Gunnison Basin Gunnison Sage-grouse Strategic Committee
GUSG Collaborative Action Plan (CAP) update.
September 19, 2018
Abstract

The Gunnison Sage-grouse (GUSG) Collaborative Action Plan (CAP) is an investment action plan that evaluates threats and identifies specific conservation actions in each population of GUSG to positively impact habitat and viability of Gunnison Sage-grouse rangewide.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is providing Project Administration for the CAP by contracting a technical advisor (Jim Cochran) as well as project coordinators – Wetland Dynamics, LLC – Jenny Nehring and Cary Aloia, to lead the development of the plan. The CAP is being developed by the Plan Development Team (PDT) and endorsed by an Executive Oversight Committee comprised of executive level agency and county partners. PDT members include representatives of CPW, BLM, NRCS, USFWS, a rangeland health expert, and county representation.

The main goals of the Plan are to:

- Provide a threat matrix, and a re-analysis of threats for each population.
- Provide guidance for conservation strategies and actions focused by population that will lead to effective long-term conservation of the GUSG and their habitats.
- Prioritize conservation actions based on the identified threats in each population as well as promote cooperative efforts across agency and organization boundaries.
- Coordinate with other ongoing GUSG conservation efforts, such as the Bureau of Land Management's 5-year GUSG Plan of Work and the USFWS Species Status Assessment (SSA).

The CAP document will include a threat assessment, conservation actions, and information on potential funding sources. The threat assessment and the conservation actions were developed with the input of local, agency biologists in each population. The CAP threat assessment identified all known threats, but because the CAP is an investment action plan for on the ground projects, conservation actions are focused on a subset of the overall threats identified in the Listing Decision and the Rangewide Conservation Plan.

The CAP is not an update of the Rangewide Conservation Plan (RCP) nor is it a recovery plan. The CAP is designed to build on previous conservation documents such as the RCP and the Gunnison Basin Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA).

The timeline for completion of the CAP is a draft document by the end of 2018 and a final document in early 2019.