



# Greater Sage-grouse Status Review

Contaminants

# Contaminants

- Contaminants in GRSG range include:
  - Pesticides (herbicides, insecticides)
  - Oil and gas, drilling chemicals
  - Mining materials and fluids
  - Nuclear materials and waste
  - Fire Retardants
  - Garbage
  - Animal/Human waste
- Direct exposure can cause mortality, abnormal behavior, and increased risk of predation of individuals
- Exposure of GRSG habitat may result in:
  - increased loss of sagebrush, forbs, and grasses,
  - reduced insects, and
  - degraded water sources



# Contaminants

**2010:** Identified as continuing indefinitely, but no evidence that contaminants resulted in local or range-wide declines

## Conservation

- Proper placement and management of sources of contaminants (oil and gas, agriculture, infrastructure, development, wildfire) outside of GRS habitat

## Current

- Impacts individuals sporadically at a local scales
- Unlikely that contaminants cause widespread mortality or declines in sage-grouse populations across management zones (MZ).

