

Attachment 2

Causal Factor Analysis Process and Results

Interdisciplinary teams with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) representation conducted the analyses. ODFW re-convened Local Implementation Teams composed of ODFW, Soil and Water Conservation District(s), local government, and private landowners. BLM invited tribal governments to participate in hard trigger analyses and in most soft trigger analyses. Additional outreach occurred to livestock permittees. Public meetings were held for the Baker and Brothers-Wagontire PACs.

Common and wide-spread causes identified below include fire, invasive annual grasses, degraded native understory vegetation, and fence collision risk. Factors with a possibly significant role are human infrastructure (mostly roads and power lines), improper livestock grazing (based on last Land Health Evaluations) and re-occurring drought. While the amount of infrastructure within a PAC may not have changed appreciably in the years leading up to the decline, predator populations may have expanded due to subsidies associated with power lines and roads. The degree to which West Nile virus has caused a population to decline or prevent an increase during favorable environmental conditions is unclear.

Possible Causes or Factors	Baker	Beatys	Cow Lakes	Trout Crks	DV-JM	Warner	Picture Rock	Bros- N. Wagon	Paul-12 mi
Isolated/small size	X						X	X	
Agriculture Conversion	X								
Juniper encroachment		X			X	X	X	X	X
Energy Development								X	
Infrastructure	X		Local			X		X	
Free-roaming equids		X			X				
Sagebrush Removal (historic)			Local						
Fire	Local	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Weeds/annual grasses	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mining								Local	
Livestock grazing	Unclear		Unclear	Unclear	Unclear	Unclear		Unclear	Unclear
Riparian Condition		X							
Recreation	Local					X	X	Unclear	
Predator populations	X	X	Unclear			Local		X	X

Possible Causes or Factors	Baker	Beatys	Cow Lakes	Trout Crks	DV-JM	Warner	Picture Rock	Bros- N. Wagon	Paul-12 mi
Native understory condition	X		X	X					
Drought	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
West Nile Virus	Unclear	Unclear	Local					Unclear	
Habitat fragmentation	X		X						
Fence/wire collisions	X	X	Local			X	X		
Hunting disturbance								X	
Crested wheatgrass seedings	X		X			X	X		
Sage-grouse translocations						X			
Research activities						X			
Weather impacting lek attendance		X							