

# OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION

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## Request for Sage-grouse Habitat Restoration Projects

The Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation (OSC) and Sage-Grouse Actions Team (Actions Team) are accepting proposals for sage-grouse habitat restoration projects. There will be \$500,000 available for funding projects contingent on approval by the legislature for state Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) to implement actions outlined in the Governor's Sage-grouse Management Plan (2021 Idaho Plan) [https://gov.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Attachment1\\_2021IdahoPlan-FINAL.pdf](https://gov.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Attachment1_2021IdahoPlan-FINAL.pdf).

The Actions Team works with partners to secure and leverage additional funding to support sage-grouse conservation in Idaho.

OSC and the other state agencies charged with implementing the 2021 Idaho Plan (Idaho Department of Lands and Idaho Department of Fish and Game) partnered with federal agencies (FWS, BLM, USFS, NRCS) as well as the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, and The Nature Conservancy to create the Actions Team. The Actions Team meets annually to identify, prioritize, and fund projects that target the primary threats (invasive plant species and wildfire) and limiting factors to sage-grouse. Your role in sage-grouse conservation across Idaho's rangelands is crucial to benefit key habitat areas and support the economic vitality of rural communities in Idaho.

The grant application form, application instructions, ranking information and Request for Proposals (RFP) documents can be found on the OSC website (<https://species.idaho.gov/sage-grouse-actions-team/>).

### **Deadlines:**

**May 2, 2025** - Proposals are due to OSC

**May 14, 2025** - Actions Team meets to review proposals

\*Applicants should reserve the afternoon of May 14<sup>th</sup> to virtually discuss proposals

**May 23, 2025** – Applicants will be notified on the outcome of their proposal

**July 1, 2025** - Funds will be available to successful applicants

Submit applications electronically, in person, or by mail to one of the addresses below.

Mailing and hand delivery: Idaho Office of Species Conservation Attn: Joshua Uriarte 304 N. 8th Street, Ste. 149 Boise, ID 83702	Electronically: <a href="mailto:species@osc.idaho.gov">species@osc.idaho.gov</a>
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Funding will be prioritized for projects that address threats to sage-grouse, including:

- Invasive annual grass treatment
- Juniper treatment
- Wet meadow/riparian restoration
- Wildfire prevention (i.e. Strategic Fuel Breaks, Engine Fill Stations)
- Wildfire rehabilitation

Project ranking criteria will also emphasize:

- Collaborative project proposals that span multiple land ownerships and benefit large landscapes
- Projects on state and private lands
- Projects that provide matching funds
- “Shovel ready” projects that can be completed by June 2026
- Fine Scale Focus Areas within the 2020 GRSG Adaptive Management Team Recommendation Report (<https://species.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/GRSG-Management-Recommendations-Report-2020.pdf>)
- Core Sagebrush Areas or Growth Opportunity Areas from the USGS’s Sagebrush Conservation Design (<https://pubs.usgs.gov/publication/ofr20221081>).
  - (For an interactive map <https://gs-portal-fws.hub.arcgis.com/apps/fws::sagebrush-geospatial-layer-visualizations/explore>)

For additional information or questions please contact Joshua Uriarte (OSC) at 208-332-1556, or [joshua.uriarte@osc.idaho.gov](mailto:joshua.uriarte@osc.idaho.gov).

Figure: Fine Scale Areas with Core Areas (dark blue) and Growth Areas (light blue)

