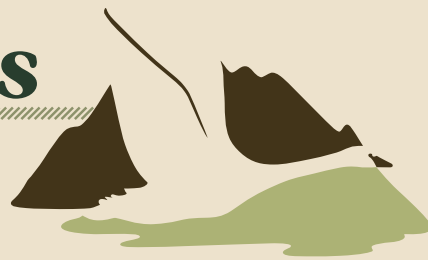


# Partnering to Conserve **Sagebrush Rangelands**

INTERMOUNTAIN WEST JOINT VENTURE | FY2025 ANNUAL REPORT  
October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025



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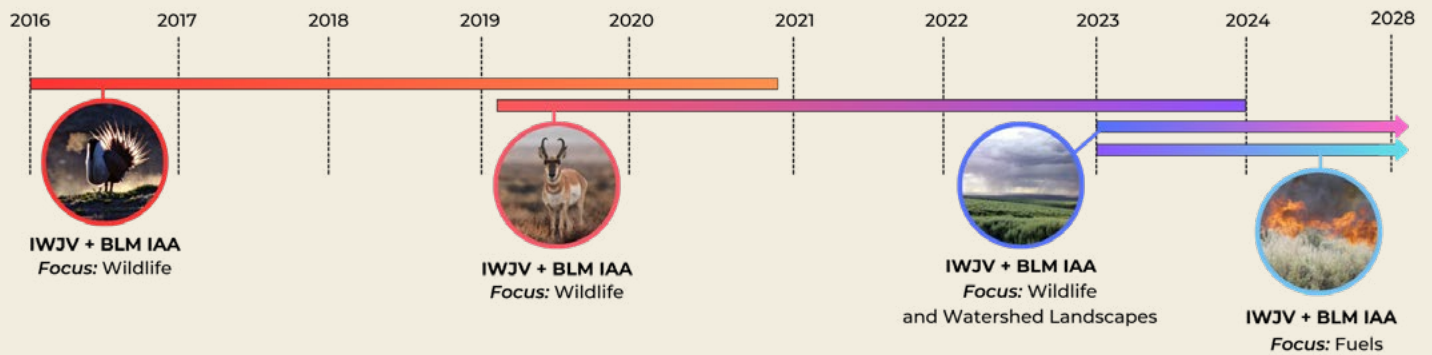
# Executive Summary

In FY 2025, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Intermountain West Joint Venture (IWJV) continued building on ten years of success through the Partnering to Conserve Sagebrush Rangelands collaboration, which promotes voluntary, incentive-based stewardship of sagebrush rangelands across jurisdictional boundaries. Success relies on a continued commitment to growing field-level support, producing in-depth communications, and expanding the technical transfer of science to the field.

At the heart of this partnership is a shared vision:

*We achieve impactful and durable outcomes for the sagebrush biome of the western United States by providing purposeful support to innovative, community-based conservation efforts.*

## A TIMELINE OF INTRA-AGENCY AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE IWJV AND THE BLM



Since 2016, the IWJV and the BLM have partnered with hundreds of state and local organizations, federal agencies, landowners, non-governmental organizations, and others to catalyze the proactive, voluntary, community-led stewardship of sagebrush rangelands across private and public lands. This partnership is a premier example of how to effectively accelerate the pace and scale of conservation actions that address threats to sagebrush rangelands across ownership boundaries. Partners contribute a variety of perspectives, values, and resources toward a shared goal of applying the latest science to maintain healthy working lands for both people and wildlife across the American West. Their efforts have resulted in creating and accelerating on-the-ground projects with lasting impacts on wildlife, economies, and local communities.

### FY 2016–2025 FUNDING

SOURCE	AMOUNT
BLM Headquarters (Wildlife and Fuels Division)	\$17,214,737
BLM State Offices/Other	\$2,378,740
Partner Contributions	\$8,163,568
Capacity Total	\$27,757,045
Partnership Leverage (BLM : Partners)	71 : 29
Total Project Funds Reported by Other Agencies	\$65,598,873
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$93,355,918</b>



Over the past fiscal year, this partnership has continued to foster outcomes that enhance ecological, social, and economic values by working across jurisdictions at various scales. By working together, we have seen that partnerships and investments in key places can help maintain the long-term viability of the largest ecosystem in the West. Central to this effort is expanding field capacity and collaboration that helps the BLM and other partners achieve conservation across boundaries. We've built relationships with 63 BLM State, District, and Field Offices to engage in project planning and implementation, as well as evaluating barriers. We support the BLM's collaboration with partners to address persistent, large-scale threats such as invasive annual grasses, catastrophic wildfire, conifer encroachment, and drought. We also bring targeted communications, outreach, and technical transfer tools to address these challenges. With the continued dedication of BLM staff and financial support from congressional dollars, this collaborative approach to habitat improvement continues to be a win-win approach that delivers sustainable, long-lasting benefits for multiple uses.

