

**A note about the rating:** Any single goal could receive 2-6 points per person per region (west/east). The combined ratings from the Integration Team ranged from 12-36 points for any single goal by region. The combined total for west and east could range from 24-72 from the 6-member Integration Team. It is important to note that the purpose of the rating was simply to identify those goals that most Forum participants felt an immediate need to address. The rating was not intended to create an absolute ranking of the goals.

<b>Synthesized Rated Goals</b> (from Forum Strategies)		<b>Total West</b>	<b>Total East</b>	<b>Total Combined</b>
<b>Subissue</b>	<b>Goal</b>			
<p><i>[Note: High priority/critical goals were identified as those that were rated 30 or above for either the west or east regions, or had at least a 30 in one column and at least a 28 in the other for range-wide priorities/critical goals. The one exception to this was the Integration goal "Create a mechanism for sharing information among LWGs and all levels of those involved in sage-grouse conservation"....This was included as a high priority/critical goal in light of the interest expressed throughout the Forum for coordination with and among LWGs]</i></p>				
<b>Common to All</b>				
<b>Monitoring</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Design and implement monitoring that addresses the effects of human activities and natural events on sage grouse and sagebrush habitat, shows trends over time, and provides the foundation for adaptive management.			
<b>Communication</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Maintain and distribute guidelines, techniques, best management practices, and other critical data and information for sage-grouse and sagebrush conservation through an accessible central repository.			
<b>Habitat Conservation and Land Use</b>				
<b>Conservation and protection of habitats</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Locate important and/or intact sage-grouse habitats ("save the best")	36	36	72
<b>Invasive Plant Species</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Maintain a range-wide list of invasive species posing the greatest risk to sage-grouse habitats.	24	18	42
<b>Invasive Plant Species</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Identify known locations, and areas of future risk, for the top priority invasive plant species.	30	17	47
<b>Invasive Plant Species</b>	<b>Goal 3:</b> Develop and implement guidelines for coordinated prevention and control of invasive plant species throughout sage-grouse habitat.	28	20	48
<b>Livestock Grazing</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Provide for livestock grazing with the assurance of 'no net loss' of sagebrush habitat or sage-grouse populations at an appropriate spatial and temporal scales.	23	19	42
<b>Livestock Grazing</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement grazing systems and management practices that maintain the soil quality and ecological processes necessary for a properly functioning sagebrush community to address the long-term needs of sage grouse and other sagebrush associated species.	30	28	58
<b>Agricultural Lands</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Identify locations of prioritized agriculture lands that provide the greatest habitat value for sage-grouse.	22	22	44
<b>Agricultural Lands</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement management practices for agriculture lands to protect or minimize harm to sage-grouse.	20	17	37
<b>Agricultural Lands</b>	<b>Goal 3:</b> Encourage the retention and restoration of sagebrush habitat.	25	25	50
<b>Fences</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Develop and implement guidelines for designing and siting new fences to avoid, reduce and, where possible, eliminate injuries to and mortality of greater sage-grouse.	23	22	45
<b>Fences</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Modify existing fences to be consistent with new guidelines to avoid, reduce and, where possible, eliminate injuries to and mortality of greater sage-grouse.	16	14	30
<b>Surface Hydrology</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Develop and implement guidelines to manage surface water to increase the productivity of sagebrush ecosystems and enhance sage-grouse populations.	17	18	35
<b>Infrastructure: Energy Corridors</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Develop and utilize consistent criteria and management guidelines to locate/site, energy corridors, and operate and maintain new and existing facilities within energy corridors in a manner that minimizes impacts to sage-grouse and sagebrush habitat.	23	34	57

