



# State of Nevada Sagebrush Ecosystem Program

## STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN UPDATE

SEC Meeting  
October 1, 2021

# INITIAL STATE COORDINATION

- SETT & NDOW staff meet September 14-15
- Discussed Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and Sagebrush Habitat Plan (SHP) (EO 2021-18) being complementary
- Timelines SAP mid 2022; SHP December 31, 2023
- Threats – Existing or Potential Tools/Guidance
  - Fire/Invasive Annual Grasses - Tool
  - Ecological Integrity/R&R/Invasives - Tool
  - Ravens - Tool
  - PJ Expansion - Tool
  - Anthropogenic Disturbances/Fragmentation - CCS
  - Wild Horse – Exceedance of AML - Guidance
  - Improper Livestock Grazing - Guidance

# COARSE OVERVIEW

- Strategic Action Plan / Sagebrush Habitat Plan to focus on multiple species (sagebrush focused)
  - Intact core habitats
  - Many tools and guidance sage-grouse oriented
- NDOW sagebrush steppe habitat maps (multi-species)
  - Overlay or in tandem with existing mapping layers
- Use/Develop tools and guidance
  - Ecological Integrity (Invasives and Fire)
  - Migration and Connectivity
- Determine key threats in core areas
- Develop cost analysis for treatment types

# CORE AREAS

- Statewide – Sagebrush Core Habitats
- SAP – Cores within 6 regional areas
  - Based on threats, identify areas of potential treatment/need
  - Update maps and provide guidance on threats using existing tools
- Benefits/opportunities of establishing core areas
  - May provide enhanced funding opportunities
  - Align and maximize efforts/resources
  - Provide greater guidance for conservation strategies
  - Possible incorporation into Land Use Plans
  - Assist with CCS mitigation on public lands
  - Incorporation of Adaptive Management Framework

# NEXT STEPS

- Review new tools and science
  - Explore need/opportunity for NV specific use
- USGS Conservation Planning Tools
  - Timelines for availability/use
  - Constraints?
- Collaborative meeting with state and federal agencies
  - Discuss current priorities, directives, planning efforts, funding
  - Conservation tools being used/considered
  - NEPA – Project ready, non-funded, minimal planning, locations

# NEXT STEPS & CONSIDERATIONS

- Collaborative meetings with stakeholders
  - Federal, State, Counties, Tribal Nations
  - Local conservation groups
  - NGOs
  - Others
- SAP Update
  - Shorter timeline
  - Use of existing or soon to be ready tools
  - More frequent updating (progress, new disturbance (man-made & acts of nature), adaptive management incorporation, increased assistance to local conservation groups)
  - Promote statewide reporting to a database
  - SETT staffing limitations