## ACRONYMS IN THIS REPORT

<b>BLM:</b> Bureau of Land Management	<b>IWJV:</b> Intermountain West Joint Venture
<b>BOSH:</b> Bruneau-Owyhee Sage Grouse Habitat Project	<b>LIT:</b> Local Implementation Team
<b>ESA:</b> Endangered Species Act	<b>NEPA:</b> National Environmental Policy Act
<b>FY:</b> Fiscal Year	<b>NRCS:</b> Natural Resources Conservation Service
<b>GIS:</b> Geographic Information System	<b>OBGA:</b> Outcome-Based Grazing Authorization
<b>HAF:</b> Habitat Assessment Framework	<b>ROGER:</b> Results-Oriented Grazing for Ecological Resilience
<b>IDFG:</b> Idaho Fish & Game	<b>SCT:</b> Sage Capacity Team
<b>IMAGINE:</b> Institute for Managing Annual Grasses Invading Natural Ecosystems	<b>STTN:</b> Sagebrush Technical Transfer Network
<b>IRCP:</b> Idaho Rangeland Conservation Partnership	<b>USFS:</b> U.S. Forest Service
	<b>USGS:</b> U.S. Geological Survey

## *Our partnership addresses the following threats and opportunities in sagebrush ecosystems:*





## LAND HEALTH IMPROVEMENT FOR SAGEBRUSH RANGELANDS:

# Field Delivery Capacity

We create field capacity that accelerates, coordinates, and streamlines conservation actions and treatments across boundary lines. By engaging with BLM State, District, and Field Offices and communities, we identify needs such as staffing capacity, clearances, and consultation while offering planning tools and creating field-based support. BLM investments in partner positions are leveraged with additional funding (federal, state, private, and corporate) to provide collaborative infrastructure—increasing efficiency and producing desired outcomes.

### *Sage Capacity Team*

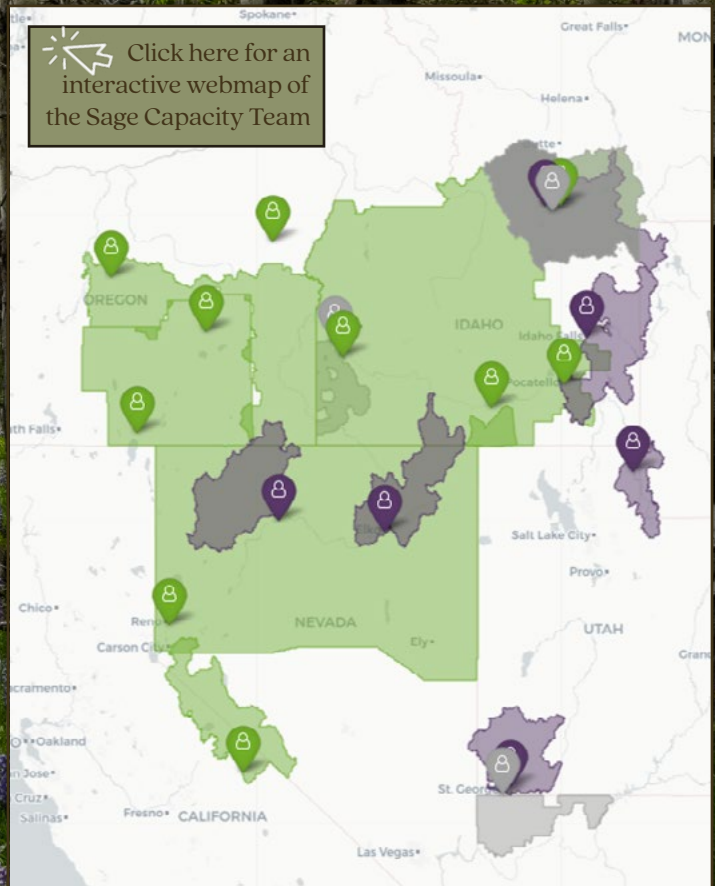
One of the most powerful elements of the BLM-IWJV partnership is our ability to provide much-needed “boots on the ground” through the development and support of field delivery capacity positions that promote voluntary, proactive sagebrush habitat improvement across the West. These positions are pivotal, adding capacity and forming a robust and coordinated team to achieve cross-boundary, landscape-scale impacts across the sagebrush biome.

