

# Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision; and Approved Land Management Plan Amendments for the Rocky Mountain Region Greater Sage-Grouse Sub-Regions Northwest Colorado, and Wyoming

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Record of Decision.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Land Management Plan (LMP) Amendments for the Rocky Mountain Region Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) sub-regions of Northwest Colorado and Wyoming. The Intermountain and Rocky Mountain Regional Foresters signed the ROD on September 16, 2015, which constitutes the final decision of the Forest Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD and LMP Amendments are available upon request and are also available for public inspection at the addresses listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Interested persons may also review the ROD and Approved LMP amendments and on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/r4/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For the Northwest Colorado GRSG LMP Amendment contact Dennis Jaeger, Routt National Forest Supervisor, telephone 307-745-2400; address Routt National Forest 2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, WY 82070; email: [djaeger01@fs.fed.us](mailto:djaeger01@fs.fed.us).

For the Wyoming GRSG LMP amendment contact Pam Bode, Wyoming State Liaison, telephone 307-352-0259; address Bridger-Teton National Forest, 340 North Cache, Jackson, Wyoming 83001; email: [pbode@fs.fed.us](mailto:pbode@fs.fed.us).

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Land Management Plan (LMP) Amendments for the Rocky Mountain Region Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) sub-regions of Northwest Colorado and Wyoming were developed through a collaborative planning process and

incorporate land-use plan level conservation measures into existing Forest Service LMPs to conserve, enhance, and restore GRSG and its habitat by reducing, eliminating, or minimizing threats to GRSG and its habitat. The ROD and Approved LMP Amendments include management direction that limits or eliminates new surface disturbance in GRSG Priority Habitat Management Areas, while minimizing disturbance in GRSG General Habitat Management Areas. In addition to establishing protective management direction, the Approved LMP Amendments establish a suite of management provisions, such as the establishment of disturbance limits, GRSG habitat objectives, mitigation requirements, monitoring protocols, and adaptive management triggers and responses, as well as other conservation measures throughout the range. The cumulative effect of these conservation measures is to protect, improve, and restore GRSG habitat across the remaining range of the species in the Rocky Mountain Region and provide greater certainty that Forest Service activities and authorizations in GRSG habitat will lead to conservation of GRSG and its habitat as well as other sagebrush-steppe associated species in the Region.

The ROD and Approved LMP Amendments amend the following Forest Service LMPs:

Sub-region	National Forest System unit	Date of current LMP
NW Colorado	Routt National Forest	1998
Wyoming	Thunder Basin National Grassland	2002
	Bridger-Teton National Forest	1990
	Medicine Bow National Forest	2003

The Northwest Colorado and Wyoming Draft Land Use Plan Amendments (LUPAs)/Draft Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) and Proposed LUPAs/Final EISs also included proposed GRSG management direction on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) public lands. However, the BLM completed a separate ROD and Resource Management Plan Amendments/Revisions under BLM planning authorities. Management decisions within the Forest Service ROD and Approved LMP Amendments apply

only to National Forest System lands. Notice of Availability for the Rocky Mountain Region GRSG Proposed LUPs/Final EISs were published in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 2015, which initiated a 30-day protest period.

The BLM and Forest Service received 55 timely and valid protest submissions for all Rocky Mountain region Proposed LUPAs/Final EISs. After careful consideration of the all issues raised in these protests, the Deputy Chief for the National Forest System concluded that the responsible planning team followed all applicable laws, regulations, and

policies and considered all relevant resource information and public input in developing the Proposed LUPs/Final EISs. For a full description of the issues raised during the protest period and how they were addressed, please refer to the Protest Resolution Reports for the Northwest Colorado and Wyoming Proposed LUPAs/Final EISs. These Reports, which include two Forest Service Proposed LMP amendments for Northwest Colorado and Wyoming, are available at the following Web site: <http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/>

[planning/planning\\_overview/protest\\_resolution/protestreports.html](#).

The preferred alternatives, as presented in the Draft LUP Amendments/EISs and further developed in the Proposed LUP Amendments/Final EISs as the Proposed Plan Amendments, were selected in the ROD as the Approved LMP Amendments with some minor clarifications.

