On August 13, 2012, the US District Court for the District of Columbia modified the Settlement Agreement between the Fish and Wildlife Service and WildEarth Guardians to extend the deadline for submission of a proposed listing rule and proposed critical habitat rule for Gunnison's sage-grouse. The deadline has been extended from September 30, 2012 to December 30, 2012. The deadline for the final rule (assuming the Service maintains its prior determination that listing is warranted) has not changed and will remain September 30, 2013.

The request for an extension was based on the need for more time to complete the proposed rule, including efforts to engage with State and local governments, landowner groups, and other development -related entities to discuss the conservation needs of the species. The Service meet with the Gunnison Basin on June 14 and with the satellite population working groups on August 22. The Service is interested in any additional information you may have on how the conservation needs of Gunnison sage-grouse are being met by your agency or interest group. In order for the information to be considered in the proposed rule, any additional information should be submitted to me by September 30.

Please share this with other interested parties and stakeholders.

Thank you for your interest in Gunnison sage-grouse.

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