

Greater Sage-grouse Record of Decision – Forest Plan Amendments for: Idaho and Southwest Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming.

Recreation Implementation Guide Version 1.0

Follow the Standards and Guidelines for the Amendment relevant to the forest lands where road maintenance or construction activities may occur (as written per state within Great Basin or Rocky Mountain Records of Decision. All **new** recreation special uses are required to pass screening criteria, including consistency or ability to be consistent with applicable forest plans. Refer to: 36 Code of Federal Regulations 251.54 and FSH 2709.11, Ch. 10. New recreation special use proposals will include the Sage Grouse standards and guidelines as screening criteria, in addition to standard criteria in FSH 2709.11. Issuance of new authorizations to replace existing authorizations (e.g. expiration) or requests to modify (amend) an existing use are not evaluated under the two levels of screening. However, these requests also require evaluation for consistency with or ability to be made consistent with the forest plan as outlined in FSH 2709.11, Section 11.2, paragraph 2 and/or permit terms and conditions.

One Standard and two Guidelines apply across all four state amendments to preserve sage grouse habitat (no net loss). In Nevada a third Guideline restricts outfitter guide activities near sage grouse leks during breeding and nesting seasons.

Special Use Authorizations:

If activity is within sage grouse habitat ([see habitat guide](#)) that is within mapped sage grouse [habitat](#) ([see sage-grouse habitat management maps](#)) follow the general guidance below, referring to specific components in the appropriate Plan:

- For Anthropogenic Disturbances, refer to the Anthropogenic Disturbance Guide, and confer, if necessary, with a [BLM representative](#) or [Wyoming DDCT](#) for a disturbance density calculation.
- During renewal, amendment, or reauthorization, terms and conditions in existing permits and operating plans should be modified to protect and/or restore greater sage-grouse habitat.
- No authorization of temporary recreation uses (i.e., facilities or activities) that result in loss of habitat or would have long-term (i.e., greater than 5 years) negative impacts on greater sage-grouse or its habitat.
- When in sage grouse habitat, use Trail Management Objective forms to insert terms and conditions that protect and/or restore greater sage-grouse habitat
- Do not approve new and existing recreational facilities or expansions (e.g., roads, trails, campgrounds), including special-use authorizations for facilities and activities unless the development results in a net conservation gain to the greater sage-grouse or its habitat or the development is required for visitor safety.
- In Nevada only, outfitter-guide activities should not be authorized within ¼ miles from active leks from March through June.

Recreation Special uses include a range of authorized commercial recreation activities including recreation events/vendors, organization camps, private or group shelters/camps/cabins, recreation residences, hotel/lodge/resort, concession and private campgrounds, shops/restaurants, visitor centers, outfitting and guiding services, winter resorts/lifts/slopes, target ranges and other facilities and uses. These uses and facilities utilize both private and agency owned facilities.