



# Greater Sage-grouse Status Review

Recreation

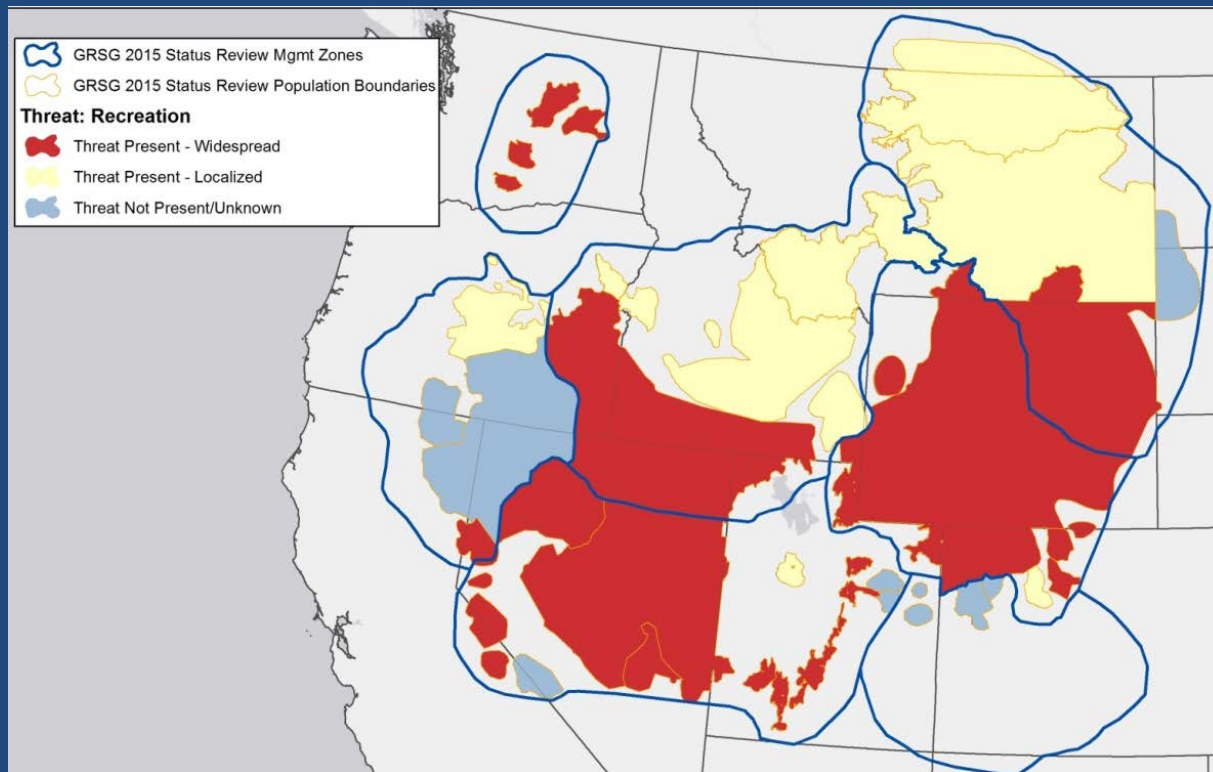
# The Impact

- Recreational use of greater sage-grouse
  - Bird watching or visiting leks, general wildlife viewing, and photography
- Recreational Activities in greater sage-grouse habitat
  - Hiking, camping, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, OHV use, recreational hunting of other species, and shed antler/horn searching



# Location / Extent

- Rangewide, but limited severity and temporary impacts
- Typically concentrated in designated areas



*Figure adapted from Table 2 in the COT Report (2013)*



# Impacts to Sage-Grouse

- Habitat impacts
  - Degradation – vegetation alteration, garbage, invasive species
  - Fragmentation – trails, roads, campgrounds
- Disturbance to individuals
  - Noise and movement
  - Increased predators
  - Mortality from crushing/collision



# Impacts to Sage-Grouse

- Areas of Interest:
  - Recreationalists
  - State and Federal Agencies
- Uncertainties:
  - Limited rangewide data on recreational activities
  - Likely that some areas do have intense recreational use, but likely the exception, not the rule, and seasonally limited to spring (lek viewing), or fall (hunting)



# Summary

- No major changes since 2010
- Recreational use impacts from lek viewing appear to be negligible
- Recreational activities in greater sage-grouse habitat occurs across the range, unlikely that these have significant impacts on populations
- BLM and USFS plans will likely play role in reducing impact of OHVs