# As of FY 2025, funds in the BLM-IWJV partnership support field delivery capacity positions in nine states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming.

These positions make up the Sage Capacity Team, a suite of non-federal positions hosted by non-governmental organizations and other institutions that help to coordinate rangeland health and wildlife projects across public and private boundaries, address challenges in rangeland conservation, track projects, facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue and forums, and communicate success stories.

## FY 2018–2025 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<b>937,783</b>	total project acres
<b>525,227</b>	acres of conifer removal
<b>161,408</b>	acres of improved grazing practices
<b>92,417</b>	acres of annual/noxious weeds treated
<b>3,073</b>	mesic structures installed
<b>14,702</b>	acres of fuels treatment
<b>18,227</b>	acres of conservation easements
<b>115,308</b>	acres of vegetation treatment/enhancement
<b>10,276</b>	acres of wet meadows restored
<b>63</b>	BLM Field, District, and State Offices supported



# FY 2025 Accomplishments in the Field



The following table includes the cumulative accomplishments of the Sage Capacity Team in FY 2025:

Overview of Capacity		Partnership Accomplishments	
Total Projects Planned	<b>95</b>	Improved Grazing Practices (acres)	<b>41,517</b>
Total Projects Completed	<b>134</b>	Conifer Removed (acres)	<b>40,323</b>
Total Project Acres	<b>138,396</b>	Annual/Noxious Weeds Treated (acres)	<b>41,517</b>
Total Project Funding	<b>\$6,655,469</b>	Vegetation Management/ Habitat Enhancement (acres)	<b>7,828</b>
Partners Engaged	<b>548</b>	Wet Meadows Restored (acres)	<b>137</b>
Landowners Engaged	<b>184</b>	Fence Modification (miles)	<b>12</b>
Meetings/Field Tours	<b>116</b>	Seedlings Planted	<b>388,485</b>
Outreach/Volunteer Events	<b>24</b>	Mesic Structures Installed	<b>553</b>

## AZ - Arizona Strip Project Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Arizona Strip BLM District Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2020  
**LOCATION:** St. George, Utah



JORDAN MENGE

The Arizona Strip Project Coordinator contributes to large-scale cross-boundary wildlife habitat treatments throughout the Arizona Strip District BLM offices. The Coordinator advanced progress on implementing wildlife projects, such as the installation of several new wildlife water catchments that bridge big game habitats and large-scale mastication and lop and scatter treatments in pinyon-juniper woodlands, benefiting multiple species. The Coordinator secured significant funding, completed cultural resource inventories, supported local businesses through contracted work, and used innovative geographic information system (GIS) tools to track project progress. These efforts have strengthened partnerships and produced measurable conservation outcomes across the Arizona Strip.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Planned: 15  
 Total Project Funding Planned: \$1,593,000

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Conifer Removal Planned: 990 acres  
 Water Catchments Planned: 9



## CA / NV - Bi-State Local Area Working Group Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Bishop BLM Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Sierra Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2018  
**LOCATION:** Bishop, CA



VACANT

The Bi-State Local Area Working Group works across jurisdictional boundaries to conserve Greater Sage-grouse and their habitats in the Eastern Sierra region of California and Nevada. The Coordinator works with partners, manages data, and communicates progress on the Bi-State Action Plan by managing the Bi-State website, creating success stories, organizing field trips and volunteer events, and facilitating meetings to support internal and external collaboration. This position was vacant for a portion of FY 2025, with plans to refill in the near future.

