

Idaho Sage-grouse Actions Team

June 30, 2021

Idaho Sage Grouse Conservation Accomplishments in FY21: *Implementing the Governor’s Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy*

The Idaho Governor’s Office of Species Conservation (OSC) and the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) have been working with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and other partners to improve habitat conditions across southern Idaho for sage grouse and other wildlife. This work not only benefits wildlife, but also the people of Idaho who recreate and make a living here. The State of Idaho works with private landowners, federal agencies, and other entities to leverage funding and implement the Governor’s Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy (Idaho Plan) across land ownerships. In State Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) the Idaho Legislature continued to support these efforts through its budget authorizations to OSC and IDL. Each year the Legislature authorizes these funds, it acts as an investment to improve Idaho and hold back invasive annual grasses, noxious weeds, wildfire, and juniper encroachment.

Since 2015, the Sage-grouse Actions Team has leveraged these funds by annually requesting sage-grouse conservation projects across southern Idaho. The Actions Team contains the state agencies charged with implementing the Idaho Plan— OSC, IDL, and IDFG and includes assistance from the Idaho Department of Agriculture (ISDA), the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISWCC), and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Local federal agency partners include the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

In FY21 the Actions Team funded 12 projects, which on average leveraged **\$3.13 for every state general fund dollar spent** resulting in more than **\$2.5 million** in collaborative conservation and wildfire rehabilitation. Priorities for funding include helping equip Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPAs) to improve fire suppression capabilities, restoring areas that have been degraded by wildfire, juniper encroachment and invasive annual grasses, improving brood rearing habitat, and enhancing the monitoring of sage grouse activity. All these efforts aid in preventing the need for sage-grouse to be considered for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

By the Numbers: FY21 Projects

- \$2.5 million leveraged**
- 4,300 ac. Fire Rehab (State & Pvt)
- 10,838 ac. - Conifer Treatment
- 379 ac. – Annual Grass Treatment
- 1,280 ac. - Sagebrush Planting
- 188 Riparian Structures
- 1 Rangeland Drill for Seeding
- 1,352 Leks Counted
- U of I Grouse and Grazing Study
- 6 Rangeland Fire Protection Assns. (RFPAs) Assisted
- 60 Rechargeable Radio Batteries for Fire Communication
- 18 sets of PPE for RFPAs
- 27 shrouds, 21 goggles
- 6 Headlamps
- 2 Backpack Pumps
- 1 Drip Torch
- 2 Slip-In Pumps
- Firetruck/Transport Range Tires

FY22: Contracts obligated to date - Obligated: \$707K

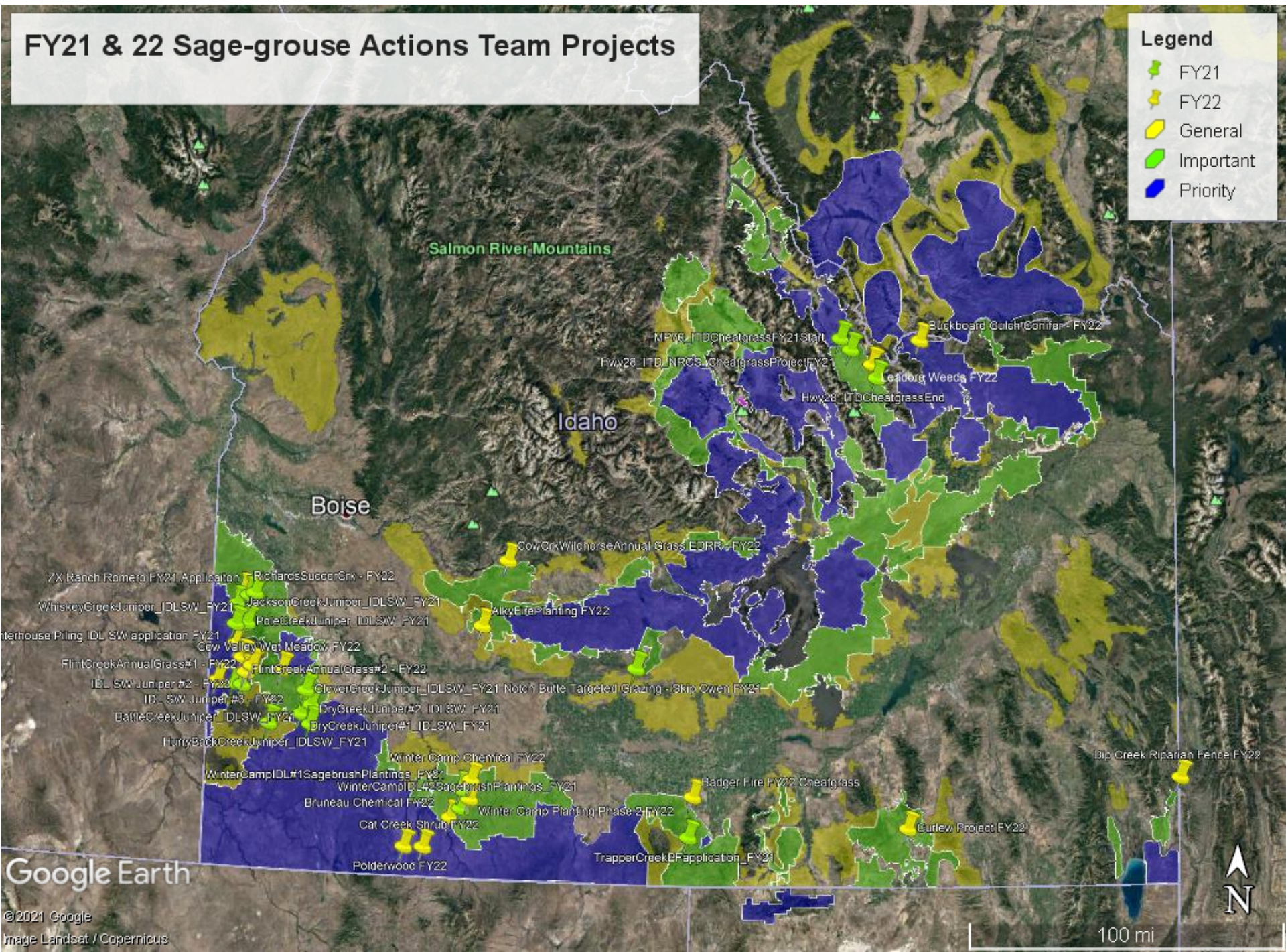
FY 22: Types of Projects	Number of acres of Expected Benefit	Number of Projects
Wildfire Rehab Buffer	\$171,000 for seed and herbicide	TBD
Conifer Treatment	4,078 acres	4
Sagebrush Plantings	692 acres	3
Annual Grass/Noxious Weed Treatment	7,950 acres	7
Wet Meadow Improvement	448 acres	5

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FY21 & 22 Sage-grouse Actions Team Projects

Legend

- FY21
- FY22
- General
- Important
- Priority



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100 mi

