

ATTACHMENT 2: SEASONAL HABITAT OBJECTIVES FOR GUNNISON SAGE-GROUSE

Attribute	Indicators	Suitable ¹	Marginal	Unsuitable
Breeding and Nesting (seasonal use period March 1 – June 30)¹				
Apply 4 miles from all leks (active, inactive, unknown, historic)				
Lek Security	Proximity of trees	Trees or other tall structures are none to uncommon within 1.86 miles of leks		
	Proximity of sagebrush to leks	Adjacent protective sagebrush cover within 328 feet of lek		
Cover and Food	Sagebrush canopy cover			
	Arid sites	15 to 40%	5 to 15% or > 40%	< 5%
	Mesic sites	10 to 35%	5 to 10% or > 35%	< 5%
	Total shrub canopy cover			
	Arid sites	20 to 40%	5 to 20% or > 40%	< 5%
	Mesic sites	15 to 35%	5 to 15% or > 35%	< 5%
	Sagebrush height			
	Arid sites	25 to 50 cm	20 to < 25 cm or > 50 cm	< 20
	Mesic sites	30 to 50 cm	20 to < 30 cm or > 50 cm	< 20
	Predominant sagebrush shape			
	All sites	majority spreading	Mix of spreading and columnar	majority columnar
	Perennial grass canopy cover			
	Arid sites	≥ 10%	5 to < 10%	< 5%
	Mesic sites	≥ 20%	5 to < 20%	< 5%
	Perennial forb canopy cover			
	Arid sites	≥ 5%	3 to < 5%	< 3%
	Mesic sites	≥ 20%	5 to < 20%	< 5%
	Perennial grass and forb height			
	All sites	≥ 10 cm	5 to < 10 cm	< 5 cm
	Preferred forb availability			
All sites	Common, > 5 species	Rare, < 5 species	Scarce	
Brood-rearing/Summer (seasonal use period July 1 – October 31)¹				
Cover and Food	Sagebrush canopy cover			
	Arid sites	5 to 30%	> 30%	< 5%
	Mesic sites	5 to 35%	> 35%	< 5%
	Total shrub canopy cover			
	Arid sites	10 to 30%	5 to 10% or > 30%	< 5%
	Mesic sites	10 to 35%	5 to 10% or > 35%	< 5%
	Sagebrush height			
	Arid sites	20 to 40 cm	> 40 cm	< 20 cm
	Mesic sites	25 to 50 cm	20 to < 25 cm	< 20 cm
	Perennial grass and forb height			
	All sites	≥ 10 cm	5 to < 10 cm	< 5 cm
	Perennial grass canopy cover			

	All sites	≥ 10%	5 to < 10%	< 5%
	Perennial forb canopy cover			
	Arid sites	≥ 5%	N/A	< 5%
	Mesic sites	≥ 15%	5 to < 15%	< 5%
	Preferred forb availability			
	All sites	Common, > 5 species	Rare, < 5 species	Scarce
Winter (seasonal use period November 1 – February 28)¹				
Cover and Food	Sagebrush canopy cover	≥ 30 to ≤ 40%	5 to < 30% or > 40%	< 5%
	Sagebrush height	≥ 40 cm	> 20 cm to < 40 cm	≤ 20 cm

¹Seasonal dates and suitable habitat indicators were derived from the 2005 Rangewide Conservation Plan (Gunnison Sage-Grouse Rangewide Steering Committee 2005).