

Sage-Grouse Update

Governor's Office of Species Conservation



Brief History

- ◉ December 2011-Interior Secretary invited Governors to develop plans for sage-grouse conservation on federal lands.
- ◉ March 2012-Governor created Sage-Grouse Task Force begins meeting
- ◉ Summer 2012-Task Force submits recommendations to Governor
- ◉ September 2012-Draft "Governor's Alternative" is submitted to BLM

Revisions & Concurrence

- OSC asked US Fish and Wildlife Service what was needed to obtain "concurrence"
- Fall-2012 worked to revise the Alternative to remedy issues identified by US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Requested "concurrence" in March 2013

Revisions & Concurrence, cont.

- US Fish and Wildlife “concurred” on major components
 - › Objectives, conservation areas, zones, adaptive management framework, and grazing
- Requested refinement and further detail on other components
 - › Implementation, infrastructure, mitigation strategy, wildfire
- BLM also requested clarification of the Alternative for the Administrative Environmental Impact Statement

Administrative Draft

- OSC and IDFG worked through the summer to ensure the Governor's Alternative was captured correctly by BLM in the ADEIS
- ADEIS was released for Agency cooperator review in August 2013
- August 19, 2013-OSC allows ADEIS to move to next stage of review at the Washington Office

What's Next

- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) published around October 11, 2013
- Final Comments due January 11, 2013 (or, 90 days after published)
- OSC is lead agency for coordinating state agency comments
- Record of Decision (ROD) must be completed by September 2014
- Governor Otter plans to meet with Secretary Jewell in late October