Copies of the Northwest Colorado GRSG ROD and Approved LMP Amendment are available upon request and are available for public inspection at:

- Routt National Forest Headquarters, 2468 Jackson Street, Laramie, WY, 82070

Copies of the Wyoming GRSG ROD and Approved LMP Amendment are available upon request and are available for public inspection at:

- Medicine Bow National Forest-Thunder Basin National Grassland Headquarters
- Bridger-Teton National Forest Headquarters, 340 North Cache, Jackson, WY 83001

Dated: September 17, 2015.

**Glenn P. Casamassa,**

*Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

[FR Doc. 2015-24168 Filed 9-22-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411-15-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Forest Service**

**Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision and Approved Land Management Plan Amendments for the Great Basin Region Greater Sage-Grouse Sub-Regions of Idaho and Southwestern Montana; Nevada and Utah**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of the Record of Decision.

**SUMMARY:** The Forest Service announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Land Management Plan (LMP) Amendments for the Great Basin Region Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) sub-regions of Idaho and Southwestern Montana, Nevada, and Northeast California, and Utah. Management decisions within the ROD and Approved LMP amendments apply only to National Forest System lands. There were no National Forest System lands involved in this effort in Northeast California. The Regional Foresters signed the ROD on September 16, 2015, which constitutes the final decision of the Forest Service.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD and Approved LMP Amendments are available upon request and are also available for public inspection at the addresses listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Interested persons may also review the ROD and Approved LMP Amendments on the World Wide Web at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/r4/>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For the Idaho and Southwestern Montana GRSG LMP Amendment contact Robert Mickelsen, Caribou-Targhee National Forest GRSG, Idaho State Liaison, telephone 208-557-5764; address: 1405 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83401; email: [rmickelsen@fs.fed.us](mailto:rmickelsen@fs.fed.us).

For the Nevada GRSG LMP Amendment contact Bill Dunkelberger, Forest Supervisor, Humboldt-Toiyabe, telephone: 775-355-5310; address: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; email: [wadunkelberger@fs.fed.us](mailto:wadunkelberger@fs.fed.us).

For the Utah GRSG LMP Amendment contact: Ron Rodriguez, Utah State Liaison, telephone: 435-865-3732; address: 1789 North Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City, UT 84721; email: [rrodriguez01@fs.fed.us](mailto:rrodriguez01@fs.fed.us).

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(TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Land Management Plan (LMP) Amendments for the Great Basin Region Greater Sage-Grouse (GRSG) sub-regions of Idaho and Southwestern Montana, Nevada, and Northeast California, and Utah were developed through a collaborative planning process and incorporate land-use plan level conservation measures into existing Forest Service LMPs to conserve, enhance, and restore GRSG and its habitat by reducing, eliminating, or minimizing threats to GRSG and its habitat. The ROD and Approved LMP Amendments include management direction that limits or eliminates new surface disturbance in GRSG Priority Habitat Management Areas, while minimizing disturbance in GRSG General Habitat Management Areas. In addition to establishing protective land use allocations, the Approved LMP Amendments establish a suite of management provisions, such as the establishment of disturbance limits, GRSG habitat objectives, mitigation requirements, monitoring protocols, and adaptive management triggers and responses, as well as other conservation measures throughout the range. The cumulative effect of these conservation measures is to protect, improve, and restore GRSG habitat across the remaining range of the species in the Great Basin Region and provide greater certainty that Forest Service activities and authorizations in GRSG habitat in the Great Basin Region will lead to conservation of the GRSG and its habitat as well as other sagebrush-steppe associated species in the Region.

The ROD and LMP amendments amend the following Forest Service LMPs:

Sub-region	National Forest System unit	Date of current LMP
Idaho	Boise National Forest	2003
	Caribou National Forest	2003
	Curlew National Grassland	2002
	Challis National Forest	1987
	Salmon National Forest	1988
	Sawtooth National Forest	2003
	Targhee National Forest RMP	1997
Montana	Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest	2009
Nevada	Humboldt National Forest	1986
	Toiyabe National Forest	1986
Utah	Ashley National Forest	1986
	Dixie National Forest	1986
	Fishlake National Forest	1986
	Manti-LaSal National Forest	1086
	Uinta National Forest	2003