Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

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STATE OF NEVADA Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

Statement of Support from the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council

The Sagebrush Ecosystem Council (Council) wishes to express its support to all continuing efforts in the planning, and implementation of projects to benefit the sagebrush ecosystem and the species that utilize its resources in Nevada, especially those benefitting the greater sage-grouse.

The Council is aware of many projects that have been completed, and others being planned or implemented that will assist in the ongoing efforts to avoid the listing of the greater sage-grouse. Many of these projects are on private land and we encourage the documentation and reporting of these projects to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team (SETT) so that they can be included in the state-wide comprehensive database.

The Council encourages the continued work by the local area work groups (LAWGs) to further facilitate locally identified priorities in maintaining or enhancing greater sage-grouse habitat. As we move forward, the Council, through the SETT, and the state's Conservation Districts Program, will proactively work with the LAWGs and the conservation districts in planning, prioritizing, and implementing projects to benefit the greater sage-grouse.

During the 'construction phase' of the Council's work, we are developing and building what will be the state's Conservation Credit System, working with the U.S. Geological Survey for technical expertise in mapping and estimating suitable habitat of greater sage-grouse, as well as further assisting the reestablishment of inactive LAWGs. This work may soon provide the regional and local areas additional assistance to develop and implement projects.

We recognize that this is a massive undertaking by all involved. There have been considerable projects implemented and more yet to be developed and completed. The Council acknowledges and applauds these efforts and thanks everyone that has been involved. We will continue to encourage your involvement in protecting, enhancing, recovering, and restoring the sagebrush ecosystem.

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