

# Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-Grouse

Proposed  
Land Use Plan Amendment and  
Final Environmental Impact Statement



## Volume I: Executive Summary, Chapters 1 and 2

US Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

US Department of Agriculture  
Forest Service

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Forest Service

BLM



The Bureau of Land Management's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

BLM/NV/NV/ES/15-09+1793

Cover Photo: Steve Ting

## Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-Grouse Final Environmental Impact Statement

1. Responsible Agency: United States Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management
2. Type of Action: Administrative () Legislative ()
3. Document Status: Draft () Final ()
4. Abstract: This Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service with assistance from 24 cooperating agencies/entities. It describes and analyzes seven alternatives for managing Greater Sage-grouse (GRSG) habitat on BLM-administered and National Forest System lands in Nevada and Northeastern California. Federal lands in the planning area are managed by five Nevada BLM district offices (Battle Mountain, Carson City, Elko, Ely, and Winnemucca), three California BLM field offices (Alturas, Eagle Lakes, and Surprise), two Idaho BLM field offices (Jarvis and Bruneau) via an MOU, and one national forest (Humboldt-Toiyabe). The sub-regional planning area spans portions of 16 Nevada counties, four California Counties, and one Idaho County (Owyhee). Alternative A is a continuation of current management (No Action Alternative); use of public lands and resources would continue to be managed under the current BLM and Forest Service land use plans, as amended. Alternative B describes management actions from the Sage-Grouse National Technical Team's *A Report on National Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Measures*. Alternative C describes management actions submitted by various citizen groups. Alternative D was the agencies' preferred alternative in the Draft EIS and describes management actions developed by adapting the National Technical Team measures to the Nevada and Northeastern California sub-region. Alternative E is based on the State of Nevada's Conservation Plan for GRSG and would apply to lands within Nevada only. Alternative F describes management actions submitted by individuals and conservation groups. The Proposed Plan is a variation of Alternative D, the preferred alternative in the Draft EIS, and includes elements of other alternatives. The Proposed Plan represents the agencies' proposed management approach, it reflects the best combination of decisions to achieve BLM and Forest Service goals and policies, meet the purpose and need, and address the key planning issues. It also considers public comments received on the Draft EIS and incorporates many of the recommendations provided by cooperating agencies. The alternatives present a range of management actions to achieve the goal to conserve, enhance, and restore the habitats upon which GRSG populations in the Nevada and Northeastern California sub-region depend. Major planning issues addressed in the document correspond with and seek to alleviate the threats identified in a report by the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Sage-Grouse Conservation Objective Team; these include wildland fire management, vegetation management, livestock grazing, and lands and realty actions.
5. Protests: Protests must be postmarked or received no later than 30 days after publication of the US Environmental Protection Agency Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. Refer to the instructions in the letter preceding this abstract for additional information on how to protest. The close of the protest period will be announced in news releases and on the Nevada and

Northeastern California website: [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/wildlife/greater\\_sage-grouse.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/wildlife/greater_sage-grouse.html).

6. For further information contact:

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