Subissue	Goal			
Infrastructure: Energy Corridors	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement best management practices (BMPs) and appropriate mitigation measures that can be implemented for siting and O&M activities associated with energy corridors.	24	32	56
Infrastructure: Roads & Railroads	<b>Goal 1:</b> Develop and utilize consistent criteria and management guidelines to locate/site new roads and railroads, and construct, maintain, or close roads and railroads to minimize impacts to sage-grouse and sagebrush habitat.	25	29	54
Infrastructure: Roads & Railroads	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement best management practices (BMPs) and appropriate mitigation measures that can be implemented for siting and O&M activities associated with roads and railroads.	22	25	47
Infrastructure: Tall Structures	<b>Goal 1:</b> Develop and utilize consistent siting and operation & maintenance (O&M) criteria for "tall structures" in sage-grouse habitat that will minimize negative impacts sage-grouse.	26	27	53
Infrastructure: Tall Structures	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement best management practices (BMPs) and appropriate mitigation measures that can be implemented for siting and O&M activities associated with tall structures.	26	27	53
Infrastructure: Urban/Exurban Development	<b>Goal 1:</b> Avoid or minimize incursion of urban and exurban development into greater sage-grouse habitats.	27	27	54
Infrastructure: Urban/Exurban Development	<b>Goal 2:</b> Maintain private lands with ecologically sustainable sage-grouse habitat, and economically viable ranches in sage-grouse habitats.	23	23	46
Infrastructure: Urban/Exurban Development	<b>Goal 3:</b> Develop and implement land management agency land tenure policies to acquire, maintain, or enhance greater sage-grouse habitats.	29	29	58
Dispersed Recreation	<b>Goal:</b> Manage dispersed recreational activities to avoid, reduce and, where possible, eliminate displacement of greater sage-grouse or negative impacts to sage-grouse habitat.	30	27	57
Non-Renewable Energy	<b>Goal 1:</b> Provide for non-renewable resource development and utilization with the assurance of 'no net loss' of sagebrush habitat or sage-grouse populations at an appropriate spatial and temporal scales.	25	36	61
Non-Renewable Energy	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement technologies and practices that off-set, reduce and/or minimize disturbance to sage-grouse and their habitat associated with non-renewable resource recovery activities.	24	33	57
<b>Habitat Restoration</b>				0
Conifer Encroachment	<b>Goal 1:</b> Identify the locations of areas of current extent and future threat of conifer encroachment within prioritized sage-grouse habitat.	29	16	45
Conifer Encroachment	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement coordinated control measures for encroaching conifer species within prioritized sage-grouse habitat.	26	14	40
Conifer Encroachment	<b>Goal 3:</b> Increase the efficiency/efficacy of conducting conifer removal activities in prioritized sage-grouse habitats.	24	13	37
Range-wide habitat restoration assessment & planning	<b>Goal 1:</b> Implement management practices and policies, including post-treatment management, that stabilizes or recovers sagebrush steppe habitat.	28	21	49
Range-wide habitat restoration assessment & planning	<b>Goal 2:</b> Identify and restore a realistic extent (acres and/or percentage of historic) of range to support the needs of sage-grouse.	22	22	44
Range-wide habitat restoration assessment & planning	<b>Goal 3:</b> Ensure that restoration techniques are ecologically sound and practicable.	23	21	44
Native seed availability	<b>Goal:</b> Develop a regional assemblage of species that are site adapted and available in quantities needed to implement plant COMMUNITY restoration priority projects/actions.	21	19	40
Planting expertise	<b>Goal 1:</b> Develop the human resources with knowledge and expertise to plan, implement, and monitor treatments to accomplish rangewide restoration goals & priorities.	20	20	40
Planting expertise	<b>Goal 2:</b> Obtain and manage specialized equipment in strategic locations to meet restoration goals.	18	13	31
Fire	<b>Goal 1:</b> Approach management of wildland fire and fuels management in greater sage-grouse habitat in an integrated and coordinated fashion with local, state, and federal agencies and private entities.	29	26	55
Fire	<b>Goal 2:</b> Containing and suppressing wildfires in important greater sage-grouse habitats receives top priority.	33	25	58
Fire	<b>Goal 3:</b> Manage habitat mosaics and fuels in greater sage-grouse habitat to improve habitat and reduce the possibility of damaging wildfires.	23	22	45

