


## CONSERVATION AGREEMENT

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) hereby states its intent and commitment to assist with and participate in the implementation of the *Gunnison Sage-grouse Rangewide Conservation Plan (RCP)*, prepared by the multi-agency Gunnison Sage-grouse Rangewide Plan Steering Committee. The Gunnison Sage-grouse is listed on Utah's Sensitive Species List, under Administrative Rule R657-48 Implementation of the Wildlife Species of Concern and Habitat Designation Advisory Committee, as a Federal Candidate Species. Specific commitments made hereby are as follows:

1. To provide staff necessary to coordinate the implementation of this plan and represent the UDWR on the Gunnison Sage-grouse Rangewide Plan Steering Committee, which consists of representatives from state (Colorado and Utah) and federal agencies. Functions of the Steering Committee may continue after completion of the RCP.
2. To assume lead responsibility for inventory and monitoring of Gunnison Sage-grouse populations in Utah and to annually compile and report inventory and monitoring information.
3. To assume lead responsibility for the reintroduction of Gunnison Sage-grouse into formerly occupied habitats in Utah as well as augmentation of existing small populations for purposes and by means described in the plan.
4. To implement and enforce specific state statutes pertaining to wildlife, including Gunnison Sage-grouse, as outlined in Utah Code Title 23 and other.
5. To make recommendations to, and cooperate with, other state and federal agencies, local governments, private landowners, the San Juan County Gunnison Sage-grouse Local Working Group (SWOG), and land developers to avoid, minimize, or mitigate negative impacts of development and other land uses on Gunnison Sage-grouse populations and their habitats in Utah.
6. To make recommendations to, provide some funding for, and cooperate with, other state and federal agencies, local governments, private landowners, SWOG and conservation organizations to conserve and enhance Gunnison Sage-grouse habitats in Utah.
7. To continue to support and conduct research on the populations dynamics, habitat relationships, and other aspects of Gunnison Sage-grouse conservation in Utah.
8. To continue UDWR participation and support of the San Juan County Gunnison Sage-grouse Local Working Group as appropriate.

Performance of the commitments described above is contingent on adequate funding being made available and allocated to the UDWR. This agreement shall not prohibit the UDWR from engaging in management actions regarding Gunnison Sage-grouse beyond those described in this agreement and in the RCP.

This agreement shall become effective on the date of signing by the participating party and shall remain in effect until the signatory party chooses to terminate the agreement. The agreement may be terminated by providing 90 days written notice to the Gunnison Sage-grouse Rangewide Conservation Plan Steering Committee.

  
James F. Karpowitz  
Director, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

  
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