

## Opportunities for Farmers and Ranchers

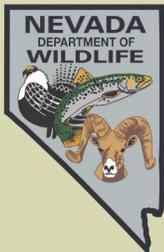
Greater Sage-Grouse  
Conservation in  
Nevada



Natural Resources Conservation  
Service



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Nevada Department of Wildlife



**S**age-grouse have become a symbol of healthy sagebrush ecosystems across the Western United States. Maintaining and improving sagebrush habitat throughout Nevada is good for active sustainable ranching operations, the health of our lands, and for sage-grouse.

### ***Farmers and ranchers can help sage-grouse on their lands:***

- ◆ **Implement projects on your land that improve sagebrush habitat.** Projects could include juniper removal; range plantings; livestock grazing management; fencing removal, modification and relocation; and other practices to benefit sage-grouse and their habitat.
- ◆ **Get involved in a Sage-grouse Local Working Group.** For information, contact Tara Vogel, Nevada Department of Wildlife; (775) 857-8500 ext. 175 or [tvogel@ndow.org](mailto:tvogel@ndow.org).

### ***Assistance with sage-grouse projects:***

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) have several programs that may provide the funding and technical assistance you need for sage-grouse-related projects.

### **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

NRCS provides financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers through two programs:

- ◆ **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)** offers eligible farmers and ranchers financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices on agricultural land.
- ◆ **Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP)** promotes creating high quality wildlife habitats for species with national, state, Tribal, and local significance. Eligible farmers and ranchers can receive technical and financial assistance to enhance upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitats.



# Greater Sage-grouse Conservation in Nevada: Opportunities for Farmers and Ranchers

## Natural Resources Conservation Service *(con't)*

### **West Region Sage-grouse Initiative:**

The NRCS Sage-grouse Initiative makes additional EQIP/WHIP funding available for specific conservation practices that enhance or restore sage-grouse habitat.

For more information, please contact the District Conservationist at the NRCS field office nearest you.

For office locations, go to:

<http://www.nv.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/index.html>

## Nevada Department of Wildlife

The Nevada Department of Wildlife has several programs that focus on improving habitat for wildlife and building relationships with agricultural producers such as the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP). The goal of the LIP is to work proactively and cooperatively with private landowners to restore and protect habitat for sensitive wildlife species on private lands.

This cost-share program can pay up to 75% of project costs while the remaining portion can be paid by the landowner through in-kind services or cash. Projects are evaluated based on number of acres, species focus, potential for success, and participation in existing planning efforts.

Landowners can contact the LIP Coordinator to submit an application or request assistance any time of year.

For further information, please contact:

- ◆ Connie Lee, LIP Coordinator, at (775) 777-2392 or by email at [conlee@ndow.org](mailto:conlee@ndow.org);

or visit the Nevada Department of Wildlife website at:

<http://www.ndow.org/wild/conservation/lip/>



## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be able to assist you with federal matching dollars and to help you apply for NRCS funding. The “Partners for Fish and Wildlife” Program provides cost-share funding and technical assistance to private landowners who want to improve fish, wildlife, and plant habitat on their lands. The program's focus is on enhancement or restoration of habitat to benefit migratory birds, threatened or endangered species, and other sensitive or declining species.

Projects are selected based on the local priorities and benefit wetland, riparian, sagebrush/grasslands, desert scrub, wet meadow, and aquatic habitats. The cost-share portion can be matched by other organizations and can be in the form of “in-kind” (labor, materials & equipment) and cash.

There is no application period. Landowners can request assistance any time through the year by contacting the Partners Program representative.

For more information, please contact:

- ◆ Susan Abele, Program Coordinator, Reno (775) 861-6346
- ◆ Chris Jasmine, Elko, (775) 738-8431, x131

or visit the Nevada Fish and Wildlife Service website at:

[www.fws.gov/nevada/partners/](http://www.fws.gov/nevada/partners/)

