

Challenges

The nature and magnitude of the conservation challenge facing Nevada's citizens to preserve the Sage Grouse as a permanent living feature of our natural heritage is significant.

Challenges that must be addressed:

- ◆ *Shrinking Rangelwide Distribution*
- ◆ *Deteriorating Status in Nevada*
- ◆ *Landscape Scale Management*
- ◆ *Population and Habitat Risks*
- ◆ *Human-Related Challenges*
- ◆ *Consequences of Listing*

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 117 RENO, NV

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE:

ATTN: NEVADA SAGE GROUSE
CONSERVATION PROJECT
NEVADA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
1100 VALLEY RD
RENO NV 89512-9924

How You Can Help

The Governor's Sage Grouse Conservation Team is asking you to help with this important effort. The Governor has asked local governments and leaders to form and guide planning groups to develop local area plans. They need your participation, knowledge, and ideas to be successful. Local Area Conservation Planning (LACP) groups will learn about Sage Grouse and identify species' needs and human needs in their area. The goal of this proactive planning effort is to restore Sage Grouse, provide for public input at the local level, while keeping land use options flexible.

Our Opportunity

Since most Sage Grouse and their sagebrush habitats are located in the northern two-thirds of rural Nevada, rural areas and people will feel the biggest impacts of plan implementation. Highly dependent on natural resources, rural Nevada residents and their local economies are particularly susceptible to changes in natural resource management. Through the development of Local Area Conservation Plans, Nevada residents in cooperation with state and federal resource agencies and Indian tribes will have the opportunity to develop plans that meet their needs.

PLANNING TEAMS WILL BE ORGANIZING IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2001.

If you would like to help please take the time to cut out and complete the attached post card and mail it today! We need and want your participation.

Nevada's Sage Grouse Conservation Project

—Local Area Conservation Planning Effort—



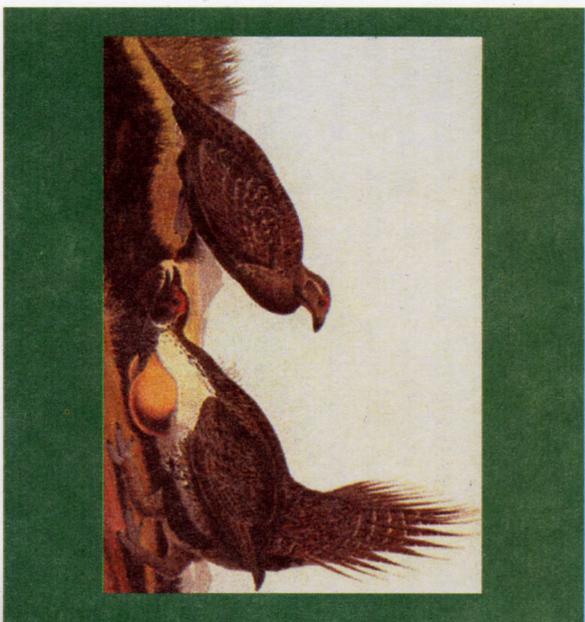
Introduction

The decline of Sage Grouse across the West has resulted in petitions for listing of local populations of Sage Grouse as an endangered species in the states of Washington, Utah and Colorado. Some concerned citizens have advocated a range-wide listing.

The listing of the Sage Grouse as an endangered species would have a significant impact on Nevada. Since the species is found statewide except in Clark County, land development and use, water use and recreational activities would be affected, impacting local economies in the process.

In response to these concerns, Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn called together a diverse group of interested parties in August of 2000 to develop a statewide Sage Grouse Conservation Plan. Called the Governor's Sage Grouse Conservation Team, and representing the diverse interests of the state, this group has prepared a planning system that offers tools, resources and current scientific information to formulate Sage Grouse conservation plans that emphasize local involvement and decision-making.

Traditionally, the responsibility for species and habitat management has been divided between various authorities that have often worked independently, producing ineffective results. Development of Sage Grouse conservation plans through local collaborative planning processes provides a critical opportunity to coordinate current land and bird management activities through a single integrated process, using adaptive management techniques. By working together, stakeholders have the opportunity to develop and implement an effective Sage Grouse conservation program that will



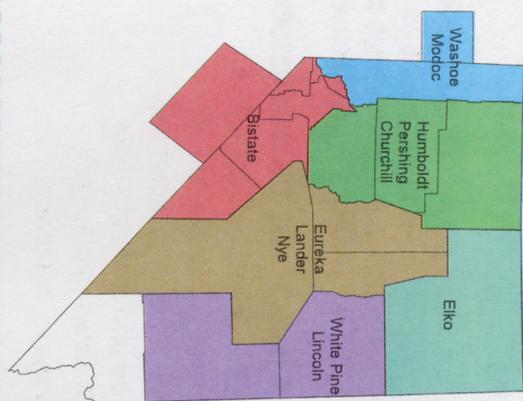
balance the needs for sagebrush habitat, Sage Grouse populations, and economic considerations.

The Bird

Sage Grouse are the largest of the North American grouse. Males range from 27 to 34 inches in length and weigh five to seven pounds, while females are 18 to 24 inches in length and weigh from two to three pounds. They are a grayish-brown bird with a dark belly and long, pointed tail feathers.

Sage Grouse are found in all of the western states except Arizona and New Mexico. They are distributed throughout Nevada wherever sagebrush is found. The birds are considered a "landscape scale" species, meaning that they require vast tracts of acceptable habitat to fulfill their life history requirements.

Sage Grouse numbers have been declining in Nevada, and distribution has shrunk with widespread habitat losses.



Yes. Governor Guinn I would like to help conserve Nevada's Sage Grouse resource by participating on a local area sage grouse planning team.

Governor, I cannot participate in a local area planning group, but I am concerned about my Sage Grouse resource. I would like to receive information about this effort.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: W _____ H _____

Email: _____

Local Area Planning Unit(s) that you would like to participate in:
(See map above)