

Definitions

Brood success: The success of a brood is achieved when one or more chicks in a brood survive to 50 days of age or more.

Corridors: Areas between sage-grouse habitat that provide a path for birds to move between populations or seasonal habitats. Corridors are generally found as sagebrush “islands of habitat” within other landforms, and assist with the natural movement of sage-grouse.

Disturbance: Disturbance is defined as:

1. Any human-caused ground disturbing activity, event or action that will either eliminate or render sage-grouse habitat not useable for the life-cycle of the bird, *or*
2. Human activities and presence which causes a negative response from birds within the SGMA. Any activity or presence that disrupts common activities or behavior of sage-grouse within a habitat at either the population or local scale is included.
3. The area of permanent disturbance is the area within a spatial polygon defined by the outside limits of the actual disturbed area, *plus* the area outside of this polygon where effects of the project, based on the type of project, could be expected to cause a disturbance, as defined above, to sage-grouse.
4. Duration of a Disturbance
 - a) Permanent disturbance: Any ground disturbing activity where the effects would be expected to last five years or more; and
 - b) Temporary disturbance: Any ground disturbing activity where the effects would be expected to last less than five years.

Functional Habitat: any sage-grouse habitat, created through a Credit Generation Project, contiguous with existing Occupied Habitat, and which includes a live sagebrush canopy cover of at least 10% and no more than 1% canopy cover of conifer trees over 1.5 feet in height

Habitat: Habitat areas include the combined total of seasonal habitats used by sage-grouse at some point during their yearly life-cycle. Habitat includes the geographical extent of leks, nesting, brood-rearing, late brood-rearing, transitional and winter areas.

- a) **Occupied Habitat:** Habitat which sage-grouse have actively used within the past 10 years. Some winter areas may be used less frequently due to rare, severe winters.

Non-Habitat: Non-habitat areas within SGMAs include lands that do not contribute to the annual lifecycle of sage-grouse. There have been efforts to minimize the amount of non-habitat within an SGMA, but given the topographic, physiographic and land-cover features within Utah — and the scale and detail of mapping — the inclusion of some non-habitat was unavoidable. As in other instances related to this plan, on-the-ground delineation of non-habitat, as determined by UDWR, shall be the authoritative resource.

Opportunity areas — Opportunity areas are those portions of an SGMA that currently do not contribute to the lifecycle of sage-grouse, but they are areas where restoration or rehabilitation efforts can provide additional habitat when linked to existing sage-grouse populations. In Utah, the majority of these areas are lands that have been altered due to wildfire or the proliferation of invasive plant species. Examples include areas where pinyon pine, juniper, conifers, deciduous shrubs or other plant species have encroached upon habitat, rendering it useless as habitat. Opportunity Areas may be transformed into either habitat or non-habitat, based upon natural events or management choices, and they may be used to mitigate disturbance within habitat as appropriate.

Lek: An area where two or more strutting sage-grouse males attend the same location for two years or more; not necessarily consecutive years.

Active lek: Based on a year-by-year review, a lek that has been attended by male sage-grouse during the annual strutting and breeding season.

Occupied lek: A lek which has been active at least once within the last 10 years.

Reclamation/ Rehabilitation: Affirmative action to return an area to a functional habitat condition immediately after a disturbance, and is generally related to a temporary disturbance or a planned activity.

Restoration: Affirmative action to return an area to a functional habitat condition, most often with a lapse between disturbance and action, and generally not planned when the disturbance occurred.

Population: A group of sage-grouse utilizing habitat in a geographic area that share genetic traits and have regular genetic exchange.

Migratory population: A sage-grouse population that moves 6 miles (10 km) or more between seasonal habitat locations.

Non-migratory population: A sage-grouse population that does not move more than 6 miles (10 km) between seasonal habitat locations.

SITLA lands: Lands owned or managed by the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration.

State lands: lands managed by state agencies other than the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration.