider. Low priority		
APPENDIX D — THREATS SUMMARY TABLE (if too large to include in that section) (Amy and Craig)	Amy and Craig?	
APPENDIX E — CHANGES OVER TIME SUMMARY TABLE (if too large to include in that section)		
APPENDIX F — MANAGEMENT ZONE (and POPULATION) MAPS Need by May 1	GIS Team	
APPENDIX G — NON-REGULATORY MECHANISMS EVALUATED		? Still needed?