
APPENDIX F—PREDATOR MANAGEMENT

F.1 INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service) will implement strategies and techniques in land management decisions that minimize the threat predators pose to sage-grouse. The land management agencies will also support and encourage other landowners and agencies in their efforts to minimize impacts from predators on sage-grouse where needs have been documented.

F.2 REQUIRED DESIGN FEATURES RELATIVE TO SAGE-GROUSE PREDATORS IN LAND MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Project proponents are encouraged to include all appropriate conservation measures in their proposals. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the U.S. Forest Service (Forest Service) will require application of all appropriate conservation measures, warranted by site-specific analysis, in order to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, or compensate for impacts. Conservation measures not included in project proposals and determined appropriate from the site-specific analysis will be required as Conditions of Approval (COAs), stipulations, terms and conditions, etcetera. Additional COAs developed through consultation with other federal, state, and local regulatory and resource agencies may be applied when supported by site-specific analysis.

Required Design Features include but are not limited to the following:

- Prohibit open dumps.
- Require appropriate disposal of animal carcasses.
- Construct or modify vertical structures in a manner that prevents nesting or perching by scavengers or raptors.
- Require raptor perch deterrents on power poles as a component of permit issuance or renewal according to Avian Power Line Interaction Committee (APLIC) 2012 standards (*APLIC 2012. Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines and Mitigating Bird Collisions with Power Lines.* <http://aplic.org>).
- Remove vertical structures, such as utility poles, buildings, or windmills, where feasible and where these structures are either no longer necessary or operational.
- Minimize creation of new roads.
- Remove roads, unimproved roads, and two-tracks in core sage-grouse habitats according to travel management plans and restore sagebrush habitat.
- Dispose of all garbage in containers that cannot be opened by animals.
- Inventory and monitor predator populations by project proponents.
- Identify and replace operational windmills with solar pumps.

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