**OVERVIEW**

Partners Engaged: 220  
 Landowners Engaged: 25  
 Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 7



## CA - Buffalo-Skedaddle Sage-Grouse Working Group Project Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Bishop, Eagle Lake, and Applegate BLM Field Offices  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** University of California Cooperative Extension

**ESTABLISHED:** 2020  
**LOCATION:** Susanville, CA



VACANT

The Coordinator expands the mission of the Buffalo-Skedaddle Working Group and partners from the local, state, and federal levels through project adaptability and innovation. Through a focus on broadening virtual fencing for grazing systems, juniper removal, and innovative stream restoration techniques, this position has protected and enhanced thousands of critical acres throughout the region. This position was vacant for a portion of FY 2025 and will not be refilled.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 4  
 Landowners Engaged: 2

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Partners Engaged: 45  
 Improved Grazing Practices: 33,598 acres  
 Seedlings Planted: 600  
 Mesic Structures Installed: 20  
 Wet Meadows Restored: 10 acres



## CO - North Park Landscape Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Kremmling BLM Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Colorado Open Lands

**ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**LOCATION:** Kremmling, CO



RYAN HOLT

The North Park Landscape Coordinator implements projects in one of the most important sage grouse and big game habitats in Colorado. Through stream restoration using beaver dam analog structures, innovative grazing practices such as virtual fence use, and low-tech wet meadow enhancements, this position continues to impact watersheds within sagebrush ecosystems at the landscape level. The role also delivers socio-economic benefits through community outreach, volunteer engagement, contractor involvement, and recreational interpretive structures.

**OVERVIEW**

Partners Engaged: 6  
 Total Project Funding Planned: \$125,594

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Mesic Structures Planned: 467  
 Improved Grazing Practices: 7,618 acres  
 Fence Modification: 6 miles



## CO - Northwest Colorado Sagebrush Conservation Partnership Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Grand Junction BLM District Office, White River BLM Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Mule Deer Foundation

**ESTABLISHED:** 2021  
**LOCATION:** Grand Junction, CO



INDIA BARKER

The Northwest Colorado Sagebrush Conservation Partnership Coordinator implements wildlife habitat and fuels management projects that enhance big game migration and other wildlife habitat. The Coordinator collaborates with BLM field offices and other partners to remove encroaching trees and shrubs, conduct post-fire aerial seeding, install wildlife guzzlers, create fuel breaks, and improve grazing systems. All activities are crucial for wildlife connectivity and reducing fuel loads. The position has been additive to the BLM by advancing the National Environmental Policy Act, leveraging grants and stewardship agreements, and enabling projects to move forward that would not have occurred without this support.

**OVERVIEW**

Projects Completed: 8  
 Total Project Funding Completed: \$543,121

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Fuel Break: 8 miles  
 Conifer Removed: 603 acres  
 Water Control Structures Replaced: 3



## ID - Bruneau-Owyhee Sage Grouse Habitat Project Outreach Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Boise BLM District Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2020  
**LOCATION:** Boise, ID



CONNOR WHITE

The Bruneau-Owyhee Sage Grouse Habitat (BOSH) Project Outreach Coordinator supports one of the largest conifer management efforts in the nation. Throughout southwest Idaho's Owyhee uplands, the Coordinator provides range and wildlife technical assistance that advances conservation on both public and private lands and supports overall BOSH project coordination and management. This position serves as the primary point of contact for BLM, state, federal, and nonprofit partners to effectively target encroaching conifers and prescribe treatments that are effective, efficient, ecologically beneficial, and cost-effective. Each year, tens of thousands of acres are treated through this position, resulting in landscape-level impacts.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 6  
 Total Project Funding Completed: \$2,175,612

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Conifer Removed: 32,579 acres  
 Vegetation Management: 2,504 acres  
 Annual Grass Treatment: 13,316 acres



## ID - Idaho Natural Resource Specialist

**SUPPORTS:** Idaho Falls BLM Field Office, Idaho BLM State Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**LOCATION:** Idaho Falls, ID



EVAN DEHAMER

The Idaho Natural Resource Specialist coordinates, implements, monitors, and tracks projects in the Upper Salmon River and East Idaho Rivers and Plains Landscapes to further enhance their ecological, recreational, and civic values. These critical efforts span landscapes and focus on low-tech riparian habitat restoration, fuel load thinning, seeding, shrub planting, fence modifications, invasive species control, and enhanced public access. The Specialist also strengthened project oversight this year by standardizing data across 50+ projects to cohesively highlight the importance of these projects to water conservation, indispensable wildlife habitat, and the maintenance of sustainable ranchlands throughout this large focal landscape.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 18  
 Partners Engaged: 18  
 Total Project Funding: \$314,131

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Fuels Management: 2,603 acres  
 Vegetation Management: 801 acres  
 Improved Grazing Practices: 600 acres  
 Mesic Structures Installed: 100



## ID - Idaho Range and Wildlife Conservation Biologist

**SUPPORTS:** Twin Falls BLM District Office and Burley Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2018  
**LOCATION:** Twin Falls, ID



