Greater Sage-Grouse Status Decision

Taylor Cotten Conservation Assessment Manager– Wildlife Program



Listing Process Guided by WAC 220-610-110

- Periodic review of status every 5 years last Sage-Grouse PSR 2016
- Listing recommendations and decisions "...solely on the basis of the biological status of the species being considered, based on the preponderance of scientific data available."
- Diversity Division drafted and solicited 90 public comment and SEPA review
- Seeking decisions on status recommendation

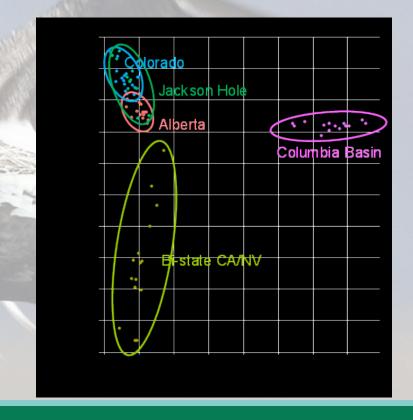
Greater Sage-Grouse in Washington: Recommend uplisting to Endangered



2020 population ~770 birds; effective population size <120 birds, 107 in only Douglas Co.

Population likely to decline ≥ 50% following 2020 fires, supported by preliminary 2021 data

Columbia Basin Greater Sage-Grouse "highly differentiated" genetically and morphologically from other populations





Public Comment

- Recommend uplisting from Threatened to Endangered
 - WAC 220-610-110 Endangered: "...seriously threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range"
- Public Comments
 - Periodic Status Review: 1,257 letters supporting, 1 opposed
 - Commission meeting: 1 supporting