Subissue	Goal			
<b>Science, Data and Information Management</b>				
<b>Standardized vegetation and other data layer base map and access system</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Develop and implement a database of information for use in the research and management of issues concerning wildlife species and habitats in the sagebrush ecosystems: vegetation, land cover, land-use, infrastructure, habitat change, wildlife habitat, sage-grouse information, surface geology, and hydrology data.	32	31	63
<b>Standardized vegetation and other data layer base map and access system</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Institutionalize and expand long term existing natural resource information portals (e.g. SAGEMAP) for the sage-grouse and sagebrush ecosystems to provide easy and dependable access to useful information.	30	30	60
<b>Standardized vegetation and other data layer base map and access system</b>	<b>Goal 3:</b> Share data and information on emerging issues that pose a significant threat to sage grouse populations and sagebrush ecosystems (e.g. West Nile Virus).	23	23	46
<b>Definition of success for sage-grouse conservation.</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Establish and apply a definition and metrics for success or failure of conservation actions for sage grouse including population estimates	26	25	51
<b>Definition of success for sage-grouse conservation.</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement range-wide standards for maintaining or increasing sage-grouse distribution and abundance while allowing for sustainable harvest.	21	20	41
<b>Definition of success for sage-grouse conservation.</b>	<b>Goal 3:</b> Identify locations of priority areas on which to focus conservation actions to maintain the function of sagebrush ecosystems.	31	32	63
<b>Evaluating social and economic effects of human activities on sage grouse and habitat persistence.</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Understand the role of social and economic factors that influence human actions and decisions on the potential persistence of sage grouse and its habitat.	17	17	34
<b>Ability to predict population outcomes/habitat as a result of vegetation change</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Create and utilize a tool kit for managers to model habitat to understand and predict sage grouse responses to management actions at different scales.	24	25	49
<b>Ability to predict population outcomes/habitat as a result of vegetation change</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Create and utilize a tool kit to assess and model the cumulative effect of sage-grouse and wildlands systems in the Western U.S. and Canada.	25	26	51
<b>Range-wide research and monitoring collaboration and coordination</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Create and implement an institutional framework that supports collaborative efforts for funding, research, monitoring and management.	28	28	56
<b>Range-wide research and monitoring collaboration and coordination</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Develop and implement a coordinated program of research and monitoring projects integrated within the context of the landscape.	30	29	59
<b>Regulatory Mechanisms</b>				
<b>Inconsistent and inadequate application of existing regulations and policies.</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Uniformly apply existing regulations, regulatory mechanisms, and policies within and among agencies.	27	26	53
<b>Adequacy of regulations</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Develop and implement a regulatory framework that maintains and enhances Greater Sage-grouse habitat and populations.	28	28	56
<b>Integration and Coordination Across Range and Jurisdictions</b>				
<b>Current Approaches</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Create long-term shared leadership and commitment resulting in implementation and evaluation of plans that integrate conservation issues throughout the range.	30	29	59
<b>Sharing scientific and management information</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Share scientific information, lessons learned and effective management practices effectively and efficiently among LWGs and at all levels of those involved in sage-grouse conservation.	26	27	53
<b>Sharing scientific and management information</b>	<b>Goal 2:</b> Create a mechanism for sharing information among LWGs and all levels of those involved in sage-grouse conservation to enable measurement of cumulative effects on sage-grouse habitats.	29	29	58
<b>Inconsistency in policy and coordination across jurisdictional boundaries.</b>	<b>Goal 1:</b> Resolve inconsistencies among federal, state, local, provincial, and tribal policies that may inhibit sage-grouse conservation.	27	26	53

Subissue	Goal			
Inconsistency in policy and coordination across jurisdictional boundaries.	Goal 2: Ensure that federal, state, and LWG practices meet PECE guidelines.	27	27	54