ELLIE HOFER

The Range and Wildlife Conservation Biologist acts as a major conduit between the BLM, NRCS, USFS, and IDFG to expedite projects across the landscape. This has allowed the conservation treatment of conifer removal to expand beyond land-ownership boundaries and to have a full watershed-scale impact on wildlife and working lands. The position continues to reduce conifer encroachment, combat invasive annual grasses, and improve degraded sagebrush steppe through native seedings and plantings throughout south-central Idaho.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 6  
 Total Project Funding: \$1,475,777  
 Partners Engaged: 6

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Annual/Noxious Weeds Treated: 4,131  
 Vegetation Management: 1,844  
 Seedlings Planted: 386,625



## ID - Idaho Rangeland Conservation Partnership Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Idaho BLM State Office; Twin Falls and Boise District Offices; Owyhee, Bruneau, Shoshone, Jarbidge, Four Rivers BLM Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2018  
**LOCATION:** Murphy, ID



BRENDA RICHARDS

The Idaho Rangeland Conservation Partnership (IRCP) Coordinator coordinates with land management entities, private land owners, livestock producers, conservation organizations, and other committed partners to collaborate on rangeland conservation. This position builds partnerships and relationships that assist local, regional, and state communities in identifying rangeland issues and threats, and in joining efforts to find solutions. The planning, organizing, and facilitation of coordination events make this position vital to the collaborative management of rangelands in Idaho.

**OVERVIEW**

Partners Engaged: 12  
 Landowners Engaged: 18  
 Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 14



## ID - Outcome-Based Grazing Authorization Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Idaho BLM State Office

**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2018

**LOCATION:** Pocatello, ID



ADRIENNE HOSKINS

The Outcome-Based Grazing Authorization Coordinator position strengthens BLM's grazing management on public lands by enabling livestock managers to respond each year to changing on-the-ground conditions, such as drought and wildfire. The Coordinator leads OBGA biannual meetings, maintains relationships with demonstration project participants, and supports BLM efforts to expand flexibility in grazing authorizations. The Coordinator also supports BLM Headquarters by developing training webinars, contributing guidance on virtual fencing, participating in OBGA project meetings and field tours, and advancing cooperative monitoring tools.

**OVERVIEW**

Demonstration Projects Implementing OBGA Grazing Decisions: 8/10  
Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 5



## MT - Hi-Line Sagebrush Anchor Landscape Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Malta and Glasgow BLM Field Offices

**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Ranchers Stewardship Alliance

**ESTABLISHED:** Established 2024

**LOCATION:** Malta, MT



VACANT

The Hi-Line Sagebrush Anchor Landscape Coordinator focuses on improving big game migration habitats, upgrading grazing management systems, enhancing mesic habitats, conducting conifer removal projects, and supporting grassland retention efforts. By bringing together non-profits, government agencies, landowners, tribes, and non-governmental organizations, this position has improved collaboration across the Northern Great Plains Landscape to more efficiently execute sagebrush and grassland conservation. Operating in a region with a strong ranching and farming heritage, the Coordinator has successfully built relationships and trust with the community to expand conservation on a cross-boundary landscape level. This position was vacant for a portion of FY 2025 and may be refilled in FY 2026.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 8

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Improved Grazing Practices Planned: 45,180 acres  
Landowners Engaged: 24  
Partners Engaged: 50



## MT - Southwest Montana Natural Resource Specialist

**SUPPORTS:** Dillon BLM Field Office

**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever

**ESTABLISHED:** 2024

**LOCATION:** Dillon, MT



ETHAN KALINOWSKI

The Southwest Montana Natural Resource Specialist leads habitat restoration, cross-boundary coordination, and project implementation across the Missouri Headwaters landscape in southwest Montana. The position supports large-scale prescribed burns, conifer removal, invasive species control, and riparian restoration projects. Through grant development, leveraging volunteer engagement, and comprehensive habitat inventories, this position has become a catalyst for cross-boundary restoration of sagebrush rangelands.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 4  
Total Projects Planned: 8  
Total Project Funding Completed: \$581,000

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Improved Grazing Practices: 6,135 acres  
Conifers Removed: 143 acres  
Mesic Structures Planned: 40



## MT - Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Dillon BLM Field Office; Western Montana Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** The Nature Conservancy

