**Gunnison Sage-grouse Research Progress Report**

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## RESEARCH PROJECTS

### *1. Local knowledge of Gunnison Sage-grouse.*

GOALS: Project goals are to 1) document local knowledge of the habitat, behavior, ecology and potential management strategies for the Gunnison Sage-grouse and 2) assess conservation efforts in the Gunnison Basin to learn from past successes and failures.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Compiled participant recommendations from members of the Gunnison Sage-grouse Strategic Committee so that I could identify people to speak with (those who received three or more recommendations).
- Conducted twenty-six (26) interviews with long-term agency employees (4); residents (5); biologists (12); and ranchers (5); who have long-time observations and knowledge of the grouse.
- Transcribed interviews.
- Begun to analyze data and draft results.
- Accepted to present results at the National Society of Range Management (SRM) meeting. This is the annual meeting of the professional society dedicated to sustainable rangeland management (http://rangelands.org/oklahoma_city2013/)

### *2. Long-term ecological and social implications of the potential ESA listing.*

GOALS: This project assesses the long-term implications of an Endangered Species Act listing of the Gunnison Sage-grouse on land and water dynamics as well as impacts to active agricultural operations within the Gunnison Basin.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed in-person surveys with 41 active ranchers in the Gunnison Basin
- Accepted to present results at the National Applied Anthropology (AA) meeting. This is the professional society of applied anthropologists (http://www.sfaa.net/sfaa2013.html).

## TIMELINE

- December 2012: Drafting preliminary results for local knowledge project.
- January 2013: Drafting preliminary results for long-term implications project.
- February 2013: Submit comments based on research to the US Fish & Wildlife Service during the 60 day Gunnison Sage-grouse Proposed Rule comment period.
- February 2013: Present local knowledge project at SRM meeting in Oklahoma City.
- March 2013: Present research results at public meeting in Gunnison.
- March 2013: Present ESA implications project at AA meeting in Denver.
- April 2013: Final report completed.

## THANKS

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