

Idaho Sage-grouse Actions Team

November 2020

Idaho Sage Grouse Conservation Accomplishments in FY20: *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 the wildlife that inhabit these landscapes, 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 implement the Governor’s Sage Grouse Conservation Strategy (Idaho Plan). In State Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) the Idaho Legislature helped to continue 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. All of this helps to keep sage grouse off the endangered species list. The Sage-grouse Actions Team requests projects from across southern Idaho each year. In FY20 they funded 20 projects, which on average leveraged **\$3.53 for every state general fund dollar spent**. These efforts resulted in more than **\$2.8 million** in collaborative conservation and wildfire rehabilitation.

By the Numbers: FY20 Projects

- \$2.8 million leveraged**
- 8,828 ac. Fire Rehab (State & INL)
- 7,732 ac. - Conifer Treatment
- 318 ac. – Annual Grass Treatment
- 128 ac. Noxious Weed Treatment
- 160 BDAs 8 Miles Riparian Improv.
- 1,418 Leks Counted
- 2 Landowners Grazing Mgmt. Infrastructure and seeding
- Grouse and Grazing Study
- 3 Rangeland Fire Protection Assns. (RFPA) Assisted
- 1 Dozer Blade
- Helped equip 1 Fire Engine w/ Supplies
- 6 Radios for Fire Communication
- 28 sets of PPE for RFPAs

The Sage-grouse Actions Team has been working together since May 2015 to leverage funds to implement conservation for sage-grouse. The group contains the state agencies charged with implementing the Governor’s Strategy– OSC, IDL, and IDFG and includes assistance from the Idaho Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISWCC). Local federal agency partners include the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

Priorities for funding include helping equip 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.

FY21: Accomplishments and contracts obligated to date - Obligated: \$623K

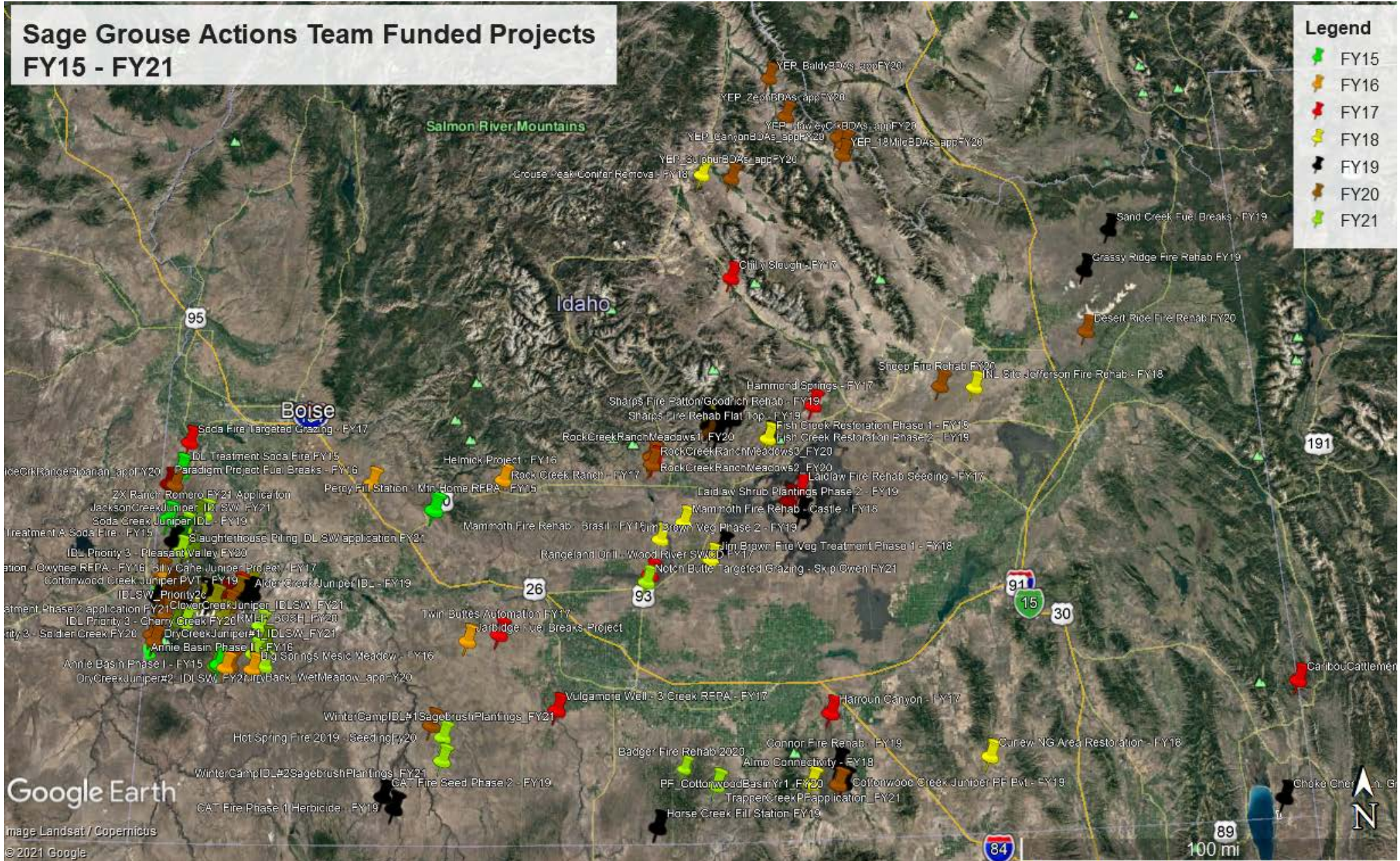
| FY 21: Types of Projects | Number of acres of Expected Benefit | Number of Projects |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Badger Fire Rehab | 3,120 acres (State & Private) | 1 |
| Juniper Treatment | 10,100 acres (State & Private) | 6 |
| Sagebrush Plantings | 1,200 acres (State) | 1 |
| Annual Grass Treatment | 1,000+ acres (State and Private) | 2 |
| Rangeland Drill – Butte SWCD | Help Private landowners with re-seeding | 1 |

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Sage Grouse Actions Team Funded Projects FY15 - FY21

Legend

- ▲ FY15
- ▲ FY16
- ▲ FY17
- ▲ FY18
- ▲ FY19
- ▲ FY20
- ▲ FY21



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