**ESTABLISHED:** 2018  
**LOCATION:** Dillon, MT



SEAN CLAFFEY

The Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership Coordinator coordinates with numerous agencies and partners to implement priority habitat restoration and enhancement projects throughout the region. By leveraging a diverse funding portfolio, the Coordinator has addressed conifer encroachment through a range of treatment strategies, including prescribed fire and timber sales. Following these conifer treatments, invasive annual grasses were addressed to strengthen long-term effectiveness and improve landscape connectivity. Through strong multi-partner collaboration, contractor coordination, and youth crew participation, riparian systems were enhanced through the installation of low-tech process-based restoration structures, which significantly improved the ecological functions of these watersheds.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 32  
Total Project Funding: \$672,928  
Total Projects Planned: 12

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Conifer Removed: 6,244 acres  
Wet Meadow Structures: 164  
Riparian Restoration & Enhancement: >9 mi



## MT - Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership Invasive Annual Grass Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Dillon BLM Field Office; Western Montana Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Beaverhead Conservation District

**ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**LOCATION:** Dillon, MT



EMMA FULLERTON

The Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership Invasive Annual Grass Coordinator is a valuable asset to the overall Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership by leading efforts to combat invasive annual grasses. By using the “defend the core” strategy, this position has prioritized treatment of thousands of acres of invasive annual grasses. By utilizing drone technology, targeted control methods have been implemented across the landscape together with traditional methods. These efforts have safeguarded relatively intact sagebrush steppe and positioned the partnership to expand treatments across land ownership boundaries.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 11  
Total Project Funding: \$281,482  
Total Projects Planned: 5

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Annual/Noxious Weeds Treated: 3,520 acres  
Total Project Acres Planned: 6,100 acres



## NV - Humboldt/O’Neil Basin Natural Resource Specialist

**SUPPORTS:** Wells and Tuscarora BLM Field Offices  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Eastern Nevada Landscape Coalition

**ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**LOCATION:** Elko, NV



JOHN HADDOCK

The Humboldt/O’Neil Basin Natural Resource Specialist provides technical expertise in aquatic, fisheries, riparian, and wetland resources to support watershed-scale efforts throughout sagebrush rangelands. This position uses integrated conservation practices to complete stream restoration, grazing permit renewals, Endangered Species Act compliance for Lahontan cutthroat trout, and mitigation planning for mining projects, generating ecological and economic benefits throughout the landscape and rural communities. Overall, the position strengthens BLM’s internal capacity by expanding collaborative restoration and integrated, science-based conservation, along with sustainable land use and post-fire recovery efforts.

**OVERVIEW**

Total Projects Completed: 2  
Total Projects Planned: 8  
Total Project Funding: \$105,000

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Mesic Structures Installed: 159  
Wet Meadows Restored: 119 acres



## NV - Montana Mountains Natural Resource Specialist

**SUPPORTS:** Black Rock and Humboldt River BLM Field Offices; Winnemucca District Office **ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** The Nature Conservancy **LOCATION:** Winnemucca, NV



SUSI ALGRIM

The Montana Mountains Natural Resource Specialist provides critical capacity and technical expertise for natural resource work in the Great Basin of Nevada. Through collaboration with natural resource agencies, private landowners, and Tribal partners, this position supports numerous projects, including securing approval for a beaver-based restoration project and moving multiple NEPA actions forward to improve riparian health. The position has contributed to native plantings, fuels treatment compliance, and post-fire recovery planning, expanding ecological resilience throughout the landscape.

### OVERVIEW

Total Projects Completed: 1  
Partners Engaged: 10

### PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Vegetation Management: 50 acres  
Seedlings Planted: 60  
Mesic Structures Planned: 375



## NV - Results-Oriented Grazing for Ecological Resilience Facilitator

**SUPPORTS:** Nevada BLM State Office; Multiple District/Field Offices **ESTABLISHED:** 2020  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Pheasants Forever **LOCATION:** Elko, NV



KATLYN MENDIVE

The Results-Oriented Grazing for Ecological Resilience (ROGER) Facilitator brings ranchers and agencies together in Nevada to conserve sagebrush ecosystems while supporting working ranches through adaptive livestock grazing. This role actively connects stakeholders by organizing and leading several consensus-building ROGER meetings, supporting ongoing collaboration, and keeping members informed throughout the year. The Facilitator planned a ROGER field tour with the Winecup Gamble Ranch that covered multiple aspects of range management, including outcome-based grazing practices, and collaborated with US Geological Survey partners to plan the release of the Grazing Management Tool.

