

**NWCOS COMMENT FORM FOR  
JUNE 27 DRAFT ALTERNATIVES**

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**I. We have a concern with the following section:**

Topic: Habitat Management/Minerals & Energy \_\_\_\_\_

Page number: HM page 15/ ME page 76 \_\_\_\_\_

II. **Our concern is: With only 1,300,000 acres in the LSFO Resource Area using a four mile radius for surface disturbing and disruptive activity, it would require only 40 leks situated strategically on BLM lands to effectively use the entire lands within the LSFO. There are only 2000+ miles in the LSFO and a four mile radius occupies over 50 square miles of land. Comparatively the .25 mile radius in Alternative A leads to only .2 square miles. Considering a wilderness area needed only 5000 acres, or 7.8 square miles, I think that the protection area should be shrunk to a more reasonable limit for Alternative C.**

III. **Our recommendation for improvement is: I would think that a one to two mile radius (3.1 to 12.6 square miles) with some sort of adaptive management or a case-by-case review would more than limit the activity around sage grouse leks during the critical times, and provide the protection required so that the Sage Grouse would not be listed by the USFWS as an endangered species. The specific language should read, **Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would avoid all greater sage-grouse habitats within a one mile radius of the lek. For seasonal concerns, including nesting habitat and crucial winter habitat, up to a two mile radius area to be avoided and appropriate time frames would be determined on a case-by-case basis, dependent on site specific analysis.****

**IV.**

Comments are due to Jeremy Casterson (jeremy\_casterson@blm.gov or fax: (970) 826-5002) and Helen Littrell (hlittrell@keystone.org or fax: (970) 262-0152) by no later than 4:00 p.m. MDT on Tuesday, July 5, 2005. If you are unsure of whether your idea is an RMP-level suggestion, please call Jeremy Casterson at 970-826-5071.

(Facilitator Suggestion: Please provide specific language for BLM to consider incorporating into the RMP. It is significantly less helpful to receive comments that say things like: “BLM should incorporate more adaptive management ideas into Alternative C.”)

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Comments Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_