

# 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 (Team) are accepting proposals for sage-grouse habitat restoration projects. The Governor's budget recommendation for state Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) included the authority to implement actions outlined in the Governor's Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Strategy (Strategy), with \$600,000 available for projects in FY21 contingent on funding approval by the legislature. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) are working to secure additional funding to leverage this program in supporting sage-grouse conservation in Idaho.

OSC and the other state agencies charged with implementing the Strategy (Idaho Department of Lands and Idaho Department of Fish and Game) partnered with federal agencies (FWS, BLM, USFS, and Natural Resources Conservation Service), as well as the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, and The Nature Conservancy to create the Team. The Team meets regularly to identify, prioritize, and fund projects that target the primary threats (invasive plant species and wildfire) and limiting factors to sage-grouse.

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/greater-sage-grouse/>).

Focus Area for projects (see Application Instructions for clarification on these locations):

- West Owyhee Important Habitat Management Area (HMA)
- Eastern portion of the Desert Important HMA
- Mountain Valleys Priority HMA

Funding will be prioritized for projects that address threats to sage-grouse:

- Invasive annual grass treatment
- Juniper removal
- Wet meadow/riparian restoration
- 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
- Projects on federal land with completed NEPA
- "Shovel ready" projects that can be completed by June 2021

**Applications for this application period, FY21, must be received by Friday, May 1, 2020.** Submit applications electronically, in person, or by mail to one of the addresses below. Notifications of awards will be sent after the projects are ranked and approved by the Team in May.

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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Your role in sage-grouse conservation across Idaho's rangelands is crucial to protect and restore key habitat areas, and support the economic vitality of rural communities in Idaho.

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).

