

SAGE GROUSE INITIATIVE STRATEGIC WATERSHED ACTION TEAM



In 2011, USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) teamed up with the Intermountain West Joint Venture and more than 30 partner organizations to expand the field delivery, science, and communications capacity for the Sage Grouse Initiative (SGI). The partnership, known as the *SGI Strategic Watershed Action Team (SWAT)*, was established with the shared vision of *achieving wildlife conservation through sustainable ranching*. Through SWAT, partner organizations have hired 23 new range conservationists and wildlife biologists, plus a cultural resources specialist, to help get more Farm Bill conservation on the ground. Located in critical geographic “pinch points” for conservation delivery, these partner positions are based in NRCS field offices and work under the direction of NRCS staff – assisting landowners one-on-one who voluntarily chose to participate in SGI. Partner positions are employed by conservation districts, state wildlife and agricultural agencies, and non-governmental organizations (employing partners and funding contributors, in parentheses, are listed below).

Follow the partnership at: www.sagegrouseinitiative.com

Location	Employing Partner (Funding Partners)	Employee Contact
CALIFORNIA		
Alturas	Pheasants Forever – Contracted Cultural Resources Specialist (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Native-X, Inc. nativex@charter.net
COLORADO		
Craig	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation)	Chris Yarbrough chris.yarbrough@co.usda.gov (970) 824-3476 ext. 108
Kremmling	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Noah Bates noah.bates@co.usda.gov (970) 724-3456
IDAHO		
Burley	Pheasants Forever (ConocoPhillips Company, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Scott Scroggie sscroggie@pheasantsforever.org (208) 678-1225
Mountain Home	Pheasants Forever (ConocoPhillips Company, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Eduardo Contreras econtreras@pheasantsforever.org (208) 587-3616 ext. 116
Rexburg	Pheasants Forever (Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Lara Fondow lfondow@pheasantsforever.org (208) 356-3218 ext. 117
MONTANA		
Forsyth	Montana Association of Conservation Districts (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rosebud Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Scott Anderson scott.anderson2@mt.usda.gov (406) 346-7333 ext. 109
Glasgow	Montana Association of Conservation Districts (Intermountain West Joint Venture, Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Natural Resources Conservation Service, North American Grouse Partnership, World Wildlife Fund)	John Fahlgren john.fahlgren@mt.nacdnet.net (406) 228-4321
Malta	Montana Association of Conservation Districts (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pheasants Forever, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Kelsey Molloy kelsey.molloy@mt.nacdnet.net (406) 654-1334 ext. 106

Location	Employing Partner (Funding Partners)	Employee Contact
NEVADA		
<i>Elko</i>	<i>Pheasants Forever</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife)</i>	<i>Rachelle Peppers</i> <i>rpeppers@pheasantsforever.org</i> <i>(775) 738-8431 ext. 119</i>
<i>Ely</i>	<i>Pheasants Forever</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife)</i>	<i>Tyrel Brown</i> <i>tbrown@pheasantsforever.org</i> <i>(775) 289-4065</i>
OREGON		
<i>Baker City</i>	<i>Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District</i> <i>(Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board)</i>	<i>Joshua Uriarte</i> <i>joshua.uriarte@or.nacdn.net</i> <i>(541) 523-7121 ext. 116</i>
<i>Ontario</i>	<i>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife)</i>	<i>Laura Schnapp</i> <i>laura.a.schnapp@state.or.us</i> <i>(541) 889-7637 ext. 122</i>
<i>Lakeview</i>	<i>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife)</i>	<i>Brandi St. Clair</i> <i>brandi.stclair@or.usda.gov</i> <i>(541) 947-2367 ext. 110</i>
SOUTH DAKOTA		
<i>Belle Fourche</i>	<i>Pheasants Forever</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks)</i>	<i>Gillian Brooks</i> <i>gbrooks@pheasantsforever.org</i> <i>(605) 892-3368 ext. 3</i>
UTAH		
<i>Randolph</i>	<i>Utah Department of Agriculture and Food</i> <i>(Bureau of Land Management, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Forest Service, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food)</i>	<i>Taylor Payne</i> <i>taylorpayne@utah.gov</i> <i>(435) 793-3905</i>
<i>Roosevelt</i>	<i>Mule Deer Foundation</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, National Wild Turkey Federation, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, Utah Chukar & Wildlife Foundation, Utah Chapter Safari Club International)</i>	<i>Natasha Gruber</i> <i>natasha.gruber@ut.usda.gov</i> <i>(435) 722-4621 ext. 115</i>
<i>Tremonton</i>	<i>Mule Deer Foundation</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, National Wild Turkey Federation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Chapter Safari Club International, Utah Chukar & Wildlife Foundation, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources)</i>	<i>Leah Lewis</i> <i>leah.lewis@ut.usda.gov</i> <i>(435) 257-5403 ext. 113</i>
WASHINGTON		
<i>Ephrata</i>	<i>Pheasants Forever</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)</i>	<i>Mike Brown</i> <i>mbrown@pheasantsforever.org</i> <i>(509) 754-3023 ext. 1120</i>
WYOMING		
<i>Buffalo</i>	<i>Lake DeSmet Conservation District</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Lake DeSmet Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Powder River Conservation District)</i>	<i>Position TBD</i>

Location	Employing Partner (Funding Partners)	Employee Contact
WYOMING (continued)		
<i>Lander</i>	Popo Agie Conservation District (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Popo Agie Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Mandi Hirsch mandi.hirsch@wy.usda.gov (307) 332-3114 ext. 13
<i>Meeteetse</i>	Meeteetse Conservation District (Intermountain West Joint Venture, Meeteetse Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Blaise Allen blaise.allen@wy.usda.gov (307) 868-2484
<i>Pinedale</i>	Sublette County Conservation District (Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sublette County Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)	Meghann Smith meghann.smith@wy.usda.gov (307) 367-2257 ext. 113
<i>Saratoga</i>	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (Audubon Society, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wyoming Game and Fish Department)	Garrett Pantle garrett.pantle@wy.nacdnet.net (307) 326-5657

SGI SWAT Partner Location Map

