

From: [Noreen Walsh](#)
To: [Gary Frazer](#); [Matt Hogan](#); [Michael Thabault](#); [Michael Bean](#); [Ren Lohofener](#); [Robyn Thorson](#)
Subject: RE: UPDATE: ALERT: Pending release of Greater Sage-grouse National Research Strategy
Date: Saturday, September 07, 2013 12:02:01 PM

I am checking with Steve Torbit, ARD-SA. It is possible he had an opportunity to review this in draft. I have not seen it before.

Noreen Walsh
Regional Director
Mountain-Prairie Region
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

303 236 7920

***The Mountain-Prairie Region of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service:** We provide conservation stewardship of some of America's most scenic lands, to ensure healthy fish and wildlife for the enjoyment and benefit of all people.*

From: Gary Frazer [mailto:gary_frazer@fws.gov]
Sent: Saturday, September 07, 2013 11:50 AM
To: Noreen Walsh; Matt Hogan; Michael Thabault; Michael BEAN; Ren Lohofener; Robyn Thorson
Subject: Fwd: UPDATE: ALERT: Pending release of Greater Sage-grouse National Research Strategy

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Gross, Sharon" <sgross@usgs.gov>
Date: September 7, 2013, 9:10:09 AM EDT
To: Gaby Chavarria <gchavarria@defenders.org>, Gary Frazer <gary_frazer@fws.gov>, Anne E Kinsinger <akinsinger@usgs.gov>, William Lellis <wlellis@usgs.gov>, Matthew E Andersen <mandersen@usgs.gov>
Subject: Fwd: UPDATE: ALERT: Pending release of Greater Sage-grouse National Research Strategy

Gary, Gaby

Just wanted to be sure you knew that this publication was now available - per the email below we had planned to release it for AFWA -- the link to the online document is below.

Suggested citation:

Hanser, S.E., and Manier, D.J., 2013, Greater Sage-Grouse National Research Strategy: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2013-5167, 46 p. plus appendix, <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2013/5167/>.

The URL for this publication is <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2013/5167>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Phillips, Sue** <sue_phillips@usgs.gov>

Date: Wed, Aug 28, 2013 at 1:52 PM

Subject: UPDATE: ALERT: Pending release of Greater Sage-grouse National Research Strategy

To: Anne Kinsinger <akinsinger@usgs.gov>, William A Lellis <wlellis@usgs.gov>, Max Ethridge <methridge@usgs.gov>, Nancy K Lee <nlee@usgs.gov>, Sharon Gross <sgross@usgs.gov>, Matthew Andersen <mandersen@usgs.gov>, David Hamilton <hamiltond@usgs.gov>, Zachary Bowen <bowenz@usgs.gov>, Justin Pressfield <jpressfield@usgs.gov>, Paul Laustsen <plaustsen@usgs.gov>

Cc: Carol Schuler <cschuler@usgs.gov>, Ruth W Jacobs <ruth_jacobs@usgs.gov>

The Sage-grouse National Research Strategy has received Bureau approval and is with SPN to complete layout, so it is officially in press.

We anticipate being ready to release this Scientific Investigations Report on 9/10 in time for Nancy Lee to distribute copies to members of the Sage-Grouse Executive Oversight Committee of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. She meets with them the morning of 9/10.

On Tue, Aug 27, 2013 at 11:45 AM, Phillips, Sue <sue_phillips@usgs.gov> wrote:

I want to alert you to the pending release of the Greater Sage-grouse National Research Strategy. This USGS Scientific Investigations Report, which is authored by scientists from the Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center and the Fort Collins Science Center, is currently under review with the USGS Bureau Approving Official. The goal is to release this report the second week of September, 2013.

The Greater Sage-grouse is the subject of considerable management and research interest, and that interest has increased with anticipation of a 2015 decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. At that time, the Service will make a final decision about whether or not to propose protecting the species under the Endangered Species Act. The Sage-grouse Executive Oversight Committee of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies requested that the USGS lead the development of this strategy late in 2012. They were interested in identifying priority research needs, helping to guide funding for future research, and eliminating redundancy in efforts.

The research strategy provides a conceptual framework for future research in order to ensure that research needs are identified and documented in a comprehensive manner. The USGS anticipates that it will support planning, prioritization, and resource management, and will help engage members of an expansive management and science community in efforts to address priority research needs. Specific objectives are to:

- Characterize the full range of questions and issues expressed by managers and researchers relating to the management and conservation of sage-grouse and sagebrush ecosystems
- Prioritize identified gaps according to management needs.

The timing of the release is to coincide with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Annual Meeting, which is being held September 8-11 in Portland, OR. At this meeting, the USGS plans to give a presentation about the final document and provide printed copies to the Sage-grouse Executive Oversight Committee.

I will send you a note when this document receives Bureau approval and is formally in press.

Sue

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