

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 22 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 |
| MONTANA | | |
| Forsyth | Montana Association of Conservation Districts (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Pheasants Forever, 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 & Parks, Natural Resources Conservation Service, North American Grouse Partnership, Pheasants Forever, World Wildlife Fund) | John Fahlgren john.fahlgren@mt.nacdnet.net (406) 228-4321 ext. 132 |

| Location | Employing Partner (Funding Partners) | Employee Contact |
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| MONTANA (continued) | | |
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| NEVADA | | |
| Elko | Pheasants Forever (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife) | Mandy O'Donnell aodonnell@pheasantsforever.org (775) 738-8431 |
| Elko | Pheasants Forever (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife) | Rachelle Peppers rpeppers@pheasantsforever.org (775) 738-8431 ext. 119 |
| OREGON | | |
| Baker City | Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (Baker Valley Soil and Water Conservation District, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) | Joshua Uriarte joshua.uriarte@bakercountyswcds.com (541) 523-7121 ext. 116 |
| Ontario | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) | Laura Schnapp laura.a.schnapp@state.or.us (541) 889-7637 ext. 122 |
| Lakeview | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) | Brandi St. Clair brandi.stclair@or.usda.gov (541) 947-2367 ext. 110 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | | |
| Belle Fourche | Pheasants Forever (ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks) | Gillian Brooks Bee gbee@pheasantsforever.org (605) 892-3368 ext. 3 |
| UTAH | | |
| Randolph | Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (Bureau of Land Management, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Forest Service, Utah Department of Agriculture and Food) | Taylor Payne taylorpayne@utah.gov (435) 793-3905 ext. 106 |
| Roosevelt | Mule Deer Foundation (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) | Natasha Gruber-Hadden natasha.gruber@ut.usda.gov (435) 722-4621 ext. 115 |
| Tremonton | Mule Deer Foundation (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) | Leah Lewis leah.lewis@ut.usda.gov (435) 257-5403 ext. 113 |

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| 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>Michael Brown</i> <i>mbrown@pheasantsforever.org</i> <i>(509) 754-3023 ext. 1120</i> |
| WYOMING | | |
| <i>Lander</i> | <i>Popo Agie Conservation District</i> <i>(ConocoPhillips Company, Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Popo Agie Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)</i> | <i>Mandi Hirsch</i> <i>mandi.hirsch@wy.usda.gov</i> <i>(307) 332-3114 ext. 13</i> |
| <i>Meeteetse</i> | <i>Meeteetse Conservation District</i> <i>(Intermountain West Joint Venture, Meeteetse Conservation District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)</i> | <i>Blaise Allen</i> <i>mcdrs2@tctwest.net</i> <i>(307) 868-2484</i> |
| <i>Pinedale</i> | <i>Sublette County Conservation District</i> <i>(Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sublette County Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)</i> | <i>Meghann Smith</i> <i>meghann.smith@wy.usda.gov</i> <i>(307) 367-2257 ext. 113</i> |
| <i>Saratoga</i> | <i>Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory</i> <i>(Intermountain West Joint Venture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins Conservation District, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)</i> | <i>Garrett Pantle</i> <i>garrett.pantle@wy.nacdnet.net</i> <i>(307) 326-5657 ext. 108</i> |