

## Erin Jones

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**From:** Nancy Merrill  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 17, 2013 10:46 AM  
**To:** blm\_co\_nw\_sage\_grouse@blm.gov  
**Subject:** BLM - Greater Sage Grouse EIS

BLM

The Greater Sage Grouse is one of the West's most iconic species. We must do all that we can to save this species.

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Greater Sage Grouse EIS. Please consider the following as you update standards in your management plans to conserve sage grouse.

The BLM is doing the right thing by taking the initiative to improve conservation of greater sage grouse, before the only option left to protect the bird is a listing under the Endangered Species Act.

The greater sage grouse is an important part of the web of life in sagebrush public lands across the western United States. Future generations should have the opportunity to visit natural areas and see this majestic bird and its fascinating mating dance.

In order to protect the highest quality habitat, the BLM should not rely on management provisions such as "no surface occupancy" stipulations, as these can be waived. Instead, the BLM should make permanent mineral withdrawals in the highest quality areas. If the BLM does consider applying "no surface occupancy" stipulations to these areas, all waivers, modifications and exemptions should be limited.

The BLM should also consider using tools such as lease buy-backs, amending or canceling leases in important habitat. The BLM should also work to utilize management tools and designations in a manner that highlights the most important habitat.

Finally, there is substantial overlap with Lands with Wilderness Character (LWC) units and Preliminary Priority Habitat throughout the Little Snake and White River BLM Office. Managing to protect wilderness character also protects critical grouse habitat.

I ask that the BLM put important safeguards in place in its long-term management plans, to save the sage grouse and conserve our land, water and wildlife for future generations to enjoy. I feel this is of critical importance to all of us-ranchers, hunters, birdwatchers, tourists, citizens.

Thank you.

Nancy Merrill  
40515 County Road 69A  
Hayden, CO 81639-9504  
970-276-1932

## Erin Jones

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**From:** Tehri Parker  
**Sent:** Friday, November 15, 2013 10:33 AM  
**To:** blm\_co\_nw\_sage\_grouse@blm.gov  
**Subject:** BLM - Greater Sage Grouse EIS

BLM

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Greater Sage Grouse EIS. Please consider the following as you update standards in your management plans to conserve sage grouse.

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Thank you.

Tehri Parker  
27659 Misty Rd  
Golden, CO 80403-8167

## Erin Jones

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**From:** Carol Putnam  
**Sent:** Friday, November 15, 2013 9:09 AM  
**To:** blm\_co\_nw\_sage\_grouse@blm.gov  
**Subject:** BLM - Greater Sage Grouse EIS

BLM

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Thank you.

Carol Putnam  
P.O. Box 759  
La Veta, CA 81055

## Erin Jones

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**From:** Jana Harris  
**Sent:** Friday, November 15, 2013 7:42 AM  
**To:** blm\_co\_nw\_sage\_grouse@blm.gov  
**Subject:** BLM - Greater Sage Grouse EIS

BLM

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I ask that the BLM put important safeguards in place in its long-term management plans, to save the sage grouse and conserve our land, water and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you.

Jana Harris  
11847 N. Jackson Circle  
Thornton, CO 80233-1627  
303-452-8151