

From: [Fairbairn, Steve](#)
To: [Gillian Bee](#)
Cc: [Scott Larson](#); [Terry Quesinberry](#)
Subject: Re: Questions/Concerns for USFWS
Date: Friday, March 28, 2014 7:21:32 AM

Hi Gillian, thanks for the insight. I am certainly not the sage grouse expert for the FWS so I am going to defer and forward these questions/comments on to our folks in the Ecological Services office in Pierre.

Steve

On Thu, Mar 27, 2014 at 8:55 AM, Gillian Bee <gbee@pheasantsforever.org> wrote:

Hey Steve,

So I heard back from a few landowners about their concerns with the potential listing of Sage Grouse. It would be great if we could have these addressed by USFWS to ease the landowners minds. I think many of them feel they are not being heard, and are unable to get their questions answered. If USFWS does not have an answer for certain questions that is fine, the landowners would just like a response of some sort...a response of "we do not know" would suffice.

I just want to clarify these are questions/concerns from the landowners and in no way reflect my opinions.

These are related to if SAGR is listed...

- Would USFWS be able to regulate what is done on private lands? If so, how is this regulation enforced?
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- Would regulations be particular to regions (i.e. Dakotas vs. Great Basin), or would the regulations be range wide?
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- Is habitat degradation (sodbusting, burning etc.) on private land considered a take?
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- Would haying of native range, combining of grass for seed. and breaking ground to

plant hayland be considered a take?

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- What could be regulated on pastures that contain leks?

These are related to predation...

- Does USFWS consider predation a threat to SAGR? Is this threat related to the need to list the bird?
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- If yes, how does the agency look to address this threat?
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- If no, could the agency explain why they do not see it as a threat?
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- Would they ever consider the use of single dose toxicants?
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- Producers see more raptors than in the past
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- They observe raptors near leks quite often.
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- What is the agencies thoughts on raptors and SAGR?

Thanks!

Gillian

Gillian Bee

Range & Wildlife Conservationist

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