### OVERVIEW

Partners Engaged: 50  
Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 6  
Landowners Engaged: 40



## OR - Baker Local Implementation Team Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Vale BLM District Office and Baker Field Office **ESTABLISHED:** 2025  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Baker County, Oregon **LOCATION:** Baker, OR



CAITLIN HARROLD

Over the past year, the Baker Sage-Grouse Local Implementation Team (LIT) Coordinator strengthened landowner engagement and partner coordination through expanded outreach to connect directly with landowners and community members, quarterly LIT meetings, and new social media communications, increasing participation in voluntary habitat conservation. Completion of two main planning documents improved the team's ability to strategically target funding and align actions to address priority sage-grouse threats across the Baker Priority Area for Conservation.

### OVERVIEW

Total Partners Engaged: 11  
Total Landowners Engaged: 25

### PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Outreach & Education Events: 5  
Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 4



## OR - Oregon Local Implementation Team Coordinators: Burns, Lakeview, Prineville, and Vale



The Burns, Lakeview, Prineville Coordinators were hired in late FY 2025, with the Vale Coordinator hired in early FY 2026. These positions will engage stakeholders in an integrated approach to implement state and federal sage-grouse conservation strategies. They will ensure regular communication between state-level groups such as the SageCon Partnership, the Oregon BLM, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Coordinators will also serve as liaisons between agencies, private landowners, and other stakeholders, streamlining habitat-enhancement efforts across interest groups and ownership boundaries. Accomplishments will be included in the FY 2026 annual report.

## WY - Muddy Creek Project Manager

**SUPPORTS:** Rawlins BLM Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Trout Unlimited

**ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**LOCATION:** Rawlins, WY



AUSTIN QUYNN

The Muddy Creek Project Manager coordinates partners, funding, and restoration efforts focused on wet meadow recovery throughout the Muddy Creek watershed of Wyoming. This year the position targeted low-tech restoration projects that include several Beaver Dam Analogs, live plantings, and virtual fencing, which supported natural beaver recolonization. The position also expands community education on watersheds and organizes volunteers to give the local community opportunities to directly contribute to the stewardship of these lands.

**OVERVIEW**  
Total Projects Completed: 6  
Total Project Funding: \$120,000  
Outreach Events Hosted: 2

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**  
Mesic Structures Installed: 110  
Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 5



## WY - Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Invasive Annual Grass Coordinator

**SUPPORTS:** Wind River/Bighorn Basin BLM District Office; Worland Field Office  
**HOSTING ORGANIZATION:** Institute for Managing Annual Grasses Invading Natural Ecosystems (IMAGINE)  
**ESTABLISHED:** 2024  
**LOCATION:** Worland, WY



NANCY FLEMING

The Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Invasive Annual Grass Coordinator provides the primary impetus for innovative, strategic management of invasive annual grass across both public and private lands in the Bighorn Basin of Wyoming. The position leads invasive annual grass monitoring, biomass data collection, and analysis to strengthen data-driven decision-making and support adaptive management by prioritizing treatment areas, selecting appropriate management strategies, and evaluating project effectiveness. Through strong collaboration with the BLM and regional partners, the Coordinator's work acts as a critical conduit to protect sagebrush ecosystems and support resilient landscapes throughout the region.

**OVERVIEW**  
Partners Engaged: 45  
Landowners Engaged: 19  
Partnership Meetings/Field Tours: 20

**PARTNERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS**  
Annual/Noxious Weeds Treated: 20,500 acres



# Project Photos from the Sage Capacity Team



Selected photos from Sage Capacity Team projects in FY25. From left to right: New wildlife-friendly fencing installed in collaboration with the Kremmling, CO BLM Field Office (Northwest Colorado Sagebrush Conservation Partnership Coordinator); Jackpot burning in a BOSH unit, ID (BOSH Project Outreach Coordinator); Herbicide application in WY (Wind River/Bighorn Basin District Invasive Annual Grass Coordinator); A survey to track conifer encroachment in SW MT (Southwest Montana Natural Resource Specialist); Mountain Big Sagebrush seedlings sourced from local nurseries for hand-planting, ID (Idaho Natural Resource Specialist); a field team tackles invasive plant removal in CO's North Park landscape (North Park Landscape Coordinator).



## TELLING THE STORY:

# Communications & Outreach

This fiscal year, the IWJV Communications team focused on raising awareness about the scope and capabilities of the BLM-IWJV Sage Capacity Team and documented ongoing positive impacts on BLM investment in rural communities across the Intermountain West.

