

California State Wildlife Action Plan Update 2015

Mono Ecoregion

DRAFT STRATEGY: Western North America Tall Sage Shrubland and Steppe; Sagebrush



GOALS

1. By 2025 at least 10% of habitat within the Mono Ecoregion has implemented fuel reduction treatments, using greenstrips in strategic locations
2. By 2025, maintain a diverse age structure of the sage brush community.
3. By 2025, protect 100% of critical sage grouse habitat throughout the Mono Ecoregion. (Critical habitat is all sage brush found in the Mono Ecoregion)
4. By 2025, Restore historic level of disturbance regime for sage brush habitat in the Mono Ecoregion through grazing, mechanical treatment and chemical treatment.
5. By 2025, there is an increase in native plant/animla species diversity

The State Wildlife Action Plan examines the health of wildlife and prescribes actions to conserve wildlife and vital habitat before they become more rare and more costly to protect. The plan also promotes wildlife conservation while furthering responsible development and addressing the needs of a growing human population.

STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

1. Management partnership and coordination
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Coordinate with local agencies and Counties
 - ii. Identify funding sources and combine funding where possible.
 - b. Activities
 - i. Coordinate with potential partners to agree on objective
 - ii. Coordinate on the development of conservation plans
 - iii. Identify areas needing restoration
 - iv. Coordinate with partners on selecting priorities
 - v. Obtain funding
2. Resource Management
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Promote healthy sage brush ecosystems
 - b. Activities
 - i. Coordinate with state and federal agencies and private landowners to implement grazing BMPs
 - ii. Coordinate with state and federal agencies and private landowners to conduct controlled burns
 - iii. Manage Pinyon Juniper encroachment through thinning
 - iv. Identify and prioritize areas for habitat restoration
 - v. Obtain funding to implement strategy
3. Data Collection and Analysis
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Prioritize and coordinate sage grouse research efforts
 - ii. Continue monitoring Pinyon Juniper and cheat grass invasion
 - b. Activities
 - i. Participate with efforts to map cheat grass and Pinyon Juniper encroachment in sage scrub habitat
 - ii. Coordinate with land management agencies and private landowners and stakeholder/expert groups
 - iii. Coordinated use of decision support tools to guide restoration and enhancement efforts
 - iv. Identify and obtain funding to implement strategy
 - v. Coordinate research with Bi-State Cooperative
4. Protect land through acquisition easements
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Acquire in fee title, CE or Lease with goal of protecting sage brush habitat within the Fales, Bodie and Long Valley PMUs.
 - b. Activities
 - i. Identify conservation and funding partners
 - ii. Coordinate with Wildlife Conservation Board
 - iii. Coordinate with state , federal agencies, private landowners
 - iv. Identify and prioritize potential areas for acquisition and conservation, and willing landowners of suitable habitat
 - v. Identify and obtain funding for implementation of strategy
5. Provide economic incentives
 - a. Objectives
 - i. Purchase leases, land or CEs on important sage grouse habitat with various funding.
 - b. Activities
 - i. Coordinate with state and federal agencies
 - ii. Identify and evaluate incentive programs applicable to private and public lands
 - iii. Identify willing landowners/lease holders
 - iv. Identify funding sources and obtain funding for implementation of strategy
 - v. Design or support existing incentive programs
 - vi. Create coalition of conservation partners to help implement strategy

SENSITIVE SPECIES

Short-eared owl
 Long-eared owl
 Greater sage-grouse
 Northern harrier
 Loggerhead shrike
 Pronghorn
 Pallid bat
 Pygmy rabbit
 American beaver
 Common porcupine
 California wolverine
 Western white-tailed jackrabbit
 Long-eared myotis
 Gringed myotis
 Long-legged myotis
 Southern grasshopper mouse
 Bighorn sheep
 American badger
 Panamint alligator lizard
 Sierra Nevada red fox
 Sierra Nevada mountain beaver
 Prairie falcon (nesting)
 Cooper's hawk (nesting)
 Golden eagle
 Brewer's sparrow (nesting)
 Chipping sparrow

ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSES

Change in annual average temperatures increase
 Change in annual average precipitation
 Change in Co2 levels
 Change in snow pack
 Change in snow cover period
 Changes in natural fire regime
 Changes in extreme events
 Changes community structure or composition
 Changes in functional processes of ecosystem
 Changes succession processes and ecosystem development

HUMAN RELATED IMPACTS

Housing and Urban Areas
 Invasive plants/animals
 Fire and Fire Suppression
 Problematic Native Species



Short-eared owl. John H. Tashjian © California Academy of Sciences



Greater sage grouse © 2011 Don Getty



Common Porcupine © 1995 Don Getty



Sierra Nevada red fox © 2011 Don Getty



Bighorn sheep Dr. K.T. Rogers © California Academy of Sciences



Housing development



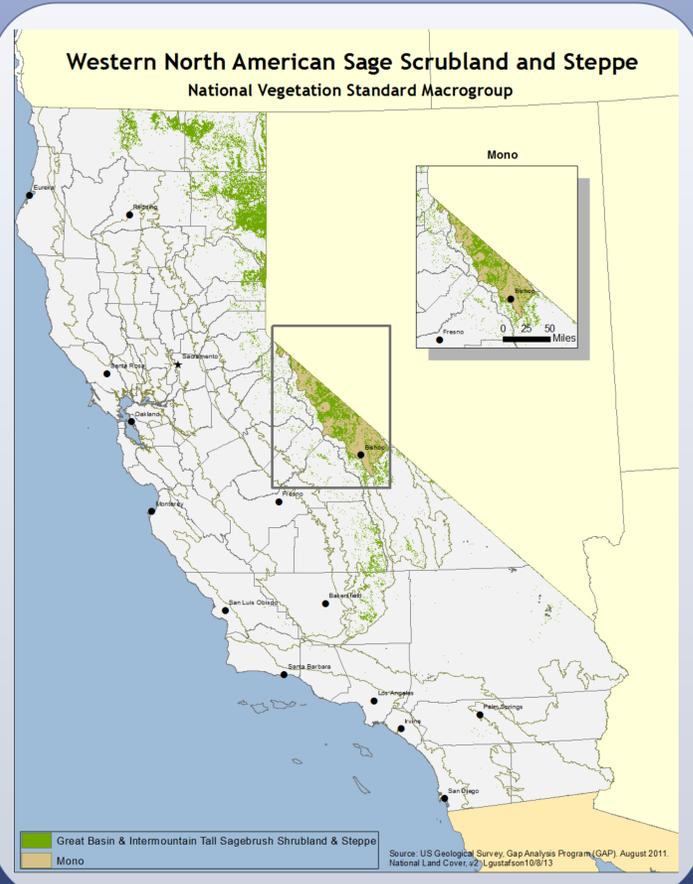
Bull thistle. Photo courtesy of Bob Case



Wildfire



Juniper encroachment



TEAM



Name	Organization	Role
Mike Giusti	CDFW-R6	Team Member;
Allisa Ellsworth	CDFW-R6	Leader/Manager;Team Member;
Jane McKeever	CDFW-R6	Team Member;
Tim Taylor	CDFW-R6	Team Member;
Mike Morrison	CDFW-R6	Team Member;
Junko Hoshi	CDFW-HCPB	Team Member;
Toadd Ellsworth	USFS	Team Member;
Kathleen Nelson	USFWS	Team Member;

