



WYOMING STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Guardian of Wyoming's Cow Country since 1872

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Dear Reader:

One of the core missions of Wyoming Stock Growers Association (WSGA) is to provide timely useful information to Wyoming landowners and livestock producers to assist you in making important decisions concerning your operations. We inform, you decide!

Today the greater sage-grouse and its potential listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is a paramount concern for landowners in many areas of our state. While the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has determined that livestock grazing is not a significant threat to the species, a listing could have major impacts on our ability to manage our private and state agricultural lands and utilize our federal grazing permits.

WSGA has provided input to the FWS over the past couple of years as they have developed an umbrella Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCA) that is now available to landowners on a voluntary basis. Similarly we have coordinated with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in providing an opportunity for grazing permittees to obtain a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) on their federally managed lands. We have also collaborated with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to bring together information regarding their Sage Grouse Initiative (SGI) program.

This packet is intended to provide landowners with comprehensive information in each of these programs. WSGA hopes that it will be a useful tool in enabling you to determine whether participation in these programs is appropriate to your operation.

WSGA recognizes that current management of sage grouse habitat already poses a significant challenge to many Wyoming agricultural operations. We will continue to keep you informed of available tools that may be important to minimizing future impacts on your operations.

WSGA expresses our appreciation to the following Wyoming partners for their assistance in this effort: Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts and Wyoming Nature Conservancy. This project was made possible through funding assistance from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Your feedback on the usefulness of these materials is welcomed. Please find our contact information below.

"Shaping and Living The Code of The West"

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