

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO EVALUATE GREATER SAGE-GROUSE CONSERVATION MEASURES

April 28, 2016

The State of Wyoming, through the Governor's Office, Sage-Grouse Implementation Team, and the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust (WWNRT), are calling for proposals from the public to evaluate the effectiveness of existing Greater Sage-Grouse conservation measures in Wyoming, and to address potential data gaps. This is a time-sensitive request. Interested applicants should demonstrate clearly the methods, timeline, and outcomes of each proposal. The following areas of study are identified as priorities for research and analysis:

Regulatory Certainty and Practices (including, but not limited to):

- Inventory and analysis of existing conservation efforts and restrictions in order to evaluate the regulatory certainty and effectiveness of efforts, including the effectiveness of existing disturbance thresholds, conservation practices (e.g. directional or horizontal drilling, seasonal stipulations), industry implemented best management practices, and reclamation/restoration efforts.
- Analysis of noise impacts on Greater Sage-Grouse.
- Analysis of reclamation standards, practices, and methods to enhance and expedite recovery of lands that have been disturbed.

Core Area/Greater Sage Grouse Habitat Health Assessment (including, but not limited to):

- Greater Sage-Grouse habitat quality assessment within core areas, including analysis of impacts and improvements as a result of the Governor's Executive Order 2015-4.
- Identification, collection and analysis of metrics used to evaluate core area health and impacts on Greater Sage-Grouse.
- Analysis of potential stress factors in winter concentration areas, and identification of potential thresholds that may lead to non-use of winter concentration areas.

Predators (including, but not limited to):

- Impacts to Greater Sage-Grouse from predators.
- Greater Sage-Grouse response to predator control.

Other topics (including, but not limited to):

- Collection and/or analysis of data to fill information gaps.

All proposals should include a thorough and current review of all pertinent literature related to the inquiry if appropriate, goals, objectives, a complete budget and projected timeline.

Timeline:

- Proposals should be submitted to the WWNRT, Hathaway Building, Suite 161 C, 2300 Capitol Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82002 no later than 20 May 2016. An electronic copy should also be sent to mary.flanderka@wyo.gov.
- Successful applicants will be notified by 15 June 2016.
- Projects should be completed no later than 30 June, 2017.

Questions should be directed to Bob Budd, WWNRT, 307-777-8024.