**Outcome-Based Grazing Communications:** In the beginning of the year we concluded the production of an array of products on the Bureau's [Outcome-Based Grazing Authorizations](#), which provide the option for flexibility built into public lands grazing authorizations for the benefit of ranchers, land, and habitat health. This communications effort included products aimed both at the public—including a [six-part video series](#), *Grazing Management for the Future*, featuring ranchers across the West—and products to inform BLM staff internally. At the time of this report's publication, *Grazing Management for the Future* has been viewed over 3,000 times.

**Field Delivery Communications:** The IWJV Communications staff implemented new ways to provide engaging, publicly relevant information on achievements from the BLM-IWJV Sage Capacity Team across the West. This led to the publication of several original articles, complete with photography and social media editions, highlighting positions' work accomplishments, unique wisdom, and impact on Western communities and landscapes. Highlights included feature-length web articles on collaborative conservation partnerships involving the [Arizona Strip Project Manager](#), the [Northwest Colorado Sagebrush Conservation Partnership Coordinator](#), and the [Wind River/Bighorn Basin](#)

[District Invasive Annual Grass Coordinator](#); an [article](#) from the Buffalo-Skedaddle Sage Grouse Working Group Project Coordinator summarizing her findings on emerging uses of virtual fencing technology; and a [Q&A](#) with the Idaho Rangeland Conservation Partnership Coordinator on the importance of facilitation in community-based land use decisionmaking. As of this report's publication these pieces have been viewed over 4,000 times. Communications staff also trialled the use of a community-produced article format, [Field Notes](#), featuring guest-written pieces by the BLM and IWJV's network of rangeland conservation professionals across the West.

**Partner Support:** Additionally, IWJV Communications staff provided productions and operations support to key partners, including technological and facilitation support for [IMAGINE's](#) 2025 virtual workshop on invasive annual grass management; production and premiere support for the partner video [First Came Collaboration: Ranching for Riparia](#); and general social media broadcast support.

**Website Updates:** IWJV Communications staff also fully overhauled our organization's website, which included building a new online home to showcase the Partnering to Conserve Sagebrush Rangelands BLM-IWJV partnership at [www.IWJV.org](http://www.IWJV.org). The partnership's original website will sunset in early FY 2026. The new website incorporates a sophisticated multi-media communications infrastructure that will enable us to showcase the BLM's meaningful impacts on western wildlands and communities into the future.



## SHARING SCIENCE WITH THE FIELD:

# Technical Transfer

Bridging the gap between science and implementation within the Partnering to Conserve Sagebrush Rangelands partnership remains a priority for the IWJV. This work is supported by the IWJV's Science to Implementation Team. In FY 2025, our technical transfer work focused on supporting the Sage Capacity Team and our partnership in integrating science, data, and technology into their work. Highlights of our work this year include:

**Supporting the Sage Capacity Team through one-on-one technical support and Community of Practice sessions:** Our targeted sessions covered topics including virtual fencing, outcome-based grazing, low-tech process-based restoration, invasive annual grass management, communications, spatial data, native plant restoration, facilitation, and collaboration.

**Expanding capacity for technical transfer through the Sagebrush Technical Transfer Network (STTN):** This group aims to equip those who support others in using technical information with resources, training, and a professional network to support and strengthen their technical transfer work. Key accomplishments include developing the STTN website, building out a [Technical Transfer Framework](#), and hosting three workshops reaching dozens of participants.

**Equipping people to address invasive annual grasses through the [Invasive Annual Grass Tech Transfer Partnership](#):** Accomplishments include virtual and in-person workshops that support managers in implementing strategic invasive annual grass control, and developing free, self-paced learning modules that build the knowledge and tools to develop and implement a successful invasive annual grass management strategy in western rangelands. The IWJV Science to Implementation Team serves on the core team for this partnership, which received funding from the BLM in FY 2025.

**Supporting Colorado BLM in balancing diverse management objectives in pinyon-juniper woodlands:** Our Science to Implementation Team worked with BLM state and field offices to host three in-person workshops to consider how to optimize management goals related to fire and fuels, wildlife, wildland urban interface and human use, and more. This work was funded through BLM Colorado and the University of Colorado Boulder.

**Assisting the BLM in completing Sage-grouse Habitat Assessment Framework (HAF) reports:** We provided support to the BLM National Operations Center Sage-grouse Team and other BLM offices in completing HAF reports.





INTERMOUNTAIN WEST  
JOINT VENTURE

Questions?  
Contact the



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