



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management

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# Greater Sage-Grouse

Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement



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.

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**Greater Sage-Grouse Rangewide Planning**  
**Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and**  
**Draft Environmental Impact Statement**  
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**Responsible Agency:** United States Department of the Interior,  
Bureau of Land Management

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**Abstract:** This draft resource management plan (RMP) amendment and draft environmental impact statement (EIS) has been prepared by the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with input from cooperating agencies. This document considers amendments to 76 BLM RMPs across the range of greater sage-grouse (GRSG). The draft EIS describes and analyzes six alternatives for adjusting a subset of specific GRSG habitat management on BLM-administered surface estate and split-estate lands with BLM-administered subsurface mineral rights directly underlying non-federal ownership. Alternative 1 is a continuation of current management; use of public lands and resources would continue to be managed under the BLM RMPs, as amended in 2015. Alternative 2 represents a continuation of management under the BLM RMPs amended in 2019. Alternative 3 represents the alternative with the most restrictions on resource uses to preserve GRSG. Alternative 4 was developed by the BLM to update the habitat management area boundaries and associated management based on new information and science that has become available since the 2015 and 2019 efforts. Alternative 5 was developed to consider other potential alignments of habitat management areas and associated management to try and balance GRSG conservation with public land uses. Under Alternative 6, management for all habitat management areas and the management actions being considered in the range of alternatives would be the same as described for Alternative 5, but with the addition of ACECs. Alternative 5 is the agency's preferred alternative, though this does not constitute a final decision and there is no requirement that the preferred alternative identified in the draft EIS be selected as the agency's decision in the Record of Decision. Major planning actions addressed include habitat management area boundaries, disturbance caps, habitat objectives, adaptive management, mitigation, energy and minerals, renewable energy, livestock grazing, wild horses and burros, and minimizing threats from predation.

**Review Period:** Comments on the Greater Sage-Grouse Draft Resource Management Plan Amendment and Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be accepted for 90 calendar days following publication of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability in the Federal Register.

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## ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

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Full Phrase

°F	degrees Fahrenheit
ACEC	area of critical environmental concern
ADH	all designated habitat
AML	appropriate management level
AMP	allotment management plans
AO	authorized officer
APD	application for permit to drill
ARMPA	approved resource management plan amendment
AUM	animal unit month
BCC 2021	Birds of Conservation Concern 2021
BFO	Butte Field Office
BLM	United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
BMP	best management practices
BSU	biologically significant unit
CA	California
CBNG	coalbed natural gas
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFA	causal factor analysis
CFR	code of federal regulations
CHMA	Connectivity Habitat Management Area
CO	Colorado
COA	conditions of approval
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
CO <sub>2</sub> e	carbon dioxide equivalent
COT	Conservation Objectives Team
CRVFO	Colorado River Valley Field Office
CSU	controlled surface use
CWA	Clean Water Act
DDT	dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
DDCT	density and disturbance calculation tool
DK	North and South Dakota
DOI	United States Department of the Interior
EGS	Enhanced Geothermal Systems
EIS	environmental impact statement
EOI	Expression of Interest
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESD	Ecological Site Description
ESR	emergency stabilization and rehabilitation
EVT	existing vegetation type
ES&R	Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation

FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
FR	federal regulation
GBBO	Great Basin Bird Observatory
GHG	greenhouse gas
GHMAs	general habitat management areas
GIS	geographic information system
GJFO	Grand Junction Field Office
GPS	global positioning system
GRSG	greater sage-grouse
HAs	herd areas
HAF	habitat assessment framework
HAP	hazardous air pollutant
HBP	held by production
HMAs	habitat management areas
ID	Idaho
IHMAs	important habitat management areas
IM	instruction memorandum
IPaC	Information for Planning and Consultation
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KPLA	known phosphate lease areas
kV	kilovolt
LCHMA	linkage and connectivity habitat management area
LCT	Lahontan cutthroat trout
LMA	linkage management area
LUP	land use plan
LUPA	land use plan amendment
LWC	lands with wilderness characteristics
MA	management area
MD	management direction
MLB	management of land boundary
MR	mineral resources
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration
MT	Montana
MW	megawatt
MZ	management zone
NAAQS	national ambient air quality standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
ND	North Dakota
NDOW	Nevada Department of Wildlife
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended
NIFC	National Interagency Fire Center
NOx	nitrogen oxides
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSO	no surface occupancy

NTT	National Technical Team
NV	Nevada
OHMA	other habitat management areas
OHV	off-highway vehicle
OR	Oregon
PAC	priority area of conservation
PEIS	programmatic environmental impact statement
PHMAs	priority habitat management areas
PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter with a diameter less than or equal to 10 microns
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	particulate matter with a diameter less than or equal to 2.5 microns
RA	Restoration Area
RDF	required design feature
RFD	reasonably foreseeable development
RHMA	restoration habitat management area
RIPS	Rangeland Improvement Project System
RMP	resource management plan
RMPA	resource management plan amendment
RNA	research natural area
ROD	record of decision
ROW	right-of-way
SD	South Dakota
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SFAs	sagebrush focal areas
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SMA	Surface Management Agency
SO	Secretarial Order
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SRP	special recreation permit
SSS	special status species
STM	State and Transition Model
TAWS	targeted annual warning system
T&C	terms and conditions
TL	timing limitation
TUP	temporary use permit
UMRBNM	Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument
US	United States
USC	United States Code
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
UT	Utah
VOC	volatile organic compound

<b>WEM</b>	waivers, exceptions, and modifications
<b>WHB HMAs</b>	wild horses and burros herd management areas
<b>WO</b>	Washington Office
<b>WSA</b>	wilderness study area
<b>WY</b>	Wyoming