

Steps in Reviewing a Species for ESA Listing





Listing Steps Timeline

- Court rulings can change timeline
- Multi-District Litigation (MDL) Settlement has given us until 2015 for sage-grouse.
- BLM RMP revisions need to be completed by 2014 so FWS can consider them in our 2015 decision.
- Decision will be remove from candidate or propose for listing.



Determining a Species Status

- ESA Status Based On 5 Factors
 - Habitat
 - Overutilization
 - Disease and Predation
 - Ineffective Regulatory Mechanisms
 - Other (e.g., genetic, climate change)
- Threats to the species under each of these factors are identified and evaluated within ESA definitions



Its All About Threats

- Threats assessed in context of population status/viability.
- Conservation actions must address threats, not just do good things.
- Elimination and or reduction of threats is key to precluding the need to list a species
- Regulatory mechanisms important factor to help achieve threat management



Conservation Strategy

- Address threats by identifying appropriate conservation measures.
- Conservation measures need to be adopted via a regulatory mechanism (e.g., BLM adopts in RMPs)
- FWS supported Wyoming effort because of progress they made in both cases.

